



# The Cellar Club Inc

Established in 1980

## Newsletter - December 2016

### **Next Event – December Dinner - Muse Eatery and Bar**

**Wednesday 14 December 2016, 7.00pm start for 7.30pm sit down.  
Cnr Chews Lane and Victoria Street, City**

**Dinner Cost: \$65 per head.**



I've been talking with Wayne and he tells me that he has 41 acceptances for the club dinner at Muse Eatery & Bar on the corner of Chews lane and Victoria Street [opposite the Central Police station]. So it promises to be a great turnout. If you find you are now able to attend and haven't committed, get in touch with Wayne, he may still be able to fit a couple more in.

I'm a little sad to be missing what looks to be a great menu and tasting some of the great wines that always seem to surround us when we attend. So if you are one of the lucky ones who will be going, then dig out your favourite bottle of wine and be there at 7pm for seating at 7:30.

The actual seating arrangements have still to be finalised but Wayne assures me he'll let you know more about that before the event.

Bon appetit.

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### **From the Editor**

**2016** – As ever, I find this a time to reflect on what the year has offered. We had a great day for the BBQ in January. Always a pleasant afternoon for those attending. February saw a tasting with Roberta Montero presenting for the Artisan Winegrowers of Central Otago. An interesting and somewhat different approach to winemaking from this group. March was a very successful tasting of Argentinian wines presented by Josefina Telleria from South2South. In April we had Edward Donaldson presenting for Pegasus Bay. The AGM in May passed quickly and members enjoyed some wines from the Club's cellar before we moved on to June where Foxes Island and John Belsham held centre stage. This was a very professional presentation.

Things really got rolling in July with the mid-year dinner at Logan Brown. Some issues around service but otherwise an excellent evening. August was time for Keith Tibble to present an Australian evening, mainly Elderton from the Barossa Valley but included offerings from McLaren Vale and Clare Valley. September was with Gavin Yortt and Squawking Magpie from Hawkes Bay. October was a highlight with Jane Hunter presenting from Marlborough. It was great to get an icon of the NZ wine industry for this event. November completed a somewhat international year with Cangrande doing Italian wines for our festive tasting. Dinner at Muse this month completes our year.

Your committee have been very pleased with the programme and hope everyone found something to enjoy. Have a great Christmas and then we will look to developing 2017 events to match those of the past year.



Cheers

*Robin Semmens*, Editor

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### **Looking Back – November 2016 – Cangrande – Michele Marai**



The great tastings of 2016 continued with Cangrande's offering of Italian Festive Wines. Michele presented with enthusiasm and was very knowledgeable and informative. We had a very good turnout with 35 members and 1 guest. The Italian themed supper was great with everyone mixing well. Thanks to the organisers,

The evenings offering included wines and beer along with some options for olive oil and balsamic vinegar which were available for the supper. The tasting included;

A Verdicchio aperitif style for the quaffer, three sparkling wines, an Altaluna Belgian Ale, a Primitivo and a dessert style from Pantelleria.

The olive oil, balsamic vinegar, and a couple of coffee bean options were also available for purchase

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### **Looking Forward - 29 January 2016 – Cellar Club BBQ**

As ever we start our year with the BBQ at 4 Arthur Carman Street, Johnsonville, on 29 January.

I will send more information to members in mid-January. As always we give special thanks to Derek Thompson for making his excellent facilities available.

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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" or perhaps "Do you know?"

**DOES ANYONE KNOW WHICH PAGE  
OF THE BIBLE EXPLAINS HOW TO  
TURN WATER INTO WINE?  
  
IT'S FOR A PARTY THIS FRIDAY**

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## In the News - New Zealand wine industry plans for Vintage 2017 after Kaikoura Earthquake

- *Media Release, New Zealand Winegrowers*

The New Zealand wine industry is busy planning for the up-coming vintage after taking into account the impact of the recent Kaikoura earthquake. "We have completed our survey of the impact of the earthquake on our members" said Philip Gregan, CEO of New Zealand Winegrowers. "It is clear there was some wine loss as a result of the earthquake but it amounts to only a little over 2% of Marlborough's total production. While this is frustrating, this is not a major concern as vintage 2016 was a near record one. This means there is plenty of wine available to continue our market growth."

As expected the major impact on wineries has been to storage tanks. "Many wineries, both small and large have escaped with no damage at all, but in others damage to tanks has occurred. Our initial estimate is that 80% of tank capacity in Marlborough is undamaged, but around 20% has been impaired to some extent. These numbers may change as the process of damage assessment continues. "The priority for wineries with damaged tanks is to repair or replace the tanks they need to have in working condition for vintage 2017."

"The process of tank repair is already underway but it is going to be a big task which will continue for many months. We have been liaising with affected wineries, engineers, tank manufacturers, the government and the Marlborough District Council to ensure there are no unnecessary impediments to that process proceeding as quickly and safely as possible."

"Marlborough produces well over 200 million litres of wine each year with over 80% of this destined for export markets. Despite the obvious damage to transport links, we are not aware of any particular issues affecting the movement of wine out of the region at the moment."

We are working with various transport operators, ports and the government to identify and address any issues should they occur.”

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## Club Contacts

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## Coming Events

**Wednesday 14 December 2016**  
Muse – December Dinner

**Sunday 29 January 2017**  
Club BBQ

**Wednesday 8 February 2017**  
“Through Rose tinted glasses”

**Wednesday 8 March 2017**  
Ata Rangī Wines

**Wednesday 12 April 2017**  
Quiz Night

**Wednesday 10 May 2017**  
AGM

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*Olssens Winery– Central Otago, in the throes of winter. As close as we are going to get to a white Christmas.*