

Established 1968

# MATAWHERO MAGIC

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



## ACCOLADES FOR OUR STUNNING WINES

### GISBORNE REGIONAL WINE AWARDS 2015



- Gold Medal and Trophy for Other Whites  
- 2014 CHURCH HOUSE CHENIN BLANC
- Trophy and Best Overall Red Wine of the Show  
- 2013 PINOT NOIR
- Trophy – Malbec and other blends  
- 2013 CHURCH HOUSE MALBEC
- Trophy – Unoaked Chardonnay  
- 2014 CHARDONNAY

Autumn is a lovely time in Gisborne with cooler mornings, blue skies and the golden colours in the vineyard.

The leaves have fallen to the ground and soon we will commence pruning in the vineyard for another season. The cellar door has shut for the season and once again we have enjoyed a Summer of lovely lazy afternoons in the sunshine nestled amongst the olive trees and vines. It was definitely a Summer of rosé, with many visitors enjoying a glass of Gisborne sunshine, namely the Matawhero 2014 Pinot Rosé.

Last week the annual Gisborne Regional Wine Awards were held – a celebration of our wines and region! Matawhero proudly won four Trophies and was awarded a Gold Medal for the new release Church House 2014 Chenin Blanc. Made by Matawhero in the 80s, we definitely think Chenin Blanc as a variety is on the come back!

This year will be very busy for the Matawhero team, with some of our wines being sent to Canada and also the UK during the year. We will also be travelling up to Canada in July for the ic4 – International Cool Climate Chardonnay Celebration held at Niagara, Ontario. The ic4 is a “coming together” of the finest examples of cool climate Chardonnay in the world. 58 wineries from around the world will participate at this year’s event and Matawhero will be the only NZ winery. We are looking forward to showcasing what Gisborne has to offer!

*All the best for Winter!*

Salute  
Kirsten & Richard

*Kirsten & Richard*

## 2014 PINOT GRIS

★★★★★ 5 STARS, WINE ORBIT, SAM KIM

We love this Pinot Gris made from a new French ENTAV clone with a lovely small berries and loose bunch set which intensifies the aromatics, fruit flavours and texture in the wine.

“ *This is delightfully drinkable. Elegant fragrant aromas of white peach, pear, floral and subtle spice lead to a ripe and smooth palate that’s succulent and silky.* ”



Celebrate the return of an old favourite



VINTAGE NEWS:

# 2015 - Beautifully balanced and lovely flavours!

With two relatively easy seasons in Gisborne in 2013 and 2014, grapegrowers mentally prepared themselves for a tougher year before the season even began. It's farming at the end of the day, so the law of averages means that not every season will be the same and you will be challenged on some vintages.

With cooler conditions in November through flowering, the Matawhero vineyards

experienced moderately reduced yield this season. We had a wet Spring but generally ideal growing conditions for most of Summer. The particularly good weather in January, and early into February, ensured that the flavours came through early in the season and, combined with lighter crops, that the fruit was physiologically and flavour ready long before they were sugar (or Brix) ready. This also allowed us to harvest most of the whites



before cyclone Pam headed towards the East Coast in late February. Overall the wines have a beautiful concentration of fruit flavours and are nicely balanced. With the wines all through their primary ferment and the Chardonnay's and reds going through malolactic fermentation at present, you can definitely see the makings of another lovely portfolio of wines from Matawhero in 2015.

## STORIES FROM THE PAST: The Matawhero Timeline (1978-1981)



- 1978**  
The 1978 Matawhero Gewürztraminer is awarded a Gold Medal at the NZ National Wine Competition.
- 1979**  
A tough year as recounted by Denis. "Very wet and the wines are over coloured".
- 1980**  
By now Matawhero is also developing a considerably reputation internationally for Chardonnay as well as Gewürztraminer with one claiming sixth place in a New York showing of New World Chardonnays.
- 1980**  
Matawhero 1980 Chardonnay awarded Gold at the NZ Easter Show.
- 1981**  
Matawhero Traminer Dry Reserve is awarded a Gold Medal at the NZ National Wine Competition

## Great Reds for Winter!

These wines will be perfect to enjoy over those cooler month especially in front of a warm cosy fire!



**2013 CHURCH  
HOUSE MALBEC**  
★★★★★ FIVE STARS AND  
TOP WINE, DISH MAGAZINE

"Beautifully glossy, vivid scarlet - black in the glass bursting with ripe plum, raspberry and cherry characters on the nose", noted Yvonne Lorkin. Cameron Douglas said "the wine was very well made". Packed with fresh fruits and lifted spices it has hefty acidity and lovely follow through on the palate. Stunning stuff.

### 2014 MERLOT

A wonderful Merlot from another good vintage in Gisborne! This wine has complex aromas of wild berry, vibrant red fruits, toasty oak and leather. The palate full of sweet fruit, savoury notes and a hint of oak spice. Enjoy with meat dishes, a cheese platter or Winter casseroles.



### MATAWHERO WINES CELLAR DOOR

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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