

## Newsletter January 2024

Dear Members,

Happy New Year and I hope you have all enjoyed the festive season.

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS/DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### DATES IN 2024

**! January 15th (note this is the 3rd Monday, not the usual 2nd)  
Wines from Portugal and Port with chocolate. --Great Barton Village Hall 7.30 pm.**

#### **Presented by Vikki Mills and Wynn Rees**

Our first tasting of this year features four delicious wines from Portugal and four ports matched with different hand-made artisan chocolate produced here in Bury St Edmunds. Portugal's reputation for producing high quality and good value wines is ever-increasing, and we will taste an interesting mix of examples. We will taste four excellent ports, a white, a rosé, a 10-year-old tawny and a ruby (LBV) accompanied by a variety of chocolates. If you have never matched port with chocolate before this is a grand opportunity to give it a try and test your palate.

This should be an interesting and different tasting to warm us up for the new year.

**Please remember that the deadline for this tasting is Monday 8 January** as Wynn has to purchase the chocolate.

Please book your place by paying online or by cheque **Cost £12 per person, Code PC.**

**! February 12<sup>th</sup> Island Wines - Great Barton Village Hall 7.30 pm**

For this tasting we welcome back as presenter Martin Higginson, qualified wine educator, writer, and member of the club. Many of you will remember his excellent tasting of "Wines from Rioja" last January. This time he will present 8 wines from around the world all produced on islands. This promises to be a fascinating, varied, and perhaps surprising tasting based on its theme which takes us to some interesting places which we may not have associated with wine production.

Please book your place by paying online or by cheque **Cost £11 per person, Code IW.**

**! March 11<sup>th</sup> Preet Sahota - Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Great Barton Village Hall 7.30pm**

We look forward to the return of Preet Sahota in March, with a selection of wines from South Africa, New Zealand and Australia. His theme is yet to be announced, but judging by his very popular tasting last year I think that we can be confident that Preet will present an excellent range with his characteristic enthusiasm.

Please book your place by paying online or by cheque **Cost £11 per person, Code PS.**

**! April 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner at the college (please note this is a Wednesday)- details to follow.**

**! May 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Bradley Dorrington, the owner of The Wine Cellar in Bury St Edmund, will present 8 wines based around a theme reflecting his life in the wine and hospitality industry. Expect a great choice of wines along with some real insight into the ups and downs of his trade, and the choices he has to make.

Cost and code will be announced in a future newsletter.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL-a gentle reminder! Form and financial instructions attached for ease of reference**

At the AGM, the following increase in fees was agreed:

- ! Annual Subscription £30.00 per couple, £15.00 single.
- ! Tastings £11.00 per head but this may vary according to predicted cost as in the case of the January tasting.

Membership renewal forms are attached.

You may pay in one of two ways.

1. by BACS using the reference code MR.
2. by cheque

Those of you paying by BACS may email the completed form to me [sue.leake@btinternet.com](mailto:sue.leake@btinternet.com)

If you are paying by cheque, please send with the completed form to Hazel at the address below.

Hazel Denton  
3, Abbeyfields  
Haughley  
IP14 3TA

Membership cards for the year 2024 will be issued after receipt of your renewal form. If you are attending our event in January, you may collect your membership card then. However, if you are unable to attend this event, please send a self-addressed envelope to Hazel and she will then issue your new membership card.

**PLEASE NOTE YOUR 2023 CARD WILL EXPIRE ON JANUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2024.**

## **REFUNDS**

On occasions, members have to cancel their attendance at events at the last minute due to unforeseen circumstances. The committee, therefore, decided that it would be important to clarify the situation with regard to refunds.

1. For tastings at Great Barton, refunds will usually be given.
2. For events at external venues, refunds will be made only where it is possible to fill your place as we will have already made a financial commitment to the provider.

## **PHOTOGRAPHS**

As a part of the updating of the website, we would like to use photographs of events. Should you wish NOT to have your photograph published, please would you kindly let Claire know. [clairerose1953@gmail.com](mailto:clairerose1953@gmail.com)

**DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS' BENEFITS-please ensure you have your membership card with you at the time.**

**The Three Kings Fornham St Martin**, Hengrave Rd, Fornham All Saints, Bury St Edmunds IP28 6LA. Tel. 01284 658866

10% discount off the final bill (food and drink) subject to availability and the following terms and conditions: Offer agreed by Chris Lee (Owner)

- *A booking must be made in advance, mentioning your membership number of the WSFWS*
- *At least two courses of food from the restaurant's main or classics menu must be ordered*
- *Not available on special days such as Mother's Day, Valentine's Day, Easter Sunday etc. Please check availability if in doubt.*
- *There may occasionally be other special offers/events available to members (information will be in the monthly newsletter)*
- *The offer will apply to all members in a group as long as one diner is a WSFWS member*

**Adnams, Bury St Edmunds**-10% off any purchase. Offer agreed by Tom Crittenden (Manager)

**The Wine Cellar, Bury St Edmunds**-10% off any purchase . Offer agreed by Bradley Dorrington (Owner)

**The Angel Hotel, Bury St Edmunds**-20% off any bottle of wine when purchased with at least two courses from the à la carte menu. Offer agreed by Ines Pastoriza (Front of House Manager)

**Please support our partner businesses and take advantage of the discounts but report any difficulty you have redeeming the discounts.**

We look forward to seeing you at forthcoming events.

Kind regards

Sue

Sue Leake Secretary, WSFWS