



Dear Fellow Members,

When Andre Simon founded our society in 1933, his vision was for a Society that extended to the four corners of the world – from the countries closest to London, as well as those that were far away on the other side of the world. When the Society had reached its age of majority in 1954, that was indeed the case with the formation of the Auckland Branch.

2019 therefore sees the Sapphire Jubilee of our branch as we celebrate sixty five years of existence; and what better way to celebrate that, than by the holding of a Festival to celebrate all that is good, not only wine and food wise, of our little corner of the world, but also the sapphire blue seas that surround us and provide us with a bounty of seafood, but also the lush green pastures from which many of our fine agricultural products flow, not to mention the wonderful wines that New Zealand now produces. It therefore gives me great pleasure, on behalf of the Auckland Branch of The International Wine and Food Society, to invite our members, far and wide, to participate in Festival 2019 next March in Auckland.

To those of you who have visited Auckland previously, welcome back, and to those for whom a visit to Auckland, will be a first, welcome; or as we say in Maori: Nau mai, Kuku mai –Welcome, please come in.

We have prepared a programme for the Festival proper as well as for the pre- and post-Festival tours, that will hopefully showcase New Zealand, and make you want to return.

I look forward to welcoming you next March.

Sincerely

Rowan Moss

President, Auckland Branch