

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WINE AND BEER MAKERS.

NEWS AND VIEWS.

FEBRUARY 1983.

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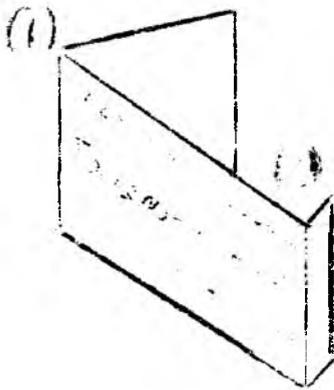
Walker Desmond and Sons Ltd.

33, Hewor Road,
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Happy New Year!

A bit late but nevertheless warmly meant. We are all ready for the great week-end and we hope that you are as well. I do wonder if any of you ever read your News and Views - letters are becoming more and more of a rarity. If any of you have missed your copies this last year I will try and have some back numbers with me at Southampton. I hope you all enjoyed the new schedule produced by our computer - aided and abetted by the Chairman. There are one or two new rules I would like to point out to you particularly rules 5 and 16. If any judge has any doubts about the contents of any bottle in the class he or she judges then the convener will retain a sample of that wine and it will be sent for chemical analysis. What a tragedy that such a rule has had to be included. We have introduced the new bottle labels to eliminate any possibility that the judge can be accused of knowing all his circle numbers and show preference to these particular wines. As a National Judge I take exception to these slurs on my good name or on any other Judges for that matter. What a suspicious world we live in. I can remember the good old days, some twenty or more years ago (yes, I know it must be a shock to a lot of you but I am as old as that) when wine and beer making was a hobby and not a means of covering the sideboard with trophies. Not that it isn't a great honour to win one of our trophies - to be crowned king or queen of any particular class must be great but some of us just don't seem to make it. I have a rose bowl and a shield glinting in the sunlight coming off the snow now so someone somewhere likes my wine.

Please follow labelling instructions carefully. Before doing anything else complete your name and Circle/Guild in block capitals and proceed as follows -



Place label on flat surface with Entry No. Name and Circle/Guild uppermost.

Fold from left to right and crease along fold (1). Fold along fold (2) and moisten this edge. Stick down and you now have a small label showing only class no. and in certain cases ingredients or type.

The reverse side of this is the part which you stick to your bottle. As it is self-adhesive all you do is moisten with water (lick it if you like) and it will stick.

Now no one but you knows what is written on the inside of the label. Do make sure you put them on in the right place. Equidistant between the seams of the bottle and for wine 5" from base of bottle to base of label, beer 3" and barley wine and liqueurs 2". At this point can I ask all Judges' Stewards to equip themselves with a knife, letter opener or such so that the labels can be opened up - AFTER JUDGING IS COMPLETED. Any bottles going forward to a Judge Off must not have the covering label removed. The entries this year are 3,000 + and wait for it - the largest number is from the North of England. Frightened you Southerners to death have we?

At our last committee meeting it was decided that anyone wishing to rejoin the National for next year can do so at the Show. New membership forms are enclosed with this News and Views. Who knows - if you join on Saturday and then find we've increased subs at the A.G.M. you're laughing. Can't be bad.

Brian Edwards, our Fund Raiser, sends thanks to everyone who has sent donations or gifts for the tombola. Anyone still wishing to contribute please note that he has moved house. His new address is - 2, Denis Road, Burbage, Leics. LE 10 2 LR. Tel: No Change - 0455 61 1566.

On Saturday morning, commencing at 9.30 we have the Wine Taster of the Year Competition at a fee of 50p. per person. What a bargain. All those tastes for 50p. See you in the Students' Union Foyer.

On Saturday afternoon at 3.15 in Physics Theatre 'B' the speaker will be Gladys Blacklock talking about 'Means of Extraction'. The mind boggles - mustn't miss this one. Nominations will be received by the Hon. Sec. anytime during Friday or Saturday (or before by post) for a member to join the Executive to represent either the Circles or the Federations. The elections will be held on Saturday at 4.15 and 4.30. Can I draw your attention to a proposal made at last years' A.G.M. that the Federation Rep. could possibly come from the Federation in whose area the National Show is to be held. Next year we are going back once again to Nottingham University - so..... Sounds like good sense to me.

Saturday evening Her Worship the Mayor of Southampton, Councillor Mrs. B.B. Barfoot, JP. will be our host at the Civic Reception and Dance to be held in Southampton Guildhall. There will be buses to take all residents on the campus to and from the event. If you don't stay on the campus - you don't get a ride - by order of the Conference Organiser at Southampton. There will be a fancy dress competition during the evening.

On Sunday morning we welcome the Deputy Mayor and Sheriff - Councillor E. Brown to present the trophies. At 11.30 we will have the A.G.M. There will be a ballot for the National Executive places so please make sure you have the necessary authorisations from your Circle or Federations if you want to vote on their behalf.

I have one letter from a dear friend of the National which caused me a slight 'turn'.

Dear Mrs. Ives,

Thank you for the News letter and schedule but what a pity the wrong starting date has been printed on the schedule cover. The first conference was held at Andover in 1959. Had the first one been in 1958, surely 1983 would be the 26th.

Yours sincerely,

Cyril Lucas.

I have had the date checked very thoroughly and although you are quite right that the first conference was held in 1959, the NAWB was actually formed in 1958.

Many thanks for your letter and also your offer of the Schedules dating from the first in 1959. I would be delighted to accept them on behalf of NAWB. Sorry you are not able to keep up with your winemaking activities these days and we shall miss you at Southampton but do be sure we shall be thinking of you. Next year is going to be a very busy one for everybody.

My own Circle - York and District - are celebrating their Silver Jubilee this year but we got in first - we have our 'do' on March 5th. when we hope to welcome former members from all over the country. Please ring me for details we have tickets available.

Our up to date membership at the moment is 611. Slightly lower than last year but nevertheless very encouraging.

Our grateful thanks to 'Solvino' who have donated a new trophy for this year's Show. It will be presented to the person gaining most points in the four grape concentrate classes - i.e. 13d, 14d, 15d and 16d. The winner will also get a case of concentrate of his or her choice.

Did you know that Good Friday falls on March 28th. in 1986? Why should I you ask? Because that year we are hoping to hold our Show at Warwick University and that is one piece of information we need before we can make a 'pencil' booking. The Show will be held the week-end before. Our other venues are - next year Nottingham, and provisionally 1985 Eastbourne and 1987 Scarborough.

Well - the dreaded 'flu bug has got me at last despite a very valiant struggle so it's off to bed with a bottle of aspirin and a bottle of whisky (wonder if Doug. would notice if I accidentally took his single malt).

See you in Southampton,

