



the IWFS Grapevine

IWFS INTERNATIONAL NEWS
JANUARY 2017



Niagara Falls - Don Vito - iStock Commons (CC BY-SA 3.0)

NEW BRANCHES



DECANTING SOUL, SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

November 17 saw the opening of our second branch in Seoul, 'Decanting Soul - South Korea'. A play on words, Decanting Soul was chosen because it was the essence of what the branch felt they stood for, and of course they are located in Seoul. So no, Soul is not a typo!



Under the leadership of Christophe Piganiol, 20 founding members enjoyed a fabulous opening dinner at Paolo de Maria with a very fine line up of Champagne, White Burgundy and Red Bordeaux. It's a very wine savvy branch with many members WSET qualified. Blind wine tastings are a central theme of this branch. Look forward to some exciting things from this branch!



OUR FESTIVALS



NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, CANADA

In October 2016 IWFS members from around the world were treated to an Americas Great Weekend in this beautiful region where the wine and food industries are now flourishing. Members experienced why this region is now very much a popular destination for lovers of good food and wine. They tasted wines from the innovative and the traditional producers such as Stratus, Southbrook, Malivoire, Cave Springs and Jackson-Triggs illustrating the great dry wines now made from varieties such as Riesling, Chardonnay and Cabernet Franc.

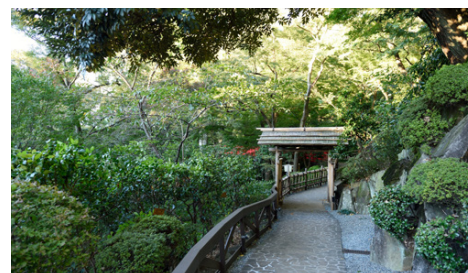


Members dined on dishes made from locally sourced, and seasonal, produce – including an outstanding meal by the students of the Niagara College at their Benchmark restaurant (of which the Niagara branch is a keen supporter). Thanks go to Brian Findlay, and his Niagara team, for a superb weekend.

TOKYO & KYOTO IWFS 2016 FESTIVAL, JAPAN

TOKYO PRE-TOUR

Our festival in Japan began with a fabulous pre-tour in Tokyo, hosted by the Roppongi Branch. 33 members were treated to two wonderful days, including a visit to the famous Kabuki-za Theatre, dinner at the



126 year old Imperial Hotel, an exclusive 'gastropub' (Izakaya) lunch at Ginza Funakata, a traditional tea ceremony at the stunning Chinzanso Hotel, and a visit to the famous food halls at Ginza Mitsukoshi. It was a great introduction to Japan's food, wine, Sake and culture.

(Japan festival continued overleaf)



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OUR FESTIVALS

TOKYO PRE-TOUR (CONT)

Well done to Akihito Tanaka, Makoto Takagi and the Roppongi team for an outstanding opening to our Japan adventure.



TOKYO MAIN FESTIVAL

After the pre-tour, Tokyo Bay branch welcomed 90 members to the main event of IWFS's first festival in Japan. Festivities started off with a bang with a taiko drum performance at Happon Gardens.



A real highlight was a luncheon where 8 wineries from across Japan presented a special tasting including Sake and a wide range of Japanese wines. This was really educational and demonstrated how far Japan's wine industry has come, as well as to show off Japan's traditional Sake. The food was just a delight and really showcased why Japan has such a huge reputation for its cuisine.



TOKYO MAIN FESTIVAL (CONT)

The main festival finished with a boat cruise around Tokyo bay and a traditional Japanese meal with a lovely geisha performance. Congratulations to president Dennis Tanaka and Vice-President Tatsuji Echle who led this festival. Our members have fallen in love with Japan!



KYOTO POST-TOUR

60 members took the bullet train to Kyoto to continue our culinary and cultural Japanese journey. The next few magical days were spent viewing the stunning fall colours as we toured the Tsuki-no-katsura sake brewery, the Kyoto gin distillery and the Suntory Yamazaki distillery.



We had an unforgettable meal attended by geisha at the 1200-year-old Kiyomizu-dera Temple, and closed the festivities with a gala dinner at the Kyoto National Museum with a Chopin recital by Yukio Yokoyama, with pieces chosen to complement each wine. Well done Tokyo Bay!





MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Firstly a Happy New Year to you all. I hope you had a pleasurable time over the holiday with family and friends, and are looking forward to some memorable events in 2017. I have to regularly remind myself that we are an international and multicultural organisation, so we have the Chinese New Year yet to come, as well as many other significant dates in cultural calendars. All good excuses to learn and celebrate.



Such has been the success of opening new branches in APZ, that as the branches become more established, they are now inviting us to visit and share their culture. I am looking forward to the Mumbai and Delhi branch festivals in February. After a working day at our Council Meeting, the chance to sample Indian wines and food sounds very appealing.

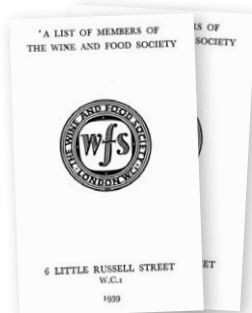
Not everybody can join us of course, but we can pass on the experience in our printed and online journals. Each Zone publishes online news, but any member worldwide, logged into our website can view the online version of the printed journals from other zones. Indeed if anybody worldwide has a good article to share our editors are always pleased to receive it. Email editor.EAZ@iwfs.org or americas@iwfs.org

To view the journals from Europe Africa [click here](#), and for the Americas [click here](#).

Ian Nicol Chairman, IWFS ICM

MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT

A number of projects are due for release for members in the coming months which include the new mobile Vintage Card App to allow members to access their vintage information digitally; the first monograph as an ebook "Taming of the Screwcap" plus the ability to access the Society archives online. We will email you as they become available and you may also wish to visit the website, in the coming months, for details on and access to all of these initiatives.



OUR AWARDS

At the Niagara Festival, three international awards were made. The retiring Chairman of IWFS Council, **Dave Felton**, was awarded the André Simon Gold medal for his unstinting service to the Society, highlighted by his chairmanship of the International Council since 2014, as well as his leadership of the 2012 Vancouver Festival. Bob Gutenstein (Americas) made the presentation accompanied by Jeff Deeths (Americas), Chris Bonsall (EAZ) and Yvonne Wallis (APZ) all four of whom have previously been awarded the AS Gold medal.

The Americas awarded the André Simon Bronze medal to **Antonio Escudero-Viera**, a long serving member of the BGA and director of IWFS Americas Inc. The chairman of the board recognized Antonio's work as a member of the Society's Incorporation Committee and his valuable contribution as chairman of the Corporate Governance Committee.

At the same dinner, **Chris Bonsall** was presented with the IWFS Diploma for his service as Chairman of the IWFS Wines Committee. Chris fulfilled this important role for the Society from 2009-16, balancing his extensive wine knowledge with the views of wine experts to produce the Society's annual Vintage Card and Chart.



L to R: Americas members - Brian Findlay (Niagara weekend organiser), Andrew Jones, Dave Felton and Antonio Escudero Viera.



L to R: Chris Bonsall (EAZ), Yvonne Wallis (APZ) and Jeffs Deeths (Americas)

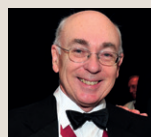
IWFS Council of Management EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**CHAIRMAN:**

Ian Nicol
(Blackpool & Fylde Coast, UK)

**TREASURER:**

Dwight Catherwood
(Los Angeles, USA)

**SECRETARY:**

Michael Messent
(Wessex, UK)

**COUNCIL MEMBER & GLOBAL
BRANCH AMBASSADOR:**

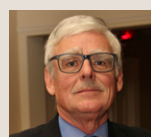
Yvonne Wallis
(Victoria, Australia)

**COUNCIL MEMBER:**

Andrew Jones
(Cayman Islands & New York)

**COUNCIL MEMBER:**

Dave Felton
(Pasadena, USA)

**COUNCIL MEMBER:**

John Nicholas
(Zurich, Switzerland)

**INTERNATIONAL
SECRETARIAT:**

Andrea Warren
(London, UK)



ZONE NEWS

AMERICAS CHAIR: Andrew Jones



I am pleased to report that a new branch is in the process of being established in Boca Raton, Florida under the guidance of Carl Tinkelman, vice chairman of the New Branch Development Committee. James Ginzler and Bill Glassner have led this initiative and will assume the roles of branch president and treasurer. I congratulate all concerned and look forward to receiving a report about the inaugural dinner which is planned to take place in March.

