



Frankston Amateur Wine Guild

Phone: 0490 852 043

February 2020

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Next Meeting: 11 February 2020

This Month

We will be having the Sparkling wine mini Comp. So don't forget to bring along all of those stunning bottles of "Bubbly".

The Department of Agriculture represented by Paul Dennis and Gary D'Arcy will be coming along to provide us all with an update of the situation regarding "Phylloxera" on the Peninsula. This could be an opportunity to clarify any questions you may have regarding the purchase of grapes this season. What is legal? Where can you purchase your grapes from? What happens if you get caught doing the wrong thing?

It will be on your head if you don't understand the restrictions. Come and ask some questions.

With the recent Bushfires that we are all aware of, the Guild Committee thinks that it is appropriate to make a donation to the CFA. One of the areas that doesn't seem to get much attention is that each of the local CFA units sends off trucks loaded with volunteers to help fight the fires. As a result, it is seen as an opportunity to make a donation of \$500 to be divided among a small number of local CFA units. It was also thought that individual members might like to add to this amount. This can be arranged by making a deposit directly into the Guild bank account BSB 633-000 Account 143837391. The donation should be marked "BUSHFIRE". All of the funds received by the Guild will be forwarded to the CFA.

Wodonga & District Fruit Flower & Herb Winemakers Guild

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of "The Wodonga & District Fruit Flower & Herb Winemakers Guild". Having been incorporated in 2008, the members of the Wodonga guild has joined in the fun of entering our wine show, as some of ours have enjoyed entering their wine show.

The demise of the Wodonga Wine Guild has come about by the inability to get a substantial membership so that the Guild could run as desired. This can be, and is, a problem for all similar groups. It is only by increasing membership and the engagement of members that a Guild can survive.

I encourage everyone to engage with your guild and ensure that Wodonga's fate is a unique experience.



FAWG Web Page

Don't forget the FAWG website:

<http://www.fawg.org.au>

Or the "Facebook" page:

<https://www.facebook.com/TheFAWG>

Parking at the new Clubrooms

Do not drive on the grass. You will be stuck in the mud and there are no facilities to get you out. You will also upset our new landlord. Please drive slowly.

Grapes

Yes, the supply of grapes will be more difficult this year than in the last few years. If you haven't lined up your grape supply for this year then "Good Luck". The effects of drought were bad enough, before the bushfires caused the loss of many vineyards and the smoke taint for those grapes that have survived.

Perhaps there is another option. The 2020 John Lee Trophy is for "Other fruits", that means you could use fruit to make wine. Pineapple, Banana, Passionfruit the world is open for you to try something just a little different just for this year.

You may surprise yourself and develop a self sufficiency in wine making.

Cordon Corner

At the time of writing, the Peninsula is seeing the very first signs of veraison in the early varieties and the nets are just starting to come out. Historically by this time we would have some advanced veraison going on so it appears, depending on who you speak to, that we are running one to two weeks behind average so vintage could start around mid to late March. As we know this could all change if the weather kicks in and we get a string of hot days and nights.

The main issue from now on in the vineyard is the risk of fungal disease and getting under the bird nets to apply another spray for most is not a very welcoming option. However, if your spray programme through the season has been up to scratch then all should be well in the run to harvest, if not and you get an outbreak, then we may have to look at some be change some changes next season.

Mike Payne

Red Hill show

Cider, Mead, Wine and Liqueurs

- Entries are currently open for the Red Hill Cider Show, and you are encouraged to get your entries in Cider Entries Close Monday 17th February, with Judging Wednesday 26th February 2020 .
- Mead Entries close Friday 28th February 2020
- Wine and Liqueur entries close Monday 1st March 2020

No time to lose. Get your entries in.

Commemorative Wine Label

On review of the entries in the Commemorative Wine Label Competition, it was decided to incorporate a number of the ideas off different labels into the final label. This is currently being worked on by David Woods

New Appointment

It is with pleasure that I advise Noel Legg has been appointed the new Wine show Director. I hope that everyone will put their full support behind Noel and help him in his new role.

With that in mind it has been decided to share some of the work. We are now looking for someone to do the data input for the Wine show. That is receive entries, and enter the data onto the guild computer so that labels can be distributed to entrants. It will further require that the Judges results be entered into the guild computer so that the results can be analysed and distributed.

If you think you may have the ability to enter data into the computer to help the Guild then please let Peter Enness know.

Further, if you have a love of visiting wineries and restaurants, have I got a job for you. The guild is looking for a new social events organiser. In short you would now have an excuse to visit wineries—to **select the wineries and restaurants that other members of the guild can visit.** It's hard work but someone has to do it. ;)



Next Month

In March, we will have Moira Chalk of **Chêne Australasia** to talk to us about **Oak Barrels and alternatives.**

Chêne Australasia is the Australian subsidiary of Chêne & Cie, a private family owned French company which owns the following cooperages:

- Taransaud (France)
- Kádár (Hungary)
- Canton (America)

XtraChêne is our oak alternatives brand which has both French and American options.

Taransaud was originally the in-house cooperage for Hennessy Cognac and still has very strong relationships across the Cognac industry. Kádár is our Hungarian cooperage based on Tokaj and our American cooperage Canton is based in Kentucky. Their focus is on premium quality barrels, which can be found in the best wineries around the world.

Punctuation is important:

No more wine.

No, more wine.

May Outing

OK, so it's a long way off. We are currently looking at wineries, and restaurants so that those who are interested can come and have a look in a few months. The important part of this message is the date.

We have already decided that the date will be for the last Saturday in May. So for now you can block out 30 May 2020 for the wineries tour.



Monthly Activity Calendar

Meeting Date	Proposed Activity	Competitions/ Other
11 February 2020	Paul Dennis and Gary D’Arcy Phylloxera Talk	Sparkling Wine mini comp
12 March 2020	Moira Chalk of Chêne Australasia	Red Hill Wine and Cider Competitions
14 April 2020	Darby Higgs of VinoDiversity At Balnarring Community Hall	Gordon Evans White Wine mini Comp
12 May 2020	Sat 30 May—Bus Trip Wineries Tour, Wine Tasting and Lunch	
9 June 2020		Sheila Lee Liqueur and Fortified mini Comp
14 July 2020	AGM No. 49 Mid Year luncheon—date and venue to be announced	Home Made Night
11 August 2020	Old, Unusual and Mulled Wine night	Frankston & South Eastern Wineshow Open Day Sunday 30 August Note : NEW VENUE BALNARRING COMMUNITY HALL

Social Events and links

[16-19 October: National Cool Climate Wine Show](#)

[Sunday 11 November: Eltham District Wine Guild Show](#)

[Friday 17 November: Mansfield Wine Show](#)

[March: Red Hill Cider Show](#)

Control click on the above links to go to the associated website.....

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