

# Noble Rot

The Martinez Wines Newsletter



SPRING ISSUE

## A busy year at Martinez

### We certainly are not hanging around at Martinez in 2015!

Already in 2015 we have hosted our annual wine tasting Extravaganza at the Winter Gardens in Ilkley, We have opened a new shop in Bingley to be followed by a wine bar on the same site. And as if that isn't enough we are helping organise 'Grapeful' which is Leeds City centre's first wine festival. We even had time to send Chris on a little trip to Rioja! Details of all the above and more are in this issue.....

### All part of the service!

- ✓ 20+ wines to taste at anytime
- ✓ 600+ wines, 40+ Sherries, 30+ Whiskies, 25+ Gins, a large selection of Ports, Brandies, Cognacs, unusual spirits, local & world beers
- ✓ In shop expert advice on ALL Products
- ✓ Free whisky tasting anytime!
- ✓ Next day delivery arranged to anywhere in the country
- ✓ Gift packaging for 1, 2, 3, 6 & 12 bottles delivery arranged to anywhere in the country
- ✓ Free Glass hire for functions
- ✓ Mixed Cases to suit your pocket
- ✓ Parking directly outside
- ✓ Retail/Corporate /Wholesale
- ✓ Wine education
- ✓ Tastings
- ✓ Call My Quaff Events
- ✓ Specialised Beers, Whisky's, Sherries, Liqueurs & Ports
- ✓ Wine Wedding Gift Service
- ✓ Order online and get national next day delivery at only £6.99 on over £50 spend



### Having guests for Dinner?

Come in shop and get advice on what wines will match your culinary delights.



# Martinez Bingley opens its doors

Our long awaited search for a second shop is over with the opening of Bingley Martinez. Positioned on the high street on the site of the former conservative club Bingley Martinez offers the same excellent range as Ilkley. A different valley, train line and clientele but close enough to service and perhaps a nice little wine bar visit for Ilkley residents when it opens in June? We have been warmly welcomed by Bingley and other local village residents and look forward to becoming part of the community.

## Top Extravaganza Wines



In March we once again hosted our annual wine tasting event at the Winter gardens where thanks to you we managed to raise over £2500 for Save the Children. There were over 200 wines on show with over 300 people attending. Interestingly the top selling wine, a muscadet is Martinez sourced and shipped! Here are the most popular 8 wines by volume of sales on the day:

- 1 Chateau La Berriere Muscadet Sur Lie AOC, 2012, France £8.95 (W)
- 2 Chateau Musar 2000, Lebanon, £26.95 (R)
- 3 Bolyki EGRI BIKAVER (Bulls Blood), Hungary 2012, £16.49 (R)
- 4 Vigneti Del Salento 'I Muri' NEGROAMARO 2012, Italy, £9.99 (R)
- 5 Tenuta Fiorebelli CABALETTA Rosso 2013, Italy, £10.25 (R)
- 6 Bodega Gótica Badajo Rueda 2013, Spain, £7.99
- 7 Giacomo Montresor VALPOLICELLA CAPITEL DELLA CROSARA RIPASSO 2012, Italy, £13.99
- 8 MUGA Reserva Rioja 2010, Spain, £16.95

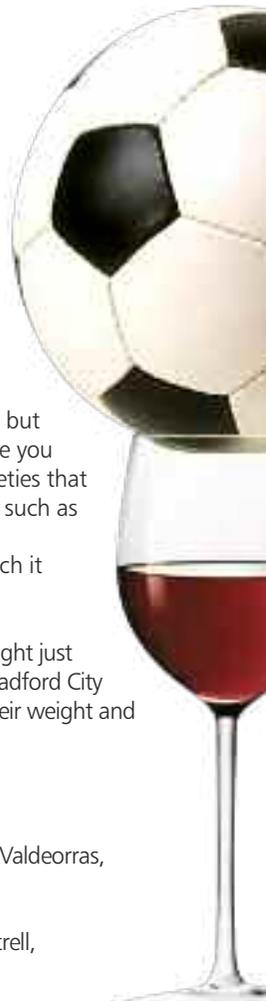
## Football & Grapes!

It may seem odd but I would like to compare arguably the two most popular white and red grape varieties with two of the most popular & famous football teams in the world.

Let's just say that Sauvignon Blanc is the Real Madrid in this scenario and Shiraz is Manchester United. These are two of the most heard of but do they offer value for money? Have you considered lesser known grape varieties that may well punch above their weight such as Catarratto, Godello, Frappato or Monastrell. Have you seen how much it costs to get into Old Trafford!

Why not try a new grape variety it might just turn out to be your new favourite. Bradford City have continuously punched above their weight and they practically give the tickets away!

- Ca'di Ponti Catarratto, Sicily £5.99 (2 for £11) (W)
- Vina Somoza GODELLO Sobre Lias Valdeorras, Spain £12.99 (W)
- Baccaria FRAPPATO, Italy £8.49 (R)
- Bodegas Juan Gil PEDRERA Monastrell, Spain £7.99 (R)



## 2 for £11

We now have over 12 wines to Mix & Match in our '2 for £11' range or Whites, reds and Rose's. Our latest bin end addition is Boschendal Jean Garde CHARDONNAY from South Africa.

# Grapeful Wine Festival



**I am proud to say that Martinez is helping to organise Leeds city centres first ever wine festival 'Grapeful' We are supplying over 90% of the wines for what promises to be a rather grand affair.**

This festival is from 12 noon until 10pm (yes 10 hours!) over two days, on the second May bank holiday Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th. Tickets are £25 in advance and £30 on the day. So what do you get for your entrance fee?

