

CELLAR CLUB INC.
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 14 MAY 2003
2002 / 2003

Meeting held at: Newlands Arms Lounge, Bachelor Street, Newlands commencing at 8.00 pm

Present: John Browning, Lilli Ficko, Sarah Burrows, Tim O'Grady, Ron Christian, Trevor Edmonds, Alan Evans, Terry Friel, Brian Heath, Pam Heath, Carol Hinton, Annette Hood, Murray Jaspers, Helen Wilson, Wayne Kennedy, Frank McCarthy, Ted Maguire, Richard Mason, Anne Megget, Francesca Menzies, Kevin Moran, Maureen Davies, Gary Page, Henny Page, Cecilia Parker, Brian Harris, John Revell, Robin Semmens, Derek Thompson, David Twidle, Margaret Van der Eeze, David Ward, Christine Mincher, Garth Mincher (Guest)

Apologies: Eunice and Warren Thessman, John Sayers, Vic Stagpoole, Christine Knowles, Peter Sherf, John Hood, Dennis Mann and Carolyn Hooper.

Confirmation of Minutes 2001 / 2002:

The Minutes of the 2001 Annual General Meeting were distributed and confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved by John Browning, Seconded by Pam Heath - Carried

Matters Arising from Minutes 2001 / 2002:

Francesca commented on the fact that some of the suggestions from the meeting had been incorporated into the 2002/03 programme and that others were still being looked at.

Finance Report for the 2002 / 2003 Year:

Wayne Kennedy presented the financial and audit reports. The result for the year was a small profit of \$467. This was largely the result of two presenters not charging for wines near year's end. Otherwise we were pretty much on track for a break even result, which is ideally what we are seeking. Some pleasing attendance results during the year saw monthly income receipts up a little, but otherwise a consistent result.

A cellar list and meeting profile were attached.

The Audit report was included and this indicated full acceptance of the financial statement as presented.

Moved by Wayne Kennedy, Seconded by Annette Hood that Financial and Audit Reports be accepted - Carried

President's Report — Printed report distributed at meeting— Francesca read from the report. She outlined some of the activities during the year, thanked the committee for their great support, and noted the departure of Don and Jennifer Morris during the year for warmer climes in Tauranga. A vote of thanks for their work during the year for both Francesca and the committee was offered by Ted Maguire and supported with acclamation.

Moved by Francesca Menzies, Seconded by Robin Semmens that the President's Report be accepted - Carried

Election of Officers and Committee — Francesca stood down from the chair for the election of the President. Robin Semmens called for nominations for the position of President. The following nominations were received.

- President - Francesca Menzies — *Wayne Kennedy / Anne Megget - Carried*

Francesca resumed the chair. Members were encouraged to stand for the committee as it is appreciated that new ideas help the Club to keep moving forward.

- Vice President - Wayne Kennedy — *Robin Semmens / Alan Evans - Carried*
- Secretary - Robin Semmens — *Francesca Menzies / Annette Hood - Carried*
- Treasurer - Wayne Kennedy — *Annette Hood / Cecilia Parker - Carried*

- Committee - John Browning, Alan Evans, Brian Harris, Annette Hood, Anne Meggett, Cecilia Parker, David Ward and Derek Thompson (Cellar Master), Tim O'Grady*
— *Francesca Menzies / Robin Semmens - Carried*

* During the social mixing after the meeting Tim O'Grady offered his services to the committee. The offer was accepted with thanks and Tim has been added to the committee list

There being no further nominations it was moved *Francesca Menzies, seconded Robin Semmens* that nominations be closed. All nominations were accepted and the election of the above named, as the committee for 2003 / 2004, was carried. Francesca indicated to members that we might well be seeking to co-opt people onto the committee during the year if necessary. In particular we would be looking for an Assistant Treasurer as it was a normal expectation that Vice President would move into the President's role eventually, and Wayne did not think it appropriate to carry both positions.

Election of Honorary Auditor:

Graeme Fountain has indicated his preparedness to be the Honorary Auditor for another Year.

— *Francesca Menzies / Wayne Kennedy - Carried*

Wayne to organize the gift for Graeme, to consist of the 1994 Ch. Lafaune-Peyraguey Sauterne.

Membership Subscriptions:

Wayne suggested that we hold the subscription at \$20 for the year. Felt that this was best and that any escalation in costs can be taken up in slightly higher monthly meeting charges where appropriate.

Proposed that the subscriptions be set at \$20 for the 2003/2004 year.

