

The Cellar Club Inc

www.cellarclub.co.nz

Established in 1980

JULY 2009

Glancing Forward to Future Events

Wednesday, 12 August 2009
Dr. John Forrest,
Forrest Estate,
Marlborough

Wednesday, 9 Sept 2009
Tim Turvey,
Clearview Estate
Winery,
Hawke's Bay

Wednesday, 14 October 2009
Mark
Haythornthwaite,
Haythornthwaite
Wines,
Martinborough

Wednesday, 11 Nov 2009
Champagne at
Glengarry

Wednesday, 9 December 2009
The Club's
Christmas dinner

Sunday, 31 January 2010
The Club's BBQ

Next Event

Mid-Winter Dinner Adam's Café Bistro 54 High St, Lower Hutt

Wednesday 8 July 2009 from 7:30 to be seated by 8pm
Members, Non-members and guests: \$43

Bookings for dinner and shuttle transport close Wed 1 July.

Please contact Wayne Kennedy:
(Ph: 971 7184 or email waynek@paradise.net.nz)
if you wish to attend but have not completed the booking form.

The cost includes corkage and the welcoming drink provided by the Club. We have negotiated BYO with the restaurant so do bring along your favourite bottle of wine and share it with those around you.

Dinner Menu

STARTERS

ROSEMARY CHICKEN SMOKE BACON TOMATO CREAMY SOUP SERVED WITH WARM BREAD
BASIL FLAVORED FETA CHEESE, WALNUTS, BALSAMIC AND OLIVE REDUCTION
CHAR GRILLED CHICKEN ON CAPSICUM, OLIVE RISOTTO CAKE, FRESH PARMESAN SHAVINGS

MAINS

250GM GRAIN-FED AGED SIRLOIN ON SAUTÉ POTATOES, BACON AND ONION WITH PEPPERCORNS MUSHROOM CREAMY JUS.

CRISP SKIN CHICKEN BREAST FILLED WITH PROSCIUTTO AND FETA SERVED WITH HONEY BACON KUMARA AND SHIRAZ JUS

PAN-FRIED FILLET OF FISH ON TAPENADE CRUSH NEW POTATOES, PROSCIUTTO, AVOCADO PUREE AND A CAPER LIME BEURRE BLANC.

DESSERTS

STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING WITH PUREED MIDOL DATES SERVED WITH VANILLA ICE CREAM

CHEF MADE CARAMEL WHITE CHOC PASSION FRUIT CHEESECAKE WITH WHIPPED CREAM AND HAZELNUT ICE CREAM.

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!

The winner at the last meeting was absent so it jackpots to two bottles of wine at the August meeting.

From the Editor

I recently read an article that claimed wine is "a relatively recession proof industry". While not everyone will agree, we are still producing and buying an increasing amount of wine. But wine drinking habits have changed.

Many people are choosing to entertain inside the home more during these recessionary times rather than go out to a restaurant. When they are going out, a BYO restaurant is now preferred by many. In Wellington even our top restaurants have a BYO night and where this is not advertised it is possible to come to a 'private arrangement'.

When it comes to purchasing wine the word on most people's lips is 'value'. Most supermarkets now have one very good wine each week which is discounted to \$10-\$15 just to get you through the door. Further up the chain it's now possible to purchase a reasonable bottle of my favourite, yes that's Pinot Noir, for \$25. Some of our smartest pinot-makers are releasing second- or third-tier recession-proof wine. Escarpment's Larry McKenna's **The Edge Pinot Noir** is about one-third the price of his top pinot. Much-awarded winemaker Matt Thomson has produced the very classy **Delta Vineyards Pinot Noir**.

Enjoy these bargain wines now. Recessions don't last forever.

Terry Friel

Editor

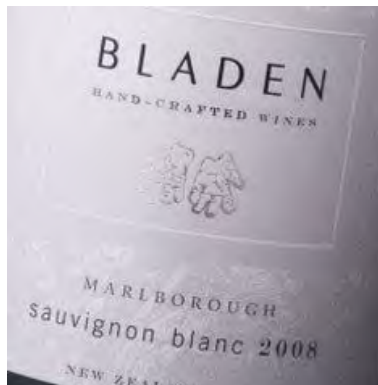
New Members

We welcome these new members to the Club:

Murray Scott and Vickie Rodgers – Aotea
Margaret Niven – Ohariu Valley
Barry McKay – Silverstream

Please introduce yourself to new members at Club events.

