



# Newsletter

West Surrey Wine Society



WSWS  
Established 1988

Our next event is held on:

10<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at  
7.30pm for 8.00pm at  
the Farnham  
Conservative Club

April 2017 edition

## April Meeting – Monday 10<sup>th</sup>

'Wines of New Zealand: The Family of Twelve' presented by Deborah Zbinden, of Wine Confidence.

Please note that due to Easter the April meeting has been brought forward to the second Monday of the month.

In April we return to the 'Land of the Long White Cloud' when Deborah will present six red wines and six white wines, made with a diverse mix of grape varieties, covering every major New Zealand wine region. The wines are made by world-class wineries, definitive for those varieties, and known as 'The Family of Twelve'. 'The Family of Twelve' was founded in 2005 as a fraternity of twelve of New Zealand's most prestigious artisanal wineries, including such names as Felton Road, Ata Rangi, Neudorf, Pegasus Bay and Villa Maria. Contrasting personalities, different wine regions and styles make up the 'family' and they celebrate these differences. This is a rare opportunity to taste right across the range of wines from one of the world's top quality producers - truly 'a country wide horizontal tasting'.

Deborah Zbinden, DipWSET, is the founder of Wine Confidence, a new wine school based in Epsom, and has over 15 years' experience in the wine industry, including Marketing Manager of Accolade Wines. Her aim for Wine Confidence is "to help wine drinkers of all levels of knowledge and interest squeeze more enjoyment out of every drop".

Deborah is also the daughter-in-law of Society members Freddy and Lydia Zbinden.

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](mailto:jacky.thackeray@falconfarnham.co.uk)

Tim's email: [tim.thackeray@falconfarnham.co.uk](mailto:tim.thackeray@falconfarnham.co.uk)

## Who's who in the Committee?

Chairman	Gerald Hackemer 01252 793684 gerald_hackemer@compuserve.com	Events co-ordinator	Peter Smith petervillagestore@gmail.com
Secretary	Geoffrey Matthews 01252 797195 gmatthews91@icloud.com		Tim Thackeray 01252 710071 tim.thackeray@falconfarnham.co.uk
Membership Secretary	Jacky Thackeray 01252 710071 jacky.thackeray@falconfarnham.co.uk		Graham Cook 01252 716298 monicagrahamcook@btinternet.com
Treasurer	David Rathmell 01252 794817 dw.rathmell@btinternet.com		Frances Hackemer 01252 793684 frances.hackemer@gmail.com
Web Master	Mark Linsell 01252 723589 micklinsell@hotmail.com		Bill Loach 01252 712593 wgaloach@aol.com

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Diary Notes		
Make a note of the following dates, (WSWS meets on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month unless stated otherwise )		
Monday, 10 <sup>th</sup> April - Note this is the second Monday in the month.	'Wines of New Zealand : The Family of Twelve'	Deborah Zbinden DipWSET & Certified Wine Educator
Monday, 15 <sup>th</sup> May	'Hidden treasures from lesser known regions of France'	Tim North of Joie de Vin
Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> June	AGM plus presentation TBA	
Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Social event	
Monday, 21 <sup>st</sup> August	Details to follow	Robert Bouflower from Tanners (the return of a very popular speaker)
Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup> September	'Fine Wines: Are They Worth the Price?'	Nicola Arcedeckne-Butler MW of the Private Cellar.
Monday, 16 <sup>th</sup> October	'A new look at Chile'	Richard Bost of Amethyst Wines

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## 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'.

## May Meeting – Monday 15th

Joie de Vin is based in Winchester and is run by Tim and his wife. Their wines are all sourced from the artisan wine producers they have discovered during their travels in France. They work with growers who they know personally, who work the land themselves, grow their own grapes and make only 2,000 - 3,000 bottles a year and are passionate about making great wine. Few of the wines are available elsewhere in the UK so these will be wines you almost certainly will not have tried before. A great opportunity to taste the wines of 'real' France rather than the big names and corporates.

