



# EAZ Food & Wine Online

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE EUROPE AFRICA ZONE

Issue 10, April 2019



Valencia market

## OUR FESTIVALS – HEADING TO NEW ZEALAND



Last month EAZ members joined around 80 others in New Zealand to take part in the APZ festival centred around Auckland with visits to the wine regions of Hawkes Bay, Napier, Central Otago and Queenstown. During the festival weekend in Auckland members were also treated to some wonderful New Zealand wines with the highlights including two 2010 estate wines from Foxes Island – delicious examples of how these wines can age (when you can get your hands on them!); lunch at the Giraffe restaurant of TV chef Simon Gault who had a special goats cheese flown in from Napier that morning. Bob Campbell MW presented the André Simon lecture – giving a fascinating and entertaining insight into the history of the NZ wine trade. The closing dinner was held on Waiheke Island at Tantalus Estate whose beautiful location and powerful Bordeaux and Rhone-style reds made this a memorable event – thank you to Rowan Moss and the APZ team for their efforts.



## MARKETING AND PR INITIATIVES

Things are happening to help you promote the Society local to your branch and help recruit new members. Here are the latest initiatives from your committee. Leonie Allday has developed new brochures and pamphlets to hand out at functions or venues. The ExCo has funded their development and will absorb the cost of printing. News of how to obtain these will be sent to Branch contacts soon. The ExCo also sanctioned at its April meeting to fund small projects put forward by branches, particularly those aimed at recruiting new members, up to a cost of £250 for each project with simple target criteria. Larger scale more expensive projects will also be considered for funding by the ExCo. Such projects would need a detailed cost budget and clear analysis of the potential benefits to IWFS. It is also hoped that other branches will be able to benefit from the ExCo sponsored initiatives and successes and learnings will be communicated through Food & Wine.



## OUR AGM: 6th OCTOBER 2019

VALENCIA – this year our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is being hosted by our Valencia branch who have been busy putting together a festival for visiting members to coincide with the AGM. Although the festival is now fully subscribed, there is a waitlist. All members are entitled to attend the AGM even if they are not able to be part of the festival. The AGM itself will be held on the Sunday morning, 6th October. Members planning to attend the AGM, even though they cannot attend the festival should notify [John Nicholas](#) by email as soon as possible, but by no later than 11th September.



## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Our annual trip to see our family in Sydney enabled us to take part in the APZ Auckland Festival en route. On our first visit to New Zealand we looked forward to seeing this fabulous country, wineries, food and people and the Festival organised by the Auckland Branch did not disappoint on all three counts.



Starting in the North Island four days in Hawkes Bay/Napier, four days in Auckland, and four days in Central Otago/Queenstown, the last proved to be our favourite spot. It soon became clear that the wine industry is based on terroir and favourable

climate, with a maritime influence in many areas. Young, fresh wines abounded everywhere and it was almost impossible to buy wines of more than two or three years old, as the wineries totally sold out each year's production, and only kept back a few library wines for special tastings and reference. Although Sauvignon Blanc is still the highest volume wine produced many other varieties are now planted and winemakers are trying hard to match the changing tastes of customers. There is a buzz in the air as the many vines planted in the last 10-15 years mature, and already add distinct, enhanced character to the many wines produced. We will follow with great interest.

The sad events in Christchurch unfolded as we departed New Zealand, and our thoughts and best wishes were passed to the many local members and tremendously friendly people we had met.

Ian Nicol

## EXCO VACANCY

Would you like to help manage the Europe Africa Zone of IWFS? If so, there is a vacancy on the Executive Committee. The Committee meets four times each year. We are all volunteers and therefore an extra pair of hands and interest in helping the EAZ to run effectively for the benefit of our members would be very welcome. To find out more contact [Ian Nicol](#) or [John Nicholas](#) (or phone: +44 1993 880 532).



## WINDOW ON THE WEBSITE

NEW website now live!

The new Society website was launched on 1st April and can be found at the same web address as its predecessor [www.iwfs.org](http://www.iwfs.org). The new site has been improved visually and also works better on tablets and mobile phones but still offers many of the facilities of the previous site. Other improvements and amendments will be made over time. One of the advances is the Branches menu in the top left hand corner of the site has been replaced by a full page display that enables branches to be located on a map or an alphabetic list by name or geographic area – hopefully making it easier for you to be located by people looking to join the Society. Members can also access their branch pages with a single click, once they have logged in, and will also have direct access to their membership records. There are direct links from the site's home page to major international events when they open for bookings. We will be publishing a guide to help you find your way around the site in the next issue of Food & Wine (due out in June). In the meantime you can access this information from the "How to" tab on the Europe Africa menu: [www.iwfs.org/europe-africa/how-to](http://www.iwfs.org/europe-africa/how-to)

