

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WINE AND BEER MAKERS  
(Amateur)**

**NEWS AND VIEWS  
DECEMBER 1984**



President: C. J. J. BERRY, NGWBJ

PATRONS: CHEMPRO LIMITED: CONTINENTAL WINE EXPERTS LIMITED:  
EDME MALT EXTRACTS AND BEER KITS: RITCHIE PRODUCTS:  
SOUTHERN VINYARDS LIMITED: UNICAN FOODS LIMITED:  
VIKING (GEORDIE) BREWS LIMITED:  
VINA (HOME WINEMAKING) SUPPLIES LIMITED:  
WALKER DESMOND & SONS LIMITED:

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WINE AND BEER MAKERS (Amateur)

## NEWS AND VIEWS

DECEMBER 1984

### EDITORIAL

Dear Patrons and Fellow Members

Editors of nationally networked newspapers and magazines frequently have more material than they can print in one issue, news and opinion that is obsolete the next day or the next week following. It must be a great worry, which probably accounts for the high salaries generally paid throughout that whole harrasing trade of journalism.

Editorship of 'News & Views' is of course a totally honorary position, bearing no salary or perquisites, honoraria or company car - it doesn't include so much as a company pen. This reflects the lack of news, articles from members, opinion and comment that might make the Editor's job a worrying one. Clearly it causes him no concern, for instead of having to plan, to edit, to balance viewpoints all he has to do is write most of each issue himself while patting himself on the back with the other hand.

It seems to be generally accepted that your present Editor has a magic pen that dribbles words over every piece of paper (soft tissues excepted) he gets near, and great fun it is, too. But wouldn't you rather see other voices and viewpoints on these pages? How about your own favourite recipes, or how to get more spring in your hops? Who'll organize a questionnaire or a quiz? Do you realise that if only 1% of our membership joined in, there would be four or five articles in the next issue to dazzle and amaze us all.

I won't mind the extra worry and work if you bombard me with material to print. By the way, you won't be paid for anything that's published, so there's another source of financial cares lifted from your shoulders already. How about making it a New Year resolution?

Ken Bilham, our last Editor, obviously suffered in the same way during his tenure of office, for he has sent me an annotated copy of an intriguing booklet - but more of that in a later issue.

As a contrast to the preceding moan, I shall now take advantage of my Editorial powers to send each and every patron and member a personal message of Christmas Greetings and Good Wishes for the New Year 1985. May you all have resounding success in whatever you attempt, while keeping healthy and happy throughout the year.

Roy Ekins.

## A SEASONAL MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all our Patrons and Members a most happy and enjoyable Christmas, filled with good food, good cheer, and ample supplies of homemade wine and beer to lighten the dark winter days and nights. And please join me in drinking a toast to the success of the Association in 1985, let us make the New Year one that will be a landmark in N.A.W.B. (A) history.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Lenn Drysdale

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## NEWS

Early in the New Year many of our homebrew trade shops will be displaying our new N.A.W.B. poster. One of our patrons, Vina Ltd., has agreed to distribute the posters for us free of charge, to nearly a thousand shops which are on their mailing list. Alan Shellard, one of the directors, is mentioning the Association in the firm's newsheet 'Vina News', and asking shopkeepers to display the poster for us. This will be of great help in our drive to expand our membership. It is a welcome example of practical aid to N.A.W.B. and one we are most grateful for.

Of course, every patron and member can't give help on this scale, but I am sure that our membership can be expanded dramatically with a little thought and effort. Can you recruit just one more member? If you're happy with N.A.W.B., do you tell others about it? If you're dissatisfied, have you told anyone why, so perhaps things can be altered. Your Committee is working hard to bring a bright and innovative National into 1985, but we must have the support of an interested membership.

Let me give you one or two examples. I am now writing a regular N.A.W.B. news column for the hobby magazines, and they both obviously think N.A.W.B. is important. The Nov/Dec issue of Practical Winemaking and Brewing featured our notes on the page after the editorial, and the Winemaker for December printed them on the leader page. The National counts - it is the National, lets justify that title.

