

Fellowship through home winemaking Share, Learn, Enjoy!

**Press Cuttings** November 2011

President Past President Secretary Show Director Newsletter

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#### The Guild encourages the responsible consumption of alcohol

The Guild meets on the last Friday of each month (except December) at the Eltham Living & Learning Centre at 7.45 pm Next meeting: 2 December 2011

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# Next Meeting - 2 December

7:45 pm start at the Eltham Living & Learning Centre 739 Main Rd Eltham.

This meeting was not previously scheduled, but we thought we could have an informal gathering of members, wives, partners, friends, etc. The Guild will provide some international wines, cheese, nibblies together with a brief overview of the Wine Show results. Any plates of food you can bring along will be gratefully accepted.

Guests checking out joining the Guild are welcome to our regular meetings, as always.

# **President's Press**

Bill Loughlin

### Annual Wine Show 19-20 November 2011

The Wine Show Director Greg Martin and Committee members have put in a big effort to make our Show a success. Please come along and support the Guild. We still need some help in stewarding duties on Saturday and to help clean up on Sunday afternoon.

If you are not currently on the roster and can help please come along and will have a job for you.

## 2012 Meetings

The Executive has decided that we will continue the Guild's plan to focus more on technical grape and country wine making techniques. We will be devoting at least 2 or 3 meetings to establish a simple to follow plan from grape, fruit picking/purchase/handling to bottling. I encourage as many members as possible to come along to these meetings which will be announced early in 2012. We will essentially be using the expertise of members to formalize the content, so a good attendance will help make this a success.

## Wine Quotes and News

#### Articles wanted

Articles of interest, whether they are quotes or newsworthy, are requested from members. If you have a draft version or need some assistance, I'm happy to assist for its inclusion.

(Ed.)

#### Wine Quotes

# "I feel sorry for people who don't drink. When they wake up in the morning, that's as good as they're going to feel all day." ~*Frank Sinatra*

WARNING: The consumption of alcohol may create the illusion that you are tougher, smarter, faster and better looking than most people.

# Wine Women and Song

### George Wright

Let's reflect on the interest in wine over the last couple of centuries. Is it more or less popular as time progresses? Below is an analysis using the free but powerful Google search tool Ngram Viewer. This uses large numbers of books published at various times (now digitised) and searches for occurrences of two words and then compares them in the form of a graph. For the purposes of this article I have assumed that the relative change in number of occurrences reflects the interest and hence importance that the community defined at each time sequence places on the specified topic.

For example, compare wine and beer. The following graph shows that wine has steadily decreased in relative importance while beer has steadily risen, but at a slower rate.



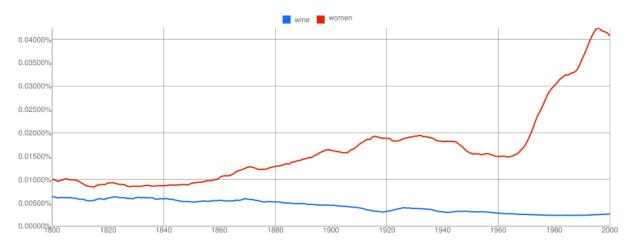
But this simplistic comparison does not challenge the age-old assumption that wine, women and song go together and cannot be torn asunder. As we will see, this is not as apparent when the data are examined in more depth.



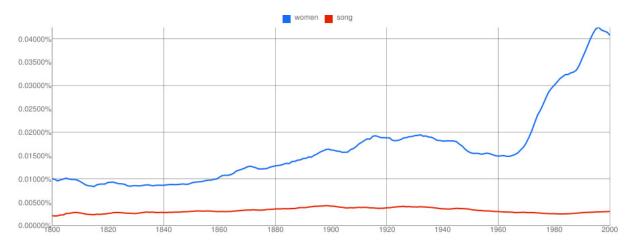
Let's start with wine and song:

With wine decreasing in interest for the 19th century, song increased its dominance and for the 20th century they remained in concert. For the last century at least, the old adage appears to make sense, at least for wine and song.

#### Now let's compare women and wine:



Ah, huh! What a comparison. While wine is decreasing in relative importance, since the 1960's (about the time I grew up), interest in women has dramatically increased while as we saw earlier, wine interest has flagged.



We can now test the theory by comparing women and song:

Yes, yes, yes. The data are self reinforcing. Interest in women holds a major fascination since the 1960's.

#### **Conclusion:**

While wine and song over the past century has retained a relative constant relationship despite the flagging interest in wine, the fascination with women is exponential.

I must point out a worrying decline in the interest in women in the decade starting in 1990 (note the blip at the end of the graph). That's about when I was declared a senior. So many in our ageing population are similarly classified. Is my interest in women flagging? No, I take heart. The taste-bud scientists tell me my wine appreciation skills declined when I reached my mid-sixties but despite this, my interest in wine defies the trend. I take the age-related decline as an excuse to get stuck into my cellar before it's too late. And when I look at a beautiful woman on the street, I must admit that in my head I am still 18 years old. To hell with statistics. Wine, women and song still go together in my heart. As a young man I felt guilty at being sexist. But when you get old you can be both sexist and happy. Cheers! Here's to song and dance!

