



The Cellar Club Inc

Established in 1980

Newsletter - September 2016

Next Event – Squawking Magpie, Hawkes Bay

**Wednesday 14 September 2016, 7.45pm for 8.00pm start.
Johnsonville Community Centre Hall,
3 Frankmoore Avenue, Johnsonville**

Members: \$12 Guests: \$16

Presenter: Gavin Yortt, Owner/Director



Just as the Magpie is synonymous with the Hawkes Bay region, so too is the name Gimblett Gravels for producing world-renowned wines. From these celebrated shingle soils of Gimblett Gravels, hails the boutique label: Squawking Magpie. Squawking Magpie wines come from four Vineyards in Gimblett Gravels. Gavin Yortt first planted grapes in Gimblett Road, namely the Irongate Vineyard, in 1981.

From the very first plantings, the emphasis has been on creating outstanding wines focusing on viticultural excellence. Gavin and his team hold a firm belief that great wines come from great grapes. And the proof is certainly there to be tasted: Squawking Magpie wines exhibit all the elegance and finesse of a unique terroir and stand testament to the superiority of single vineyard estate management and production.

The good tastings just keep coming, don't miss this one. The wines on the evening will include;

The Chatterer – Chardonnay 2015
The Chatterer – Syrah 2014
PINK - Rose 2016
Counting Crows – Chardonnay 2015
The Gravels – Syrah 2014
The Nest – Merlot 2013
Stoned Crow – Syrah 2013

From the Editor

Apologies to those of you who ordered wines after the Eurovintage Barossa evening. Unfortunately there has been a glitch in the wines reaching me. Keith is doing his best to get the balance of wines to me but he is the only Eurovintage representative in this part of the country, and is covering business across the lower North Island.

I am expecting to be able to complete deliveries this coming weekend.

The next two months showcases two wineries that have been trailblazers in their way. Gavin Yortt has been producing wines in the Gimblett Gravels since the early 1980s while Jane Hunter has likewise been in the industry for a similar period and is the icon of Marlborough wineries. With such well-established presenters the meetings are full of promise.

Cheers

Robin Semmens, Editor

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Looking Back – August 2016 – Elderton and the Barossa - Keith Tibble - Eurovintage

Elderton

We (your committee that is) felt that this was a good evening but the turnout was disappointing. The possible reasons for this low turnout of 23 members and one guest, were that it was predominantly a "red night", and we were tasting a lesser known label from the Barossa. There is the added issue that it was a cool evening and we can strike a lower turn-out at during the winter months when the weather is not the best.

Keith was an excellent speaker and his talk about the Barossa and the winery was interesting and insightful. Keith is very knowledgeable about the Barossa and he knows how to pitch to the club. The wines presented were very nice, .

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Looking Forward - October 2016 – Hunter's Marlborough



If New Zealand had a royal family of wine, Jane Hunter would be the queen. Jane is an internationally respected vintner and recipient of the prestigious UK Women in Wine Award and has an OBE. Exactly 25 years after taking over managing Hunter's Wines Jane was appointed a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZM) for services to viticulture.

Jane will be with us next month with a great selection of Hunter's Wines. Don't miss this one.

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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 – Some T-shirt humour.



In the News - NZ wine exporters urged to act post-Brexit

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Andrew McRae – Radio New Zealand



The New Zealand wine industry must be ready to take full advantage of the United Kingdom leaving the European Union, says a visiting wine trader from the UK. UK Wine and Spirits Trade Association chief executive Miles Beale has been in this country for the wine industry's annual conference which was held in Blenheim.

Mr Beale said the United Kingdom's planned exit from the EU will open up opportunities for New Zealand as the UK starts doing its own trade deals. He suggests exporters move early and start discussions with the UK.

"One of my key messages here is, lobby the New Zealand government to make sure it is absolutely ready to do a bilateral free-trade deal with the UK government the moment it officially leaves the European Union. "We can't do it before then but we should be ready to do it the day after."

Miles Beale said there was a great opportunity for New Zealand to improve its trading opportunities with the UK. "There is already a pretty good trading relationship anyway but it is built on European rules and while some of those rules are in the main very good we think there are some opportunities to improve them." He said there was an element of the European rules which if not overtly protectionist take into account that there were a lot of wine producing nations in the EU.

Mr Beale is warning the New Zealand wine industry it will face some risks though. He said no one would want a different system with different standards for wine going into Europe and the UK. "We wouldn't want that to become any more complicated."

The other significant but difficult to predict risk is around what happens to European currencies. "It's not clear to us how the Euro zone will perform and what will happen as things develop with the UK leaving the EU."

Mr Beale said the UK and New Zealand had a long trading history. "If anything it has been slightly more indirect in the last 40 years as the UK has been part of the EU and I think it will go back to being more direct and dare I say it a bit more personal."

Mr Beale said there had been consistent growth in the value and volume of New Zealand wine in the United Kingdom. "New Zealand wine has a very good reputation for good quality at good value."

Mr Beale said it tended to be seen as not competing at the lower end price in shops. "It's very much more about quality and that stands it in good stead for the future."

Club Contacts

President:

Murray Jaspers
murray.jaspers@gmail.com
Phone: 479-3191

Club Address and Treasurer:

C/- Wayne Kennedy
17 Stonefield Place
Johnsonville
Wellington 6037
waynek@paradise.net.nz

Secretary:

Jenny Jebson
jenny.jebson@paradise.net.nz

Editor:

Robin Semmens
semmens@xtra.co.nz

Vice President and Membership

Coordinator:

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

Club Website:

www.cellarclub.co.nz

Bank Account for Internet Banking:

06 0541 0056031 00

Coming Events

Wednesday 12 October 2016
Jane Hunter

Wednesday 9 November 2016
Cangrande - Festive Wines

Wednesday 14 December 2016
Xmas Dinner - Venue TBA

Wednesday 29 January 2017
Club BBQ

Sunday 8 February 2017
Quiz Night

Wednesday 8 March 2017
Ata Rangī Wines