

# LCGWC Winter Newsletter 2022

## From the President

We are near the end of winter and it's great to see some solid rain this month after a drier month previously. Claire Davies (Deputy President) and I attended a Wine Grape Council of South Australia (WGCSA) Strategic planning day and meeting and joined representatives from wine regions across South Australia. It was pleasing to see the number of growers involved and the professional and clear process used to define future action. The three strategic priorities identified for action were Advocacy, Policy, and Information, with much commonality across the regions for the specific areas to be addressed within these. We have not filled our 'seat at the table' on the Wine Grape Council of South Australia for several years but have now decided at our last meeting that it is time to do so. I attended the last meeting via Zoom and Claire will proxy for me when I am not able to do so.

I am aware that several of our members have nominated to be part of the review of the Lower Limestone Coast Water Allocation Plan. The Water Allocation Plan for the Lower Limestone Coast Prescribed Wells Area was adopted in November 2013 and sets out the rules for managing and taking prescribed water. Under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 a water allocation plan must be reviewed on a comprehensive basis at least once in every 10 years. It is important that our industry has representation in this review process.

The vintage report Makes interesting reading and can be accessed [here](#) for national. (And [here](#) for Limestone Coast.)

## From the Treasurer

Treasurers Report in brief.

The YASS provide LCGWC details of activities and outcomes for the last 12 months. As should be clear the last 12 months has been getting back into the swing of 'business as usual'. At this stage, our next 12 months will be much the same, we have a busy AOP regional program, Wineshow 2022 and Dinner, continuing the Mixed Dozen / Wine Trails, and monitoring what's happening regarding water allocations, mining exploration, sustainability, landscapes, etc.

The LCGWC Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss for 2021 /22 Financial years have been circulated to the COM and are available from the Treasurer. Simply email [brian@mountbensonstate.com](mailto:brian@mountbensonstate.com) for copies. The LCGWC operated at a loss of \$5002.96. The Wineshow 2021 run at a profit of \$10064 this year due in part to the return to the wineshow of a previous year's travel award funds and some expense for the 2021 wineshow booked in last year's accounts. After other commitment this comes in at a slight loss of \$1938.36. Our Balance Sheet show net equity of \$238029.91. Our quarterly GST/BAS have all been calculated and submitted for FY21/22, our accounts are currently with our Auditors (Murray Nankivell) and expect to receive their report prior to the AGM.

Our Voluntary Regional Levies were set at \$2/Ha some years ago and collected by our Regional Associations and forwarded to the LCGWC. We have a minor amount of levy funds outstanding from 21/22. Our 22/23 levies invoices will be sent out around the end of September 22. We encourage all regional association to try and get all vineyards / wineries within their regions as members.

Lastly, we are looking at Bank options, ANZ closed their Naracoorte branch and moved those operations back to Mount Gambier. The LCGWC is doing due diligence on whether the ANZ offering is still appropriate.

## From the Executive Officer

### Communicate and promote

#### *From the desk...*

It sure has been a busy time in the last months, with most emails going to short-lists rather than to our larger distribution list. Most of the activity and effort has been in engagement with government agencies. This is a very dynamic area with new governments both state and federal as well as disruptions to trade mainly by international uncertainties.

The Executive & sub-committee-leads talk regularly and watch for shifts in the regulatory environment and other external pressures and influences. Our next Committee of Management meeting will be in mid-September, with the agenda due soon.

#### *Distribution Lists...*

We use email-bulletins (by Mailchimp) to communicate and book-in events such as **Sustainability Certification Workshop** / **Wineshow Entries Open** / **Wineshow Dinner** / **technical seminar program** /. (Please use subscriber buttons in MailChimp to add or remove your email address as required.)

#### *Posts on the webpage...*

<https://limestonecoastwine.com.au/> is a powerful open-access tool I recommend you visit regularly. It is up to date and uses posts to enable easy sharing with links and social media.

We monitor activity with google analytics (report 1May to 31Jul here) and use these insights to keep this member-facing resource relevant to you.

