

Established 1968

MATAWHERO MAGIC

OUR NEWSLETTER IS NAMED AFTER THE ROSE BRED BY SAM MCGREDY; DEDICATED TO MATAWHERO'S FOUNDER, THE LATE BILL IRWIN.

Matawhero is in full bloom

With summer just around the corner we are enjoying some beautiful warm spring weather in Gisborne. The Matawhero vineyard is almost through flowering and we hope that this taste of warm weather continues throughout the growing season.

2012 has been another busy year for the team at Matawhero. The cellar door is now open for the busy summer season ahead, the magnificent Matawhero roses are in full bloom and grace the entrance to the cellar door.

Last month saw the bottling of all of our 2012 white wines. Now in the bottle, it is time to see how the vintage really stacked up. We are very impressed with the quality of the wines given the tough season that mother nature dished out last vintage. It is also exciting to see the addition of some new varietals to the Matawhero Church House stable of wines; Grüner Veltliner and also a Barrel Fermented Sauvignon Blanc. This range allows us to have a little fun in the winery as well as continue the pioneering spirit Matawhero is known and admired for!

Matawhero was proud to be part of some great events held in Auckland over winter! An evening with Sam Hunt was held at the Dida's wine lounges in Devonport and Victoria Park. Guests enjoyed an evening of poetry and wine and plenty of stories from Sam and Matawhero. Both who share an equally long and interesting history. We also participated in a unique degustation dinner at Sale Street where each course was matched with a wine and also a beer from 1010 brewery. This unique Grapes v Hops dinner was a fantastic evening and we are very proud to say that Matawhero wines took it by a nose on the evening.

We wish you and your family a very happy and safe festive season and we look forward to bringing you some more fantastic wines in 2013!

Salute

Kirsten & Richard

Matawhero



NEW RELEASES

Enjoy some of these great white wines over the coming summer months!

2012 PINOT GRIS

The 2012 Pinot Gris has been produced from a new ENTAV-INRA clone 547, which has small bunches and berries, intensifying the flavours and aromatics in the wine. A very fragrant wine with jasmine and pear notes. The palate is full-bodied with flavours of spice, pear, fig and honeysuckle.

Food Match: Enjoy with fish, chicken, pork or Japanese food.

2012 CHARDONNAY

The new vintage of our famous Chardonnay has just been released! This unique style (unoaked with full malolactic fermentation) has lovely flavours of peaches, melon and cream.

Food Match: Asian foods, blue cheese and fruit desserts

2012 VIOGNER

This lovely aromatic wine has flavours of apricot, creaming soda notes and a hint of spice.

Food Match: Beautiful with spicy Asian or strong cheeses.



Celebrate the return of an old favourite

STORIES FROM THE PAST

Origins of the cellar door

Matawhero's founder, Denis Irwin, as we know is a man who lives in the moment. Sometimes very deep in the moment. It was during one of these occasions that the eclectic Matawhero Cellar Door happened.



Here's sort of what happened in the late eighties, as related to us by Denis.

He was having a few indulgences with a bunch of friends (a bender actually), and as the evening wore on, so did the intensity of the moment.

He somehow took to the land with a digger and managed to successfully dig a massive hole in the ground. Miraculously, no one was hurt. When he came to a day or two later and saw the hole, his mind started working towards a cover for the hole. A building was the most obvious thing, and so he did just that, built a brick structure over the hole.

The council went apoplectic as you can imagine, but somehow, with the help of his old mates, they managed to secure the structure, cement sprayed the walls of the hole and Bingo - the Matawhero Cellar Door was erected and is still standing in the same spot today, it even seems well planned and structured. The 'hole' is currently filled with old wines; it feels like it has been there for hundreds of years. The building incurred some damage during the 2007 earthquake, but is still standing!

When the Searle's took the property over in 2008, there were moats, trees, shrubs and benches surrounding the Cellar Door and so began the task of restoring it to its current glory.

Church House series continues to grow

Our 'Church House' series is a collection of small and unique parcels of wine and is a tribute to the historic building that graces the front of our wine label. Also inspired by the pioneering spirit of our founders, Bill and Denis Irwin, we are excited to release two new wines into this range:

CHURCH HOUSE 2012 GRÜNER VELTLINER

This Austrian grape variety has a subtle palate with hints of citrus, apple and orange blossom. There is a hint of sweetness which dries out nicely. A great food match to sushi and lighter flavoured meals.

CHURCH HOUSE 2012 BARREL FERMENTED SAUVIGNON BLANC

The palate is rich and fresh with tropical fruit notes underscored with a buttery oak component. Due to the malolactic fermentation this wine is a nice food match to any roasted white meat and ideal with tuna.



CELLAR DOOR

Come and join us over Summer and relax with family and friends over great wine, gourmet platters and live music every Sunday until March.

Opening hours are: December – Thursday to Monday, 11 am to 5pm
(Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day & Boxing Day)

Open daily from 27th December to End of January, 11am to 5pm
Feb/March – Open Thursday to Monday, 11am to 5pm



Matawhero Wines Cellar Door

189 Riverpoint Road, RD1, Gisborne, Phone 06 867 6140
Email kirsten@matawhero.co.nz

Our Cellar Door is 10kms from Gisborne City,
south on the main highway, 1km up Riverpoint Road.

For all trade enquiries please contact Hancocks on 0800 699 463



Celebrate the return of an old favourite