



The Cellar Club Inc

Established in 1980

Newsletter - August 2018

Next Event: Clearview Estate Winery, Hawke's Bay.

**Wednesday 8 August 2018, 7.45pm start for 8.00pm start.
Johnsonville Community Centre Hall,
3 Frankmoore Avenue, Johnsonville**

Members \$10; Guests \$14

Presenters: Lisa Clarke – Account Manager, Clearview

CLEARVIEW

ESTATE WINERY & RESTAURANT



The Clearview website emphasises the close-knit workforce that helps to make their wines and services special. To quote *"We work together, we pick grapes together, we queue at the photocopier & coffee machine, we taste new wines & food match them, we do the 5 minute quiz together, we eat lunch together, hit the table tennis on breaks, make coffee for each other, challenge & support each other, and at times we drive each other up the wall!"*

Bringing this ethos to our club, and of course a very fine selection of their wines, will be Lisa Clarke, an Account Manager from Clearview. The selection is listed below and looks fabulous.

- 2017 Black Reef Blush as the quaffer to start
- 2017 Coastal Gewurztraminer
- 2017 Beachhead Chardonnay
- 2017 Reserve Chardonnay
- 2017 Cape Kidnappers Syrah
- 2016 Cape Kidnappers Merlot
- 2016 Enigma
- NV Sea Red

Like myself, I am sure that many of you have enjoyed a meal or two at the Clearview Estate with the accompaniment of their fabulous Hawkes Bay wines. I said last month, and will repeat it, you would be silly to miss this one. Oh, and bring your cheque books, there will be a draw to win a Blush Magnum for those that order 6 bottles or more on the night.

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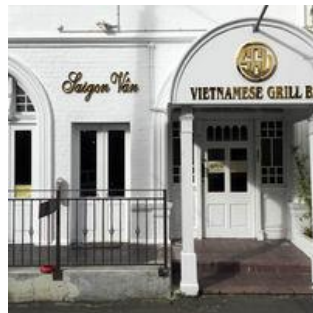
From the Editor

As you will note from the "looking back" item we have taken on board the complaint from a number of those attending the July dinner re the quantity of food provided. We will be taking this up with Saigon Van.

You may remember tasting the Seifried Zweigelt at the Seifried tasting back in August 2017. You may be interested that the wine has been mentioned by Jancis Robinson in an article about some of the different wines now being tried by New Zealand producers. The accent on Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir is well established but there is an increasing move towards different varietals and the article comments on a number of these. Anne Seifried was rapt to get a message from Jancis telling her how good their Zweigelt is.

Cheers *Robin Semmens*, Editor

Looking Back – July 2018 – Mid Year Dinner – Saigon Van Grill Bar



We had 48 confirmed and paid people a week before the dinner, but sadly we had two late cancellations on the morning of the dinner. Generally members liked the venue even though the stairs were challenging for some. Several attendees thought, and the committee agreed, that there was not enough food. The general feeling was that the food was of a good quality but sparse and that the quality did not relate to the price charged. It was suggested that we maybe should have charged a little more to get more food. It was decided to feedback to the restaurant about the dinner. Other than the issue of the food, the committee felt that the evening was enjoyable.

For future dinners, your committee thinks we should encourage people to mingle and chat more while the bubbles are served. To accomplish this we would, where possible, prefer to serve the pre-dinner drinks away from the tables.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation to Cecilia of her life membership.



Looking Forward – September – Maison Vauron

MAISON VAURON

Maison Vauron is a family story born 19,000km from Auckland, in the charming city of Saint Etienne, 50 km southwest of Lyon, in the Northern Rhone. Everything started in 1879 when Antoine Vauron began his business as a wine merchant. As Obélix, the famous French cartoon character, his great-grandson Jean-Christophe Poizat, fell into it when he was young and perpetuated the family tradition.

In 1991, Jean-Christophe took the opportunity to travel to New-Zealand to learn more about NZ wines. Six months after arriving he would meet his future wife and some years later, his business partners, Peter & Scott. The influence of family has always been strong, with siblings of both JC and Peter involved in various parts of the operation and are still involved today, likewise the partners of both JC and Scott work in the business.

Mention of JC may stir up religious thoughts in some. The theme this time though is fine wine and cheeses, so heavenly still comes to mind. A tasting not to be missed, more in the next newsletter.

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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.

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“Have you Heard”

The pub had just closed and Paddy was taking a short cut through the cemetery when he fell into a newly dug hole that the gravediggers had left uncovered. Paddy made a valiant attempt to get out but couldn't make it. He gave up, pulled a bottle from his hip pocket and decided to settle in the corner until morning.

Half an hour later another drunk fell into the hole.

“You'll never get out lad” said Paddy

But he did, in one mighty leap.

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In the News – New Zealand Wine of the Year™ Awards 2018

NZ Wine Growers – Media Release and image



The best of New Zealand wine will be discovered at New Zealand Winegrowers' refreshed wine competition later this year. The New Zealand Wine of the Year™ Awards is the official national wine competition of the New Zealand wine industry, replacing the Air New Zealand Wine Awards and the Bragato Wine Awards, two of the industry's major wine competitions.

The New Zealand Wine of the Year™ Awards will combine the very best components of the previous competitions, with a focus on rewarding the grape grower and their single vineyard wines (a core component of the Bragato Wine Awards), as well as championing New Zealand wine excellence on a larger scale (a key objective of the Air New Zealand Wine Awards).

John Clarke, New Zealand Winegrowers Board Chair, says the New Zealand Wine of the Year™ Awards is a fresh approach to celebrating excellence in New Zealand wine. "The opportunity to recognise the achievements of our grape growers and winemakers in one competition is exciting. The New Zealand Wine of the Year™ Awards will help us to continue building on New Zealand wine's excellent global reputation," Mr Clarke says. Judging of the wines will take place in the first week of October in Auckland. Highly regarded Hawke's Bay winemaker and Chair of the Air New Zealand Wine Awards, Warren Gibson, will lead as Chair of Judges, with Marlborough winemaker and Chair of the Bragato Wine Awards, Ben Glover, alongside him as Deputy Chair.

Mr Gibson says the new competition is an exciting opportunity to completely refresh the New Zealand wine awards scene. "The New Zealand Wine of the Year™ Awards 2018 is more than an amalgamation of the previous two; it is the development of a new, fresh and exciting format. The focus is strongly towards celebrating the entire New Zealand wine industry, with a particular focus on vineyard excellence and regionality," Mr Gibson says. Entries for the New Zealand Wine of the Year™ Awards open on 1 August, with the winners celebrated at the New Zealand Wine Awards on Saturday 3 November in Wellington.

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Coming Events

Wednesday 12 September 2018
Maison Vauron – Wine and Cheese

Wednesday 10 October 2018
Negociants – Yalumba

Wednesday 14 November 2018
Confidant Wines (Portugese Wines)
