

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WINE AND BEER MAKERS
(Amateur)

NEWS AND VIEWS

JUNE 1988



PRESIDENT: MR. P. AWBERY

PATRONS:

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WINE AND BEERMAKERS (AMATEUR)

NEWS & VIEWS

JUNE 1988

EDITORIAL

This is the Editor's big opportunity to utter profound words of wisdom, to issue dire warnings of troubled seas ahead of us, and to exhort all members to do their utmost to be conscientious and spread the word of winemaking among all the unconverted. But you know all that anyway, so let's spread a little joy instead.

At its first Committee meeting after the AGM the Executive elects its own Officers, and allocates Committee posts to those most suited for them (or those who can be bludgeoned into accepting them).

I'm sure you will all be pleased to welcome Mrs. Judith Irwin as our new Chairman - no, not Chairperson, Chairwoman, or whatever, she has too much regard for the English language for that - and a short resumé of her NAWB career follows on another page. I'm sure Judith, as our second Lady Chairman - Sybil Hill was the first - and perhaps the youngest Chairman we have had in NAWB's history, will prove as capable as she has been as Secretary for the last four years. We wish her well. Many of the other positions on the Committee have been reallocated, and I recommend that you study the page opposite so that you know to whom subscriptions should be sent, correspondence for the Secretary, and so on.

However, you are still stuck with me as Editor, so do please write to me, so News & Views can contain more than the news and the views of three or four regular contributors - what would I do without them? And Roy Alliver and Roy Ekins can't fill the rest of the pages by themselves every issue! Extract digit, as the old saying goes!



BRIGHTON CENTRE, 1988 - ROY EKINS' VIEW

After months of preparation by the Executive and their willing helpers, Conference 1988 finally arrived. The Show and AGM were staged at the Brighton Centre, a superb modern building on Brighton's sea-front Kings road.

FRIDAY saw a marvellous crowd of stewards helping with the setting up, and the bottle entries reception, working hard until well into the evening. There were some 4250 entries in total, a few more than at our last visit to Brighton.

Unfortunately our weekend coincided with the Retail Trade Association weekend at Buxton, so several traders were unable to visit us. But we did have some stands to browse over: Musts of Yapton, with a good range of homebrew ingredients and equipment, and featuring the new Cecil Vacuum Systems' large size juice extractors; President Travel of Manchester were there to publicise their English and Continental wine tours, and Marion Whitrow displayed her book, 'Great Fermentations', and a range of amusing 'Puffin' cartoon cards she designs herself; watch out for new ones next time! Lastly there was Derek Pearmain, of Loftus fame, selling all sorts of homebrew goods, and featuring the Johnson Vinamat kits. And of course there was the NAWB table, organised by our Hon. Secretary Judith Irwin, selling ties and badges, teaspoons and keyrings, stickers in different styles, and souvenir glasses to take into the tasting; taking subscriptions, issuing tickets, and half a dozen other necessary tasks. We owe a lot to all our helpers - Doris Hughes, Mike and Susan Hayter, Sarah Chiverton, Ann and Peter Johnson, that I can remember - who man the stand during the weekend.

FRIDAY EVENING brought the Dance and Fancy Dress competition, for which the results are given elsewhere. A lively band gave us a good variety of music for different styles of dancing, so everybody should have been satisfied.

SATURDAY MORNING brought the Judges' and Stewards' briefing, run by our Convenor, Tom McArthur, after a microphone had eventually been found. The judging followed, with all the usual splashing and spitting and strange gurgling noises that other people seem to make. I had a small class - just 29 bottles - but as these had been entered by judges I had to be extra

