



The Cellar Club Inc

www.cellarclub.co.nz

Established in 1980

MAY 2009

Glancing Forward to Future Events

**Wednesday,
10 June 2009**

Bladen Wines,
Marlborough

**Wednesday,
8 July 2009**

The Club's
Mid-winter dinner

**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

Next Event



Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 13th May, 8pm

Community Centre Hall, 3 Frankmoore Avenue,
Johnsonville. Members: Free

Agenda

1. Apologies:
2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting for the year 2007/08 year held on Wednesday, 14 May 2008:
3. Matters Arising:
4. Financial Report for the Year 2008/09:
5. President's Report for the year 2008/09:
6. Notices of Motion:

Election of Life Members

"In recognition of his leadership in the formation of the Cellar Club and then his continued service as founding President and then later as Honorary Auditor, it is recommended that Graeme Fountain be given the first life membership of the Cellar Club Inc."

Moved Wayne Kennedy, seconded Terry Friel

"In recognition of his leadership of the Cellar Club as Vice President and then President, as well as his service as Editor of the Club's newsletter for eight years and his on-going support and involvement in the Club since its inception, it is recommended that Ron Thomson be granted life membership of the Cellar Club Inc."

Moved Wayne Kennedy, seconded Robin Semmens

7. Election of Officers and Committee for the year 2009/10:
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Committee
8. Election of Honorary Auditor for the year 2009/10:
9. Subscriptions:
10. General Business:

At the conclusion of the AGM, supper will be served, accompanied by wines from the Club's cellar which will include some memorable wines featured at previous presentations from Penfolds, Nevis Bluff and Pegasus Bay. Glasses – one per person – will be provided.

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!
Congratulations to last month's winner Mel Ingalls.

From the Editor

The Club's AGM is our main event this month. While the official papers were sent out last month, we have repeated the Agenda in this newsletter for your convenience. Cecilia will present her review of yet another successful year and you will have the opportunity to vote for the first two Life Membership nominations. It is also of course the best opportunity for members to ask questions of the Committee and make suggestions for future activities.....not to mention the supper and the tasting of some very nice wine. We look forward to seeing you there.

Terry Friel

Editor

Glancing Back



Born in the USA

Mel Ingalls and Wendy Somers

Last month over thirty members and guests enjoyed a tasting of many examples of the USA's premier wine, Zinfandel. Mel and Wendy superbly described the characteristics of the wines and the areas they came from, also giving members some insight into the many festivals and tasting opportunities at Californian wineries. While almost everyone present had tasted Zin in the past, it was surprising to see how different areas produce such distinctive wines. It was also surprising to learn that we can buy some US wines for less than the Americans. Many thanks to Wendy and Mel for a great night.

Membership News

New Member

We welcome to the Club:
Duncan Richards – Seatoun

Please introduce yourself to new members at Club events.

Name Tags

Please remember to hand in your name tag at the end of each meeting. Some have mysteriously gone missing!

Tasting Glasses



A reminder that members are expected to bring their own glasses to each event and that the Club's glasses are for the use of guests. A set of six tasting glasses can be purchased through the Club for \$18. If you wish to purchase a set please contact Wayne Kennedy and he will bring them along to the next event.

Quote for the Month

"Wine comes in at the mouth
And love comes in at the eye;
That's all we shall know for truth
Before we grow old and die.
I lift the glass to my mouth,
I look at you, and I sigh."

William Butler Yeats (1865-1939)

Unique and Boutique

Martinborough's finest boutique vineyards invite you to join them at a tasting of over forty wines with sumptuous Wairarapa food at:

THE BOATSHED,
TARANAKI STREET WHARF,
WELLINGTON
Thursday 14 May,
5 - 8pm

Tickets are \$45 and available from Susan Haythornthwaite:
susan@haythornthwaite.co.nz
or Ph 06 306-9889

In the News

Honeymooners pay record price for bottle of NZ wine

© NZPA, Apr 21, 2009

A British honeymoon couple from Hong Kong have paid what is believed to be a record price for a bottle of New Zealand wine.