I must point out now that because these magazines are bi-monthly and monthly respectively, and 'News & Views' is quarterly, it is inevitable that at sometime you may see news there in a magazine before you hear it from the Association. This is bound to happen because of publishing timetables, but rest assured that members will get full details of any proposals or news as soon as possible; magazine reports can at best only give bare outlines, and will not disclose any confidential matters, and are mainly for publicity purposes.

Another item of news is that Doug & Marjorie Ives have organised a supply of V-necked long-sleeved pullovers bearing the N.A.W.B. motif, and these are really attractive. I think every member of the Committee ordered one as soon as we saw the samples. You can order them by post, or you can buy them at the National as long as the size and colour you want are still in stock.

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WINE AND BEERMAKERS (Amateur) DETAILS OF SWEATERS, SWEATSHIRTS & BLAZERS

ALL PRICES INCLUSIVE OF POST & PACKING

## V-NECKED SWEATERS

Colours: Burgundy, Brown, Grey, Mist-Blue, Red, Fawn.

LAMBSWOOL £15.50 Up to and including size 42". Sizes above will 42" cost an  
ACRYLIC £10.75 additional 80p for lambswool and 50p for acrylic.

## SWEAT SHIRTS (50% Cotton, 50% Polyester)

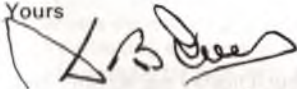
Colours: Maroon, Grey, Navy Blue.

£ 8.50 Up to and including 'large' size. Sizes above 'large' will cost an  
additional 20p.

**BLAZER BADGES** are available to special order.

For all orders and enquiries please contact Supplies Officer, Doug Ives (etc.).  
Please send P.O./Cheque to full amount with order and enclose name and full postal  
address in BLOCK CAPITALS. Cheques to be made payable to NAWB(A).

Yours



Doug.

## SALVETE!

NAWB welcomes the following new members:

Waterside Wine Guild, Southampton  
Mrs. J. E. Sykes, Cirencester  
Hucknall Wine Circle, Nottingham  
Mr. & Mrs. P. Webb, Luton  
Mr. J. Carpenter, Redditch  
Mr. F. G. Baldock, Dunstable  
Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Murray, Whitley Bay  
Mrs. C. P. Fisher, Hailsham  
Exeter Winemakers Circle, Exeter  
Mrs. K. Mallett  
Mr. W. W. B. Dalzell, Helston  
Mr. & Mrs. Siggs, Uckfield  
Mr. & Mrs. Gray, Luton  
Mr. & Mrs. A. V. Ongley, Gillingham  
Mr. & Mrs. B. J. Howe, Luton  
Bletchley & Dist. Wine & Beermakers Guild  
Mr. M. Orbell, Dunstable  
Mrs. M. M. Budge, Littlehampton  
North Sefton Wine Society, Southport  
Mr. & Mrs. A. R. Jordan, Uckfield  
Mrs. T. Rutter, Basingstoke  
Mr. & Mrs. S. Buckingham, Bexley

It's very pleasing to see new members joining, and I hope that they will long continue as members of the Association.

Not so happy a picture is the fact that quite a few members have not paid their subscriptions yet, and in strictness should now cease to be regarded as members. However, the Committee accepts that it is easy to overlook a small matter like this, and have agreed that all of last year's members should receive this further issue of News and Views, to jog the memories of those who have not paid up yet. There is an application form on the last page of this issue that you can cut out and use.

This seems a suitable time to answer a question that is occasionally asked – "what do I get for my subscription?" Well, the answers are many and varied, but as Editor I can tell you that out of a £4.50 subscription, roughly £3.50 goes on supplying you with the four issues of 'News & Views', and that's for printing and distribution alone. I will also remind you that if you don't renew your subscription you can't enter the 72 of the 97 classes that are for members only, nor can you attend the AGM. Incidentally, members classes are 20p per entry, non-members 60p. And of course, if you are going to Eastbourne – its too good to miss – member's tickets for the weekend are £5, whereas non-members pay £10.