### Advocate and represent

#### *Phylloxera Free...*

South Australia is the only jurisdiction to remain Phylloxera free anywhere in the world! This biosecurity fact is in part due to the vigilance and strength of Vinehealth Australia, an organization formed by an act of parliament in **1899**. Our biosecurity reference group works within our technical sub-committee with direct involvement should a biosecurity outbreak occur in either our region or neighbors.

Please make interstate visitors aware of our guidelines whether they be tourists or contractors. Contractors and stakeholders are reminded to use the Phylloxera Heat shed in Naracoorte to treat equipment and vehicles coming into the region.

With Varroa mite in bees, it is a timely reminder that we biosecurity tools already in place. VHA is watching developments closely and contact our sector if there is anything extra, we need to be aware of.

#### *Sustainability...*

Most of you will be aware of Sustainable Winegrowing Australia with many members having audits due for completion before Vintage 2023. Locally, we plan a series day-long workshops for both members and those-starting. Next Workshop is on 30<sup>th</sup> August.

Certified members are encouraged to use the [trust marque](#) on collateral including signage and labels. This program is widely supported by Australian Grape and Wine and Wine Australia and is seen as an important standard all consumers will grow to recognize.

[Watch a recent webinar](#)

#### [Emissions Reduction Roadmap...](#)

Wine Australia is embarking on a [ERR](#) for our sector. We are actively being asked to contribute to surveys and meetings.

#### [Training, Skills, and Careers...](#)

Employment and career pages are being updated on Wine Australia (in draft) and <https://YourCareers.gov.au> We (LCGWC) have been involved in surveys and meetings to help guide best look for our sector. In the next Months we will be able to share and celebrate the re-vamped pages. There are pilot programs in Barossa Valley working with department of education in SA to add high school subjects. It is hoped that these subjects can be offered at all schools in SA soon.

[Albeit training, skill and careers is not in [our 5-year plan](#), the LCGWC has been contacted and asked to be involved in surveys and online meetings. Also, a delegation from the department of foreign affairs and trade from Canberra visited Penola in June, a round table meeting for input and feedback from the wine sector was held.]

#### [National & State news...](#)

The [SA Wine Ambassadors Club](#) was launched in July. This is a SA state government initiative to create a network of wine ambassadors in key export markets.

At the most recent bi-monthly zoom meetings, Australian Grape and Wine gave updates on the regulatory space, free trade negotiations with India and UK, working with new government ministers, how to address scope3 within sustainability models, particularly glass & power.

ASVO has a webinar-series 'breaking the bottlenecks' members will be interested in. Programs are on the webpage [here](#).

## **Focus and Initiate**

### **Sub Committee News**

#### [Technical Sub-Committee...](#)

Since:1974, Sub-Committee Lead: Hans Loder.

See [minutes](#) & notes from last meeting.

We have five workshops planned for in the next six months. Diary markers [here](#).

#### [Mixed Dozen Wine Trails...](#)

Since: 2018, Sub-Committee Lead: Pete Bissell

A reminder for all businesses with bookable experiences to keep their ATDW listings up to date. Help promote on our social media platforms & encourage visitors to spread the word about this important tourism tool.

#### *Wine Show 2022...*

Since: 2000,

Exhibitors will have received emails and seen press releases on details of this years' show.

We welcome back Samantha Connew as Chief Judge and Jane Skilton MW (New Zealand) as our international judge.

Invitations for stewarding during the judging week have been sent, but there is room for more. If you have an interest in being a steward, please contact Lewis White at [lewis.white@rymill.com.au](mailto:lewis.white@rymill.com.au)

A special shout out to the trophy sponsors of the 2022 Wine Show – if you don't already, consider using them in your supply and service needs.

#### *Greater Limestone Coast Events...*

Since: 2020, Committee Lead: Ian Mulligan

Keep an eye on this page & posts for updates. This informal group of wine businesses comes together for trade shows and festival stall a few times year.

The Limestone Coast Food and Agribusiness Cluster is working on a strategic food plan for our region. For input, please complete this survey.

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