



# The Cellar Club Inc

Established in 1980

## Newsletter - June 2015

**Next Event: Taylor Brown.**

**Wednesday 10 June 2015, 7.45 for 8.00pm start,  
Johnsonville Community Centre Hall, 3 Frankmoore Avenue,  
Johnsonville**

**Members: \$14, Guests: \$18.**

**Presenter: Dan Baldock, Taylor Brown Ltd.**



## TAYLOR BROWN

Taylor's Wines and Brown Brothers are both 100% family owned by the Taylor and Brown families; the families are excited to announce a new chapter of co-operation by launching Taylor Brown Ltd for sales and distribution of their great Australian wines throughout New Zealand.

Our local contact, and presenter this evening is Dan Baldock. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, Dan has presented previously at our very successful Penfolds tastings. The evening will concentrate on Taylor's Wines as we had a Brown Bros tasting 18 odd months back. The probable line-up will start with a Brown Bros white as the quaffer then following with;

- Taylor's Estate Riesling
- Taylor's Estate Cabernet Sauvignon
- Taylor's Estate Shiraz
- Taylor's Jarraman Shiraz
- Taylor's Jarraman Cabernet Sauvignon
- Taylor's St Andrews Shiraz

A great night in prospect, don't miss it.

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### From the Editor

**Tasting programme** – Things are now starting to settle and it looks like the rest of the year's programme might actually proceed without the hitches that have upset the programme for the first half of the year. Having said that, and as my old Gran was fond of saying "it's an ill wind that turns none to good", the resulting changes have been very successful as is evidenced by this month's tasting.

Of course some members may not fully understand the drive that leads your committee in the quest for new and interesting tastings. Below is a picture of your President and Secretary undertaking the arduous task of investigating the effects of terroir and climate on the vines of Nelson. Such deep and meaningful research is not foreign to us.



Cheers

*Robin Semmens*, Editor

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### Looking Forward - July 2015 - Mid Year Dinner – Weltec (City)



This year we are returning to Weltec for our mid-year dinner. Not Petone this time however but their new training restaurant in Cuba Street in the city. **Please note however that the date is 15 July (ie the third rather than second Wednesday in the month).**

We are making some enquiries about the capacity however it is possible that attendance will be limited to 40 people. Anne will maintain a list of those attending. Please ensure you make your intention to attend as soon as possible to ensure a place.

Those attending should be aware that this is a learning experience for the students and that we should let the students open the wine at least at the start. It's an early start with the bubbles being opened at 6pm, the restaurant will be open from 5:30 pm. People may need to purchase wine from the bar or use their own before 6pm. Guidance will be given to the students on the distribution of the wine etc, so patience and understanding are important.

The cost will likely be \$45.00 for three courses with corkage, coffee and tea. We must be seated by 6:45pm and finished by 9:30 pm. An order form will be sent out in the very near future.

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## Looking Back - May 2015 - AGM.



## The Cellar Club Inc Annual General Meeting

The committee felt that this meeting went well with a light attendance of 28 members. Nevertheless there were no great issues and the meeting went without a hitch. As ever members took the opportunity to catch-up with others at the supper. It is not often that we get the chance to just chat with other members. And, of course, there were some OK wines, and a pleasant supper, available to sample. Your dedicated committee has remained unchanged, however we will seek to co-opt members for special events as these arise. The Cellar Club Inc continues to be in good heart. (Perhaps it is the healthy value of the good wine we taste over the year).

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### General Information

**Screwcaps** - Anne collects screwcaps at meetings. As mentioned she gives them to the Lions organised Kidney Kids Support Group. No food lids or beer tops please.

**Drinking and Driving** - Members will be aware that the drink/drive limits have now been lowered. We ask members to always be conscious of the new limits and to take care when attending Club events.

**Members Draw** - There is a members prize draw at each meeting, you must be present to win, and it must be won each meeting.

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### Have you Heard



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**In the News - Wine boss kick-back trial begins - New Zealand Herald - 4 May 2015**

*(This item is a month old but I thought it quite pertinent bearing in mind the recent revelations about FIFA. We can hold our own with scandals as well.)*



Former New Zealand Wine Company chief executive Peter Scutts played a "double game", receiving kick-backs from a wholesaler the company was supplying wine to, the Auckland High Court has heard. In a case brought by the Serious Fraud Office, Scutts is facing 16 Crimes Act charges of dishonestly using a document and one Secret Commission Act charge of receiving secret reward for procuring contracts. He has pleaded not-guilty to all charges.

During her opening at today's High Court trial, Crown prosecutor Rachael Reed said Scutts played a "double game" in early 2011, working for the New Zealand Wine Company (NZWC), which he later became chief executive of, while also receiving kick-backs from Australian-based wine wholesaler Liquor Marketing Group (LMG). Scutts received AUD\$1 for each case of wine supplied, the kick-backs ultimately totalling AUD\$53,000, Reed said. NZWC did not know of the reward paid and it was in direct conflict to his role with them.

In his contract with NZWC, Scutts was able to provide services to other companies, provided that they did not conflict with the business of NZWC. However, the contract stipulated he was to inform the company if any conflicts of interest did arise. NZWC first supplied wine to LMG in May 2011 and Scutts proceeded to invoice LMG for what he recorded on the invoices as "marketing services". The invoices were in fact "thinly disguised brokerage payments" which were hidden from NZWC, Reed said.

Scutts told SFO investigators that LMG had asked for photographs of the head NZWC winemakers, but they had refused, so an agreement was come to where a photo of Scutts' son Oliver was used instead for a fee of AUD\$1 per case sold. The explanation defied logic and commercial reality as it was common practice in the industry for wine makers to provide marketing materials and wine tastings for free. It also contradicted the evidence, as Oliver Scutts' image only appeared on marketing materials for six-months, yet Peter Scutts invoiced for 15-months of "marketing services" from May 2011, Reed said.

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## Club Contacts

### President and Membership

#### Coordinator:

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### Secretary:

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### Bank Account for Internet Banking:

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## Coming Events

### Wednesday 15 July 2015

Mid-Year Dinner Weltec, Wgtn

### Wednesday 12 August 2015

Gladstone, Wairarapa

### Wednesday 9 September 2015

Craggy Range, Hawkes Bay

### Wednesday 14 October 2015

Man 'o War, Waiheke Island

### Wednesday 11 November 2015

Festive Wines - MacVine

### Wednesday 9 December 2015

December Dinner - TBA

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