The answer is obvious – get out your chequebook and whizz off your subs. to Jim Chettle without delay, or you'll miss the next issue of 'News & Views', which will contain AGM details, how to embalm your mother-in-law and use up mousey wine at the same time, and where all the fruit flies go in the wintertime.

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## CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

And absolutely nothing to do with NAWB, subs, wine or beer, but it tickled me. A columnist in the Daily Telegraph recently repeated the story of a fish-eating competition, which is really best read aloud after a couple of drinks. The two finalists were a Mr. Hicks from Fife, and a Swede called Sven. Munching steadily through a plate of tench, Hicks lost a tooth and was disqualified. His opponent consumed nine tench and was an easy winner. The headline next morning read 'One tooth free for Fife's Hicks, Sven ate nine tench'.

For such a powerful and reliable newspaper, it is surprising how often the Telegraph enlivens its columns with items of light-hearted booze-news. Recently there's been a bullock with a four-day hangover, after eating fallen orchard fruit that fermented inside the beast until it passed out dead drunk, and another sad-but-funny tale of the man from Sheffield whose house caught fire when a demijohn of water focussed the sun's rays on something inflammable. Fancy having water in a demijohn, it's obviously asking for a demonstration of Bacchic displeasure.

COMMERCIAL BREAK – News and Coming Events from Ken Bilham's 'TASTERS' if you want to start planning next year's holidays, or even if you'd like him to organise your visit to the National – if you would, drop him a line and he'll arrange tickets, accommodation and whatever else you might need. There are also two holiday wine tours being organised.

One is a tour to Penedes, leaving Saturday 5th October, 1985. Ken says this is "the same as before", and the description of his 1984 tour read as follows:-

Wine tour to Penedes, Flight from Gatwick, 14 nights, Hotel adjacent beach at Salou, visits and tastings Monserrat, Barcelona, Falset, Liqueur tasting. All rooms private bath and W.C., balcony. Many optional excursions. Cost includes Party night, free bottle of wine and Airport charges. 15 days in 3 star hotel, full board – £269 details; TASTERS.

The cost is quoted as being £269 again for 1985, so obviously everything in this world isn't suffering from inflation.

The second tour is to Italy. Ken tells me that this is the 59th tour from TASTERS, and goes on to say:-

Arrangements are being finalised for the tour to Tuscany next autumn around £400 for 8 days but I am awaiting news from a further hotel in Perugia, Umbria and invitations for tastings.

It's likely to be on the 28th October, 1985 (too hot before then!), fly from Gatwick on Aermediterranea morning flight to Pisa, transfer to our private coach, visit the Leaning Tower, etc, before continuing to our hotel for a Welcome Dinner. Various excursions as last time, with far too much food and far too much wine, will include a mornings sightseeing in Siena, a tasting at the Coltbuona Estate followed by lunch at the Ristorante Badia, where the patron Sr. Gianetto is renowned for his homemade pasta, and visitors from all over Italy make the pilgrimage. Wine is served in unlimited quantities!!

I can recall singing and dancing afterwards but cannot recall the journey home!

On another day we visit an old friend of mine, John Matta, who will show the group around his castle – Vicchiomaggio – thro' the cellars, and give us a testing in his impressive ballroom. We follow this by a visit to the historic town of Greve and the Enoteca where a huge selection of local wines is displayed. Then on to the Montagliari Estate where the owner, Sr. Capelli will receive the party for lunch – with unlimited wine (!), including a delicious dessert wine, Vinsanto.

A drive to the medieval town of San Gimignano – most picturesque in the Chianti region – plenty of time for sightseeing, then a visit to Fattoria Dell'Ugo in Tavernelle, where the owner Sr. Franco Amici Grossi will guide us around his property, followed by a tasting and typical Tuscan 'farmhouse lunch'. There will also be sightseeing tour of Florence on foot with a guide, a film on the production of Chianti Classico, tasting and talk (at the hotel) given by a representative of the Consorzio Chianti Classico, and an excursion to the famous firm of Ruffino where the Public Relations Director Sr. Marcheselli will give us a guided tour of the production area followed by a film and tasting. Restricted to 35 because of lunches with owners, etc.

