



the ^{IWFS} Grapevine

IWFS INTERNATIONAL NEWS
MAY 2017



NEW BRANCHES

VALENCIA, SPAIN

Our first branch in Spain officially opened in Valencia with an inaugural dinner, on 3rd February. Eduardo Aguilar, New Branch Chairman welcomed 30 new members and guests at Restaurant Sucede, for a dinner featuring Valencian wine and local dishes.



He was presented with the Branch Provisional Charter by EAZ Chair Ian Nicol. The Valencia Branch has many young members interested in gastronomy and wines, along with many of their parents and friends, who joined at the same time. Not only was it a great pleasure to endorse such a new venture but it was also a delight to explore what the city had to offer.

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA, USA

A new IWFS branch has been started in Boca Raton, Florida. The inaugural dinner was held at Boca West Country Club, the #1 residential community in Florida. There were 40 people attending, anxious to be members of IWFS. A 5-course dinner was served which showed the creative skills of Chef Roger Brock. It included, hors d'oeuvres, black cod, lobster with gnocchi, rack of lamb, and a fantastic chocolate profiterole, all in amazing sauces.



The wines were from France, Spain and the US that matched the food perfectly. Sydney and Carl Tinkelman organized the dinner. The new Branch President, Jim Ginzler (far right) is pictured here with Bill Glassner, Treasurer; Alev Elroy, Boca West Sommelier and Carl Tinkelman, Director. (l to r)

OUR FESTIVALS

MUMBAI, DELHI & AGRA 2017 FESTIVAL, INDIA

MUMBAI AGM WEEKEND

Late February 2017 saw almost 70 visitors from around the world and 30 locals enjoy the fabulous colour and contrast of dynamic Mumbai city. Hosted by the Bombay Branch, and led by Festival Chair Jai Hiremath and Branch President Nirmal Bhogilal, we saw the very best of this fabulous city. Key to its success was the huge effort made to introduce guests to the many and varied cuisines of India, which has a vegetarian population of about 40%. Not surprisingly, one meal was set up to introduce us to the tremendous range of vegetarian dishes, and was also set up in the style of a plush Indian wedding.



A tour of Mumbai city was incredibly revealing, showing us its beautiful architecture, its splendid harbor, and a highly acclaimed gallery of art, sculpture, textiles, jewelry and ancient pottery and relics.

The Gala Dinner was preceded by an exotic and spiritual Indian dancing troupe who performed a production on the 7 Sacred Rivers of India – very moving. The rivers in India are very sacred to its people.

(India festival continued overleaf)



From Page 1

OUR FESTIVALS

MUMBAI AGM WEEKEND (CONT.)

Sanjay Menon, one of the original founders of this branch and also a world renowned wine critic, importer and wine educator, delivered the André Simon lecture on the Production and Consumption of Wine in India – the wine industry in India is still in its infancy but some very special wines are now being produced. Following that, Sanjay led us in a tasting of world acclaimed Riesling – the variety is a fabulous match with much of Indian's delicious cuisine.



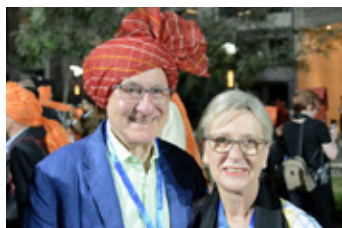
Congratulations to Sanjay Menon and Nirmal Bhogilal on receiving the APZ Service Excellence award, and to Jai Hiremath on his receipt of the André Simon Bronze medal. A fabulous festival where the entire Bombay Branch committee put in an enormous effort to thrill its guests with a real immersion into Indian culture. See the photos [here](#).

DELHI (See a YouTube presentation [here](#)).

60 guests flew to Delhi to meet with 40 locals and visit India's capital city, New Delhi, for a 3 day festival hosted by our Delhi Branch. Led by President Rajiv Kehr, we stayed at the excellent 5 Star Leela Gurgaon, visited some highlights of this wonderful city including India Gate and the Presidential Palace (where, unlike most tourists, we were very privileged to be granted entry), and enjoyed visits to some of Delhi's iconic restaurants.



