

# Pickering Mixed Case

**Victoria Reeves**

ACTING WINE CLUB MANAGER

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*September's Pickering Mixed Case features an eclectic selection of wines destined to take their place among your favourites. As the nights begin to draw in, a chilled glass of Bordeaux Blanc, in the form of the 2014 Clos de Lunes, should provide crisp, elegant and citrusy succour. The 2017 Pecorino from Abruzzo's Faraone has a similar weight and will taste wonderful with the last few summer salads and grilled fish. Representing the reds, Bedrock Wine Co.'s The Whole Shebang is a juicy ripe red from one of America's most exciting producers.*

## 2014 LUNE D'ARGENT, CLOS DE LUNES



Inspired by Domaine de Chevalier – a pioneer in dry white Bordeaux – Olivier Bernard established Clos de Lunes in Sauternes, the heartland of sweet wine. His vision was to produce dry white wine of the highest quality. Clos des Lunes is testament to his achievements and is known for producing one of the very finest Bordeaux Blancs.

A crisp, elegant wine, this has notes of citrus, stone fruit and minerality. A quarter of the wine is matured in oak barrels, which adds richness and texture to the palate, balancing the fresh acidity and generous fruit of the 2014 vintage. Drink now to 2022.

<b>Food matches</b>	Wonderful with any white fish dish or shellfish
<b>Price</b>	£19.50 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Serve chilled from the bottle
<b>Region</b>	Bordeaux, France
<b>Grape variety</b>	Sémillon 70%, Sauvignon Blanc 30%
<b>Product code</b>	Y7790B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium-bodied white wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Clay and gravel soils
<b>Buyer</b>	Oliver Barton

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

OTHER TOP DRY BORDEAUX BLANCS OR ENTRE-DEUX-MERS

## 2016 CRAVEN, CLAIRETTE BLANCHE



Mick and Jeanine Craven produce natural wines with a sense of place. Their Clairette Blanche comes from what is said to be one of (if not *the*) last block of the variety in Stellenbosch. Destined to be grubbed up, Mick has salvaged these old bush vines and prompted a renaissance of this forgotten variety.

The palate is delicately scented and textural with saline minerality, notes of bruised apple and a citrus core. Fresh and light in body and alcohol, there is a hint of grip that focuses the finish. The wine has deceptive staying power. Served chilled, this is the perfect lunchtime wine. Drink now.

<b>Food matches</b>	Almonds and olives or a picnic in the park
<b>Price</b>	£17.50 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Chilled from the fridge
<b>Region</b>	Stellenbosch, South Africa
<b>Grape variety</b>	Clairette Blanche
<b>Product code</b>	Y7156B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, light to medium-bodied white wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Sandy with decomposed granite throughout
<b>Buyer</b>	Katherine Dart MW

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

LOIRE CHENIN BLANC EG VOUVRAY

## 2017 PECORINO DEI COLLI APRUTINI, COLLEPIETRO, FARAONE



Faraone's small nine-hectare estate, which dates back to 1916, is based in the Colline Teramane, 10 miles from the Adriatic Sea. Today the estate remains a family affair. Winemaker Giovanni Faraone works alongside his wife Paola and sons Alfonso and Federico; the latter an oenologist who worked in France and New Zealand before taking up his post in Umbria.

This is gloriously scented with notes of nectarine and lime blossom. The citrus fruit and florals continue on the palate with stone fruit notes, bright acidity and a ripe core of fruit on the mid-palate. Traditionally made, there is clarity and a hint of grip leading to a long, pithy finish. Drink now to 2019.