If you would like further details, send an SAE to KRT Bilham, 'Hautes Caves', 8 Hollybank Close, Hampton, Middx. TW12 3EE. (Tel: 01-979 9725). Ken has been organising these tours for some years, and they are very popular, being run by a wine enthusiast for wine enthusiasts. What could be better? Oh, don't try and ring Ken & Sylvia between Dec. 8th and the year end, as they are celebrating Christmas in Palma Nova. There's a man who practices what he publicises!

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What other goodies are there in the New Year? Well, so far I know of –

March 23 – McKinneys N. Ireland Wine & Beer Show, Bangor. Details from Ossie Beckett, 22 Boyansgate Ave., Bangor BT20 3RU if you feel like a weekend or more in beautiful Ulster. (You've never seen dandelions like they grow there!)

May 3-6 – Wales and West Regional Wine Federation Annual Festival. This is the Wales & West's 21st anniversary, so it will be a super weekend, which has been extended to include the Bank Holiday Monday just so they can fit everything in. Come and be immortalised (more or less) by appearing in the video film they are making of the Federation's year. Just think, 4 p.m. Friday to 6 p.m. Monday, all for £17 (self-catering). Apply for schedules and booking forms to A. Hill, 5 Goitre Coed Isaf, Ahercymon, Mountain Ash CF45 4EL (0443 740573). A long weekend at Bream Sands will do you the world of good.

July 20 N. Yorks & S. Durham Winemakers Federation is holding a symposium, with talks on 'Wines from Exotic Fruits', 'Wine from English Grapes' and or tasting, by the English Wine Association's representative, and another talk on wines made from native fruits of this country. Doubtless it will be the social event of the North East as well. Details (later) from Gladys Blacklock, 5 Drybourne Park, Shildon, Co. Durham D14 1JA.

August 22-24 Southport Flower Show. A magnificent display, in several marquees, horse jumping, bee-keeping, floral art, you name it, they've got it. Including, of course, several hundred bottles of wine and beer in fourteen different classes, all open for anyone to enter. A great family day out, there's something for everyone. Write to the Flower Show Office, 99/105 Lord Street, Southport.

September 21-22 Great weekend at the Rugby Post House Hotel. A super social event, dinner and dance, bed and breakfast etc. – see details at the back of "News & Views". Make sure you send off your coupon as soon as possible, to help us plan the social event of the year.

October 5 – Midland Federation Festival, Lichfield.

October 11-13 – N. W. Federation Conference & Show, Southport. Details of these two events will be published later.

Eastbourne '85 – And now for something completely similar! Lot's of news about the 1985 National of Eastbourne. I'll say it again, this one will be too good to miss.

Firstly, a brand new hall has been built – I won't say just for us' – and it's now in use, sort of running it in for our visit in March, and it's said to be just what we need.

The Conference hotel is the Congress Hotel 31-37 Carlisle Road, Eastbourne, and the change for dinner Friday night through the lunch on Sunday is £35 per person, or £40 with bathrooms en suite. Obviously several hundred people can't stay at the one hotel, so our Local Liaison Officer, Philips Delmon has done some research, and a letter from him and a list of hotels that will allow you to bring homebrew with you follows –

On being back in harness again:

When I was in my younger years  
I sat, with great tenacity,  
On committees of the National  
In varying capacity.  
But now I'm near my seventh age  
These jobs no longer charm me.  
Yet here I find myself again  
How say you? Am I barmy?

There must have been quite a number of raised eyebrows when the news leaked out that I was once again a (temporary) member of the NAWB Executive. Or perhaps the number wasn't as large as I imagine because, after a gap of several years, there can't be so many now who do remember me. In fact, when I talk about the old days with fellows winemakers, I find that the one job which I did for which I am best remembered is as Accommodation Secretary (i.e. booking clerk) for a certain wickedly cold holiday camp National.

