

SEASONS GREETINGS TO ALL

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FRIENDS OF THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA VIGNERONS DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

www.morningtonwinefriends.com

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello Members

It was lovely seeing so many of you at the Annual General Meeting on Sunday and the warm congratulations I received for becoming President. Sadly no one curtsied. I'm looking forward to the 2024 committee's first meeting next week where we get to know each other and commence the preliminary planning for events in 2024 and setting our committee meeting dates.

Those of you who've served on the committee and run events know all too well how much work goes into the planning and execution of events, and it was wonderful to get sincere offers from ex-committee members to assist as a second pair of hands. Narelle DeBoos asked if people could assist without being on the committee and a few others also volunteered - even to the extent of finding a venues and pricing etc. Amazing that the members are pitching in. I especially thank Narelle for the huge amount of work that she put into the AGM and the Booze and Blues events, along with her friends and fellow members Sue & Bill Spicer and Geoff and Jacki Hill.

We moved to Dromana 13 years ago and tootled up to our first annual MPVA wine

show at Red Hill where I saw some assistants in black aprons being unobtrusively very helpful to the winemakers in the hall and the masterclasses - I thought "these people look useful" and joined the FMPV. At that time members could volunteer to assist the winemakers in harvesting small parcels of fruit. I soon was instructed by a winemaker how to assist with the harvest and handed sterilised secateurs and disposable gloves. It was pouring with rain, but a convivial lunch put on for the volunteers took away the shivers and chattering teeth. Nowadays the volunteering is directed to helping the recently renamed Mornington Peninsula Wine with their events. So, we are still being very useful to the winemakers. They have responded by warmly welcoming our club into their wineries and also giving us great deals when we use their wine at events. Only this week the Aylwards donated over two dozen bottles of aged Kooyong Chardonnay to our cellar.

Being on the Peninsula meant that we were immersed in a lot of talk and visits to wineries. When a Dromana colleague said "it's usual for the locals to have a glass of wine at Foxeys on a Friday afternoon", I thought we'd truly found the right place to live!

I wasn't very knowledgeable about the wine I was choosing in the bottle shop but gradually with our wine club I've learned the difference between a nice Pinot Noir and a great Pinot Noir. It was nice to acquire knowledge from friendly, non-judgmental FMPV members. The first time we went to a wine event at Paradigm Hill in co-operation with Eldridge Estate it was eye-opening. Lots of talk about clones and terroir. Sue Sewell kindly sat with us and gave quiet explanations.

I hope you also all make new friends and acquire more wine knowledge.

The 2024 committee is already making enquiries of venues - we're aiming to have a mix of pricing and activities. There'll be firm favourites and new venues. A schedule of events is attached at the end of this Newsletter. As always we appreciate input from the members if you discover a new restaurant that will accept group bookings.

For our first function in 2024 we are having a tasting of a wide range of Portsea Estate Wines from their Portsea and Main Ridge vineyards at the Flinders Golf Club on Sunday 11 February. Enjoy panoramic views over Bass Strait, fabulous food prepared by the Club's renowned chef Shane Smith (ex Paringa Estate), superb wines and great company. A booking notice will be sent out soon but put the date in your diaries now.

Best wishes for a happy, safe time with friends and family celebrating Christmas.



Cheers

Gaye Storey
President

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2023

Dear Friends,

This year we organised ten, and successfully held nine events. Your Committee has presented a variety of venues and events, held on weekends where possible, to encourage your attendance.

Our events included a mix of both new events and some of our old favourites. Not everything was supported by sufficient Members to proceed, but overall, we have had a very successful year with more participation by both Members and Guests than in recent years (see table below for details). The mix also included “big” and “small” events as we tried to provide options across the spectrum to try and provide events that met our various Members’ preferences. My sincere thanks go to all the Committee Members who were involved in organising the events this year and to all the Members who helped in various ways, both at venues helping with the organisation and volunteering to work on the day.

