

The Cellar Club Inc



Established in 1980

May 2021 Newsletter



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**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT
THE JOHNSONVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE,
3 FRANKMOORE AVENUE, JOHNSONVILLE
WEDNESDAY 12 May 2021
COMMENCING AT 8pm**

AGENDA

1. Apologies:
2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting for the year 2019/2020 held on Wednesday, 8th July 2020.
3. Matters Arising:
4. Financial Report for the Year 2020/21:
5. President's Report for the Year 2020/21:
6. Election of Officers and Committee for the year 2021/22:
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Committee
7. Subscriptions:
8. General Business:

PLEASE NOTE:

QR Code

When you arrive at our tastings you will now find that the club has its own QR code to assist you keeping track of where you have been. Please use that if you have that phone capability. Thank you.

At the conclusion of the AGM, supper will be served, accompanied by wines from the Club's cellar. Please note that as most wines will only be single bottles, we would appreciate members only tasting a modest amount of each wine.

Raffle: The committee has decided to run a very special raffle to help defray the supper costs. Tickets will be \$2 each or 3 for \$5. The prize is a choice of either:

- 🍷 2015 Ata Rangi McCrone Vineyard Pinot Noir [rated **99/100** by Bob Campbell and worth over \$75]
- 🍷 2015 Ata Rangi The Craighall Chardonnay [rated **96/100** by Bob Campbell and worth over \$60]

2021 Events Coming Up:

- 🍷 **June:** Mahi Wines (Marlborough)
- 🍷 **July:** Dinner hopefully celebrating Bastille Day
- 🍷 **August:** Aussie wine tasting

Looking Back - APRIL - Del Mundo with Lucas Monge



Our Del Mundo tasting in April was a premium European tasting with Lucas.

The wines we indulged in were:

- 🍷 Terra Serena Prosecco DOC Treviso Brut - *Italian*
- 🍷 Tonon Prosecco Conegliano Valdobbiadene Extra Dry D.O.C.G. - *Italian*
- 🍷 2017 Great Five Pinotage Reserve – *South African* – first released in 1945
- 🍷 2010 Camilo de Lellis Biferno Montepulciano/Aglianico Trebbiaio D.O.C.G. - *Italian*
- 🍷 2016 Amarone della Valpolicella D.O.C.G. - *Italian*
- 🍷 2012 Estola Gran reserve Tempranillo Cabernet - *Spanish*
- 🍷 2008 Faustino First Tempranillo - *Spanish*

Lucas's presentation was lively and informative, and many attendees were surprised to learn that in Italy and Spain there are strict rules around what can be labelled reserve. Requirements vary on a regional basis, though essentially, they have to have an extended period in both the barrel and the bottle before being released.

Typically, wines at the higher end of the spectrum are aged for many years. While Chianti has to be aged for a minimum of two years, Amarone, which we tasted on the night, can only be released after four years. A grand reserve has even more stringent requirements. For a Spanish wine to be labelled as a Gran Reserva, the law requires that it be aged for a minimum of five years, with two of those years in an oak cask or barrel.

Other tidbits we picked up during the evening:

- 📖 Del Mondo *means of the world*
- 📖 Prosecco means '*path through the woods*'
- 📖 In 2009 in Italy Prosecco was recognised as a geographical indication (GI) by Italian law (in the same vein as Champagne in France) and the Prosecco grape variety was renamed Glera
- 📖 Tempranillo was first planted in the year 800, given Royal assent in 1100
- 📖 Tempranillo is also the world's third largest crop
- 📖 The Great Five Pinotage Reserve was first released in 1945

The opportunity to try labels we were unfamiliar with made for an interesting time and the Faustino, which normally retails for \$105, was a special treat.

Note from Editor:

A big thanks to all Club members for mucking in and helping set up the table/chairs, etc for our last tasting. The JCC has explained that the Fijian group present when we arrived had got their

dates mixed up for their bookings and they (JCC) have given us a rent-free evening for our troubles.

