

The Cellar Club Inc



Established in 1980

October 2021 Newsletter

Wine is sunlight held together by water...

- Galileo Galilei

Greetings, we hope this newsletter finds you all coping well with the COVID situation and changing levels and news.

At this time, we intend to have our October 13th Cellar Club Monthly tasting – with Butterworth Estate from Martinborough (formerly Julicher) presenting to us.

However, we will have to confirm details after the PM's announcement due to be on October 4th for any changing alert levels country-wide which may affect this.



Please bear with us and keep your wine glasses crossed!

For your information and to remind you of some of the detail for our next tasting:

Butterworth Estate

Martinborough

Renowned sailors, the Butterworth Family (Brad & Warren), is the new custodian of Julicher vineyard, planted in the iconic soils of Te Muna. The J-Knot on every bottle, the strongest knot you can tie, is a tribute to their vineyard's founder, Wim Julicher.

Wim Julicher originally planted the Te Muna vineyard as an Olive Grove, but the site's unique aspect made it far too cold for the olive trees. Luckily, it creates the perfect amount of pressure for the divine struggle required to produce world class Chardonnay and Pinot Noir.

The Butterworth Family has viticultural heritage dating back to the founding days of the New Zealand wine industry – the original 1890's vineyard property is still in the family today.

The wines for our evening are to be confirmed closer to the date.

Note from Eurovintage Tasting:

An update for members who ordered wine from our **August tasting** – yes it does seem a while ago now – **these are in hand**. The Level 4 lockdown in Auckland has meant they could not be dispatched to us, but now Auckland is in level 3 we are working with Keith to organise distribution from the warehouse, and hope deliveries will be next week. Thanks for your patience. *Cheers*

2021 Events Coming Up:

- 🍷 **17 November** Wine and Food match - Crater Rim from Omihiri Rise, Waipara
- 🍷 **11 December** **PLEASE NOTE THIS DATE** as it is a Saturday for our Cellar Club's Christmas dinner
- 🍷 **30 January** Cellar Club BBQ to be hosted by Derek as usual

Looking Back

Unfortunately, our **September evening with Esk Valley** and Gordon Russell was cancelled due to COVID lockdown levels. We hope to see Gordon and Esk Valley at a later date in 2022, negotiations are ongoing.

Wine News

Nelson's Tohu Wines the toast of New Zealand

Jul 15 2021

Nelson's Tohu Wines are the toast of the New Zealand wine industry after taking out a coveted 'Best in Show' prize at the 2021 Decanter World Wine Awards.

Over the course of two weeks of rigorous wine-testing in London in June, Tohu's Whenua Matua Chardonnay stood out from amongst the 18,000 wines judged, to win one of the 50 Best in Show accolades.

As the only New Zealand winery to receive a Best in Show award, it was a major achievement for Tohu – the world's first Māori-owned winery.

French wines dominated the Best in Show category with 15 awards, along with nine from Spain and seven from Italy.

Decanter organisers said while New Zealand was more well-known for its Sauvignon Blanc, New Zealand Chardonnay had been quietly building its success in recent years. At the 2021 awards, Chardonnays from less-expected places like Canada and Germany also received Best in Show awards.

The Whenua Matua Chardonnay 2018 is a single-vineyard wine grown in the rich clay soils of the Upper Moutere region. The only other time a Nelson winery has won best in show for chardonnay was in 1992 when Neudorf Winery won for its 1991 Chardonnay, also grown in similar Moutere-clay soil.

Tohu winemaker Bruce Taylor said the Chardonnay was all about showcasing a single vineyard.

"Whenua Matua translates as 'significant lands' and the changing angles and orientations of the vineyard blocks lend themselves to the complexities of winemaking.

"The wine is selected from the very best barrels of our hand-picked, whole-bunch pressed 15-year-old Chardonnay vines.

“These single vineyard wines hold great structure, exceptional varietal characteristics, texture and complexity.”

Owned by the Kono food and beverage company, Tohu Wines was established in 1998 and around 200,000 cases of wine are produced at its winery in the Awatere Valley.

Kono chief executive Rachel Taulelei says the company is immensely proud of winning the Decanter Best in Show award.

