

Frankston Amateur  
Wine Guild  
Phone: 0490 852 043

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29 November 2018

## December 2018

Next Meeting: 9 December 2018

### **This month:**

Party time!!! Let's all get together and have some fun.

Let's celebrate the end of another successful year.

Forget the problems we might have encountered on the way, and just enjoy life.

It has been a great year. 2018 vintage was sensational, with moderate temperatures whilst we

were fermenting our wines the potential for great wines was at its highest. A wonderful wineries excursion and then a delightful mid year dinner added to highlight the enjoyment of 2018. This was followed by a successful wine show.

Of course in all of these it only becomes that good if we have good company, so I look forward to seeing everyone at our Christmas / End of Year party on December 9. Held at B'Darra Estate around mid day.

In particular, I would like to welcome the new members to the Guild and hope you are gaining the knowledge you desire.

Don't forget the annual Auction. Items will be gratefully received on the day. Bring the big car so that you can take all that you buy, home.



I woke up  
hungover to  
the sound of  
my neighbour  
mowing the lawn.  
I figured he'll just  
have to mow around  
me, I'm not moving.



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## **Mansfield Wine Show**

Peppi successfully delivered his wine and that of David, Peter, Rino and Ray to the appointed location in Mansfield by Thursday lunchtime. The judging took place on the Friday.

The country wine was judged by highly respected former FAWG President Jacques Garnier, and like all good country wine judges he was generous with the medals.

The grape wine judges knew their job too, because Ray got similar comments to that given by the Frankston judges. (My adjustments didn't help much.)

We stayed two nights in Mansfield a prosperous looking town and had excellent accommodation and dining.

Despite an angry magpie and a snake sighting by Kay we enjoyed riding on the Great Victorian Rail trail that starts in Mansfield and runs for 120 km.

The Mansfield Agricultural Show was on the Saturday and the wines were on display along with art, craft, photography, cakes, and flowers. Jacques and Max from Wodonga were minding the wine and we got to taste the medal winners.

We enjoyed the best dressed horse competition, (the winner was dressed as a sheep) the cattle handling, dressage and the excellent display of vintage tractors and Victa lawn mowers.

It goes without saying the scones, jam and cream were excellent.

Ray and Kay

## **Wine Shows**

It is one of the most important ideas in making wine at home, learning how to do it better. That is the entire premise behind why we enter wine shows. Even if your wine is all GOLD medal, do you receive the "Best wine of show" every time you enter? Of course you don't. No one does, because there are so many good winemakers out there.

The point is there are always opportunities to improve the wine that you make.

It isn't always easy. You enter a wine show full of pride, then you see your result. You feel like you have been trampled into the mud. The judges didn't like your wine. This is the same as the wine you share with your friends, either within or outside the wine guild. Some of them couldn't pick a good wine from "Pine O Clean", but some might. Just what are you giving to your friends to drink? Do you suffer from "Cellar Mouth", I made it so it must be good? The only way to be sure is to get an impartial appraisal.

The judges are always set up with a blind tasting. They don't know who's wine it is. They just comment on the glass of wine in front of them. It is your task to work out just what they are saying. That is the art of the winemaker, determining what is wrong and working out how to improve on it. How can you do that if all you ever hear is "Yep, that's good". The comment is possibly aimed at getting the next glass, so long as they don't have a violent anaphylactic reaction. Mean while your wine making skills are sliding because you have become complacent. You are happy in the mire that you have become accustomed to.

I appeal to all FAWG members to try harder. Wine shows like Eltham's need our support, and in return we can learn about our winemaking practices. Didn't like your results at our wine show, then enter Eltham to get a different opinion. If you get the same from both, you have a problem that you just can't see.

The beauty of winemaking is there is always something else to learn.

Well done to all members who entered the Eltham Wine Show.

