



# Quaffing



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

August 2007

Welcome back from our brief summer? recess. Hopefully there'll be some pleasant "Indian Summer" days and evenings ahead to make up for the shortage of chilled wine on the patio over the last 2-3 months. We will try to cheer things up with some great tastings. Firstly, Andy from Oddbins in Emsworth will show us a range of good value wines between £6 or less and £12. In October we welcome Neil Courtier to talk about some french classics and November sees our own Trevor Elliott presenting a South African tasting. In December, we're delighted to have Wink Lorch - educator, writer and blogger with wines from Uruguay. Our Annual Dinner at Southdowns will be as usual in November - the date will be announced shortly.

*Bob Hawthorne*

## Forthcoming Events

All tastings are held at the Mountbatten Centre, Portsmouth at 7pm unless otherwise stated.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2007 | Good Value Wines from Oddbins          |
| Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2007   | Take Eight Classic French Wine Regions |
| Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2007  | South Africa                           |
| Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2007  | Uruguay                                |
| Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2007   | PWS Committee Tasting                  |

## PWS Main Contacts

**Sheila Robinson Chairman** e-mail: [chair@portsmouthwinesociety.org.uk](mailto:chair@portsmouthwinesociety.org.uk)

28 Craneswater Park, Southsea, Hampshire PO4 0NT

Telephone: 023 9281 1376

**Bob Hawthorne Hon. Secretary** e-mail: [secretary@portsmouthwinesociety.org.uk](mailto:secretary@portsmouthwinesociety.org.uk)

17 Lindley Avenue, Southsea, Hampshire PO4 9NT

Telephone: 07005 981682 Fax: 07005 981683

**Roger Foster Hon. Treasurer** e-mail: [treasurer@portsmouthwinesociety.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@portsmouthwinesociety.org.uk)

Mylor House, Swanmore Road, Droxford, Hampshire SO32 3PT

Telephone: TBA

**Society Web Site** [www.portsmouthwinesociety.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthwinesociety.org.uk)

# Neil Courtier

Neil Courtier has been closely associated with the wine and food industry all his life. Born in Cornwall, he worked for many years in luxury hotels and restaurants, whilst furthering and formalising his knowledge of wine and food appreciation. He has more recently lectured in Food and Beverage operations for over 13 years.

*"My passion for wine is combined with my experience and qualifications, such as the Wine and Spirit Education Trust Diploma, and the Certificate in Education for Lecturers. Wine as a subject should be approachable, enjoyable, informative and fun!"*

During this time, Neil developed his company, **Grape Sense**, whose aim is to meet the needs of the trade, consumers and corporate groups, by providing tailor made training courses and programmes leading to nationally recognised qualifications, in addition to tutored tastings, dinners and wine tours.

*"Our events are always designed to increase the confidence of individuals, and make wine knowledge available to all"*

Neil's presentation is entitled "Taste 8 classic French wine regions", and we will enjoy 8 wines (4 white and 4 red) from the classic regions of France, including a champagne.

# Oddbins

"No other chain supports so consistently the notion that wines are individual entities... without Oddbins, there would simply be no large-scale retailer offering so much eclecticism and so much quality." Richard Ehrlich, Independent, January 2002

In '63 entrepreneur Ahmed Pochee starts up a small business delivering bin-ends and oddments of wine to the restaurants and clubs of London's West End. In the Seventies Oddbins, snapped up by new owners Dennis Ing and Nick Baile, introduces Britain to the wines of Portugal and the South of France. The company expands into Scotland, the West Country and the North West with wooden floors and wacky blackboards. In the Eighties, Oddbins, now owned by Seagram and sporting 100 stores, becomes the first company to bring Australian wine and Ralph Steadman onto the UK high street. Oddbins is awarded Wine Merchant of the Year at the International Wine Challenge for the first time in 1988, the first of 12 such awards. In the Nineties, Oddbins holds its first consumer Wine Fair in London. It's such a success they decide to hold two each year, with one in London and one in Edinburgh. Shops open in Calais and Dublin and '98 sees the first Oddbins Wine Fair in Ireland. Into the 21st Century, and Oddbins start the new millennium by winning the Wine Merchant of the Year again in 2000 and 2001.

Oddbins.com is launched and they continue their trend-setting agenda by rediscovering Greek wine. January 2002 brings great excitement as Oddbins comes under the ownership of Castel Frères, one of France's biggest and best wine producing companies.

Andy Redman an old friend of the Society, from the Emsworth branch will present a selection of wines at different price points from £6 or less up to £12.

# October Tasting - Book Now!

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2007 Mountbatten Centre 7.00pm

## Neil Courtier - Take 8 Classic French Wine Regions

I/We would like to attend the Neil Courtier tasting. Guests are welcome.

Please reserve ..... member's places at **£12.50** per head

Total enclosed £.....

Please reserve ..... Guest places at **£14.00** per head

Name:.....Telephone:.....

Send cheques payable to "Portsmouth Wine Society" to:

**Roger Foster, Mylor House, Swanmore Road,**

**Droxford, Hampshire SO32 3PT**

**By Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2007**

*Please note the return by dates for bookings. We, or our presenters, often require 7-10 days to find, order and take delivery of wines for tasting. The quantity of wine purchased depends on the numbers booked at the closing date. we regret therefore, that late bookings may be rejected. To check late availability, please contact a Committee member.*

# September Tasting - Book Now!

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2007 Mountbatten Centre 7.00pm

## Good Value Wines from Oddbins

I/We would like to attend the Oddbins Tasting.

Please reserve ..... member's places at **£8.00** per head

Total enclosed £.....

Please reserve ..... Guest places at **£9.00** per head

Name:.....Telephone:.....

Send cheques payable to "Portsmouth Wine Society" to:

**Roger Foster, Mylor House, Swanmore Road,**

**Droxford, Hampshire SO32 3PT**

**By Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2007**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2007 Mountbatten Centre 7.00pm

## **Take 8 Classic French Wine Regions**

Please complete the booking form on the other side  
and return to:

Roger Foster

Mylor House, Swanmore Road,

Droxford, Hampshire SO32 3PT

**By Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2007**

*Please note the return by dates for bookings. We, or our presenters, often require 7-10 days to find, order and take delivery of wines for tasting. The quantity of wine purchased depends on the numbers booked at the closing date. we regret therefore, that late bookings may be rejected. To check late availability, please contact a Committee member.*

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2007 Mountbatten Centre 7.00pm

## **Good Value from Oddbins**

Please complete the booking form on the other side  
and return to:

Roger Foster

Mylor House, Swanmore Road,

Droxford, Hampshire SO32 3PT

**By Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2007**