



BARTHO EKSTEEN
WIJNSKOO
HERMANUS

Brief history and background to the project

The Wijnskool is an initiative by acclaimed winemaker, Cape Winemakers Guild member and *bon vivant* Bartho Eksteen which started in 2010 with the mission and vision of educating and enlightening the next generation of Wine Industry role players already at high school level. The project started off in a derelict building at Boland Agricultural High School's farm, Langerug, Paarl, where a micro winery was established and 30 students from the school annually have the opportunity to attend "A Year with Wine" -course, following the winemaking process from the vineyard to the bottle, attend lectures and guided field trips.



Hard work, many late nights, litres of sweat, sticky grape juice and lots of fun make for a team spirit which is hard to beat. In the process two top quality wine ranges are produced in compliance with IPW regulations which are sold to help fund the project and maintain sustainability - all themed with school-related names. The process from the vineyard to the bottle is implemented to demonstrate to the students environmentally friendly and resource sparingly methods to produce wines of the highest

quality.



International flair:



Very soon after Wijnskool took off, internationally acclaimed wine courses, WSET, were added to Wijnskool's portfolio to increase its range of services and to reach and educate a broader student base.

Wijnskool has recently initiated a relationship with C.F.P.P.A., a wine educational institution in Beaune, France, to establish exchange programmes and internships for our students and entrepreneurs.

WESP:



WESP is an initiative by Wijnskool to provide an opportunity to passionate wine entrepreneurs who would not otherwise have had the means, to start their own businesses.

Wijnskool's Entrepreneur Support Programme (WESP) was implemented in May 2015 and currently 7 young Entrepreneurs are part of a programme which is designed to assist them with establishing and developing their own sustainable wine related businesses. This will cause a ripple effect - each entrepreneur will create jobs within their own operations.

The Entrepreneurs can stay in the programme for up to 3 years - Wijnskool acts as an "incubator" to hatch their Start Up Businesses. During this time they are assisted, mentored and coached in areas where they need it - including financing, business development, personal development, brand development, marketing, refining skills of the trade, etc. A process of evaluation and assessment ensures that all challenging areas are addressed and developed.

Applications are ongoing - contact wijnskool@hermanus.co.za for application forms and more information.

Investing in infrastructure development:

Due to phenomenal interest in and expansion of the project and limitations at Langerug, Wijnskool acquired Attaquaskloof Farm in the breathtaking Hemel-en-Aarde Valley near Hermanus early in 2015 and is in the process of settling the winemaking project, educational programmes and WESP on the farm.

The farm can be visited by appointment only.

