



# *EAZ Food & Wine Online*

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE EUROPE AFRICA ZONE

Issue 1, September 2015



## **NEW BRANCH: HUNGARY (BUDAPEST)**

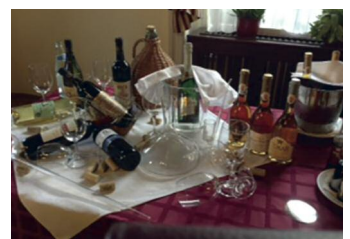


Sixteen guests attended the Inaugural Dinner of the Hungary (Budapest) Branch, on Thursday 27th August, at the Thokoly Restaurant in Budapest. Branch Chairman Alexander Merezsko welcomed everyone to enjoy typical Hungarian dishes accompanied by paired Hungarian wines, introduced by member and sommelier Andrash Koloshvari.

EAZ Chairman, Ian Nicol responded welcoming them as the newest branch in the Society and together with EAZ Vice Chairman, Michael Messent made the presentation of their Provisional Charter.



This branch is keen to promote Hungarian wine, food and culture and looks forward to other branches visiting the area. Already one of our other branches is looking to visit this year, and the Americas Danube Cruise will spend two days in Budapest before sailing the Danube next June.

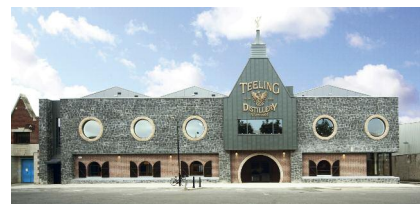


## **NEWS FROM: LEINSTER BRANCH**

Our Leinster branch of the IWFS was first envisioned in Melbourne by Rory Craig, a Dublin native. He heard about the society and was very intrigued by it. After a few emails and a quick trip home we'd set up our branch.

There are 13 of us so far and we're told we are quite unique in IWFS as we are all currently under 36. It's a mixed bunch some of us working in the industry and generally looking for a way to learn, discover more about food and wine with other like minded people.

Our second event will be a night-time tour of newly opened Teelings Whiskey Distillery and there are plans in place for pop-up brunches, wine tastings, a beef club and plenty more. Dublin is an exciting place to be based for food at the moment!



Ali Dunworth



## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our first issue of Food & Wine Online. It is intended for this online newsletter to complement our printed copy of Food & Wine by providing you, our members within the Europe Africa Zone, with an online snapshot of our latest activities.

The last few months have been busy for me combining my leisure time and a number of IWFS activities including the exciting opening of new branches in your zone...

In June each year, I embark on a long distance walk with friends. This year it was the 130 mile Beara Way in SW Ireland. Every second year we raise sponsorship, in aid of a Children's Cancer Charity, and this year we managed to add £10K to our cumulative total. Like many things in life, long distance walking doesn't get any easier, but with a bit of extra effort is still enjoyable and rewarding. Thence to Dublin to meet our new young members and present the Provisional Charter to Leinster Branch. Ireland is a wonderful country and culture, and with two branches over there I'm sure we can contemplate having an exciting festival there one day.



Returning to England it was off to London to present the Provisional Charter to Thameside Branch, attend the St James's function at The Dorchester, and a day's work with Michael at the Council Meeting, one day at home to pack and off to the Savoie event, whilst John Nicholas was en route to Champagne for the presentation of their Provisional Charter. A busy time for all your committee members.

July saw the visit of our family from Sydney and a good family get together, with plenty of wine shared. Sadly this was followed by the sudden passing of their Nan at the grand age of 95, and after that a subdued Ruby Wedding celebration for ourselves in August. Finally, I finished the month off on a high with the much anticipated visit to Budapest, where I presented the Provisional Charter to Alex Marezhko, Chairman of the new Hungary Branch – another exciting destination for an event.

I hope you enjoy the read.

