

# THAMES AND CHILTERN VINEYARDS ASSOCIATION

## Annual General Meeting

12pm-1.30pm Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011

The Margaret Day Room, Henley-on-Thames

### Attending:

FirstName	Surname	Partner	Vineyard	Town
Michael	Gilbey	Linda	Pheasants Ridge Vineyard	HENLEY-ON-THAMES
Henry	Laithwaite	Kaye	Pump Lane Vineyard	MARLOW
Roy	Philips	Lavinia	Parhams Farm Vineyard	SHAFTESBURY
Rob	Sutton	Lin		Chalfont St Giles
Andy	Creighton		Mill Hill Village Vinyard	LONDON
Peter	Dart		Stanlake Park Wine Estate	READING
Margaret	McVey-Dymond			WINNERSH
Bob	Nielsen		Brightwell Vineyard	WALLINGFORD
Phil	Rossi		Oaken Grove Vineyard	LONDON
Denise	Santilli		Linch Hill Vineyard	STANTON HARCOURT
Nigel	Smith		Manor Fields Vineyard	Nr AYLESBURY
Patricia	Stefanowicz			London

### 1. Apologies

FirstName	Surname	Partner	Vineyard	Town
Jonathan	Abbott	Jane	Grange Farm Vineyard	CHIPPING NORTON
Colin	Baker	Nicola	Titchfield Vineyard	Titchfield
Steve	Callaghan	Vivienne	Hendred Vineyard	WANTAGE
Tim	Chafor			TINGEWICK
Antony	Chapman	Carol	Hale Valley Vineyard	WENDOVER
Paul	Cooper	Sue		OXFORD
Jon	Leighton			
Richard	Liwicki	Sian	Bothy Vineyard	ABINGDON
Roger	Marchbank		Roving UKVA ambassador	
Andy	McLeod	Ali	Meadowgrove Vineyard	WANTAGE
Oliver	Richardson	Shelagh		Wem
Wendy	Sargent	Nick	The Old Forge Vineyard	HENLEY-ON-THAMES

Simon	Tooley		Frithsden Vineyard	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
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## 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2010 were read.

## 3. Matters Arising

The minutes were accepted. No matters arising.

## 4. Statements by Officials

### Chairman's Report (Bob Nielsen)

Bob outlined his role as Chairman of the T&CVA and as a committee member of the UKVA. The UKVA consists of 6 Regional Associations, therefore the T&CVA, as one of these Regional Associations is able to effectively input into the UKVA policies and activities. He urged members to use him as the conduit to raise issues that concerned them with the UKVA e.g. wine scheme rules and regulations; whether the UKVA are spending our subscriptions on worthwhile activities. Without input from the regional members, these issues cannot be addressed at UKVA level.

Wineskills courses are available at hugely discounted prices to all members of the T&CVA and members were strongly urged to take part in these courses before the EU funding runs out. They are very professionally run, educational courses, and the feedback received from members to date has been very positive. Members can register to attend a course of their choice by going to the [www.wineskills.co.uk](http://www.wineskills.co.uk) website or by contacting Jo Cowderoy at Plumpton College for more information.

In addition to the courses and venues already advertised, if any of the regional members want to attend a course more locally, it requires just 6 people and a suitable venue to qualify to hold such a course. Peter Dart of Stanlake Park Wine Estate offered to be a host venue for a wineskills course. **Action:** Denise to send a call for suggested courses to all members, compile the list and liaise with Peter Dart and Jo Cowderoy to organise.

Mentors are also available through the Wineskills programme. These experts in a variety of vini- and viti-culture topics will come to your vineyard and give personal advice to the member. If neighbouring vineyards wish to use the same mentor, it is possible to arrange for him/ her to attend both sites on the same day which could save on costs. Members should address the Wineskills team directly if they wish to do this.

The UKVA Wine Competition date and venue has not yet been announced. The criteria for entry to the UKVA competition is also to be announced but is likely to be restricted to those wines with RWS/QWS/PDO/ PGI status but is open to commercial and non commercial vineyards.

The T&CVA competition will be held end Aug/ beginning Sept 2011 and invites entries from all members in the association regardless of commercial status and PDO / PGI status.

## Treasurer's Report for the Financial Period 1st January 2010 - 28th February 2011

(Andy Creighton)

Following the decision to Invoice for the overdue 2010 subscriptions at the end of December 2010, it seemed appropriate to extend our Financial year by two months and have a reasonably cohesive period to Report. The next Financial period will end on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2011 after which we should revert to "normal".

