



# The Cellar Club Inc

Established in 1980

## Newsletter - March 2020

21 March 2020 - Day trip to the Wairarapa.

This is a full day excursion, leaving Wellington Railway Station at 9.55 am and arriving back there at 6-30 pm.



Palliser



grava

alana

Details of train and bus connections, and any costs that that might entail, are included in the attachments to this newsletter. The day begins with tastings from the above three wineries. "grava" and Alana share a cellar door.



**CONEY**   
*Wine of New Zealand*

Not too much I can say about this, but you will find a number of attachments which set out the timetable and expectations for the day. A day full of fine wine and camaradie. What more could you ask for?

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### From the Editor

It's the first of our celebratory activities for the year this month. The day trip to the Wairarapa promises to be a real highlight. A great deal of work has been put into the organisation of the day and I know we would all like to thank those on the committee who have been deeply involved.

Please find the attached;

Important things to know for Wairarapa  
Trip Timetable  
A list of the two tasting groups  
Tasting Notes from grava / Alana

There has been a bit of fun over the Maison Noire deliveries. When they arrived at my place, in numbered cartons, there was a notable omission in that carton No.1 was missing. No message or contact from the courier about this so I contacted Esther at Maison Noire. With some difficulty she was finally able to ascertain that some breakage had occurred in this carton. The carton contained mainly Chenin Blanc. Unfortunately the order had exhausted their reserves of the 2019 vintage and they will be replacing these orders with 2020 wine. Very poor service from the courier PBT.

Cheers Robin Semmens, Editor

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Looking Back – Guillaume Thomas and Esther Smith – Maison Noire



A great presentation from Guillaume with assistance from Esther. There was a good turnout of members and Maison Noire were more than happy with the level of the orders. A little glitch with getting some orders to members, (refer to Editorial) but this is about sorted now.

Guillaume has concentrated on bringing out those aspects of the wine that were very reminiscent of France. They presented their- Arneis 2019; Sauvignon Blanc 2015; Chardonnay 2018; Cabernet Franc 2015; Syrah 2016; Cabernet/Merlot 2016 and Cabernet Sauvignon 2018.

An interesting aspect of the night was that members were able to pay directly to Maison Noire. The marvels of modern technology, particularly when it comes to taking your money from you.

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Glasses Roster 2020:

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to be part of the Glasses roster.

A roster has now been drawn up and distributed to all those who are participating. A great effort and we appreciate the support from members.

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Looking Forward – The Crater Rim, Waipara – Lyn Timms



The first vintage produced by The Crater Rim was from a small hillside vineyard, high above the town of Akaroa on Banks Peninsula – and so the brand 'The Crater Rim' was born.

Banks Peninsula has a far-reaching effect on the climate of the whole Canterbury province, and so we have carried The Crater Rim brand to encompass all the wines we produce from the Canterbury sub-regions of Waipara, Omihi and Banks Peninsula and from Central Otago.

The winery produces in three ranges "From the Ashes"; "Premium"; and "Icon". This is going to maintain the high standard of tastings for 2020. Don't miss it.

Lyn is a Sales Rep who works independently and has represented The Crater Rim for just over 3 years. She says "They are a wonderful family and team to work with and I have grown their brand extensively in the Top of the South Island and the Lower North Island. My background is in retail, sales and marketing and I thoroughly enjoy my job (and their wine!)"

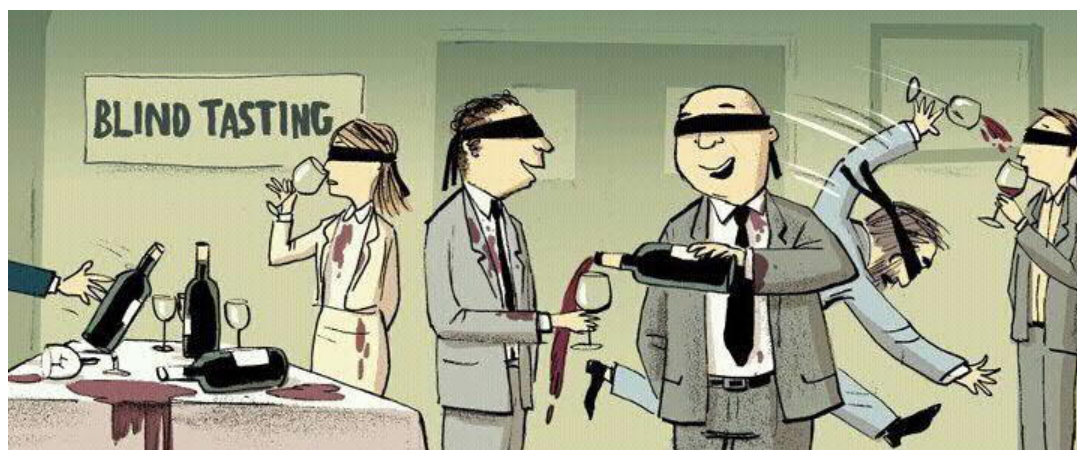
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## Screwcaps

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 dangers of blind tastings.



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In the News – Marlborough concert celebrates 'artistic connection' of music and wine

Sophie Trigger, 4 Mar2020



(Ed. Everything goes better with wine does it not.)

Every time Marlborough cellist Elgee Leung drinks a gran reserva or gran arzuaga he gets to thinking about a Spanish cellist composer's music, Cassado, and he will literally play the music in his head when he drinks the wine from his favourite winery in Spain. Music and wine is purely the artistic connection. "Sometimes when I drink a bottle of wine I think of a particular piece of music," Leung said.

At a concert titled 'Die innere Stimme', which translates to 'the inner voice', he will feature three traditional German musical works performed by a cello and piano duo, with a wine tasting from Clark Estate served in the intermission. Leung will play cello alongside world class pianist Dr Michael Tsalka, who has 23 CD records and tours the world as a solo musician.

He said Clark Estate winemaker Simon Clark had chosen a selection of wines from the reserve range that captured the "tension" of the three German pieces of music being played. They hoped the concert would spark the same love of music and wine that Leung and Clark both share.

"I am from a musical background and Simon's been an amateur trumpeter, and now he plays the french horn in my orchestra. We met because of music and we developed our friendship because of wine and music. "People will love the connection between wine and music so they can enjoy both sides of this event." Elgee Leung conducts the Marlborough Civic Orchestra and works at Clark Estate.

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## Coming Events

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2020  
Wairarapa lunch & wine tasting

Wednesday 08 April 2020  
Crater Rim, Waipara

Wednesday 13 May 2020  
AGM

Wednesday 10 June 2020  
Saint Clair - Marlborough

Wednesday 8 July 2020  
Mid Year Dinner

Wednesday 12 August 2020  
To be confirmed

