



# EAZ Food & Wine Online

NEWS UPDATE FROM THE EUROPE AFRICA ZONE

Issue 15, June 2021



2021 AGM Weekend in Cambridge, 16th to 19th September 2021. Last few places available, [click here](#) for details.

## BRANCHES GET CREATIVE

As the Coronavirus pandemic continues to affect our everyday lives we are pleased to report the many and various event formats being organised by our branches from London to Lusaka and Blackpool & Flyde to Bath & Bristol. Branches are looking to offer 'something different' whether it be the theme or the format. Please read on to find out about their news...

## WINES DECANTED AND DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR

In April members, and guests, of the Blackpool & Fylde Coast Branch took delivery of a selection of Australian wines chosen by their Chairman Ron Barker. The branch purchased the wines, decanted them into specially purchased 250ml bottles and then branch officers took charge of delivery to the attendees. Later that day members were able to join virtually via Zoom... The wines represented a mixture of wines available from merchants and supermarkets. Tasmanian Riesling divided the Riesling lovers and haters with Shelley's Block Marsanne, Viognier and Roussanne being the favourite white. Of the reds; members favoured the Berton Vineyard Shiraz from Barossa Valley. The Chadwick family of Rigby's Farmhouse restaurant even devised a delicious menu to accompany the wines.



In May they will be arranging another home delivery of Spanish wines and regulations permitting; hope to hold a garden tasting of Sicilian wines in June.

## LOCKDOWN WITH CHOCOLATE

The London branch are continuing with their Zoom events, where distance is no object, including welcoming members from other branches. One of their latest tastings turned to chocolate and focussed on a Chocolate Tasting at Home. The event was led by Chantal Coady OBE, internationally renowned chocolate expert, who invited members to compare top quality chocolates, which had been sent 'blind' to the attendees, against various recommended bottles of alcohol that they got for themselves. Recently their more traditional wine tastings have featured 'Sangiovese from Tuscany' and 'An Italian Trio', of Gavi, Valpolicella Ripasso and Nero d'Avola. They have also held a Wine Appreciation course by Zoom, based on the WSET level 2 material. Members are kept in touch regularly of what is happening via email and a blog.



## EXPERT ZOOMING INTO LUSAKA



The first Lusaka branch event for 2021 was held in May having been curtailed by Covid-19 and also the rainy season which hinders the ability for alfresco events. Mark and Ana Lüring hosted a German Wine tasting of 13 different wines from the Pfalz, Rhein-Hessen, Nahe, Rheingau, Baden/Kaiser-Stuhl and Ober-Baden/Franken wine regions of

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## CHAIR'S MESSAGE



It is heartening that many branches have held successful virtual events since the beginning of lockdown early in 2020. Many of us have become familiar with Zoom technology to meet with friends and family, but also as illustrated by the report from the Lusaka branch for educational purposes. In the North of England, five branches 'met' on Zoom for a multi-branch fine dining experience with five wines decanted into smaller bottles – more of this in the next issue of Food & Wine.

Some branches are already able to meet face-to-face and others are hoping that this will be possible during the next few months as vaccination programmes successfully suppress the number of cases. In the UK, the recent upsurge of Covid cases driven by the Indian variant may cause further delays in 're-opening'. Please send articles to the editor of Food & Wine – [editor.eaz@iwfs.org](mailto:editor.eaz@iwfs.org), about virtual and/or face-to-face events. In particular, we would like to hear about events where more than one branch is to be or was involved.

The Executive Committee and a number of branches are discussing various opportunities for the future development of IWFS in Europe Africa – we would love to hear from any member or branch (perhaps a subject for discussion at branch AGMs?) who has ideas that can be shared with other branches or be driven by Exco. With best wishes to you all, stay safe and keep well.

*John Nicholas*  
Chair, IWFS Europe Africa

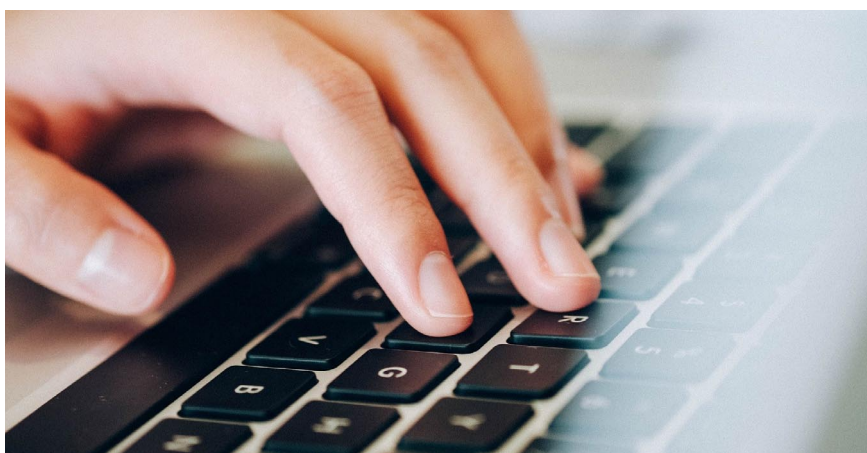


## WINDOW ON THE WEBSITE

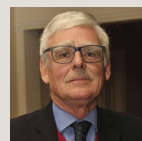
Work is about to start on the 2021 programme of enhancements to the international website. Most of these are concerned with making the online booking system more widely applicable. Suggestions from members are always welcome.

