



EAZ Food & Wine Online

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE EUROPE AFRICA ZONE

Issue 3, May 2016



CAPE TOWN FESTIVAL



Popular across the zone

The Cape Town festival was a testament to the international appeal of the IWFS and particularly within the Europe Africa region. The festival attracted members from throughout the zone – from London to Lusaka and Manchester to Zurich, 30+ EAZ members took part in this food, wine and travel extravaganza. In addition members based in Dubai were there to wave the UAE flag. Despite the Dubai branch being in abeyance, temporarily we hope, it was a demonstration of the international friendships. Members from the Americas, Australia and India were also welcomed.



Dine-around wines

Time spent at some of the best restaurants in a region is always a great attraction of our festivals. However one of the highlights of the visit to Cape Town was the dine-around evening. The hosts selected their own menus but had to match the dishes

with the wines, carefully selected by David Swingler, Cape Town branch cellar master – which they did with aplomb. One wine of particular interest was the aperitif “Rosalind Pinotage Rose 2015” by Painted Wolf Wines. This wine is named after John Avery’s daughter, who designed the label, and it is produced by her in-laws’ farm in Paarl. This is a delicious bright fruity aperitif wine with fresh fruit flavours of strawberry, cherry and cranberry and with mineral notes – another nice touch to have the Avery family involved, in some way, in an EAZ event – worth bearing in mind when looking for such a wine for a future branch event?



ABRM MEETING

The Annual Branch Representatives Meeting will take place this year at the In and Out Club, 4 St James’s Square, London, SW1Y 4JU at 11.30 pm on Thursday 14th July and will be followed by a light lunch. A letter will be sent soon to all Branch Secretaries inviting nominations for the role of Branch representative. This meeting is important and is the channel for getting the views of Branch members to the Europe Africa executive. In addition, since incorporation of the EAC as a Company this Representatives meeting has a defined legal role including the power to nominate Directors and advise with regard to the make up of the Executive Committee. It should be seen as a forum for discussion about the best direction for the future of the Society in the Europe Africa Zone and so it is worth a Branch being present, and in addition to the meeting it is a good social occasion and provides a chance to meet members of other Branches.



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I hope you all have some exciting events planned for this year. My next visit to a branch will be to Wessex, who have planned a weekend in Poole, Dorset. Over the last few years Wessex have effectively twinned with Zurich Branch, inviting each others members to join in reciprocal events, and in the process making many good friends. Plus a member from Auckland Branch will join them too – a true reflection of our internationalism.



I hear from some of you that, as much as you would like to partake in visits to winemakers and restaurants worldwide, you can no longer travel internationally. This does not necessarily preclude you from meeting these winemakers and chefs, as these people often travel around Europe and Africa, and present wine tastings or dinners. For example, 'Obsession' at Northcote is a ten day extravaganza of visiting chefs, each cooking on one night.

Members who were fortunate to attend the APZ AGM weekend had the opportunity to dine at 'La Mout' in Taichung City, Taiwan, but the same Michelin starred chef Lanshu Chen cooked one evening at Northcote. Council had an excellent dinner at the 'The Greenhouse' near Cape Town, but the same Michelin starred chef, Peter Tempelhoff also cooked one evening at Northcote. Lanshu and Peter are featured here, each during their Obsession 16 dinners at Northcote. To find out more please [click here](#).



Perhaps you are aware of events of interest to other members. Our members seem reluctant to use social media 'Facebook' and 'Twitter' to pass word around of these events, but if you send timely notification to editor.eaz@iwfs.org we can publish news of events here. Any embedded link usually in blue underlined text, and clicked upon, will take you to further information.

Finally, in our reorganisation, when we incorporated, we preserved the traditional Annual Branch Representatives Meeting, as the committee would dearly like feedback on what members want. This meeting will be on Thursday 14th July and we look forward to meeting with a number of you then.

