



The Cellar Club Inc

www.cellarclub.co.nz

Established in 1980

MARCH 2009

Glancing Forward to Future Events

Wednesday, 8 April 2009

Mel Ingalls and Wendy Somers - Born in the USA

Wednesday, 13 May 2009

The Club's AGM

Wednesday, 10 June 2009

Mark Haythornthwaite, Haythornthwaite Wines

Wednesday, 8 July 2009

The Club's Mid-winter dinner

Wednesday, 12 August 2009

Dr. John Forrest, Forrest Estate

Next Event

Wines of Alsace



Wednesday 11th March, 7:45 for 8pm

Johnsonville Community Centre Hall, 3 Frankmoore Avenue, Johnsonville

Members: \$14, Guests: \$18

Presenter: Jean-Christophe Poizat, Maison Vauron

Jean-Christophe, originally from Lyon, France's capital of "Gastronomie", comes from a family who have been involved in the wine business since Antoine Vauron (his great-great-grandfather) became a "Negociant en Vins" (wine merchant) in 1879.

After completing a Food and Wine Diploma near Dijon, Jean-Christophe spent several years as the "Sommelier" (Head Wine Waiter) for a number of two and three star Michelin restaurants throughout Europe.

Before arriving in New Zealand in 1991 Jean-Christophe spent a year in America and then three years in England working with small and exclusive wine merchants. After eight years with Glengarry Hancocks Fine Wine Department, he knew his heart lay with the small Domaines of France and established, with business partner Scott Gray, a new venture called MAISON VAURON. Based in a back street of Newmarket, Auckland, Maison Vauron imports and distributes, direct from France, exciting, high quality wines from more than 145 wine producers.

Jean-Christophe has a mad passion for eating and drinking, especially for products made and prepared with "le coeur" and "ame" (the heart and soul), hence his choice of wines:

- **Domaine Bott Geyl Pinot d'Alsace 2006**
- **Jean Boxler Pinot Blanc 2006**
- **Albert Mann Pinot Auxerrois Vieilles Vignes 2006**
- **Arthur Metz Riesling 2007**
- **Joseph Kaetzel Pinot Gris 'Cuvee Joseph' 2006**
- **Remy Gresser Gewurztraminer "Krit" 2006**

We look forward to this exciting dégustation de vins!

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

In addition...

There is a members' prize draw at each meeting but you must be present to win!

Last month's prize, a bottle of Champagne and a Villa Maria Rosé was won! Congratulations go to Dennis Mann.

From the Editor

The Pegasus Bay presentation was a superb start to the club's year and the high quality theme will follow this month with a tasting of some of the best French wine available in the country. We are very fortunate to be able to attract excellent presenters and I am sure this will continue.

Recently Carolyn and I visited a number of vineyards in Blenheim and, as well as tasting wine, we talked to them about presenting to the Club. Without expectation there was an enthusiastic response, especially from the smaller wineries which see the value in talking to wine enthusiasts who are interested in hearing about the ways they handcraft their wine.

Several wineries gave a commitment to come along to the Club at some stage in the future but our real coup was in being able to secure Dr. John Forrest for our August meeting. Forrest Estate, founded in 1990, has received a swathe of awards over the years including two trophies at the 2008 Air New Zealand Wine Awards. We anticipate this being one of our premier events for the year so note your diary now.

Terry Friel
Editor

Glancing Back



Pegasus Bay, Waipara Valley, Canterbury

It was great to have Ed Donaldson present again and those in attendance were not disappointed. We tasted some of the highest quality wine produced in this country and heard the background story to this family-owned vineyard.

Pegasus Bay show why they are industry leaders: they take risks and produce wine with a point of difference. This was particularly evident with the

Sauvignon Semillon which they have been producing for many years. This wine, highly rated by Robert Parker, showed so much more complexity and robustness than the normal Sauvvy and would be a match for a wide range of foods. The other notable offerings on the night: the Rieslings. As well as their delectable classic Riesling we tasted the new release BEL CANTO. While not being to everyones taste, it did show what can be produced with a little experimentation and will certainly be worth cellaring. We ended the evening with the ARIA Late Picked Riesling, which could best be described as an 'almost dessert wine'. Riesling is their best seller.

Many thanks to Ed for a great night and also to Janet Heads for assisting with the pouring.

Quote for the Month

"The best use of bad wine is to drive away poor relations."

