

The Cellar Club Inc



Established in 1980

May 2022 Newsletter



The Cellar Club Inc

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT
THE JOHNSONVILLE COMMUNITY CENTRE,
3 FRANKMOORE AVENUE, JOHNSONVILLE
WEDNESDAY 11 May 2022
COMMENCING AT 8pm**

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting for the year 2020-2021 held on Wednesday, 12th May 2021
3. Matters Arising
4. Financial Report for the Year 2021/22
5. President's Report for the Year 2021/22
6. Notices of Motion: none received to date
7. Election of Officers and Committee for the year 2022/23:
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Committee
9. Subscriptions
10. General Business

**At the conclusion of the AGM, supper will be served,
accompanied by wines from the Club's cellar**

Let's Look Out for Each Other

Now the whole of New Zealand is in the Orange Traffic Light setting our requirements have relaxed a little.

- ✦ There is no longer the requirement for you to scan to enter the premises when you arrive
- ✦ Please wear your mask when entering the premises, until seated
- ✦ The Club can now serve food and drink at our Club gatherings, so at the AGM there will be the usual supper

NB: As always, please if you are feeling unwell, do not attend any of your Club's meetings, thank you

Your committee

2022 Events Coming Up:

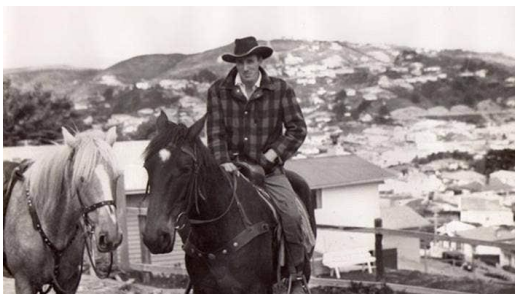
- 📌 **June** **Te Mata**, Hawkes Bay - <https://www.temata.co.nz>
Established in 1896, Te Mata Estate remains family owned, producing internationally recognised wines exclusively from its Hawkes Bay vineyards. Wines we may taste come from their Coleraine, Awatea and Estate Vineyards ranges. This is a prestigious winery and it will be a good evening, please come and enjoy the wines that you aren't always able to taste.
- 📌 **July** **Cellar Club Mid-Winter Dinner tbc**
- 📌 **August** **Villia Maria / Esk Valley** – this is another prestigious tasting for our Club, and you are all encouraged to come along for an interesting evening.

Looking Back

The April evening with Sarah and Russell was well supported with 36 Club members turning up to sample the choice of wines and the presentation.

This is certainly well worth repeating at some stage in the future.

Wine News



Remembering Roy Kellahan, Johnsonville's 'mad cowboy' *from Stuff - By Marguerite Kellahan, with additional reporting from Nicholas Boyack, Mar 20, 2022*

Roy Kellahan grew up in Johnsonville in Wellington, in an era when it was affectionately known as Cow Town.

In the 1940s and 50s, stock drovers moved sheep and cattle along the main road to the stockyards, many of the youth had horses as their mode of transport, and the main social entertainment was seeing a movie at the Empress Theatre on a Saturday afternoon.

Kellahan was born with a passion for horses, and all things Western and Spanish. At age 10, he surprised his parents by buying his first horse – a lame old mare from the Johnsonville pound, called Betsy. He would later admit he had not considered how he would look after Betsy.

“In my frantic haste to buy a horse I didn’t give a paddock a second thought. That would come after I got the horse. During that night, the Kellahan household didn’t get much sleep. The mare was tied to the base of dad’s bean trellis on a long rope, where she could graze on the back lawn. “She somehow managed to pull the trellis down and walk over the still-wet concrete foundations of a new tool shed dad was building and eat a large quantity of carrot tops from his veggie garden. An article appeared a day or so later in the local paper which read ‘Boy brings home unexpected guest for dinner’.”

At 16, Kellahan started his first riding school from his parents’ house in Bannister Ave, and the direction of his future was established. From small beginnings, he developed what was to become a successful trekking and riding school based in Ohariu Valley. With the help of four friends, Kellahan built the recreational Spanish-themed Country Club. It featured two restaurants, tennis courts, a swimming pool, boardroom, billiard room squash court, sauna, wine cellar and, of course, horse trekking. Childhood friend Rodney Scanlan said Kellahan was a character. ‘His achievements are the result of hard work, the ability to take risks and being willing to face any challenge thrown at him. Rarely has anyone packed so much into their life.’

The equestrian enthusiast and entrepreneur died in February, aged 81, after a long illness.



Roy Kellahan, Rodney Scanlan and Beni Paroli, with a restored buggy in 1959.

His commitment to the horse world meant over the years he brought into the area more than 2000 horses – mostly good strong station hacks from Gisborne, providing quality horse trekking including his famous Moonlight Treks. Kellahan built and ran Wellington’s first indoor riding school in Ohariu Valley, alongside a fully stocked equestrian saddlery shop and licensed cafe, and manufacturing equestrian horse care products. He generously let Riding for the Disabled use the indoor facility free of charge, for many years.

Ohariu Valley is now home to many people with horses, embracing the lifestyle he helped establish.

With the help of four friends, Kellahan built the recreational Spanish-themed Country Club. A facility considered 20 years ahead of its time, it was frequented by Wellington families in the weekend and international corporates during the week. The club featured two restaurants, tennis courts, a swimming pool, boardroom, billiard room, squash court, sauna, wine cellar and, of course, horse trekking and operated, successfully, for over a decade. The sale of alcohol was problematic and they began a lengthy battle with bureaucracy. After an eight-year campaign, eventually the law changed, enabling private clubs to legally serve liquor.



Over the years Kellahan had many friends with whom he shared his love of European history, art, architecture, music, food, wine and culture. He attributed his passion to his parents giving him a recording of Bolero to play on the gramophone, when he was just 10 years old. Childhood friend Rodney Scanlan said Kellahan was a character. “By the time Roy was walking he was into mischief – never one to sit still. There were always adventures to be had and that never changed. “His achievements are the result of hard work, the ability to take risks and being willing to face any challenge thrown at him. Rarely has anyone packed so much into their life.”

He was regarded as a gentleman with a highly developed sense of fun and a strong dislike for injustice, bureaucrats and gorse – a good Kiwi with a mix of culture and a bit of mad cowboy thrown in.

In 2020, he married his partner of 40 years, Marguerite Smith, in unusual circumstances. As a young girl Smith had been told by her grandmother she would have a long life and a short marriage. Engaged in 2010, she was afraid to take the next step due to a fear that the prophecy would come true.

In 2016, Kellahan was diagnosed with a rare aggressive form of lymphoma. He was only given days to live and they were married in a ceremony, at the Mary Potter Hospice, in June 2020. As well as the wedding, the couple had another cause to celebrate – after 10 years they published his autobiography, *A Long Ride from Johnsonville*.

Marriage proved a good tonic for Kellahan, who rallied and, against all odds, lived another 20 months. He is survived by Marguerite, his four children and four grandchildren.

Club Information

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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.