

# Partnership produces the best



by john jens

**J**EFF Burch is the first Australian to gain ownership in the production of a French Burgundian Grand Cru – and it is one of the greatest and most historic names in wine, the Chambertin Clos-de-Beze.

Chambertin itself is one of a handful of truly great red Burgundy Grand Crus. International wine guru Robert Parker says that: “of all the villages of Burgundy’s Cote d’Or, none evokes more magic and prestige than does Gevrey-Chambertin”

“.. In addition to the famous Grands Crus of Chambertin and Chambertin-Clos De Beze, Gevrey-Chambertin has seven other Grands Crus for a total of nine, more than any other Burgundy Village.”

## The Burch background.

Jeff Burch, the owner and driving force behind the Western Australian Howard Park and MadFish labels, has thrown his considerable financial muscle and passion for all things wine behind these two ever-growing international wine brands – but he has other challenging wine ambitions.

Initially there were Jeff and wife Amy’s packaging businesses in South-East Asia and Australia and then the significant operations in the United



Pascal Marchand and Jeff Burch taste the success of their labours.

States. Already wine lovers, they joined the wine industry by becoming involved with what was then the tiny Howard Park brand.

The Burch family then built spectacular Howard Park showpiece wineries in both Denmark and Margaret River and have planted or contracted significant vineyards in all of WA’s finest wine regions.

## The Pascal Marchand background.

Pasca became a household name

to Francophiles initially through his work at what was to become the famous Comte Armand’s Clos de Epeneaux vineyard and winery and then, from 1999 until 2005 with his work both in the organic and then biodynamic 91ha of vineyards at Domaine Vougeraie and as the estate’s winemaker.

Pascal has long believed that Gevrey Chambertin is the ultimate wine challenge – and now, in partnership with Jeff and Amy Burch,

his desire to work with the fruit there has become a reality

## The joint result.

Jeff recently formed a partnership with this sought-after international wine consultant and experienced and highly regarded Burgundian wine maker to produce Western Australian chardonnay, pinot noir and shiraz wines under the Marchand & Burch label.

These two unstoppable, astute and mentally restless wine producers

and friends, who have neighbouring houses in Monthelie in Burgundy, have passionately and painstakingly developed the next stage of their joint venture, that of producing small quantities of wine from some of Burgundy’s greatest appellations – thus taking the Marchand & Burch brand to an almost unique new level.

Pascal and Jeff have begun producing tiny quantities of Meursault (\$90.75), Gevrey-Chambertin (\$99.50) and Chambertin Clos-De-Beze (\$482.65).

Pascal is flying into Perth on Saturday August 22 to host the brand’s first Burgundy tastings, launching the Marchand & Burch “indent offers” for the tiny quantities of their 2007 first vintage releases.

Sample bottles are being air freighted into Perth for pre-release tasting events and the wines will be available from October 1.

Background tastings of the present Australian Marchand & Burch wines and these pre-release Burgundy samples are available at two events on Saturday August 22 4pm-6pm (\$45.00) and at the following dinner 7.15pm for 7.30pm (\$135.00). All inquiries on 9336 9600 or email: [m&b@marchandburchwines.com.au](mailto:m&b@marchandburchwines.com.au)

## STOP THE PRESS:

James Halliday Australian wine companion 2010 has been released and Marchand & Burch have just been selected as one of the 10 “best new wineries”. At 97 points the 2007 Marchand & Burch is the equal highest chardonnay in the book.