

PRESS RELEASE

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Exclusive Wine School Outbids all Competitors for Rare Wine

Iconic winemaker and Trustee of the Len Evans foundation, Ian Riggs, paid a record price in August for a bottle of wine destined for the elite of Australian wine scholars.

ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA - September 12, 2013 -- Ian Riggs, wine maker behind the Brokenwood wine brand and chairman of the trustees for the internationally acclaimed Len Evans Wine Tutorial, paid a record price at auction last month to bring an extremely rare and historical Hunter valley wine from the 1950's into the highly anticipated Old Australian tasting bracket of the annual Len Evans wine tutorial.

"Bidding was highly contested for the bottle of 1955 Lindeman's Red Hermitage", said auctioneer Mark Wickman of [Wickman's Fine Wine Auctions](http://www.wickman.net.au). "Demand for the bottle exceeded expectations and pushed the final hammer price from a reserve of \$200 to a record high of over \$700".

"Auction wines typically come from a variety of sources with good condition and provenance highly sought after when bidding on older wines. Wickmans are the only auction house that lists the known provenance of each lot, guaranteeing the history and storage of some of the better Australian wine collections." Wickman said.

Riggs also took away a number of other rare bottles that will go towards future sessions of the tutorial. "The two brackets that are highly anticipated are the old Hunter Valley and the old Australian reds. The Scholars over the years have been lucky enough to taste O'Shea reds of the 40s as well as the famous pair of 1965 Lindeman's - Bin 3110 and Bin 3100." Riggs said.

The 1955 Coolalta is from a famous Pokolbin vineyard, initially owned by the Wilkinson family and then purchased by Frederick Lindeman as part of the expansion of Ben Ean in the late 1800s. In an interesting spotlight on marketing back then, the Wilkinson's tried to continue using the name Coolalta but were forced by Lindeman's to stop and they adopted Catawba as a brand name instead. "A previous bottle of Coolalta, the 1959 was outstanding." Riggs said.

Each month Wickman's locates rare and unusual wines from private collections around Australia and the September auction, opening on the 16th features mature Penfolds Grange, rare Hunter Valley Reds and other Australian iconic wines plus bottles of vintage sparkling Shiraz and a few scarce, highly popular maturation release Rieslings.

Visit www.wickman.net.au and <http://lenevanstutorial.com.au/>

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Notes for Editors:

About The Len Evans Tutorial

Each year the Len Evans Foundation Trustees invite wine scholars to participate in the Len Evans Tutorial. Over a five-day period the 12 scholars are exposed to the great wines of the world, young and old.

The Len Evans Foundation Trustees: Brian Croser, James Halliday, Iain Riggs, Basil Sellers.

<http://lenevanstutorial.com.au/>

About Wickmans Wine Auctions

Distinguished by innovation and driven by passion, Wickman's Fine Wine Auctions has been a lively and profitable meeting ground for wine buyers and sellers since 2003. A family business based in South Australia, Wickman's prides itself on its position as a reliable resource with a well-spring of extraordinary values and opportunities.

Over the years, Wickman's has continued to launch unique initiatives in an attempt to set the company apart from traditional online wine auction websites, introducing guaranteed provenance into Australian wine auctions and holding regular wine tasting events and dinners for its members.

<http://www.wickman.net.au/>