

Decanter Club

Christmas 1999

Coming Events:

Cuisine tasting: Sauvignon Blanc Wednesday 19th January *cost:\$20.00*

Tasting not to be missed by Sauvignon fans. Should be good. The wines for tasting include: Lawson's Dry Hills 99, Matua Valley Matheson Reserve 98, Whitehaven 99, Selaks Drylands 99, Thornbury 99 and Melness 98. Most of these we have in stock so if you are desperate to try a Sauvignon Blanc that is featured in the tasting prior to January 19th just give us a call.

MUNSLOW'S TOP Wines for Christmas/New Year and any other celebration that takes your fancy:

Bubbles:

Veuve Clicquot NV \$74.95

When only the best will do! Champagnes come in all styles from acidic/appley flavours to rounded buttery styles. Clicquot is in the latter style, and I love it! Super special: buy a case of 12 and receive a bottle free.

Lanson NV\$53.95

Another buttery yeasty Champagne. From an excellent house, and a very good value bubbly.

Brut Zero\$14.95

Exactly what's called for lunches, afternoons around the lake or strawberries and schnapps to make the perfect Christmas aperitif.

Quartz Reef Chauvet\$23.95

From Central Otago this winery will take the world by storm once production is higher. It is in my opinion one of the best sparkling wines made outside of France, and I for one will be enjoying a bottle of Quartz Reef over the millennium.

Le Brun Methode Non Vintage\$26.95

Was \$30.95 now \$26.95 plus Decanter Club discount. This makes an icon very reasonably priced indeed.

Riesling:

Collards Rhine Riesling 1996\$12.95

Bruce Collard held some of his 96 riesling back in order for the consumers to have a wine with a few years cellaring. It has developed wonderful honeyed characteristics but still with a touch of acid to ensure it will last even longer.

Giesen Riesling 1999\$12.95

Another excellent Riesling from the Giesen brothers in Canterbury. On the dryer side of medium, this is

fantastic afternoon drinking.

Sanctuary Riesling 1999\$13.95

The residual sugar makes this an impressive riesling. It is just off-dry (which is how I personally like my Rieslings). This gives the wine more fullness on the palate which balances the fruit well.

Sauvignon Blanc:

Hawkesbridge Sauvignon Blanc 1999\$17.95

This went gold at the Air New Zealand show, which is not easy to obtain. It is worth every point awarded to it. Great fruit and acid balance.

Sanctuary Sauvignon Blanc 1999\$13.95

Excellent sauvignon from Grove Mill winery. Full of pungent passionfruit flavours.

Wither Hills Sauvignon Blanc 1999\$18.95

This wine has won a trophy every year it has been produced. In my opinion it is as good as Cloudy Bay. Chardonnay

Below are 4 Chardonnays (the first 3 Australian, the latter is NZ) which make amazing value for money. All are ideal for parties, Christmas pressies or just enjoying by the lake and are excellent wines.

Banrock Station Chardonnay 1999\$8.95

Cedar Creek Chardonnay 1998\$9.95

Mildara Chardonnay 1998\$8.95

Sanctuary Chardonnay 1998\$13.95

Matua Matheson Chardonnay 1998\$21.95

It is one of the best 1998 chardonnays I have tried. Fantastic rolls royce oak, married with wonderful ripe fruit. Gold medal. This has to be the best buy for December. It was \$32.95 now \$21.95. Fantastic! It has "BUY ME" all over it!

Pinot Noir:

Quartz Reef Pinot Noir 1998\$35.95

We tried this wine over yum char at Mrs. Yips one Sunday and it was superb. It was up against some of NZ's best and it shone through with its superb fruit and luscious mouth filling texture. The quantities are small (given it is the first vintage) and will not be available for long.

Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot:

Maxwell Lime Cave Cab Sauvignon 1997\$25.95

Rated 921 by Robert Parker, this is choker full of blackcurrant and spice flavours. Superb. Limited quantities.

McGuigan Cabernet Sauvignon 1999\$12.95

Gold Top 100 wine show. Big ripe and rich. Great for bbq's or a serious leg of lamb.

Redmetal Basket Press Merlot 1998\$36.95

Undoubtedly the best New Zealand red (other than Pinot) under \$50.00. Excellent wine from this Hawkes Bay boutique winery. Cellar for several years. Bound to be a benchmark in NZ reds if the continue to make wines like this.

Temple Bruer Res. Merlot 1996\$25.95

A fine wine which David Bruer is justifiably proud of. It has received accolades in the Australian press, and deserves the same here. This would be fabulous with turkey and the trimmings.

Tennyson Cabernet Sauvignon 1998\$11.95

More French style than Australian, does with good fruit and weight.

Shiraz/blends:

Fox Creek Reserve Shiraz\$66.95

When only the best quality will do. Believe me when I say that a wine enthusiast would love to find this under the christmas tree! Bob Campbell has rated this 96 in this month's Cuisine issue in 'best of the bunch'.

Hardy's Shiraz Cabernet 1998\$8.95

Great for bbq's and parties.

Moculta Shiraz 1997\$16.95

This wine has a huge following amongst Munslow's clients, and for us it is a standard quaffer at home. Excellent value.

Temple Bruer Shiraz Malbec 1996\$19.95

We enjoyed a bottle of this recently and were amazed at how much it has changed. Initially the wood was quite dominant, now it's all fruit and gutsy with it. It still has a few years life in it for cellaring purposes.

Sweet Wines:

Seppelt Show Reserve Muscat\$24.95

Paul Wright finished his tasting this month with this sweetie. Gorgeous, succulent and the thing to have with Christmas cake.

**Central Otago Pinot Noir Celebration Queenstown
Saturday 29 January 2000**

A huge day in Queenstown and one not to be missed if you are a Pinot Noir fan. The celebration is an opportunity to taste, debate and enjoy Pinot's from Central Otago, and other New Zealand Pinot growing areas as well as from Australia California and Oregon. Fine food will be matched with fine wine. There will be sessions on burgundy tasting, seminars on various aspects of Pinot Noir production and evaluation and a grand tasting of the 1998 Pinot from all areas. Speakers include 4 overseas Pinot Noir experts including James Halliday from Australia (Coldstream Hills) and from both England and USA. Cost is \$275. And covers all meals and wine. Send interest of registration to: The Queenstown Connection, PO Box 654 Queenstown, fax: 03 442 8339, call free 0800 610 610, Email bruce@qtnconnect.co.nz

Dukkah Dukkah is a taste sensation and now available from Munslow's Fine Wines. This is the fantastic nut and spice mixture to have with olive oil and bread that you've probably read and heard about. Definitely the thing to have on your platter this year when entertaining. \$6.95. Also in stock for the stocking of basket fillers is an excellent selection of irresistible nuts

Services provided by Munslow's

Free Delivery within Dunedin area

Mixed cases to order

Great Courier rates

Gift wrapping

Have a fantastic Christmas folks. Remember that Christmas Day is a day of total indulgence.

We hope that you all enjoy your New Year celebrations. Wherever you are, drive safely.

Our Christmas hours are as follows: December 25th, 26th, 27th January 1st 2nd closed. Days in between – 11.00 – 6.pm We will be opening on Sunday's 11.00– 2.30 until christmas. We will revise our hours early in the new year and let you know in the next newsletter. We are interested to know how many of our clients would be interested in us opening on Sundays. Your feedback would be appreciated.

Thank–you for your continued support throughout the year.

Cheers, Peter, Lyn and the crew.