Over these last few weeks I've been asking myself repeatedly "Why am I doing this?" It's not an easy question to answer. It can't be for the honour (purely imaginary) for what honour there is is more than outweighed by the criticisms when things haven't gone exactly as every individual winemaker would have had them. It certainly can't be for the pleasure of Sunday travel by British Rail to get to the Executive meetings held in distant parts of our country. I would like to say that it is simply for the benefit of the winemaking movement as a whole, but I really don't think that is a very high priority for a Local Liaison chappie.

My real motivation is that I want Eastbourne to show up well, and I feel that I may be able to do just that. I was born and bred in Eastbourne; I live there again now; I love the place. I want all our members and other visitors next March to become inspired with that same love for Eastbourne that I have. Obviously, the one single thing that will make you all have a soft spot for Eastbourne is a National Weekend here as wonderful as it can be.

And that's how I see my present job on the committee. I've simply got to make sure that you enjoy yourselves to the full next March. And doubtless you will let me know. If I do, then I shall feel that all the efforts I have put in this year will have been amply rewarded.

Accommodation in Eastbourne at Nationaltime.

In response to a letter which I sent to the Eastbourne Hotels Association I have received replies from a member of hotels and guest houses who would welcome parties of winemakers for the Friday/Saturday/Sunday morning and WHO WOULD ALLOW THEM TO DRINK THEIR OWN WINES at no corkage charge. Several of the hoteliers have replied that they are themselves winemakers, and can assure their visitors of a "proper winemakers' welcome" (whatever that may be).

It may be invidious of me to attempt to classify the accommodation by luxury/facilities available/terms etc., so I have tried to classify them in order of actual distance from the Show Venue (the Winter Garden). Those at the top of the list are very close, while those lower down are somewhat further away.

I would hope that this list may be of use to Circles, Guilds and Federations and to individuals who have not already found themselves a "pad" for the National weekend. All of the hotelier who replied to my letter feel that their accommodation is within "strolling distance" of the Winter Garden. Eastbourne Telephone Code is 0323.

TRAVANCORE	(Self catering apartments)		
	Wilmington Gardens	23770	
CORNFIELD HOTEL	15 Cornfield Terrace	28176	20 guests
WISH TOWER HOTEL	King Edward's Parade	22676	
PRINCES HOTEL	Lascelles Terrace	22056	
NEW ALWYN HOTEL	Jevington Gardens	24169	
ROSFORDE HOTEL	51 Jevington Gardens	32503	
MERTON PRIVATE HOTEL	49 Jevington Gardens	21943	18 guests
HANBURIES HOTEL	4 Hardwick Road	30698	
SOMERVILLE HOTEL	6 Blackwater Road	29342	21 guests
LATHAM HOTEL	4 Howard Square	641986	
ELM HYRST	37 Elms Avenue	21529	20 guests
AVON GUEST HOUSE	14 Lushington Road	34961	20 guests
VENTURA	48/50 Pevensey Road	22939	31 guests
CONNAUGHT G. H.	87 Pevensey Road	36632	12 guests
GLEN ROY	75 Pevensey Road	31389	14 guests
PENDENNIS	51 Ceylon Place	24595	12 guests
COURTNEY G. H.	97 Langney Road	645940	11 guests
LANTERN LODGE	57 Cavendish Place	639096	20 guests
TRENAULT G. H.	5 St. Aubyn's Road	24161	
ST. MALO	1-3 St. Aubyn's Road	34871	23 guests
PENRITH G. H.	20 St. Aubyn's Road	21709	
TUDOR HOUSE	5 Marine Road	21796	
LE CHALET	7 Marine Parade	20029	23 guests
ATHERTON HOUSE	13 Southcliffe Avenue	21636	7 bedrooms
Mr. Pearse	6 Willowfield Road	22851	14 guests
Mrs. Leggett	11 Bourne Street	26761	12 guests
PERRAN PRIVATE HOTEL	7-9 Bourne Street		16 guests
DELMAR G. H.	8 Cambridge Road		
	(Two adjacent guest houses)	34823	"A coachload"
NELLAND HOUSE	38 Redoubt Road	26921	8 guests
CHERRY TREE HOTEL	15 Silverdale Road	22406	20 guests
DAVENA G. H.	92 Royal Parade	27623	8 bedrooms



