

# BWBC

## Newsletter



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#### Next Meeting

Wednesday  
19th January 7.30pm



#### Speaker

**Vivien Hope**

*Making Gin*

Please bring your own tasting glass

### Competitions

#### February

2 competitions

**Fortifieds**

**Liqueurs**

Entries Closed

#### March

1 competition

**Sparkling Wine**

Entries close 12th March

See back page for 2025  
competition schedule

#### Picnic in the Park

March 16th

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#### Discovery Tour

April 4th to 6th

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#### Club Wine Sales

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Banner Photo - AI generated image

## Blackwood Winemakers and Brewers Club Inc.

### President's Report 2024

Presented to the Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 19 February 2025

The year saw the Club Committee present a vibrant and varied programme of activities, events and speakers. Membership numbers have been consistent with over 40 on average attending meetings. Entries in Club competitions were very pleasing, both beer and wine and similarly, our Club functions were very well supported and enjoyed by all.

#### Financial Status

BWBC finances are in a very strong position, the direct result of the meticulous diligence and monitoring from our Treasurer Andrew Seifried. With this very strong fiscal position, the Club has been able to heavily subsidise all our activities - monthly meetings with supper and beverages, our varied social activities and the education programme.

#### Wine Sales

With the realisation that our members were seeking other or emerging wines to purchase, the Committee increased the range of wine options and this was positively received by our members. 2024 saw the greatest range of wines that we have made available to our members – 2023 Grenache, 2021 Touriga National, 2023 Shiraz 2017 Shiraz, 2021 Cabernet Sauvignon, 2017 Nero d'Avola, Premium 2019 Shiraz, 2021 Vermentino, Sparkling Shiraz and Muscat. The success of this range of wines has seen nearly all of the wine sold. Bill Neubauer must be publicly thanked for his outstanding organisation of our Wine sales programme. The Committee has established excellent links with a number of well-known wineries and the Club has been the beneficiary, with not only quality wines but also being able to have our launch days at their wineries.

#### Social Programme

For over four decades, our social programme has been an integral part of our Club and our members look forward to the range and variety of



Blackwood Winemakers and Brewers Club inc.

...promoting excellence in wine and beer making...

February 2025

different experiences. We began in March with the Club Picnic at the Mitcham Reserve and in a relaxed and friendly environment, the afternoon was a success with the Club providing all the catering and drinks.

The fourth Wine Discovery Tour was held in May with members visiting the Wallaroo region to experience the setting, their wineries and wonderful company. Bernie Morgan organised an excellent trip with entertaining visits to a winery and the all-important friendly get together evening meals.

For our Christmas in July luncheon, the Mount Compass Golf Club was the venue and all who attended, thoroughly enjoyed an excellent meal, accompanied with very good wines. Ian Di Bartolo's excellent preparation and planning was very much appreciated.

Following the success in 2023 of the Bassham's Wine Tasting at the Memorial Hall, September saw our second tasting, again a big success. Our Club has established a very friendly and positive relationship with Val and Bruce Bassham, having visited their Riverland winery during the previous Discovery tour. The tasting of over 14 alternate or emerging wines was very well received by the over 70 who attended. As before, Dan Traucki added more information of the wines, and those attending were able to purchase their quality wines.

The September annual Picnic Bonfire in the grounds of Carol and Bill Neubauer's house has become a tradition, again well attended and all enjoyed the relaxed and friendly company of members. A big thank you to Carol; and Bill for hosting this popular event.

The annual Bus Trip, with the Adelaide Hills the setting, was held at the end of October was again another excellent day. The 50 members visited a number of local wineries, concluding with a delightful lunch at the Grunthal Pizza House. Here, we could relax and enjoy the wines. Many thanks to the Ian Di Bartolo and his Sub-Committee for an excellent day.

Our Social programme finished in December with our Christmas function and Presentation Day; this has proven to be a fitting way to not only conclude our social activities but also the positive year. The luncheon was again well attended, and we also are able to recognise and thank the wine judges. It is important that this annual event formally recognise Club members' achievements and successes in the many competitions.

### Competition Programme

The Club acknowledges and thanks Chris Ball and

Trevor Ward for overseeing the Club wine competitions. There were increases in wine entries, and it is interesting to note the increase in entries of new wine styles. Again, the judges highlighted the quality and diversity of entries and the passion and care that the winemakers show. We must thank and acknowledge the judges, many whom have been judging at Blackwood for many years, for the care and genuine interest and their excellent comments and words for the entrants.

It was so pleasing that we were able to re-offer our four Beer Competitions this year, with an increase in the number of entries. The innovation of a Club member preparing a keg of beer so that at each meeting, members were able to taste, enjoy and learn more of the process has proven to be very popular and increased interest in beer making. Also, Beer featured strongly at our Oktoberfest meeting where we imbibed and compared a number of excellent and varied beers and styles.