As you know, it was a quiet year, with only the AGM taking place, so the Committee agreed only to invoice members for the main UKVA component of their subs for 2010. Since we did have expenditure during the year on the AGM and Web hosting fees, we have an inevitable deficit of £222 which has come out of the reserves.

As previously indicated, it is intended to invoice for the TCVA/UKVA 2011 year subs in July, some six months after they are due. By that time the Assn will have become much more active again and we will then be charging £1.50 on top of the basic UKVA fee of £35 plus their hectarage levy of £6.24 per tenth of a hectare. £1.50 a head will not go very far in funding our intended update of our website, so we will be digging deeper into our reserves this current year.

We currently have some 37 paying members plus 5 honorary members and because virtually all of them have, and occasionally read, their email, our postage costs are very low. This year I had 10 payments for subs by BACS transfer which saves the members their postage and the risk of cheques going astray. It would be very helpful if more members did so though I appreciate that not everyone on the internet is sufficiently relaxed about the security aspects.

**THAMES AND CHILTERN VINEYARDS ASSOCIATION**

INCOME & EXPENDITURE  
for the Financial Period 1st January 2010 - 28th February 2011

		INCOME	EXPENDITURE	SURPLUS/ DEFICIT	2009 ACCOUNTS
		£	£	£	£
<b>Subs</b>					
T&CVA		0.00		0.00	28.00
<b>UKVA</b>					
Overdue for 2009		609.29	609.29	0.00	1602.52
Due for 2010		2319.92	2319.92	0.00	
2010 AGM		110.00	201.75	-91.75	0.00
Web Hosting			131.33	-131.33	0.00
Secretarial			0.00	0.00	0.00
Bank Interest		1.04		1.04	1.52
		3040.25	3262.29	-222.04	28.96

<b>ASSETS</b>		
NatWest current a/c	1726.92	2103.74
Plus debtors etc.	152.82	1101.42
Less creditors etc.	<u>433.16</u>	<u>1602.52</u>
<b>Net</b>	<b>1446.58</b>	<b>1602.64</b>
NatWest Dep a/c	<u>2098.85</u>	<u>2097.81</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>3545.43</u></b>	<b><u>3700.45</u></b>

**It was proposed by Bob Nielsen and seconded by Nigel Smith that the accounts be adopted. This was passed unanimously.**

2011 Members are:

<b>FirstName</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Vineyard</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Life</b>
Jonathan & Jane	Abbott	Grange Farm Vineyard	CHIPPING NORTON	
Colin & Nicola	Baker	Titchfield Vineyard	Titchfield	
Steve & Vivienne	Callaghan	Hendred Vineyard	WANTAGE	
Tony	Castle	St Andrew's Vineyard	LONDON	
Tim	Chafor		TINGEWICK	
Antony & Carol	Chapman	Hale Valley Vineyard	WENDOVER	
Paul	Cooper		OXFORD	
Andy	Creighton	Mill Hill Village Vineyard	LONDON	
Peter	Cridland		ST ALBANS	
Peter & Annette	Dart	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	READING	
Michael	Dean	Vernon Lodge Vineyard	TOWCESTER	
David	Ealand	Old Luxters Vineyard	HENLEY-ON-THAMES	
Alastair	Field		Woodcote	
Dorothea	Fisher		READING	Life
Gerry	Fowles		READING	Life
Michael & Linda	Gilbey	Pheasants Ridge Vineyard	HENLEY-ON-THAMES	
Michael	Hardingham	Ludlow Vineyard	CRAVEN ARMS	
Ulrich	Hoffman		BRIGHTON	
Indrajit	Hoon		LONDON	
Henry & Kaye	Laithwaite	Pump Lane Vineyard	MARLOW	
Jon	Leighton			Life
Richard & Sian	Liwicki	Bothy Vineyard	ABINGDON	
Andy & Ali	McLeod	Meadowgrove Vineyard	WANTAGE	
Margaret	McVey-Dymond		WINNERSH	
Nigel	Morgan	Daws Hill Farm	HIGH WYCOMBE	
Bob & Carol	Nielsen	Brightwell Vineyard	WALLINGFORD	
Douglas	Palin		LONDON	
John	Petersen	Dropmore Vineyard	SLOUGH	
Roy & Lavinia	Philips	Parhams Farm Vineyard	SHAFTESBURY	
Oliver & Shelagh	Richardson		Wem	Life
Phil & Leena	Rossi	Oaken Grove Vineyard (Fawley)	LONDON	
Rob & Denise	Santilli	Linch Hill Vineyard	STANTON HARCOURT	
Wendy & Nick	Sargent	The Old Forge Vineyard	HENLEY-ON-THAMES	
John	Shields		LONDON	
Nigel & Ina	Smith	Manor Fields Vineyard	Nr AYLESBURY	
Patricia	Stefanowicz		LONDON	
Rob	Sutton		Chalfont St Giles	
Alex	Taylor	Bridewell Organic Gardens	CHIPPING NORTON	
Simon	Tooley	Frithsden Vineyard	HEMEL HEMPSTEAD	
David	Wheeler		MAIDENHEAD	Life
Richard & Diana	Woodward		COMBE	