Ian Nicol
EAZ Chairman

Remember to add; International Secretary, Andrea Warren, Intsec@iwfs.org to your email contact list to get Grapevine (four copies per year) and Food & Wine Online (three copies per year) delivered to your inbox.



WINDOW TO THE WEBSITE

IWFS logos and EAZ letterhead now available

Aiming to assist you with your branch admin and events, we have now downloaded the IWFS logos, typeface and EAZ letterhead to each of the branch pages on the website, under the documents tab. This is available for branch administrators only, so if these would be useful to assist you in promoting a future event or for sending correspondence then please contact your branch administrator. We trust you will find this a useful resource in the professional promotion of your branch and events.



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



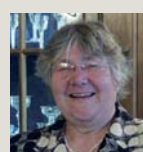
Andrew Brodie
(London)
Website Technical
Co-ordinator



David Chapman
(Manchester)
Awards Officer



Hilton Kuck
(Cape Town)
African Branches
Representative



Mrs Stephanie Shepherd
(London)
Events Co-ordinator

OUR AWARDS

Branches, please resolve to nominate restaurants where you have enjoyed an outstanding meal for a Restaurant Award. If you have not been so fortunate, perhaps a branch member is worthy of a personal award. In either case, please [click here](#) or [email me](#). I look forward to hearing from you. David Chapman

BRANCH FOCUS

Herefordshire & Monmouthshire

Our branch is not the oldest, nor boasts the largest membership, but it does have one claim to fame; of the 137 IWFS branches worldwide, ours has the longest title, taking up more space than any other on all embracing lists. Here we are in breach



of central guidelines because we have based our catchment area on two counties, one English and one Welsh.

The branch was founded twenty years ago by Ikka Boyd, previously a London Branch member, who had been in high level catering, later

publishing her own cookbook and planting a vineyard – so we were in good hands. Her original members were mainly young retirees, still our key target group. A good third of our current 28 members go back to those early years and are still involved.

Our events are varied from themed lunches hosted in members' homes which have always been popular and we have tried many cuisines including Scandinavian, Welsh, Caribbean, Russian, Thai, Tuscan and Moroccan; special commemorative menus are also a feature for St George's Day plus a Tribute to Elizabeth David, all with varying degrees of authenticity, spiced with enthusiasm; dining at Michelin starred restaurants at a fixed price; visiting local vineyards; heading to Ludlow races and of course wine tastings. More recently we went to "Clink" (HM Prison Cardiff), which provides good food & service, training prisoners in culinary skills to aid their rehabilitation.

A committee of nine plans a programme for the year ahead, generally within a fifty mile radius of Ross on Wye and individual members take responsibility for their

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Edinburgh, 22nd and 23rd September 2016 Festival and AGM Events

photo © David Tomlins



Royal Yacht Britannia gala dinner on 22nd September at £275 per head – savour the surroundings with a wonderful dinner and wines. On 23rd September, after the AGM (see Dates for Diary, right) you can join a **Malt Whisky** tasting in the Hunter Room of The Scotch Malt

Whisky Society, 28 Queen Street, or an **Italian Wine tasting** run by Valvona & Crolla at VinCaffe, 11 Multress Walk. Both tastings cost £30 per person and run concurrently. Following the tastings relax among members at the **AGM Luncheon** at 1.00 pm, a three course lunch with wines at VinCaffe, cost £55. To book please email [John Nicholas](mailto:John.Nicholas@iwfs.org.uk).

Baltic Cruise, 29th June – 3rd July 2017

Have you secured your place on this spectacular cruise yet? If not, you should visit our website to find out more about the amazing itinerary planned. Docking at some wonderful cities along the shores of the Baltic Sea with plans to collaborate with some of our branches en route. With branches in Tallinn, Helsinki and Moscow we would hope to organize events and benefit from their local knowledge. If you would like to find out more, please contact **Stephanie Shepherd**, who is organizing this trip. There are still a few cabins remaining.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ABRM IN LONDON

Thursday 14th July 2016

The 2016 Annual Branch Representatives Meeting is being held at the In and Out club, 4 St James's Square, London, SW1Y 4JU at 11.30 pm and will be followed by a light lunch. Please email [John Nicholas](mailto:John.Nicholas@iwfs.org.uk) to confirm your attendance.