Our membership at 138 continues to grow and includes 5 life and 6 complimentary members. This year we have also linked up with Frankston Wine and Food Society. Attendance at our events has grown with a number of events during the year exceeding 60 participants. Over 85% of our Members have attended at least one event during 2023. We are seeing our numbers of Members, numbers at Events and our Member participation rate all increase in 2023. Our time of Covid constraint looks to be well behind us and I look forward to FMPV continuing to prosper as we enter our 35th year.

This year there has been a lot of “behind the scenes” activity as the Committee implemented Trybooking as an Event booking tool and expanded the use of Trybooking to cover our subs. This has DRAMATICALLY decreased the effort needed by our Treasurer to reconcile funds coming in to FMPV. It has also made the job of Event organisers easier with information available for dietary constraints and table preferences, when appropriate, and the production of name tags for participants. We are using Mailchimp to do our mailouts to Members. We have implemented an email system which ensures that our records transfer smoothly from person to person as people take on roles within the organisation to ensure continuity of information as explained by Mark Higgins in the September Newsletter. Our website is back to being current. In addition, we have centralised our records “in the cloud” so that we no longer need to provide paper documents to Committee Members. They can now access all documents relating to FMPV whenever it suits them to do so and not rely on keeping paper documents.

Our financial position remains strong under the guiding hand of Glenn Lugg as you will see from the Financial Statements. The Committee with the help of the Cellar master Peter Gillson reviewed the Cellar during the year and made some changes to the Cellar management which Peter will address in his Cellarmaster’s Report.

Your Committee continues to function well, with a blend of people who have been on the Committee for some time along with some new additions bringing new ideas. There is always room for new people on the Committee and, with a number of people, including me, stepping down at the AGM, I encourage those who have not been on the Committee to bring their enthusiasm and expertise to it.

On behalf of the Committee and myself, I wish you all a Happy, Safe and Merry Christmas with your families and friends.

Tony Sewell

FMPV Events 2023

Month	Event	Attendees/tickets sold	
February	Snags at the Creek	73	
March	Introducing Pier 10 - A Degustation Luncheon	59	
April	Two Vineyard Tour	17	Cancelled
May	Comparative Tasting Dinner	69	
	Wine vs Beer Dinner		
June	Educational	38	
	Ocean Eight Barrel Room		
July	Tasting	43	
August	Blues and Booze	66	
September	Old vs New	54	
October	Award Lunch	62	
November	AGM and Christmas Party	55	

TRYBOOKING

Important note: when you book tickets or renew your membership using TryBooking you will receive almost immediate email confirmation of the transaction from TryBooking. If you do not receive an email confirming the transaction, please first check your spam folder and if there is no email filed there, contact us at fmpv.website@outlook.com

Recent Events

24 September 2023 Old vs New Dromana Bay Life Saving Club

Around 55 members and guests attended the event at Dromana Life Saving club and mother nature certainly put on an early summer show with a crystal-clear sunny day. This served to create a magnificent backdrop through the floor to ceiling first floor meeting room right on the Dromana beach. So appealing was the day that we had to drag a few people in from the outside verandah to get the event underway.



The aim for the day was to pull out some cellared FMPV wines and set them up against their most recent vintages to see what differences could be discerned. On hand to give their comments were Michael Kyberd of Kyberd Hills Estate and Darrin Gaffy of Principia Wines.



The wines we compared were the:

2015 Kyberd Hills Chardonnay
2016 Principia Pinot Noir

2021 Kyberd Hills Chardonnay
2021 Principia Pinot Noir

Of course, any time one tries to compare apples with older apples there are a few different factors to consider. For instance:

- Weather differences between the relevant years; climate has a huge effect and is always changing which is no surprise to Melbournians.
- The vines get a little older each year and there is typically a grape quality improvement the older they get especially in a region where many of the vines are not that old.
- Wine making techniques change and improve as the winemakers get to learn the terroir subtleties of their vineyards and how winemaking techniques can be applied to them.
- And finally, like with anything, taste is in the nose of the beholder.



Some folks like to see the fruit shine out in the wines which typically is more apparent in fresher younger wines, especially if they are not "built" for aging; which the vast majority of Aussie wines are not.

