



Annual Wine Challenge 2018 Results Brief

Commentary

The 2018 Wine Challenge was held at Winding Wood Vineyard on Sunday September 2nd 2018. 32 wines from 12 vineyards were entered from the Region. The four judges led by Patricia Stefanowicz MW commented that the quality of the wines this year was exceptionally good, as can be seen by the number of Gold medals awarded, especially in the sparkling wine class. The numbers of wines entered per class were as follows:

Class 1: Dry White, 2017 – 7 entries; **Class 2:** Dry White, prior to 2016- 5 entries; **Class 3:** White, not dry, any year – 0 entries; **Class 4:** Red, any year – 1 entry; **Class 5:** Rose, any year – 3 entries; **Class 6:** Sparkling, any year, any colour – 16 entries.

Awards:

The following wines are to be congratulated for having won awards:-

Award	For	Winner
Mac Mackinnon Trophy	Best White Wine in any Class	Bothy Vineyard, The Doctor's Bacchus, 2017
Sparkling Wine Trophy	Best Sparkling Wine (any colour)	Daws Hill Vineyard, Sparkling White 2009
Emmbrook Cup	Best Red Wine	Stanlake Park, Reserve Red 2015
T&CVA Decanter	Best Wine Overall	Bothy Vineyard, The Doctor's Bacchus, 2017
Stefanowicz salver	Best still rose wine	Chafor Wine Estate, Rose 2017
Anne Howitt Shield	Best Non-Commercial Wine	Vernon Lodge Vineyard, VL Siegerebbe 2017

Certificates:

Wines were marked out of 20 and were awarded medal certificates according to the following scoring system:

Highly Commended: 13.0-13.9

Bronze: 14.0-15.4

Silver: 15.5-16.9

Gold: 17.0+

2018 Medal winners were:

Class	Vineyard name	Entrant name	Wine name	Year	Producer name	Award	Trophy
6	Dinton Wines Ltd	Lawrence Kimber	Dinton Folly	2014	Stanlake Park	Gold	
6	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	Vince Gower, Daniel G-C	Rose Superior	2015	Stanlake Park	Gold	
6	Wyfold Vineyard	Barbara Laithwaite	Wyfold Vineyard Brut 2013	2013	Harrow and Hope	Gold	
1	Bothy Vineyard	Sian & Richard Liwicki	Doctors Bacchus	2017	Bothy Vineyard	Gold	Mac McKinnon trophy, TCVA Decanter
4	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	Vince Gower, Daniel G-C	Reserve Red	2015	Stanlake Park	Gold	Emmbrook Trophy
5	Chafor Wine Estate	Tim Chafor	Rose	2017	Chafor Wine Estate	Gold	Stefanowicz Salver
6	Daws Hill Vineyard	Holly Morgan	Sparkling White	2009	Daws Hill Vineyard & Winery	Gold	Sparkling wine Trophy
6	Dropmore Vineyard	Feona McEwan	Brut Sparkling	2014	Stanlake Park	Gold	
6	Fairmile Vineyard	Jan Mirkowski	Rose	2015	Hambledon Vineyard	Gold	
2	Dropmore Vineyard	Feona McEwan	Chardonnay	2015	Stanlake Park	Silver	
6	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	Vince Gower, Daniel G-C	Heritage Brut	2014	Stanlake Park	Silver	
6	Chafor Wine Estate	Tim Chafor	Vintage Cuvee	2014	Hattingley Valley	Silver	
2	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	Vince Gower, Daniel G-C	Bacchus	2016	Stanlake Park	Silver	
5	Linch Hill Vineyard	Denise Santilli	Oxford Rose	2017	Three Choirs	Silver	
1	Bothy Vineyard	Sian & Richard Liwicki	Renaissance	2017	Bothy Vineyard	Silver	
2	Dropmore Vineyard	Feona McEwan	Bacchus	2015	Stanlake Park	Silver	
6	Daws Hill Vineyard	Holly Morgan	Sparkling White	2011	Daws Hill Vineyard & Winery	Silver	
6	Hendred Vineyard	David & Eileen Bell	Hendred Brut	2014	Three Choirs	Silver	
6	Daws Hill Vineyard	Holly Morgan	Sparkling Rose blush	2013	Daws Hill Vineyard & Winery	Silver	
1	Chafor Wine Estate	Tim Chafor	Elegance	2017	Chafor Wine Estate	Silver	
2	Chafor Wine Estate	Tim Chafor	Elegance	2016	Chafor Wine Estate	Silver	
6	Fairmile Vineyard	Jan Mirkowski	Classic Cuvee	2015	Hambledon Vineyard	Bronze	
6	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	Vince Gower, Daniel G-C	Ascot Brut	2008	Stanlake Park	Bronze	
2	Chafor Wine Estate	Tim Chafor	Elegance	2015	Chafor Wine Estate	Bronze	
6	Daws Hill Vineyard	Holly Morgan	Sparkling Rose	2013	Daws Hill Vineyard & Winery	Bronze	
1	Linch Hill Vineyard	Denise Santilli	Oxford Rebel	2017	Three Choirs	Bronze	
1	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	Vince Gower, Daniel G-C	Bacchus	2017	Stanlake Park	Bronze	
5	Dropmore Vineyard	Feona Mckewan	Pinot Blush	2013	Stanlake Park	Bronze	
1	Vernon Lodge	Mike Dean	Madeleine Angevine	2017	Vernon Lodge	Bronze	
1	Vernon Lodge	Mike Dean	Siegerrebe	2017	Vernon Lodge	Bronze	Anne Howitt Shield
6	Daws Hill Vineyard	Holly Morgan	Sparkling White	2013	Daws Hill Vineyard & Winery	Bronze	

If anyone requires medal stickers (gold, silver, bronze) to put on their wines, these are available from me at a cost of £4 per 100 stickers or if you go to the Members page of the T&CVA website (<http://www.thameschilternsvineyards.org.uk/members.htm>) you can download a high resolution image of the stickers and the trophies for use on your social media platforms.

The 2018 certificates will be posted to you in due course and the judge's tasting notes for each wine will be sent to their respective growers as soon as we have them from the judges.

Thank you to everyone who entered wines in the Challenge; it is a great opportunity to have our wine tasted by experts in the field and to receive constructive feedback that will enable us to continually improve the quality of our wines.

A big thank you, therefore, to the judges who were:

Patricia Stefanowicz – MW and regular judge at National and International Wine Competitions

Yannick Joseph – Sommelier and Head Butler at St John's College, Oxford

Tobias Gorn – Master Sommelier, Internationally qualified wine & spirits judge, Chairman of IWSC panels

Mark Stefanowicz – MW and regular judge at International Wine Competitions

An equally big thank you to Feona McEwan for stepping in at the last minute in helping me to blind the wines and for endless washing up, to Leonie and Christopher Cooke for making the facilities at Winding Wood Vineyard available to us at no cost and for providing a delicious lunch.

We cross fingers for good ripening weather in the next couple of weeks and even more entries next year!

Kind regards, Denise Santilli, Honorary Secretary T&CVA, Sept 2018