EDINBURGH

20th – 23rd September 2016

This three-night festival has now sold out, but we do still have places available at a number of events for you to enjoy a two-day break. See Upcoming Events (left).

EAZ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, EDINBURGH

23rd September 2016

The first EAZ AGM will be held on 23rd September 2016 at 10.00 am at The Balmoral Hotel, Edinburgh. This 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](mailto:John.Nicholas@iwfs.org.uk) know if you wish to attend.

BALTIC CRUISE

29th June – 7th July 2017

Bookings are being taken for this magical cruise of the Baltic with wonderful food and wine experiences. See Upcoming Events (left) for more.

CHRISTMAS DINNER IN LONDON

2nd December

Thinking of visiting London for Christmas Shopping? London Branch will be inviting other IWFS members to join them for their Christmas Dinner this year. The Dinner will take place on 2nd December, full details will be in the next issue of Food & Wine. Spaces will be limited so you will need to get your booking in early.

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](mailto:Andrea.Warren@iwfs.org.uk).

LOOKING AHEAD...

We are still planning to run a trip to the historic state of Virginia combined with a tour of the wineries and tasting some of their truly exceptional wines along the way. Please register your interest by emailing [Stephanie Shepherd](mailto:Stephanie.Shepherd@iwfs.org.uk).

THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

28th May to 2nd June 2018



photo: wiki+spam@eindruckschinderdomain.de c-by-sa-2.5

Your Destination in 2018?

From the 28th May to 2nd June 2018 we will be welcoming IWFS members from all corners of the globe to London for the triennial International Festival.

The programme includes visits to iconic London landmarks and historic palaces. We will be featuring the best of British produce and of course the finest English Wines.

The Festival Committee are looking for volunteers to help deliver this event. We're going to need couriers, administrative assistance – both before and during the event itself – pourers for wine tastings and event managers. This is a great opportunity to be involved in one of The Society's flagship events and meet fellow members from around the world.

If you think you would be interested in being part of the team please email **Graham Lovelock** by 30th June 2016 with your contact details, an indication of the amount of time you'd be prepared to give and whether there is any limitation on what you would be prepared to do.

At this stage we are just seeking expressions of interest, not formal commitments, but we do need to know how much help members are prepared to give.

If we have to hire in help of this kind it will impact on the price of the event.

DECANTER ITALY FINE WINE ENCOUNTER 2016

Join Decanter to taste Italy's finest wines and meet top Italian producers. Access Grand Tasting rooms and sample hundreds of Italy's best wines at the The Landmark Hotel in London on 4th June. Purchase tickets online and enjoy 20% off* Grand Tastings by entering the promotion code: IT16IWFS20.

The Landmark Hotel,
London NW1
Saturday 4th June,
11am-5pm

**Discount offer valid for Grand Tasting tickets only.*



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assigned event. Then we have our secretary/treasurer, Peter McGahey, who handles communications and holds everything together. Like Wessex and Zurich Branches we have strong links



with another branch. For us it is neighbouring Bath and Bristol Branch, and we share our programmes and attending each others events. This has been a real help, especially with those events which do not receive full support from our own members, possibly because they are thought too pricey. The preference seems to be for mid-week, midday events. The proliferation of gastro-pubs where we usually operate an informal pay-as-you-go regime, has made this easy, combining a lively ambience with acceptable food at reasonable cost. We have a good time but seldom does the food scale the gastronomic heights!

We have not attended any EAZ events since the most enjoyable Norfolk trip in 2013. This is a shame. Something we should consider; as part of an International Society we ought occasionally to look beyond our home patch – but it is one which we enjoy.

Stephen Bennion and Jim Muir