### Speakers Programme

A strong focus for our Club members for our four decades is their exposure to an informative and wide-ranging series of Speakers; we must thank Sid Thomas for his willingness to organise such a programme. Each month we experienced outstanding speakers – Peter David from Lion Brewing, Daniel McEvoy a chief Sommelier, Dave Kennedy from Operation Flinders, Kieran Hirlam from the Australian Wine research Institute, Scott Heinrich winemaker and judge, Patrick White Sommelier at the Adelaide Club, Rebecca Fox from the Wine Australia Regulation, Andy Coppard winemaker Lino Ramblo, Andrew Williams introducing us to German and Wheat beers and we concluded with David Lewis hosting the November meeting where members were able to taste the Club Competition winners of the past year.

### Newsletter and Club Website

Our Club Newsletter is a quality and highly informative monthly presentation with interesting articles and listing of Club events. We must thank the editor, David Tulloch for his strong belief in the Newsletter and his ongoing professionalism. The Club and its members are the beneficiaries of his excellent attitude as we read so many informative and interesting topics relating to wine and beer. Also, as the Website supervisor, David has also continued to improve the standard of the Club website and we thank him for that.

### Membership - Almoner

Anne-Marie Franklin has done a sterling task this year in



maintaining our membership list, contacting members, following -up with prospective members and as our Almoner of those who may be having issues. With a consistent number attending meetings, the Committee believes that the Club is in a very stable and positive position

### ANAWBS – Inter-Club Competition

During the year, the decision was finally made with the Adelaide Club to disband ANAWBS after four decades. We can look back on a highly successful and popular Wine and Beer Show and thank all who have been involved.

### Club Committee

The ongoing success and growth of our Club over the past five decades, is directly the outcome of the commitment and dedication of its Committee members; their excellent planning and organisation has been clearly evident with a strong social series of activities, a quality speaker programme and other activities that have been positively received by the members. It is a privilege to work with this hard-working group and Members are unaware of the excessive number of hours that are spent in planning the monthly meetings, the varied social functions, the competition programme, the training and mentoring programmes and the wine sales.

Secretary, Bernie Morgan has not only been a strong support and friend to myself and to our Club, but has also had to step effortlessly into my role when I was away. His Minutes are not only of quality but also very prompt and his positive relationship and knowledge of our members has proven so valuable on many occasions.

Andrew Seifried as our Treasurer has again been outstanding, his reports so detailed that a layperson could understand the fiscal information. He has overseen all aspects of the Club finances and because of his excellent and diligent work, the Club is in such a very strong position. Also, Andrew must be thanked for bringing the Club and its members into the understanding and use of online banking and payment systems.

Bill Neubaer has undertaken a number of roles again this year, all very successfully. As Convenor of the Wine Sales, Bill has overseen the widest range of wines that our Club has offered our members. Because of his knowledge of the wine industry and personal contacts, Bill has enabled the Club to continually present quality wines to our members. In his role, Bill also manages the sales inventory, checks payment arrangements,

liaises with members, the Treasurer and Newsletter Editor, all the time keeping the Club aware of the extent of sales. As Property Officer, Bill has again quietly and so efficiently overseen and managed the extensive quantity of valuable Club equipment. Finally, Bill and his wife Carol, have been the hosts for the monthly Committee meetings and we thank them sincerely for their wonderful willingness to open their house to the Committee.

Our Newsletter is widely recognised as an outstanding communication vehicle and this is all due to David Tulloch who has managed it for many years, as well as the Club Website. This quality production is informative, detailed and has introduced our members to new online communication formats and processes that have included online booking arrangements for competitions, wine sales, functions and attendance. As well, David must be thanked for preparing the monthly meeting PowerPoint

The contribution that David Lewis has made to our Club over three decades has been incredible and we are the beneficiaries. Always the professional, David's focused approach to any task is always evident and as an outstanding winemaker, he is held in highest regard within the Club. One of his many roles is the supervision and management of all the technical aspects of the Club equipment, including the excellent sound system for meetings. Always available to members, David is renowned as an excellent mentor to Club members with regards to winemaking and our equipment.

Speaker Programme Convenor, Sid Thomas has again presented an outstanding programme, something that he has been doing for a number of years. Sid has had the difficult task of negotiating and organising speakers for the monthly meetings, then arranging their audio-visual requirements, be the first and welcoming person for the guests and then repeat this every month – a big thank to Sid for continuing to develop this important aspect of the Club.

