

Newsletter November 2026

Northern Italian Wines

Tuesday 3rd November: 8:00pm Village Hall: Giusy Andreacchio – Former colleague and friend of the club!

From David

Dear members and guests,

While Southern Italy benefits from the Mediterranean climate allowing it to churn out high-octane fruit bombs, the north needs to rely on dramatic tension. Nestled against the icy knees of the Alps, regions like Piedmont, Veneto, and Alto Adige benefit from high-altitude terroir with fog-shrouded hills—a climate that feels reassuringly temperate, making it entirely legible to a British palate.

Members shouldn't expect a rustic house red served in a wicker basket, rather the discovery of a wide structural variety that makes northern Italian winemaking so fascinating. A journey through contrasting styles and terroirs: from the mature masterpieces of Nebbiolo country, to the rich, brooding intensity arising from ancient Appassimento drying techniques. Along the way, we'll unearth bone-dry, high-altitude Alpine whites or perhaps even rekindle our love for the region's finest sparkling creations. Having known Giusy for over 15 years, on her 4th visit to the club since lockdown, I expect a flight of high quality and wide variety, delivered with enthusiasm.

About Our Presenter

Giusy is a St Albans-based wine educator, international wine judge, speaker, and export consultant specialising in Italian wines. Originally from Calabria, Italy, and currently based in St Albans, UK, she has spent over two decades working in the wine and hospitality industry, including working with me at Armit Wines! Qualified at WSET level 4, she was awarded an Italian Wine Scholarship (with highest honours) from the Wine Scholar Guild (WSG) in 2022. We are in very safe hands here!

Looking ahead – December 1st special event [Tickets are now available]

December 1st sees the combination of wine merchant Peter Watts supplying our libations and former England cricket captain Graham Gooch supplying our after (or during) dinner speaking entertainment.

Founded in 1979, Peter Watts Wines is a family-run business built on a philosophy of sourcing high-quality, exclusive wines directly from smaller, independent producers and family estates, the company imports a wide selection of Old World and New World wines, wines of the cricketing nations being the topic he's been set.

Gooch's after-dinner speeches deliver light-hearted, behind-the-scenes tales from his 20-year career. He shares funny, self-deprecating accounts of his tough debut making a "pair" against Australia, alongside memorable dressing-room stories featuring iconic teammates and international rivals. However, for those less interested in the world of cricket, his passion for fine wine and active involvement in the wine trade form a compelling second dimension to his public profile and speaking repertoire. Gooch draws on themes of fine wine collecting, winemaking, and leadership/performance psychology to make an engaging evening. Tickets are £45 per head rather than the normal Christmas price of £27, which also includes an upgraded food and wine budget.

Chalfont & Amersham Wine Club

www.chalfamwineclub.org.uk



Website Booking

All booking must be done via the website to secure your place. The number of tables (and therefore the number of tickets available on sale) will be reduced depending on the number of bookings on the Sunday just before the event - so please book early to ensure you secure your places. This is to prevent purchasing too much food for the night. There will be some residual places available, and these will be on sale right until the evening itself for any last-minute bookings. **If the event is sold out, please send an email to webmaster@chalfamwineclub.org.uk to be placed on the waiting list.**



If you have a credit note from a previous cancellation, please do remember to use this on your next booking!

Guests:

In the final week before an event, members can book additional places to bring guests (subject to there being spaces remaining!). Please do not book for guests before this time as earlier bookings are for members only – any guests booked before this time will be removed from the booking.

Refunds:

Refunds/credit notes can be issued if members (or their guests) become unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances. This applies up to 24 hours before the evening (8pm on the Monday). Refunds/credit notes are not possible after this point unless there is another member on the waiting list who is able to take the place – **so please do let us know if you are unable to attend even at very short notice** as this may enable another member from the waiting list to come in your place. This is because the club will have finalised the orders for the evening. As issuing refunds to cards costs the club money, we kindly ask that if possible, a credit note is issued in preference to a full refund.

If there are any problems accessing the website or completing a booking, please email me at webmaster@chalfamwineclub.org.uk and I will do everything I can to assist.