French proverb

Matthew Jukes

Matthew Jukes is wine correspondent of the Daily Mail and is read each week by over nine million readers. He has won The International Wine and Spirit Competition's Trophy for Communicator of the Year, writes best selling wine guides in the UK and Australia, as well as being a wine buyer and internationally respected wine judge. His website recently listed his 60 Best New Zealand Wines 2009.

See:

www.matthewjukes.com

In the News

Music can enhance the taste of wine

© douglasgreen.wordpress.com, 26 February 2009

Playing a certain type of music can enhance the way wine tastes, research by psychologists suggests. The Heriot Watt University study found people rated the change in taste by up to 60% depending on the melody heard.

The researchers said cabernet sauvignon was most affected by "powerful and heavy" music, and chardonnay by "zingy and refreshing" sounds. Professor Adrian North said the study could lead retailers to put music recommendations on their wine bottles. The research involved 250 students at the university who were offered a free glass of wine in exchange for their views.

Brain theory

Four types of music were played - Carmina Burana by Orff ("powerful and heavy"), Waltz of the Flowers from The Nutcracker by Tchaikovsky ("subtle and refined"), Just Can't Get Enough by Nouvelle Vague ("zingy and refreshing") and Slow Breakdown by Michael Brook ("mellow and soft")

The white wine was rated 40% more zingy and refreshing when that music was played, but only 26% more mellow and soft when music in that category was heard. The red was altered 25% by mellow and fresh music, yet 60% by powerful and heavy music. The results were put down to "cognitive priming theory", where the music sets up the brain to respond to the wine in a certain way.

"Wine manufacturers could recommend that while drinking a certain wine, you should listen to a certain sort of music," Prof North said. Previously, Professor North conducted supermarket research which suggested people were five times more likely to buy French wine than German wine if accordion music was played in the background. If an oompah band was played, the German product outsold the French by two to one.

Here is some music and wine pairings.

Cabernet Sauvignon: All Along The Watchtower (Jimi Hendrix), Honky Tonk Woman (Rolling Stones), Live And Let Die (Paul McCartney and Wings), Won't Get Fooled Again (The Who)

Chardonnay: Atomic (Blondie), Rock DJ (Robbie Williams), What's Love Got To Do With It (Tina Turner), Spinning Around (Kylie Minogue)

Syrah: Nessun Dorma (Puccini), Orinoco Flow (Enya), Chariots Of Fire (Vangelis), Canon (Johann Pachelbel)

Merlot: Sitting On The Dock Of The Bay (Otis Redding), Easy (Lionel Ritchie), Over The Rainbow (Eva Cassidy), Heartbeats (Jose Gonzalez).

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

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Delegat's profits shoot up 146 percent

© NZPA, 19 February 2009

Delegat's Group's profits have bubbled over with the winemaker reporting half year net profit fizzing up 146 percent to \$15.7 million.

The maker, marketer and exporter of Delegat's and Oyster Bay wines, with wineries and vineyards in Marlborough and Hawke's Bay, increased total revenue 49 percent to \$127.3m in the six months to the end of December 2008, on the same period last year.

Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisations rose 54 percent from \$22.3m to \$34.2m and operational cash flow grew 217 percent from \$7.4m to \$23.4m.

"Delegat's continues to demonstrate its ability to achieve volume and value growth – testimony to the valuable niche that has been established for its Oyster Bay brand," said chairman Robert Wilton. "The outlook for the 2009 harvest is the best for many years. The spring growing conditions have been favourable and the anticipated yield quality of the fruit is expected to be excellent."

Oyster Bay Marlborough Vineyards itself yesterday reported a loss of \$830,000 in the same six months, with interest rate hedges and a tax adjustment contributing.

Store refuses wine for woman, 68

© news.bbc.co.uk, 27 January 2009

A 68-year-old Essex woman has told how she was prevented from purchasing a bottle of wine because she could not prove her age.

Jennifer Rogers, from Harlow, went to her local One Stop convenience store with a 70-year-old friend. But a staff member refused the sale because she needed photographic identification to prove her age.

Mrs Rogers said at first she thought it was a joke. The company said it took the sale of alcohol "seriously".

Nationwide trial

Mrs Rogers said: "I just thought 'no this isn't real, someone's going to jump out with a camera and say gotcha'. "I said 'you don't really want ID?' and he said 'yeah I'm afraid we do'."

A One Stop spokesperson said: "We take the sale of alcohol to underage people extremely seriously. We are trialing a number of initiatives in different stores across the country to deal with this."