

The Cellar Club Inc



Established in 1980

November 2021 Newsletter

THIS MONTH:



THE CRATER RIM

The presenter is Lyn Timms of Lyns Consulting

Assisted by Nicola Fraher, daughter of The Crater Rim owner

Nicola is the person preparing the food and wine matches for us

This evening is a wine and food match

NB: the food is appetiser-sized tasty morsels to pair with the wines

Cost for the evening \$25 per person

Please rsvp to Editor by Friday 5th November please

The Crater Rim is a family-owned boutique winery situated in the rolling hills of Waipara, in the South Island. They grow, make and market limited quantities of terroir-specific wines produced from their own two vineyards and contracted sites in the Canterbury sub-regions of Waipara, Omihi and Banks Peninsula and in Central Otago.

These sites have been carefully selected for their particular mix of varietal, topography, soil and microclimate – creating high quality, site-specific wines of individual character and drinkability. The Crater Rim manage their own vineyards and work closely with each grower to ensure that vines are cropped low and managed sustainably, guaranteeing the best quality fruit possible from each vineyard site. The result is exceptional wines from exceptional regions.

Crater Rim recommended that their wines are enjoyed with a meal that best brings out their flavours and have produced a book so that those who drink their wines may have a range of options to do this.



*Nicola Fraher – author
and nutritionist*

With the growth of The Crater Rim's success, it was only natural that Nicola Fraher, one of the daughters of The Crater Rim's owner, saw an opportunity to combine her passion for food and wine, by producing a book that not only told that story but brought the wines together with nutritious recipes that can be easily made and enjoyed. Nicola is a trained nutritionist, with her own business; she also works in a marketing role for the family enterprise.

The food and wine matches for the evening:

- ☞ Start with a tasting of From The Ashes Sauvignon Blanc
- ☞ Tasting of Waipara Sauvignon Blanc **matched with** Tomato and Garlic Brushetta
- ☞ Tasting of Waipara Pinot Gris **matched with** Spicy Vegetable and Lentil Dahl
- ☞ Tasting of Waipara Riesling **matched with** Thai Beef Salad
- ☞ Tasting of From The Ashes Pinot Noir **matched with** Pulled Pork Sliders
- ☞ Tasting of Waipara Pinot Noir **matched with** Spiced Beef Kofta on Tabbouleh
- ☞ Tasting of Dr Kohls Late Harvest Riesling **matched with** Key Lime Pies

Please See Below for the steps being taken by your committee so we can all comply with the current COVID Level 2 requirements for the evening:

- ☞ Please remember to either scan the QR code on your phone or sign in – this is a mandatory government requirement
- ☞ Please remember that you are required to have a face covering on when you enter and exit the premises
- ☞ The tables will be set up 1 metre apart – please do not move any tables
- ☞ The number of people at each table will be reduced to 4 – please do not add more – you are required to sit 1 metre apart
- ☞ Please bring your own glasses for the evening
- ☞ The tastings will be served as per normal, but due to the regulations the pourers will need to be masked and gloved – please make this as pleasant as possible for them
- ☞ **NB:** please if you are feeling unwell, do not attend, thank you

Your committee

2021 Events Coming Up:

- 📅 **11 December** **PLEASE NOTE THIS DATE** as it is a Saturday for our Cellar Club's Christmas dinner
- 📅 **30 January** Cellar Club BBQ

Looking Back - Butterworth Estate

We had a well-attended evening, with 34 people turning up, with Nick Newitt, Manager for Butterworth Estate going through the former Julicher vineyard's story and letting us know what the present vineyard owners are doing too.

We had good wine sales for the evening, 73 bottles brought, and although we are under COVID19 L2, the evening was able to be enjoyed as usual, thanks to the committee's set up.

Drink up NZ's rich history with a trip to one of our venerable vineyards, writes Jo Burzynska.

On September 25, 1819, the Anglican missionary Reverend Samuel Marsden recorded planting the first grapevines in New Zealand in the grounds of the Stone Store, Kerikeri in the Bay of Islands. Sadly these never produced wine, allegedly being gobbled by local goats. Nevertheless, the promise that Marsden perceived for wine in Aotearoa has now been amply proven, and can be experienced alongside its history at vinous milestones that span the length of the country.

