



The Cellar Club Inc

www.cellarclub.co.nz

Established in 1980

MAY 2014

Glancing Forward to Future Events

Wednesday 11 June 2014.

Moana Park, Hawkes Bay

Wednesday 9 July 2014.

Mid Year Dinner
Zico Cucina & Bar

Wednesday 13 August 2014

Millton Vineyards and Winery, Gisborne

Wednesday 10 September 2014

RM (Rod MacDonald) Wines - Hawke's Bay

Wednesday 8 October 2014

Martinborough Vineyard

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: AGM & Wooing Tree

**Wednesday 14 May 2014.
Johnsonville Community Centre Hall,
3 Frankmoore Avenue, Johnsonville**



The Cellar Club Inc

Annual General Meeting

Commencing 7.30 pm

Agenda and formal notice of meeting has already been sent out. Other information will be available on the night.



**Commencing 8,00pm, Members: \$12, Guests: \$16
Presenter: Steve Farquharson, Wooing Tree Vineyards.**

Members may remember that we tried the 2011 Wooing Tree Beetle Juice in April last year. As a result of that contact, Wooing Tree have kindly offered to present to the club. Steve is an owner at Wooing Tree and has joined us from the UK to become part of the NZ wine industry. It will be interesting to hear his views. The wines will include:

- Quaffer – Wooing Tree Blondie, 2013
- Wooing Tree Rose 2013
 - Wooing Tree Chardonnay 2012
 - Wooing Tree Beetle Juice 2013
 - Wooing Tree Pinot Noir 2010
 - Wooing Sandstorm Reserve 2009
 - Wooing Tree Tickled Pink 2012

Looking forward to yet another great presentation from Central Otago.

Members' Discounts

Show your Cellar Club membership card for discounts:

Wineseeker

86-96 Victoria St, 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

Electronic Newsletter Available

If you prefer to be emailed this newsletter, send a quick email to:

waynek@paradise.net.nz

From the Editor

AGM – You have had the notice of meeting and last years minutes are attached to this newsletter. I am off to Sydney and North America and will miss the next two meetings. Please make sure we have a good turnout for this tasting and Moana Park. I could almost convince myself to stay in NZ.

Cheers

Robin Semmens, Editor

Looking Forward

June 2014 – Moana Park, Hawkes Bay



For anyone who is going, Moana Park will be present at the Food Show at the Stadium this weekend. A chance for a pre-taste perhaps.

Since Moana Park's inception in 2000 their environmental policy has been committed to an environmentally aware philosophy. They constantly seek new ways to improve winery practices to ensure an environmentally sustainable business, while also preserving the environmental integrity of the wines.

They value the soil in which the vines flourish and strive to preserve the environment in and around the vineyards, minimising environmental impacts wherever possible. This comes via a range of initiatives including Sustainable Winegrowing. The winery is energy consumption conscious with the aim to reduce carbon usage and CO2 emissions whilst maintaining the highest standard of premium wine production.

Moana Park produces three unique sets of wines - the Estate Series, Single Vineyard Reserve Series and the Harmony Series. All the tiers are clearly distinct from one another, and reflect the unique characters of the micro climates and vineyards they originate from. Each is aimed at a specific sector of the wine drinking market. More information in the next newsletter.

Glancing Back – Dan Blaydock, Treasury Wine Estates.



Dan presented this Penfolds tasting and it was another great evening.

Club Information

President and Membership Coordinator:
Anne Megget

amegget@paradise.net.nz
Phone: 478-8573

Secretary:
Jenny Jebson

jenny.jebson@paradise.net.nz

Editor:
Robin Semmens
semmens@xtra.co.nz

Club Address:

C/- Wayne Kennedy
17 Stonefield Place
Johnsonville
Wellington 6037

Club Website:
www.cellarclub.co.nz

Bank Account for Internet Banking:
06 0541 0056031 00

Club Treasurer:
Wayne Kennedy
waynek@paradise.net.nz

Part of the tasting was a vertical tasting of some of the Penfolds Bin wines from the cellar and wine from Penfolds. The committee felt that this was an excellent meeting and there was a great turnout. Murray Reports are that Dan enjoyed presenting to the meeting. It was suggested we do a similar tasting in about 4 years.

Naturally a red evening however the Club did provide a Trinity Hill Chardonnay/Viognier 2008 as a quaffer to start.

