



West Suffolk Fine Wine Society

Newsletter February 2025

Dear Members,

Membership renewal

This is my last reminder about renewal so a not so gentle reminder! If you have not renewed by the end of February, I will be removing you from our database.

At the AGM, the following renewal fees were agreed:

- Joining fee remains the same- £15.00/head to include tasting glasses
- Annual membership fee to increase to £16.00 individual, £32.00 for a couple
- Tastings to increase to £12.00

Please complete one of the following.

1. Forms completed electronically are to be emailed to sue.leake@btinternet.com

Payment by BACS- reference code MR

2. Send a signed copy of this form with your cheque payable to WSFWS, for £32.00 or £16.00, as appropriate to: Mrs Hazel Denton, 3 Abbeyfields, Haughley, Suffolk, IP14 3TA

New membership cards for 2025 will be issued at the next and subsequent tastings. If you make a payment before receiving your new cards, please just use your 2024 number(s). If you would like to receive your card by post, please contact Hazel.

Forthcoming Events

- **Monday 17 February - Charles Eaton**

Great Barton Village Hall 7.30 pm (please note 3rd Monday)

We are delighted to start our 2025 programme with a return visit of Charles Eaton, owner of Nethergate Wines, a local independent company. Charles has presented wines to the club several times - and he was the very first presenter after we returned to activities following lockdown during the COVID pandemic - but we have not seen him in the several years since.

Charles' will be introducing 8 wines with a theme of "Spring round the corner". A real tonic for us all after the grey days of January, along with a chance to buy at discounted prices.

The price for the tasting is £12 and the code is CE. **Monies by Monday 10th February please.**

- **Monday 10 March - The Antipodean Sommelier.**

Great Barton Village Hall 7.30 pm

Tony Wellings may be known to many of you as he has previously been a presenter. But you may be more familiar with his brand if you attend the Suffolk Show as he has a stall there frequented by our esteemed Chairman. Unsurprisingly, the evening will have an antipodean flavour.

The price of this tasting is £12, and the code is AS. **Monies by 28th February**

- **April** - we hope to hold our Annual Dinner in April again. Information, price and code to be issued when we can confirm this event

- **Monday 12 May - Preet Sahota (Edgmond Wines)**

Great Barton Village Hall 7.30 pm

Preet has become a firm favourite with many of you and his lively presentations are always enlightening. With a new theme of Wines from Single Vineyards he has put together an interesting tasting for us.

Further details, price and code to be announced

- **Monday 16 June - Ed Keith (Hallgarten Wines)**

Great Barton Village Hall 7.30 pm (please note 3rd Monday)

Ed has become a familiar face and great supporter of the West Suffolk Fine Wine Society over several years. He has hosted our annual Fine Wine Tasting, our Annual Dinner at West Suffolk College, and numerous meals with wine in different local venues. As someone who seems to know and be known to everyone in the hospitality industry, he has introduced us to numerous valuable contacts. His last appearance was at the Christmas event in December at The Wine Cellar, where he selected great wines to accompany Bradley's food, and generously added a superb Champagne to the wines we drank. With a huge amount of knowledge, and a relaxed presentational style, Ed's first appearance, for a while, at a 'regular' tasting promises to bring our spring and summer programme to a fitting ending.

Price and code to be announced.

REMINDERS

1. Please remember to bring your glasses to all events unless otherwise notified.
2. Please remember that you are welcome to bring a guest or two to events which are not subject to limited capacity. This is especially true if they are potential new members. There will be a small surcharge for guests - please contact Wynn to enquire before booking.

3. Payments and codes for tastings.

Please could all members use the appropriate two-digit code when making a payment, along with the relevant membership numbers.

Please note it is NOT necessary to make separate payments for these events. Just ensure you detail all the event codes as this really helps to avoid confusion when tracking and logging payments. It is helpful when you combine your payments as long as they are correctly coded.

If you need a reminder about anything to do with payments, please contact Wynn (wynn.rees@btinternet.com 07580 132568).

Members using Nationwide should note that there has been an upgrade which allows you to input a reference much more easily than before.

THANK YOU

You may remember that we had a collection for the Air Ambulance at our Annual Dinner last April at which we raised £300.00. We held a further collection at the Christmas event and raised an extra £275.00. Thank you all for your generosity both from the Air Ambulance and your committee.

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

- **The Three Kings Fornham – PLEASE NOTE THIS VENUE HAS NOW CLOSED**
- **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 Tom Clegg (Deputy Manager)
- **Corney and Barrow, 1 Rous Road, Newmarket CB8 8DH-Tel:01638 600000** 10% off almost all wines on production of a valid WSFWS membership card. Authorised by Rob Gow, Regional Sales Executive newmarket@corneyandbarrow.com

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 all at future events

Kind regards

Sue

Sue Leake Secretary, WSFWS