

WHITEWATER VALLEY WINE SOCIETY
May 2025 Tasting
Single Vineyard Wines of the Southern Hemisphere
Presented by Preet Sahota of Edgmond Wines

Preet Sahota is a presenter who needs no introduction to those who have been members of our Society for more than a couple of years. He has a reputation for bringing us lesser known wines from the new world, especially South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. We have liked the wines he has shown us and up to now they have been well-priced. So it is not surprising that Preet holds the record for the amount of wine ordered at our tastings. It was great to see Preet again and a full-house awaited his presentation!

Our evening started with a **Cloudskraal Sauvignon Blanc 2024 South Africa** [13.5%, £21.99] that had a pale lemon colour. It had an intense nose of elderflower, pear, peach, melon and citrus aromas followed on the palate by flavours of gooseberries, pear-drops and candied peel and was not bone dry. It was a promising start....

It was followed by a **Villa Esposto Chenin Blanc 2024 South Africa** [13.8%, £24.99] from the Surberg Region - the most 'Burgundy-like' area in that country, where according to Tim Atkinson MW 'terroir has more influence on the wine than the grape variety'. This pale gold coloured wine vinified from grapes from a 2 hectare single vineyard, had aromas of citrus and tropical fruits with hints of toast on the nose, leading to a full-bodied wine on the palate that had a creamy texture, vibrant acidity and a long and lingering finish. Apparently, the final vintage before the vines are removed and replaced because of their age.

Our final white wine was a **Nautilus Estate Single Vineyard Albariño 2024 New Zealand** [13.0%, £27.99] from the Marlborough Region. This pale lemon coloured wine had a fragrant nose of white peach, apples and spices with hints of apricots. The medium-bodied palate had focused acidity, notes of lime, grapefruit and melon that was mouth-filling and refreshing. It was well received by members as an alternative to the Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc.

We returned to South Africa for our first red wine - a **Blake Family Wines Malbec 2023** [13.5%, £17.99] from Swartland that had a dark ruby colour. This 100% Malbec, a rarity in this country produced at the request of growers, had floral and violet fragrances with berry and plum flavours backed by dark chocolate and spices. Soft tannins made it a 'young and fruity all-rounder'.

Next, we tasted a **Seifried Estate Aotea Cabernet Franc 2021 New Zealand** [13.5%, £26.99] from the Nelson Region where a single vineyard Cabernet Franc is also rare! This inky-red coloured wine was full of blueberry aromas followed in the mouth by berry flavours with hints of cocoa and black pepper, adding some complexity. It had smooth tannins, good structure and balance and a long and satisfying aftertaste.

The only visit to Australia came next with a **Vasse Felix Filius Cabernet Sauvignon 2021** [14.5%, £21.99] from Margaret River. This deep garnet-coloured wine had classic notes of cassis and black berries on the nose with touches of cedar and vanilla. It was full of ripe succulent fruit and hints of dried herbs on the palate with a bold mouth-full structure.

The final red was a **Villa Esposto Pinotage 2022** [14.5%, £27.95] that was dark beery red in colour. Aromas of ripe cherries were intense and concentrated, supported by sweet fruit undertones on the palate and that were well appreciated!

Our evening ended with a **Villa Esposto Muscat d' Alexandrie 2022 South Africa** [13%, £24.99] from a single vineyard planted in 1969 that had a deep amber colour. Flavours of dates, dried fig and orange were intense in this sweet wine and a perfect end to our New World single-vineyard tasting.

Once again Preet brought an unusual selection of wines not readily available locally. His knowledgeable and confident presentation was interspersed with some amusing anecdotes of his experiences of setting up his own company - Edgmond Wines. Members thank him for the evening and the generous discount offered off the list price quoted.