

was no – it could go wherever was appropriate..

While the definition of alcohol would capture any cooking wines over 1.15%abv, the Act also exempts any alcohol or product containing alcohol that has been made unsuitable to drink. In most cases this applies to cooking wines where generally salt has been added.

## FOSTER'S ACCEPTS HIGHER BID FROM SABMILLER

THE FOSTER'S GROUP deal is done – unless there's a better bid from anyone else. Australia's biggest brewer has finally accepted a takeover offer from SABMiller, the largest acquisition the latter has ever made.

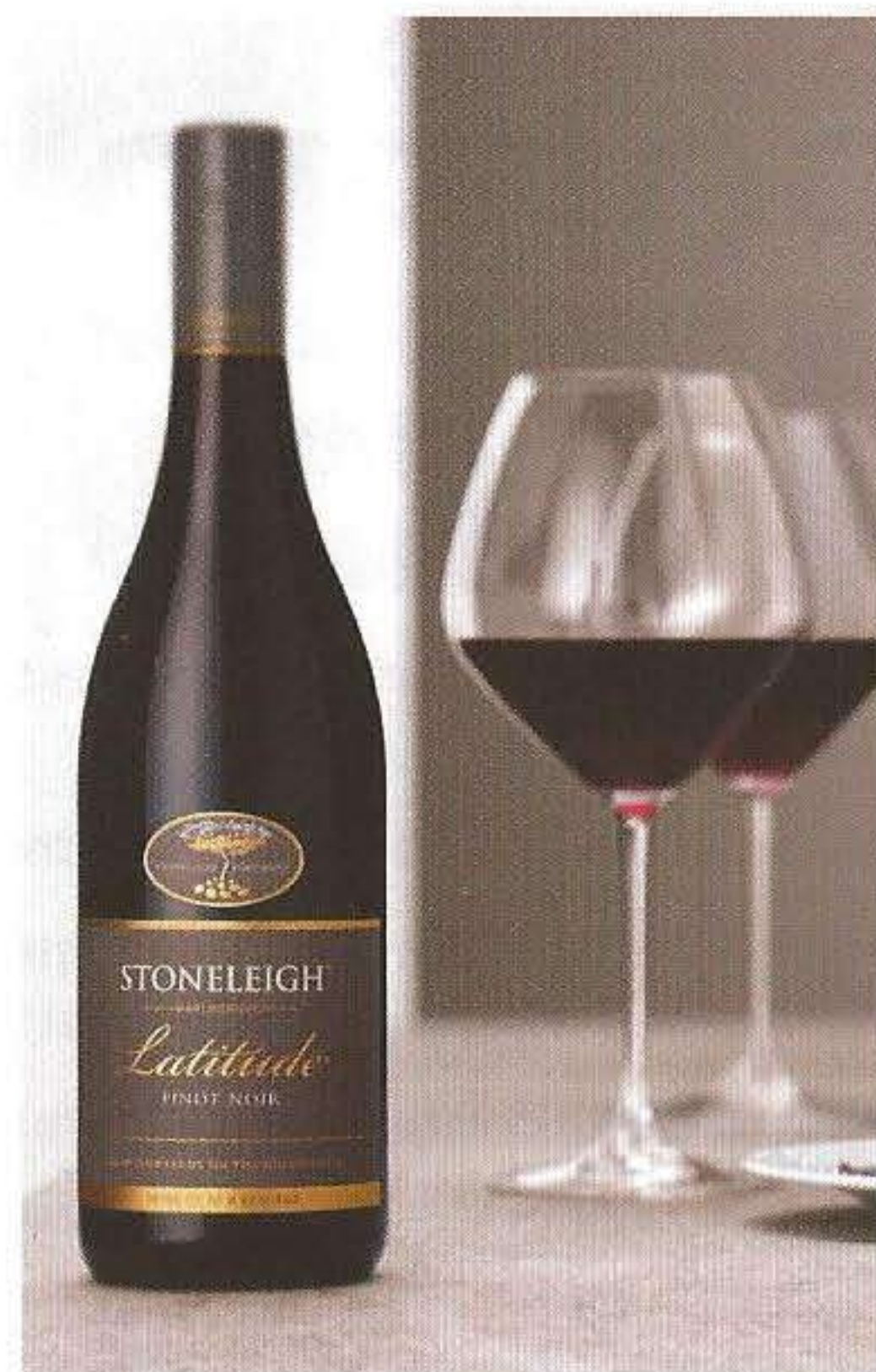
It immediately gives SABMiller leadership in the Australian market with over a 50% market share.