They shelled out \$1000 for a bottle of Gibbston Valley Wines' world champion 2000 Pinot Noir at Gantley's Restaurant near Queenstown. Now a rare find, the standard 750ml bottle came highly recommended at the restaurant, where there are only four or five bottles of the treasured drop remaining.

Restaurant co-owner Brent Rands told the *Southland Times* the last bottle he sold was last year for \$750 and with very few bottles remaining he increased the price to \$1000 in January.

"I thought it's getting so scarce now, if it's gonna go, it's gonna go..."

Gibbston Valley Wines managing director Mike Stone said yesterday the wine's latest feat "felt pretty good".

"To the best of my knowledge it's the first (750ml) bottle by a New Zealand producer that's ever sold for \$1000." The wine sold at the cellar door for just \$65 eight years ago, Mr Stone said.

'New World' producers see gains despite fall in global wine consumption

© AP, Apr 8, 2009

PARIS - Shun that bottle and save your euros: That's what French and Italians are saying as the recession cuts into wine consumption in traditional lands of the vine.

After years of non-stop growth, global wine consumption started to retreat last year, along with the rest of the world economy, The International Organisation of Vine and Wine said yesterday.

The overall drop isn't too dramatic: The group says its initial estimates for 2008 show consumption down 0.8 per cent, at 243 million hectoliters (6.4 billion gallons) compared to 2007's 245 million hectoliters.

But the latest figures on wine making and drinking around the world reveal a few key shifts. For the first time, the United States surpassed Italy in terms of total wine consumption, with 27.3 million hectoliters compared to 26 million for Italy, the group said. Wines from the so-called "New World" - Argentina, Chile, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and the United States - saw their share of global wine exports rise to nearly 30 per cent last year, up from an average of 23.3 per cent between 2001 and 2005.

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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Lafite's price rockets as Parker releases

© Decanter.com, Apr 30, 2009

Chateau Lafite 2008 has shot up in value after last night's release of Robert Parker's scores.

The American critic published his verdict, comparing it to both 2005 and 2000, at around 11pm UK time last night. He writes in the Wine Advocate newsletter, 'It did not take me long to realize that the 2008 vintage was dramatically better than I had expected...excellent, with a number of superb wines that are close to, if not equal to the prodigious 2005 or 2000 vintages.'

According to Liv-ex, Chateau Lafite – one of his wines of the vintage – was trading at £2000 per case last night, and by this morning was changing hands for £3,500. 'It's down now to about £3000,' Liv-ex's Jack Hibberd said. 'But it shows the Parker effect is still strong.'

Parker's comments are at odds with the UK trade, which has maintained that the wines are better than expected but not overwhelming. Except for a few exceptions, however, merchants are now endorsing Parker.

But Berry Bros called them 'bewildering', and Armit warned 'correct pricing' would still need to be applied in order to sell the wines. Simon Staples, Berry's sales and marketing director, said he was worried the en primeur campaign 'could be stopped dead' if the chateaux that received rave reviews from the American critic decided to increase their prices.

'No-one else believes this vintage is outstanding,' said Staples. 'Parker went crazy about 2003, on his own, and he missed 2005 when everyone loved it and now he is screaming about 2008, when we just think it was better than we had hoped for.'

Wine the winner over Easter

© Stuff.co.nz, Apr 16, 2009

Kiwis spent their Easter weekend visiting vineyards and wine-growing regions instead of going to the beach according to Paymark.

The eftpos network company, which processes more than three quarters of the country's electronic transactions, says spending at vineyards and wineries was up 43 percent compared to last year in the four days from Good Friday to Easter Monday.

Wine-growing regions were also amongst the biggest gainers, with spending in Marlborough up 10.9 percent and spending Gisborne was up 6.4 percent. Bay of Plenty saw a 6.6 percent spending boost.