— *Wayne Kennedy / Brian Heath - Carried*

General Business:

1. Francesca has just received the May Newsletter from Wine Direct. This includes some really good bargain buys and Francesca made it available for members to have a look if they wished.
2. A brief update on proposed alterations to the lounge at the Newlands Arms. OK for the June meeting but work likely to start soon after. July is the mid-year dinner so this will be OK but August may be affected. The committee will look to something off site as necessary.
3. Alan Evans reminded members present that the Club has now been in existence for 22 years. The original purpose was the appreciation of wine, particularly New Zealand wines. Over the years the focus has shifted from time to time and this is necessary to ensure the Cellar Club Inc continues to cater for members needs, but retains the basic fun tasting culture which has been its hallmark. To ensure the committee meets these changing needs we constantly need to discuss ideas with members. Alan asked for future ideas for monthly meetings
 - Go on site with some of the major wine retailers. Glengarry have an upstairs tasting room, Regional wines perhaps a bit small for one of our meetings. Also need to consider licensing laws perhaps.
 - Olive Oil tastings again raised — Barry Quinn now grows olives and has offered his services in this regard — some doubts about only olive oils but could be successful in tandem with a complimentary activity, could also think about coffees.
 - Members agreed that the recent evening where three members presented aromatic whites was a nice change and a fun evening. Could consider similar events in the future.
 - Second growth Bordeaux wines that people might not access otherwise
 - The beer tasting night was awesome and a second would be welcomed. Perhaps including darker beers.
 - Some BBQs incorporating the attendance of neighbours/friends. Could be an enjoyable social activity with a possible spin off with new membership.
 - Wine Options style evenings are still popular for some. Can be risky but some of the variations on the theme that have been introduced during the year have not been too threatening.
 - Food and wine combinations worth further thought.

Generally most of the ideas were warmly received and it will give the committee food for future thought.

4. There was a suggestion we should write to the appropriate Crown Minister to express our concern at the recent tax increases for fortified wines. Alan Evans set the record straight by indicating that the explanation about trying to decrease drinking of these wines amongst younger people was merely a red herring. He explained that the last tax changes had left a loop hole which allowed alcoholic beverages in the mid range (between wines and spirits) to escape heavier taxes. The recently announced increase was simply to close this loop hole and bring beverages in this range into line with tax treatment for all alcoholic drinks. No further action suggested.

Meeting closed at 8.58pm and some wine and light refreshments were served.

The Cellar Club Inc.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

2002/2003

Last year's AGM was on the earliest possible second Wednesday of the month. This year it is the latest possible date in May.

It is pleasing to see some new members and several guests this past year, but sad also that four people lapsed their membership in 2002. Current membership is 60 active members.

It is also pleasing that the average meeting attendance increased in this past year. In 2001-2002 it was 27 and in 2002/2003 it has been 29 with the three meetings so far this year all in their 30's. The greater numbers in the late 20's and early 30's are close to break even point as we use up almost full bottles at tastings with little waste.

It was pleasing too to welcome a larger number at last year's AGM than that which attended in 2001. All of which indicates that our Club seems to be in good heart at present and with your support, I hope that this continues – but we do need to attract more new and younger members.

In most years, we usually have one or two presenters who donate all the wines that we taste. In this past year, four of our presenters generously donated their wines so that we had four virtually free evenings. We are very grateful to Hunters (with David Pilgrim), Brookfields (Peter Robertson), Southcorp (Simon Alderdice) and Lion Breweries (with Simon Taylor) for their generosity. This generosity helped to subsidise some of the other meetings towards the end of 2002, dinner costs and the January BBQ.

Other presenters, for example Francoise Mathis with Montana's French selection, gave us generous discounts and/or donated the raffle prize that also helped to reduce our running costs.

Another pleasing aspect of meetings and presenters was the expressed wish of several to return to treat us to a different range of wines or cheeses. It is great to have such material appreciation as it makes committee members' planning that much easier.

Many of our presenters were first time visitors or, as in the case of Peter Robertson (Brookfields) and Raymond Chan (Regional Wines) were people that we had not seen for some years.

The most popular meetings were Francoise Mathis, with some of Montana's French wines, Southcorp's Australian selection and the visit to Lion Breweries. Last month's meeting with three of our own presenting aromatic varieties (Terry Friel – Pinot Gris, Alan Evans – Riesling and Warren Thessman – Gewürztraminer) was also well attended. We were quite in fashion as the Cuisine magazine published that same week featured aromatic wines too.

The innovation of a pre meeting social time of nibbles with the quaffing wine also seemed popular. Would you like that to be a regular feature of our meetings?

The other meetings – Easter Show Golds and Silvers with Christine Comerford, Wines made from grapes not found in NZ with Raymond Chan, Villa Maria Wines matched with Mainland Cheeses with Kate and Melva, all provided pleasant surprises. In particular, I found experimenting with different wines and cheeses fascinating. I had not realised what a delicate balance it could be.

We also continued to try and get someone to present a representative selection of Waipara wines without success.