Glancing Back



Bladen Wines, Marlborough

There was an excellent attendance at this meeting: 38 members and 4 guests. Dave Macdonald was an entertaining speaker and his stories about the establishment of their winery were fascinating. The wine was excellent and there were many orders on the night. Our sincere thanks go to Dave and Christine for a wonderful event enjoyed by all.

Quote for the Month

"Wine makes a man more pleased with himself. I do not say that it makes him more pleasing to others."

Samuel Johnson

Sauvignon Blanc Trophy to Vavasour

Vavasour's [2008 Clifford Bay Awatere Valley Sauvignon Blanc](#) has won the International Sauvignon Blanc Trophy at the 2009 International Wine Challenge. They competed with 9,500 entries from a record 41 countries. The International Wine Challenge, now in its 26th year, is one of the world's most prestigious and influential independent wine competitions.

Know Your Committee

Continuing the series of pen portraits on the Committee, here's everything you've always wanted to know about ...

Wayne Kennedy, Treasurer & Cellar Rat



- I was born in Central Otago and sadly before all that wine was being grown, else I might never have left. Educated in Dunedin and arrived in Wellington with one suitcase in June 1970.
- am married to Lynne with 3 daughters [youngest 17]
- have worked for the same insurance group for 40 years albeit it has had many names, latest being IAG selling State and NZI brands
- was honorary auditor for 8 years, joined the club and committee in 1995 as treasurer, a role I have had ever since, apart from one year as president
- I enjoy all sports, albeit current activity is limited to golf, the odd bike ride and walking the dog when it's not too cold. I also enjoy wine and food with flavour. In my spare time, if I am not at the Stadium or watching sport on TV, I am likely to be found in front of a computer screen watching 60's & 70's music on You Tube.

In the News

Nobilo leads in US market

© Sunday Star Times, May 31, 2009

When the giant United States liquor company Constellation Brands acquired the Nobilo Wine Group in 2003, it decided it wanted to make Nobilo the biggest selling sauvignon blanc in the huge US market.

Last month it finally achieved its goal when sales of Nobilo sauvignon blanc overtook those of large California producers Kendall Jackson and Clos du Bois, to become the single biggest selling sauvignon blanc in the US.

The results were almost a trifecta for Constellation NZ chief executive Joe Stanton because Nobilo's sister brands, Monkey Bay and Kim Crawford, took the fourth and fifth spots in US wine sales.

Altogether, Constellation expects to send nearly one million cases of NZ wine to the US this year, about 90% of it Marlborough sauvignon blanc, which is around 40% of this country's total wine exports to the US.

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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New Zealand Wine Industry Announces 2009 Vintage Results

June 15, 2009

- **Total vintage 285,000 tonnes**
- **Very good wine quality expected due to favourable March and April weather**
- **Strong growth in exports over past year (+28%)**
- **Marlborough harvest down 1% due to lower Pinot Noir volume and close management of Sauvignon Blanc to avoid volume pressure**
- **Hawke's Bay up 20% - back up to 'normal' levels after low 2008 vintage**

The 2009 New Zealand grape harvest reached 285,000 tonnes, keeping it to last year's levels, New Zealand Winegrowers announced today.

The vintage is marginally above pre-harvest expectation for a crop of 275,000 tonnes, but is in-line with Winegrowers' view that the harvest would not be bigger than 2008. Producing area in 2009 is estimated to have been 31,000 ha, up 2,000 ha on 2008.

New Zealand Winegrowers' CEO, Philip Gregan, said the industry had worked hard in the past year to keep volumes at last year's levels to maintain quality.

"We enjoyed a very good growing season this year. Some early humidity and weather pressure in February was replaced by a superb March and April. This meant our growers and wineries were able to pick the grapes at optimal ripeness."

"The record 2008 vintage has driven export growth of 28% for the year to date meaning that we will achieve \$1 billion of wine exports in 2009, a year earlier than forecast." added Gregan.

Marlborough's vintage was slightly less (-1%) than 2008, with an increase in Sauvignon Blanc more than off-set by lower production of other varieties, notably Pinot Noir.

Nationally the Sauvignon Blanc crop was 5% larger than 2008, driven by a 10% increase in plantings.

In Hawke's Bay production was up 20%, marking a return to 'normal' levels after vintage 2008 was affected by frost and poor fruit set. Hawke's Bay styles including Chardonnay, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah all increased.

The crop in Central Otago was down 35% from the bumper 2008 vintage. The markedly smaller Pinot Noir crops in Central Otago and Marlborough led to a 16% reduction in Pinot Noir production.

Record crops were recorded in Nelson (+11%) and Wairarapa (+8%), whilst Gisborne reduced by 3%.