

AGENDA.

1. The Meeting will be opened by the President of the Association, Mr C.J. Berry.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of the 1983 Annual General Meeting.

4. Matters arising.

5. Chairman's Report, 1983-84.

6. Treasurer's Report, 1982-83.

7. Election of members to the National Executive :

In accordance with Rule 8(d), one third of the 12 elected members retire.

Mr R. Butcher, retiring member, has resigned for health reasons and is not seeking re-election.

Messrs P. Awbery and K.R.T. Bilham, retiring members, are also not seeking re-election.

In addition, Mrs M. Drysdale retires as co-opted member.

There will be four vacancies to be filled.

The following nominations have been received, duly proposed and seconded :

Mr L. Drysdale	retiring member.
Mrs J. Irwin	retiring Circles' representative.

The closing date for receipt of nominations having now passed, no ballot will be required and the above two named members will be elected following the acceptance of the members present.

Mr M. Matthews has been nominated to represent the N.G.W.B.J.

The names of one nominee each, to represent :

- a. Member Circles
- b. Member Federations

will be received, in writing, by the Secretary of N.A.W.B. prior to the start of the A.G.M.

Where no such nominees are received for posts (a) or (b) above, the Executive may nominate a person to fill the vacancy. (Rule 8(c)).

8. Resolutions presented to the Meeting :

Amendments to Rules and Constitution.

Proposed that : The Executive shall be reduced in numbers from 15 to 11 comprising 8 elected members, 1 nominated by Member Circles, 1 nominated by Member Federations and 1 nominated by the National Guild of Wine and Beer Judges. (NGWBJ).

Reference : Rule 8 Constitution of the N.E.C. (b).

Proposed by the Executive.

Other Resolutions.

Proposed that : "Any Other Business" be included in the Agenda of all A.G.Ms. and the meeting cannot be closed without a majority vote from members present.

Proposed by Mr D. Ellis, Individual Member.

9. Any other business.

10. Nomination of President of the Association 1984-85.

11. Presentation of the Executive.

12. The President will close the meeting.

D.B. Ives.
General Secretary
N.A.W.B.(A).

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of the National Association of Wine and Beer-makers (Amateur) held at the University of Southampton, on Sunday, 27th March 1983.

Mr R. Butcher in the Chair.

Members representing 140 Individuals, 3 Circles and 1 Federation attended.

The President, Mr K. Hill, opened the meeting at 11.22 am saying how gratified he was to see so many Past Presidents and their wives attending and made particular mention of founder member Cyril Lucas and his wife Lilian.

The President read-out a letter received from Mr Butler, of Chempro, congratulating NAWB on reaching its Silver Jubilee Year.

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr C.J. Berry, Mr G. Christmas, Mr F. Forster, Mr & Mrs B. Gent, Mr & Mrs B. Holt, Mr & Mrs P. Johnson, Miss E. Murphy, Mrs A. & Miss J. Newton, Mr & Mrs H. Ritchie, Mr & Mrs Timmins and Mr & Mrs J. Tomkins.

The Chairman, Mr R. Butcher, reminding members that this was our 25th Anniversary, made the unusual request that the Executive Committee should stand and drink a toast to the members with the wine that had been left over from the tasting competition - adding that had this tasting received more support there would not have been any surplus !

The Minutes of the 1982 Annual General Meeting, having been circulated, were taken as read and unanimously adopted by the meeting. Proposed & Seconded by Mrs J. Burrow (Leeds) and Mr D. Reed (Phoenix).

Arising from these minutes the Secretary, Mr D. Ives, reported, as was required under the Rules, that the maximum rate of re-imbusement to Executive Committee members while on Association business during the year had been increased, having remained static for 3 years. The new rates are : Travelling expense - 2nd Class rail or 10.8p per mile road; subsistence up to a maximum of £1.35 for 5 hours or over, £2.85 for 10 hours or over; overnight stay £21.60.

When asked by the Chairman, the Meeting approved the new rates unanimously. Proposed & Seconded by Mr Mills (Upminster) and Mr E. Tappenden (Bexley).

The Chairman, Mr Roy Butcher, in presenting his report, described the reorganisation which had taken place during the past year.

The Membership files are now computerised and easily reproduced - just in time as the faithful addressograph has finally given up the ghost and collapsed ! - this having allowed us to print the Schedule at a considerable saving in cost. The Chairman apologised that, due to teething troubles with the new system and alterations being necessary to the labels, the Schedule had been a little late getting-out to members. Complaints regarding quality of bottle labels will be dealt with by the committee. As for the Show itself, 282 exhibitors had staged around 3200 bottles and it was hoped that the Judges had found the venue satisfactory with its excellent lighting and quite reasonable amount of room.

Grateful thanks were due to Southampton winemakers who had supplied an abundance of Stewards thus making life so much easier for Chief Steward Ken Bilham and Local Liaison Officer John Gorton to cover any contingencies.

Congratulations were offered to the Fund Raiser, Brian Edwards, whose Tombola had been a complete sell-out.

The Chairman thanked the Executive Committee for their support during the year and gave special thanks to the President, Mr Ken Hill. Three issues of the News & Views appeared during the year, at economical cost, due to the hard work of its Editor, Marjorie Ives who typed and printed, and Dave Pulley who distributed.

The Treasurer's report was given by Mr Peter Awbery who presented the Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ending 30th June, 1982. This showed an excess of income over expenditure amounting to £460.40 which, along with the current assets, produced a total net assets of the Association of £8554.21.

