



The Cellar Club Inc

www.cellarclub.co.nz

Established in 1980

FEBRUARY 2012

Glancing Forward to Future Events

Wednesday, 14 March 2012
Stonecroft Wines, Hawkes Bay.

Wednesday, 11 April 2012
Still being worked on, look for a special evening.

Wednesday, 9 May 2012
AGM

In addition...
There's a members' prize draw at each meeting - you must be present to win, and it must be won each meeting.

Members' Discounts

Show your Cellar Club membership card for discounts:

Wineseeker
86-96 Victoria St, Wellington
10% discount

Next Event – February 2012

Wednesday 8 February, 7.45 for 8 pm
Johnsonville Community Centre Hall, 3 Frankmoore Avenue, Johnsonville

Members: \$12, Guests: \$16

Presenter: Hamish Clark, Senior Winemaker



The BBQ is out of the way and it is time to get into the new year programme of presentations. Tonight we will have Hamish presenting an interesting selection of wines from St. Clair, in Marlborough

Saint Clair Vicar's Choice Sauvignon Blanc Bubbles 2011 (conversation wine for start of evening)

Saint Clair Marlborough Premium Gruner Veltliner 2011
Saint Clair Pioneer Block 18 Snap Block Sauvignon Blanc 2011
Saint Clair Marlborough Premium Chardonnay 2011

Saint Clair Marlborough Premium Pinot Noir 2011
Saint Clair Rapaura Reserve Merlot 2008
Saint Clair Pioneer Block 17 Bay Block Syrah 2010

Looks like yet another great tasting and we look forward to having the usual enthusiastic attendance of wine lovers on the night. Don't miss it, it will be a beauty.

From the Editor

The Cellar Club has a newly designed website

If you haven't been their lately take a look at the newly designed Cellar Club website – <http://www.cellarclub.co.nz>.

Steve Eades, the chap doing the biscuits and pate at half-time on meeting nights, has taken over managing the site and worked with the committee to update the site from August last year.

Yangtze Chinese Restaurant

162 Willis Street,
Wellington
10% discount

SuperLiquor Johnsonville

'Staff discount' on anything not already on special

The Cellar Room - Johnsonville and Karori

10-20% on items not already reduced

Bladen Wines, Marlborough

10% discount on cellar door sales

Haythornthwaite Wines, Martinborough

10% discount on cellar door sales

Quote for the Month

"You haven't drunk too much wine if you can still lie on the floor without holding on."

~ Dean Martin

Electronic Newsletter Available

If you prefer to be emailed this newsletter, send a quick email to: waynek@paradise.net.nz

Hence you might have seen our vanilla version until November.

The updated website features a number of new areas including:

- descriptions of the next event and any reminders
- list of articles online; no more trawling through old email to find previous articles
- list of upcoming events including previous events dating back to the first meeting in February 1985 - St. Helena wines
- the ability to now order tasting glasses online
- an online subscription to the clubs newsletters; members get the newsletter anyway but this allows you to opt out if you no longer want to receive it
- previous newsletters
- information and links to discounts offered by the clubs supporters
- more details about the club and our rules
- and the ability for you to contact the club

In the future the membership form will be online as well as a photo gallery of previous events. If you have photos you'd like to contribute, please go to <http://cellarclub.co.nz/contact/> and complete the form to send them in. If you have trouble completing this, there is a contact number for help.

Over the next month or so, Steve and myself will be working on ways we can make the current newsletter easily accessible through the website. Hopefully this will make it easier for most members with me only needing to send a reminder that the newsletter is available on the site.

If you have questions, photos, stories – humorous or a recent experience, like to suggest a club night theme, really anything, we would appreciate hearing from you.



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A view of Paris from the Montparnasse Tower. Quite an orderly city compared to some.

Cheers

Robin Semmens, Editor

Looking Forward



"Welcome to Stonecroft Wines, boutique producer of Hawke's Bay wine. Stonecroft was the first winery to be established in the Gimblett Gravels, Hawke's Bay. We also have the oldest Syrah vines in New Zealand. At Stonecroft, we continue to make a small quantity of wine, using traditional methods. Stonecroft is well known for its Syrah, Zinfandel, Gewürztraminer and Chardonnay wines. Only organic practices are used in the vineyard and Stonecroft is now officially 'in conversion' to organic certification."

The above paragraph gives an indication of the Stonecroft philosophy. We look forward to yet another interesting presentation and tasting. More detail next month.

Glancing Back

Summer Barbecue at Derek's Place

On Sunday 29th January we enjoyed yet another great barbeque at Derek Thompson's house in Johnsonville

36 people attended the event and enjoyed convivial company. great food and a selection of rather nice wines.

We continue to be very grateful to Derek for making his place available and there is no doubt that Derek has made it fit for purpose. Every year there are improvements to the facility. In a discussion with Derek he mentioned that he has BBQ's organised at his place most

weeks until mid March. If you haven't attended one of these events, let me recommend it. Whatever the weather Derek has made sure that a good sized group can enjoy the surroundings, and the event.

Thanks again Derek, your efforts are much appreciated but all the club members who attend.

Have you heard

A guy is driving around the back woods of Montana and he sees a sign in front of a broken down shanty style house: 'TALKING DOG FOR SALE' He rings the bell and the owner appears and tells him the dog is in the backyard. The guy goes into the backyard and sees a nice looking Labrador Retriever sitting there.

'You talk?' he asks.

'Yep,' the Lab replies.

After the guy recovers from the shock of hearing a dog talk he says 'So, what's your story?'

The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the Government so I told the CIA. In no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping.'

'I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running. But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting younger so I decided to settle down. I signed up for a job at the Airport to do some undercover security, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals.' 'I got married, had a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired.'

The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog. 'Ten dollars,' the guy says.

'Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?'

'Because he's a liar. He's never been out of the backyard'

In the News

We are sad to report that one of our founding members, John Revell passed away just before Christmas. John was still a club member, he was 86 and his last attendance at a club activity was a few years back when he attended the dinner where Graeme Fountain received his Life Membership award.