The opening dinner was a real celebration, in the style of an Indian wedding, set outdoors on the Ambience Green adjoining the hotel. Some 20 cooking stations offered a sumptuous array of thoughtfully selected Indian food with excellent wines to match. The men were offered a turban to really get into the mood, while women were given shawls. A great food experience and a wonderful insight to the Indian culture.



Other highlights included lunch at the iconic Bukhara restaurant, the most highly acclaimed and long established traditional Indian restaurant in Delhi. I can still taste those fantastic Tandoori jumbo prawns! We also really enjoyed a tasting of the lovely wines of India's York Winery which recently received many awards.

The Gala dinner was stunning. Branch President Rajiv Kehr flew in a chef from Burgundy to create a western themed dinner – with lobster, foie gras, a truffle risotto and so much more, paired with fabulous Burgundies. Well done Delhi branch and congratulations to Rajiv Kehr who was awarded the APZ Service Excellence award for his huge effort.



AGRA



Following the Delhi experience, Delhi branch member Arun Varma led a group of 45 visitors to Agra to see one of the 7 Wonders of the World, the majestic Taj Mahal. This was no ordinary tour. Arun was very aware of the benefits of timing our visits perfectly to capture the best light on the Taj so we visited at both sunset, and then at sunrise. It was so worth it. Having visited the Taj twice before I was astonished at how the rising sun can increase the majesty of the experience so very much, illuminating the marble in spectacular fashion.



Our guides were really professional which seriously added to the experience both at the Taj and then at the Red Fort and the ancient city of Fatehpur Sikri in the Agra District. It was fabulous to learn about the Mughal Empire and the various dynasties that ruled India, see how they had lived and observe their outstanding architecture. India really does have an amazing history and we were privileged to immerse ourselves in it.



We ate at the outstanding Oberoi Amarvilas, with different Indian cuisines each night. If you go to Agra, don't miss this hotel!

Congratulations to Arun Varma for an exceptional tour and a richly deserved APZ Service Excellence award.

Photos [here](#).





MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I have to congratulate the Bombay and Delhi branches on the wonderful festivals they arranged in February, with such detail and hospitality. As the next festivals in Sonoma, the Baltic and Stockholm are fast approaching, and all are fully booked, it is a testament to the variety of events our branch committees can present to us. Well done for all the hard work. Remember booking for the London 2018 Festival and pre- & post tours opens on the website at 09:00hrs BST on 7th May 2017.



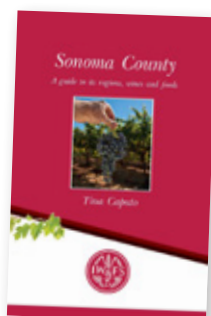
Involving many members is not easy as numbers are limited, but it is always nice if we can meet up with local branches at a festival – during the Baltic Cruise we are meeting up with our Malmo branch in Copenhagen plus the Helsinki, Tallinn and Moscow branches. This maybe unique as we can sail to each of these cities but we need to be more inventive in getting members together – some branches have twinned and take it in turns to arrange reciprocal events in different countries. If you are organising an event, please add it to your website pages or send a letter to the Editor so it can be advertised to a wider audience. Members also like to read about events, even if they can't attend, so keep up the good work taking photos, and sending a report in to the Editor.

Ian Nicol Chairman, IWFS ICM

MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

Just released – Sonoma County monograph

Hot on the heels of "olive oil" we head to the regions, wines and foods of Sonoma County for our next monograph. Local author Tina Caputo fell in love with the region 25 years ago. Once you read this you might be hooked too, wanting to seek out the wines and even tempted to visit yourself. A copy for each member household will be posted, or couriered to branches, in the coming weeks.*



ebook available - The Taming of the Screwcap

Spread the news to those you know, who are keen to learn about the pros and cons of the screwcap, that this is now available as an ebook, via Amazon in major markets i.e. ([UK](#)) £2.32 and ([US](#)) \$2.97 (prices vary depending on local currencies).*

*extra printed copies are also available from the [IS office](#) in London.

A step back in time - Society features on UK national TV

André Simon and the Wine & Food Society (its name back in the 1930s) featured on UK BBC TV in Further Back In Time For Dinner. The short clip can be viewed on the IWFS website [here](#) (sign in as a member first) along with details about the first meeting, and menu served, of the Society, with an extract from the first issue of Wine & Food back in 1934.

