



Awards attained at national, regional or international competitions

These competitions entail blind tasting evaluation led by Masters of Wine (MW)

(No competitions held in 2020 due to Covid-19)

Competition	Wine	Vintage	Type	Award
2021 WineGB Midlands & North Regional competition	<i>King Richard</i>	2019	Still, dry white	● Silver medal
	<i>King Richard</i>	2020	Still, dry white	● Silver medal
	<i>Cabernet Cortis</i>	2019	Still red	● Bronze medal
	<i>Gundog</i>	2020	Still, dry white	● Bronze medal
	<i>Spirit of Freedom</i>	2018	Blush Sparkling	● Bronze medal
	<i>Battle Royal</i>	2018	Still rose	● Bronze medal
	<i>Gundog</i>	2019	Still, dry white	● Bronze medal
	<i>The Valient</i>	2019	Still red	● Bronze medal
	<i>Jane The Quene</i>	2020	Still rose	● Bronze medal
	<i>Enigma</i>	2019	Still, dry white	● Commended
2021 WineGB - National	<i>King Richard</i>	2020	Still, dry white	● Bronze medal
2019 Mercian Vineyards Association Regional competition	<i>King Richard</i>	2018	Still, dry white	● Silver medal
	<i>High Hopes</i>	2016	Sparkling, white	● Bronze medal
	<i>Madeleine Angevine</i>	2018	Still, dry white	● Bronze medal
	<i>Solaris</i>	2018	Still, dry white	● Bronze medal
	<i>Fearless</i>	2018	Still, medium white	● Bronze medal
	<i>War Horse</i>	2017	Still, red	● Bronze medal
	<i>King Henry</i>	2018	Still, red	● Bronze medal
	<i>Gundog</i>	2017	Still, very dry white	● Commended
	<i>King Henry</i>	2017	Still, red	● Commended
	<i>Battle Royal</i>	2018	Still, medium rose	● Commended
2019 WineGB - National	<i>Madeleine Angevine</i>	2018	Still, dry white	● Bronze medal
2019 Ind. English Wine Award – National	<i>King Richard</i>	2018	Still, dry white	● Silver medal
	<i>War Horse</i>	2017	Still, red	● Bronze medal
	<i>High Hopes</i>	2016	Sparkling white	● Bronze medal
2018 MVA - Regional	Personality of The Year Award			🏆 Robson Trophy
	<i>King Richard</i>	2017	Still dry white	● Silver medal
	<i>Battle Royal</i>	2017	Still off-dry rose	● Bronze medal
2018 Ind. English Wine Award – National	<i>Noble Purpose</i>	2014	Sparkling Pink	● Bronze medal
2017 Leicester Mercury	Women in Business Awards			🏆 Entrepreneur of the Year
2017 MVA Regional	<i>King Richard</i>	2016	Dry white still	● Bronze medal
2017 International Wine Challenge	<i>Noble Purpose</i>	2014	Sparkling Pink	● Commended
2016 MVA Regional	<i>Noble Purpose</i>	2014	Sparkling Pink	● Silver medal
2016 UKVA National	<i>Battle Royal</i>	2015	Still rose wine	● Bronze medal
2015 MVA Regional	<i>Spirit of Freedom</i>	2013	Sparkling pink	● Bronze medal
	<i>Battle Royal</i>	2014	Still rose wine	● Highly commended
	<i>King Richard</i>	2014	Still dry white	🏆 Somerby Trophy

Rothley Wine Estate



2015 UKVA National	<i>King Richard</i>	2014	Still dry white	● Silver medal
	<i>Spirit of Freedom</i>	2013	Sparkling pink	● Bronze Medal
2015 <i>International Wine Challenge</i>	<i>Spirit of Freedom</i>	2013	Sparkling pink	● Commended
2014 UKVA National	<i>Sparkling Orion</i>	2012	Sparkling dry white	● Silver medal
2014 MVA Regional	<i>Solaris</i>	2013	Still dry white	● Bronze medal
	<i>Siegeerrebe</i>	2013	Still dry white	● Bronze medal
	<i>Academic Feet</i>	2013	Medium dry white	● Bronze medal
	<i>Royal Richard</i>	2013	Rosè	● Bronze medal
2013 MVA Regional				🏆 East Midlands Trophy
				🏆 Small Producers Trophy
	<i>The Academic Feet</i>	2012	Medium dry white	● Silver medal
	<i>Rose Relationship</i>	2012	Rosè	● Highly commended
2012 MVA Regional	Innovation award for the vineyard trellis system			🏆 David Stanley Trophy
	<i>Orion</i>	2011	Still dry white	● Bronze medal
	<i>Pheasants Choice</i>	2011	Medium dry white	● Bronze medal
2011 MVA Regional	<i>Orion</i>	2010	Still dry white	● Bronze medal
	<i>Learning Curve</i>	2010	Medium dry white	● Highly commended



Appendix 1: A selection of Newspaper and Magazine articles

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NEWS

KINGFISHERS' POOL VINEYARD, ROTHLEY

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2015 LEICESTER MERCURY

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Midwife turned winemaker enhances reputation with medals win

Toast to double success

BY PETER WARZYNSKI

A COUNTY vineyard has been awarded two medals in the United Kingdom Vineyards Association's annual competition.