careful with my findings. My steward was Jan van Schaik, our Dutch colleague, who had come across to visit the show, to see how we carried out our judging, and to meet a variety of Association, Guild of Judges, and trade representatives while he was here. An unexpected bonus for him was to share with me in a live broadcast on Radio Sussex, when we were interviewed for the Chris English show. Jan was asked if it was true that Dutchmen told Belgian jokes, like Englishmen told Irish jokes. He said it was true, and told one of the worst jokes I have ever heard: "Why does a Belgian take a brick to bed? To throw at the lightbulb to put the light out! And he always takes a torch so he can see if the light has gone out or not!" Despite the groans, I must confess that I couldn't have told a better Irish joke off the cuff. During the morning we also had a chat with two BBC Plymouth TV staff, who were visiting the National to see what all this homebrew fuss was about; I think they were rather surprised at the size and scope of the show. It seems they are to make a pilot TV programme, and if that is successful, there may be a series of six or even ten programmes to follow. If the programme(s) is/are not broadcast nationally, then we shall have to make sure that they are video-taped by our Southern brethren so everyone can have a look at them afterwards. Judith Irwin seemed to be in the know, so perhaps she will keep us informed through these pages.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON was the time for Judges at the Bar, and a lot of competitors took the opportunity to talk to the judges about their entries. This was followed by a Bulgarian Wine Tasting given by Judith Irwin on behalf of Bulgarian Vintners of London, who generously gave us the six wines for the tasting. The second wine had just been distributed by my trusty band of pourers, when disaster struck! The centre section of the table holding all the opened bottles collapsed, dumping some sixty bottles or so onto the floor with an horrendous crash, the tinkling of broken glass, and the glugging of the unbroken bottles emptying their contents onto the floor. Chaos! We dived in - almost literally! - and rescued the half-emptied unbroken bottles, and opened the few remaining bottles from the cases under the tables. Splashing around in a pool of wine is a novelty I would much rather never experience again, and John Scottow's trousers will never be the same again after their baptism. Wisely, a rather shell-

-shocked Judith struggled on with her talk despite the calamity, and although she was somewhat thrown out of her stride, recovered well and amused the audience with reminiscences of her visit to the vineyards of Bulgaria, until normal service could be resumed. Unfortunately, that was when the Centre staff kindly came to clear up the NAWB Wine Lake with a large industrial vacuum cleaner, so our Speaker had to contend with a loud racket from the machinery. It just wasn't her day, but Judith won the acclaim of her audience of some four hundred and twenty winemakers for the way in

which she doggedly battled on. And it's not true that it was a bit of sabotage by me on behalf of Sainsbury's!

SATURDAY EVENING brought the Mayor, Councillor Ray Blackwood, honouring us with a Civic Reception and Ball, with a buffet supper included. Again an excellent evening, spoiled only by an unfortunate choice of band that played only pop music. They were bright and lively, and many of the audience enjoyed their music - even old crocks like me! But some found the music's tempo and volume too much for them, and opted for an early night. Unhappily, one celebrant must have imbibed a little too freely, and rudely accosted the Mayor personally to voice his views in a crude manner, quite overlooking the fact that he was a guest of the Mayor, and bringing the Association into disrepute as well as insulting his host. Unforgivable.

SUNDAY was the occasion of the Annual General Meeting. The Minutes will not be published until the Spring '89 edition of News & Views, but for those who could not -or chose not - to be present, I will give a summary of the happenings separately. The Meeting passed without dissent - in fact with an unusual degree of amicable agreement - between the Executive and the Members present in the hall. Would that politicians could work with the same degree of accord and amity, we could then spend the billions wasted on 'Defence' on better causes such as nurses (save one for me) or increasing my pension, or paying me to have a driving licence - there must be many better ways to spend all that loot! Back to the AGM, Ekins!

The President brought the proceedings to a close, and then after a short break we enjoyed the Grand Draw before welcoming the Mayor and his

attractive wife, to distribute the Trophies won at the Show. The results are printed elsewhere, but I must record that they included three new trophies, the (Gerry) Sparrow Trophy, for the General Steward with most points in Show, the (Stan) Baker Wine & Dine Trophy, for Class 60, and the (Ivor and Marion) Morgan Savoury Salver, for class 58.

Thus the weekend came to an end. There is one small item that might amuse you : after our little bit of publicity on Radio Sussex, when the competitors came to remove their bottle entries to the loading bay late on Saturday afternoon, some of them at least found that the word had got round and most of the winos and down-and-outs in the area had congregated for a free handout of booze! Such is fame!

FANCY DRESS COMPETITION RESULTS 1988

- and what a job the judges had! Each year the number of entries increases, and every year the selection gets more difficult. Anyway, here, I am advised, are the results:-

SINGLES: 1st: D Pearce, the Oldest Swinger in Town

2nd: Celia Liggins, At The Ball, 1966

3rd: Mrs. Papworth, as Neil Armstrong

DOUBLES: 1st: Mrs. & Dinah Stephens, First Men on the Moon.

