



## **January Meeting - Tom from The Friendly Grape – Memorable wines from his past experiences wine making around the world**

The Friendly Grape Company is an enterprise hosting bespoke wine tasting events. Our host for the first Buckingham Wine Circle event of 2023, was hosted by Tom. Tom has vast experience within the wine industry having worked in many countries including, Portugal, New Zealand and many others. His experience stems from picking the grapes through to the whole process, culminating in the end product, the bottled wine. In fact, Tom has gained a Masters Degree, for his study in the process of wine production.

By way of illustration of how the wines we were presented with for tasting are produced, Tom gave an extremely interesting slide show. This gave another very explanatory dimension to the presentation.

The first wine, was a UK produced wine from Gloucester. This winery produces some of the oldest wines produced in England. Three Choirs, Stonebrook. White Blend. 11%, £9.99p

The second wine, a German wine, produced in the Mosel Valley, where the micro climate is conducive to producing wine, where the vines are grown on sticks in order to enhance the drying process. 12%, £11/£12.

The third wine, a wine produced in New Zealand, Wairau Valley, Marlborough, Fincher & Co., Sauvignon Blanc, with classic gooseberry, grapefruit traits. 12.5%, £9.99p.

The fourth wine, again produced in New Zealand, Waimea, Gewürztraminer. Here the first vines were planted in the 1970's. The winery, Nelson, is further to the North of New Zealand, where there is more sun. 12.5%, £12.

The fifth wine, another wine produced in New Zealand, a red wine, aged in oak barrels. The King's Wrath, Pinot Noir, Marlborough, 14%, £12.

The last of the six wines presented, Douro Eagle, Superior Red, produced in the Douro Valley, Portugal, a blend of different styles of grapes. 14%, £10.

As mentioned above, this was an extremely well presented tasting, and we are very much looking forward to what the future events hold. Thank you to the Committee, who with much hard work have established excellent grounding for the successful future of the Buckingham Wine Circle.

Julie