



JULY ZUZU

#### **EDITORIAL**

First of all, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all our customers, partners, suppliers, winegrowers and employees for the continuity and quality of our communication during this unprecedented and challenging period.

The last few months have also been an opportunity for us to re-examine and reflect on ways in which our businesses can evolve to ensure the long-term sustainability of their activity against a constantly changing economic, regulatory, societal, technological and environmental backdrop.

We, Les Vignerons de Buzet, pioneers in agroecological transition since 2005, have set ourselves the mission of contributing to the common good of our local area. Faced with the economic, climatic and sociological upheavals we are currently experiencing, we remain more convinced than ever that agriculture is part of the solution.

Each time our work is recognised, for example, through the exemplary rating achieved in our "Committed to CSR" audit or the Innovation Design prize (more of which below), this conviction and our collective dynamic are further strengthened. Driven by our desire to help our local area to reinvent itself, our project has been designated a Territorial Innovation Laboratory.

All the Cooperative's members adhere to our strict set of winegrowing guidelines to practice a resilient viticulture over our 1,940 hectares of vines. The planting of new vines this spring is all part of this plan for the future: to design and build the more resilient vineyards of tomorrow while maintaining our production balance to safeguard the viability of our vineyard holdings.

# DESIGN AND BUILD THE MORE RESILIENT VINEYARDS OF TOMORROW 7





#### **CSR COMMITMENTS: EXEMPLARY**

The results of the "Committed to CSR" (Corporate Social Responsibility) audit are in! Les Vignerons de Buzet has again been rated as "Exemplary", the highest level on the AFNOR-designed evaluation scale. The AFNOR, an official and independent body, evaluates organisations' degree of commitment to a long-term CSR policy.

"This is the highest score I've given in an evaluation since the ISO 26000 standard came into being," the independent auditor told the Les Vignerons de Buzet Cooperative in a commentary.

We were the first company in the food industry in France to achieve the "exemplary" level of the "Committed to CSR" certification in 2014.

## A WINNING DESIGN!

The Les Vignerons de Buzet
Cooperative was one of the
award-winners at the Innovation
Design Trophies organised by the
Nouvelle Aquitaine Region. It picked
up the Global Design prize for the
work carried out on its rechristened
brand: Nous, Les Vignerons de Buzet.

The competition jury, made up of design professionals, was impressed by the originality of the initiative: the development of a unified, eco-designed graphic identity, which is clear for the consumer.





## THANK YOU "CHEMINS VERTS DE L'EMPLOI"!

Hats off to the "Les Chemins Verts de l'Emploi" vocational rehabilitation association, who came and worked in our vineyards for the fourth year in a row! The team (3 supervisors

and an average of 20 employees) removed the dead wood from 60 hectares of vines and carried out various other tasks in our Gueyze, Padère and Bouchet vineyards.

The association provides personalised support for each of its employees (training courses, work experience, etc.).

Its Board of Directors is made up of representatives from the local social security office and other official authorities as well as from sports and leisure associations.

This partnership between Les Vignerons de Buzet and "Les Chemins Verts de l'Emploi" is just one example of our Cooperative's commitment to social welfare.



## REJUVENATING THE VINEYARDS

In the vineyards, our winegrowers have been renewing their vines. This spring, they planted about 30 hectares of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec and Sauvignon Blanc. The selection of plots according to their orientation and exposure and the choice of rootstock, etc. were in line with our process of agroecological transition. By working with rejuvenated vineyards, we will be better prepared to cope with the increased risk of grape berry loss (inherent to more eco-friendly viticulture) and of the more frequent occurrence of bad weather incidents.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY PETIT BARON!

PETIT BARON celebrates its first anniversary with photos taken during various events and tasting sessions!

Our PETIT BARON wines, whose name was inspired by the Little Owl, which we have been reintroducing and protecting on wine domaines suitable for its breeding since 2012, come from a protected vineyard teeming with biodiversity. As members of the "1% for the Planet" alliance (see below), the wines in the PETIT BARON range, in all colours and formats, also help to fund environmental initiatives around the world.











