



EAZ Food & Wine Online

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE EUROPE AFRICA ZONE

Issue 4, December 2016



FESTIVAL: NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, CANADA



The UK contingent from the North West, for this Americas Great Weekend, numbered eight, including Chairman Dr Paul

Bishop from Merseyside & Mid-Cheshire and Chairman Ron Cowley from Manchester, and all were royally treated.

The weekend, based in the historic and picturesque town of Niagara-on-the-Lake included visits to a number of wineries such as Southbrook and Jackson-Triggs (vineyards pictured above) plus exceptional meals in particular at the Niagara Catering College where the students here excelled in the dishes prepared.

The hotel selected, 'Queen's Landing', was a perfect setting and excellent venue for a spectacular final five course dinner by Executive Chef, Marc Lyons.

A trip to the Falls had to be made, being only a short drive away...

We offer congratulations to Brian Findlay who had organised this exceptional weekend.



BRANCH EVENT

London: Dinner with Gabriel Waterhouse

An open invitation was made to all members to join the London branch for their Christmas dinner and it attracted members from as far afield as West Yorkshire. The chef was Gabriel Waterhouse, who works by day in the grand surroundings of establishments such as Galvin la Chapelle, and for this IWFS Christmas Dinner "popped up" in the rather unorthodox, but welcoming, venue of Café for Crisis in East London. Gabriel's signature is "simplicity, less is more".

This was a cutting edge event where the meal was carefully prepared with small touches such as goats curd playing the perfect foil to the heritage beetroot salad and the whipped butter flavoured with Talisker whisky being a tasty addition. The wines were perfect matches to the dishes and finished with Chateau

Riessec 2006, generously donated by Peter Diamond.

Thank you to Alan and Stephanie Shepherd for arranging this seasonal event but at the same time giving members the chance to be part of one of today's innovative dining experiences. A real privilege for all who attended.



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The handover of the Chair of International Council took place at the end of October and EAZ will now hold the position for the next two years. In accepting the position as chair, I thanked Dave Felton for his contribution over the previous two years, and promised to carry on his emphasis on the international aspects of our society. Although many cannot travel far, we can learn about Wine, Food and Culture through visitors, presentations and our publications. Please keep your contributions coming.



I reported the sudden passing of Andrew Brodie in the last magazine, but his celebratory dinner, organised by London Branch, at one of his favourite restaurants 'Pied a Terre', was well attended by all London Branches, EAZ Committee members and Marin County Branch. Andrew and Jack Rubyn, President of Marin County Branch in California,

have been friends for many years and organised many exchange events on both sides of the Atlantic. Such is the camaraderie of these two branches that Marin County insisted on providing the wines for Andrew's celebratory meal, and these were brought over from the Branch's wine cellar by Jack and Simone Rubyn themselves. Great vintages of Californian Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon were enjoyed alongside excellent food by the restaurant, who had also lost a great friend and customer.



Now a few congratulations. Firstly to Roger Ellis for his André Simon Bronze Award, and then to Zurich Branch celebrating their 10th anniversary and Hereford & Monmouth celebrating their 20th anniversary. Hope you all celebrated in style.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I hope that you have all had a Merry Christmas and wish you all the best for 2017 and we look forward to meeting many of you in the new year.

Ian Nicol
EAZ Chairman



WINDOW TO THE WEBSITE

Branded merchandise on website

Members can now purchase IWFS merchandise from the EAZ pages of the website. The page is temporarily located under the Publications tab – [click here](#) to view. New items have been added including the Blind Tasting Bottle Kits (a complimentary kit has been sent to your branch contact for you to use at forthcoming events) plus the smart black neoprene 2bt and 1bt bags, allowing you to safely, but with style, transport your wine between events. These two new items are available at special prices until the new year.



YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS



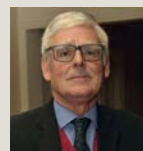
Ian Nicol
(Blackpool & Fylde Coast)
Chairman



Michael Messent
(Wessex)
Vice Chair & Legal
Advisor



Dr Tricia Fletcher
(Manchester)
Secretary



John Nicholas
(Zurich)
Treasurer



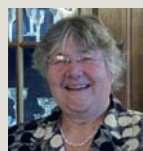
Mrs Margaret
Chippendale
(Manchester)
Membership Registrar



David Chapman
(Manchester)
Awards Officer



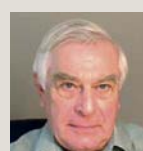
Hilton Kuck
(Cape Town)
African Branches
Representative



Mrs Stephanie Shepherd
(London)
Events Co-ordinator



Leonie Allday
(Bath & Bristol)
Committee Member



Peter McGahey
(Herefordshire &
Monmouthshire)
Committee Member

BRANCH FOCUS

Herefordshire & Monmouthshire: 20th Anniversary Dinner



Herefordshire & Monmouthshire was the branch focus in the last issue and is once again – this time is to share their Branch's celebratory 20th anniversary event.

Please let us know when and how your branch plans to celebrate a special anniversary and we can share the news with other members.

Jim Muir presided over the evening's proceedings at the Gliffaes Country House Hotel, Crickhowell, Powys, to celebrate their inauguration in 1996. Founded by Ikkka Boyd, a then member of London and later Berkshire Branch, the new branch thrived and John Boyd continues as their present Chairman.