Alan Shepherd



## YOUR EXCO MEMBERS



Ian Nicol  
(Blackpool & Fylde Coast)  
Chairman



Michael Messent  
(Wessex)  
Vice Chair & Legal  
Advisor



David Chapman  
(Manchester)  
Secretary



John Nicholas  
(Zurich)  
Treasurer



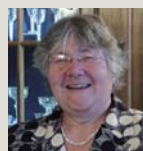
Mrs Margaret  
Chippendale  
(Manchester)  
Membership Registrar



Dr Tricia Fletcher  
(Manchester)  
Awards Officer



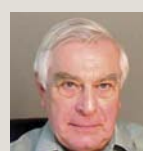
Hilton Kuck  
(Cape Town)  
African Branches  
Representative



Mrs Stephanie Shepherd  
(London)  
Events Co-ordinator



Mrs Leonie Allday  
(Bath & Bristol)  
Marketing representative



Peter McGahey  
(Herefordshire &  
Monmouthshire)  
Events support

## BRANCH FOCUS: LUSAKA

The Inaugural Dinner of the Lusaka Branch of the IWFS was held over 60 years ago in the then Northern Rhodesia at the Ridgeway Hotel on the 21st of January 1958.

Since then the Branch has seen the independence of Zambia in October 1964 and continued largely unchanged during the 1960s and early 1970s. However severe foreign exchange shortages in the 1970s and 1980s resulted in the Branch largely surviving on the goodwill of members from the diplomatic community to sponsor many of the functions with imported wines and food. Happily, with the opening up of the economy since the early 1990s a wide range of food products and good wines have become increasingly available, with many new hotels and restaurants opening.

In the past two years the membership of the Branch has become much more multi-cultural, and we have also attracted some younger members thanks to networking within the business community. Currently the Branch has over 70 members, and for legal reasons it has incorporated itself as a not for profit organisation affiliated to the IWFS.



We feature a mixture of home and restaurant based functions usually with a specific theme. The two most recent functions held were 'Zambian Cuisine with a Twist' (pictured above) featuring a sampler menu of local specialities presented to international standard, such as Guinea Fowl on Bruschetta and Krispy Kudu Roll. This was followed by a Seafood Festival (pictured left) with fresh fish and seafood flown in especially from South Africa. Our next function will be a Sixties night featuring a retro menu and music. Apart from good food and drink we like our members to have fun at our functions.

We are happy to welcome foreign visiting members to our functions, subject to availability, and our contact person is Branch Secretary, **Ken Cummins**.



## NEW EDITOR FOR MAGAZINE



We are pleased to welcome Sue Smith as our new Editor for the Food & Wine magazine. We hope you enjoyed her first publication of Food & Wine in February. Please do continue to submit your articles and branch news for our printed magazine to Sue on the Editor's email address: [editor.eaz@iwfs.org](mailto:editor.eaz@iwfs.org). The deadline for the next issue in June is 30th May.

## 85th ANNIVERSARY COMPETITION

And the winner is... Boston, USA. The many entrants put in a tremendous amount of effort to host a superb and memorable event. Unfortunately there could only be one winner and the attention to detail of the winning event was most impressive with their brief skit about the beginnings of the Society really standing out (available to view [here](#)). Council however would like to take this



opportunity to thank the EAZ branches who entered, for marking the 85th Anniversary with a special event and entering the competition – Helsinki, London, Manchester, Merseyside & Mid-Cheshire, Northern Branches (Blackpool & Fylde Coast, Manchester, Liverpool and West Yorkshire) and St James's.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Confrérie Saint-Etienne d'Alsace

Members are invited to join the Confrérie's ceremonial chapter event at The Vintners' Hall, London on Tuesday 26th November 2019 starting at 5.00 pm. This will include a formal commented wine tasting showing the key Alsace grapes, an induction ceremony, a Crémant d'Alsace reception and a 5-course Black Tie Banquet featuring Alsace wines. During the evening there will be opportunities to demonstrate your knowledge by identifying a mystery wine (and win a prize), and to join the Confrérie by taking a simple tasting test.



IWFS has been helping to make the arrangements for this event and we are very much hoping that some of our members will attend. The ticket price will be 190 euros (£170 as at 25th January). If you would like to attend please contact **Eric Fargeas** (copy to **David Ling**).

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### FINLAND Helsinki

27th April 2019

Dinner enjoying fresh white asparagus of the season. Contact [Jaana Keranen](#).

### UK Blackpool & Fylde Coast

29th April 2019

Venison meal prepared by our own members, 7:30 pm Aysgarth Court, Blackpool. Contact [David James](#).

### UK Bath & Bristol

15th May 2019

Black tie dinner at Lucknam Park, Bath. Contact [Tony Griffin](#) for further details.