## Secretary's Report (Denise Santilli)

A survey was sent to all members in January asking for their input / comments regarding proposed activities for 2011. The results of the survey were as follows:

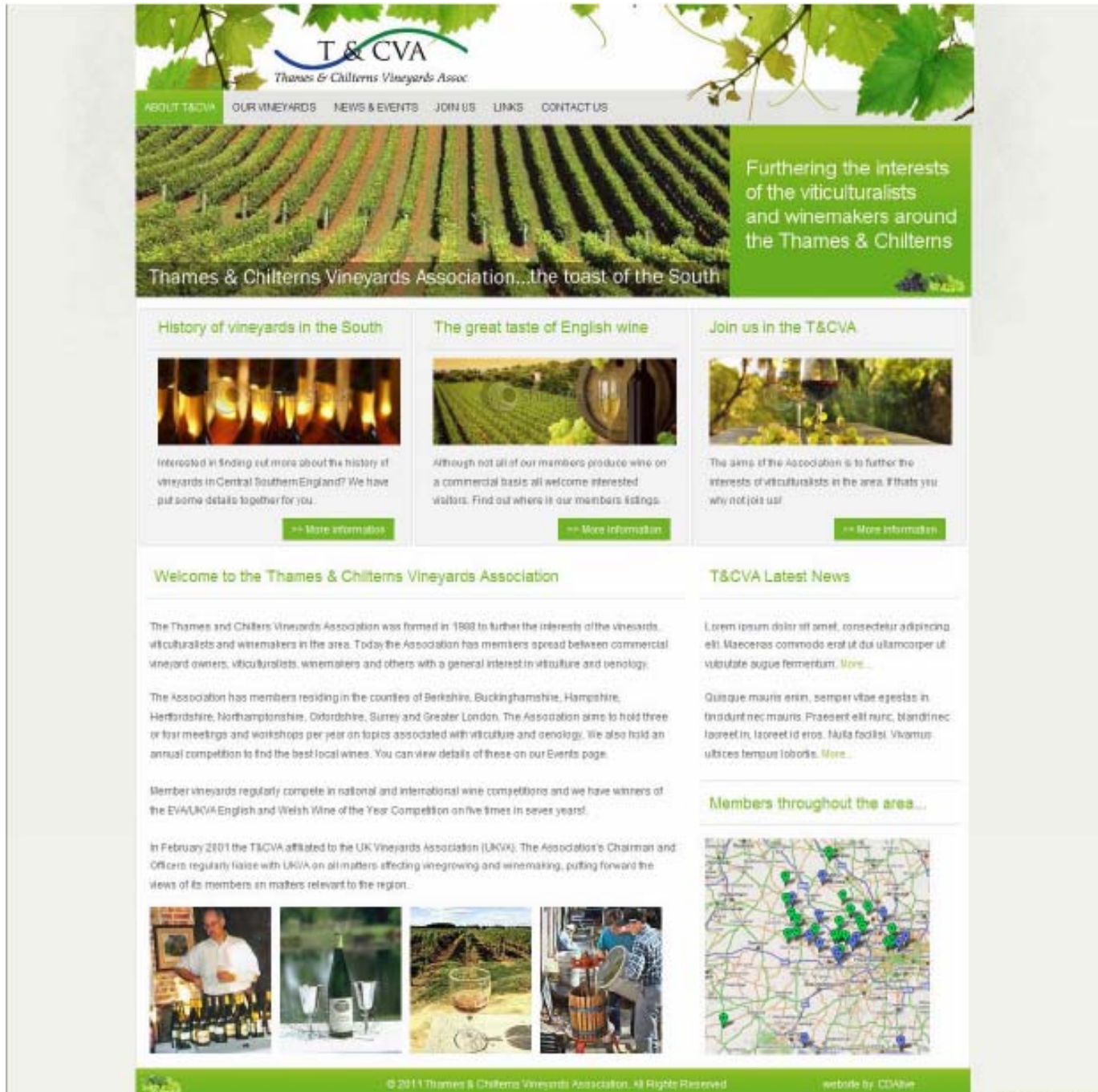
Activity	Yes	Comment
Updated T&CVA website	11/11	Need to define procedure & responsibilities for keeping it up to date
Annual T&CVA Regional Wine challenge	10/11	What about a category for non-PDO status wines to encourage participation from non-commercial vineyards and hobbyists? Yes – will have this in the Regional Competition.
weekend social events <i>with</i> educational content	7/9	Make it <b>really</b> worthwhile due to time constraints
weekend social events <i>without</i> other content	2/7	Annual Dinner (suggest this is combined with other event e.g. AGM)
Stand-alone lectures in the evening /at weekend	4/6	Only if very local / timely / outstanding/ integrated with something else. Not weekends in 2 cases.
Annual General meeting	7/8	Choose a date when people are likely to be <b>least</b> busy in the vineyard
Electronic Chat room / help forum	5/9	<b>For:</b> may help to integrate our membership <b>Against:</b> we already have the UKVA forum
Public Relations activities at local level (eg. Radio, Agricultural shows)	8/10	Local press, radio, to promote English and T&CVA wine producers and their wine
Visits to other vineyards / wineries in the Region	6/10	Visits to foreign vineyards / combine with other regions (e.g. East Anglia Region visit to Sicily in May 2011),
Other activities – please specify		Encourage members to participate in Wineskills courses whilst the funding lasts!

