

## Committee Favourites – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2019

### 1. Tesco Cava Brut Non-Vintage 75Cl – Lucy Crouch

Made using the Traditional Method to produce a quality sparkling wine with elegant citrus and apple flavours. A quality sparkling wine made by Traditional Method to produce a full, creamy style with elegant citrus and apple flavours.

**Vinification Details** - Produced following the traditional method. Light maceration of grapes to create a quality base wine. Second fermentation in the bottle and ageing in our cellars. Made from selected grapes. **Regional Information** - Jaume Serra is situated at the top of a slope that gently descends towards the Mediterranean Sea in Vilanova I La Geltrú (Barcelona). Its origins went back to 1647, a year in which it was constructed a place called “El Padruell”, a walled farm that since XVII century it was used for protection to an old \*masia-fortaleza that, as the legend says it use to have a passage that connected with the village. **Price: £6.00. ABV: 11.5% vol**

### 2. Domaine de Montesquiou Cuvade Précieuse 2016 Jurançon Sec - Julian

<b>Vintage</b>	2016
<b>Region</b>	Jurançon - south-west of Pau, in deepest SW France
<b>Colour/Style</b>	Dry white, aged in oak barrels for 10 months
<b>Grapes</b>	65% Gros Manseng, 30% Petit Manseng, 5% Camaralet
<b>Alcohol (a.b.v)</b>	14.0%
<b>Food</b>	Aperitif, hard cheeses, lemon chicken, risotto, salmon
<b>Next day</b>	Even better - keeps for a few days in the fridge
<b>Drink</b>	Now, or over the next 5 to 8 years



A bright, medium-pale, limpid gold colour. This offers truly complex aromas of apple, lemon, lime, quince and all manner of stone fruits, with subtle floral and herbal nuances and steelier minerality than you can shake a stick at. It is aged in oak barrels for a year, though you may not notice, for the effect is masterly. And the palate certainly lives up to the billing, with all of the elements melding together in perfect harmony. If anything, it is more complex and structured yet more subtle than previous vintages - an exercise in restrained power. It bites, yet at the same time caresses, with bucket loads of white fruit and citrus, wrapped around an immense core of steely, stony minerality and bracing acidity. It really does make the mouth water, in a truly complex and life-affirming way. Stylistically, it isn't a million miles away from top-notch white Burgundy, or perhaps something \*really\* good from its close namesake, the Jura.... but at a fraction of the price. I have run out of superlatives for this grower's wines - quite simply, they are very special. Biodynamic. Wines from Leon Stolarski Fine Wines in Nottinghamshire: <http://www.lsfnewines.co.uk/index.html>  
**Price: £13.25**

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### **3. South east Australian Merlot. – Richard Float**

This Australian merlot is a good deep red and is very agreeable to accompany roasts or to drink without food. It is lighter (i.e. less soporific!) and thinner) than most French Merlots, but that is reflected in what is an attractive price of **£5.00** a bottle at Sainsbury.

### **4. Mystery wine red – Lesley Barnett**

Please fill in the forms and give to Lesley Barnett.

### **5. McManis Family Lodi Petite Sirah 2017 – Juliet Bailey & Dai Davies**

The 2017 Petite Sirah is deep purple in color, with an exceptionally bright hue. The nose is filled with ripe blackberry, toffee and a bit of clove. Flavors of juicy dark berry fruit are abundant. The round dense wine has a mocha finish which is absent of any astringency. The blend for 2017 is 80% Petite Sirah, 17% Tannat and 3% Teroldego. After fermenting on the skins for 6-9 days, the must was pressed and the resulting wine finished fermentation in Stainless Steel tanks. The resulting wine was then aged on new and used French and American Oak for approximately 6 months.

### **6. Domaine d'Archimbaud La Robe du Pourpre 2016 Languedoc Saint-Saturnin – Julian Osborne**

<b>Vintage</b>	2016
<b>Region</b>	Saint-Saturnin, some way north-west of Montpellier
<b>Colour/Style</b>	Dry red - medium bodied, aged in barrel for 11 months
<b>Grapes</b>	50% Syrah, 30% Grenache, 10% Mourvedre, 10% Carignan
<b>Alcohol (a.b.v)</b>	14.0%
<b>Food</b>	Grilled or roasted red meats, game, charcuterie
<b>Next day</b>	Even better
<b>Drink</b>	Approachable now, but will age to 2025 and beyond



