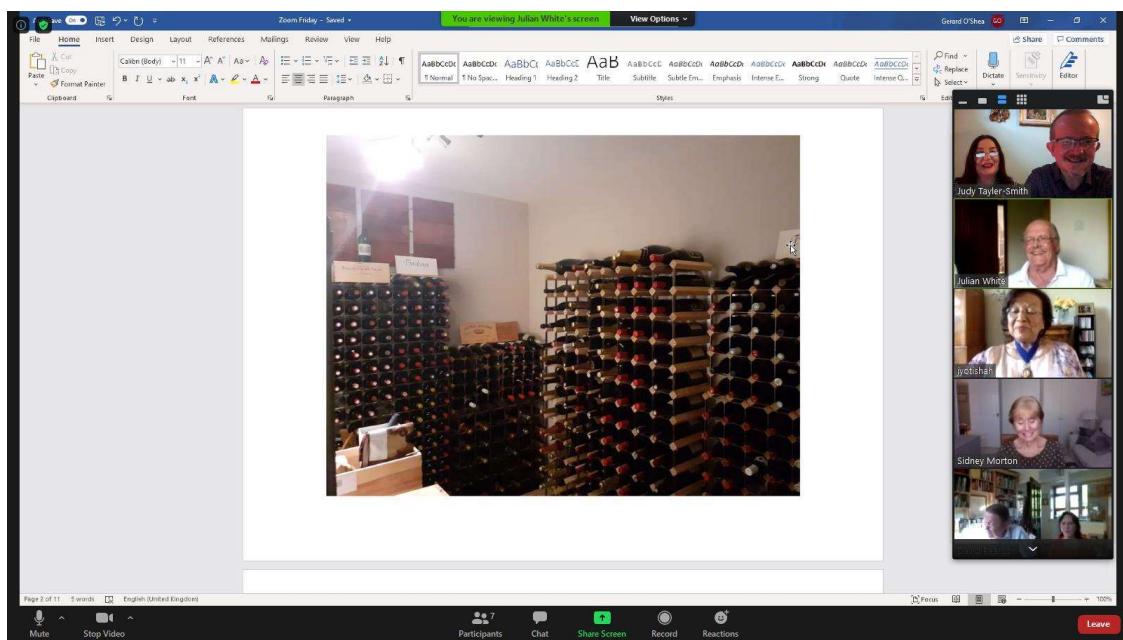




Report of the Cripplegate Ward Club Virtual Wine Tasting – 26th June 2020

For my first function since taking over as Master, I was pleased to host a virtual white wine tasting. With twelve attendees, it was a small but selective group!



The tasting was run by Julian White (now known after appearing on QI, as 'Julian the Magnificent'). Julian started his first wine company in 1978 before leaving the Army, and sold it to a public company in 1982. After some 8 years in the wine trade wholesaling, he sold up his remaining interests and is now an agent for some 50 or more French Châteaux and Domaines here in the UK. He is a specialist in Champagne, Burgundy, the Rhône and Bordeaux, but has travelled to most of the world's wine-producing regions. For 14 years, Julian was Ambassador for the United Kingdom of the Confrérie du Sabre d'Or; a Chivalric order, devoted to the promotion of Champagne and the Art of Sabrage. He is now Treasurer and

Ambassador Emeritus for the UK & Ireland and holds the rank of Knight Commander. He also lectures and directs tours of the Champagne, Burgundy and Bordeaux regions, whilst continuing to run his own Wine Agency.



We tasted two white wines and also heard about the regions with maps and vineyards shown on screen:

The Sancerre (Domaine Cherrier 2017) was made from the Sauvignon Blanc grape. As a Loire Valley wine it had gooseberry and grassy notes and coming from a chalky soil it had a dry finish and a floral nose. Perfect for seafood and goats cheese from the Loire region.

The Chardonnay (Domaine La Boulandiere, 2017) from the Languedoc was much more robust, with a green/gold colour and a good length. It had balanced acidity and the attack was lively with a citrus fruit aroma. This was a food wine and Julian said that there was no reason why you could not have this with a meatier dish.



My thanks go to Julian for conducting this tasting for us. It was the very first ‘Virtual’ event in Cripplegate Ward Club’s history. My thanks also go to Gerard O’Shea, Ambassador of the Confrérie du Sabre D’Or for setting up the Zoom meeting for us and hovering just off screen in case we had any problems. My thanks also go to Past Master Judy Tayler-Smith for her assistance with this event and to all the members and their guests who attended.

I hope to plan a red wine tasting later on in the year, so do watch this space! Stay safe and keep well.

Ms Jyotika Shah BSc, Master, Cripplegate Ward Club