Screw Caps For Kidney Kids

The following appeared in the Independent Herald for the last week of April.

Members of a local wine club have been collecting screw caps off wine bottles for the last year and have amassed 27 bags full.

As each bag holds approximately 1300 caps – this is a lot of wine! (Remember 2020 was not a normal year), and that is a lot of metal not going into the landfill.

Vice President Anne Megget collects the caps from members,



friends and neighbours, and when her cellar is overflowing with bags Treasurer Wayne Kennedy comes around with his trailer and takes them to Wellington Scrap Metal for recycling and this year they raised \$215.40.

The Cellar Club is a Wellington based social group that focuses on the learning about an appreciation of wine. It has been in existence for 40 years and provides wine education and experience through monthly presentations at the Community Centre Hall in Johnsonville. Contact can be made through their website – <http://cellarclub.co.nz> or Anne at ammegget@gmail.com

Postscript:

Wayne recently provided a plastic bread bag full of wine tops and the neck labels. The latter are also aluminium and equally collectable. Being retired he decided to check out just how many bottles had been consumed. The bag weighed 556 grams and contained 167 tops and 107 neck labels. The problem was Lynne was nearby and not being a wine drinker, she asked 'what was the likely value of the wine consumed?', to which he replied, 'Using a \$18 average bottle cost, about \$3000! But it was more than a year's worth!' he pleaded.

Lynne just smiled and, as she walked away, said there was a lot more wool coming.

But having done this weighing, and looking at the money raised above, he thinks the club collected close to 50,000 tops and even if we were to use a cost of \$15 per bottle consumed, that's \$750,000 of wine drunk by the club, friends and neighbours.

One final point: those neck labels on wine bottles will aluminium tops are 1.3 times heavier than the tops, so are well worth collecting. Just be very careful and work away from yourself as you attempt to remove one from the bottle.

Wine News



During Prohibition, America's winemaking industry found a clever way of sneaking around the law. Since grape juice was legal, they started selling concentrated grape juice known as "wine bricks" that came with a "warning" that literally told people how to turn it into wine. The warning read, "After dissolving the brick in a gallon of water, do not place the liquid in a jug away in the cupboard for twenty days, because then it will turn into wine."

 unbelievable-facts.com

Wine Humour

My wife hosted a party for many of our old friends, some of whom we hadn't seen for years. Everyone was encouraged to bring their children and grandchildren along as well.

All throughout dinner, Emma, my wife's best friend's four-year-old granddaughter kept staring at me. This beautiful little girl could hardly eat her food for staring at me.

I checked my shirt for spots, felt my face for food and patted my hair in place, but nothing stopped her from staring at me.

Finally, I asked her, "Emma, why are you staring at me so?"

Everyone at the table had noticed her behaviour also, and the table went quiet, waiting for her response.

Little Emma said, "I just wanna see how you drink like a fish."

A closing thought

This last year has been extremely challenging, yet the club was able to hold several events to celebrate its 40th anniversary. All were very successful, and the committee were very happy with the levels of member support at those events and tastings in general.

I'm sure our President, Murray Jaspers, will refer to these in his report at next week's AGM. The last item of that AGM is General Business and that is often the time that your committee will look for feedback from attendees.

Please use your time this week to reflect on our club and when that last item arises, please be prepared to give your views

- Y On what has been good
- Y On things that you feel could be improved or done different
- Y Even give feedback on new directions or ideas that you would like the incoming committee to consider.

Remember our club succeeds because of all of our involvement in it.

Screwcaps

Screwcaps are still very welcome, please bring these along to any Club meeting and leave them with Anne, remembering that the cause that benefits from this collection is Kidney Kids NZ and their families.

PLEASE NOTE: We Only collect wine bottle caps – NOT beer caps, tear tabs, corks, plastic or bubbles wire. Thanks for your support.

Club Information

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