“The chardonnay is a special release for us and follows on from our 23-year celebration last year. Each wine in the Whenua series is an expression of the uniqueness of our tūranagawaewae, our standing place, and our connection to the land.

“To be acknowledged and singled out from thousands of wines in such a prestigious wine competition is confirmation that care for the land and its bounty is tōtika, a beautiful balance.”

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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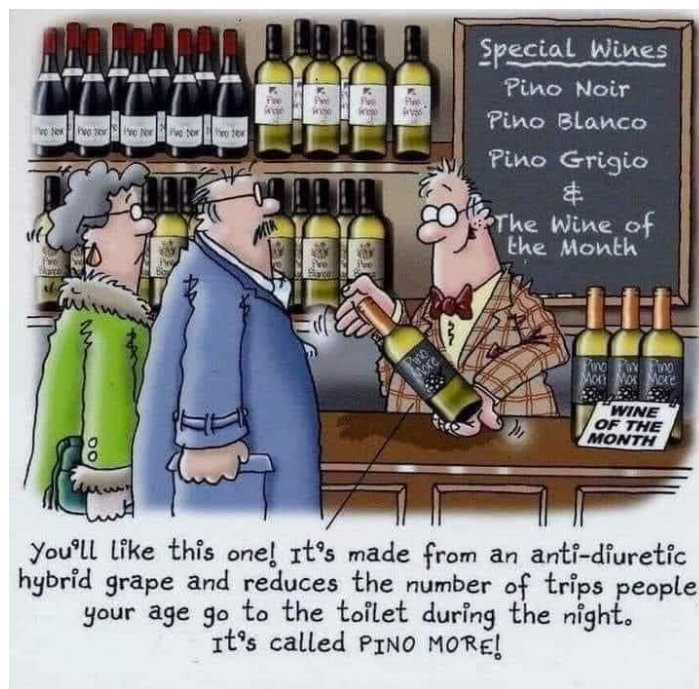
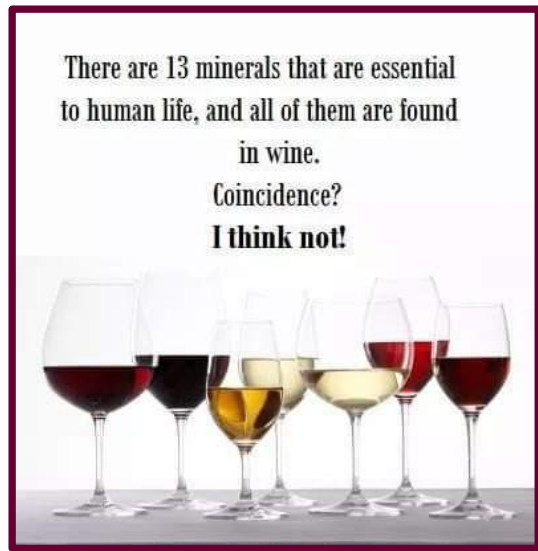
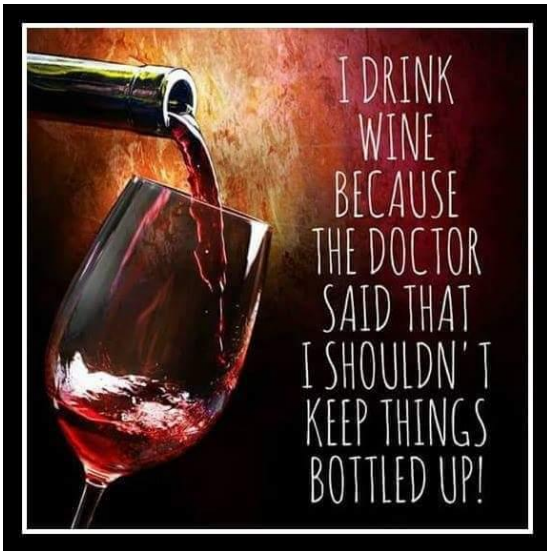
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COVID-19 HEALTH TIP:
If you keep a glass of wine in each hand, you can't touch your face.