

# Newsletter

## Summer 2007



HARLEQUIN  
WINES

From the Vineyard to your Door

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## Dear Wine Lover,

Here are further details and an insight into the vineyards Harlequin Wines have chosen wines from. We hope you enjoy learning a little more about them. Please don't hesitate to telephone for more information and details of other wines available on our list.

Happy drinking! *Martin*

### Jean Claude Aubert

*Vouvray AOC Sec 1999*

The Vouvray appellation is situated on the right bank of the Loire upstream from Tours. The limestone-clay or siliceous-clay of the region rests on a sub-layer of tuffeau, the elegant stone used to build the chateaux for which the region is renowned.

The Chenin grape is the only variety used for Vouvray, and the wine has yellow and golden hues. This dry wine, delicate and lively on the palate has a bouquet of acacia, fresh grape, quince and almond. Seductive when young it has now developed a rich aromatic intensity.

Dry Vouvray goes well with pork and shell fish.



### Meziat Pierre

*Chiroubles Vieilles Vignes 2004*

The Marquis des Pontheux estate is Pierre Meziat's domain, a famed and passionate winemaker.



The site is remarkable, the perfect setting for high-quality wine like Chiroubles. The "Vieilles Vignes" cuvee is made with grapes from vines of over 60 years old and is the crowning glory. Hand picking, maturing in oak tuns and estate bottling are all traditions handed down by generations since 1889. Enjoy this wine now or keep for a few more years.

### Daniel Crochet

For 4 generations the Crochet family has produced fine Sancerre wines. Daniel assumed responsibility for the estate in 1996 after completing studies in viticulture and oenology.

The estate covers 9.15 hectares in the communities of Bue and Sancerre. Planted with Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Noir.

The *terroir* consists of 2 types:

- Limestone-clay (terres Blanches)
- Pebbly limestone (caillottes)

Daniel employs the techniques of ploughing, and allowing grass to grow between the vines. Plus a conscientious and environmentally responsible program of pest and disease control.

*Sancerre Blanc 2005*

Has a balanced acidity of sauvignon Blanc with freshness of fruit.

*Sancerre Blanc Plante des Pres 2004*

Has a similar balance and acidity with the benefit of vines at least 40 years old and aged in oak casks.



### Chateau de Grezan

The Chateau is now a well-known tourist destination with historic cellars, a lively restaurant and superb accommodation. In these vibrant surroundings, Remi Fardel and Jean Louis Pujol produce some wonderful wines.



*Domaine de la Commanderie de St Jean*

*2003* is a Vin de Pays. This is a wine of the south, a delightful blend of Merlot, Syrah and Pinot, which suggests red fruits with a hint of leather. The soft tannins make for easy drinking. A perfect accompaniment to meats, pasta and poultry.

### Domaine Bourdic

Hans Hurlimann and Christa Vogel own Domaine Bourdic. Hans used to compose modern classical music in Basle and Christa was a teacher and played tympani. Eleven years ago they came on holiday to the Languedoc "because it was raining in Italy." They decided to move there.

That astutely-chosen decision has borne fruit, literally, and their fourteen hectares of vineyard is now expertly cherished. The nature around them and the animals that live with them form the foundation of this harmonious Domaine.

Hans and Christa are not what you'd call typically Swiss. They are meticulous, definitely, when it comes to their vineyard. Organised, yes. But their Domaine is fun and un-stuffy and more than likely to bubble to the sounds of laughter or to a quartet playing Beethoven at the music festival they sometimes host in the summer.

*The Syrah 2001* is a big, powerful red. The tannins have softened with aging. Now this is the wine for hunter-gatherers – perfect with a haunch of wild boar or a venison stew.

