



VINPRO  
growing together

NEWSLETTER  
MARCH 2021

## Good day

Think back to this time last year, when Covid-19 was something that had just emerged in other countries and we believed that it would never reach the southern tip of Africa. What were your challenges then, and how does that compare to the obstacles you've had to face in the months that followed?

Every time the industry experienced a setback – from the sudden halt of the 2020 harvest to the rollercoaster ride with regard to trade restrictions – there was a moment of shock, dismay and anger, and then we would pull ourselves up by our bootstraps, devise new plans and adapt. We've identified cracks in our businesses' armour, and had to stop the bleeding in the short term, while making sure that the decisions we make now would not be to our detriment in future.

It has been an extremely difficult year, but just as the callus that forms around two grafted shoots binds them together, makes the entire grafted vine stronger and brings forth new growth, the scars that we will retain from setbacks over the past year will also help strengthen our industry going forward.

The wine industry breathed a sigh of relief when the ban on local liquor sales was completely lifted on 1 March 2021, but the road to recovery will be long and a lot of hard work now lies ahead for us to get up from the ashes and rebuild the industry. The Vinpro team will continue to support the industry in this common goal:

In this newsletter you will find out, among other things, that Vinpro:

- Is still going to court in our quest for a more sensible way of making decisions regarding restrictions on liquor sales.
- Will continue seeking support and relief for wine-related businesses.
- Is helping wine grape producers and cellars manage challenges in the vineyard due to a later 2021 harvest.
- Makes various resources available to keep you and your people safe.
- Is involved in industry initiatives to promote responsible consumption.

We will continue to keep you informed about these and other developments.

Regards,  
The Vinpro team

**WIL JY GRAAG DIE NUUSBRIEF IN AFRIKAANS LEES?** [Klik hier](#)

## WHAT'S NEW

### Liquor sales open, but wine industry hit with other setbacks

Shortly after South African wine businesses could catch their breath following the partial (now complete) reopening of liquor sales, which would enable them to move their stock to make way for the 2021 wine grape crop, the industry was hit

with further setbacks. What lies ahead now?

[Read more](#)



## 2021 Wine harvest update

Harvest time is in full swing in South Africa, but had a slow start in many regions this year due to cooler seasonal conditions. Although the cooler weather brings about some challenges in the vineyard, it also contributes to exceptional colour and flavour in this year's wine grape crop. Vinpro's regional viticulturists tell us how it's going in the respective regions.

[Read more](#)



## 5 QUESTIONS WITH ... DP Burger, GlenWood Vineyards

We chat to one of our members each month about their business, what makes them lie awake at night and what gives them hope. GlenWood's cellar master DP Burger says consistent quality, great service and thinking outside the box and into a sushi roll has helped them keep pace with the changing times.

[Read more](#)



## Safe and responsible – what does it mean?

In the past year, there has often been a call on wine businesses to manufacture, market and sell their products in a safe and responsible manner, and to encourage responsible consumption. What are the practical implications of this and what is being done at industry level?

[Read more](#)



## Travel permit for Level 1

With the curfew being adjusted from 1 March 2021 to 12:00 in the evening to 04:00 in the morning, cellar workers or those who need to harvest at night might need to travel during curfew. Download the latest travel permit that these employees must have with them during the curfew hours.

[Download the travel permit](#)



ORDER YOUR COPY NOW!

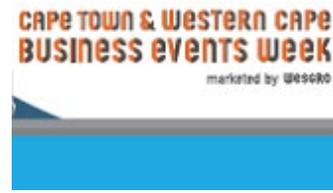
R265  
(H.P.S.)

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(DIGITAL)

## Wine industry at your fingertips

The 23rd SA Wine Industry Directory (SAWID) is now available. Get information on the structure of the industry and contact details of the major wine industry organisations, authors, wine routes, production areas, registered nurseries, producers and suppliers.

[Order your SAWID today](#)



## Do you have conference facilities at your cellar?

You will then be able to benefit from a FREE week of conferences and workshops aimed at businesses offering conference or other event facilities. The Business Events Week is hosted by the Cape Town and Western Cape Convention Bureau.

[Read more](#)

# FOR MEMBERS



## WineLand: March 2021

In the *Sustainable Ways* edition, the WineLand team went back to basics, looking at climate change management, solar energy for environmentally friendly wine grape growing and basic sustainability principles. Also learn from whiskey expert Andy Watts about this industry and read about an underwater cellar in New Bethesda.

[Read the magazine online](#)



## Vinpro Snap Shot

Get the latest dam levels, fuel prices and exchange rate trends, as well as figures around exports and local wine sales - all conveniently on one page.



## Wine Business News

Cellar members receive access to international and local reports that promote strategic decision-making.

[Read more](#)

[Read more](#)



### **Vineyard Update**

Get an overview of the season thus far, guidelines regarding practices that need to be performed at this time of the year and suggestions for good vineyard technical reading material.

[Read more](#)



### **Did you miss a Vinpro email?**

If you missed any of Vinpro's news flashes, including the Covid-19 emails, or would like to re-read them, follow the link below.

[Read more](#)

## **VINPRO MEMBERSHIP**



### **Would you like to become a member or update your details?**

We would like to ensure that you stay updated, and enjoy the full benefits of Vinpro membership. Log in on the Vinpro portal and go to *Profile* to update your information, or contact us at tel 021 276 0458 or e-mail [member@vinpro.co.za](mailto:member@vinpro.co.za).

[Update information](#)