ASIA PACIFIC CHAIR: Yvonne Wallis



We were so pleased with our festival in Japan, the hard work was worth it. Thanks Roppongi and Tokyo Bay! I then flew to Seoul to open another branch there, Decanting Soul, and visit our existing branch, Seoul, both fabulous occasions. Then to HK to visit our HK Pearl Branch – we are looking forward to a festival in HK sometime soon. Now we are working hard on our upcoming festival in India, it will be great. Congratulations to our four Taiwan branches who gathered in Taichung in December. This is the IWFS spirit of shared camaraderie. Finally, in 2017 we may see another 4 branches – much to do! Happy New Year to all.

EUROPE AFRICA CHAIR: Ian Nicol



It is important we recognise our members' contributions. Several long service awards and diplomas have been presented recently, but rarely get recognised outside branches. Congratulations to all who have earned them. Our plans to meet Malmo, Helsinki, Tallin and Moscow (St Petersburg) branches during our Baltic Cruise are being finalised and the 40 travellers are looking forward to meeting so many of our fellow members. We are working with a London member to open a branch in Spain (Valencia) this February. Watch for reports in the next communication, and hopefully we will have a new destination for a visit or festival.

UPCOMING FESTIVALS LONDON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

28 MAY – 2 JUNE 2018

Make sure London is your destination, for this flagship IWFS event, in 2018. The Europe Africa team are busy drawing up an itinerary of unique experiences that money alone cannot buy. You will have an insight into the culture and gastronomy of this wonderful city. The 5 star Corinthia Hotel has been selected as your hotel during the festival, giving you the grace and grandeur of bygone years with contemporary style and modern amenities. Pre- and Post-Tours are also on the agenda including a trip to Europe or an English vineyard visit. Click [here](#) to read more. London looks forward to welcoming you...



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



MUMBAI (INDIA), FEBRUARY 24-26 2017

Hosted By Asia Pacific, this APZ AGM Weekend next month is set to be an outstanding event in this fascinating city. See the invitation [here](#).

DELHI (INDIA), FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 1 2017

Members worldwide have secured their place on this fabulous festival in the great city of Delhi, 3 nights. See the invitation [here](#).

AGRA (INDIA), MARCH 2-3 2017

Members will enjoy two nights in the amazing city of Agra, close to the city of Delhi, where there will be a guided tour of one of the 7 New Wonders of the World, the Taj Mahal. See the invitation [here](#).

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

Your chance to learn, first hand, why Sonoma is no longer little brother to the Napa Valley. Winery visits and exquisite dining and accommodation are all in store. Reservations now closed. Click [here](#) to find out more.

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.

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND (USA), 12-16 OCTOBER 2017

Stay tuned for details of a Great Weekend and AGM, hosted by the Americas in Baltimore. Max 60.

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.

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

OUR IWFS BRANCHES



139 BRANCHES WORLDWIDE

AMERICAS (78)

CANADA
ALBERTA - EDMONTON
BRITISH COLUMBIA
 VANCOUVER
 VICTORIA (BC)
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
 JACKSONVILLE
 MIAMI
 NAPLES
 ORLANDO
 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 (32)

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
 ROPPOINGI
 TOKYO
 TOKYO BAY
MALAYSIA
 IPOH
 KUALA LUMPUR
 PENANG
NEW ZEALAND - AUCKLAND
PHILIPPINES
 CEBU
 MANILA LADIES
 PHILIPPINES
SINGAPORE - TANGLIN
SOUTH KOREA
 DECANTING SOUL
 SEOUL
SRI LANKA - COLOMBO
TAIWAN R.O.C.
 KAOHSIUNG
 TAICHUNG
 TAIPEI
 TAIWAN BELLE
THAILAND
 PHUKET
 BANGKOK
VIETNAM - SAIGON

EUROPE / AFRICA (29)

ESTONIA - TALLINN
FINLAND - HELSINKI
FRANCE - CHAMPAGNE
HUNGARY - BUDAPEST
IRELAND - LEINSTER
NORWAY - OSLO
RUSSIA - MOSCOW
SOUTH AFRICA - CAPE TOWN
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

GO TO WWW.IWFS.ORG
 FOR MORE INFORMATION
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