

CELLAR CLUB INC >

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Wednesday May 8th. 1996.

1. Apologies.
2. **Confirmation of the Minutes** of the Cellar Club Inc. Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday May 10 1995.
3. Financial Report for the Cellar Club Inc. for the year ending 31 st. March 1996.
4. Presidents Report for the 1995 / 1996 year.
5. Election of Officers and Committee for the year 1996 / 1997.
6. Election of Honorary Auditor for the 1996 / 1997 year.
7. Membership subscriptions for the 1996 / 1997 year.
8. General Business and discussion.
9. Supper.

CELLAR CLUB INC

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1996

1994/95		1995/96
INCOME		
2,947	Monthly Meeting Receipts	3,437
342	Monthly Raffles	335
1,020	Subscriptions	1,040
73	Interest	97
5	Profit on Sale of Glasses	0
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4,387		4,909
LESS EXPENDITURE		
3,068	Food and Wine	3,180
450	Room Hire	450
318	Postage and Stationery	344
0	Anniversary Glasses	393
21	General Expenses	183
46	Depreciation (20% Straight Line)	46
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(3,903)		(4,596)
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\$484	PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	\$313

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR TO MEMBERS

I have examined the membership records, minutes, Income and Expenditure Account and Balance sheet, together with their supporting records. I have obtained all the explanations and information that I have required.

I am of the opinion that the above are a true and fair view of the Club's position as at the 31st March 1996 and the results of its activities for the year ending on that date.

W.A. Kennedy BCA, CA
8 May 1996

CELLAR CLUB INC

BALANCE SHEET AS AT THE 31st MARCH 1996

1994/95		1995/96
MEMBERS FUNDS		
2,379	Opening Balance as 1st April 1995	2,863
484	Increase for current year	313
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\$2,863	CLOSING VALUE OF MEMBERS FUNDS	\$3,176
REPRESENTED BY :		
ASSETS		
600	3 Mth Deposit - 7% pa matures 28/05/96	600
1,421	National Bank Cheque Account	1,770
0	Cash Float	60
4	Interest Accrued	4
925	Wine Cellar	999
230	Wine Racks	230
(184)	Less Provision for Depreciation	(230)
8	ISO Glasses (6)	18
0	Coasters/ Mats and Prizes	121
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3,004		3,572
LESS LIABILITIES		
141	Refund still due on Wine Trip (17 @ \$3)	51
0	Accounts Payable	345
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\$2,863	NET ASSETS AT BALANCE DATE	\$3,176

THE CELLAR CLUB INC.

President's Report

1995/1996

The Cellar Club Inc. of Wellington, passed an important milestone during the early part of 1996. We celebrated 15 continuous years of successful tastings and functions. The event was of course commemorated in an appropriate manner - but more about that later!

1995/1996 was another successful year for the Cellar Club Inc. despite the necessity to move to yet another venue in the early part of the new calendar year because of the refurbishment to the Broderick Inn in Johnsonville. The return to the Burma Lodge was decided upon after looking at numerous options given to us by the Johnsonville Trust and other possibilities. Frank McCarthy devoted a considerable amount of time to this exercise and the Committee is very grateful for all the investigative work and comparisons. From this study, the Burma Lodge seemed the most appropriate choice and this appears to be a popular one.

Both membership and attendance levels have certainly been maintained and, since the move to the Burma Lodge these have increased even further. This is reflected in the higher Monthly Meeting receipts in the Income account.

We are now at one of the highest meeting attendance levels for many years -which is very encouraging especially as there are numerous intending members who will join after this AGM. The popularity of a non-commercially aligned Club is obvious.

Frank McCarthy has also been compiling some data to compare the membership levels and attendance levels at each meeting during the year. This is valuable data as it illustrates which type of function is popular at what time of the year and, even, who are the regular attendees! Thanks yet again to Frank for this data which will be invaluable for future planning.

The Committee has maintained the policy of budgeting for each separate tasting or function to be self-funding and ideally to break-even. That is that the door cover charge should be set as low as possible but cover all of the expenses related to the function such as wine, room hire etc. Because wine generally only comes in 750ml bottles; the choice is usually 2 or 3, depending on attendance, so some "swings and roundabouts" are inevitable.

In view of the modest profit last year the Committee had again budgeted for a break-even result this financial year. Thanks, in the main, to the generosity of Negotiants NZ Ltd. and Morton Estate Winery, we actually achieved a small profit for this year of \$313.00. It should be noted that this result includes the abnormal expenses included with 15 Years Anniversary commemoration, such as the souvenir wine glasses.

A special thank-you to Negotiants NZ Ltd. and Morton Estate Winery for their contribution to our celebrations.

The Committee has maintained the Club's cellar at around the same value as last year. This is a combination of wines that have been cellared for future tastings and AGM's, supplemented by left over and sometimes donated wine, with strategic purchases as funds permit. Some of the wines are, of course, used as "conversation wines" at the commencement of each function. A big thanks to Derek Thompson who, in addition to his duties as Vice-President of the Club, has taken over from Charlie Ell as Honorary Cellarmaster and maintained the logistics of the cellar as well as excellent records and inventory valuations.