2nd: Mr & Mrs Dobell, World Cup Supporters

3rd: Mr & Mrs Bowden, as Hippies.

GROUP : 1st: Exeter Flower People

2nd: Old Bexley Flower People

3rd: Hucknall Circle (- sorry, style not recorded - Ed.)

FORTHCOMING SHOWS

Just so no-one can plead ignorance, let me publish here the dates for the next two years:-

1989 : March 17th to 19th, at the Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool. You can be a resident or stay at a place of your own choosing. The Norbreck is on the front, at North Shore. Details to follow, but for now, if you are booking accommodation at the Norbreck - some have already - do mention that you are attending the Conference. You will then get the benefit of the 'conference rate' that we are negotiating.

1990 : April 6th to 8th, Scarborough, at the Spa Complex; arrange your own accommodation. Those who have attended Conference at Scarborough before will be able to testify to the warmth of our welcome from the civic authorities there. Details nearer the time, advice re hotels etc. to follow.

And for 1991? : Anybody's guess! We have had a suggestion that we should visit Torquay - see George Lashbrook's letter later - and had an invitation to go to Folkestone. Holiday camps have been brought up again, as the Wales & West Federation and the North Western Federation both run exceedingly successful shows at Pontins' Holiday Villages.

What do you think about it? Remember that we need a lot of space, and accommodation for 700 or 800 people at least, and if possible at minimal cost, and with a Civic Reception if it can be managed!

Not much to ask for, is it? And also you must bear in mind that under the present arrangements, the National moves around the country so that it is within reasonable travelling distance for some of our members every year. That is, we won't go Scarborough one year, and (for example) to York University the next year.

So there it is; let's have a flood of letters telling us all about the wonderful sites that you know about that we don't! There's nothing to beat local knowledge; the village of Down Upward may have a magnificent centre and hotels etc. that would be perfect for NAWB's annual extravaganza, but if your unpaid amateur Executive don't know about it, then we'll never consider it as a venue - unless YOU tell us about it. Go to it!

HOME BREW FOR ECONOMY?

A recent article referred to the undoubted decline in the homebrew hobby trade, and the ever-increasing growth in the sales of commercial wines. Sales of commercial wines have increased tremendously, especially in the lower price ranges, and it is reasonable to assume that this has affected the sale of winemaking kits, the mainstay of the homebrew trade. An extreme point, which ignores the cost of packaging, profits, etc. is that the wine in a bottle of ordinary table wine selling at £2-£3 is worth about 25p. Wine from a top quality kit costs from 50p-60p a bottle! Think it over!



JUDITH IRWIN : CHAIRMAN 1988/89

It is just ten years since Judith Irwin, our newly-elected Chairman paid her first visit to the National, at Nottingham University. Judith, mother of two, had been elected Wine Princess for the Dorset Federation, and was talked into coming to the National to enter the now-defunct Wine Queen competition. To her surprise and delight, she was selected by the judges, against some very stiff opposition, to reign for 1978/79.

In 1982 she made her mark again, at Scarborough, where in addition to being part of the successful Fancy Dress party from Poole, her 'home' Wine Circle, she qualified as a National Guild Judge. Elected as the Circles' Representative in 1983, Judith soon made her presence felt on the Executive, and became Hon. Secretary in 1984, the post she held until this year.

Outside the hobby, Judith continues to have an unshakeable devotion to wine in her work. A few years ago, as proprietor of a village store and off-licence, she became the South West representative for Bulgarian wines, an interest she still retains. Since then Judith has progressed to being a wine buyer for Gibbs Mew, a large and influential brewery, wine, and public house group based in Salisbury, where she now lives.

Judith has also another interest in wine and beer: for some years she was the Editor of the magazine "Practical Winemaking & Brewing", and contributed a monthly article herself as well. The magazine is no longer in circulation, due to the recession in the homebrew trade, but its Editor is busying herself with writing a new book on wine and beermaking. And just to fill the odd moments Judith has just taken the second part of the Wine & Spirit Education Trust Diploma Examination. Next year she could be starting the course that might eventually give the homebrew hobby, and NAWB in particular, its very own and first Master of Wine! An exciting prospect.

