



# Whitewater Valley Wine Society February 2018

[www.whitewaterwine.org.uk](http://www.whitewaterwine.org.uk)

**Next Tasting: Wednesday 14th February 2018**

**Venue: The Raven Hotel, Hook, RG27 9HS**

**Welcome drink from 7.45pm**

**AGM starts at 8pm. Tasting follows at 8.15pm**

**Cost £15 members, £18 non-members**

Please book in advance for the February tasting, by calling Secretary Keith Cooper on 07976 272822 or e-mailing him at [kcooper.medlar@btinternet.com](mailto:kcooper.medlar@btinternet.com)

Bookings are strictly for fully paid up members only until Thursday 8th February, on a first come, first served basis. Bookings will be accepted from both members and guests from Friday 9th February, assuming places remain available.

## Wine Gems for 2018

*Jim "Order  
Please" King*



*Keith "The  
Magnum" Cooper*



An evening presented by our Society's intrepid duo has become a regular feature of our tastings calendar. So they take centre stage again this month, presenting their selection of wine gems for 2018.

Jim & Keith have tasted numerous wines, often long into the night, and their final selection is here for you to enjoy. This year, there is something for everyone, with wines from several countries around the world.

As usual, Jim has chosen wines from suppliers with whom he has a close relationship. This will include

a couple of very special offers from top producers of shiraz wines from both the Barossa and McLaren Vale.

Keith has chosen to feature wines which he has tasted in the last couple of months. One of his pick is an Aussie cabernet sauvignon, which *Decanter* magazine recently voted the best cabernet sauvignon in the new world.

As is usual, the evening will comprise both white and red wines.

Jim says this is going to be a great evening! So it must be true!

## Inside this month's Society News.....

- Society's AGM
- Subscriptions due
- Programme for Mar—May 2018
- A report on our January tasting with Master of Wine Richard Bampfield
- A bonus from Dracula!



**Society Dinner  
and overnight  
stay**

**Saturday/Sunday  
21st/22nd April  
Donnington Valley  
Hotel & Spa**

**Just 2 places  
remaining!**

**Whitewater Valley Wine Society: Wine tasting in North Hampshire for 30 years**

**Secretary: 07976 272822**

## ***Society Annual General Meeting***

Our tasting on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018 will be preceded at 8pm by a brief AGM. This is expected to last about 15-20 minutes.

Members should have received the AGM documentation (agenda, previous year's minutes, annual accounts and committee nomination papers) with this month's newsletter. This documentation is also available on our website at

[www.whitewaterwine.org.uk/members-area/](http://www.whitewaterwine.org.uk/members-area/)

If you do not have the AGM papers or if you have any questions about the AGM, please contact the Secretary.

It would be helpful if you could bring your own copy of the AGM papers with you to the meeting.



## ***Subscription Renewals***

Members are reminded that your annual subscription of £12.50 is now due. In accordance with Society rules, members should renew their subscription no later than the date of the March meeting, i.e. 14th March 2018.

The main benefits of retaining membership are priority booking and a saving of £3 at most meetings. Members also often save money at our special events.

Payment by electronic banking is preferred. Please send your payment to the Whitewater Valley Wine Society at Lloyds Bank, Sort Code 30-91-31, Account Number 01158564. Please include your surname and first initial as part of the reference.

You may also pay by cash/cheque at the February tasting.

Alternatively, send a cheque to The Treasurer, Whitewater Valley Wine Society, 1 Lingmala Grove, Church Crookham, Fleet, GU52 6JW. Cheques to *Whitewater Valley Wine Society*.

We thank you for your prompt renewals, which helps reduce the workload for our Treasurer.

## ***2018 Tastings & Events***

Wednesday 14th March	Richard Bost: Alternative Australia
Wednesday 11th April	Robert Boutflower, Tanners: Spain
Saturday 21st April	Society Dinner at Donnington Valley Hotel
Wednesday 9th May	Tony Cloke: Spy Valley Wines

### **A bonus from Dracula!**

There was a pleasant surprise at the end of our January tasting when member Bob Johnson opened up a couple of bottles of wine from Romania, Castellum Dracula Feteasca Neagra 2013. Members enjoyed having a glass of this very well made merlot. Many thanks, Bob!



### ***Report on our January tasting: Richard Bampfield, Master of Wine***

We started 2018 by welcoming Master of Wine Richard Bampfield, who is a consultant to Lidl. His talk gave us a very interesting insight into the wine buying philosophy at Lidl. You can read a full report of this tasting on the Newsletter page of our website:

[www.whitewaterwine.org.uk/tasting-reports/](http://www.whitewaterwine.org.uk/tasting-reports/)