



Annual Wine Challenge 2020 Results Brief

Commentary

The 2020 Wine Challenge was held at Brightwell Vineyard on Sunday September 13th 2020. 39 wines from 14 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, especially the 2019 vintage. The numbers of wines entered per class were as follows:

Class 1: Dry White, 2019 – 12 entries; **Class 2:** Dry White, prior to 2019 - 7 entries; **Class 3:** White, not dry, any year – none; **Class 4:** Red, any year – 3 entries; **Class 5:** Rose, any year – 5 entries; **Class 6:** Sparkling, any year, any colour – 12 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	Brightwell Vineyard, Sauvignon Blanc 2019
Sparkling Wine Trophy	Best Sparkling Wine (any colour)	Hendred Vineyard, Hendred Brut 2015
Emmbrook Cup	Best Red Wine	Brightwell Vineyard, Pinot Noir 2016
T&CVA Decanter	Best Wine Overall	Brightwell Vineyard, Sauvignon Blanc 2019
Stefanowicz salver	Best Still Rose wine	Linch Hill Vineyard, Pink Rabbit 2019
Anne Howitt Shield	Best Non-Commercial Wine	Dreaming Squires, Red Kite 2019

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+

Class	Vineyard name	Entrant name	Wine name	Year	Producer name	Award	Trophy
1	Brightwell Vineyard	Bob Nielsen	Sauvignon blanc	2019	Brightwell Winery	GOLD	Mac McKinnon & TCVA Decanter
1	Dreaming Squires	Evelyn Joslin	Red Kite	2019	Dreaming Squires (NC)	GOLD	Anne Howitt Shield
2	Dropmore Vineyard	Feona Mc Kewan	Ortega	2016/7	Stanlake Park	GOLD	
5	Linch Hill Vineyard	Denise Santilli	Pink Rabbit	2019	Three Choirs	GOLD	Stefanowicz Salver
6	Hendred Vineyard	David & Eileen Bell	Hendred Brut	2015	Three Choirs	GOLD	Sparkling Wine Trophy
2	Dropmore Vineyard	Feona Mc Kewan	Bacchus	2017	Stanlake Park	SILVER	
6	Dropmore Vineyard	Feona Mc Kewan	Sparkling Brut	2016	Stanlake Park	SILVER	
2	Vernon Lodge	Mike Dean	Madeleine Angevine	2018	Vernon Lodge (NC)	SILVER	
6	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	Natalia Pezzone	Stanlake Brut	NV	Stanlake Park	SILVER	
6	Fairmile Vineyard	Jan Mirkowski	Rose	NV	Hambledon Winery	SILVER	
6	Dinton Wines	Lawrence Kimber	Dinton Folly	2015	Stanlake Park	SILVER	
6	Winding Wood	Chris Cooke & Robert Louth	Classic Cuvee	2016	Hattingley Valley	SILVER	
1	Linch Hill Vineyard	Denise Santilli	Oxford Rebel	2019	Three Choirs	SILVER	
2	Oaken Grove	Phil Rossi	Bacchus Reserve	2018	Stanlake Park	SILVER	
2	Dreaming Squires	Evelyn Joslin	Red Kite	2018	Dreaming Squires (NC)	SILVER	
1	Brightwell Vineyard	Bob Nielsen	Oxford Flint	2019	Brightwell Winery	SILVER	
1	Dreaming Squires	Evelyn Joslin	Skylark	2019	Dreaming Squires (NC)	SILVER	
4	Brightwell Vineyard	Bob Nielsen	Oxford Regatta	2016	Brightwell Winery	SILVER	
4	Brightwell Vineyard	Bob Nielsen	Pinot Noir	2016	Brightwell Winery	SILVER	Emmbrook Trophy
6	Oaken Grove	Phil Rossi	Blanc de Noir	2015	Stanlake Park	SILVER	
1	Brightwell Vineyard	Bob Nielsen	Bacchus	2019	Brightwell Winery	SILVER	
5	Brightwell Vineyard	Bob Nielsen	Oxford Rose	2018	Brightwell Winery	SILVER	
6	Daws Hill Vineyard	Holly Morgan	Sparkling White	2016	Daws Hill Vineyard & Winery	SILVER	
6	Fairmile Vineyard	Jan Mirkowski	Classic Cuvee	NV	Hambledon Winery	SILVER	
6	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	Natalia Pezzone	Rose Superior	NV	Stanlake Park	BRONZE	
5	Dropmore Vineyard	Feona Mc Kewan	Pinot Blush	2019	Stanlake Park	BRONZE	
1	Oaken Grove	Phil Rossi	Orchard White	2019	Stanlake Park	BRONZE	
1	Bothy Vineyard	Sian & Richard Liwicki	Doctors Bacchus	2019	Bothy Vineyard	BRONZE	
6	Linch Hill Vineyard	Denise Santilli	Oxford Sparkle	2018	Three Choirs	BRONZE	
6	Fawley Vineyard	Nick & Wendy Sargent	Fawley Sparkling	2017	Stanlake Park	BRONZE	
2	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	Natalia Pezzone	Bacchus	2018	Stanlake Park	BRONZE	
2	Bothy Vineyard	Sian & Richard Liwicki	Renaissance	2018	Bothy Vineyard	BRONZE	
1	Fawley Vineyard	Nick & Wendy Sargent	Fawley Bacchus	2019	Stanlake Park	BRONZE	
1	Dreaming Squires	Evelyn Joslin	Bacchus	2019	Dreaming Squires (NC)	BRONZE	
5	Oaken Grove	Phil Rossi	Benham Blush	2019	Stanlake Park	BRONZE	
4	Stanlake Park Wine Estate	Natalia Pezzone	The Reserve	NV	Stanlake Park	BRONZE	
1	Oaken Grove	Phil Rossi	Bacchus Reserve	2019	Stanlake Park	BRONZE	

If anyone requires medal stickers (gold, silver, bronze) to put on their wines, these are available from Christopher Cooke 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 2020 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 Chairman of the Regional Challenge and Vice-Chairman of Thames and Chiltern Valley Vineyards Association.

Lindsay Oram – Lindsay Oram O'Donoghue AWE, CWW, AIWS

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

Mark Stefanowicz –International Judge and Amateur MS Award Winner

An equally big thank you to Carol & Bob Nielsen for helping me to blind the wines, for making the facilities at Brightwell 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 equally numerous entries next year!

Kind regards, Denise Santilli, Honorary Secretary T&CVA, Sept 2020