A very similar blend to the Tradition (though with a touch more Mourvedre and Carignan), but aged in barrel for a year. One thing I have learned about the wines of Domaine d'Archimbaud is that they are never over-extracted or over-ripe. Elegance is the order of the day, and this one is a prime example. Bucket-loads of ripe, elegant red and black fruit aromas combine with notes of tobacco, cedar and spice, with an attractive meaty/spicy/herby quality. On the palate, the oak is already beginning to integrate, especially with air, whilst the bright, fresh, gently jammy fruit combines with elegant tannins and super acidity. It is nicely grippy and sweet-sour on the long finish. Lovely now, but with great promise for the medium-to-long term. **Price: £17.99**

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### **Nick and Margaret Robinsons Dinner Wine Choices 2019**

1. **Muscadet de Sevre et Maine Sur Lie, Loire, France, 2018, Aldi ‘Exquisite Collection’**

Crispy, leafy mint and mouth-watering lemon fresh aromas dominate the nose and palate and are complimented by subtle traces of ripe stone fruit flavours. A unique texture is achieved by keeping this wine on its total lees (sur lie). Grape – Melon de Bourgogne.

**ABV 12%, Price £5.69**

2. **Casillero del Diablo, Cabernet Sauvignon Reserva, 2017, Chile, Sainsbury’s**

Colour – deep and intense ruby red. Nose - The expression of cassis in this wine perfectly represents the Valle Central and its richness in fruit such as cherries and plums. The barrel ageing length adds to the toast and coffee notes. Palate - Medium bodied with silky tannins and long, ripe fruit and berry aftertaste, with impressive balance of fruit and polished tannins. Food pairing - Red meats, well-seasoned dishes, and aged cheeses such as Gruyere or blue.

**ABV: 13.5%, Price £: 6.50 (Reduced from £7.50 and additional volume discounts may apply)**

# University of Leicester – Tour de France Tasting – 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019

## Vin 1: Perles de l'Angelier nv

Grape: Melon (de Bourgogne)  
Region: Muscadet, nr Nantes, Loire, W France  
Tasting notes:

## Vin 2: Belle Epine Blanc 2018

Grapes: Viognier, Chardonnay  
Region: Languedoc, S France  
Tasting notes:

## Vin 3: Gewurztraminer Gocker 2018

Grape: Gewurztraminer  
Region: Alsace, NE France  
Tasting notes:

## Vin 4: Belle Epine Rouge 2017

Grapes: Syrah, Merlot  
Region: Languedoc, S France  
Tasting notes:

## Vin 5: Tom & the Peloton 2015

Grapes: Grenache, Syrah  
Region: Ventoux, Rhone, S France  
Tasting notes:

## Vin 6: Château Beaulieu 2015

Grapes: Merlot, Malbec, Cabs Sauvignon & Franc  
Region: Côtes de Bourg, SW France  
Tasting notes:

## Diner Vin Blanc

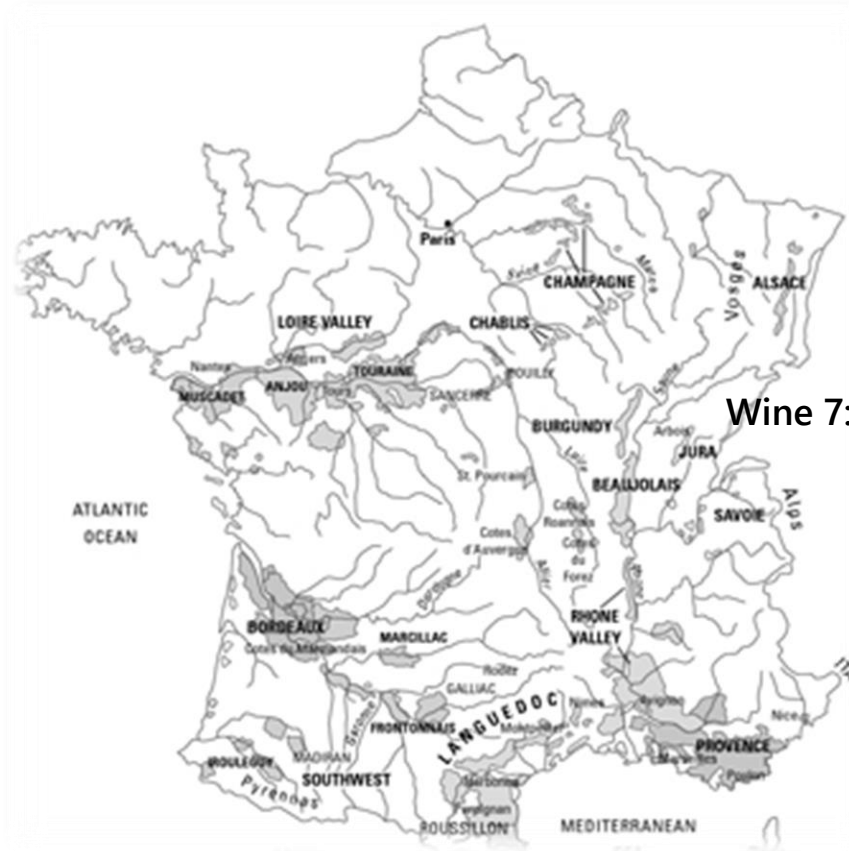
## Wine 7: Picpoul de Pinet 'Roches Saintes' 2018