Ian Nicol  
EAZ Chairman

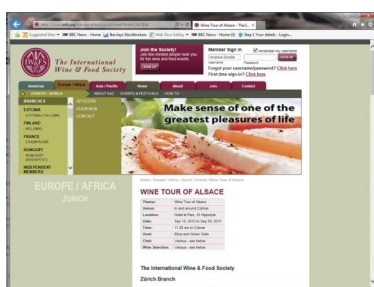


## WINDOW TO THE WEBSITE

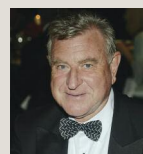
I'm cheekily called the EAZ Webmaster, because I have found out how to turn a computer on. We do want to encourage all branches and members to use the Society [website](#) (just click on this highlighted link to be taken there), as it is a good resource and can help fellow members. If you are visiting an area where there is a branch, all listed on the site (and we hope all branches are now putting up their events onto the website, it is easy – do ask if you are having problems) then you can see if there is anything on, and contact the organiser/branch to join in, as 'foreigners' are nearly always most welcome. I find this invaluable when travelling, and have had some splendid times with other branches.

You can log in and check your details – if we don't have your up-to-date email then you may well be missing out on information, or event news, that you need or maybe interested in. Have fun looking over the site, a lot of effort had gone into making it a useful part of your Society membership. Any queries please contact me.

Andrew Brodie



## YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Ian Nicol  
(Blackpool & Fylde Coast)  
Chairman



Michael Messent  
(Wessex)  
Vice Chair & Legal  
Advisor



Dr Tricia Fletcher  
(Manchester)  
Secretary



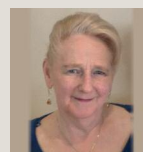
John Nicholas  
(Zurich)  
Treasurer



Mrs Margaret  
Chippendale  
(Manchester)  
Membership Registrar



Andrew Brodie  
(London)  
Website Technical  
Co-ordinator



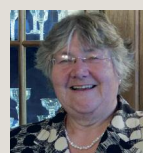
Mrs Pam Brunning  
(Capital)  
Editor Food & Wine  
Magazine



David Chapman  
(Manchester)  
Awards Officer



Hilton Kuck  
(Cape Town)  
African Branches  
Representative



Mrs Stephanie Shepherd  
(London)  
Events Co-ordinator



## BRANCH FOCUS

**Earn your branch £40** by simply adding your branch "Travel Recommendations" onto the website. This is a window to promote the best of your local area and "must do" activities. We ask that each branch puts a short write-up of their area, the recommended hotels, restaurants and wine and food outlets on their branch webpage. See the [Blackpool & Fylde Coast Branch webpage](#) for an example of this.



When you have posted this on your branch web page, you can claim £40 from the EAZ Treasurer, [John Nicholas](#). If you need help putting this on the website please contact [Val Ramsay](#) who will be happy to help.

Please note also that if you are planning a trip, whether close to home or overseas, you as a member can access the [IWFS Travel Recommendations](#) and put in the area/city you are visiting, to find out which hotels and restaurants are recommended by your fellow IWFS members around the world.



**Branch Banners** Have you ordered yours yet? Many branches have already done so – don't miss out. You could offset the cost of this smart floor standing Branch Banner with the £40 you have just earned from filling in the Branch travel tips above. As we reported in an earlier magazine, the EAZ are subsidising the £200 cost of a customised banner by £100. If you use the £40 earned from completing the travel tips, the cost is brought down to just £60. A simple and effective way to promote your Branch and your Society – with that professional touch!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Cape Town Festival, 23–25 February 2016

The Cape Town Branch invites you to join us for a three day experience of wonderful wine, fabulous food and charming company right in the middle of our summer. The tip of the African continent is a very special place and thus we are honoured to also be hosting the very special occasion of the 2016 John Avery Memorial Dinner during this time.



On day one you will visit the west coast Swartland wine region, reputed to be the "Wild West" of South African wine producers, and you will have the opportunity to enjoy these quirky, nay revolutionary wines in the company of their maverick



winemakers. Day two brings a luxury coach tour of the majestic Cape Peninsula followed by the ever-popular "Dine Around" at members' homes. On day three your trip will be rounded off with a tutored tasting of some of South Africa's most prestigious wines and will then culminate with the John Avery Memorial Dinner at the 5-star Twelve Apostles Hotel.

Member cost, excluding accommodation and flights, is GBP 445 pp with a surcharge of GBP 50 for non-members. Reserve with [Hilton Kuck](#), the Cape Town Festival organiser.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### ANNUAL DINNER

10th September 2015

We still have some availability for the Annual Dinner taking place at the Wax Chenders Hall, Gresham Street, London on 10th September. Full details are on the [website](#). If you would like to join us please email John Nicholas as soon as possible as the closing date is 6th September.