### Motions and Nominations

The next issue of News and Views will include the formal Notice of the AGM and the Agenda, so I must remind you here and now that all resolutions and nominations must reach the Hon. Secretary, Judy Irwin, by 31.1.85. By the way, please note Judy has a new telephone number, 0747 83 672, but her address is unchanged.

### Buckets

Every judge's steward is expected to bring a bucket for rinsing the tasting glasses. In the past NAWB has provided these, but the stock is being disposed of together with the staging. If you are stewarding, don't forget your bucket!

### Liqueurs

I have previously pointed out the change in the Schedule for 1985, restrictly liquers to orange-base only. For those far-sighted fermenters and blenders who want to make their liqueurs well beforehand, the 1986 liquer class will be for cherry-based liqueurs.

### Programme

For those without Saturday morning duties, Dave Pulley has organised a trip to Drusilla's, the English Wine Centre, for £5 a head including the coach. There's also a wine tasting at the conference on Saturday afternoon that is included in the cost of the Conference ticket. Further details follow; will you please give Dave some guidance as to numbers by filling in the forms to reserve your places.

### **SHORT HISTORICAL INTERLUDE**

Ozymandias, or thereabouts.  
I met a TASTER from an antique land,  
Who said the cancelled conference was not,  
At Bournemouth, as I said in News & Views.  
But nearby on the sands a vast and empty,  
Butlins stands at Bognor's pleasant strand.  
And there, in '75, there was no Show,  
For Kenneth R. T. Bilham told me so.

Thanks for the correction, Ken, everyone can now amend the list on the last page of the September News & Views. What with Bournemouth – sorry, Bognor, and the AGM being held in Birmingham, it was a B – year all round!

### NAWBS

There are some familiar initials, but in fact they don't relate to our Association. They stand for the "National Amateur Wine and Beer Show" the National Wine Show of Australia, which is being staged in Adelaide from October 26 - November 3rd in 1985, and October 25th to November 2nd 1986.

By courtesy of Ben Turner we now know that the amateur hobby is quite strong in Australia – in 1983 they even had 19 entries from New Zealand and that's a couple of thousand miles away.

In 1986, South Australia celebrates its 150th birthday, and there are plans from government level downwards to make it a big operation. The NAWBS will be part of it, and we should be proud that Ben Turner, our ex-President, has accepted an invitation to preside as their Chief Judge on what will be a very auspicious occasion.

I find it both interesting and instructive to learn about other winemakers outside the UK, and this appears to be a link that should be cherished, and undoubtedly Ben is one of the finest ambassadors for our hobby. On behalf of our Association we are sending NAWBS one of our Schedules and News and Views, wherever published, to help strengthen the bond that exists between winemakers and brewers in Australia and in Britain.

## MID-YEAR EVENT

We are arranging, for 1985, Dinner and Dance and general winemakers and brewers residential weekend, for Saturday and Sunday September 21/22, at the Rugby Post House Hotel at Crick. Crick is easy of access from much of the country, being by Exit 18 on the M1, just South of the junction of the M1 and M6.

The cost per head would be around £25-£27, including bed and breakfast, and a corkeage charge, so homemade wines could be drunk.

Besides the dance there will be other activities yet to be decided on, but these could include a small competition, speaker, or what-have-you? Why not fill in the coupon below, and let us know what you would most like on the programme.

This could be a great extension of NAWB's activities, and we would like to see an enthusiastic response. Go on, treat yourself, it only averages out about £1.50 per couple per month, from now to then.

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To Norman Chiverton (address as inside cover)

I wish to come to the Dinner and Dance. I will require

(approximately) .....

single/double reservations.

I would like to the programme to include .....

.....

Please print – Name .....

Address .....