



Newsletter

West Surrey Wine Society



WSWS
Established 1988

Our next event is held on:

**20th February 2017 at
7.30pm for 8.00pm at
the Farnham
Conservative Club**

February 2017 edition

February Meeting – Monday 20th - 'Wines of Southern Italy', presented by Trudy Welch

Owing to the indisposition of the scheduled speaker, Stephen Hart of Majestic Wines, we will now have a presentation on the wines of Southern Italy by Trudy Welch which will focus on the Puglia region.

This month we journey to Puglia and Campania in Southern Italy. The quality of wines there has risen tremendously in recent years and the region is well known for its warm, fruity reds, flavoursome whites and rich dessert wines, many based on local indigenous varieties. We will be tasting a selection of all of these with the help of Trudy Welsh and we are looking forward to a really enjoyable evening.

Trudy is a member of the Association of Wine Educators and runs the Surbiton Wine Club. She has had a life-long interest in wine, sparked by a lot of time spent in the Perigeoux, Bordeaux and Bergerac regions of France as a teenager and later by a boy friend from Spain who worked for Gonzalez Byass and introduced her to the wonders of sherry. She then worked for Saccone and Speed in London, cutting her teeth selling Black Tower in the East End before graduating to 'posher' clients including the Savoy Hotel (but we doubt they bought much Black Tower!) and then for Surrey County Council running their Wine Studies courses. She now runs her own business providing events for wine clubs and corporates.

To facilitate arrangements with the Conservative Club, and ensure we have enough 'Welcome Wines', it will help if you let Tim & Jacky Thackeray know, without commitment, if you are likely to attend or not.

Jacky's email: jacky.thackeray@falconfarnham.co.uk
Tim's email: tim.thackeray@falconfarnham.co.uk

Pourers

Although the Society now has a core of volunteer 'Pourers' it is important that we increase the numbers so that no one has to pour so often that they become disillusioned and opt out. Please let any member of the committee know if you are prepared to join the 'Pourers'.

Who's who in the Committee?

Chairman	Gerald Hackemer 01252 793684 gerald_hackemer@compuserve.com	Events co-ordinator	Peter Smith petervillagestore@gmail.com
Vice Chairman	Brian Arthur 01252 726593 briansheilarthur@aol.com		Tim Thackeray 01252 710071 tim.thackeray@falconfarnham.co.uk
Secretary	Geoffrey Matthews 01252 797195 gmatthews91@icloud.com		Graham Cook 01252 716298 monicagrahamcook@btinternet.com
Membership Secretary	Jacky Thackeray 01252 710071 jacky.thackeray@falconfarnham.co.uk		Frances Hackemer 01252 793684 frances.hackemer@gmail.com
Treasurer	David Rathmell 01252 794817 dw.rathmell@btinternet.com		Bill Loach 01252 712593 wgaloach@aol.com

<p style="text-align: center;">Diary Notes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Make a note of the following dates, (WSWS meets on 3rd Monday of the month unless stated otherwise)</p>		
Monday, 20 th February	'Wines of Southern Italy'	Trudy Welch, Associate of Wine Educators
Monday, 20 th March	'Wines of Croatia'	Dennis Sunjic, Liberty Wines
Monday, 10 th April	'Wines of New Zealand : The Family of Twelve'	Deborah Zbinden DipWSET & Certified Wine Educator

March Meeting – Monday 20th - 'Croatia – New, Old World' presented by Dennis Sunjic, of Liberty Wines.

Croatian wines have attracted a lot of interest over the last few years and we are fortunate to have Dennis Sunjic as our presenter for March. Dennis was born in Croatia and has worked in the UK for many years. He will tell us about the very complex history of Croatia and link it to the development of the wine industry, the complex 'terroir' and why every single style of wine can be produced in such a small country (indigenous varieties, crisp whites, powerful reds, sparkling, Port-like fortified, Ice Wine etc.). He will describe the different regions and has selected wines from these illustrate their different characteristics.

Dennis has a wealth of experience in the wine trade, bar tender, sommelier and wine buyer, before moving to Coe Vintners and is now a sales manager for Liberty Wines in London. He has a WSET Diploma Level 3 and has been presenting masterclasses in Croatian wines in the UK and Ireland for 10 years including the London Wine Fair.

Society's official photographer sought

Mick Linsell, our new Web Master, is working hard to develop our new website in conjunction with Squarezone of Farnborough. One of the things we have pinpointed is the need to have a decent 'Gallery' as part of the new website. The highlight of our current website are photos from the 2014 Summer Party! Would anyone care to volunteer as the Society's official photographer?

News of Members

Having enjoyed their two guest visits Peter and Wendy Langridge, John Card and Tom Merry became members in January. A very warm welcome to them.

At the January meeting we also welcomed Hillary Carter and his sister Veronica Holdford on their first guest visit. We look forward to seeing them again this month.

Charity Donations

At the September committee meeting it was agreed that the Society would donate £5 to local charities for each attendee at the Christmas meeting. The charities chosen, who have each received £81, were:

'The Furniture Helpline', suggested by Peter Smith
'Bell's Piece, Cheshire Home', suggested by David Rathmell

January Meeting

Tony Hill, of Bordeaux & Beyond, began with two different styles of Bordeaux white wines. He then examined the two main red grapes of Bordeaux -- merlot for the right bank and cabernet sauvignon for the left bank.

Based on Members votes John Helmsley produced a WSWs own 'Bordeaux' blend and members compare this to the winemakers own blend. Although the two blends were very similar Members preferred the commercial version!

There was then a 'Champagne Break' to refresh the taste buds before finishing with a final 'left bank' versus 'right bank' wine comparison.



The Chairman and the Speaker seem to have had a good evening!

