



XX Club
Session 113.3
1st December 2021

And finally....

GROWER'S SELECTION MADELEINE ANGEVINE 2018, Devon, 11%, £15.99

Sharpham was one of the first vineyards to be established in England, 40 years ago now. Their first vineyard was planted in 1981 on the banks of the river Dart and their wines today receive much acclaim. The winemaker and CEO is Duncan Schwabb, who arrived in 1992 to gain experience so he could help his dad, who'd just purchased a vineyard in Cornwall. 28 years later, Duncan is still there and is today one of the most experienced and well regarded winemakers in the UK. For this Gold-medal white, he has used pure Madeleine Angevine, an early ripener with lovely freshness and spicy peach notes. Great with seafood or chicken. **Tasting notes: Bright, fresh lemon and spiced apricot. Aroma: Ripe peach, apricot, citrus and spice.**

EDIZIONE SPECIALE NUMERATA CHIANTI NUMERO 3 PARTICELLA 21 2020, 13%, £15.99

In bumper vintages, some of the fruit from the Classico vineyards (Chianti's very best) is sold as standard Chianti in order to preserve the prestige of the most sought-after wines. Normally these 'declassified' wines get snapped up by local producers. This from the 5-star 2020 vintage. It's from a top tier winery in the heart of the Conca d'Oro (the name given to the very best area of the Classico zone). Winemaker is the renowned Franco Bernabei (who goes by the nickname Mister Sangiovese!). **Tasting notes: Ripe morello cherry, raspberry, ripe black plum. Aroma: Ripe cherry, plum, black fruit, spice.**



SEIFRIED ESTATE SWEET AGNES RIESLING (HALF BOTTLE), 10.5%, 2019, £16.99

This utterly irresistible dessert wine, with all its Trophies, Golds and Double Golds every vintage, is the pride of Hermann Seifried. He was a grape growing pioneer, who arrived in New Zealand's South Island from Austria, via Germany and South Africa, in 1969. He met and married Kiwi lass Agnes Wilkins, and they soon realised their shared dream of growing grapes. 1976 was their maiden vintage and, over 40 years on, the Seifrieds are racking up countless awards with the help of the second generation. Sweet Agnes is pure, late-harvested Riesling crafted from naturally 'raisined' grapes from the stony soils of their Eden Road vineyard. Boasting a total of 13 trophies and 28 Golds since launch, it's a delight on its own or with apricot tart, Christmas pudding or mince pies. Tasting notes: Rich, vibrant, honeyed apricot. **Aroma: Lemon sherbet, orange marmalade, butterscotch.**

PENFOLDS FATHER GRAND TAWNY NV, 18%, £22

Synonymous with the best red and fortified wines in Australia, Penfolds has been top of its game for over 160 years. The company was named 'Australian Wine Producer of the Year 2014' at London's International Wine and Spirit Competition. Like all great tawnies, the Father Grand Tawny is a blend of outstanding, cask matured wines, in this case with an average minimum age of 10 years. Based on Grenache, Shiraz, Mataro and smaller percentage of Cabernet Sauvignon, this magnificent tawny is uniquely Australian. The harmonious flavour and textures make this arguably the most elegant of the Penfolds tawny portfolio. It is recommended with cheese, or with Christmas pudding and brandy butter, and may be served slightly chilled with nuts.

Tasting notes: Rich sweet fruit cake with fragrant oak complexity and firm tannins. **Aroma: fruit cake, damson, prune, nut, vanilla (oak).**

All wines from Laithwaites.