Bay of Islands - Vine Zero

Greater wine-growing success was achieved with the arrival of British wine enthusiast, James Busby to the Bay of Islands. He made New Zealand's earliest recorded wine from vines planted in his grounds at Waitangi in 1833, described by French explorer Dumont d'Urville as "delicious". While the wine industry followed more suitable climates and moved south, good wines still hail from this historic region. Head to Marsden Estate in Kerikeri, established 176 years after its namesake planted his vines. Select six wines to try at its cellar door, or grab a glass to savour in its subtropical - and goat-free - vineyard gardens or at its restaurant.

Gisborne - Organic Trailblazer

Long before the New Zealand wine industry promoted its wines as the riches of a clean green land, James and Annie Millton were walking the talk. The couple established the country's first organic and biodynamic wine estate in 1984 with the planting of their first vineyard near Manutuke where earlier settlers had planted grapevines in 1871. They now combine classic wines like their chardonnay with edgier examples in the skin-fermented whites of the Libiamo range influenced by the younger generation of Milltons. Sample these at their cellar door, set in beautifully landscaped grounds complete with olive grove.

Hawke's Bay - Oldest Winery

Christian orders helped spread the vine as well as their religion around the world, and it was Marist missionaries that transplanted vines from Bay of Islands to Hawke's Bay, and in 1851 built the country's oldest winery, Mission Estate. Its cellar door, housed in an imposing former seminary building, offers seated tastings that include insights into its history. Visitors can then wander through its underground cellar and extensive gardens that look out to sea, with an option to dine in its recently refurbished restaurant.

Wairarapa - Pinot's First Place

New Zealand's potential for Pinot Noir can be traced back to Wairarapa, where in the early 1880s Frenchwoman Marie Zelig Beetham and her husband William, planted the country's first pinot vineyard near Masterton. Temperance put paid to that endeavour, but pinot noir grows once again at one of their vineyard sites, now Lansdowne Estate. Martinborough pioneers, such as Ata Rangī's Clive Paton, then founded the modern pinot industry in 1980s. Ata Rangī continues to produce some of the country's finest examples, which can be explored, along with its history, through intimate tastings held in their charming old winery cellar door.

Nelson - South Island Pioneers

In the early days of New Zealand wine, most vineyards were planted in the North Island as it was considered grapes couldn't ripen further south. However, in the 1970s some brave souls started to plant vines on the mainland, including Tim and Judy Finn who founded Neudorf in Nelson when nobody knew what varieties might thrive there. Now they make some of the country's top chardonnay and pinot noir.

These can be enjoyed at their cute cellar door overlooking their first Home Block vineyard, where picnic fare can also be selected from the "baby deli".

Marlborough - Sauvignon Country Roots

Our flagship Marlborough sauvignon blanc is a fairly new phenomenon. Planted there in 1973, on what is now Brancott Estate Vineyard, it went on to wow the world when Hunter's Sauvignon Blanc won the UK's prestigious Sunday Times Vintage Festival in 1986. Hunter's still excels at sauvignon, as well as sparkling wines, which are shared in its farmhouse tasting room set in tranquil native gardens. The next generation continues to innovate, with the experimental Offshoot range that includes a naturally sparkling sauvignon "pet-nat". Marlborough's earliest history can be encountered at Auntsfield Estate, the site of the region's first commercial vineyard and winery founded by David Herd in the 1870s. Take in the historic sites, such as the restored 1873 rammed earth cellar, on a vineyard tour and taste the impressive wines made by the Cowley family who re-established vines on the property.

Canterbury - Humble Beginnings

An important chapter of Canterbury's contemporary wine history started three decades ago in a Christchurch garage. This belonged to neurologist Ivan Donaldson, whose winemaking hobby resulted in Pegasus Bay, which went on to become a flagship winery of the region. Knowledgeable staff at its Waipara cellar door can talk you through its exciting range of wines. These can also be partaken of in the winery's fabulous gardens or inside by the fire as part of a picnic of local fare from the mini deli it launches in December.

Central Otago - Natural Succession

It's rare for a family to spend over a century cultivating their land, never mind close to 40 years in the wine-growing industry in New Zealand - and even rarer in Central Otago, where the wine industry only took off in recent decades. However, Rippon has long and strong ties to their special land, now managed biodynamically by second-generation winegrower Nick Mills. The views from Rippon Hall, where its cellar door is situated, are iconic, looking down over its sloping vineyards to Lake Wānaka and the mountains. Rippon's site-expressive wines are equally spectacular.

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.

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