OUR AWARDS

Americas - Congratulations to **Austin George**, member of the Baltimore branch, who was awarded the André Simon Bronze Medal, in April, for his tremendous support for the branch for over 20 years. Austin is photographed here saying a few words, with Dale Springer (branch member and Americas Governor) to his right - a worthy recipient.



Asia Pacific - **Jai Hiremath** from the Bombay branch also recently received the André Simon Bronze Medal. A former President of the Mumbai branch, he has done much for the growth of the branch, growth of IWFS in India and support of IWFS in the zone and worldwide. He played an outstanding role as Festival Chair of the recent Mumbai APZ Weekend. Well done Jai – richly deserved.

IWFS Council of Management EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



CHAIRMAN:

Ian Nicol
(Blackpool & Fylde Coast, UK)



TREASURER:

Dwight Catherwood
(Los Angeles, USA)



COUNCIL MEMBER & GLOBAL BRANCH AMBASSADOR:

Yvonne Wallis
(Victoria, Australia)



COUNCIL MEMBER:

Andrew Jones
(Cayman Islands & New York)



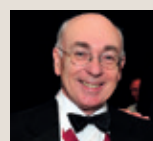
COUNCIL MEMBER:

Dave Felton
(Pasadena, USA)



COUNCIL MEMBER:

John Nicholas
(Zurich, Switzerland)



SECRETARY:

Michael Messent
(Wessex, UK)



INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT:

Andrea Warren
(London, UK)

ZONE NEWS



IWFS INTERNATIONAL NEWS MAY 2017

AMERICAS CHAIR: Andrew Jones



Our Baltimore branch is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. On Friday 21st April, I joined 103 members and guests for an Anniversary Dinner held at the Maryland Club. Dinner was preceded by a fascinating tasting of old Madeiras which had been bottled shortly after having been imported to Baltimore in the first half of the 19th Century. The André Simon Bronze Medal was presented to Austin George, a long-standing member who has the distinction of having organized 11 wine tours for the branch in Europe and the Americas over a period of 20 years (see [page 3](#)).

ASIA PACIFIC CHAIR: Yvonne Wallis



What a treat we had at our festival in India in February/March, with our Mumbai and Delhi branches showing off this fabulous country to its absolute best. Now we are looking ahead to our APZ AGM Weekends in Perth in March 2018, Auckland in March 2019, and Hong Kong in March 2020. We will soon be opening a new branch in Japan, and are looking at some great options for new branches in Adelaide, regional Western Australia and Taiwan. This year the Victoria branch celebrates the 100th birthday of our oldest member, Bill Rudd. Still active in supporting our branch, we are blessed to have such an inspiring member and role model for our young members.



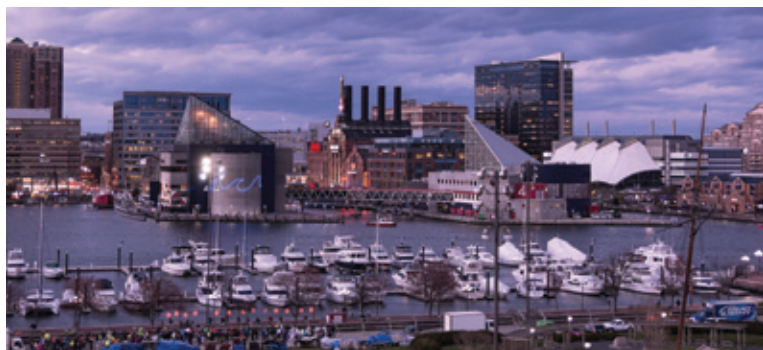
EUROPE AFRICA CHAIR: Ian Nicol

Leonid Gelibterman (Moscow branch) is investigating a possible branch opportunity in Armenia and in Latvia. Valencia branch started enthusiastically, and publicity brought in an enquiry from Majorca. Arrangements are well advanced for Baltic Cruise participants to spend time with Malmo, Helsinki, Tallinn, and Moscow branch members. The Great Weekend and Council meeting scheduled in Stockholm, will explore the culinary delights of this up and coming city with 5 Michelin starred restaurants, and home of the Nobel Foundation. The London Festival Committee looks forward to welcoming over 150 members to London in May 2018.

