



Soils and Viticulture of the Mornington Peninsula

Field Excursion and Book Launch Saturday, 23 May 2009

The Victorian Branch of the Australian Society of Soil Science Inc. (ASSSI) will be holding an excursion to Mornington Peninsula vineyards, in conjunction with the Mornington Peninsula Vignerons Association (MPVA), on the afternoon of Saturday, 23 May.

The aim of the excursion is to allow participants to examine some of the typical soils on which vineyards have been established and to learn what the vignerons and vineyard managers think about the influence of those soils on the character of the wines they are producing. Ian Sargeant, Mark Imhof, Robert White and others from ASSSI will provide information on soil properties and soil classification, and soil pits will be opened for inspection.

At the final stop at Montalto Vineyard and Olive Grove, participants will be invited to the launch, by Kevin Bell of Hurley Vineyard, of a new book called *Understanding Vineyard Soils* by Robert White. Books will be available for inspection and sale at a discounted price on the day (and can be signed by the author). The launch will be followed by a tasting of wines from the three vineyards visited during the afternoon. Light finger food will be served.

The itinerary is as follows.

2.00 pm. Meet at Kooyong Winery - 110 Hunts Road, Tuerong (Melways 162 H3). Sandro Mosele will greet visitors and speak about the soil and grape growing methods, and what they are trying to achieve with their wines. Inspect a soil pit.

3.00 pm. Travel to Hurley Vineyard (10 minutes) – 101 Balnarring Road, Balnarring (Mel. 163 A12). Vigneron Kevin Bell will speak about his passion for producing *terroir*-style Pinot Noir wines. Inspect a soil pit.

4.00 pm. Travel to Montalto Vineyard (20 minutes) – 33 Shoreham Road, Red Hill South (Mel. 256 B2). John Mitchell and Geoff Clarke will speak about their soil and wines. Inspect a soil pit.

5.00 pm. Montalto will provide finger food and tastings of wines from Kooyong, Hurley and Montalto with the Book Launch.

The cost of the event will be \$20 per person. Members of the ASSSI and MPVA are invited to bring guests.

ASSSI members please RSVP to Nicole Mathers (Nicole.Mathers@dpi.vic.gov.au) by 15 May.

MPVA members please RSVP to Cheryl Lee (Clee@mpva.com.au) by 15 May.