



The Cellar Club Inc

www.cellarclub.co.nz

Established in 1980

AUGUST 2008

Glancing Forward to Future Events

Wednesday, 10 Sept 2008
Aussie Reds and Penfolds

Wednesday, 8 October 2008
Richard Gooch presents!

Wednesday, 12 Nov 2008
Christmas Bubbles at Glengarry

Wednesday, 10 Dec 2008
The Club's Christmas Dinner at Bistro Breton

Sunday, 25 Jan 2009
The Club BBQ



Next Event

Kemblefield Estate Winery, Hawke's Bay

Wednesday 13th August, 7.45 for 8pm
Johnsonville Community Centre Hall,
3 Frankmoore Avenue, Johnsonville

NB: We will be using the upstairs room
Members: \$12, Guests: \$16

Presenter: **John Kemble, Chief Winemaker**

From their beginnings in July 1992, Kemblefield has grown and developed, turning a 200 hectare farm into the successful vineyard and winery it is today. In the early 1990's Californians John Kemble and Kaar Field began their search for a vineyard and winery to establish what has become Kemblefield Estate Winery.

John researched several potential sites in New Zealand before finally making his choice in Mangatahi, Hawke's Bay. He felt its unique microclimate, reminiscent of his California homeland, was the ideal place to combine his winemaking knowledge with superb Hawke's Bay grapes.

John is Chief Winemaker and Director and has over 29 years wine making experience. He has a Plant Science Degree from the University of California, Davis, and is a member of the American Society of Enology and Viticulture. Fifteen years with Ravenswood Winery in Sonoma, California, in their developing years, gave John his love of winemaking and Zinfandel, the grape varietal he has introduced to New Zealand.

John will present these wines:

- **Mingling wine 2007 The Vista Sauvignon**
- **2008 The Vista Sauvignon Blanc**
- **2007 The Vista Chardonnay**
- **2007 The Distinction Gewurztraminer**
- **2005 The Vista Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot**
- **2005 The Distinction Zinfandel**
- **2005 The Reserve Merlot**

John has provided a 2002 Kemblefield Reserve Zinfandel as a raffle prize. This promises to be an entertaining evening with the chance to taste some of Hawke's Bay's most interesting wines.

Members' Discounts

Your Cellar Club membership card gives you discounts as follows:

Wineseeker

86-96 Victoria Street,
Wellington
10% discount

Regional Wine & Spirits

15 Ellice Street,
Wellington
10-17% discount

Yangtze Chinese Restaurant

162 Willis Street,
Wellington
10% discount

SuperLiquor Johnsonville

'Staff discount' on anything not already on special

Glengarry Wines

Discounts of up to 20% are offered but you must get your own Glengarry Card free from any store or online at www.glengarry.co.nz

In addition...

There is a members' prize draw at each meeting but you must be present to win! This will jackpot each time the prize goes unclaimed.

From the Editor

This month sees yet another celebrated winemaker present to us – John Kemble of Kemblefield. He follows in the footsteps of Trinity Hill's John Hancock and Cloudy Bay's Kevin Judd, both who presented to us last year. We are very grateful to John for taking the time to come down for what promises to be a great evening.

This event will be held upstairs at the Community Centre Hall. This is where we held the recent AGM and it was decided then we should evaluate this smaller venue to see if it suited our needs better than the main hall. Please give your feedback on the night.

My thanks go to Carolyn for her review of the Mid-winter Dinner below. Support for ethnic restaurants such as the Yangtze seems to have waned so the Committee will concentrate on more traditional fare for dinners in future. However, members should appreciate that we are limited in the choice of BYO restaurants that can cater for our numbers at a reasonable price. Naturally your feedback and suggestions on this subject are always welcome.

Terry Friel
Editor

Glancing Back

YANGTZE

Mid-Winter Dinner Yangtze Chinese Restaurant

Over thirty club members attended the annual Mid-winter Dinner on Wednesday 9 July, held this year at Yangtze Chinese Restaurant.

We were delighted to find our tables each set with a 'Lazy Susan' in true Chinese buffet style, and this also made for novel ways of distributing the many wines people brought along to share. To be fair, it was mostly a night of whites, including a few sweeties to accompany the lychees and ice-cream.

Amongst the starters, the Stuffed Chicken Wings, a personal favourite, were well-received by everyone at our table; and the main course dish I most enjoyed was the fabulous Black Bean Sauce Calamari.

Many thanks to the committee for organising this enjoyable night out, and thanks also to our delightful hosts, Humphrey and Glenys Man. Finally, it was lovely to see some familiar faces that haven't been at recent monthly tastings due to life's 'little complications', such as having babies (Tim and Sarah), or sojourning in Spain (Cecilia and Brian).

Carolyn Hooper

Quote for the Month

"What I like to drink most is wine that belongs to others."

