

KEY WINEMAKING AND SALES PERSONNEL

MARY BRIDGES

Head Winemaker

Mary started her career in wine 10 years ago, initially in the food and wine sector. She has completed the WSET Level 4 Diploma and a BSc (Hons) in Viticulture and Oenology. Mary joined the Gusbourne Winemaking Team in 2018. She has worked 6 vintages, including in Southern France and California and is now Gusbourne's Head Winemaker. Her focus is on technical winemaking, laboratory management and Winemaking R&D.

AJ (ALASTAIR) BENHAM

Head of Wine Operations

Alastair began his career in wine following a year abroad in Australia during a Politics degree. Following graduation, he moved to New Zealand to complete his tertiary qualification in Oenology in Hawke's Bay in 2015. Since then, he has completed internships in New Zealand and the USA taking particular focus on cool-climate and sparkling winemaking. He joined the Gusbourne team in early 2018. As Head of Wine Operations, he is focused on logistics, procurement and winery development.

LAURA RHYS MS

Head of Wine Communication

Laura's early years in the wine industry were spent alongside the industry's finest, including World Sommelier Champion Gérard Basset MS, MW. In 2009 Laura won the prestigious "UK Sommelier of the Year" title and in 2010 achieved Master Sommelier status from the Court of Master Sommeliers. Laura's time as a Sommelier saw her visit many of the world's vineyards and head up wine teams for restaurants, including Gerard Basset's Hotel Terra Vinaand Michelin-starred, award winning La Trompette.

Laura joined Gusbourne in 2015, as Global Ambassador, where her role encompasses ambassadorial and development duties both in UK and internationally. She also works closely with our winemaking and vineyard teams, contributing to key blending and trial decisions. Laura judges for Sommelier competitions as well as national and international wine competitions. She is an active member of the Court of Master Sommeliers Europe and a regular host of tastings, wine dinners and seminars.

NEIL IRVINE

Head of UK Sales

Neil started his career in wine over 20 years ago as a wine buyer for one of the country's top restaurants, managing their importing and wholesale division. After establishing a wine retail shop, focussing on English wine, Neil held a sales position for Nyetimber, a well-known English sparkling wine producer. Neil joined Gusbourne in January 2017.

DUNCAN BROWN

Head of International Sales and Global Travel Retail

With 28 years of experience in the wine trade, across both buying and selling roles, Duncan has worked in all key distribution channels for fine wine/luxury brands. Much of this experience has been managing international markets and travel retail operations. Duncan joined Gusbourne in June 2018.



MARY BRIDGES



LAURA RHYS MS