A number of members have commented on the lack of exciting content on the website, but this is not a technical matter – we would be only too happy to add more inspirational material if you, the members, would come up with some. You may not all be aware that the facility is there for each branch to have its own mini website, entirely under its own control. Very little use has been made of this facility, particularly by the branches that have been most critical. With the prospect of physical events starting again soon, now is an ideal opportunity to start producing some amazing content. I would be happy to provide technical assistance if it is needed.

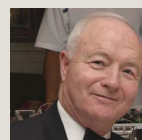
*Alan Shepherd*  
Eaz Website Co-ordinator



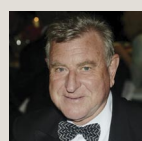
## YOUR EXCO MEMBERS



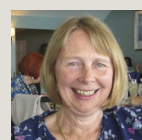
John Nicholas  
(Zurich)  
Chair



David Chapman  
(Manchester)  
Secretary



Ian Nicol  
(Blackpool & Fylde Coast)  
Webmaster



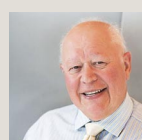
Mrs Leonie Allday  
(Bath & Bristol)  
Marketing



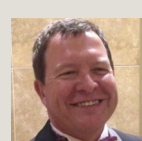
Dr Tricia Fletcher  
(Manchester)  
Awards Officer



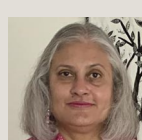
Stephen Graham  
(Manchester and  
St James's)  
Treasurer



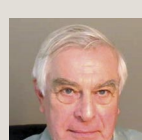
Tim Hodges  
(Merseyside &  
Mid-Cheshire)  
Marketing



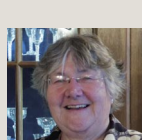
Hilton Kuck  
(Cape Town)  
African Branches  
Representative



Mrs Geeta Lloyd  
(Devonshire)  
Membership Secretary



Peter McGahey  
(Herefordshire &  
Monmouthshire)  
Editor – Food & Wine



Mrs Stephanie Shepherd  
(London)  
Events Co-ordinator



## UPCOMING ONLINE EVENTS – OPENING THE DOOR TO ALL EAZ MEMBERS

With the arrival of Zoom, distance is now not a barrier to joining events being run by other branches. With this in mind the following branches would like to open their doors to members outside their branch.

### BATH & BRISTOL (UK)

On 11th June 2021 at 6.30 pm via Zoom

#### Tasting of supermarket Rosés

With supermarket shelves laden with these wines we thought it was about time to put some to the taste test and see which are worth popping into your trolley.



There are four rosé wines to taste – one from SE Australia, a chiaretto from the Veneto, and two from France, a Bordeaux and a Sancerre. All are available from either Sainsbury's or Lidl and prices range from £5.10 to £11.00. On this occasion we have

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Germany. This was made particularly special, and helped members gain a greater appreciation and understanding of the wines as they were joined via Zoom by Dr Stefan Regner (pictured below) together with his own family and friends live from Mainz, Germany. His knowledge and appreciation of each wine gave them a true understanding of the wine makers, their vineyards and history of each wine and why each had its own unique quality.

Members scored each wine for appearance, aroma, body, taste and finish, at the end of the event after tallying the totals the agreed winner of the tasting was Prinz Rheingau 2018 Schönhell

Riesling Trocken VDP, Grosses Gewächs (GG).

An array of traditional and delicious German 'comfort' foods, prepared by the hosts, was the perfect accompaniment to the wines with the event being enhanced with an Acrobatic-Gymnastics and Dance repertoire by Mark and Ana's 11-year-old daughter Katharina.



deliberately avoided the fashionable Provençal rosés which, if good, are often very expensive.

All EAZ members are welcome to join. Please contact **Leonie Allday** for the list of wines to buy in advance. The details to join the Zoom meeting are:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2842119505?pwd=UXJFeEpZRkdhRThuMmhPcDJHOVJtZz09>

Meeting ID: 284 211 9505 Passcode: qk1vBB

We look forward to welcoming members near and far.

### Regional (UK)

Tuesday 22nd June at 6.00 pm

#### Learn to Make Traditional Italian Pasta – without a pasta machine

UK based members are invited to join Emilia Strazzanti for a Pasta Masterclass to learn to master the art of pasta making using southern Italian classic techniques. The cost is £56 which includes all the ingredients needed, delivered to your home. Bookings to be made by 12th June. For full details [click here](#).



### LONDON (UK)

On Thursday 1st July 2021 via Zoom at 5.00 pm  
**Cabernet Sauvignon Blends from the New World**

All members, and guests are invited to join us at this Zoom tasting of three Cabernet Sauvignon blends from the New World, to share tasting experiences – as much or as little as you want to contribute – and perhaps learn a little about the wines, wineries and where they are made.

- Vasse Felix Filius Cabernet Merlot 2018, Margaret River, Australia £12.99
- Ste. Michelle Cabernet Sauvignon 2016, Columbia Valley, Washington, USA £14.99
- Stag's Leap 'Hands of Time' Red Blend 2017, Napa Valley, USA £25.99

The wines should be available from the current Majestic list, but if not you are also invited to taste and/or tell us about another Cabernet Sauvignon blend from the Margaret River, Washington or the Napa Valley. It's all informal we look forward to welcoming you.

You can register on the website and book online, or [email](#). For full details [click here](#).