Grape: Picpoul  
Region: Languedoc, S France  
Tasting notes:

## Diner Vin Rouge

## Wine 8: L'Impudent 2018

Grapes: Syrah, Grenache, Cinsault, Mourvèdre  
Region: Terrasses du Larzac, S France  
Tasting notes:



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**10% off 6-11 bottles\* (\*Debit Card/Cash Payment Only)**

# LEICESTER UNIVERSITY WINE CLUB

## BRAZILIAN WINE TASTING – 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2019

### ABBREVIATED TASTING NOTES

Nicholas Corfe – Go Brazil Wines – [gobrazilwines.com](http://gobrazilwines.com)

#### 1. FAMILIA GEISSE AMADEU BRUT 2017 12% Abv.

Traditional Method fizz, an 80:20 Chardonnay/Pinot Noir blend, produced in the most southerly state of Rio Grande do Sul by Familia Geisse, one of Brazil's leading sparkling wine producers. Pale green/yellow in colour, enjoys min. 12 months lees ageing. Green apples and pear-drop nose, a touch floral. Persistent mousse, with plentiful fine bubbles, balanced acidity and a keen freshness to the palate. Clean, well made; 9.6gm/ltr residual sugar. Highly versatile, a great aperitif or party wine.



#### 2. DON GUERINO SINAIS ITÁLICO RIESLING 2019 13% Abv.

Produced by Don Guerino - a family business whose eponymous founder arrived in Brazil from Italy in 1879 - from grape of Central European origin, also known as 'Welschriesling'. Ripe tropical fruit notes on nose, some floral hints. Spends 4 months on lees prior to bottling. Palate is light to medium-bodied with gentle pineapple, melon and peach flavours. Dry to off-dry but without the minerality & high acidity associated with German Rhein Riesling. Soft stone fruit and pineapple show on a longish finish. Serve chilled as an aperitif or with light salads, hors d'oeuvres or fish.



#### 3. DON GUERINO 'VINTAGE' TORRONTÉS 2019 12% Abv.

Produced from this distinctive, Argentine grape variety (the hybrid here is called Torrontés Riojano, the most widely planted). Wine is clear and bright with pronounced floral nose, a jasmine scent especially showing through. Unoaked, light to medium bodied, palate is lively with tropical notes of passion fruit and citrus. Highish level of acidity makes wine very refreshing; finish is long, with a residual tang of lemon and lime. Drink on its own or pair with light starters, white fish, chicken or ham dishes.



#### 4. PIZZATO 'PP' SEMILLON 2018 12% Abv.

A relatively new addition to the wide-ranging Pizzato portfolio, this is the first ever Brazilian Semillon to be launched on the UK market. 40% of the wine was aged for 12 months in highly unusual acacia and oak barrels, sourced in France, which gives this white considerable complexity. Aromas are subtle with traces of melon, stone fruit, camomile, vanilla and maybe a touch of honey. Acidity is fresh, while palate is dry and shows a long finish. Recommended with salads, seafood and white meats.





#### **5. PIZZATO FAUSTO MERLOT 2016 13% Abv.**

100% Merlot, aged for 9 months in third & fourth fill French barrels, from Pizzato's 'Fausto' vineyard. Attractive red fruits on nose with whiff of caramel and leather. Dry, medium bodied with a ripe, rich damson/plummy palate and hint of licorice. Soft tannins and well integrated oak make this wine very approachable; warm finish shows good length with a savoury, earthy touch. Easy drinking on its own or to accompany pasta, risotto or lightly spiced dishes.



