LOOKING AFTER OUTDOOR VINES

These notes have been compiled to help amateurs who have a few vines they intend to use for winemaking.

Professionals are working to a different agenda, namely keeping in business and making a living. Although some of these notes may make them wince, I guess they are not too interested in the sins we commit in private.

I am not going to say anything about varieties, except to remind you that Britain has a northerly climate. Do not attempt to grow hothouse grapes outside. I have seen attempts by amateurs to grow Black Hamburgh in gardens, for example, which usually results in a very vigorous plant which fails to bear any fruit; a waste of time for all concerned unless you just enjoy its graceful shape.

I have divided this booklet into the following sections:

Planting vines

Training and shaping

Fizing to a wall

Maintaining the rines

Making wine