## 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.

## Christmas Lunch and Auction

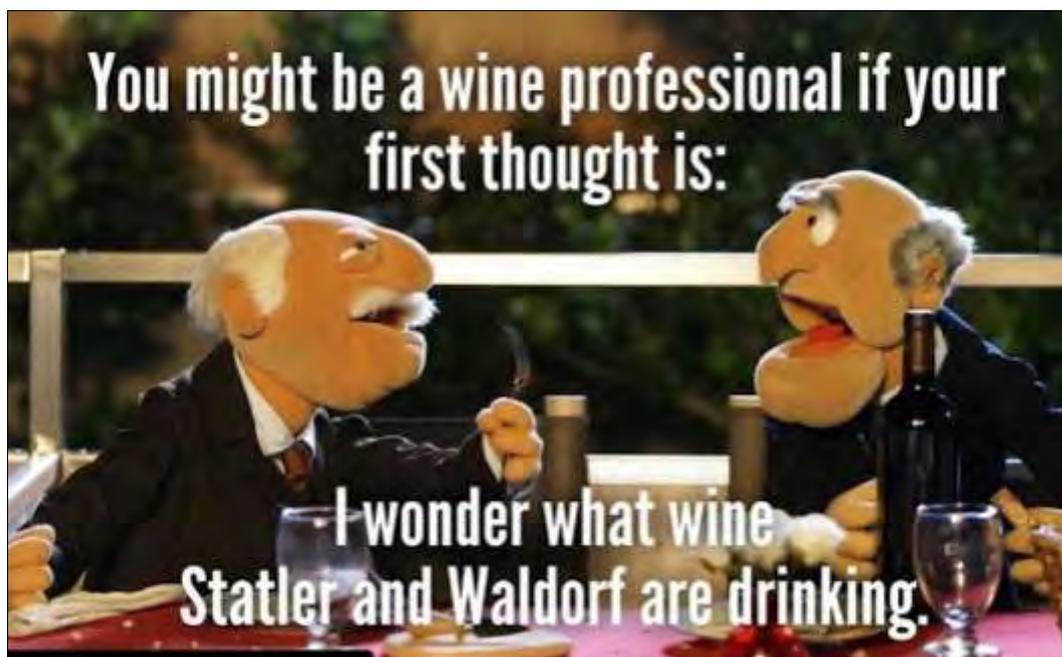
Our Christmas Lunch and Auction will be on Sunday December 9th at 12noon lunch is at 1pm sharp it will be at B'Darra Estate where our meetings are held.

You will need to bring nibbles, your own glass please, as we do not want to be washing up glasses at the end of the day. Hat and sunscreen, but most importantly a good sense of fun for the auction. If you could bring an item for the auction that would be wonderful. Desserts need to have serving spoons please as the guild does not own any, Yas will put your name on these with tape so they are returned to you at the end of the day.

## Cordon Corner

Melbourne spring weather has lived up to its reputation and delivered a mixed bag of conditions including the wettest November for seven years. Below average daily temperatures slowed down flowering and fruit set which may result in the prediction of a late season. The one thing that the weather hasn't slowed down is the vegetative growth which for some trellising systems has made the job of keeping an open canopy quite a task. Fungicide choice and spray timing has also been crucial and hopefully all the work will pay off as we now start to evaluate fruitfulness. So, for the coming month ahead as temperatures increase, keep up the canopy management and spray program and look out for those pesky insects like vine moth and light brown apple moth.

Mike Payne



## Liqueur Challenge

Apathy appears to be the most popular flavour for next years "Liqueur Challenge". The silence of applicants has been deafening.

Let's put the proposal again:

- You nominate to the guild which liqueur you would like to make.
- The guild will provide all applicants with a sample of spirit
- You take the spirit and convert it into the "Liqueur" that you have promised.
- In June 2019, you present the "Liqueur" to the challenge for evaluation
- Everyone is amazed at how well you have done.

We are looking for takers. If you are interested, then contact Glen or Peter to get your name on the list.

## Wine Classes

Wine classes will be held in February 2019. We have already put out a request for students, but now would like to request assistants.

All classes will be run by David Woods. All you are requested to do is turn up and assist with one on one help with the making of their first wines. Essentially, it becomes a social day with the students hopefully encouraging them to become active new members.

If you can assist, the please let Peter Enness know.

## Phylloxera

Last month, we had a very good, very active talk with Paul Dennis about Phylloxera. Phylloxera is a very serious and real problem.

Paul advised us that currently the Department of Agriculture is reviewing the Mornington Peninsula with the intent to declare the Mornington Peninsula a Phylloxera Exclusion Zone (PEZ).

Before declaring the PEZ status, the Dept. Of Ag. Need to be confident that there is no Phylloxera on the Mornington Peninsula.

It is perhaps sad to say that if Phylloxera is on the Mornington Peninsula, then it is most likely to be on a vine in someone's yard. With this in mind Glen Fortune has sent a survey to all members.

At this time, it is the case that your vines will be checked for phylloxera and if phylloxera is found there will be no repercussions. If no Phylloxera is found then the PEZ will be declared.

Should you not wish to provide your name and details so that you can be checked, the situation changes.

Once the PEZ is declared, if Phylloxera is found on your vines there may be legal repercussions to deal with.

I strongly suggest that all members with grape vines on the Mornington Peninsula south of Baxter get checked for Phylloxera. It is in your own interest.