Mr Awbery stated that income from sponsorship has almost dried-up and in reply to a question from Mr Deal, explained that the donation of £250 to the N.G.W.B.J. had been a gesture of goodwill with no strings attached.

Mr I. Morgan asked if the Treasurer could give a breakdown of the £2949 cost of the 1981/82 Show. Mr Awbery quoted the hiring of halls and musicians as the major portion of the total and he agreed to Mr Morgan's request to produce a complete breakdown of Show expenses at future AGMs.

Acceptance of the Treasurer's report was Proposed by Mr Deal, Seconded by Mr Dixon and carried by a unanimous vote.

Election to Executive Committee :

One third of the 12 elected members having retired, as required by Rule 8(d), along with one co-opted member, four vacancies were offered. Of the seven nominations appearing on the agenda, one had now withdrawn having been nominated as Circle representative.

The six remaining nominees were presented to the meeting by the Chairman and a ballot held. The following were elected to serve for a maximum of three years :

Messrs. N. Chiverton, B. Edwards and D.B. Ives - all retiring members - and Mr G. Sparrow - Individual Member from Tyneside. Mesdames M. Drysdale and S. Hill were unsuccessful.

Additionally, the following nominated representatives were elected to serve for 1983/84 :

Mr M. Matthews, N.G.W.B.J. and Mrs J. Irwin, Member Circles.

No nomination had been received from Member Federations and this would leave a vacancy on committee for representative but the Executive have co-option powers if required.

Item for discussion : That, owing to the poor quality of cork flanged stoppers and the difficulty in their availability, in future flange corks with white plastic tops be used.

Mr N. Dixon (S.W. Counties Fed.) opened the discussion, thanking the committee for allowing time. He said that the matter of corks is of concern to all but he was well aware of the difficulties of the proposed change, one of which was the ease by which the plastic top comes off the cork. However, his own local area has great difficulty in obtaining the approved all-cork stopper. If one objection to the use of plastic tops was to be the variance in colour - albeit white - perhaps NAWB could obtain in quantity from one supplier and distribute for use at the National thus overcoming any suggestion of recognition of area by judges.

The suggested change was supported by the Chairman of S.W. Counties Fed., Mrs G. Murray, who said that following a period of discussion over 3 or 4 years, her Federation has now been forced by lack of supply to make the change to plastic topped - a change which has so far proved highly successful.

Mr K. Simpson (N. Yorks & S. Durham Wine Fed.) said that his Federation had initiated the change 6 years ago and in a recent survey of 1500 only 1 plastic top had come adrift. The breakage of standard corks had been far worse. A further advantage gained from the proposed corks was a better quality shank which was less dusty and did not create a messy bottle.

Mrs G. Blacklock, from the same Fed., thought that most Federations have now made the change and that NAWB was lagging. She hoped that after this discussion the proposed change would be voted upon at next year's AGM.

Mr E. Tappenden (Old Bexley) said that there is less of a taper to the white topped corks which could cause difficulty. Mrs A. Parrack (Tyneside Nationals) agreed and said that this could lead to oxidisation or even leakage to those wines which are bottled early and then stored on their sides in the recognised manner.

During further discussion Mr L. Stagg mentioned that composite corks vary as much as the white topped version and Mr D. Reed pointed out that there are different shades of gold on beer bottle tops.

Several examples of price variations were quoted by members and Mr K. Bilham, from the platform, suggested that both price and supply difficulties of the present cork could be overcome by bulk purchase and resale via the Amateur Winemaker.

Bringing the discussion to a close, the Chairman thanked all who had contributed to a lively and interesting debate and suggested that possibly a survey could be carried out through the Newsletter.

No decision regarding any change would be made without consultation with N.G.W.B.J.

Nomination of President of the Association 1983-84.

The Executive nominated Mr C.J. Berry to be President. Accepting our invitation, Mr Berry had sent his apologies and deeply regretted not being able to attend the AGM. He was fulfilling a prior engagement in Cambridge lecturing to U.S. Winemakers. He appreciated the immense compliment afforded to him and would do everything within his power to further the interests of NAWB.

The nomination was seconded by the meeting and accepted unanimously. The retiring President, Mr Ken Hill, thanked everyone for their support during his two happy years in office.

The Chairman then introduced to the meeting each member of the Executive in turn, thanking them for their year's hard work and especially over the weekend of the Show. He singled out the Show Manager, Lenn Drysdale, and his wife May, Accommodation Sec., and made special mention of Jim Chettle who had acted in two capacities.

Mrs Sybil Hill, retiring Executive member, called for a vote of thanks to be given to Mr Butcher.

Close of meeting : Mr R. Fisher queried the exclusion of any other business on the agenda and was requested by the Chairman to forward any points to the Newsletter. Mr Fisher complained also that the AGM had commenced earlier than stated and asked that his protest regarding the conduct of the meeting be recorded in the minutes.

Mr D. Jackson (Phoenix) commented on the time-wasting between the close of the Presentation of Trophies and the opening of the AGM.

The President, Mr Ken Hill, thanked everyone for their attendance, especially those who had travelled a long distance, and wished all a safe journey home. He looked forward to meeting us all again at Nottingham in 1984.

Ken then handed the President's Insignia to Mr Derek Smith in Mr Berry's absence and was, in turn, presented with his Past-President's Badge.

The President closed the meeting at 12.20 pm.

DOUG IVES.

General Secretary.

Maurice D. Ives

1/4/84