Diogenes, 320 BC, Greek philosopher

Batchelar Fine & Rare Wine

One of New Zealand's premier providers of fine wine related products and services. They strive to be the supplier of choice for the discerning New Zealand wine enthusiast. See: www.batchelarwines.co.nz

Club News

The Cellar Club Rules

The revised Cellar Club Rules, as agreed at the Club's AGM held 14 May 2008, can now be found on our website www.cellarclub.co.nz under the About Us tab. For those of you without internet access, please contact Wayne Kennedy (Ph: 971 7184) if you wish to be mailed a copy.

Christmas Dinner

The Committee is pleased to announce that we will be revisiting Bistro Breton for this year's Christmas dinner on 10 December. Many members remarked that this was one of the best dinners arranged by the Club and others were disappointed to have missed it. This is an opportunity for everyone to experience a top class restaurant. Details will be published closer to the event.

Members' Prize Jackpots

The prize for members' draw at each meeting is only given out if that member is present. At the last two meetings that has not been the case so it has jackpotted resulting in a really good prize at this coming meeting. It could be yours.... provided you are there!

The Committee Welcomes Shirley Ang

Shirley Ang, our newest committee member created history by volunteering to go on committee at our last AGM after being a member for only one month. Needless to say, we are all delighted, and thought you would like to know a bit more about her.

Shirley was born on Valentine's Day and believes she misses out on one extra pressie during the year (partner is in double trouble if he forgets). Shirley works in IT to pay for her passion: food and wine! She has a furry 8 yr old "baby" named Kobi (purebred Pug born in Melbourne).

Her favorite wine is the pinot noir but is keen to explore other varieties. She thinks the best bit about the club is learning more about wines and meeting fellow wine enthusiasts.

Internet Banking

A further reminder that it is possible to use internet banking to pay subscriptions and other items. The bank account to be credited is: **The Cellar Club Inc 06 0541 0056031 00**. Please include your name and say what the payment is for on the internet banking transaction and email Wayne Kennedy - waynek@paradise.net.nz to confirm the payment.

Electronic Newsletter Available

Would you prefer to be emailed this colourful newsletter than receive a printed copy? If so, just sent a quick email to: terry.friel@croftonmanagement.co.nz

Club Contacts

President:
Cecilia Parker
brianandcecilia@xtra.co.nz

Secretary:
Rick Julian
rjp.julian@clear.net.nz

Editor:
Terry Friel
terry.friel@croftonmanagement.co.nz

Membership Coordinator:
Anne Megget
amegget@paradise.net.nz
Phone: 478-8573

Club Address:
C/- Wayne Kennedy
17 Stonefield Place
Johnsonville
Wellington 6037

Club Website:
www.cellarclub.co.nz

In the News

Wine treasure in vintage vines

© The Press, 24 July 2008

Tucked away in the sheltering hills of the Banks Peninsula valley from which it takes its name, is New Zealand's oldest commercial pinot noir block.

Given the importance of vine age to the variety, and the youth of most of the country's plantings, the Kaituna Valley vineyard is one of New Zealand's viticulture treasures, as well as being the heart and home of the Kaituna Valley estate and its proprietors, Grant and Helen Whelan. While the vines were planted 30 years ago when a career in winegrowing was still many years off for the Whelan's, they have a longstanding connection with the vineyard.

While studying at Lincoln University in the early 1990s, Grant for a post-graduate Diploma in Viticulture and Oenology and Helen for a PhD in Plant Pathology, the couple worked their first vintage there, going on to persuade the owners to let them tend and take grapes from the vineyard, making their own wines from the site from 1993. A degree warmer than spots as close as 1km away, requiring no irrigation and one of the region's, and indeed New Zealand's, rare frost-free pinot-noir sites, they found Kaituna Valley to possess a unique macroclimate.

Kaituna Valley's intense and elegant pinot noirs, from both the Canterbury and Marlborough vineyards, have earned the Whelan's a place in the top ranks of the country's pinot producers.

'Young' champagne sales soar

© The Dominion Post, 25 July 2008

Kiwis want extravagance and esteem in their bubbles, and Lion Nathan has replaced its traditional champagne ally with a promising young upstart with panache.

Launching the Nicolas Feuillatte premium champagne brand this week, Lion has filled a gap left when its 30-year alliance with Moët Hennessy came to an end this year.

Brand Manager Stephanie Hill said research showed three needs in a top-notch champagne brand - extravagance, esteem and discernment. Nicolas Feuillatte is one of the newest champagne houses in France but is already No 1 in sales with French drinkers, and third in the world for volume sales.

Started in the 1970s, Feuillatte sits among champagne brands with up to 300-year histories in the top five global brands by sales. Ms Hill said the step away from Moët & Chandon to Nicolas Feuillatte was a big one, but Lion believed New Zealand consumers wanted a change.