



News

WSWS

West Surrey Wine Society
<http://westsurreywinesociety.org.uk/>

Next meeting: Monday 15th October
7:30pm for 8:00pm

October 2007

English wines for every season (& every pocket)

Our speaker in October is Roger Marchbank, Chairman of The UK Vineyards Association (UKVA). As well as being the Owner and winemaker of Setley Ridge Vineyard in Brockenhurst, he is also the wine maker for other growers / vineyards including Lord Montagu's Beaulieu Vineyard. For the latest news on English wine see www.englishwineproducers.com. Wines for your delectation are:

1) Somborne Valley - Brut 2003

From the new vineyard at Hoplands Farm in Kings Somborne, the wine is made at Stanlake Estate in Berkshire until the new winery is set up at Hoplands. A Blanc de Blancs - in fact from Chardonnay only – this is one of the new wave of great sparkling wines now arriving from vineyards across the South. www.sombornevalley.com

2) Ridgeview Bloomsbury 2001

From the Roberts Family at Ditchling near Brighton this is made from the classic varieties by the 'Merrett' method. It is one of the top sparkling wines that wins awards in International Competitions and Champagne comparison tastings. Available in Waitrose.

3) Coach House Vineyard – Rosé 2006

A "first" Rosé by this well known winemaker – based on the usual Bacchus and Reichensteiner from the vineyard (opposite the Red Rover on the A36) with the addition of 50 kilos of Pinot Noir from Bishops Waltham. The huge crop last summer was lacking in style due to last minute rain so the idea for a really dry rosé for drinking with food came to mind.

4) Northbrook Springs Oak Barrel Matured 1996

A 10 year old dry white wine made at Wickham Vineyard for the owner of the vineyard in Bishops Waltham under the watchful eye of an Australian "flying winemaker". From very acidic youth the wine has matured into a wonderful aged, but still fresh, classic.

5) Wickham Vineyard Medium 2006

Made from Reichensteiner and Auxerrois grapes - Wickham always blends for consistency and style.

6) Denbies Ortega 2004

The Ortega grape variety, bred in Germany is early ripening giving powerful flavours in good years enhanced by oak from barrel fermentation. This Bronze medal winning example is from England's largest wine estate just north of Dorking.

7) Setley Ridge Vineyard - Oaked Red 2005

Made in the winery at Brockenhurst. from Triomphe grapes bought from Bishops Waltham Vineyard and Rondo from Somborne Valley, "this is our best yet" said the winemaker. Only 12% alcohol but rich fruit flavours with firm tannins from the oak barrels and some residual acidity – this wine is designed for drinking with food.

8) Somborne Valley Pinot Noir 2003

One of the new wave of Burgundy style red wines that we can now produce in England by carefully selecting the site and the best 'clones' of the grape variety

CHARITY EVENT

Rotary Club of Farnham Weyside International Wine Tasting Evening

Wednesday 28th Nov 2007 at Crondall Village
Hall, 7.30 pm prompt

The cost is £15 per person including buffet supper, and of course, the tasting itself (how could we forget that!).

A selection of wines, their presentation, and the food are all being supplied by Waitrose Farnham.

Proceeds of the evening are in aid of Sarah's Fund, Uganda - about which you can read more at www.amerysabroad.blogspot.com

Tickets £15 can be obtained from Brian Lowe (01252 794702, brianglowe@aol.com) or Frank Golding (01252 721320, fgolding@tiscali.co.uk).

From the new Editors – Kim & David Finch

Well, after some 14 years of membership (18 for Kim), the Chairman (no less) finally managed to get us to do something positive - hence our commitment to edit **YOUR** newsletter. Well it was either this or pour wine, and Hazel knows how good we are at that! (Did the red wine stain come out?)

We want to keep **your** favourite items, and also do some things a little differently – hence the ad for wine related charitable events. And we want **YOU** to contribute – so send items to us either by snail mail or by “e” to our cyber home (david-finch@ntlworld.com).



Remember – it's **YOUR** newsletter – it relies on your contributions for its' continued success.

**Make a note of the following dates, (3rd Monday of the month unless stated)
mystery pre-meeting wine at 7:30 onward; meeting commences at 8pm**

15th October 2007	English wines presented by Roger Marchbank Chairman, UK Vinyards Association
19th November 2007	Spanish wines presented by Andrew Connor A&A Wines
17th December 2007	Christmas party at Blacknest Golf club – oodles of fun with wine, food, raffles, and great company
21st January 2008	Syrah / Shiraz from around the world, Richard Staines C.G. Bull & Taylor
18th February 2008	Caves de Pyrenne
17th March 2008	Neil Sommerfelt, Laytons – always an enjoyable evening so not to be missed

Who's who in the Committee ?

A good question which deserves a good answer

Peter Godwin	Our leader
David Rathmell	The money man
Sallie Payne	Membership Secretary
Geoffrey Matthews	Secretary & all things snail-mail
Peter Smith	Events co-ordinator
David & Kim Finch	Editors in training

Additional help:

Graham Parlett	The web master (tekkie)
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