

United Kingdom Vineyards Association

The UKVA welcomes all who are interested in grape and wine production in the UK, large or small producers, and those non-producers who wish to be involved and informed.

The UKVA is the only recognised voice of the industry. It is the organisation to which grape growers and winemakers belong in order to:

- receive and share information on viticultural and vinicultural techniques,
- Have a voice in Westminster and Brussels.
- promote their products.

The UKVA organises events and keeps its members informed and networked via a wide variety of mechanisms:

- The **English and Welsh Wine of the Year Competition** – the national competition for UK produced wines from fresh grapes. This is the only competition judged solely Masters of Wine. The awards are presented at a prestigious ceremony held at the **House of Lords in July**. The results are publicised nationally.
- Top speakers are invited to speak at UKVA bi-annual **Symposia** which covers both cutting edge technical and marketing issues, as well as debates on current issues in the wine world.
- The **Annual General Conference**, hosted by key organisations with a viticultural focus, is the place for members to voice their opinions. Informative and hands-on workshops are also organised.
- Regular **technical email bulletins** covering changes in legislation, useful events and members news are sent out to all members that register.
- A very lively **email Forum** which facilitates the exchange of information and opinion
- The **Grape Press**, produced twice a year, is the only magazine which deals with technical issues affecting UK vineyards and wineries, and includes a **Commercial Directory** listing of winemakers, consultants and other service providers.
- The **Pesticides** booklet, updated each Spring, brings together information on all approved sprays and best practice, ensuring that members spray effectively and legally.



The UKVA works closely with the **English Wine Producers** which is the marketing association for the industry. Members therefore benefit from:

- The annual **Trade and Press Tasting** (taking place on St George's Day)
- **English Wine Week** which has attracted much attention from the retail sector
- Free copies of **The Map of English and Welsh Vineyards**
- A high profile on the **EWP website**.

The UKVA is the UK Government recognised body (RIB), and as such had direct access to and contact with all official bodies connected to our industry such as Defra, the Food Standards Agency (Wine and Spirits Branch), and the Wine and Spirit Trade Association. It also organises the Regional and Quality Wine Scheme tastings which have ensured that UK wines have improved in quality year on year.

Last year UKVA lobbying in the EU ensured that wine growers could continue to plant new vines, and experiment with new varieties, and is now well placed to receive the national envelope as part of the Wine Regime. We continue to lobby for greater flexibility in proven wine making techniques and labelling.

The UKVA is also affiliated with the NFU, the Wine and Spirit Trade Association and works closely with Plumpton College, the Association of Applied Biologists, the Brewing Research Institute and the Wine and Spirit Education Trust to bring its members more information and members benefits.

The UKVA is formed from six Regional Associations and a grouping of larger producers. Members join the UKVA via their Regional Association, where they also then benefit from local networks, events and publications. The Affiliated Regional Associations are:

East Anglian Winegrowers Association

Chairman: Mary Mudd
Carpenter's House, Green Lane Corner, Boxted,
Colchester, CO4 5TR
Tel: 01206 272609
Email: mm_mary_@hotmail.com

Somerset BA46RQ
Tel: 01749 860331
email: brianshirley@wraxallvineyard.co.uk

Thames & Chilterns Vineyards Association

Chairman: Dr Richard Liwicki
Bothy Vineyard, Frilford Heath
Abingdon OX13 6QW
Tel: 01865 390067
Email: office@bothyvineyard.co.uk

Mercian Vineyards Association

Chairman: Chris Gallimore
Welcombe Hills Vineyard, Vine Cottage
Kings Lane, Snitterfield
Stratford upon Avon, Warwicks. CV37 0QB
Tel: 1789731071
Email: chrisgallim@hotmail.com

Wessex Vineyards Association

Chairman: Ian Edwards
Furleigh Estate, Salway Ash, Bridport,
Dorset DT6 5JF
Tel: 01308 488991 Email: iemail@btinternet.com

South East Vineyards Association

Chair: Christopher Foss
Plumpton College, Ditchling Road, Nr Lewes,
BN7 3AE
Tel: 01273 890454
Email: chris.foss@plumpton.ac.uk

Affiliated association: English Wine Producers

Chairman: Michael Roberts
Contact: Julia Trustram Eve
PO Box 5729, Market Harborough, LE16 8WX
T: 01536 77226 F: 01536 772263 Email:
info@englishwineproducers.com
Www.englishwineproducers.co.uk

South West Vineyards Association

Chairman: Brian Shirley
Wraxall Vineyard, Wraxall, Shepton Mallet,

The United Kingdom Vineyards Association Contact: Sian Liwicki PO Box 534, Frilford Heath, Abingdon OX14 9BZ Tel: **01865 390188** Email: sian@ukva.org.uk