# Eltham & District Winemakers Guild Inc.

# 42<sup>nd</sup> ELTHAM WINE SHOW This is a great opportunity to have your country or grape wine assessed by professionals



Fellowship through home winemaking: Share, Learn, Enjoy!

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2011

# 11 am - 3 pm Eltham Community Centre 801 Main Rd (opposite the Eltham Hotel)

Only \$15 entry (Winemaker entrants free!)

FEATURING: workshops; trade exhibits; tastings of medal winning wines; major awards for Best country & Best grape winemakers; Best woman winemaker; Best Hybrid Wine; as well as awards for over 30 other wine classes

## GOURMET DELIGHTS AVAILABLE OR BYO PICNIC

The Guild would like to thank the following for their support of our noble craft! Costante Imports, Cellar Plus, Liquis Assets Wine Storage, Winequip, Vinvicta Products, Australian Homewinemakers, Greensborough Home Brewing, Heritage Coopers

> Watch out for entry forms from our sponsors and on our website in September:

For Further Information: 03 9437 0053 or Email: cheers@amateurwine.org.au

# **Trading Barrel**

**BUY / SELL SERVICE FOR MEMBERS** - Ads need to be lodged with the editor by the 14th of the month to be included in the next Newsletter.

DEMIJOHNS: In excellent condition, available for 50% of the retail price of new ones

54ltr x 4 33ltr x 2 25ltr x 1 20ltr x 2 15ltr x 2 10ltr x 2

Fermenting vats in excellent condition:

700 ltr - \$150 500ltr - 125.

Kevin Furness tel 0408 067 288

#### FOR SALE - GLASS FLAGONS

For sale pairs of clear glass flagons, one 5 litre and one 2 litre.

Ideal for country wine making or storing small quantities of grape wine. \$5 per set.

Mario Fantin 9846 7092.

#### FOR SALE - MODULAR PINE WINE RACKS

Total storage capacity of 28 dozen bottles but can be assembled in any dozen combination.

Good condition. Can be collected at Doncaster East or could be delivered within a 10 km radius.

Price - \$250 or best offer.

Arthur Stubbs on 8822 3458

#### FOR SALE - WINE BARREL STAND

One galvanised metal stand which holds 2 barriques. It is available to any paid up member for a modest donation to the guild.

Rob Aitken on 0417 537 993

# **Sponsors Corner**

## Vinvicta Products



2/19 Macquarie Drive Thomastown VIC 3074 Ph: 1300 360 353 Fax: 1300 360 356 Mobile: 0438 833 795

Suppliers of Quality Products to the Wine Industry - Bucher Vaslin - Anchor Yeast Tannins & Enzymes . Winery Chemicals Lab Supplies

## **Winequip Products**



59 BANBURY RD RESERVOIR PHONE: 9462 4777 www.winequip.com.au

WINEQUIP: proud Sponsor of the Eltham & District Winemakers Guild

## **Costante Imports**



www.costanteimports.com.au

Email: sales@costanteimports.com.au

## **Cellar Plus**



• Importers of all commercial + hobby winemaking, brewing and food Equipment. From grape snips at Harvest, to filters and screew caps come time to fill your bottles.



Cellar Plus also has now in stock Accuvin wine test kits from the USA , which are a low cost way for testing every thing from Free  $SO_2$  sulphur in wine, your pH or malic acid to see MLF ferments are complete. It could be a cheaper and simpler option, for those who are unable to leave samples at the Cellar Plus store, for their more analytical laboratory testing service which is still available with results returned usually within 24-72 hrs.



**Cellar Plus has moved** its Epping retail / trade Showroom from Yale St just around the corner on to the main road at 218 Cooper St (near the Medical Centre), with an expanded display space which allows the wine enthusiast an improved opportunity to roam around the many tanks, pumps, presses on display, and not to mention an internal cool room with ample yeast for all us winemakers and plenty of hops styles to please the advanced brewers.

## Australian and New Zealand Winemakers



## Greensborough Home Brewing

Your local homebrew shop carrying a complete range of Wine & Beer making supplies ...

- Books
- Nutrients Glassware
- Acids

Yeasts

- 5L Stills Oak Barrels
- Corks

Winemaking equipment hire - including motorised crusher / destemmer (750kg / hr), basket press, corker and more.

Call Dave for all your needs ...

Greensborough Home Brewing 22 Louis Street, Greensborough (Melways Map 20/J4) Tel: 9432 0283

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## Heritage Coopers

### WINE BARRELS FOR SALE

We can recondition your barrels or you can buy ex-winery barrels that have been recovered and renewed.

#### Local service at Diamond Creek

- Ex-winery barrels shaved and toasted
- Re-conditioned (completely re-coopered) barrels from 50-150 litres
- Shaving and toasting

For all your cooperage needs contact Neil on 9438 1790 or 0402 015 138 Enquiries welcome