#### **6. DON GUERINO 'VINTAGE' MALBEC 2017 13% Abv.**

100% Malbec, aged in both American & French oak for 6 months, then rests another 6 months in bottle prior to release. Vibrant and youthful fruit on nose with strong varietal violet and mulberry notes, also hint of tobacco. Restrained plum and blackcurrant fruit on super smooth palate, lovely caramel flavours and well integrated oak. Medium bodied, dry, with decent acidity; some ageing potential. Drink on its own or serve with roast chicken, stews, pasta, risottos, cheese, etc.



#### **7. CAMPOS de CIMA ASSINATURA 2018 14% Abv.**

From the extreme southwest of Brazil, bordering Argentina, this a Shiraz/Tempranillo/Tannat blend which has been aged in new French oak for 18 months. Produced by Frenchman Michel Fabre and only when coinciding with the best vintages (previously in 2014), this red shows intense concentration of dark fruits with aromas of dark chocolate, cacao, spice and perhaps some tobacco notes. Young and potent, the wine is already drinking well now but has potential for considerable further development. Ideally decant - demands red meat or strong cheese as an accompaniment!



#### **8. GUASPARI VALE da PEDRA TINTO 2017 14% Abv.**

The Guaspari winery is located at 1200-1300m on the site of an old coffee plantation in the highlands of the tropical São Paulo state. Intriguingly, it is too hot and/or wet to harvest here during the normal autumn months, however an additional pruning is employed, thus delaying the harvest until (the much cooler) July. The wine itself comprises 100% Syrah, with huge concentration of red forest fruits, pepper, cloves, rosemary and dried herbs, yet retains freshness and a lovely rich texture. Tannins are refined, finish is long and overall this red shows great savoury complexity. Serve with well flavoured beef, venison or roast lamb.



# Wines of the Universe

Selected by the Osbornes, Abbeys and friends  
The University of Leicester Wine Club - 27 Feb 2020

## 1) Black Cottage "Earth Series"

Sauvignon Blanc. 2017                      Marlborough, New Zealand                      Slurp.co.uk                      £8.95

*From Earth to the universe may sound like a bit of a stretch, but Marlborough's link was made in 2009 with the start of one of the world's fastest telescopes at the time. BOOTES-3 was the first robotic observatory of the BOOTES (Burst Observer and Optical Transient Exploring System) network located in the southern hemisphere. Its job was to help detect the death of the first stars that formed after the Big Bang. It was the first of its kind south of the equator and helped cover a gap in the star-gazing nightscape between Chile and New Zealand.*

*Black Cottage produce this Sauvignon Blanc from sustainably managed vineyards in Marlborough's Wairau and Awatere Valleys. The 'Earth Series' focuses on small batch production, experimental winemaking, and sustainability in the vineyards and winery. This classic Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc is fresh and zesty, with lots of grapefruit, gooseberry and tropical fruit flavours. It has refreshing citrus notes, leafy and mineral complexity and a long clean finish. Serve well chilled as an aperitif or with Asian, Fish, Poultry, Salads, Seafood, and Vegetable Dishes. 12.5%*

## 2) Tyrrell's "Old Winery"

Verdelho. 2018                      Polkobin, Hunter Valley, Australia                      TWS                      £9.50

*The Hunter valley is 90 miles north of Sydney, which is home to the Australian Astronomical Observatory (formerly the Anglo-Australian Observatory). The AAO operates the 3.9m AAT and the 1.2m wide-field Schmidt telescope at Coonabarabran 200 miles to the north-west. Both telescopes have been at the forefront of southern sky surveys, with the AAT measuring the distances to 400 galaxies per observation, leading to surveys of almost a million galaxies. These have constrained the expansion rate of the Universe, the fraction of the Universe made of dark matter, the nature of dark energy, and the mass of neutrinos.*

*The Verdelho grapes for this wine were harvested from selected vineyards within the Hunter Valley, and the resulting free-run juice was cool-fermented to retain its inherent fragrant qualities. A small amount of residual sugar was left in the wine for added complexity and fruit weight. Soon after fermentation the finished wine was fined, filtered and bottled. Tasting Notes: Fresh and lively with an intense sweet tropical nose with lifted spice aromas. Rich tropical fruit and honey flavours fill the palate and are complemented by a crisp lemony finish. Serve slightly chilled. An ideal accompaniment to chicken, seafood and spicy Asian, Mexican and Indian dishes. 12.5%*

## 3) Tabali "Barranco"

Viognier. 2017                      Rio Hurtado, Limari, Chile                      TWS                      £13.95

