

# NEWSLETTER LE NOBLEVINE



Special  
Edition

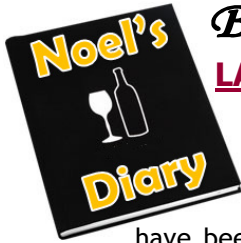
Le Noblevine, Domaine D'Espère, 30350 St. Jean de Serres, France  
Email: [galwaywine@wanadoo.fr](mailto:galwaywine@wanadoo.fr) Tel: 00 33 466 308 488

[www.lvi-noblevine.com](http://www.lvi-noblevine.com) / [www.GalwayBayWine.com](http://www.GalwayBayWine.com)

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## *Bonjour Everybody*

### LATEST WINE & VINES NEWS

#### **January & February :**

Bonjour et Belated Happy new year year to you all ! What a winter we have been having - First the floods then ice and snow . Hopefully we've seen the worst of it now however . I spent 21 hours getting to France on the 5<sup>th</sup> January - 7 hours were spent changing my ticket at Stansted airport after a flight cancellation . Most of this I spent hanging around reading the newspapers . As usual they were packed full of doom and gloom & tales of political upheaval. It would appear to be a time of discontentment everywhere !

Well what I have to say too you is the sunshine is just over the hill . The wine in the barrels tastes fine and le bon vie is ahead of us. The grapes beat the blistering July and August sun and produced enough of power packed juice to insure we will have plenty of good wine for 2011.

On arriving at 2 am on the morning of the 6<sup>th</sup> January at Canaules I opened a bottle of the tough 2004 Colline d'Espere . It tasted like nectar of the gods & it helped to wash down the heavy stew left by my neighbours wife which I had just reheated . Soon I forgot that soul destroying 21 hour journey & the political turmoil ! Yes I had arrived at a place where a good meal and a glass of wine could renew my faith in humanity and where I could contemplate the future in a sane and relaxed manner.

**March :** The pruning is nearly completed in spite of a very wet and cold January to the end of February . Last week we saw the first signs of normality: cold nights as low as -2 °c followed by sunny days with mid-day temperatures reaching up 18°C - Great walking or biking weather.

The 2009 wines are ready . The malo lactic secondary fermentation is completed & the white will be ready for bottling in April . Good Job - as we are almost out

of white wines. The red wine will be racked just after Easter and put into barrels to mature.

The demand has been the highest since 2003 so stocks will be limited. Samples of the 2009 wines will be available at the Festival in Ballyvaughan from May 28<sup>th</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup>. More info on the festival in this newsletter.

The big news on the administration side is that we have just appointed Jim Kavanagh to reorganise our vine owners files . Most of them have to be updated as this element has fallen behind somewhat while we concentrated our efforts on making the best wines possible . The part time help employed to cover this aspect of the organisation has just not worked out to our satisfaction . The blame for this & the lack of communication I personally take full responsibility for. But now thanks to the down turn we can afford to have a competent man to over see the updating of the files , keeping of records etc. It will take him a little time to catch up and get everything up to date so your patience is appreciated . Rest assured however that you will get an update on your investment very shortly.

A majority of vine owners have taken all of their allocation of wines to date and paid their service / maintenance charges but there are still quite a few who have not. If you are in this category you will be contacted shortly by Jim once he has all of the records updated . This year as we are sponsoring Cancer Care West in our big launch of our business at the Festival of the Valleys in Ballyvaughan we would like all to pay up as quickly as possible . As I'm sure you can appreciate cashflow is vitally important in organising an event such as this . In return we will get all accounts agreed before the end of May .Unlike other investments during the heady days of the Celtic Tiger your vines are still there and becoming increasingly profitable as wine and vine values have begun to increase . The fun and crack is also in full bloom ! This is an investment that your grand children can enjoy in the future safely (provided we all pay the maintenance of our Row and drink the wine)





THE Festival is almost here ! The launch of the “Les Vignerons Irlandais” Big bash in the Burren .

