

Member Services Column



Welcome to our first Member Services page for 1994. This will be a monthly section aimed at highlighting the benefits available to you as a member of The Law Society of the NT.

Your Law Society is presently organising new goods and services for a revamped Member Services Package.

The cornerstone of your new-look Member Services Package is a generous 12-month agreement with Qantas Australian Airlines.

This agreement - cemented last September - costs practitioners nothing but offers a four per cent discount on domestic air travel and five per cent on international flights. These

discounts apply to the best available fare (not just full fare), so you can enjoy a further price cut on already discounted fares!

Practitioners can sign up as a firm or as individuals, so the discounts can be used for business or pleasure.

As a sideline to this agreement, the Society also benefits by way of sponsorship of the Inter School Mock Trial Competition, subsidised airfares for the President to attend interstate meetings and complimentary airfares as prizes for Law Week. Additionally, Qantas Australian Airlines is offering subsidised airfares for other special occasions.

Obviously, this sponsorship is another saving for members - generous sponsorship means we need less

money from members to keep the Society and its activities running.

The members' agreement is due to expire in August and will only be renewed by Qantas Australian Airlines if our members support it strongly. Sadly, only seven firms/individual members have availed themselves of the offer to date - and four of those are in Alice Springs!

That's an extremely poor showing from the fraternity's Darwin contingent. Someone from the Society will be contacting all outstanding firms over the next few weeks to arrange their participation in this scheme.

A simple signature will get your firm started. The benefits are there for all practitioners to share - so why not use them?

If it tastes good.... drink it!!

This is the first in a series of wine related articles by Wayne Nicholls of Jeany's Fine Wines and Spirits. In addition to this column, Jeany's will also give away a complimentary bottle of wine each month for the best reader contribution to Balance.

In our first article we will look at the system of wine ratings. When we read about wine in the many magazines and books now available the publications all display little symbols, such as stars, glasses, bottles, letters etc on how they rated the particular wine.

Winestate magazine uses stars to show ratings and bottles to show cellaring.

The Penguin book uses stars, bottles and glasses to rate their wines.

Noted writer and wine judge James Halliday uses a series of letters, author Robin Bradley uses the star system and wine commentator Jeremy Oliver prefers the 1-7 system. It can all be very confusing.

The system used in Australian wine shows is: three points for colour, seven points for aroma (nose), and ten points for taste (palate) - for a maximum 20 point total.

Wines that achieve 15.5 - 16.9 points are a bronze medal on the show circuit and are considered three star.

Four star (silver medal) standard is 17.0-18.4 and five star (gold medal) is 18.5-plus points. These ratings basically tell us:

1 star wine - forget it, drink water.

2 star wine - basic, drinkable wine but is it worth the effort?

3 star wine - good quality wine that most people would be more than happy to drink.

4 star wine - very fine wine that would suit the most fastidious drinker.

5 star wine - Australia's best and among the world's best.

However, no matter how well the wine rates, you should sample a bottle and exercise your personal taste before making a substantial purchase. The highest critical praise won't improve a wine if you don't enjoy it.

This month we are featuring four wines:



HOLLICK CORNEL 1990

This traditional method sparkling wine is made from 80 per cent Pinot Noir and 20 per cent Chardonnay from Coonawarra. This wine shows subtle fruit characters combined with complex yeast flavours. The fresh flavours of the two varieties blended together gives the cuvee distinctive character. Released in extremely limited quantities, it is a fine example of an Australian "Methode Champenoise".

**** Rating \$19.95

SANDLEFORD Margaret River Pemberton Chardonnay 1993

Sourced from fruit grown at Margaret River and Pemberton, this wine is a fine example of refined, cool climate chardonnay. Wonderful balance

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How do you cope with those taxing weeks?



When it comes to tax, a lot can happen in a week.

Important amendments announced . . . New legislation introduced . . . Major Rulings released . . . Decisions handed down.

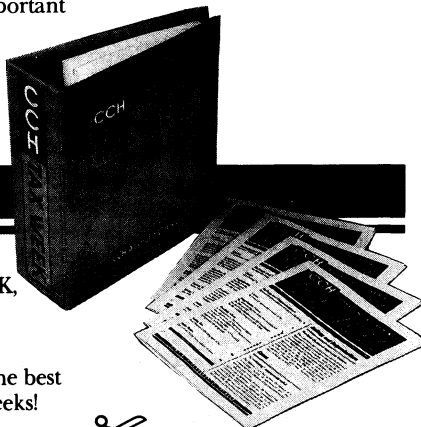
It simply isn't possible for any one individual to keep on top of every new development.

That's why at CCH we have a full-time team of twenty one lawyers and accountants monitoring and analysing changes in the tax laws. We have a CCH office at Parliament House and "legislation watchers" in each of the State Parliaments.

This extensive information-gathering network allows us to publish Australia's most reliable, accurate weekly tax newsletter.

The new CCH TAX WEEK provides you with a concise yet comprehensive coverage of the week's developments in Federal and State taxes.

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Jeany's
FINE WINES AND SPIRITS

If it tastes
good....
drink it!!

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and powerful fruit structure will see this wine develop complex toast and honeyed characters. This wine was judged in the Top 100 wines at the 1994 Sydney International Wine Show.

**** Rating \$15.95

ELDERTON SHIRAZ 1990

Loyally tended for 50 years, the family shiraz vines are grown on a depth of rich alluvial silt and red brown earth. Cellared in new oak, the wine is then matured for 18 months. The colour is rich ruby red with hints of red brick. The nose is cedar, vanilla and peppery, while the palate is full rich fruit with pepper, vanilla, tannins and a clean soft finish.

***** Rating (Gold Medal) \$13.55

HENSCHKE 1991 Noble Rot Rhine Riesling (375ml)

This is 100 per cent Rhine Riesling naturally infected with the Botrytis cinerea mould. This mould develops in the ripening grapes causing higher sugar and acid levels. The wine has a complex varietal bouquet and flavour, with apricot/straw lusciousness and is balanced with a crisp acidity.

**** Rating \$18.55 each

All wine is priced by the bottle and there is a special price on these for all Law Society members. A further discount of 10 per cent applies for dozen lots whether mixed or straight. A free delivery service is available for dozen lots. All major credit cards are accepted.