

The Cellar Club Inc



Established in 1980

April 2021 Newsletter

THIS MONTH:

8pm Wednesday 14th April



**The Cellar Club's 2021
premium European tasting.**

**Presented by Lucas Monge,
importer of wines from around the world.**

Door Price \$16, Guests \$20



Del Mundo brings a diverse international portfolio of wines, liquors and spirits to NZ with a hand-crafted portfolio from a myriad of wine regions across the world.

This will be our annual classic European tasting, showcasing some superior and unique wines. It's an opportunity to compare some classy Proseccos and taste a number of aged Italian and Spanish wines, with a particular highlight being the 2008 Faustino 1st Tempranillo which normally retails at \$105.

All the wines will be at discounted prices, with the majority in the \$20s. Lucas is an engaging and informative presenter and this is an evening not to be missed!

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.

2021 Events Coming Up:

- Y **May:** AGM
- Y **June:** Mahi Wines (Marlborough)

Annual General Meeting 12th May

Just a heads up about our AGM next month.

The AGENDA and accompanying documents will be sent out with the May newsletter.

However, if any member is considering submitting a Notice of Motion, that needs to be submitted to Jenny, our Secretary before the 21st April so that it can be considered by the committee. Her contact details are on the last page of this newsletter

Looking Back

March - Hawkes Ridge Wines

Douglas Haynes with the assistance of Anne Boustead presented a well-received tasting last month and a great turnout. This was an exciting evening, with some very different expressions of wine varieties on hand to taste. Interestingly this vineyard also has their own brand of olive oil.

Hawkes Ridge Wine Estate is a family owned, boutique winery located in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand. The wines we tasted were:

- Y Cest Beau Rose: The introductory wine. This was a non-vintage Viognier base with both Tempranillo and Semillion that was late harvested in the Moscato style.
- Y Deux Blanco 218: A Sauvignon Blanc/Semillion 50/50 blend that was entirely barrel fermented where the grapes were picked early.
- Y Viognier 2020 was also completely barrel fermented. Viognier is Douglas passion and this Viognier did not disappoint.
- Y Rosado 2020 is a 100% Tempranillo rose being entirely stainless steel fermented and aged. This wine was one of the highlight wines of the evening.
- Y Pinot Noir 2014 was a surprise wine from the Hawkes Bay with an interesting back story. The wine was aged in French oak for 10 months and just bottled before Christmas 2020.
- Y Syrah 2014 had classic Syrah characteristics of dark berry fruits with coffee, chocolate and subtle spice.
- Y Grand Reserve Tempranillo 2015: This is Hawkes Ridge Winery's premium wine. It was another highlight of the evening. The wine was only bottled in 2018 and should cellar well.
- Y Late Harvest Viognier 2016 is one of three late harvest/noble wines that Hawkes Ridge Winery produce. This wine was bottled in 2018 and although very rich, it was true to Viognier's varietal characteristics.

Thank you to everyone who supported Hawk Ridge by ordering wines, as well as their olive oil which was on the order form, albeit not tasted. This meeting was great start to our tasting year. future.

Wine News - 2021 Vintage

If members are wanting to read an excellent summary of how Vintage in NZ is proceeding this year, you are recommended to read this Wine grower article in Rural News.

[Light 'n' Lovely: Low yields but high quality in vintage 2021 \(ruralnewsgroup.co.nz\)](http://ruralnewsgroup.co.nz)

In this article Sophie Preece has canvassed feedback from around NZ and besides the obvious comment evident in the articles heading, it is interesting to note how early picking started in some areas.

Sadly, the article leaves you wondering where this will leave bottle prices. One can't help thinking that demand from both inside and outside of NZ, when yields are low and quality high, will inevitably lead to a rise in prices. Heaven forbid it follows the housing price model.

Wine News - Round the Vines Fun Walk/Run

This event is a Martinborough school fundraiser event and was held on Saturday 20th March, with participants able to choose their distance, either 10 or 21kms, as well as whether they wished to walk or run.

This was a well organised event and was followed by live entertainment and prize-giving in the Martinborough Square.

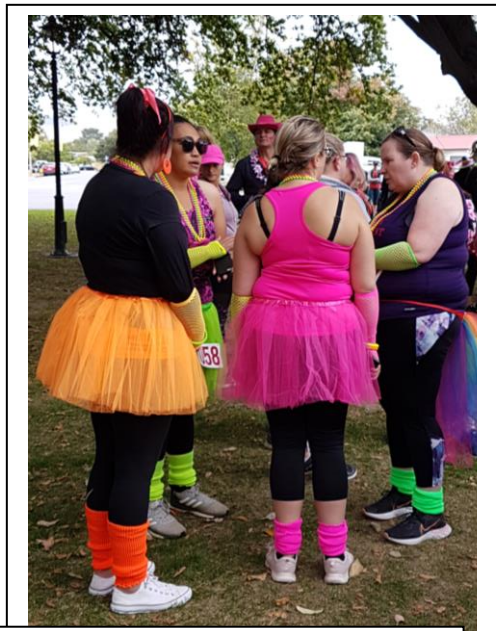
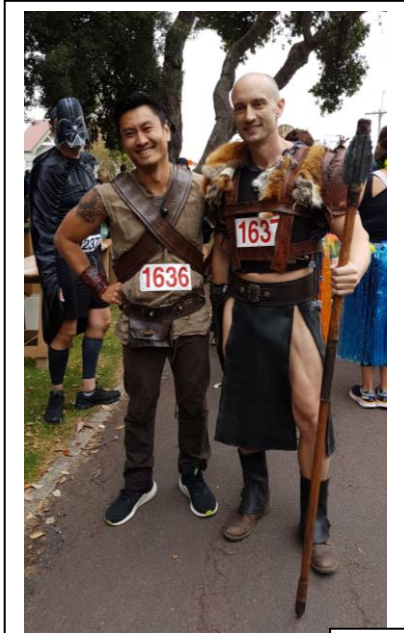
This event not only provided a lot of fun and an opportunity to see a little more of Martinborough's landscape, it had the added novelty of the entry fee encompassing wines for you to taste at the many 'water stops' along the way.

If you want to know more or want to plan for the next event, I would recommend you go to <https://www.roundthevines.org.nz> and keep a watchful eye for the date of the next event.

Here are some photos of this year's event to whet your appetite.



**14,395 steps if
you're counting!**



Wine Knowledge

Pause for a moment and ask yourself. "what region grew the most wine in NZ last year"?

Pat yourself on the back if you said Marlborough. But do you know what percent of the total 2020 NZ harvest in 2020 that their 343,036 tonnes represents?

What about the names and percentages for the second and third regions?

Jot down some numbers and then go to the next page and see how close you were. I was amazed just how weighted the top 3 regions were of the total harvest.

Thanks to the NZWine.com site who were the source of the next graphic.

Tonnage Per Region

% OF TOTAL HARVEST



| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 77.7% | MARLBOROUGH 343,036 |
| 9.8% | HAWKE'S BAY 43,247 |
| 4.3% | GISBORNE 18,959 |
| 2.6% | NELSON 11,572 |
| 2.2% | NORTH CANTERBURY 9,861 |
| 1.9% | CENTRAL OTAGO 8,515 |
| 1.0% | WAIRARAPA 4,472 |
| 0.3% | AUCKLAND 1,249 |
| | NORTHLAND 269 |
| | WAITAKI VALLEY 114 |

Statistics collated from 2020 Vintage Survey

Screwcaps

Please note ... screw caps only; i.e., NO beer caps, tear tabs, corks, plastics or bubbles wire.

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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