PETIT BARON is available as a red, white and rosé wine and is available in wine stores and restaurants.



Shortly after its release, PETIT BARON even caught the eye of the reference international design site:

www.packagingoftheworld.com/2020/01/petit-baron.html



## OUR FAMILY OF "1% FOR THE PLANET" WINES IS EXPANDING

Our family of wines participating in the "1% for the Planet" alliance has expanded with two new members: BARON D'ALBRET and ODALIS (supermarket distribution).

The Les Vignerons de Buzet cooperative has pledged to donate 1% of the sales turnover generated by the sales of these two wines to "1% for the Planet" (in addition to the 1% of the turnover generated by the sales of PETIT BARON).

The objective of the "1% for the Planet" alliance is to accelerate the protection of the environment focusing on 6 important topics: climate, water, food, natural spaces, pollution and wildlife.

## OUR "1% FOR THE PLANET" FAMILY MEMBERS NOW INCLUDE:

- PETIT BARON (wine shops and restaurants) since 1 June 2019.
- BARON D'ALBRET (supermarket distribution) from 1 July 2020.

  A charismatic representative of our commitment to the "1% for the Planet" alliance, this wine is among our biggest sellers in terms of volume.
- ODALIS (supermarket distribution) as of 1 July 2020. Our latest wine, the result of Les Vignerons de Buzet's most extensive plot selection from our 1,940 hectares.



#### PRESS COVERAGE



#### A SUPER CO-OP

MOST COMMITTED TO
THE CERTIFIED PRACTICE OF
RESPECTFUL AGRICULTURE
IN FRANCE AND ONE THAT
HAS THE GREATEST RESPECT
FOR ITS MEMBERS ON
A MORAL, HEALTH AND
ECONOMIC FRONT."

MICHEL BETTANE
WINE TASTING EXPERT – CO-FOUNDER OF
BETTANE & DESSEAUVE - <u>Voyage autour</u>
De Ma Cave #6 – 26 March 2020

## A WARM WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER CÉLIA TEOULERE

Célia Teoulere joined our Cooperative at the start of the year. She left the private-sector company where she had been working as she wanted to take over an agricultural holding. Célia has therefore acquired 7.5 hectares of vines in the commune of Nérac in the Buzet appellation. She would like to thank the vineyards' former owner, who has been providing her with his kind assistance and invaluable advice since his retirement which, in her first season, is naturally very much appreciated.

HOT OFF THE PRESS! On the evening of 12 June, the local vineyards were hit by a surprise hailstorm accompanied by strong winds. 820 of the 1,940 hectares were affected, including 260 hectares where over 90% of the vines were impacted. It is still too early to draw any conclusions on the hailstorm's final impact on the size of the coming harvest, but when It struck, the vines were in a healthy condition and the development of the bunches looked promising.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**



A VEGETABLE GARDEN AT CHÂTEAU DE BUZET

In the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century,

Alfred de Noailles, the owner of Château de Buzet and an inspired agronomist, created a modern farm alongside the château and planted numerous vines. He embarked on an extensive project to renovate the château and landscape the grounds. He installed a new wine cellar and a hydraulic ram and transformed one of the old château's towers into a 30,000-litre reservoir to irrigate his vegetable garden, which fed all his workers.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

MILLESIMADES FROM JULY 25<sup>TH</sup> TO AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup> OPENED JULY 26<sup>TH</sup>

(all audiences)

YOGA IN THE VINEYARDS
JULY 31<sup>ST</sup>, AUGUST 4<sup>TH</sup> & 7<sup>TH</sup>, 10 A.M.
By reservation only: 05 53 84 17 16
(all audiences)

VINEYARDS OUTINGS JULY & AUGUST, EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6 P.M.

By reservation only: 05 53 84 17 16 (all audiences)

JOURNÉES DU PATRIMOINE (NATIONAL HERITAGE DAYS) SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> AND 19<sup>TH</sup>

By reservation only : chateau-fabriquesdebuzet.fr more information coming soon (all audiences)



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