

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

NEWS AND VIEWS

MARCH 1987



NAWB

President: Mrs. F. Stagg

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NABW (A)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AMATEUR WINE AND BEERMAKERS (AMATEUR)

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EDITORIAL

As Editor of News & Views I expect to carry the responsibility, and willingly do so, for producing regularly and on time, a clear, accurate, and readable newsletter for the members of our Association. I must, therefore, apologise to all our Patrons and members for the poor quality of reproduction and late delivery of the December issue.

However, there are times when amateurs are badly let down by professionals, and this is the explanation for the most unsatisfactory December issue of News & Views. The copy supplied to the printer was almost faultless, and on time. Despite this, the printed copies were not available until four weeks later than agreed, and our most welcome new Patrons, Johnson Homevine Supplies Ltd. (Vinamat) had been omitted from the cover. Many of the copies were so poorly printed that some pages were almost unreadable, and there were insufficient copies, by about 10%. In view of the delay, it was not practicable to wait for further copies to be produced, and in consequence the number of copies to some Circles and Federations had to be reduced.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN:

Dear Members,

In just a few weeks we will all be together again at Llandudno; how time flies, it doesn't seem like a year since Scarborough.

All is in hand for our annual show & conference. The local people are very keen to make us welcome, and our Local Liaison Officer, Hugh Garth-Thomas, has done a first-class job for us.

Many thanks to those who responded to my comments in the last issue, as to staging the show in London. Stan Baker was on the ball quickly, and went to the trouble of arranging for one of his friends to offer his services as Local Liaison Officer should the show be staged in London. New venues are becoming more difficult to find, to stage our show, but we keep on trying. It is nice to have the hand of friendship again with the National Guild of Judges; we seem to have solved our differences, and so I look forward to improving our close relationship in the future. It will be a pleasure to meet the Judges again at our show at Llandudno, and I hope they have a very enjoyable weekend, both with their judging and the social activities.

You, the members, are the backbone of the Association, so I ask you all to use of all available media to spread the word around about our Association. Let's progress to a bigger and better N.A.W.B.

May I therefore look forward to meeting you at Llandudno, and to see everyone smiling - just as we did at Scarborough last year. It makes the weekend so much better if we have a happy smiling membership, especially at the A.G.M.; they can be very enjoyable.

I wish you all a safe journey to and from Llandudno, and a very enjoyable Show. Cheers!

Lenn Drysdale, Chairman of N.A.W.B. (A).

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF WINE AND BEERMAKERS (AMATEUR)

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in the Theatre of the Canolfan Aberconwy Centre at Llandudno, on Sunday 12th April 1987, commencing at 10am.

Members and delegates attending this meeting may obtain voting slips from the N.A.W.B. table during the period of the Show, & Conference and no later than 9.30 am. on the day of the Meeting, on the production of either :-

- a/ a current membership card, in the case of Individual members, or
- b/ a signed letter of identification from the member Circle, Guild, or Federation, as appropriate.

Voting slips will be accepted as admission cards when members and delegates wish to enter the Hall.

Note: Constitution 4 (Voting) states "Each paid-up Member is entitled to one vote on attendance at the General Meeting."

Unauthorised persons will not be admitted to the A.G.M. but arrangements may be made for spouses and partners of authorised persons at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Judith Irwin (Mrs.)
General Secretary
N. A. W. B. (A)

AGENDA

1. The Meeting will be opened by the President of the Association,
Mrs. F. Stagg.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of the 1986 Annual General Meeting.
4. Matters arising.
5. Chairman's Report 1986/87
6. Treasurer's Report, 1985/86
7. Election of Officers to the Executive Committee:

In accordance with the amended Rule 8(d) the following members having served three years will retire:

Mrs. J Irwin

Mr. L Drysdale

Mr. J Chettle has also given notice of resignation from the Executive Committee.

There are therefore three vacancies to be filled. The following nominations have been received, duly proposed and seconded:

Mrs. J Irwin, retiring member

Mr. L Drysdale, retiring member

Mr. M Hayter, retiring Federation representative.

The names of one nominee to represent

a/ Member Circles, and

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 nominations are received for posts a/ or b/ above, the Executive may nominate a person to fill the vacancy. [Rule 8(c)]

8. Motions: The following Motion has been received:

Moved: That this Annual General Meeting instructs the show committee to adopt the white plastic topped corks for the wine bottles at future National Shows.