Tastings and functions during this financial year have been:-

What was your favourite?

April 1995 - Premium Montana Wines with Greg Williams.

May 1995 - Annual General Meeting 1994/95

June 1995 - Gold Medal Winning Wines from the Royal Easter Show 1995 presented by David Weatherburn.

July 1995 - Mid-year Dinner at Zino's Restaurant in Island Bay with complimentary sherry supplied by the Cellar Club Inc. celebrated by 49 members and friends.

August 1995 - "A Cosmopolitan Look at the World of NZ Wines and Spirits with Simon Law and some new releases from Montana Wines with Sharron Cotter.
- A marathon tasting of 11 wines and ports!

September 1995 - The "Origin of the Species" with Raymond Chan. A tasting of six different varieties from France illustrating where it all started from!

October 1995 - Negotiants NZ Ltd with Reece Warren

November 1995 - The Wines of Morton Estate with Kate Pritchard.

December 1995 - The "End-of-year Christmas dinner combined with the 15th Anniversary Celebration of the Cellar Club Inc." at Charley's restaurant in Lower Hutt! The biggest yet with 59 members and friends with introductory comments from past (and the current) President ; with complimentary Methode Champenoise.

January 1996 - The 'Start-the-Year" Bar-b-Que at Derek Thompsons residence with complimentary meats and specially baked home-made breads from Francesca Menzies.

February 1996 - The wines of Lintz Estate of Martinborough with Chris Lintz.

March 1996 - At the Cross Roads with Malcolm Reeves of Cross Roads Winery of Hawkes Bay.

April 1996 - "Royal Gold" - Gold Medal winners from the Royal Easter Show 1996 with Wine Judge Michael Heenan.

We have tried to maintain a balance of events during the past year. we have included 4 visits from wineries (2 of which were the actual Wine-makers) and some interesting tastings from wine agencies who represent a wide spectrum of wine styles and sources. Probably the highlight for many was the visit from Raymond Chan and the excellent presentation from him on the varieties from the various main wine growing areas of France which, of course, are the basis for most of the wine industry in the "New World". Hence the title of "The Origin of the Species (varietals)".

An analysis of the tastings shows that we tasted over 70 wines 16 of which were imported - good value for money!

The policy of two dinners per annum has again proven highly successful with record attendances. We are now at the stage, with our growth in membership, where it is becoming increasingly difficult to find a restaurant which can accommodate 50 to 60 people on a BYO basis in the format we have used until now. This may be an area for discussion.

As noted above the Cellar Club Inc. celebrated its 15th Anniversary in early 1996, although actual incorporation did not occur until later in 1981. The Committee decided that a suitable way to commemorate the event was to present all financial members with an

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CELLAR CLUB (INC.)
HELD AT THE BURMA LODGE, RAROA, 8 MAY 1996

36 people were present at the Annual General Meeting compared to 37 in 1995, an excellent turn out considering the bad weather.

The meeting began at 8.00pm in the Kashmir Lounge. The President gave a short welcoming address thanking everyone for attending. A special welcome was extended to guests and prospective members.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Ray Butters, Julianne Cobham, Phil Glen, Rick Julian, Betty Maciver, Victor Stagpoole, and Eunice and Warren Thessman.

2. 1995 Minutes

The Minutes of the 1995 AGM were taken as read and confirmed as a correct record of the meeting.

(Moved: John Hood; Seconded: Sam Lawrence)

3. Financial Statement

The financial statement was read and a profit of \$313 for the year 1995/96 was tabled. Profit had come from extra numbers attending and the generous donation of wine by Negotiants NZ Ltd and Morton Estate Winery. It was a year of abnormal expenses such as the 15 years Anniversary commemoration and the farewell present to Pat and Charlie Ell. Without the wine donations there would have been a loss.

Attendance at meetings has increased. Income from meetings was higher than the previous year.

A term deposit of \$600 is still held. Wine in cellar is valued at \$999. The National Bank Cheque Account is \$1,770. Club assets have increased by \$568 to \$3,572.

The report was accepted.

(Moved: John Revell; Seconded: Ron Thomson)

4. President's Report

The President spoke to his tabled report on the achievements of the last 12 months. He noted that 1995/96 was another successful year. The year also had the important milestone of 15 continuous years of successful tastings and functions. He stated that both membership and attendance levels have been maintained and since moving to the Burma Lodge have increased even further.

The President thanked Committee members for their work throughout the year. These included Frank McCarthy, Derek Thompson, Sam Lawrence, Francesca Menzies and Cecilia Parker. A special thanks was given to Negotiants NZ Ltd and Morton Estate Winery for their donation of wine which turned a potential club loss to a profit.

engraved ISO Tasting Glass together with a Souvenir Booklet "The First Fifteen Years" - a collection of articles written by Past Presidents, Graeme Fountain and Ron Thomson and Frank McCarthy and Alan Evans on the present Committee.

