

November 2024

Believe it or not there are just 50 days to go until Christmas Day so it made a nice change from Christmas shopping to be sampling wine at the November meeting.

Luckily the weather held and 16 individuals, including Karen our new member, congregated at 'The Kitchen' to sample six wines, whose theme was not revealed on the day (Nick forgot); in addition we held a small quiz to test the accumulated knowledge learnt over the past 30 months and having tasted 183 different wines! Details of the quiz are at the end of this document.

We started with three whites:

1. **Nyetimber 'Classic Cuvée' Brut, Chardonnay, West Sussex, 12%. RRP £45 we paid £29**
2. **Cune Barrel Fermented Rioja Blanco 2022, Spain, 13%, RRP £12.99 we paid £9.99**
3. **Jaboulet Aîné Viognier 2022/23, France, 13.5%, RRP £12.99 we paid £9.99**

The first wine was the official sparkling wine of Team GB at the Paris 2024 Olympics. Needless to say it was well received. A vote was taken on the remaining two whites with the clear winner being the Viognier which received 14 votes.



Onto the reds:

4. **'Yerevan 782 BC' Red 2023 Armenia, 13%, RRP £12.99 we paid £11.69**
5. **Cave de Lugny Bourgogne Pinot Noir 2022, France, 12.5%, RRP 16.99 we paid £14.99**
6. **Fonseca Bin 27 Port, Portugal, 20%, RRP £18.99 we paid £16.99**

The Port was a surprise but was very well received garnering 10 votes to the Pinot Noir's 6.

After the whites we had the first 7 questions of the quiz with the remaining 7 questions being given after the reds – it was just for fun and the members did manage to answer the majority (I think!).

The Theme was that each of the wines came from an answer in the quiz!

Remember that a full write up of all the wines can be found on the Wine Group page.

Wine Quiz

1. Who invented the first sparkling wine? **The English**
2. On average, how much wine does one acre of grapevines produce?
800 gallons
3. Which country has the largest area of vineyards? **Spain**
4. How old is the oldest winery in the world? **4100BC in Armenia**
5. What glass should champagne be served in? **A wide rimmed glass**
6. Slainte is a typical toast in which country? **Ireland**
7. What does slainte mean? **Health**
8. Which type of French wine is traditionally made from the Pinot Noir grape? **Burgundy**
9. What was Dom Perignon's occupation when he invented Champagne? **A monk**
10. What is the typical mark up of wine in restaurants? **Triple the price and then add VAT**
11. How many standard bottles of wine are there in one Nebuchadnezzar? **20**
12. Fortified wines have been distilled to have a greater alcohol content? True or false. **False. They have brandy or another spirit added to them**
13. Because of its alcohol content wine has more calories than the same amount of grape juice? True or false. **False**
14. When was cork first used to seal bottles of wine? 1780. **Before that the French used oil-soaked rags.**