The quaffer was followed by a Bin 9 Cabernet Sauvignon 2012, then 2000 and 2012 Bin 128 Coonawarra Shiraz. 2003 and 2012 Bin 138 Barossa GMS. And rounded off with 2002 and 2011 Bin 389 Cabernet Shiraz.

Dan was very complimentary about the way we have cellared our wines (thanks to Derek of course) with the 2002 Bin 389 having kept exceptionally well, and still developing.



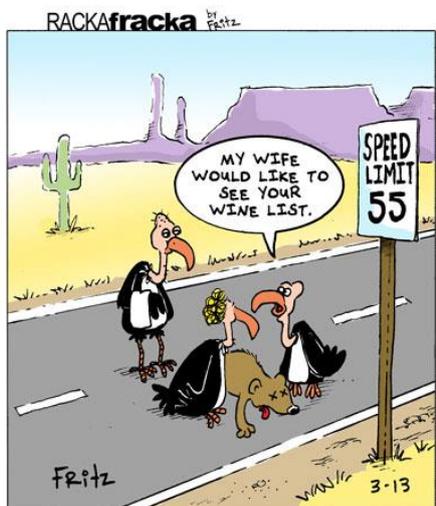
The World Wide Wine Web

Carrying on from last newsletter here are a couple more items that may be of interest if you want to spend a little time delving into the world of wine.

Everyone needs one of these?
www.youtube.com/embed/wSuH9u0kvhU?rel=0

Some members look at JamesSuckling.com and his videos at <http://www.jamesuckling.com/wine-videos/>. You will need to register on the site but there is no fee unless you want to study some of his premium reports.

Have you heard?



Quote of the Month

"Wine can of their wits the wise beguile, make the sage frolic, and the serious smile"

— Homer

Drinking and Driving

Members will be aware of the proposed lowering of drink/drive limits coming next year. We ask members to always be conscious of these limits and to take care when attending Club events.

Wine News

Mud House vineyards sold overseas for \$46m

Cathie Bell - Fairfax

The new owners of Marlborough-based Mud House Wines' brands paid more than \$46 million for the wine company's land, according to information from the Overseas Investment Office.

The decision summary made public by the government agency that oversees the sale of sensitive land to foreign purchasers says QWIL Investments (NZ) Pty Limited bought a freehold interest in five vineyards of 596 hectares in Marlborough, Canterbury, and Otago, and Accolades Wines New Zealand Limited bought a leasehold interest in the same land. The sale was announced in November last year and confirmed on April 1, but the sale price was not revealed.

The former Mud House vineyards have been sold to QWIL Investments, but will continue to supply grapes to Accolade. The grapes will be processed at NZ Wineries, Mud House Wine Group's contract winemaking business, based at Blenheim's Riverlands industrial estate. The winery has been retained by the company, now called MHW.

The Overseas Investment Office said the sale price was \$46.4 million. That seemed low, working out at about \$77,850 a hectare, but the Marlborough Express understands that was just for the land alone, and didn't include the price for the winery business and label brands.

QWIL Investments is owned by Hong Kong interests, including billionaire Li Ka-shing, who has diverse business interests in New Zealand. These include a part-ownership in the Dominion Saltworks in Grassmere and waste businesses in Christchurch and Auckland.

Harcourts rural, commercial and property manager Tom Rutherford said the vineyards' sale price had to be market price to get Overseas Investment Office approval. It was very hard to regionalise the price between different areas, he said. A vineyard owner might say the price was "ridiculously low" but a pastoral farming owner would say it was "ridiculously high", Rutherford said.

Prices in Marlborough were about \$175,000 for Wairau vineyard land, but grazing land was fetching \$25,000 a hectare and forestry about \$15,000, he said. There was still a huge amount of interest out there in Marlborough vineyard land, Rutherford said. "Marlborough is still seen as a good place to invest."

The Overseas Investment Office decision summary said QWIL Investments and Accolade Wines intended to continue to operate and develop the vineyards and various wine businesses related to the land. "The investment will enhance QWIL's existing investments in [and will provide Accolade Group with an entry into] the New Zealand wine industry."

It said the sale met the "substantial and identifiable benefit to New Zealand" criteria as it would retain and possibly create jobs, increase export earnings, improve productivity and efficiency, and provide additional investment for development.