Proposed: A Procter, Chairman, Phoenix Wine Circle

Seconded: T Beck, Chairman, Tyneside Nationals

9. Any Other Business.

10. Nomination of President of the Association 1987/88.

11. Presentation of the Executive.

12 The President will close the Meeting.

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Our General Secretary writes:-

Dear Members: Another show and weekend conference is nearly here, and we are visiting Llandudno for the first time. I hope that by now you have all filled in your booking forms and sent them to Gerry Sparrow.

If you intend to attend the AGM, then PLEASE read the official notice on page 5 carefully and make sure you collect your Voting slips from the NAWB table during the weekend. With your cooperation we can avoid any queuing problems on Sunday morning.

May I wish all those attending a very pleasant weekend, and do please contact me if you have any problems either during the show or after it. I am always interested to hear your comments, whether they be good or bad.

See you all there,

Judith Irwin,

Honorary Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WINE AND BEER MAKERS (AMATEUR) HELD ON SUNDAY 13th APRIL 1986 AT THE SPA COMPLEX, SCARBOROUGH.

Mr L Drysdale in the Chair.

Members were present representing 368 Individuals, 7 Honorary, 8 Circles and 4 Federations.

The meeting was opened at 10 am. by the President, Mrs. Freda Stagg, who remarked on the excellent attendance at what had been one of the best National weekends in memory.

Apologies had been received from Mr K R T Bilham, Mr B Marsden, Mr F & Mrs D Jackman, and Mrs R Hallett.

The Minutes having been circulated, Mr D Hawkins proposed, seconded Mr I Morgan that they be accepted. Carried unopposed.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

The Chairman, Mr L Drysdale then gave his report, commenting on the near-record turnout over the week-end and the corresponding number of entries.

The Fancy Dress parade had been superb. He thanked J Sainsbury plc and Mr Roy Ekins for the excellent wine-tasting on the Saturday afternoon. He also thanked the members of the National Guild of Wine & Beer Judges for their invaluable assistance and said it was pleasing to note the continuing harmony between the Guild and the Association.

Mr Drysdale then thanked all those who had expressed concern over his wife's illness; May's health continued to deteriorate. She had sent her apologies for her absence, and her thanks to all who had contributed to the Motor Neurone Disease Research Fund.

The Chairman next said that the Committee had worked well and responsibly together as a team and had done a grand job, and he thanked them and their spouses, who though not elected members, turned to and worked hard for no reward. He also thanked the Stewards, without whose efforts the Show could not be staged. Finance was then discussed briefly. Discussions were taking place with representatives of the Homebrew Trade and Manufacturing Associations over the possibility of arranging a joint show weekend, which could result in a bigger and better show with expenses reduced by sharing them. He was pleased to report that the first indications were that Scarborough had been a financial success. He then commented on the reduction of the number of members of the Committee that had operated for the last two years; this was proving to be a considerable burden, with some members wearing several hats, and the composition and the working methods of the Committee were under review. Ideas for the expansion and improvement of the Association were being considered, and NAWB members were encouraged to put any ideas forward to be looked at by the Committee. Mr Drysdale finally thanked all the members for their support over the past year and asked them to continue that support in the coming year; he thought that NAWB had a lot to offer.

The Treasurer, Mr B Edwards then gave his report. Copies of the Accounts had been circulated, and instead of going through them in detail he invited questions. In view of the Association's present poor financial standing, sponsorship was being sought. This was a delicate matter that could not be rushed, but enquiries were in progress. No positive results could yet be reported. The Association's accountants considered that to be viable the Association should be looking for another £10000 income each year, to prevent further erosion of its shrinking capital and to counter inflation.

This would also mean we would have the ability to pay Judges' expenses and similar outgoings that we could not at present afford. Mr D Hawkins asked about Note 6 to the accounts, and the Treasurer replied that it was too early for figures to be available, but the indications were that the Association should be in a healthier position this year. This did not mean we could become complacent.

Mr W Harvey asked about the cost of Committee meetings, and was told that the increase was due to normal inflation and to the great distances many of the Committee members had to travel to meetings.

Mr P Awbery proposed, seconded by Mr S Baker, that the accounts be accepted, carried unanimously. Mr D Reed called for a vote of thanks to the Treasurer for his report.

Mr Edwards followed by putting forward the Committee's proposal to increase subscriptions to Single £7, Double £12, and retaining the initial joining fee of £2. Much discussion followed, during which Mr K Gunn pointed out that no concessions were made for pensioners, Mrs Tappenden said that we were trying to increase membership and this high subscription would deter potential members. The Chairman explained that membership varied each year as the Conference and Show visited different venues, and Mr S Baker said that the increase was only in line with inflation over the past few years. Eventually Mr D Turner, seconded by Mr E Tappenden, proposed that the subscription should be Single, Circle, and Federation £6, Double membership £10. This was carried, with two opposing. The Treasurer then put forward the idea of Life Membership with his suggestion of this being purchased for 10 times the annual subscription prevailing at the time of application. Circles and Federations were excluded. Mr D Turner formally proposed this, seconded by Mrs Burroughs, and the motion was carried, with seven against.