Chris Ball and Trevor Ward were our Competition Conveners this past year and they had the unenviable task of organising our extensive Competition Programme. With an increase in number of entries and new categories, as well as the resurrection of our four Beer competitions, they can look back on a very successful year. Trevor and Chris have built strong links with a number of judges, who regularly speak highly of the quality of the wine that they judge

Ann-Marie Franklin, as the Membership Officer and Club Almoner has efficiently managed the Club membership list, kept the Committee aware of any health or personal



concerns of members and been a welcoming person to prospective members. With her friendly and warm nature, Ann-Marie has made both new and old members welcome and valued, she has always been in contact with present and non-attending members to check on their status is so important.

Social Programme Convenor, Ian Di Bartolo has again prepared and presented an outstanding and varied series of events, ranging from Club picnic, Bassham Wine Tasting, mid-year Christmas in July luncheon, a Bonfire picnic and the annual Christmas Presentation luncheon. The success of the Adelaide Hills Bus Trip was very much due to his planning and contacts. As well he was in the planning group for the various wine launches that the Club had during the year

Roger Henderson has been a strong support not only within the Committee but also effortlessly stepping into the Secretary role at times. His willingness to be involved and assist was always to the fore, and he has brought a perspective from the member point of view and this has been important as we plan events and functions,

### Conclusion

Now, well into our fifth decade, BWBC can look forward to a very bright future. Our history has had so many successes and achievements and these have proven the guidelines for the future development of the Club. Our members continue to speak of a Club with a positive and enthusiastic nature, one that has been built on fine traditions, one where there is friendship and respect.

To be part of this Club is to me, an honour and there are so many to thank - in particular, we are blessed with an outstanding Committee, a welcoming member base and a history to build upon.

For me, I could not do this President's role if not for my wife Roslyn. It is her understanding and forbearance, not only this past year but for more than my two decades with the Club, whether on Committee or as President. She has been so supportive at all functions particularly when I would go off to do "something" for the Club, taken many phone calls and questions, and then been my sounding board when I needed to discuss an issue. My sincere thanks and gratitude.

Brian Ferris  
President,  
Blackwood Winemakers and Brewers Club  
February 19, 2025

## Secretary's Report January Meeting

The year got off to a great start with our regular guest and wine judge Dan Traucki providing wine tastings with his assessment and commentary. The "In Memoriam" slide show for Des Williams was extremely well done. Thanks again David Tulloch.

Although I was an apology, 29 members, 3 partners and 4 guests enjoyed the night. I don't know how he did it, but the attendance member recorded an apology for every member not there! Two door prizes (one bottle of wine each) were won by David Tulloch and Lesley Hutton.

Regards  
Bernie Morgan  
Secretary

## BWBC 1st Aid Officer

With the passing of Des Williams we are looking for a member to take over the role of the BWBC first aid officer. The club has a defibrillator and a first aid kit, that is available at all our club functions, that needs to be periodically maintained and upgraded. The 1<sup>st</sup> aid officer should have some training in first aid or is willing to undertake a St Johns training session which the club will pay for.

Please contact Brian Ferris 0423125269 if you are interested in filling this role.

## BWBC Archivist

The BWBC was formed in May 1978 after an initial meeting of interested persons in April of that year. We still have the original minutes of these first meetings.

Since then some records have survived, a lot have not, but we still have a collection of newsletters from the beginning of the club and all newsletters 2005 to now. Together with the newsletters we have close to 9000 images of club activities from 2004 and all copies of the ANAWBS results books which the club was involved in running for 40 years.

Roger Henderson has volunteered to take on the roll as club archivist so the club history will be preserved and available to all members.





Sunday 16th March

Mitcham Reserve

Old Belair Rd, Mitcham

Start 11am

Members/Partners and Guests

\$15 per head

This will be our first social event for 2025

A great chance to catch up with other members in the very pleasant setting of Mitcham reserve.

Lunch will be provided together with red/white wine and beer.

PLEASE BRING CHAIRS, PLATES AND CUTLERY, WINE/BEER GLASSES.

Please register your attendance on the online form

## BWBC Discovery Tour 2025 Port Elliot



BIG 4 Caravan Park (on the edge of Horseshoe Bay)

Friday 4, Saturday 5 & Sunday 6 April 2025

A program is being developed but pre-booking with the caravan park will assist.

They have offered the following prices.

When you pre-book say you are with Blackwood Winemakers and Brewers Club!



Powered site	\$136 (3 nights)
Budget cabin	\$460.70 (3 nights)
Holiday Unit	\$630.50 (3 nights)
Villa	\$709.30 (3 nights)



BIG4 membership 10% off up to the value of \$50 per booking.

“If we get to a certain amount of bookings we may be able to offer better pricing as a group.”