Resulting from this survey, it was decided at a Committee meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2011 at Stanlake Park Wine Estate that we would conduct the following activities this year. The actions were updated following comments at the AGM.

Proposed Activity	When	Actions
Update website	One month after supplier & expenditure agreed	Denise, Nigel + committee / Chairman as required
AGM with Annual Dinner & Wine tasting	Sunday March 27 <sup>th</sup> 2011, The Old Barn, Henley-on-Thames.  12-1.30pm meeting, followed by Lunch and Wine Tasting	Denise: meeting coordination, logistics & invitations  Patricia: wine tasting  Committee: assist on the day
Local PR activities (press, radio, local TV)	English Wine week 28 <sup>th</sup> May – 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2011	Denise to coordinate with interested vineyards. Individual vineyards to provide necessary facts /interviews to media
Trade Wine Tasting Day	5 <sup>th</sup> May 2011; one Great George St, London  T&CVA table & attendees required	EWP together with Bob Nielsen to coordinate T&CVA members
T&CVA Wine & Food Festival	Stanlake Park Wine Estate, weekend of either 30-31 <sup>st</sup> July or 6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> August (TBC by Peter Dart).  Wines supplied by T&CVA commercial vineyards, Food by local suppliers, Wine Tasting hosted by Patricia Stefanowicz	Denise to check for conflicting events on these dates and e-mail all members to check that they would participate in such an event.  If affirmative, Denise to liaise with Peter Dart over programme & logistics and involve all committee members in individual tasks prior to, and on the day.
Annual Wine Challenge (combined with Lunch)	End of August / beginning of September -	Patricia to confirm dates that she is available to host the wine tasting. Denise to e-mail members with criteria for hosting this event and find a willing vineyard.  NOTE: all committee members to assist host vineyard on the day
Wineskills courses hosted at member vineyards	Throughout the year	Individual members to register with Wineskills directly. Individual vineyards to offer to host the courses
Recruitment of new members	After we have ascertained 2011 membership status	Committee members to approach vineyards as appropriate

At this meeting the costs and scope of the proposed suppliers of the website redesign were presented. It was agreed by the meeting that the T&CVA would appoint CD Associates to be the new website designers based on the proposal shown at the meeting (attached). Denise

& Nigel will now work with this supplier and all members to update the content with the intention of launching the new website in one month's time (before English Wine Week). Only photos from T&CVA vineyards will be used.





**6. Election of Officials for 2011**

Following discussion, the following were proposed, seconded and approved as committee members for 2011: -

Chairman & UKVA Rep	Bob Nielsen
Vice Chairman	Peter Dart
Hon Secretary	Denise Santilli
Hon Treasurer & Mem Sec	Andy Creighton
Webmaster	Nigel Smith
Ordinary Members	Patricia Stefanowicz
	Margaret McVey-Dymond
	Richard Liwicki
	Phil Rossi
	Michael Gilbey
	Linda Gilbey

**7. Any Other Business**

The T&CVA constitution is now out of date (written in 1998). It will be re-written by the committee members and ratified at the next AGM.

The T&CVA will move to internet banking

There being no other business the meeting closed at 13:40

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Chairman