*The Rio Hurtado vineyard is 560 miles south of the Very Large Telescope. At 2,600m altitude in the Atacama Desert in northern Chile, the VLT is a set of 4 identical 8.2m telescopes which can be operated separately or as a single unit. Run by the European Southern Observatory, since 2000 the VLT has been the most productive ground-based astronomical observatory in the world. It made the first direct image of a planet orbiting around a star, it has tracked the orbits of the stars whirling around the supermassive black hole at the centre of our Galaxy and in 2009 Prof Nial Tanvir (Leicester) observed the most distant gamma-ray burst known, which exploded when the Universe was just 5% of its current age. ESO is now building the 39m diameter Extremely Large Telescope 80 miles south-east of the VLT.*

*This estate, which began planting vines in 1993, is located on the southern bank of Chile's northern Limari Valley at 1922m where the average maximum temperature in the hottest month is about 25°C. The predominant vegetation is cacti; this is a cool desert, with just 90mm of rain a year. 14.0%*

#### 4) Davenport “Diamond Fields”

Pinot Noir. 2018

Rotherfield, East Sussex, UK

Davenport Vineyards £19.95

*The Royal Greenwich Observatory moved during 1948-58 from London to Herstmonceux Castle in East Sussex, and subsequently to Cambridge when its main telescopes went to the Canary island of La Palma. These days the six domes of the RGO at Herstmonceux host a visitor attraction: the Observatory Science Centre. The RGO 2.5m Isaac Newton and 4.2m William Herschel telescopes are now run jointly by the UK, the Netherlands and Spain. The WHT was the final telescope built by Grubb-Parsons of Newcastle, at that time in 1987 it was the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest optical telescope in the world, it is still the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest in Europe. The WHT discovered the supermassive black hole at the centre of our Galaxy and was the first to observe a gamma-ray burst. Rotherfield is 36 miles north of Herstmonceux.*

*Organic Pinot Noir, grown on a south facing sandy clay soil site. The grapes are 50% destemmed (without crushing the berries) and fermented with natural yeast for 10 days before pressing. Fermenting juice from the press is moved straight into oak barrels. The wine is then matured in old oak barriques for 9 months before bottling without filtration. It has flavours of cherries and blackberry, a good dark colour and plenty of depth, and can be kept for 3 years to mellow and develop more complex flavours. Some hints of oak may emerge after a year or so. 12%*

#### 5) Tajinaste “Tradicional”

Listan Negro. 2017

Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain

Hay Wines

£15.99

*The Teide Observatory is near the top of Mt Teide (2390m), the central peak of Tenerife. One of the first international observatories, it hosts optical, radio and solar telescopes. These include the 1.5m Gregor solar telescope, the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest in the world, and the Very Small Array, a 14-telescope interferometer to measure anisotropies in the Cosmic Microwave Background from the Big Bang which gave rise to the large-scale structure of the Universe. Bodegas Tajinaste is 20 miles north of the Teide Observatory.*

*A small family-owned winery located in the north side of Tenerife, heavily influenced by the trade winds. Plantings of Listan Negro are concentrated in the unique volcanic terroir of the Canary Islands, and vines are planted in small pits, which resemble the surface of the moon, dug out of the ash-based soils. Listan Negro thrives in these volcanic soils, it is not found in this form in quantity anywhere else in the world. Vivid ruby-red. Spicy redcurrant and cherry scents are complicated by dried rose and blood orange. Juicy and penetrating, offering lively red fruit flavours and a hint of black pepper. Finishes brisk and appealingly sweet, with gentle tannins and lingering red fruit notes. 13%*

#### 6) Mystery wine

#### 7) Miles Mossop “Max”

Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Petit Verdot, Malbec. 2015

Stellenbosch, S Africa

TWS

£16.00

*The headquarters of the South African Astronomical Observatory are in Cape Town, 40 miles east of Stellenbosch. The SAAO has many telescopes at Sutherland, 200 miles to the north-east in the Karoo desert. The South African Large Telescope, the largest in the southern hemisphere, is an extraordinary 10m diameter telescope with a fixed main mirror and a moving secondary mirror which allows stars to be tracked as the earth rotates. The Karoo is also the location of the thousands of radio dishes of the planned Square Kilometre Array, it will make images 50 times finer than those of the Hubble Space telescope and will be the largest radio telescope ever built.*

*A Bordeaux-style blend, less than 500 cases of Max are made each year. The grapes are hand harvested, sorted carefully and then gravity fed to the vats where indigenous yeasts set about fermenting the must. Maturation takes place in barriques of French oak, around 40% of which is new. Bottling takes place without filtration. 14%*