Consequently, there were many spirited conversations between the audience and the winemakers, and by the end, no real consensus was achieved. But people thoroughly enjoyed the tastings, discussions and great comments by Michael and Darrin. It is probably true to say that not many attendees came away saying "let's go out and buy a bunch of cases to lay down and drink in 10 years' time" as the differences in the wines tried were not all that significant; but the wines of both vintages in each case were excellent. Wine aging is extremely hard to gauge and many people in the know will tell you to open one bottle every six months and see how it's travelling. If it hits its peak start drinking it or risk sitting on a bunch of over the hill wines.

It turned out to be a well-attended and received event and likely one we will do again. In addition, we discovered a really nice and relatively low-cost venue for holding future events in a pretty central location for most members.



I also just wanted to mention and thank both Rod and Narelle DeBoos for jumping into the breach in the last few days and saving my bacon as I had to head to an unexpected European meeting. And to Gaye Storey for laying much of the initial groundwork for the event.



Mark Rodman
Organiser



28 October 2023 Award for Excellence Lunch Ranelagh Club



Saturday 28th October 2023 saw 57 Friends members and guests enjoying a 3-course lunch with matching FMPV cellar and Polperro wines.



The purpose of the lunch was to present our club Award for Excellence now in its 28th year. This annual award is presented to a person who has made a significant contribution to the Mornington Peninsula Wine Industry. The recipient for 2023 is Sam Coverdale from Polperro, Red Hill. Sam's contribution to the MP wine industry is described below in the remarks made by Tony Sewell in presenting the award.



The wines featured on the day were Stoniers 2016 Sparkling Chardonnay Pinot Noir wine; Moorooduc Estate 2014 McIntyre Chardonnay; Polperro 2022 Estate Chardonnay; Principia 2012 Altior Pinot Noir and a Polperro 2022 Estate Pinot Noir. The final wine served with dessert was a Box Stallion 2012 late picked Prosecco, which was kindly donated by Glenn Lugg.

The Sparkling was served on arrival with canapes of Stuffed Baby Zucchini. Unfortunately, the strong wind did not allow us to venture onto the decking but the lounge area provided a perfect "mingling" area inside the Clubrooms.

Both Chardonnays were served with the entrée of Lemon cured Trout, horseradish

cream, finger lime and micro herbs. The main course was Duck with smoked beetroot puree, candied beetroot, red vein sorrel, orange jus gras and baby spring carrots, served with the two Pinot Noirs. The Polperro 2022 Estate Pinot Noir was an amazing match for this dish. The dessert was a Lime meringue, mandarin curd, freeze dried berries, lemon and mint gel mascarpone, which went well with the Box Stallion prosecco.



The Ranelagh Club in Mt Eliza proved to be an excellent location for the function and Cassandra and the staff on the day provided excellent service and the chef, Nic Francois excelled with his delicious food.

Tony Sewell's Remarks in Presenting the Award for Excellence

“The FMPV Award for Excellence is given each year to someone who has gained a major award for an outstanding MP wine, has done something special to promote the wines of the MP, or has gained high personal achievement in relation to the MP”.

2023 Winner Sam Coverdale, Winemaker – Polperro and Even Keel Wines



Sam Coverdale, along with his wife, Emma Phillips, is the founder and winemaker of Polperro Wines. A local who enjoys what the Peninsula offers, Sam started the winery 15 years ago in his mid-twenties. From an 18-year-old vintage cellar-hand at Tyrells, to a Business and Wine Science degree graduate and student of French winemaker Jean Marc-Lafage, Sam has developed a strong sense of the wine he loves to drink, make and share with fellow wine-loving adventurers.

Working across Australia's wine regions with Hardys, then travelling to Spain, Italy and France before establishing Polperro by Even Keel in 2006, and from 2009 has specialized in premium, single-vineyard wines from the Mornington Peninsula, under the Polperro label. Sam, Brent Osbourne Assistant Winemaker & Vineyard Manager and their team, using a mix of organic and biodynamic principles, has fine-tuned their organic-minded capabilities to create drinkable, balanced and elegant wines that continue to interest beyond the first glass. Surrounded by first-class vineyards and sensational surf beaches, Polperro represents everything that is magical about the Mornington Peninsula and the life Sam and his family enjoys. Sam's technical

grounding and well-rounded experience results in wine that play to the strength of region and authentic climatic conditions of each vintage.