Our two club dinners – winter at the Sharella Motor Inn and December at Timothy's in Lower Hutt were both popular and enjoyable evenings and, of course, the January barbecue was again a highlight of the year at Derek Thompson's. Thank you Derek, on behalf of us all, for your kindness and hospitality – and Derek, you seemed to have installed even more decking and made your garden an even more pleasant barbecue place – truly your place is THE barbecue place.

Our club has continued to meet here at the Newlands Arms Tavern on the second Wednesday of each month except for March when you all went to the Lion Brewery. We are lucky to have such a helpful and supportive management here who try to meet our needs as best as they can.

The committee has continued the policy of budgeting for each separate tasting or function to be self funding, ideally to break even, The budget tries to keep door charges as low as possible but it does need to cover the costs of the wine, room hire, biscuits etc in the overall cost for each night. Most meetings this past year were kept at \$10 for members and \$14 for guests. Three meetings, all well supported, did have higher door charges reflecting the more expensive wines and food provided. Other meetings, as I have mentioned earlier, were able to be subsidised because of the generosity of previous presenters. We thank them for that support.

Our cellar, as the cellar list will show you, has some 84 bottles at present, with an estimated value of \$1,309. As in previous years, that number will reduce a bit tonight as the wines to be tasted at the conclusion of this meeting will all be from the club's cellar. The wines are mostly "left overs" from meetings, donations and those purchased for future use as conversational wines for drinking before the main meetings. We hope to increase the red wines as and when we see bargains worth cellaring eg the Te Kairanga Syrah which was this year's Easter Show Champion of Show.

The Committee John Browning, Alan Evans, Brian Harris, Annette Hood, Wayne Kennedy, Anne Megget, Don Morris (until July 2002), Cecilia Parker, Robin Semmens, Derek Thompson and David Ward (who volunteered to be co-opted when Don shifted north) have done an excellent job looking after the club's needs. They are a wonderful team and they have made my task very easy.

Wayne as Treasurer does an excellent job efficiently, reliably, willingly and cheerfully. This club is very lucky to have him. He not only does the accounts, but he word processed this report for me as I have been away from my PC for the past two months on sick leave.

Robin has been a great secretary producing minutes of committee meetings that accurately remind us of what each has to do. Sadly last July, Don announced that he and Jennifer were moving to Tauranga to retire – so we had to say goodbye to our Vice President. Whilst the committee decided to carry on without a Vice President for the rest of the year, it did cause some problems this year when I was unavoidably away. So thank you Alan for stepping back from retirement to acting president when I was unable to be around. However, we do need to elect a new Vice President at this AGM .

We also owe a big thank you to John for his interesting monthly newsletters. To Annette and John Hood who assemble and post out the newsletter - thank you as well.

Whilst the other committee members may not have specific monthly tasks, they each willingly step in when someone is unavailable, they help at our club tastings and each has taken a turn to organise at least one of the monthly meetings. It really is a great team and both I and the club members owe you a great deal of thanks for all that you do for the club. As I've said already, you all have made my job very easy.

Committee meetings are always very pleasant occasions with interesting food and wine to help along the committee decisions – and, of course, we are always looking for new committee members to help run the club.

I hope that some of you may feel enticed enough to allow yourselves to be elected tonight.

Finally, a big thank you to you all for your support and interest in the club – without you there would be no club.

Francesca Menzies
President 2002 - 2003

THE CELLAR CLUB INC.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2003

2001/02		2002/03
	INCOME	
2,280	Monthly Meeting Receipts	2,811
275	Monthly Raffles	317
1,220	Subscriptions	1,200
42	Interest	35
<u>26</u>	Profit on Sale of Glasses & Coasters	<u>0</u>
3,843		4,363
	EXPENDITURE	
2,672	Food and Wine	2,505
178	Dinner Subsidy	179
0	BBQ Subsidy	411
450	Room Hire	350
233	Postage and Stationery	250
205	Gifts to Presenters	108
<u>35</u>	General Expenses	<u>93</u>
(3,773)		(3,896)
<u>70</u>	PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	<u>467</u>

THE CELLAR CLUB INC.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2003

2002		2003
	MEMBERS' FUNDS	
3,917	Opening Balance at 1st April 2002	3,987
70	Increase for current year	467
<hr/> 3,987	CLOSING VALUE OF MEMBERS' FUNDS	<hr/> 4,454
	REPRESENTED BY:	
	ASSETS	
1,689	At Call Deposit	0
404	National Bank Cheque Account	2,861
50	Cash Float	50
43	Accounts Receivable	0
1,411	Wine Cellar (84 Bottles at cost)	1,309
230	Wine Racks	230
(230)	Less Provision for Depreciation	230
234	ISO Glasses	138
156	Glass Coasters	96
<hr/> 3,987		<hr/> 4,454
	LESS LIABILITIES	
0	Accounts Payable	0
<hr/> 3,987	NET ASSETS AT BALANCE DATE	<hr/> 4,454