What started as a hobby seven years ago is now a full-time job for former midwife Liz Robinson.

The boutique wine producer, who runs Kingfishers' Pool Vineyard, in Rothley, was presented with a silver medal for her dry white, King Richard, made from Siegerrebe and solaris grapes.

Her pink sparkling wine, Spirit of Freedom, made from orion, Siegerrebe, regent and pinot precocose grapes, was also commended and given a bronze medal.

Her small, but well-stocked collection of 1,200 vines is located within the grounds of the former Manor of Rothley, and should increase to about 1,500 vines.

All still wine is made on site in Rothley but the sparkling

What had started as a hobby has now become true artis-
an winemaking

Liz Robinson

variety is created at Half penny Green Vineyard, in Saffordshire.

Liz said: "This is the first time I had entered a wine completely grown, produced and bottled by myself into a national competition, and when I saw the results and the words 'silver medal' I had to read the text several times before I could believe it."

"Spirit of Freedom had already attained commended in the International Wine Competition, so the bronze was not a surprise."

"When I scrutinised the results further and realised that ours was the only Leicestershire vineyard to have won

any medal, I was over the moon.

"What had started as a hobby has now become true artisan winemaking."

Liz was able to give her vineyard her full attention last July after retiring as principal lecturer in midwifery at De Montfort University.

The Rothley winemaker said she had an interest in local history, and named her produce accordingly.

"King Richard is probably obvious," she said. "Spirit of Freedom is named for William Wilberforce who stayed frequently at Rothley Temple (now Rothley Court Hotel) with his university friend Thomas Babington and drafted the act of parliament to abolish the slave trade there."

The vineyard's four wines are sold under its company name of Rothley Wine Ltd and can be bought from a number of local retailers, wine bars and at Ragdale Hall.

www.rothleywine.com

PICTURE: CHRIS GORDON
LEICESTER MERCURY 144

RAISING A GLASS:
Liz Robinson

In brief**Student homes**

POLICE are asking residents to keep an eye out for anyone acting suspicious around student properties during the summer.

One empty house was targeted in Arthur Street between June 20 and June 26.

Thieves entered through an insecure window and stole a television.

Police surgery

OFFICERS from the Loughborough East Safer Neighbourhood Team will be holding a beat surgery this week to answer any local policing questions or concerns.

It will take place on Wednesday, August 19 at the Martos Tinetti Centre, 91 Russell Street, from 11.30am-12.30pm.

Wallet stolen

A WALLET was stolen from a property in Homefield Drive in Sileby.

The incident happened on Sunday, July 26, between 10am and 10.30am.

Thieves entered through an insecure door.

Anyone with information should call the police on 101.

Vineyard scoops two national accolades



Liz Robson, DMU midwifery academic and owner of Rothley Wine Ltd.

vineyard, Kingfishers' Pool, lies on a south facing slope overlooking the brook which connects with the River Soar.

Liz said: "We are absolutely over the moon with what we achieved this year. When we were sat at home with the wine, we couldn't believe that we had won medals. It took a while to sink in."

All of the still wine is made on

She said: "I worked full-time for 38 years and now work part-time, but Matthew still works full-time at Loughborough University."

"The deciding moment to retire came about five years ago when we won the best wine for the East Midlands. I thought hard about it, and then decided it was the right time."

"I wanted to dedicate more time towards the vineyard, it's a passion of mine."

Two wines have been named in honour of the generous support from fellow colleagues at DMU who often join Liz on the vineyard - Academic Feet, an East Midlands trophy winner and Medical Feet, a ravishing red.

When commenting on the quality of English wine Liz said: "I'd very much encourage people to try English wine, we need to learn to be more adventurous with our choices."

"When people go out for meals, they often stick to what they know."

"They could be scared they wouldn't like it or feel embarrassed of their choice, but English wine is superb quality and we need to promote it."

In brief**Rifles are stolen**

A HAUL of rifles have been stolen in a burglary of a rifle club.

A police spokesperson said: "Were you in the Newtown Linford Lane area of Groby during the early hours of Thursday morning, August 6?"

"We're investigating a burglary at the Newtown Linford Rifle Club which took place between 4.15am and 5.30am. More than 30 rifles were stolen from a secure room at the club which consisted of air pistols, air rifles and Rimfire target rifles."

"The suspects broke into the armoury through a brick wall and it's believed that they may have used a vehicle, which was parked near to the entrance to the club on Newtown Linford Lane, to take the stolen items away."

"Rimfire rifles are target rifles that use specialist ammunition and no ammunition was taken from the club."

