

Ph 4448 6082
B640 Princes Hwy, Jaspers Brush
PO Box 411, Berry NSW 2535

**National Australia Bank announced as Principal Sponsor
'Shoalhaven Coast 2009 Winter Wine Festival'**

2 April 2009 – The Shoalhaven Coast wine region welcomed National Australia Bank (NAB) as the 2009 principal sponsor of the South Coasts' premier food and wine event the 'Shoalhaven Coast Winter Wine Festival'.

Welcoming the sponsorship Rajarshi Ray, President of the Shoalhaven Coast Wine Association (SCWIA) said "We are delighted that NAB has joined with us to sponsor the regions premier food and wine event. The south coast wine region is less than two hours from Sydney and a hidden Australian gem. With 16 wineries, vineyards and cellar doors boasting over 1000 medals and trophies between them, the region and it's festivals are becoming a must see for locals and regional visitors alike'.

Andrew Love, Managing Partner Wollongong and South Coast from NAB said "We are thrilled to be associated with the Shoalhaven Coast Winter Wine Festival. NAB is a committed partner of the wine industry and regional Australia in particular. This event further show cases to the rest of Australia the great wine and produce of the region, and NAB is proud to be associated with that". Andrew added "This marks the first year that NAB has sponsored the festival, and many of our staff will be out and about enjoying the festival I am sure'.

The 2009 Festival marks the fifth year for the event, with 15 participating wineries and numerous local producers and has grown over 50% year on year since its inception. The largest food and wine event on the south coast, it has become a must visit event on the annual food and wine calendar and is held over the June Long Weekend annually – and in 2009 will be held on 6th to the 8th of June.

- Ends -

About Shoalhaven Coast Wine Region

The Shoalhaven Coast is Australia's 95th declared wine region, although it is also one of the oldest grape growing regions tracing its history to the early 1800's. Now comprising over 20 grape growers and 16 accompanying wineries and cellar doors, it is one of the fastest growing and awarded wine regions having gathered more than 1,000 medals and trophies. For more information about Shoalhaven Coast Wine Region, visit <http://www.shoalhavencoast.com.au>

About National Australia Bank

National Australia Group is an international financial services organization that provides a comprehensive and integrated range of financial products and services. The Group is structured around regional banking and wealth management operations and an international capital markets and institutional banking business and has principal operations in Australia; New Zealand; Americas and the United Kingdom. For more information about NAB and their services, visit <http://www.nab.com.au>

For further Winter Wine Festival media information please contact Rajarshi Ray, President Shoalhaven Coast Wine Industry Association on 02 4448 6082 or Linda Marquis, SCWIA Co-ordinator at marquis@southernphone.com.au

For further NAB media information please contact Yolande Hutchinson, Corporate Affairs Manager, National Australia Bank 02 9237 1341