During these discussions Mr D Sykes suggested that a nominal charge made for future show weekends to help funds would be welcomed by members. Four retiring members of the Committee were offering themselves for re-election and a further nomination had been received. A vote was therefore required; Messrs. Morgan and Hawkins were appointed as Tellers. The results of the vote were that Messrs. B Edwards, D Ives, N Chiverton, and G Sparrow were re-elected to the Committee, and Mr G Lashbrook was unsuccessful. Any Other Business gave members the opportunity to voice their opinions on a wide variety of topics. Mrs A Parrack suggested that the current award cards be done away with on the grounds of economy and a simpler unfolded card be written and given at the show. Mr A Hill supported Mrs Parrack by saying postage would be saved if the cards were displayed on the Show benches. Perhaps an award card design could be made the subject of a new class at the next Show, or of a competition in News & Views. Mr. E Tappenden asked if the names of the manufacturers of the kits winning prizes in the Show could be publicised and the Secretary, Mrs. J Irwin, said this could be done. Mr B Pearce asked if trolleys or similar aids could be provided to help those members who needed them to transport their entries from their cars to the bottle reception point. Mr Procter thought we should now reconsider introducing cork stoppers with white plastic tops instead of the present all-cork stoppers, and Mrs G Blacklock reported that the N. Yorks & S. Durham Federation had found a much lower failure rate with these stoppers. Mr V Goffen pointed out that plastic or plastic topped stoppers were often not a standard fit, as bottle necks varied, and could be very tight or very slack; these stoppers varied a lot in shade of plastic and bottles could possibly be identified on the show bench. Mr K Simpson suggested that as an economy measure the commemorative glasses could be

discontinued. Mr F Rayner asked if judges' stewards could be awarded a glass for their services. It was pointed out that as judges now receive a lunch voucher they could have their glasses reduced from two to one each, and this would release glasses to give to the stewards at no extra cost. Mr Mitchell asked if three glasses could be given in the Federation 3-bottle class, as the wines might well be supplied by three different winemakers. A suggestion that extra glasses should be purchased and put on sale was turned down as members felt this would take away the value of the glasses that were awarded to them. A request was also made that the Show Committee should consider allowing say a 6 oz. bottle in the Liqueur class, as suitable half-bottles were difficult to obtain. Lastly, Mr Barber suggested that the old points system for awards should be reinstated. Mr E Tappenden thought the review giving the new points system had been too drastic. It was agreed to look further at this, and points systems used by other bodies and Federations etc. should be sent to the Secretary for Committee consideration.

Mr. Drysdale then thanked everyone for the interest they had shown and for their ideas, all of which would be discussed in Committee, and researched where necessary.

Mrs Freda Stagg was proposed as President for the coming year, and this was warmly agreed by the members. Mrs Stagg accepted the nomination.

The Chairman then proposed an innovation. It was felt to be unfair to the President that he or she should always be on call to represent the Association,

and therefore a new post was being made, of Vice President. The Committee's nomination for this new position was Mr Peter Awbery, who agreed to accept, and the proposal and nomination were unanimously approved by the meeting.

The Chairman then again thanked the Committee, and presented them to the members. He mentioned the late Maurice Hughes, the Guild representative who had died during the year, who would be sadly missed by all who knew him. He also thanked Peter and Anne Johnson who had been coopted to run the Tombola, which they had done most successfully.

The President then closed the meeting, wishing all a safe journey home and looking forward to seeing everyone again at Llandudno in 1987.

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AND NOW BACK TO LLANDUDNO: WHAT EVERY YOUNG GIRL OR OLD ROUE SHOULD KNOW -

No, we are NOT giving advice to the lovelorn, nor advertising blue videos! What we have got to say arises largely from the recent Committee Meetings, and covers a number of points that can make your weekend so much more enjoyable. Just in case the Special Branch has confiscated your Programme or last issue of News & Views, here's a few reminders etc.:-

