



The Cellar Club Inc

www.cellarclub.co.nz

Established in 1980

SEPTEMBER 2012

Glancing Forward to Future Events

**Wednesday,
10 October 2012**

Bannock Brae,
Central Otago

**Wednesday,
14 November
2012**

Bubbles night with
John (Mac)
Macpherson from
Advintage to host

**Wednesday,
12 December
2012**

Christmas Dinner,
Hazel's, Wellington

**Sunday,
27 January 2013**

BBQ

**Wednesday,
13 February 2013**

Mission Estate

In addition...

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

N.B. Save your wine bottle screw caps and bring them to the monthly meetings. Anne will willingly take them off you.

Next Event 12 September 2012

**Wednesday 12 September, 7.45 for 8 pm
Johnsonville Community Centre Hall, 3 Frankmoore
Avenue, Johnsonville**

Members: \$13, Guests: \$17

**Theme – South African Wines – has there been a
change since Nelson got out? - Richard Gooch**

The answer is there certainly has been, with 40% of vineyards having been replanted since apartheid and many new ones starting up. Our tasting is your chance to find out about this renaissance as NZ prepares to play its traditional foe, South Africa, on the rugby field in Dunedin on the 15th September.

This evening promises to be very entertaining with accomplished presenter Richard Gooch reviewing 7 wines in total. His delivery is always informative and humorous, even a little irreverent at times, and the wines he will cover include;

A sparkling wine to start with
Chenin Blanc
Riesling
A semi sweet white that is great with curries
Pinotage
Shiraz
Cabernet Sauvignon

These wines comes from a variety of labels across South Africa and include both old names and those of newer wine makers. Because these same styles are also available throughout Australasia, then you should indeed be able to assess for yourselves what progress South African wine making has made since Nelson Mandela was released in February 1990.

One final comment, watch out for the Pinotage! Its maker claims it to be the best in the world. Come along to our tasting next week and you can decide for yourself.

From the Editor

Constitutional Change - The committee is considering a proposal to prepare a resolution to amend the club constitution to move to an unaudited accounts option.

Members' Discounts

Show your Cellar Club membership card for discounts:

Wineseeker
86-96 Victoria St, Wellington
10% discount

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

The rules for audited accounts have become quite onerous financially and such a change would be within the rules for a charitable organisation such as the Cellar Club Inc. The approval of members will be necessary before any change can be implemented and it is anticipated that we will call a Special General Meeting in the near future to discuss the proposed change.

The Club History - Wayne Kennedy is to research and write an article relating to the five year period from 26 to 30 years of the Club for inclusion in the club history document and for adding to the web site.

Community Centre Advertising - The Johnsonville Community Centre includes a regular "Up and coming events" section in the City Life / Independent Herald. Your committee is currently preparing a short article to provide to the community centre to include in the local paper.

Donation to Community Centre Foodbank - After all expenses were paid for last month's meeting, your club was able to make a donation of \$130.00 to the foodbank. The donation was received with thanks.

Robin Semmens, Editor

Looking Forward

Bannock Brae - Catherine Brown



In October we'll be welcoming Catherine Brown from Bannock Brae where the winery is described as "New Zealand's most-awarded single-vineyard Pinot noir producer based on Gold medals won in major New Zealand competitions since 2002."

Bannock Brae has a "North-facing elevated aspect, particularly suitable for growing grapes, and the spectacular views a bonus. 'Brae' is Gaelic for 'hillside' - hence the name chosen for the vineyard. Crawford, former Brewer with Lion Nathan (now Lion), oversees the vineyard and winemaking with expert help from James Dicey (viticulturist) and Jen Parr (winemaker), with Catherine looking after sales and marketing."

One final comment refers to a special greeter where "Rocky, the yellow lab, is responsible for welcoming all visitors - especially those who come to the cellar door", so check out their website at <http://bannockbrae.co.nz/>.

Glancing Back - June 2012

Quote for the Month

"A man cannot make him laugh - but that's no marvel; he drinks no wine."

~Shakespeare

Electronic Newsletter Available

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

Club Information

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What a night, with Luke Skeer, a senior wine maker from Wynns, presenting a range of prestigious wines from their Coonawarra Estate. There were reserve wines, some new elite releases and new labels not previously seen in NZ, along with the more well known Michael Shiraz and John Riddoch Cabernet.

Admittedly the evening was heavy on reds which may not have been to everyone's taste although the red lovers thoroughly enjoyed it. The committee were a little disappointed with the turn out with only 29 attending but appreciate that an evening of reds may not have suited all members. A truly special evening from an iconic Australian producer.

We would especially like to thank James Cupit and the Cellar Room, Johnsonville for organising the evening. We remind members that the Cellar Room offers discounts to Club members and would ask that you be generous in your support.

Have you heard

Sherlock Holmes at Camp

Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson went on a camping trip. After a good meal and a bottle of wine, they lay down for the night and went to sleep.

Some hours later, Holmes awoke and nudged his faithful friend. "Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see."

"I see millions and millions of stars," Watson replied. "What does that tell you?" Holmes inquired.

Watson pondered for a minute. "Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Horologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Theologically, I can see that God is all powerful and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you?"

Holmes was silent for a minute, then spoke. "Watson, you idiot. Some bastard has stolen our tent."

Club Website:

www.cellarclub.co.nz

Bank Account for Internet Banking:

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In the News - Darren Greenwood - National Business Review - Tuesday September 04, 2012

Supply squeeze means end of NZ wine under \$10

The sub-\$10 bottle of New Zealand wine faces extinction, growers and retailers say. Slumping harvests caused by bad weather have removed former gluts, with the industry now talking of shortages of Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc.

NZ Winegrowers says production dropped 18% to below 200 million litres in the year to June 30 and an export-fuelled 10% rise in sales to 242 million litres removed former surpluses. "We are very low on stock. Wineries will have to choose their customers and they will have to forego some of the lower margin market segments," chairman Stuart Smith says.

"We will see a rise in imports as New Zealand growers divert product to the export market and short the New Zealand market." Prices for bulk wine paid to growers have increased \$3 per five litres but because there have been no recent new plantings the shortage will continue and prices are expected to rise further. This contrasts with recent years, when vineyards have struggled to find markets for all their output.

Lion, whose labels include Lindauer, Corbans, Huntaway and Wither Hills, led the way by announcing a 5% hike in prices last week. "The vintage is in short supply compared with other years. It's not like beer, you cannot make wine on demand," Lion spokeswoman Liz Read says. Lion will prioritise what supplies it has to meet promises made to international customers.

However, winemakers Joe Babich and Allan Scott have said they have no plans to raise prices yet. Mr Scott says the buying power of the supermarket chains gives him less scope to increase prices but he, too, expects fewer cheaper wines, and they will increasingly be imported from Australia.

Babich Wines also won't be increasing prices "at this point", managing director Joe Babich says. "We have never been at the lower end of the market but we are expecting the grapes to go up in price next year."

Retailers confirm the end of cheaper New Zealand wine. Glengarry sells many premium European wines and says the \$20-plus market will not be affected. "In 2011, New Zealand wines sold for far too low a price," general manager Liz Wheadon says. Last week, Glengarry was selling Dusky Sounds Riesling for \$7.99 a bottle. "Some of the big names have cleared stock at silly prices over the past few years. We won't see much of that."

Foodstuffs says promotions will stay unchanged but cheaper wines might have to use imported grape juice to make up the shortfall. "During the glut, a lot of suppliers protected their brands by introducing good quality wines under different labels. These will most likely be the casualties of the lower yield," Foodstuffs spokeswoman Antoinette Shallue says.