Over the years, the Polperro wines have received many accolades and the 2021 Little Laney Pinot Noir was recently ranked #1 Pinot Noir on the Mornington Peninsula and received 98 points from the Huon Cooke Real Review.

Their Even Keel range offers wines from a wider range of Australian vineyards.

Sam is a member of the MPVA Committee and is actively involved in promotional events for the wines of the Peninsula. In fact, today, he and Emma are involved in an event up in Melbourne and so Georgia Bannister, Trade Marketing Executive for Polperro Wines is here to receive the Award on Sam's behalf.



26 November 2023
Christmas Function and AGM
Paradigm Hill
26 Merricks Rd, Merricks



On a grey day in late November 55 members gathered for the AGM and Christmas Party at the Paradigm Hill Winery. Hosts George and Ruth Mihaly were hugely helpful throughout the day in ensuring that it ran smoothly and the FMPV owes them a huge debt of gratitude.



The day started with the AGM which was chaired by outgoing President, Tony Sewell. The first order of business was to present a gift to George and Ruth Mihaly to thank them for their help and hospitality. Tony's report to the AGM is reproduced above. One additional item mentioned by Tony was the donation of 41 bottles of Kooyong chardonnay from 2008/2009 by Chris Aylward, the owner of the Ocean 8 Vineyard; also the original owner of the Kooyong label and infrastructure.



Reports were also given by Glenn Lugg as Treasurer and Peter Gillson as Cellarmaster. Glenn was able to report on the healthy state of the Associations finances; in no small manner these were improved by the unexpected but generous donation of Stonier wine for the Blues and Booze event by Aaron Drummond, one of the owners of Stonier Wines. Peter then reported on the efforts of the Committee to use the wines in the cellar for functions such as the Old vs New and Awards Lunches.

Elections were then held for the 2024 Committee which is now made up as follows:

President: Gaye Storey
Vice President: Peter Gillson
Treasurer: Glenn Lugg
Secretary: Sue Spicer



Ordinary Committee members: Mark Higgins, Mark Rodman, Rodney DeBoos, Michele Cooke, Gary Richmond and Royston Wilson. Michele, Gary and Roystan were welcomed to the Committee.



A number of people also noted that they would be able to organize or assist in organizing a function but were not in a position to actually serve on the Committee at this time. These offers were gratefully accepted by the Committee.

Incoming President Gaye Storey then presented the outgoing Committee members (Tony Sewell, Pam Mamers, Greg Eagle and Ash Cooper) with a bottle of wine from the Cellar. In presenting the gift to Tony Sewell, Gaye highlighted Tony's achievements this year in bringing the administration of the Association into the modern age as well as his contribution to the Association over 14 years of service as a committee person. As was noted at the time, 2024 will be the first time that a Sewell has not graced the committee in many, many years.

Following the conclusion of the AGM George Mihaly auctioned off the opportunity to make a donation to the Oscar and Luca Trust and agreed that he would give the person making the highest donation a bottle of Staidl Gewürztraminer made by George Mihaly. This was the last of only 40 bottles which were produced. Also included was a copy of the book Essence of Dreams about the families who pioneered wine growing on the Peninsula.

Having dealt with the formalities the rest of the afternoon was taken up with good food, good wine and good friends.



Thanks also go to all of those who helped set up the day and clean up afterwards. Particularly Gaye Storey, Glenn Lugg, Sue and Bill Spicer, Peter Gillson and Geoff and Jackie Hill.



Rodney and Narelle DeBoos
Organizers

WINE FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

George and Ruth Mihaly have generously extended their discounts for wine sales to FMPV members through the holiday season. Here is the price list. If you wish to take advantage of the offer, please call George on 0408 039 050.

Here is what Armadale Cellars said of the 2023 Pinot Gris:

“Australia's best Pinot Gris...by a country mile!
The match for any Alsatian Grand Cru.
A Pinot Gris that puts many Chardonnays to shame.”