As part of the festival launch your wine will be sailing into Galway bay on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May in the Tall ship the Kathleen & May to be met by a flotilla of Galway Hookers wearing our LVI Logo . All vine owners are invited to taste their wines aboard the ship ! Originally constructed in 1900 the Kathleen & May will be the first sailing ship to deliver a wine cargo to Galway bay in over 150 years - And it's your wines making history.

The festival will be officially launched in a couple of weeks . Please visit the festival website for more information : [www.festivalofthevalleys.com](http://www.festivalofthevalleys.com) . Your support will be much appreciated as we plan to raise enough to pay for 2 bedrooms for the after cancer care patients staying in Inis Aoibhinn after Radium or Chemotherapy treatment.

You have helped to create a special vineyard operation. Now please help to put our project on the map plus secure your investment and support a very worthy cause in the process.



**The Burren , Co. Clare , Ireland**  
 May 28<sup>th</sup> , 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> 2010  
[www.festivalofthevalleys.com](http://www.festivalofthevalleys.com)

It is an important event for us and also a very worthy cause ! You will find enclosed a programme . This is just for the vine owners and friends (yes bring a friend or two!) . The investors / vine owners and friends are being offered the first lot of tickets at a special price as its your wines which will be served during the Festival . Also it allows us to get together here in Ireland to plan for the future , to meet the wine makers and to enjoy the best weekend ever in the beautiful surroundings of the Burren Valley .

The festival is limited to 4000 people so its important you apply and book your ticket immediately so as we can start to allocate the second batch of tickets to Cancer care West supporters and giving us enough of time to sell the remaining tickets.

It is very important that you send your money with the application form if at all possible. We hope to make this a memorable occasion and your help will be greatly appreciated . Bring a friend or two . Book and pay on time . If you need accommodation or help in any way contact us now , and most importantly enjoy the feast of events - the wine , the food, music , song and dance the weekend away. Help us to make this the most memorable occasion of 2010. and secure your investment in the vines. If you are planning on getting married in 2010 why not at Newtown castle where our festival is taking place ? We can arrange this too ! and save you a fortune ! Divorce parties and match making only on Saturday night after 12 o'clock.!

Look forward to meeting you all at our AGM there on the 29th. Yes we will be holding a seminar on wines ,vines and our investments on Saturday morning May 29th at 10 am in the big Marquee. Hopefully a time to reflect and rejoice .

## The Festival of the Valleys - The Lawn at newtown Castle , Ballyvaughan , Co. Clare

In the unique environment of the Burren the Festival of the Valleys is taking place from Friday May 28th 2010 to Sunday May 30th . It will be a weekend of spectacular music , song, dance, culture, culinary and sporting events.

**Over 25 hours of great Concerts and Sessions in our specially constructed concert dome**

A “jumelle” of two cultures - the traditional Irish & the Mediterranean . During the mornings & early afternoons we will have the food and wine fair where you can taste the regional products and meet the craftsmen and artists from both the Burren & Languedoc regions - Lots to be seen & sampled from fashion to food & wonderful wines . Except for the equestrian events all other performances & displays will be held indoors in our large concert dome with space for 4000 people.

In the afternoon the horsemen will show their skills and the versatility of the Connemara and Camarague Ponies . This will be followed by the extraordinary skills of Jean-Marc Imbert and his team of horses and horsemen .

This amazing equestrian Spectacular where men and horses achieve what seems to be the impossible is one of the greatest shows on Earth. Not to be missed !!!!

3 nights of Concerts are followed by our unique Burren sessions - A feast of music song and dance with something to suit everyone's musical tastes

**Special reduced price tickets available for all vine owners . See details in festival brochure . More info about the festival is available on our Festival Website :**  
[www.festivalofthevalleys.com](http://www.festivalofthevalleys.com)

**Check it Out !**