## **Included in the entrance fee are:**

All wines, all day, winemaker interaction, seminars and master classes.

## **More details:**

- In the main hall there will be 100 wines from around the world.
- A separate 'meet the winemaker room' where you can taste with and chat to the winemakers or representatives from vineyards. (Open 2-8pm each day) (Approximately 80 more wines!)
- A series of master classes held in the beautiful courtroom
- Live music on the main stage

## **Even more details:**

**Winemakers/ representatives we have booked so far include;**

- Andrew Moore, GM and owner, Waipara Springs / Bascand and Homecreek NZ
- Nicolas Bureau, Sales Director Glenelly, Stellenbosch SA
- Lia Poveda, Global Ambassador, Bouchard Finlayson, Hermanus, SA
- Cathy Marshall, winemaker, Catherine Marshall Wines
- Kobie Lochner, Sales and Marketing, Guardian Peak and Rust en Vrede
- Mariana Herlin, Sales Manager, Bodegas O Fournier
- Louis Boutinot – Waterkloof
- Carlos Read- Penley Estates
- Paul Ham, winemaker from Alpha Domus wines

- In the courtroom there will be a series of master classes/tastings throughout each day. These are booked on arrival at the event and are FREE

## **1. Around Spain in 6 wines with our man in Spain Carlos Read.**

Carlos's aim is to advocate the glories of Spanish Wine – bringing only those which excite and stir the blood to the UK market

## **2. "Italy from Top to Toe" with Suzanne Lock of Advintage wines. Includes tasting**

Suzanne provides wine courses, education, tastings and training sessions in and around Tyne and Wear, North East England, UK. From short consumer courses in wine tasting, through to professional training and tours, her service is second to none. In recent years advintage groups have visited Loire Valley, Catalonia, Lake Garda, Tuscany, Valencia, Bordeaux, Priorat and in 2015 we will visit Andalucia, North East Italy and Slovenia.

## **3. Sauvignon Blanc Master class with Louis Boutinot. Winemaker Louis will introduce you to 4 different Sauvignons.**

## **4. Yorkshire post wine writer Christine Austin will hold two tastings per day on wines of South America.**

*So i am sure that you now realise that you get a lot for your €25 entrance fee!*

Of course there will be food available throughout supplied by George & Joseph Cheese mongers & The Reliance Bar & Dining Room who will bring you the perfect cheese & charcuterie feast.

Tickets are on sale on line at [www.grapefulleeds.com](http://www.grapefulleeds.com) or in person at Leeds town hall, Martinez Ilkley or Martinez Bingley. There is also a face book page.



# And the search goes on...

**My visit to Rioja started off with a short, late night, flight to Bilbao and a two hour coach journey South to, the usually sunny, Logroño in the heart of the famous wine region where we were to be based for the next few days.**

Day one, we were up bright and early ready to meet over 25 different producers in our first Rioja showroom session. This gave me the opportunity to re-taste one of our shop classics from Bodegas Riojanas.

The Monte Real Reserva retailing at a well priced £14.99 is full of ripe red fruit, silky smooth and offers a little more weight and depth than its peers. The Monte Real Barrica White at only £8.75 is one of the more interesting White Rioja's on the market with a rich yet balanced palate with lovely fresh acidity.

Next we went to visit one of the most impressive wineries I have ever seen, Bodegas Vivanco, which included a tour around their museum, respected as one of the great icons of the Culture of Wine in the world. Very impressive to say the least!

Other impressive winery visits included Finca Valpiedra, Loli Casado and Bodegas Ondarre – part of the same group as Bodegas Olarra who produce the Cerro Anon Reserva which is available from Martinez at £12.95 - Ripe cherry, dark berries and vanilla on the perfumed nose. Smooth and accessible, offering sweet cherry-vanilla and a hint of mocha. Fine-grained tannins come on late, adding shape to the long, smooth, appealingly sweet finish.

The next day another 25 producers showed their wares including other wines we currently stock. This was the day that confirmed my belief that Martinez still sell some of the best Rioja's available. The standout wines were from Navajas and Finca Allende.

You can see why, that at only £7.49, the Bodegas Navajas Tinto is our best selling Rioja because after three days searching and tasting well over 50 different Rioja's, nothing is comparable at this price point. This bright red Rioja benefits from three months in oak and punches well above its weight in quality with lovely berried fruits nicely integrated with a smoky wood background.

From Finca Allende, and one of my personal favourites, we currently stock the Allende Blanco at a more premium

price of £21.00 – This does not disappoint though and is well worth the money. Low yields of Viura and a small amount of Malvasia provide generous fruit, matched, rather than swamped, by vanilla and spices from the oak. Delicious!

After three days of eating chorizo and witnessing worse weather than in West Yorkshire, my time was up. I was well looked after and the trip was in conjunction with Wines of Rioja which is part of our Rioja month to be held in October where we will, again, be offering 10% off all our Riojas throughout the month, all 30+ of them!

Come into the shop and try us out for Rioja, you won't find a better selection elsewhere. Oh, and if you do find a better Rioja under £7.49 then please let me know. I tried...and failed!

*Chris Wood*



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## Shop Opening hours

Mon 9am-6pm    Tues 9am-6pm    Wed 9am-6pm  
Thurs 9am-11pm    Fri 9am-11pm    Sat 9am-11pm    Sun 12noon-6pm  
*Ring the bell for attention up to 11pm on some days*

**Wine Bar Opening Hours:**  
**Thursday & Friday 5-11pm**  
**Saturday 3-11pm**