Established in 1980

# **Newsletter - July 2018**

Next Event: Mid Year Dinner - Saigon Van Grill Bar

Wednesday 11 July 2018, 7.00pm for 7.30pm seating. 201 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington



It's off to Vietnam for our July dinner this year. This is a restaurant with a good reputation and will offer those attending a meal with a difference. Just to clarify, this will be a banquet type menu ie there is no choice and you will get all courses. However we are being served our own individual portions – there will be no sharing involved. The menu list is included below and sounds very enjoyable. (Should anyone not like prawns just bring them to me)

The tables will be arranged to suit groups of eight and Wayne will sort out the table seating. If you want to make up a table of 8 then please let Wayne know.

7:00 start for a 7:30 sit down. A special "bubbles" will be served from 7pm (but not earlier). Could it be Cecilia from Allan Scott; that might seem appropriate.

- Crispy springrolls
- Summer rolls
- Sugar cane prawns
- Marinated pork belly skewers
- Beef skewers
- Snapper salad

Numbers are looking excellent, we are expecting 48. We will see you there on the night for a cracking and sociable evening.

## From the Editor

OMG, are we half way through 2018 already? What a great time we are having this year with a variety of European offerings, two great Hawkes bay producers and a possible iconic Barossa label closer to Christmas, just to name a few. A great turn out expected for Saigon Van, good orders from the Unison tasting and more fun ahead. I am really looking forward to the second half of 2018

Cheers **Robin Semmens**, Editor

### Looking Back - June 2018 - Unison Vineyard - Terry Horn



Yet another great tasting from a Hawkes Bay winemaker. The night was cold and wet but we were well pleased with the attendance. Terry from Unison presented a selection of their wines which the committee felt were brilliant. Terry gave a very informative talk with a great pitch. The wines presented were well received with good orders arising from the night. Terry enjoyed the evening as did the members attending. The wines included;

2016 Sauvignon Blanc 2017 Rose 2012 Reserve Merlot 2013 Syrah Reserve Chardonnay 2015 Rocky Red 2013 Classic Red

# **Looking Forward – August – Clearview Estate**

# CLEARVIEW

ESTATE WINERY & RESTAURANT





Established in 1989, **Clearview Estate Winery**, **Hawke's Bay** and its iconic 'red shed' restaurant enjoys an established, leafy coastal vineyard setting near the historic landscape of Cape Kidnappers. Sit, under the blue umbrellas or amongst the vines, while you explore the comprehensive seasonal menu from the winery restaurant featuring fresh and creative dishes making innovative use of Hawke's Bay produce.

Besides grapes, the estate also grows avocados, olives and citrus trees along with a culinary herb garden to supply the restaurant's kitchen. Enjoy our estate grown, award winning wines including the iconic Reserve Chardonnay or our Cabernet Merlot blends - Old Olive Block & Enigma.

More fabulous Hawkes Bay wines to enjoy. You would be silly to miss this one. More detail next month.

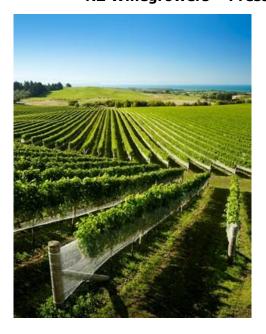
## **Screwcaps**

A reminder that 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.

# "Have you Heard"



# In the News - Vintage 2018 benefits from warm summer - NZ Winegrowers - Press Release and image



A Hawkes Bay vineyard

A warm summer benefitted New Zealand's winegrowing regions, with 419,000 tonnes of grapes harvested during Vintage 2018. This is up 6% on the 2017 tonnage, but is still lower than initially anticipated in a season marked by a very early start to harvesting.

New Zealand Winegrowers CEO Philip Gregan says many wineries had been hoping for an even larger vintage, given 2017's small harvest. "However, we now expect export growth in the year ahead will be modest. It will be up to wineries to manage any product shortages from the vintage." In addition to prompting an early harvest, the warm summer produced fruit with good ripeness levels.

A highlight from Vintage 2018 is the increased production of red wines. "Production of both Pinot Noir and Merlot has lifted more than 20% on last year, which will be welcomed by both wineries and consumers. These varieties were down sharply in 2017 and it is very positive to see a return to more normal production levels this year," Mr Gregan says.

New Zealand Winegrowers is confident Vintage 2018 wines will add to New Zealand's reputation as a premium producer of cool climate wines. "Every vintage is different and ultimately the final test is the quality delivered in the bottle to consumers. We are certain that consumers will enjoy the benefits of the warm summer when they get to taste the wines from Vintage 2018," Mr Gregan says. New Zealand wine exports are currently valued at \$1.71 billion, up 3% in the past year. Wine is New Zealand's fifth largest export good.

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#### **Coming Events**

Wednesday 8 August 2018 Clearview Estate – Hawkes Bay **Wednesday 12 September 2018**Maison Vauron – Wine and Cheese

Wednesday 10 October 2018 Negociants – Yalumba??