If you know of vines in someone's yard, you can do them a favour by reporting their vine using "Snap Send Solve" using your mobile phone. Just download the App. Follow the link:

<https://www.snapsendsolve.com/>

# Mentorship – how to know if someone qualifies as a mentor?

by Santi Basson | 1 Oct, 2018 |



ILLUSTRATION: Shutterstock.

We all get advice from time to time from colleagues, friends and relatives. Even our children often have something to say about what we should do or not do!

But how do we know when to consider someone as a mentor? Pondering this question, it is wise to look at the origin of the word “mentor” itself. This is quite an interesting story.

The story of Mentor takes us back more than three thousand years ago to the Odyssey, the epic work of the Greek poet, Homer. This is the story of Odysseus, king of Ithaca who fought in the Trojan War. Odysseus entrusted the care of his son, Telemachus, to his old friend, Mentor.

After the Trojan War, Odysseus is condemned to wander in vain for 10 years and prevented from returning home. During this time, Telemachus went in search of his father accompanied by Mentor on his quests and journeys.

In the Odyssey Mentor provided guidance, encouragement and support to Telemachus during his journeys. And so, from a story written nearly three thousand years ago, we have inherited the word “mentor”, which has come to mean “a wise and trusted counsellor, friend or teacher”.

History offers many examples of supportive mentoring relationships, i.e. Socrates and Plato, Beethoven and Haydn, as well as Freud and Jung.

Mentoring is a fundamental form of human development where one person invests time, energy and personal involvement in assisting the development of another person.

When we observe mentors in general, we will notice that they share a number of attributes. For example: Mentors are those special individuals who care about others enough to share their wisdom and to give them guidance on personal, as well as professional matters. They are in contrast with the many people who have given us all sorts of advice and general feedback.

An advertisement for the Austcure website. At the top, it says "HEY CHECK OUT OUR NEW LOOK WEBSITE". Below that is the Austcure logo and "FERMENTATION SPECIALISTS". The main image shows a close-up of meat smoking. Below this are three product images: a "CASH ON DELIVERY" pack, a "NEW BIRD BRAND" smoker, and a "2 BIRD BRAND" smoker. At the bottom, it says "HOW WITH PAYPAL AND C/CARD OPTIONS", "WWW.AUSTCURE.COM", "PROMO CODE: FAWG", and "FOR 10% DISCOUNT TILL 25<sup>TH</sup> DEC 2018".

It is important to make a distinction between ordinary advice and the advice of a mentor. The advice and words of a mentor carry much more weight and have a far-reaching impact on our lives in contrast to the continuous current of advice and comments that we are subjected to daily.

So, how do we determine whether to regard someone as a mentor? There are a few aspects which may be taken into consideration.

Mentors are partners who will assist us in solving problems. They are good at providing a sound board for those issues which we cannot seem to figure out ourselves. They can ask the questions which we need to ask to help us break down a complex problem in order to solve it.

Mentors give direction, but ultimately it is the responsibility of the individual to find his or her own way. Mentors can be tremendously helpful in providing possible options, but the decisions and choices are entirely up to each individual. The responsibility for the consequences of those decisions lies with each individual.

The best mentors are those who will challenge and push us to question our own assumptions, abilities and potential. A good mentor will encourage us to set our sights on higher goals; they will hold us accountable to reach these goals.

The greatest gift a mentor can bestow upon us, is the truth, even if it hurts. By telling the truth, mentors can help us to break out of self-limiting beliefs that might prevent us from making progress towards our goals.

Mentors give us courage to take action. The Chinese philosopher, Laozi, said that a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. Mentors are often those who give us courage to take that first step or even leap into the unknown.

We do not have to know our mentors very well and we do not have to always agree with them. Mentors may give us direction, assist us to problem-solve an issue, challenge us and give us courage. Wherever our journey takes us, a good mentor never tries to claim credit for our successes, nor do they accept responsibility for our choices and defeats.

Ultimately it is important to realise that each of us needs to take responsibility for our own actions and choices and not to blame others at the end of the day.



## Monthly Activity Calendar

Meeting Date	Proposed Activity	Competitions/ Other
December 2018	No formal meeting this month. — Christmas party instead	Annual Auction
8 January 2019		
12 February 2019		Sparkling wine mini comp
12 March 2019		Red Hill Cider Show
9 April 2019		Gordon Evans White wine mini comp
14 May 2019	Bus Wineries tour. Wine tasting and Lunch	Wodonga Wine Show
12 June 2019		Sheila Lee Liqueur & Fortified mini Comp.

### Social Events and links

[May: Wodonga Wine Show](#)

[March: Red Hill Cider Show](#)

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

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

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

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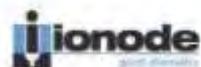
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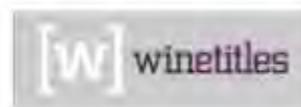
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