Thirty-two attendees were made up of branch members, EAZ committee members and guests from other branches, who regularly attend each other's events. A highlight of the evening was the claret, Ch. Ducru-Beaucaillou 1996, generously donated by Ian and Anita Rushton, who could unfortunately not be there in person. This 20 years old mature wine was a fitting tribute to the success of the branch, and Ian Nicol, Council Chair and Michael Messent, EAZ Vice Chair proposed a toast to the continued success of the branch on behalf of the Society and the guests.



OUR AWARDS

André Simon Bronze Medal

Roger Ellis joined the Society's London Branch in 1975, and is a graduate of the legendary IWFS Young Members' Wine School. He became a member of the Branch Committee in 2003, serving as Chairman from 2004 to 2008. Since relinquishing the Chair he has continued to serve on the Committee, organising events for the Branch, and printing the quarterly programme. The EAZ has awarded him the André Simon Bronze medal in recognition of his many years of distinguished service, and this was presented by Stephanie Shepherd, EAZ Events Co-ordinator, at London Branch's Christmas event with Gabriel Waterhouse.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

EAZ EXCO MEETING

5th January 2017

The Executive Committee members will be meeting at the In & Out, London, in January to discuss the year ahead. If you have any matters you would like to be raised at the meeting then please contact Secretary, Tricia Fletcher, via [email](mailto:tricia@eaz.co.uk).

BALTIC CRUISE

29th June to 7th July 2017

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

STOCKHOLM

7th to 10th July 2017

A chance to enjoy this beautiful city described at 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.

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND (USA)

September 2017

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

APZ AGM WEEKEND

February 2018

If you would like to take an overseas trip in early 2018 then pencil a possible trip to an Asia Pacific destination – details to be confirmed.

LONDON

28th May to 2nd June 2018

The next IWFS International Festival is heading for London. A 5 star hotel, dining in a historic livery hall, dining in a former royal palace and 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.

LOOKING AHEAD

We are planning some other exciting events including a visit in 2019 to the USA to discover Virginian wines. Watch this space for more news.

COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE OF FOOD & WINE

Please forward your branch news and articles for consideration for our next Food & Wine magazine by 31st January 2017. Email copy to [Nathalie Rosin](mailto:Nathalie.Rosin@eaz.co.uk).



IWFS EAZ LONDON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

28th May to 2nd June 2018



You may have visited London many times, but there will always be something new to delight you. This is an opportunity to experience a London that you have never seen before.

From Monday 28th May to Saturday 2nd June 2018, IWFS members will be discovering prestigious new and historic venues not accessible to ordinary visitors, and enjoying some of the very best food and wine that the capital has to offer.

IWFS International Festivals take place every three years with each region hosting the Festival in succession. In 2018 the Europe Africa region will be your hosts in London.

The International Festival is the flagship event of the IWFS calendar. Each one is designed by local IWFS members to highlight the best their city has to offer. They offer unique insights into the culture, and gastronomy of the city and region and unrivalled opportunities to make new friends among like-minded people from around the world.

THE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

The detailed programme is still evolving, but we plan to visit the spectacular and historical Livery Halls belonging to two of the Great 12 Livery Companies of the City of London. We will dine in a former royal palace and visit the 21st century home of an internationally known food producer. Travel will be by luxury coach and by boat on the River Thames.

We are also planning a series of short walking tours to introduce you to some of our famous historic and cultural icons.

And of course the wine and food will be everything that you expect from an IWFS International Festival.



PRE AND POST TOURS

In addition to the main festival programme there will also be opportunities to extend your stay in Europe. Perhaps you might like to join us on a visit to the Champagne region of France, or to tour English wine producers in Sussex and Hampshire, or perhaps to stay in London for an opportunity to dine at some of the gourmet restaurants which were unable to accommodate large numbers during the Festival itself.

ACCOMMODATION

We have chosen the fabulous 5-star Corinthia Hotel as our base for the Festival. A 21st century Grand Hotel it combines the grace and grandeur of bygone years with contemporary style and modern amenities.

Located on the edge of Whitehall, a stone's throw from the river, with Trafalgar Square, Big Ben and the London Eye all within ten minutes walk.



For shopaholics The Strand and Covent Garden are an easy 15 minutes walk while Regent Street and Piccadilly (for Fortnum and Mason and the Royal Academy) are just two stops away on the Bakerloo Line from the nearby Embankment Station.

Within the hotel you will find luxurious bedrooms with large en suite bathrooms, a comfortable lounge for afternoon tea or a light breakfast, two gourmet restaurants, an infinity pool and the largest spa in London. The hotel is offering members very competitive rates during the festival.

BECOMING PART OF THIS EVENT

This Festival is open to all IWFS members worldwide. The number of members who can take part will be limited so early booking will be key. Full details of the programme and costs will be on the iwfs.org website in early March 2017 and we expect booking to start in April.

In the coming months we expect to publish information about some of the venues we will be visiting which will also be posted on the website.

If you would like early information about the programme or have any queries about the event please contact: Stephanie Shepherd, Chairman, London International Festival Committee at stephanie.shepherd@iwfs.london