Tim worked for France's largest exporter of wine for 18 years, establishing it in the UK, and spent a lot of time getting to know the different French regions and their wines.

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## March Meeting

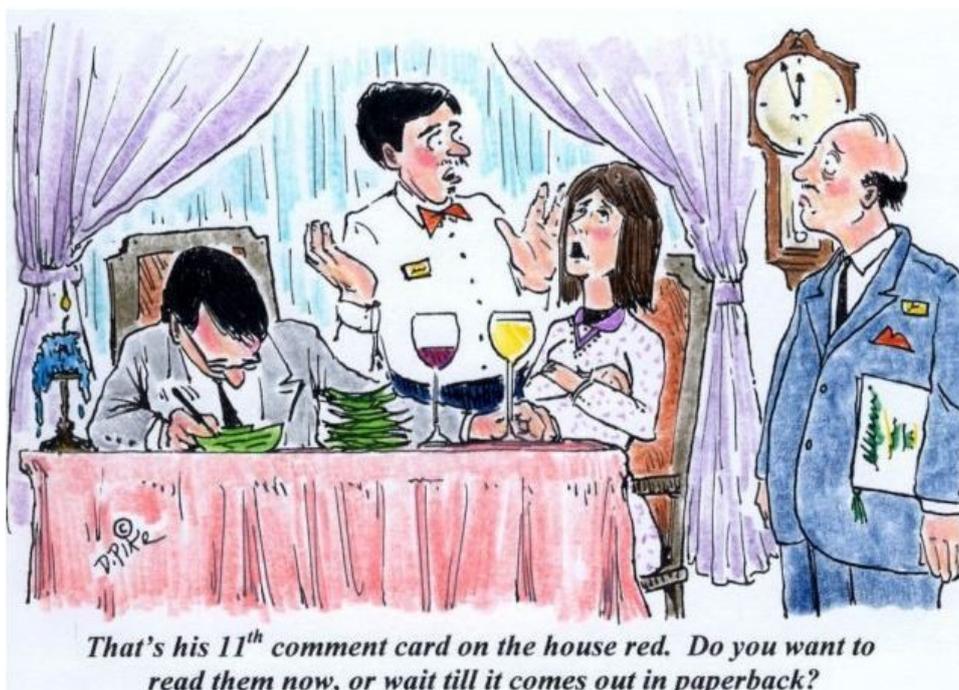
Dennis Drazen Sunjic, Sales Manager of Liberty Wines, presented an enjoyable tasting entitled 'Croatia-New Old World'. He had a good story to tell, starting with a brief history of a very small country but with a very complex 'terroir' and correspondingly wide range of vines and wines. Dennis demonstrated four white and four red wines illustrating the range of wines produced from 'native' vines and classic imported vines. All the wines were eminently drinkable and mainly appeared good value.

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## New Web Site

At the March meeting Mick Linsell, the Society's new Web Master, briefly described the progress made so far with the web site and invited members to visit it and send him any comments they may have. The site can be accessed by entering [6.club-sites.co.uk](http://6.club-sites.co.uk) into your browser.

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## News of members

Mick Linsell, our new 'Web Master' has been co-opted to the committee.

At the March meeting we welcomed Nick and Marsha Hadley and Hillary Carter's wife Patricia on their first guest visits. A very warm welcome to them all. Also at the March meeting Max Hubbard received two bottles of thank you wine for introducing Claire Smith and William Cowpe.

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## Committee Members

The AGM is coming up in June and with the current Chairman having completed his 3 year term the search is on to find a successor. Anyone who has an interest in taking the Society forward over the next 3 years is invited to have an informal chat with the present Chairman. Contact details under [Who's Who on the Committee](#).

Any members of the Society who are interested in serving on the committee, in any capacity, and are prepared to stand for election in June are also invited to talk to the Chairman for information about what is involved. We have two volunteers so far!