Any questions to Bernie on 0447212278

For more information about the Port Elliott caravan park go to [www.big4portelliott.com.au](http://www.big4portelliott.com.au)

## BWBC Club Wines

### 2022 Shiraz Serafino

Purity and freshness of flavour, the Shiraz over-delivers with flavours of dark plums, spice and a long lingering palate complemented by fine supple tannins.

**Price: \$60 per 6 pack**

### Patritti Sparkling Red NV

This sparkling red bend shows an alluring dark garnet colour and a bouquet of rich, complex fruit and oak development. Rich, full bodied flavours are evident on the palate, which has a drying finish.

A superb choice for events, pre-dinner drinks, BBQs, and special occasions.

**Price: \$100 per doz**

### Classic Rutherglen Muscat NV

One of the most popular and highly awarded wines with a complex palate of cocoa, rich raisin fruit, rose petal and dried fig. Stanton and Killeen Classic Muscat is a blend of fresh and older Muscat parcels, this wine offers the best of both worlds. It showcases vibrant, fresh fruit flavours alongside the deeper, richer complexity that comes with extended time in oak.

**Price: \$25.00 per 500ml bottle**

A link to the wine order form is sent out with the newsletter email. Please contact Bill Neubauer 0412 525 343 to arrange pickup.



## 2025 Competition Program

Meeting	Competition	Entries Close
February	<b>Fortifieds Liqueurs</b>	12th February
March	<b>Sparkling Wine</b>	12th March
April	<b>Shiraz 1-3 year old (2024,2023,2022)</b>	9th April
May	<b>Beer - Ale Beer - Lager</b>	14th May
June	<b>Cabernet Sauvignon &gt;85% Cabernet Sauvignon Blend 1-3 year old (2023 ,2023, 2022)</b>	11th June
July	<b>Red Wine 4 years and older</b>	9th July
August	<b>Beer - Porter/Dark Beer Beer - Stout</b>	14th August
September	<b>Other Red Wine Not Shiraz or Cab. Sauvignon 1-3 year old (2023 ,2023, 2022)</b>	10th September
November	<b>Current Vintage White Wine Current Vintage Red Wine</b>	6th November

A maximum of 3 entries per member for each competition is allowed.

At the February, May, June, August and November meetings there are 2 competitions.

Please note competition closing dates. Entries cannot be received after the closing date due to administration organisation.

### Members' Duty

Members are needed to help before the meeting (by 7pm) to organise seating, tables and to assist with bringing the trolleys up from the store room.

After the meeting help is needed to clear meeting room, mop the floor and returning trolleys to the store room.

Please contact Sid Thomas 0401 123 482 if you are able to help either setting up for the meeting or clearing up afterwards.

**All members are asked to bring their own tasting glass.**

### BWBC Loan Equipment

The BWBC has an extensive range of equipment available for loan to members for use with your wine and beer making activities.

Contact the property officer  
Bill Neubauer 0412 525 343

## Blackwood Winemakers and Brewers Club Inc.

### 2024 Committee

#### Executive

Brian Ferris	President	0423 125 269
Bernie Morgan	Secretary	0447 212 278
Andrew Seifried	Treasurer	0478 294 101

#### Committee Members

Chris Ball	Competitions	0400 344 467
Ian Di Bartolo	Social Program	0412 373 739
Ann-Marie Franklin	Membership & Almoner	0406 338 166
Roger Henderson	Social Program	0491 154 017
David Lewis	Technical Officer	0409 678 366
Bill Neubauer	Wine Sales	0412 525 343
Sid Thomas	Speaker Co-ordinator	0401 123 482
David Tulloch	Newsletter	0414 581 401
Trevor Ward	Competitions	0466 608 423

#### Property Officer

Bill Neubauer	0412 525 343
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#### 1st Aid Officer

#### Safety officer

Ian Di Bartolo	0412 373 739
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#### Life Members

Chris Bills	David Lewis	Steve Potiuch
Brian Ferris	Ian Maxfield	Glenn Snook
David Tulloch	Phil Hicks	

#### Contact

Web site	<a href="http://www.bwbc.org.au">www.bwbc.org.au</a>
Email address	bwbc@bwbc.org.au
Meetings	3rd Wednesday of each month, except December, at 7.30pm
Venue	Blackwood Memorial Hall 21 Coromandel Pde., Blackwood
Newsletter	Editor David Tulloch Deadline 2nd Wed. of each month. Contact davidt@internode.on.net

#### BWBC Payments

Members can transfer payments for wine purchase, club fees, social activity fees and other payments directly to the BWBC bank account.

Bank:	Westpac Blackwood
BSB:	035-082
Account Number:	145202

Payments can also be made by card at the meetings.

