August 2018 - August 2022

2018

- October: Bleasdale Wines, Langhorne Creek - one of the best-rated visits ever!

- December: Christmas Luncheon @ Public Schools Club.

2019

- February: Dell’uva Wines, Greenock - interesting wines & winemaker
- April: Wine Judging with Sue Bastian - success for Ian Maxfield *et al*

- June: Coates Wines, Kuitpo - wine and food matching, we should do that again
- August: AGM, Vines Golf Club featuring Dr Creina Stockley - “Don’t drink so much!”
- October: Mitchell Wines, Clare
- **Canberra Regional Tour! The most convivial Tour I’ve ever done with the Guild.**
- December: Public Schools Club - Christmas function, with *disaster around the corner* …

2020

- December 2019 - January 2020: massive bushfires destroy many hectares of grapevines and some businesses with it.

- February: Islander Estate @ Cumberland Park Community Centre, an excellent presentation by Yale Norris.

2020 (cont)

For the second issue in a row I am writing this page in the midst of a crisis. Last time it was the bushfires which affected so many wineries in the Adelaide Hills and Kangaroo Island; this time it's the "COVID-19 Pandemic" which is causing far more widespread disruption, with most sporting, social and cultural events being cancelled, including Tasting Australia and several wineries' autumn release wine dinners.

We had hoped to be able to continue with our functions over the next few months, but it is now clear that this is unlikely. The most recent directives from the Government ban all food and beverage service other than take-away options and these restrictions will most definitely be in place at the time of our April function.

2020 (cont)

- The National Wine Centre puts on “NWC@Home”, a series of guided tastings with wine samples sent to participants a few days ahead.

- Normal service resumes in August with the AGM @ Mount Osmond Golf Club, certainly the busiest AGM I have ever attended: Constitutional Amendments, Induction of Life Member Roger King, and speech by James Boden, Head Somellier at the NWC.

2020 (cont)

- October: Chateau Yaldara (Gomersal), a great visit to an historic winery.

- December: Christmas Lunch @ NWC, in a style never seen before or since!

2021 - A Very Busy Year

- February: Top Note Wines @ Russell’s Pizza, Willunga - anyone for Opera?
- March: Longview Wines, Macclesfield - very generous presentation!
- April: Cyrano Wines, Carey Gully - French wine & food
- May: Kangaroo Island Tour, great mix of wine, food & other delights
- June: Winemaker’s Masterclass @ Bremerton Wines, Langhorne Creek
- August: AGM @ M.O.G.C featuring Martin Strachan (via Longview)
- October: Gomersal Wines, Gomersal
- December: Christmas Lunch @ Fellini, North Adelaide

2022

- April: Sensory Function - Non-Alcoholic Wines @ Highbury Hotel
- June: Sussex Squire Wines @ Magpie & Stump Hotel, Mintaro
- August: AGM @ Paracombe Wines, Paracombe

Leadership

- Why is it so hard to get people on the Wine Guild Committee? It only seems to happen when there is a crisis, which is wrong.

- Prior to the 2020 AGM we prepared an Amendment to the Constitution to limit the term of office for key roles (President, Secretary, Treasurer), but due to time already served the result would have been a mass resignation! So we didn’t table it.

- A food & wine club of which I am a member makes participation a condition of membership: all members are expected to organise a function every 18 months (they meet monthly).