Police are keen to speak to anyone who knows anything about the stolen weapons.

If you can help contact PC 2854 Matt Garside on 101.





Rothley Wine Estate

On Sunday 23rd April 2017 Rothley Wine Estate invited the renowned wine educator, Sue Lobb, Dip. WSET, to Kingfishers' Pool Vineyard to open the accessible route round the upper vineyard and other accessible facilities suitable for people with impaired mobility using wheelchairs or mobility scooters.



The sun shone down in all its glory as 50 guests walked or wheeled around the two acre vineyard and then mingled on the side lawn as they sampled canapés and six home produced wines. Guests came from some of the retail outlets stocking these local wines, as well as members of The Mercian Vineyards Association, neighbouring vineyards, two wine competition judges, David Bird and Andrew Hill and a number of dignitaries including the wine blogger, aka Extreme Housewife, Laura Hadland who is well known for her restaurant reviews. Jane Tindale represented the Leicestershire Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Vineyard proprietor, Liz Robson, said

"This is an important milestone in my life. When we realised that we would have to build an extension to enable us to conduct wine tastings I thought let us make this wheelchair friendly and build suitable ramps and wide doors to the conservatory tasting room. This has been done in memory of my late mother, Mrs Aida Robson, who battled cancer so bravely and was remarkably stoic as she needed crutches and then a wheelchair 25 years ago. I often wanted to take her out for a short outing somewhere in the countryside, but it was so difficult to find somewhere suitable for wheelchairs. She would have loved to have visited a vineyard. I thought there must be other daughters feeling the same, so I hope they will consider a vineyard visit and wine tasting here."

There are three ways that visitors can see the vineyard:

- A) Arrange to pop over and buy some wine, without a wine tasting
- B) Arrange a group of up to 8 guests for a vineyard and winery tour, then you buy the bottles of wine for the tasting. Bring your own picnic and sit around our table or in the conservatory if the weather is inclement. Price is bottle dependent
- C) Book onto a tour and tutored wine tasting with Thirst Media at £12 a head

Essential to book in advance, by sending an email to rothleywine@btinternet.com.

The wine estate is small, but determined to succeed in producing fine quality wines with a distinctive Leicestershire identity. Seven wines are sold under the company name of Rothley Wine Ltd and can also be purchased from local retailers, wine bars, hotels and also at Ragdale Hall.

About the Wine Estate:

- Situated on Westfield Lane in Rothley between the Rothley Court Hotel and the Great Central Railway station
- Gentle south facing slope on the bank of the Rothley Brook with resident kingfishers. The "terroir" of Charnwood Forest gives a complex minerality to the wines
- 1,000 mature vines should produce grapes in 2017 (weather permitting)
- 200 young vines should produce grapes next year
- A further 250 vines will be planted in autumn 2017
- Red, white and rose still wines are made and bottled on site in the boutique winery
- White and pink sparkling wine is made at Halfpenny Green Vineyard with the Rothley grapes
- The wines have won silver and bronze medals in regional and national competitions

For more detail visit www.rothleywine.com





Rothley vineyard's winning wine

A ROTHLEY vineyard has won an award in a national wine competition at its first attempt.

The Kingfishers' Pool vineyard was started as a hobby by Liz Robson in 2008, in the garden of her Rothley home. In July, Liz retired from her full time position as principal lecturer in midwifery at De Montfort University to devote more time to the vineyard.

The first sparkling wine, Sparkling Orion, has just won a silver medal at the English and Welsh wine competition in

Oxford in the white sparkling wine class.

Liz said: "This is the first time we have entered wine into a national competition, and when I saw the results and the words "silver medal" I could scarcely believe my eyes! When I read the results in more detail I realised that very few of the sparkling wines were from the 2012 vintage, which had been the wettest summer on record and a number of prestigious vineyards had not taken a harvest at all.

"When I scrutinised the figures further it slowly dawned on me that only three 2012 sparkling white wines had won a silver medal, ours, and the other two being Renishaw in Derbyshire, made by the same winemakers, and the renowned Camel Valley in Devon. To think that our small boutique

vineyard was producing wine on a par with Camel Valley was astonishing and



Pic: the winery at Kingfishers' Pool vineyard

exceeded my retirement expectations."

The vineyard has won bronze medals in a regional competition and five of these wines, as well as Sparkling Orion, are currently for sale at David North's delicatessen on Station Road, Rothley.

Kingfishers' Pool was visited by Ben Jackson from BBC Radio Leicester in September and he broadcast some of his show from the vineyard.

www.rothleywine.com

Pic (below): Clive Vickers, winemaker, who produced the Sparkling Orion and is providing consultancy for Kingfishers' Pool Vineyard. He is standing beside the Orion vines which won the silver medal.



Island travellers

TRAVELLERS HAVE set up camp on Red Hill island five times this year, with the last group evicted in October.

Leicester City Council own the land and have to deal with clearing the site of rubbish after the travellers have