<b>Food matches</b>	Perfect with salads and grilled white fish
<b>Price</b>	£17.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Serve cool at 11°C or the subtler aromas will not emerge
<b>Region</b>	Abruzzo, Italy
<b>Grape variety</b>	Pecorino
<b>Product code</b>	V4580B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium-bodied white wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Sand and limestone soils
<b>Buyer</b>	Davy Žyw

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

SOAVE CLASSICO OR FIANO DI AVELLINO

## THE WHOLE SHEBANG, CUVÉE XI, BEDROCK WINE CO.



This exciting project was started in 2007 by owner and winemaker Morgan Twain-Peterson MW (son of the legendary Joel Peterson who founded Ravenswood Winery), who was later joined by his business partner Chris Cottrell. At the moment the winery, based in Sonoma, is producing some of the most exciting wines coming out of the US. They own their own vineyards (Bedrock) and also purchase high-quality fruit from all over California.

A multi-vintage, multi-variety blend that follows an in-house *solera* system to gain consistency. The Cuvée XI has a juicy, ripe red-fruit core, with crisp acidity and rich, punchy tannins. The wine is perfectly balanced, with an attractive spice note (thanks to time in French oak) that adds complexity. Drink now.

<b>Food matches</b>	Steak, tacos, pizza or pasta dishes
<b>Price</b>	£16.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Serve at room temperature
<b>Region</b>	California, USA
<b>Grape variety</b>	Mainly Zinfandel, with Carignan, Petite Sirah, Mourvèdre, Alicante Bouschet, Grenache, Syrah, Barbera
<b>Product code</b>	V1980B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, full-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Clay and loam
<b>Buyer</b>	Fiona Hayes

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

OTHER NORTH AMERICAN ZINFANDELS

## 2014 PASSADOURO, VINHO TINTO, QUINTA DO PASSADOURO, CIMA CORGO



Quinta do Passadouro dates back to the 17th century, but was bought by a Belgian industrialist in 1991, with whom Jorge Serôdio Borges has worked as winemaker and estate manager since 1999. Together they have found a balance between traditional methods and modern techniques, investment and innovation.

Deep ruby, this wine has a vibrant nose of plum and blackberry, alongside violet and wild herbs. Medium to full-bodied, the palate offers generous fruit and velvety tannins which are complemented by nutmeg, toast and hints of smokiness from the perfectly integrated French oak. It builds to a long, complex finish. Drink now to 2022.

<b>Food matches</b>	Grilled steak or lamb
<b>Price</b>	£19.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Serve at 13 to 17°C; it may benefit from decanting
<b>Region</b>	Douro Valley, Portugal
<b>Grape variety</b>	Touriga Nacional 40%, Tinta Roriz 25%, Touriga Franca 25%, the rest an unknown field blend
<b>Product code</b>	V3936B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium to full-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Very steep terraced vineyards on a base of schist
<b>Buyer</b>	Catriona Felstead MW

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

MENCÍA FROM BIERZO, RIOJA RESERVA OR ARGENTINIAN MALBEC

## 2017 DOMAINE DE LA RECTOIRE, COLLIOURE



This 30-hectare estate, set in the steep terraces of Collioure, is made up of different parcels with different expositions but primarily with schist soil. The proximity to the sea brings freshness and energy to the wines. The estate, now run by father and son Thierry and Jean Emmanuel Parcé, makes both dry still and fortified wines.

Vibrant ruby with purple hints, a rich black and red berry fruit perfume is combined with notes of black olive, pepper and cherry. The palate has concentrated blackcurrants and cranberries with herbal garrigue notes that are a nod to this amazing wine region. The tannins are chalky and savoury with refreshing acidity. Drink now to 2023.

<b>Food matches</b>	Paella, duck, terrine or rillettes
<b>Price</b>	£19.95 per bottle
<b>How to serve</b>	Serve at room temperature
<b>Region</b>	Roussillon, France
<b>Grape variety</b>	Syrah, Grenache Noir, Carignan
<b>Product code</b>	V4787B
<b>Style</b>	Dry, medium to full-bodied red wine
<b>Terroir</b>	Schist soils
<b>Buyer</b>	Fiona Hayes

### Tasting notes

If you like this, you might like:

RHÔNE REDS