

Wine Relief dinner in London

8 Feb 2013 by Jancis Robinson

We're hosting a dinner on behalf of Wine Relief 2013 on Monday 4 March. It will be held at The Quality Chop House, a wine-lovers' restaurant recently re-opened by our son Will Lander and his co-owner Josie Stead who was previously in charge of service at Heston Blumenthal's Dinner and Sketch.

The food isn't anything like Dinner or Sketch in fact but is decidedly British with a daily-changing menu based on thoroughly British ingredients and transformed into deliciously nourishing food by the calmest chef in London Shaun Searley. There are three parts to the establishment: the Grade II listed restaurant with the original booths from its beginnings as a Victorian working man's dining room; a wine bar; and a private room with seating for up to 10 upstairs.

The wine policy is to offer seriously interesting glasses, bottles and magnums - everything from unusual finds to really mature classics - at lower-than-usual mark-ups. I must say that when I saw the first wine list I was, for a nanosecond, rather put out as I loved it, yet had had nothing to do with it. Harrumph, I thought, where the heck did he learn all this? But my disgruntlement rapidly gave way to maternal pride.

The place - you can read all about it at www.thequalitychophouse.com - has already earned rave reviews from Tracey MacLeod in *The Independent* and ?? in Time Out as well as several besotted tweets from *The Times* restaurant critic Giles Coren who wrote recently, 'Wow. The new Quality Chop House. Soft roes, grey leg on toast, best house red I've ever had for £4. Don't wait for my stupid review. Go NOW. I said NOW. This is one of only half a dozen places to open in England this century that understands what a restaurant is supposed to be.'

Our idea is that on Monday 4 March the restaurant is given over to a Wine Relief dinner, one four-course menu for £50 a head including service and VAT. The Chop House will provide all the food at cost and diners are free to choose their own wine from the generously-priced list. We're hoping to raise at least £?? for Wine Relief and to have a very good time into the bargain.

Please book directly with The Quality Chop House as below, in parties of six since that is how many each booth can accommodate. Smaller groups may like to book a table in the wine bar just off the restaurant.

Once the place is full, it's full, I'm afraid. And since this is for charity, credit card details will be taken in advance and no shows will each be charged a £50 donation to Wine Relief. Hope you understand.

WHAT Wine Relief Dinner

WHEN Evening of Monday 4 March 2013

WHERE The Quality Chop House, 92/94 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3EA (nearest station Farringdon)

HOW MUCH £50 a head plus wine

HOW TO BOOK tel 020 278 1452 or email info@thequalitychophouse.com