A special thanks to Sam Lawrence for organising the engraved glasses (so popular we have had to purchase a second batch) and to all the contributors to the Booklet and those who assisted with word processing and printing. The booklet has been used to publicise the Club's activities and Graeme Fountain has arranged a complete re-type in a common type-face to improve the presentation. This Booklet is available to give to prospective members or sponsors.

It must be re-emphasised that the above souvenirs were made possible by subsidies from Negotiants NZ Ltd and Morton Estate Winery.

This is also a chance to say thank-you to Cecelia Parker and Francesca Menzies who have completed their terms as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. I am pleased to advise that they have been nominated to remain on the Committee.

There have been yet more reports about the so-called "French Paradox". The good news is that researchers now believe that both red and white wines are beneficial in reducing mortality from heart disease and other causes. The San Fransisco based Wine Institute says that new "proof" that regular consumption of red or white wine reduces mortality from "all" causes. The "French Paradox" - the comparatively low rate of heart disease fatalities in France despite a high fat consumption - is explained by the anti-oxidants in wine. These are phenolic compounds, derived from fermented grapes which are the origin of wine's protective qualities.

The President of the San Fransisco Wine Institute, John De Luca has noted; "The new scientific information should help educate the public that wine in moderation can be part of an optimal diet and life-style, and certainly should not be viewed as a "sin" to be taxed".

I decided to para-phrase this by saying - " the only two things that are certain in this life are that grape juice will ferment into wine, and prevent death, and that we will be taxed for drinking it!"

Alan Evans
President

He said that the Committee has maintained the policy of budgeting for each separate tasting or function to be self-funding and ideally to break-even. This objective depends on the attendance numbers balancing with 2 or 3 bottles of each variety tasted so some "swings and roundabouts" are inevitable.

An analysis of tastings shows that we tasted over 70 wines from a balanced variety of presenters. A vote showed Raymond Chan's "Origin of the Species" the most popular; followed by Malcolm Reeves of Crossroads Winery; with Kate Pritchard presenting Morton Estate Winery third; the fourth most popular was Michael Heenan and gold medal wines although this was a 1996/97 tasting.

The policy of two dinners per annum has again proven highly successful with record attendances. A problem now presents itself with growth in our membership in finding suitable BYO restaurants. See below under general business for solutions.

The Report was adopted.

(Moved: Sam Lawrence; Seconded: Sally Clarke)

5. Election of Officers and Committee

The following 10 people were elected:

<u>President</u>	Alan Evans	(Derek Thompson/Sam Lawrence)
<u>Vice-President</u>	Derek Thompson	(Alan Evans/Carol Hinton)
<u>Treasurer</u>	Wayne Kennedy	(Francesca Menzies/Derek Thompson)
<u>Secretary</u>	Frank McCarthy	(Alan Evans/Sam Lawrence)
<u>Committee</u>	John Angus	(Noeline Evans/Fay Julian)
	Sally Clarke	(" ")
	Sam Lawrence	(" ")
	Francesca Menzies	(" ")
	Don Morris	(" ")
	Cecilia Parker	(" ")

The last 6 Committee members were voted en masse as they were all from the 1995/96 year.

All nominees were declared elected - no votes necessary

6. Honorary Auditor

Graeme Fountain (Wayne Kennedy/Ron Thomson)

Wayne was thanked for his services for the past year. Alan Evans presented him with 2 bottles of wine in gratitude.

7. Subscriptions 1996/97

The Committee recommended that the subscriptions remain at \$20 per member. This recommendation was carried.

(Moved: John Revell; Seconded: Wayne Kennedy)

8. General Business

The President explained that because of increased membership that a problem now existed with locating suitable venues for the two dinners the club had each year. Two problems were presented for comment. The only suitable venue for the July dinner was the Coda Restaurant in Wellington but at a cost \$45 per head. The President asked the floor if this was acceptable or not. No objections were raised. Suggestions were requested for alternative venues for future dinners. The following venues were suggested:- Marbles; Roxborough; Turners Steak Out; Wellington Polytechnic Canteen; Begonia House; Heretaunga Golf Club canteen; and hiring a hall and getting cheap caterers like the Plunkets.

Taxis or small buses for the July dinner would be organised by Derek Thompson.

Comment was invited from the floor on the new venue for the Club tastings. The Burma Lodge was considered to be better than the Broderick Tavern for warmth, lighting and atmosphere.

Comment was made from the floor (Carol Hinton/Jim Wilson) about the potential of using the contents of the Cellar for a tasting.

Comment was made from the floor (Derek Thompson/John Hood) about the possibility of establishing a group of 4 to 6 members to do competitive wine tasting with other clubs such as the Porirua Wine Club.

Francesca Menzies moved thanks from the floor to the President for his hard work throughout the year. This was passed by loud applause from the members.

9. Upcoming Events

- June - Alistair Pain of Te Horo Estate with Phillipa Pointon
- July - The mid-year dinner in the Coda Restaurant in Wellington
- August - An Iberian evening with Keith Tipple of Burleigh Trading

The meeting finished at 9.10pm followed by supper

Frank McCarthy
Secretary

Alan Evans
President