UPCOMING FESTIVALS

BALTIMORE GREAT WINE WEEKEND

12 – 14 OCTOBER 2017



This is a wine experience of a lifetime and there are only a few places remaining. Based at the five star Four Seasons Hotel, overlooking the city's historic Inner Harbor, you will be part of some extremely special wine and food events.

These include a tasting of Madeiras dating back to the 1800s, led by wine personality Mannie Berk; a Grand Burgundian Dinner featuring wines from Maison Louis Latour hosted by Louis-Fabrice Latour; and then a Black Tie Gala Dinner with a ten year vertical of Chateau Pontet-Canet wines with guests Alfred Tesseron and Robert Parker, who will be the keynote speaker. For further details click [here](#).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



SONOMA, CALIFORNIA (USA), 2-6 MAY 2017

Now taking place and members will be visiting wineries and tasting some wonderful wines from this region, which is now coming out of the shadows of its neighbor and making its own mark in the wine world.

BALTIC CRUISE (EUROPE), 29 JUNE – 7 JULY 2017

Now fully booked. A magical cruise of the Baltic with food and wine experiences in cities such as Copenhagen, Helsinki, Tallinn, St Petersburg. Details are on our website on the following [link](#).

STOCKHOLM – JULY 7-10 2017

A chance to enjoy this beautiful city described as the "Venice of the North". Click [here](#) to find out more or email [John Nicholas](#). Also fully booked but please contact John Nicholas if you are keen to attend.

LONDON (UK), 24-25 SEPTEMBER 2017

Join the EAZ for their black tie dinner aboard the historic HQS Wellington moored on the river Thames. As part of the EAZ AGM itinerary, places first allocated to EAZ members, then open to members worldwide. Max 80. Click [here](#) for more details.

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND (USA), 12-14 OCTOBER 2017

A truly great wine weekend tasting fine Madeiras plus dinners with dishes carefully matched with wines from esteemed houses namely Louis Latour and Chateau Pontet-Canet plus Robert Parker is our guest speaker at the Gala Dinner. See Upcoming Festivals for more details or click [here](#) to visit the website.

PERTH (AUSTRALIA), 9-11 MARCH 2018

This APZ AGM Weekend is hosted by the Western Australia branch and will be one to remember. A post-tour to the Great Southern and Margaret River wine regions will be from March 12-14. Open first to APZ members, then to members from other zones. Max 100 attendees. Watch here for further details.

LONDON (UK), 28 MAY – 2 JUNE 2018

The next IWFS International Festival is heading for London. A 5 star hotel, dining in a historic livery hall and a former royal palace plus a visit to the 21st century home of an internationally known food producer are all in the plans. More details now on the website. Click [here](#) to find out more.

QUEBEC (CANADA), 26-30 SEPTEMBER 2018

Plans are underway for an Americas Great Weekend - more details to follow.

AUCKLAND (NZ), 8-10 MARCH 2019

Our 2019 APZ AGM Weekend will be held in Auckland, with a pre-tour in the North Island and a post-tour to the fabulous Central Otago wine region in the South Island. Stay tuned.

If you are interested in joining an event that is full, or reservations closed, then please contact the organiser in case space is available.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL



28 MAY – 2 JUNE 2018

Join us for an opportunity to see this great city as you've never seen it before. Bookings open at 09:00 hrs BST on Sunday May 7th. Click [here](#) to find out more about the experiences planned and to register.