BOOKINGS: If you haven't booked yet, send your form off NOW to Gerry Sparrow, with a large SAC enclosed. If you haven't a form, advise Gerry of your requirements (Member "2, Non-Member £8.50), membership number, name & address and enclose your remittance AND a large SAE. Bookings have to be in by the end of March, so don't delay! Of course, you must be a paid-up member to obtain a Member's reduced price ticket.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: If you still haven't paid your subscriptions, this will be your last copy of News & Views until you pay up! And you certainly won't be able to enter Member's classes in the Show, or take any part in the AGM. There is a tear-out form at the back of this issue. Use the form to renew your membership or you can't have Member's privileges at Llandudno.

merry volunteers will accept your subscriptions, sell you Grand Draw tickets, give advice, and supply ties, badges, and other goodies in exchange for a mere few small coins of the Realm. This year we hope to have some attractive new specialities for sale, including silver-plated pendants featuring the NAWB badge. Don't miss visiting this hub of the hobby! It's a mixed Information Bureau and Aladdin's Cave. (Or should that be "Agirlin's Cave"? With all these Relations' Races and Sex Acts, an Editor's life is quite exhausting! I think that's what I mean....)



DOUG. IVES, SHOW MANAGER

and

LENN DRYSDALE, CHAIRMAN,

TRYING THE STAGE FOR SIZE

JUDGES: This year there are no convenient facilities to arrange for judge's luncheon vouchers to be honoured, so £2 cash will be provided for each Judge to help with lunch costs. Collect this when you collect your two commemorative glasses.

FUND RAISER:- Peter Johnson sends this message-

GRAND DRAW and TOMBOLA

To run both these activities successfully I need the members support, which was so evident last year in making the Show a success. With your cooperation, Llandudno can be too!

You will find two books of draw tickets enclosed with this issue of News & Views, for each single or double membership. Circles will receive twenty-five books, by a separate post. More are available for anyone who can and will sell them.

The First prize this year is £100, Second is £50, Third is £25. This leaves the winners of the major awards the choice of purchase, and room in my car for my wife. Cash is easily transportable, it just goes in your pocket!

Judy Irwin has again kindly donated a case of wine, and I am searching keenly for more donations. Do any other members have prizes to offer, please?

I would be grateful if you would return counterfoils, monies, and any unsold books to me as soon as possible, and at least a fortnight before the Show. (Cheques payable to NAWB please). This will give us the best chance of selling all the tickets, which is necessary to keep up the Association's funds and help pay for the weekend.

I look forward to seeing you there.....Peter Johnson

ENTERTAINMENT: Hugh Garth-Thomas tells us that there'll be Morris Dancers, and a Welsh Choir, and all the usual fun of Fancy Dress, raffles, and whatever goes to make up a couple of good nights out. Don't forget the theme for this year's Fancy Dress is "Nursery Rhymes", so don't turn up as Anthony & Cleopatra or Ain't Misbehavin' if you want to win a prize.

TOMBOLA: As Fund Raiser, Peter Johnson is also concerned with organising the Tombola, and says:-

May I make a request for donations for the Tombola I am running this year at Llandudno? Last year members responded most generously, and I will be grateful for whatever you can spare for 1987. Already I have received a most generous offer from Scraftoft Circle - no less than fifty (Yes - 50!) sets of car carpets, so if you are thinking of buying some - don't! Wait for Llandudno and buy some Tombola tickets instead. Please advise me of any spare items you have for the Tombola, beforehand if possible, so I can assess the numbers of prizes available. Please give me a ring on (new code) 0759 318596, or drop me a quick line - I need as much assistance as possible.

I'm sure it's going to be as good a Show as ever; see you there - and bring some money with you!.....P Johnson



TOM AND JERRY

(Better known as Gerry Sparrow, Chief Steward & Tom McArthur, NGWBJ Rep.)

POET'S CORNER:-From Alan Shellard, after reading page 16 of 'News & Views', December 1987.

LLANDUDNO, PRIDE OF THE EAST COAST! (according to the Editor)

Retirement has made the poor soul too busy
All this running around has got him quite dizzy
Scarborough, Llandudno, Brighton, "Don't know"
Is the Editor standing on head or on toe?
Methinks he should sample some Sainsbury tea
If he thinks that Llandudno adjoins the North Sea
It's all 'Irish' to me, but I don't give a jot,
Unless the Sainsbury samples are arriving by yacht.

And from Horace (65 BC - 8 BC)

Stewed shrimps and Afric cockles shall excite
A jaded drinker's appetite;
For lettuce after wine is cold and crude,
But ham or sausage is provoking food....

And finally, from Roy Alliver (1987):

There is a young lady from Twickers
Who has writing all over her knickers;
As many a man sees
It's her wine recipes,
But she keeps them a secret from vicars.

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And last of all, do write to News & Views' Editor. The News and the Views are meant to be those of the membership, not editorial maunderings!