Price List – per bottle

Riesling 2020
[in 375ml half bottles]

Pinot Gris 2023
1 bottle limit

Pinot Noir 2021
“L’ami sage”

Pinot Noir 2019
“Les Cinq”

Shiraz 2019
“Col’s Block”

Shiraz *Col’s Block*
Magnum

Pinot Noir *L’ami sage* *Magnum*

RRP [wine shops]	Special for FMPV
\$28	\$25
\$72	\$57
\$88	\$70
\$120	\$95
\$62	\$49
\$155	\$120
\$220	\$175

CHRISTMAS ON THE PENINSULA 2023 -A SELECTION-

(For a more comprehensive listing go [HERE](#))

PENINSULA SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL

1 - 8 January 2024



Mon 1 Jan: Sounds at Sunrise - Ben Opie & Melissa Doecke (Peninsula Hot Springs)

Mon 1 Jan 2pm - Hair of the Dog: Tango Noir (St John's Flinders)

Tues 2 Jan 2pm - Brigid Coleridge & Kristian Chong (Moorooduc Estate)

Tues 2 Jan 4:30pm - Brigid Coleridge & Kristian Chong (Moorooduc Estate)

Tues 2 Jan 7pm - Zenith: Anna Stegmann & Jorge Jimenez (Peninsula Hot Springs)

Wed 3 Jan 1030am - Cinderella (Family Event): Inventi + Emily Granger (Balnarring)

Wed 3 Jan 6:30pm - Emily Granger (Main Ridge Estate)

Thurs 4 Jan 2pm -Northern Resonance (Peninsula Hot Springs)

Thu 4 Jan 630pm - Schubert: Reimagining Schubert (Soprano & Fortepiano) (Port Phillip Estate)

Fri 5 Jan 7pm - Burrundi Dancers | Emily Granger | Inventi (Peninsula Hot Springs)

Sat 6 Jan 11am - MRC Great Romantics: Liam Freisburg | Violin (St John's Flinders)

Sat 6 Jan 7pm - Opera Gala featuring Lee Abrahmsen & Adrian Tamburini (St John's Flinders)

Sun 7 Jan 2pm - SPELL Piano Quintet (St John's Flinders)

Sun 7 Jan 7pm - Baroque by Candlelight: Anna Fraser & Hannah Lane (St John's Flinders)

Download Programme

[HERE](#)

MORNINGTON PENINSULA REGIONAL GALLERY

KNOW MY NAME: AUSTRALIAN WOMEN ARTISTS

A National Gallery touring exhibition supported by the Australian Government through Visions of Australia and National Collecting Institutions Touring and Outreach program.

The National Gallery of Australia's newest touring exhibition – Know My Name: Australian Women Artists begins its two-year tour of regional Australia at Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery. The exhibition provides locals and visitors to the region a chance to see the art, hear the stories and get to know the names of some of the country's most influential women artists.

Markets (with links for further information)

The table below sets out the days for the Peninsula markets.

	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday	Sunday
1 st Week of the Month	<u>Mornington Main Street Market</u>	<u>Hastings Street Market</u>	<u>Red Hill Market</u> <u>Rye Foreshore Market</u>	<u>Bittern Sunday Market</u> <u>Boneo Lions Club Sunday Market</u> <u>Oak Hill Community Arts</u>
2 nd Week of the Month	<u>Mornington Main Street Market</u>	<u>Hastings Street Market</u>	<u>Rosebud Primary School Market</u> <u>Somerville Saturday Market</u> <u>Crib Point Community Market</u>	<u>Bittern Sunday Market</u> <u>Mornington Racecourse Market</u>
3 rd Week of the Month	<u>Mornington Main Street Market</u>	<u>Hastings Street Market</u>	<u>Balnarring Market(Emu Plains Market)</u> <u>Boneo Community Market</u>	<u>Bittern Sunday Market</u> <u>Shoreham Community Market</u>
4 th Week of the Month	<u>Mornington Main Street Market</u>	<u>Hastings Street Market</u>	<u>Tootgarook Primary School Market</u> <u>Dromana Rotary Club Community Market</u>	<u>Mt Eliza Farmers' Market</u> <u>Bittern Sunday Market</u>

	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday	Sunday
5th Week of the Month	<u>Mornington Main Street Market</u>	<u>Hastings Street Market</u>		<u>Bittern Sunday Market</u>

Young at Art 10am-11am weekly

10am–11am every Tuesday. \$10/child, carers free. Includes take-home materials. Limit of 10 children, on-line bookings essential.

Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery

Dunns Road Mornington, VIC 3931

[Book Here](#)

Christmas Carols in the Park – Dromana

Next date: Sunday, 24 December 2023 | 06:30 PM to 08:00 PM

Music

Mornington Youth & Citizens Brass Band, conducted by Christopher Kaiser.

15 member choir from the University of the Third Age - Southern Peninsula conducted by Mardi Lowenstein.

A student choir from the Dromana Primary school with Barry Ross providing the lead.

You are encouraged to sing along, with everyone supplied with a Carols booklet.

Food

Food is supplied in the form of a Sausage Sizzle, Drinks & Ice Cream, with all funds raised going to the local Salvation Army

Father Christmas will be there at the end of the evening to handout sweets to the children.

Summer Twilight Bowls at Sorrento

Next date: Thursday, 28 December 2023 | 06:30 PM to 08:30 PM

The Summer Twilight Bowls series at Sorrento Bowls Club (Hotham Road - rear David Macfarlan Oval) is a fun event that attracts locals and visitors alike.

It occurs on Thursday evenings over 4 weeks in summer.

Play starts at 6.30pm until 8:30pm and light meals of burgers (beef or vegan) and schnitzels with coleslaw served in a bun are on offer in the clubhouse after play.

There is no minimum charge, so it suits smaller groups under 10 as well.

Advance bookings are essential and can be made by contacting Judith on 0412 371 321 or Jim on 0468 377 909.

Leah Senior at Music on the Hill (MOTH)

Next date: Friday, 05 January 2024 | 10:00 PM

Leah Senior brings her band to Music on the Hill (MOTH)

<https://musiconthehill.com.au/>

Twilight Bushwalks and Animal Encounter

Next date: Monday, 08 January 2024 | 07:30 PM to 09:30 PM

Join our Rangers as they take you off track on this exploration of the sanctuary at twilight. Hear the Kookaburras call goodnight and witness nocturnal animals coming out to find food. Learn how to identify some indigenous flora. Bring a torch and help spot some wildlife!

Personally meet some of our native animals in an up-close Animal Encounter. Learn about each animal's important role in its environment and how we can help them thrive.

Suitable for all ages. Children must bring an adult. If you require assistance or have accessibility questions, please give us a call on 5950 1221

When

Monday, 08 January 2024 | 07:30 PM - 09:30 PM
Tuesday, 23 January 2024 | 07:30 PM - 09:30 PM

School Holidays: NGV Art Activity Day - Rosebud Library

Next date: Wednesday, 10 January 2024 | 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM

Summer school holiday program.png
Pop into a library branch and get creative with fun activities provided by the National Gallery of Victoria.

This is a drop-in activity for ages 4-12 provided at all library branches.

Free, no bookings required.

The Schedule for 2024

FMPV 2024 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT NAME	VENUE(S)
Sunday 11 February	Portsea Comes to Flinders	Flinders Golf Club Bass St, Flinders, 3929
March	Italian Varieties	Unica Cucina e Caffè 1571-1575 Point Nepean Road, Capel Sound
Sunday 21 April	Pier 10	Pier 10 10 Shoreham Road, Shoreham
Saturday 25 May	Comparative Dinner	Safety Beach Sailing Club
June	Sparkling Wine Educational	Foxeys Hangout
Sunday 21 July	Blairgowrie Yacht Club Lunch	Blairgowrie Yacht Club
August		TBA
Sunday 22 September	Wine Tasting	Dromana Surf Life Saving Club
27 October	Awards Lunch/Dinner	Ranelagh Club
Sunday 24 November	AGM	Elgee park (to be confirmed)