



Quaffing

MERRY CHRISTMAS

www.portsmouthwinesociety.org.uk



December 2007

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of your Committee, to wish you all a very merry Christmas and happy New Year. Thank you to all our members for your continued support - especially at the tastings that committee members work so hard to devise and organise.

Our next event is our traditional Committee Tasting (with wines chosen and presented by the Committee) on **Wednesday January 2nd** - do please note the revised day and date. This is always a popular event and allows for a little more socialising between wines.

In February, we welcome an old friend in Alistair Gibson. Having sold the Brookfield Hotel, Alistair now focuses on his wine business Hermitage Cellars and writing about wine for "The News". In March we have our Annual General Meeting and Blind Tasting Challenge which is always great fun.

Bob Hawthorne

Forthcoming Events

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

Wednesday 2nd January 2008	Committee Tasting - note day/date change
Tuesday 5 th February 2008	"Rhone Rangers" - Alistair Gibson
Tuesday 4 th March 2008	AGM & Blind Tasting Fun Challenge
Tuesday 1 st April 2008	Simon Taylor - Languedoc & Roussillon

PWS Main Contacts

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Society Web Site www.portsmouthwinesociety.org.uk

The Rhone Rangers!

The New World has changed the way we not only view wine but also the way we drink it. It has given us varietal wine – we began with all things Chardonnay and currently sit somewhere between zingy Sauvignon Blanc and neutral Pinot Grigio, which are you? What it has also done is open our eyes – and noses – to other taste sensations, naturally Bordeaux and Burgundy where the first to receive the New World treatment but our thirst for knowledge has led to other regions receiving more of attention. The Rhone never played more than the occasional walk on – or should that be blended role – in the great play that is French wine but now the Rhone is one of our favourite wine regions and many would say France's best value region. The reason is without doubt the result of our love of initially Australian Shiraz, followed by Rhone inspired wines from around the world, and now it not just Shiraz, its Grenache, Viognier and Mourvedre, infact if only Riesling was a Rhone grape then their would no need to go anywhere else!!

Alistair Gibson from the Portsmouth News would change his middle name to Tonto just to show how much he loves these styles of wine and will show a range of Rhone Rangers and there wines – or should that be wines from home on the range – to the Portsmouth Wine Society in February.



February Tasting - Book Now!

Tuesday 5th February 2008 Mountbatten Centre 7.00pm

Alistair Gibson - Rhone Rangers

I/We would like to attend the Rhone Rangers tasting. Guests are welcome.

Please reserve member's places at **£12.00** 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 26th January 2008

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.

January Tasting - Book Now!

Wednesday 2nd January 2008 Mountbatten Centre 7.00pm

PWS Committee Tasting

I/We would like to attend the Committee Tasting. guests are welcome.

Please reserve member's places at **£10.00** per head

Total enclosed £.....

Please reserve Guest places at **£12.00** per head

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

Send cheques payable to "Portsmouth Wine Society" to:

Roger Foster, Mylor House, Swanmore Road,

Droxford, Hampshire SO32 3PT

By Monday 17th December 2007

Tuesday 5th February 2008 Mountbatten Centre 7.00pm

Alistair Gibson - Rhone Rangers

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

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