The Rotary Club of Wynberg Wyn press



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Rotary's May focus is Youth Service

EDITORIAL

Smelling Lots Of Wine Makes Your Brain Alzheimer's Resistant

Go ahead and take a deep whiff of the next glass of wine you see (and the next one, and the next one). Researchers at the Cleveland Clinic in Las Vegas found in a preliminary study that master sommeliers — people who arguably rely on their sense of smell more than anyone else — are less likely to get Alzheimer's and Parkinson's than people who don't soak in delicious smells for a living.

The study, which was <u>published in the journal</u> *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*, compared brain scans of 13 sommeliers and 13 people with much less interesting jobs. The researchers noticed key differences in certain areas of the sommeliers' brains.

For one, as to be expected, sections of the sommeliers' brains that deal with the olfactory (smell) network were thicker. Additionally, parts of the brain that deal with memory were thicker. Which makes sense if you think about it, since sommeliers are expected to remember not only how a wine tastes, but the region, history and year of that wine as well.

"Overall, these differences suggest that specialized expertise and training might result in enhancements in the brain well into adulthood," the study states. "This is particularly important given the regions involved, which are the first to be impacted by many neurodegenerative diseases."

It's that last sentence that's the kicker. Those strengthened sections of sommeliers' brains are the sections that are most sensitive to losing memory function later in life. By that logic: Smell lots of wine, build resistance to memory loss. Then once you've smelled it, drink it, because studies show that helps prevent Alzheimer's too.

It's all very exciting, but the Cleveland Clinic study is far from conclusive.

"Though we don't know for sure, there is a possibility that when it comes to the brain, thicker is better," Sarah Banks, one of the authors in the story, told the New York Post. "It seems like if you have more brain in those areas, it'll take longer to feel the effects of the disease, but it's speculation." Speculation from a noted expert, however.

There's no word on how to be involved in future scientific wine smelling and tasting studies to retest the results.



Regardless, all of those smells deserve some extra recognition. It took <u>enzymes working overtime</u> to make that wine smell so good in the first place, after all.

Submitted by Rob Murphy

| | Minutes 18th May 2017 | | |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| | Compiled by Lina Howard | | |
| Attendance | 21 members present | | |
| Visitors | Stephanie Thomas, Brian Howard, Annette Jahnel, Nicole Bayes, Anne O'Driscoll | | |
| Fellowship | 19 th Jackie and Derek's anniversary 23 rd Lindsay's birthday | | |
| From the President | Welcome back to Karen, Aubrey and Hugh Reminder- next week is the Bee keeping Talk | | |
| Slots | # Dave B: Norway Trip: Proposed 8 th June – 15/16 th June, 2018 # Weekend away: Robertson Friday 11 th – 13 th August. There are 3 accommodation venues – choose which ever and make your bookings earliest. See emails. # Justin – First Aid course 3 rd and 4 th June Level 1 – subsidized for Rotarians. | | |
| President's song | Nobody guessed 'Malibu'. | | |
| Speaker | Annette Jahnel: 'Searching for Galileo'. The journey from brain to mind. She spoke about her year long trip around USA in a convertible. Her book provides a fascinating insight into how Americans think about truth. We can change the way we think and create a better world."Our thoughts create our future" Her goal is to build better understanding and hope for the next generation. A very inspiring speaker. Her book comes highly recommended. | | |
| Swindle | Annette drew Toddy's name and Graham drew the Attendance prize of R20 went to Anne O'Driscoll | | |

Duty Roster

| | MAY | June | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--|-------------|---------------|
| | 25 th | 1st | 8th | 15th |
| Sergeant | Barnard | Cleveland | Hovstad | Murphy |
| Wynpress Editorial | Overbosch | Schonegevel J | Schreiber | Smith |
| Wynpress Minutes | Cleveland | Maunder | Howard | Van Niekerk |
| Door Duty | Smith | Todd | Van Niekerk | Bayes |
| Grace | Munday | Murphy | Overbosch | Schonegevel J |
| Loyal Toast | Bird | Danckwerts | Cleveland | Dietrich |
| International Toast | Todd | Van Niekerk | Barnard | Bird |
| Speaker Intro | Bayes | Danckwerts | Cleveland | Dietrich |
| Speaker Thanks | Van Niekerk | Bird | Barnard | Danckwerts |
| Entertainment for the month | | Schonegevel R, Howard, Hovstad, James, Maunder | | |

Going Forward

| Dates To Diarise | | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 25 th May | Kevin Simpson will talk about bee keeping and its importance for the environment. | | | |
| 1 st June | James Hurford, who is a public speaking coach, will share some of his valuable training tips. | | | |
| 8 th June | Oliver Bing, WBHS pupil who was awarded the Rotary Good Fellowship Award, has been invited as special guest. | | | |
| 15 th June | ТВА | | | |
| 29 th June | Induction of Rob Murphy as President. | | | |
| 6 th July | Special meeting to hand over charity funds from Proms. Representatives from the performers also invited to attend. | | | |
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"All truths are easy to understand once they are discovered; the point is to discover them" Galileo



