

# *The Cellar Club Inc*



*Established in 1980*

## *May 2024 Newsletter*



### **The Cellar Club Inc**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT  
THE JOHNSONVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE,  
3 FRANKMOORE AVENUE, JOHNSONVILLE  
WEDNESDAY 8 May 2024  
COMMENCING AT 8pm**

#### **AGENDA**

1. Apologies:
2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting for the year 2022/2023 held on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023.
3. Matters Arising:
4. Financial Report for the Year 2023/24.
5. President's Report for the Year 2023/24.
6. Notices of Motion:
7. Election of Officers and Committee for the year 2024/25:
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Committee
9. Subscriptions.
10. General Business:

*The Supper and Wines are organised*

*It just remains for us to have a successful and well attended AGM*

*We hope you all can make it on Wednesday 10 May.*

## Let's Look Out for Each Other

As always, please if you are feeling unwell, do not attend the evening's presentation. Thanks

## Looking Back – Gold Medal Winners from the New Zealand International Wine Show October 2023



What a brilliant evening! Organised by Wayne and hosted by Michelle Fraser from Clearview, a wine judge in her own right, plus with an extensive knowledge of viticulture and wine making.

Due to illness and holidays, we had only 27 attend the evening, but book your diaries for next year, as this may be repeated with next year's Gold Medal Winners!

Michelle filled the evening with knowledgeable tips about the different growing regimes, different classes of grapes, the different way grapes are treated/processed, i.e. in stainless steel or oak barrels, skins in or out; plus her sayings that kept us laughing:

- ABC – Anything But Chardonnay
- Pinot Gris – Puma wine, younger girls juice
- Chardonnay – Cougar wine, older women's juice
- Gewurztraminer – how to say this: Girls Get Meaner

She gave us updates on what some of the bigger personalities in the Hawkes Bay area are now doing, with Gordon Russell now in retirement, until he decides what his next project will be. However, his daughters are now up and running through their new brand Three Fates.

This was an evening that was full of surprises, and to those of you who couldn't make it, the below wines that we tasted are available from New World, The Good Wine Company, and other NZ locations.

- ∩ Lindauer Special Reserve Rose NV -Gold Trophy *from a female wine maker, Jan DeWitt.*
- ∩ 2023 Giesen Estate Riesling – Double Gold Trophy For Champion Riesling
- ∩ 2022 Leefield Station Gewurztraminer -Double Gold Trophy for Champion Gertz *this is owned by the same family who own NED wines.*
- ∩ 2022 Brancott Estate Letter Series O Chardonnay – Double Gold Trophy for Champion Chardonnay + Champion Wine of the Show *again a female wine maker, Laura Kate Morgan*
- ∩ 2021 Daisy Rock Reserve Pinot Noir – Gold Medal
- ∩ 2021 Esk Valley Artisanal Hawkes Bay Malbec Merlot Cabernet Sauvignon – Gold Medal *sadly Esk Valley is now more, so snap up this one if you like Bordeaux style wines.*

## Committee Musings

1. Winetopia is happening again, 7-8 June at TSB Arena in Wellington: [NZ's Largest Wine Celebration | Winetopia Events 2024](#). Go into their website to purchase your tickets if you want to attend.
2. It was great to have everyone help with the tables and chairs at the start of last months' meeting and taking the same down after the meeting. Also taking the tables contents: spittoons/water jugs/cracker plates back to the kitchen. Could we please continue this new routine.

**REMINDER:** We can't arrive to do the setting up activities any earlier than 7:30pm as we interrupt the cleaner(s) schedule, the cleaners are in the hall until 7:30pm.

## Looking Ahead:

- Y **June** – Brockenchack, South Australia
- Y **July** – Midwinter Club Dinner, Featherston Tavern, Featherston Street, Wellington
- Y **August** – Wairiki – Hawkes Bay

## Wine News – [Borough Wines](#) – [Borough Wines](#)

Borough Wines are all about giving back to the Community. Founded in 2020, when you buy Borough Wines all proceeds go to the Graeme Dingle Foundation to support child and youth development. All the grapes, winemaking, packaging and bottling have been donated by generous folks in the wine industry, so your dollars go further.

Today's fast-paced technological change impacts on many levels within society; from education to employment, from communication to recreation. Our young people need to learn skills and strategies to develop into resilient people who can cope and thrive amongst this ongoing evolution and disruption. They need to learn how to work together, understand other perspectives, collaborate for mutual success, and how to bounce back from setbacks. The Graeme Dingle Foundation programmes support the development of these skills and values, so our youth are able to overcome the challenges they will inevitably face in life.

Borough's 2023 Vintage Growers:

- Y Rob Hammond, Longfield Marlborough
- Y John Flanagan, Ben Glover, Mufaletta
- Y The Palmers, Palmer Vineyard
- Y The Weltons, Welton Vineyard Blenheim
- Y Mark Taggart, Roses Vineyard
- Y Ben McLauchlan, Rothay
- Y James Jones, Starborough

Click into their website to see their supporters, among them Lion NZ, Wineworks Marlborough, Indevin NZ, Wither Hills, etc.

### [Foley Wines saves Toast Martinborough from collapse](#)

*The Post 21 Feb 2024*

As a run of hard luck threatened to drag Wairarapa's famous wine and food festival down, one of the most influential industry players stepped in to save the day.

The Covid-19 pandemic, poor weather and increased compliance costs had caught up with the trust that runs Toast Martinborough, but Foley Wines has offered to take ownership of the event that has been running for more than 30 years.

In a difficult financial situation, Toast Martinborough's board attempted to raise capital from its shareholders but could not pull together the necessary funds to meet its obligations.

Foley Wines offered to buy out shareholders and pay outstanding debts with suppliers. The board unanimously accepted its offer.

Foley chief executive Mark Turnbull said they were excited by the opportunity to take over custodianship of the event and they were keen to revitalise its format for the future.

This could mean changing the time of year and possibly shifting it from a Sunday to a Saturday. "You know what the weather's like in November — four seasons in one day."

"While the strategy is still evolving, our team intends to work collaboratively with the community to ensure Toast Martinborough remains an iconic event for years to come," Turnbull said.

The international company has deep ties to South Wairarapa. It owns Te Kairanga and Martinborough Vineyard wineries, the Lighthouse Gin distillery, and the recently opened [\\$10 million development The Runholder](#).

American billionaire Bill Foley is a majority shareholder, and he also has other assets in the region including Wharekauhau Country Estate, and Wellington's Pravda, Shed 5, and Crab Shack.

Turnbull said Foley was intensely interested in Wairarapa and was on board with the decision to buy out the event. "His family love Toast. We've just got off a call with some of his senior people in the US with some ideas from Sonoma and Napa festivals.

"He's definitely keen and he'd much prefer coming in February when it's a bit warmer."

Turnbull wouldn't say the level of investment they were making in the event, but it was important that they looked after the region and cleared the trust's debts. "I believe it brought in about \$15 million to the region from Toast and that's really important for everyone, so that was our motivation.

"And it was also about making sure that the people that were owed money were paid."

Foley Wines also covered Toast's \$5000 pledge to the Martinborough Youth Trust, which will be matched by Wharekauhau Country Estate and Foley Hospitality, bringing the donation total to \$10,000.

Former Toast Martinborough board chair Pete Monk said the festival had faced hurdles in recent years and was thankful that Foley Wines could step in. "The past few years have posed significant challenges," he said.

"This outcome hands over custodianship to one of our founding shareholders, meaning the festival is in excellent hands for its next chapter."

## *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.

## *Club Information*

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### **Club Website**

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