The improved bid gives Foster's an enterprise value of \$A11.5 billion, a great improvement on the earlier offer of \$A4.90bn, which also excluded any dividends offer by Foster's, and valued the brewer at \$A11.2bn.

SABMiller CEO Graham Mackay says it will look to boost profits at the Australian firm by "reinvigorating and repositioning" some of its brands, including possibly selling some of its international brands.

As SABMiller brands are currently represented in Australasia by Coca-Cola Amatil it seems likely that once SABMiller takes over at Foster's – if the deal goes ahead – these will switch back to their brand owners when contracts come to an end.

## NEW LATTITUDE FROM STONELEIGH



PERNOD Ricard's has unveiled a new range of Marlborough wines under its Stoneleigh Latitude brand. The four wines in the series – a 2011 sauvignon blanc, a 2011 pinot gris a 2010 chardonnay and a 2010 pinot gris – are all sourced from within the vineyards on the "golden mile".

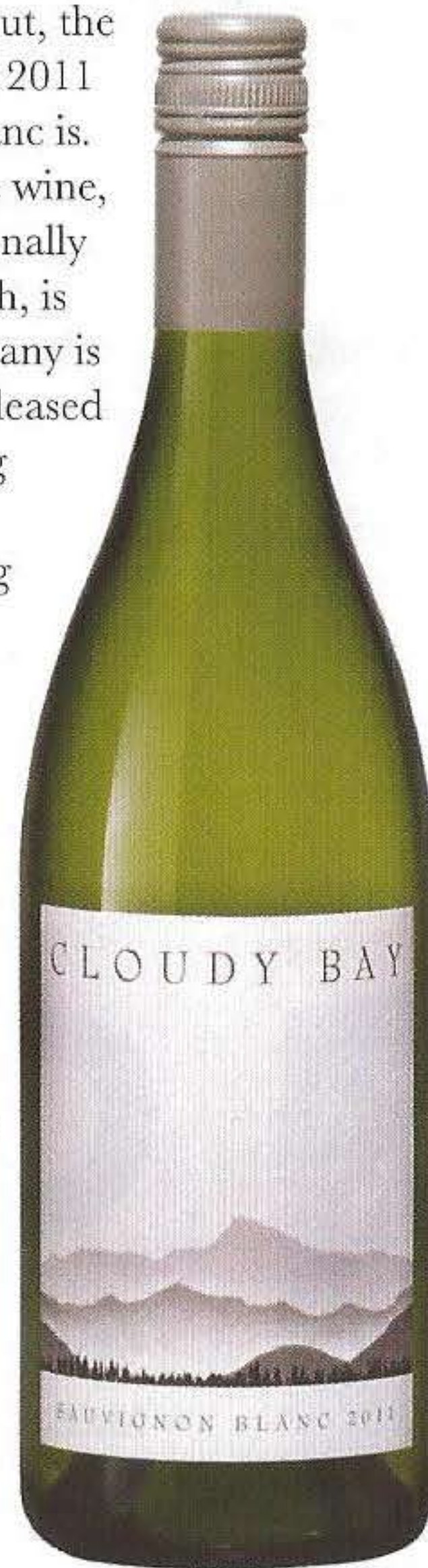
"The team at Stoneleigh have taken great care to ensure the terroir of the golden mile is reflected at its best through this Latitude range," said winemaker Jamie Marfell. ■

## CLOUDY BAY 2011 SAV BLANC

WINEMAKERS never seem satisfied with their products, but Cloudy Bay winemaker Tim Heath with his latest output, the release of the 2011 sauvignon blanc is.

He says the wine, released nationally late last month, is one the company is particularly pleased with following significantly good growing weather and limited use of very old French barriques.

Tim continues to experiment with methods that date back to the earlier days of this iconic wine bringing some great results. ■



## INVIVO TAKES CHAMPION WINE

INVIVO'S 2011 Marlborough sauvignon blanc has collected the sav blanc trophy and been awarded champion wine of the show at the Marlborough Wine Show awards last month.

Over 400 local wines were entered in this unique competition that set out to demonstrate the diversity and quality of wines in the region. Invivo founders Rob Cameron and Tim Lightbourne were particularly thrilled with the result from the four year old company although they are now selling in 11 countries and their sav blanc product has been served onboard Air New Zealand and in the Koru lounges for the past two years. ■