### UK Devonshire

16th May 2019

Dinner at Rodean restaurant, Kenton. Contact [Geeta Lloyd](#) for more.

### UK Manchester

16th May 2019

Dinner at Adam Reid at the French, Midland Hotel, Manchester. For further details contact [Ali Graham](#).

### UK Merseyside & Mid-Cheshire

21st May 2019

Lunch at Cibo, Wilmslow. Contact [Tim Hodges](#) for more.

### FINLAND Helsinki

24th May 2019

We will enjoy an Argentinian BBQ. Contact [Jaana Keranen](#) for further details.

### UK Blackpool & Fylde Coast

3rd June 2019

Wine tasting led by Vanessa Bond (Tastinesswine), 7:30pm Aysgarth Court, Blackpool. Contact [David James](#).

### FRANCE Bordeaux

4th to 8th June 2019

Visits to chateaux in Pessac-Léognan, Pauillac, Margaux and St-Emilion are amongst those on the itinerary to this classic region. This event is now sold out. Click [here](#) to see the details and email [eam@iwfs.org](mailto:eam@iwfs.org) to be placed on the wait list.

### UK Manchester

9th June 2019

Lunch at The Lowry Hotel, Manchester. Contact [Ali Graham](#) for further details.

### PORTUGAL Douro River Cruise

9th to 16th June 2019

A wonderful cruise is planned by the Americas along the Douro and a pre-tour in Lisbon from 6th to 8th June. Sold out. Email [Stephanie Schmitz](#) to be added to the wait list.

### UK Bath & Bristol

12th June 2019

Lunch at the Chapel restaurant and visit to Hauser & Wirth Gallery and Gardens. Contact [Tony Griffin](#) for more.

### UK London

18th June 2019

A Tasting of Single Grape Variety Wines, 7pm at The Naval Club, London. The tasting will be led by Bernard Lamb. Contact [Bernard Lamb](#) to book your place.

### UK Merseyside & Mid-Cheshire

18th June 2019

Dinner at the Royal Oak Hotel, Kelsall. Contact [Tim Hodges](#) for further details.

### UK London

24th June 2019

Dinner at Pied à Terre, London from 6.45 pm. Join us at this popular Michelin Starred venue. Contact [Peter Diamond](#) to book your place.

### UK Blackpool & Fylde Coast

1st July 2019

Tasting of English Wines (from the IWFS London International Festival) at Aysgarth Court, Blackpool. Contact [Ron Barker](#) for further details.

### UK Manchester

21st July 2019

Join us for lunch at the 39 Steps, Styal, Cheshire. For details contact [Ali Graham](#).

### UK Blackpool & Fylde Coast

5th August 2019

Wine and Food Quiz, organised by Ian and Chris Nicol, 7:30 pm at Aysgarth Court, Blackpool. Contact [David James](#) for further details.

### UK Blackpool & Fylde Coast

2nd September 2019

Matching wines with Ham dishes, 7:30 pm, Aysgarth Court, Blackpool. Contact [Ron Barker](#) for further details.

### UK Manchester

6th September 2019

A Chinese focus with dinner at Gonbay, Altrincham. For details contact [Ali Graham](#).

### SPAIN, Valencia

4th to 7th October 2019

Venture to Valencia for the EAZ Great Weekend, AGM and Members' Forum. All members are invited to experience the cultural and culinary delights of this coastal city port. Now full but click [here](#), or email [eam@iwfs.org](mailto:eam@iwfs.org), for more details and to be added to the waitlist.

### AMERICA Charleston

16th to 19th October 2019

Join the Americas for a tour of this wonderful South Carolina city. The best Southern cuisine will be perfectly paired with world-class wines. Click [here](#) to find out more.

### UK Manchester

20th October 2019

Dinner at TAST, Manchester, a restaurant giving a taste of the Catalan kitchen. For details contact [Ali Graham](#).

### Looking further ahead...

### FRANCE Bordeaux

April 2020

The Americas are also planning a trip to Bordeaux in April 2020. More details to follow shortly.



### PORTUGAL Madeira

2nd to 8th November 2020

Visit this historic winemaking island and you will have the chance to taste Sercial, Verdelho, Bual and Malmsey on home ground. More details as they become available.

### HONG KONG

10th to 13th November 2020

The Asia Pacific Zone is planning a wonderful festival in Hong Kong open to all members. There will be a Macau pre-tour from 8th and 9th November and a Gourmet HK post-tour from 15th to 16th November. Stay tuned for further details.

### ARGENTINA, Triennial International Festival

November 2021

Although still in the planning stage, mark this month in your calendar for a true South American experience enjoying the culture and energy of Buenos Aires for a pre-tour and then visiting the wonderful wine region of Mendoza for the main festival.

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