OUR IWFS BRANCHES



139 BRANCHES WORLDWIDE

AMERICAS (78)

CANADA
ALBERTA - EDMONTON
BRITISH COLUMBIA
 VANCOUVER
 VICTORIA
ONTARIO
 KITCHENER-WATERLOO
 NIAGARA
 OAKVILLE
 TORONTO
QUEBEC - MONTREAL
CAYMAN ISLANDS - CAYMAN ISLANDS
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
MEXICO
 TECATE
 TIJUANA
PUERTO RICO - PUERTO RICO
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ALABAMA - BIRMINGHAM
ALASKA - ANCHORAGE
ARIZONA
 PARADISE VALLEY
 PHOENIX
 TUCSON
CALIFORNIA
 CHULA VISTA
 COACHELLA VALLEY
 EAST BAY
 HOLLYWOOD
 LA JOLLA
 LAGUNA BEACH
 LOS ANGELES
 MARIN COUNTY
 MONTEREY PENINSULA
 NAPA VALLEY
 ORANGE COUNTY
 PASADENA
 PHYSICIANS OF LOS ANGELES
 RANCHO SANTA FE
 RIVERSIDE
 SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN
 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
 SANTA BARBARA
 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

FLORIDA
 BOCA RATON
 JACKSONVILLE
 MIAMI
 NAPLES
 PALM BEACH
GEORGIA - ATLANTA
HAWAII - HONOLULU
ILLINOIS - CHICAGO
INDIANA - INDIANAPOLIS
IOWA - COUNCIL BLUFFS
LOUISIANA - NEW ORLEANS
MARYLAND - BALTIMORE
MASSACHUSETTS
 BOSTON
 CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS
MINNESOTA
 MINNEAPOLIS/ST PAUL
 ROCHESTER
MISSOURI - KANSAS CITY
MONTANA - BOZEMAN
NEBRASKA
 GREATER OMAHA
 NORFOLK
 OMAHA
NEVADA
 LAKE TAHOE
 RENO
NEW MEXICO - SANTA FE
NEW YORK
 BUFFALO
 LONG ISLAND
 NEW YORK
OHIO - CLEVELAND
OKLAHOMA - OKLAHOMA CENTRAL
PENNSYLVANIA
 PHILADELPHIA
 YORK
SOUTH CAROLINA - AIKEN
TENNESSEE - MEMPHIS
TEXAS
 AUSTIN
 DALLAS
 FORT WORTH
 HOUSTON
 NORTHEAST TEXAS
UTAH - SALT LAKE CITY
WASHINGTON - SPOKANE
WASHINGTON DC - WASHINGTON DC

ASIA PACIFIC (33)

AUSTRALIA
 NEW SOUTH WALES
 VICTORIA
 WESTERN AUSTRALIA
CHINA
 BEIJING CITY
 CHAOYANG DISTRICT (BEIJING)
 SHANGHAI
HONG KONG
 HONG KONG ISLAND
 HONG KONG PEARL
INDIA
 BOMBAY
 DELHI
INDONESIA - JAKARTA
JAPAN
 JIYUGAOKA
 ROPPONGI
 TOKYO
 TOKYO BAY
MALAYSIA
 IPOH
 KUALA LUMPUR
 PENANG
NEW ZEALAND - AUCKLAND
PHILIPPINES
 CEBU
 MANILA LADIES
 PHILIPPINES
SINGAPORE - SINGAPORE
SOUTH KOREA
 DECANTING SOUL
 SEOUL
SRI LANKA - COLOMBO
TAIWAN R.O.C.
 KAOHSIUNG
 TAICHUNG
 TAIPEI
 TAIWAN BELLE
THAILAND
 PHUKET
 BANGKOK
VIETNAM - SAIGON

EUROPE AFRICA (28)

ESTONIA - TALLINN
FINLAND - HELSINKI
IRELAND - LEINSTER
NORWAY - OSLO
RUSSIA - MOSCOW
SOUTH AFRICA - CAPE TOWN
SPAIN - VALENCIA
SWEDEN - MALMÖ
SWITZERLAND - ZURICH
UNITED KINGDOM
 BATH & BRISTOL
 BERKSHIRE
 BLACKPOOL & FYLDE COAST
 DEVONSHIRE
 HEREFORDSHIRE & MONMOUTHSHIRE
 LEICESTER
 LIVERPOOL
 LONDON
 ST JAMES'S (LONDON)
 MANCHESTER
 MERSEYSIDE & MID-CHESHIRE
 NORTHAMPTON
 SURREY HILLS
 SUSSEX
 THAMESIDE (LONDON)
 WESSEX
 WEST YORKSHIRE
ZAMBIA - LUSAKA
ZIMBABWE - HARARE

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 events happening further afield.



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