### CAPE TOWN

22nd – 25th February 2016

Four-night Festival in Cape Town including the John Avery memorial dinner at The 12 Apostles Hotel, visits to Swartland wine region, the Cape Peninsular, wine tastings and dinner in members' homes. For further details [click here](#).

### NORTH WALES

May 2016

We are planning a 'Great Weekend' in North Wales in mid-May, full details will be in the next issue of *Food & Wine*. The weekend is likely to include a visit to Bodnant Gardens, a lunch at Chateau Rhianfa and a dinner at Bodysgallen Hall Hotel.

### EDINBURGH

20th – 23rd September 2016

A three-night Festival in Edinburgh including wine tastings, dinners at at least one Michelin starred restaurant, and a Reception and Dinner on board The Royal Yacht Britannia. Details are on the [website](#). You should get your bookings in early for this event; it's likely to be very popular. We may have some extra availability for the Britannia Dinner, if you would be interested in this please contact the organiser.

### EAZ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, EDINBURGH

23rd September 2016

The first Europe Africa Zone Annual General Meeting will be held on 23rd September 2016 at 10.30 am in Edinburgh. The venue has not yet been finalised but it will probably be probably be the Balmoral Hotel (formerly the North British Hotel). This is event is free and open to all EAZ members and is the first opportunity for Members rather than Branch Representatives to influence the direction of their Society. Please let [John Nicholas](#) know if you are planning to attend.

### LOOKING AHEAD... 2017

We are planning some exciting events for 2017 including a Baltic Cruise and a visit to the USA to discover Virginian Wines. Details will be announced as they become available.

### BRANCH EVENTS

Do let us have details of any of your events that you would like to open up to the wider EAZ membership and we will include it here (subject to space!). Email [Andrea Warren](#).



## EAZ EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

20–23 September 2016

This is your opportunity to participate in a three night Wine and Food Festival in Edinburgh, the inspiring political and cultural capital of Scotland, where centuries of history meet a vibrant, cosmopolitan city in an unforgettable setting. Discover stunning scenery, striking architecture and fine food.



Our closing meal will be on board the “Royal Yacht Britannia”, dining in the State Dining Room after a reception in the State Drawing Room. There will be an opportunity to tour the vessel. We confidently expect the same high standards as when it was in Royal service.

The event will include two other memorable dinners, one of which will be in a Michelin starred establishment. We will also have the opportunity to visit some of the historic buildings and sample quality Scottish products.

The Festival ends at the Britannia dinner on Thursday evening, but on the Friday morning we will hold the Annual General Meeting of the Europe Africa Zone. Following the AGM there will be an opportunity, for those who wish, to taste some special Scottish Malt Whisky and attend a farewell luncheon at extra cost.

The Festival hotel is the 5\* Balmoral on Princes Street in the heart of the city. There is a Michelin starred restaurant (The



Number One) in the basement. Grand hotels in capital cities are never cheap but we believe it gives good value. Other options include two 4\* hotels The George Hotel (400 yards) and the Apex Waterloo Place Hotel and two economy hotels (Travelodge and Premier Inns) both within 250 yards. Members are responsible for their own hotel bookings but all transport to events will be from the Balmoral. Details of the hotels are available on the [website](#).

The cost of the festival for members, *excluding accommodation and flights*, for the three-day event will be GBP 850 *per member*. There is a surcharge of GBP 85 for non-members, including partners of members, making a total of GBP 935 *per non-member*. There will be an additional charge for the events following the AGM on Friday 23rd September.

To confirm your interest please email [Ron Barker](#), the event organiser, with a copy to [John Nicholas](#), the EAZ Treasurer, stating exactly which parts of the festival and post-festival event you wish to attend, the name of your Branch, the full name of each person for whom you are registering, a telephone number



and whether or not any of the party are non-members. Please also indicate any special dietary requirements.

Full details of how to make payments are on the website, together with our cancellation policy. Numbers for this event are restricted and the date of receipt of the deposit payment will determine the time of your application.

It may be possible to accommodate additional participants at the Royal Yacht Britannia Dinner, depending on how many delegates book for the festival, but the cost for the tour, reception and dinner *will be not less than GBP 225 per person (GBP 250 per non-member)*.

To see many of the attractions in Edinburgh [click here](#). We look forward to sharing with you the wonderful hospitality this city has to offer.