



September 2012 Newsletter

**Wine Agent's Walkabout, at the Faculty Club,
Wednesday October 3, 2012**



The Australian Wine Society and Toronto Wine Agents once again invite you to come out and sample an interesting breadth of Australian wines. Discover some gems for drinking now, and some for long term cellaring. This year there will some wines that are currently in LCBO and Vintages for you to try, as well as Consignment wines to order. Our mini wine fair, is an opportunity to meet at least 16 Wine Agents in person, taste and talk about their wines, then place an order for your personal consumption.

The evening starts promptly at 6:30 p.m. and closes at 9:00 p.m. The Faculty Club will provide tables of hot and cold finger foods, so you'll not go hungry. We provide the tasting booklet; just bring your pen and your palate.

The Faculty Club is at 41 Willcocks Street, Toronto, 416-978-6325, one block south of Harbord, and east of Spadina Avenue. The event is in the upper dining rooms.

Members Price for this evening \$49.00, Guests \$59.00.

You can register on-line at <http://agentsnight2012.eventbrite.com> or mail the attached Registration Form to Barbara Barde

Past Event

Weather and wines were perfect on Sunday August 19 for the AGM and annual barbeque in the gardens at Scrivener Square in Rosedale. Four Directors were re-elected, Nick Kammer, Ellen Powers, Daniel Halliday and Tonia Price Halliday, all for a two year term. Chef Vishal provided an abundant feast and the cellar wines were received by the 38 members and guests. A few pauses occurred when the CN freight trains rumbled past during some of the AGM discussions, but we smiled and waited until they passed.

All in all, it was a fine way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

Future Events

As we mentioned at the AGM, **November 7th** we will have a theatre night to see a new Australian play, "Speaking in Tongues" at the Berkley Street Theatre. Barbara Barde is working on the details.

Holiday Dinner is in the planning stage for early December as in a new location. More on this in next month's news.

Again as noted last month, save the date of Friday January 25th, for **Australia Day** at the Albany Club.

Membership Renewal

We hope you all had a pleasant summer and if you have not renewed your membership, remember you can renew online at <http://1213membership.eventbrite.com> or mail in the renewal form, available on our web site.

News from Downunder

Onlookers crowd around to watch opening and tasting of bottle of \$50,000 1951 Penfolds Grange Hermitage red wine

One of the rarest bottles of wine in Australia was opened and tasted in Adelaide last month, just metres from where the grapes were picked and turned into the first legendary Penfolds Hermitage. A 1951 Grange, considered to be one of the most prized pieces of Australian wine history, was presented for assessment at a Penfolds Magill Estate re-corking. After a tentative pulling of its cork by senior winemaker Peter Gago, was judged to be one of the best examples of that wine seen in recent years. The bottle was part of a full 1950s set owned by a collector who wished to remain anonymous.

Cautionary tales from the cellar

Sometimes you can identify a bad wine 50 paces away. Melbourne wine auctioneer Stewart Langton was closer than that, and it took him no time to work out that the six bottles of 1990 Penfolds Grange he was handed for auction in 1998 were suspect. On the back label, printed in red on grey paper, was Grange the familiar message about decanting, with one exception. The word "pour" was spelt "poor". On closer investigation, 10 packaging errors were discovered. It wasn't Grange at all. The creators have never been caught, but are thought to be Australian.