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PATRONS

There are several of the firms within the trade whose names appear on our covers and letterheads as Patrons of the Association. This privilege is a small acknowledgement of the financial support they give our Association, £100 every three years. Their patronage helps us to keep NAWB running and solvent, and subsidises the subscriptions we pay as members. It is only fair that when we buy our homebrew ingredients and equipment that we should return the compliment and give them our patronage, by choosing their branded goods.

I would like to bring to your attention that we have been honoured with two new Patrons in recent months, and they are Itona Products Ltd., well known for their 'Kwoffit' beer kits, and Cecil Vacuum Systems, suppliers of the latest in wine technology with their vacuum-press juice extractors.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTES-

THE HEADLINES -

- SUBS INCREASE,
- ELECTIONS
- COMMITTEE INCREASE,
- RULE CHANGES,

Last financial year the subscriptions rose slightly and our Treasurer could report a surplus for the year. At the 1987 AGM the subscriptions remained unchanged, but this year (1988) it was thought advisable to increase the subscriptions to £7.50 (Single, Circles, and Federations) and £12 Double membership.

Peter Awbery accepted the Committee's nomination to be our President for a second year, and was applauded as such by the Meeting.

Dave Pulley, our Membership and Entries Secretary, was re-elected unopposed. Peter Johnson replaced Roy Ekins as Circle representative, Roger Mitchell, is again Federation representative, and Tom McArthur still represents the Guild of Judges.

The Committee numbers have been increased to 12. There are so many tasks to be done during the year as well as actually at the Show that some Committee members were wearing two or three hats, and some of them heavy hats at that!

Circle and Federation representatives will not in future be nominees of those groups, but Executives elected to Committee in the normal way.

However, two of the Executive will have the interests of Circles and Federations specifically made part of their duties.

Other Constitution and Rules changes mean that our Vice-President is 'officially' recognised, (legitimised?) and also that you have until the end of October to pay your subscription but only if for some good reason you have omitted to pay them when they are due in July. This simply recognises that in the past we have given our members that much leeway unofficially. After October, if your subscriptions aren't paid, you won't be a member any longer!

These changes bring the Rules and Constitution up to date, and all members will receive a revised print in due course.

Next year, following a Motion by Mr. B W Pearce, amended by Mr. W Harvey, the basis of distribution of commemorative glasses will be one glass to each Judge and one to each Steward, whether General or Judge's Steward. This was a unanimous decision by all voting at the AGM.

The AGM is never terribly well attended, which is a pity. It is always of interest, and there are some very good - sometimes controversial - points raised from the floor. Only Motions put to the Secretary in sufficient time before the AGM can become binding on the Association, but anything can be raised under 'Any Other Business' and given a thorough airing. Any idea of merit can, if meeting with the general approval of the members present, be carried forward for consideration by the Executive Committee when time permits. The fascination of "Any Other Business" is its unpredictability; anything can be discussed, and there's always a laugh or two to help the morning along.

When you come to Blackpool, make sure you don't miss the AGM on Sunday morning.

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CHETTLE'S CHATTER

THE REAL THING

Every time the 'National' has been held down south, it has coincided with the London Vintage Wine Festival. This year we were able to go for the first time. Pauline and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Us and Oz Clark - to drop a few names. The range of wines from all over the world was considerable. Not all outstanding, of course. The New Zealand wines stole the show, for me.

THE MONKEY ON MY BACK

I'd heard a lot about withdrawal symptoms, but I didn't believe it all. After 11 years working at the 'National', I looked forward as an ex-Committee member to a pleasant weekend at Brighton. It didn't take long before I started twitching. The joy of the whole week-end, though, was laying in on Sunday morning, instead of having to get up early and lay out all the trophies.

THE COST OF A GOOD MEAL.

Will Honore Robinson & Audrey Newton please write in and tell us about the £4 soup?

UP FRONT

What was a Past President really doing on the sea-front, late on Saturday night? Hope you got your taxi, Freda!

TALKING ABOUT PAST PRESIDENTS

Missed you Fred. And you too, Eva. Maybe we'll see you in Blackpool.

A REMINDER

I retired from the Committee in March 1987. Membership renewals should not now be directed to me. Mind you, I remember how long it was before people stopped sending their applications to Ken Bilham. By the way, Mike Hayter must owe me about £3 for postage! Put it in the poor box, Mike.

GOOD SHOW

Well done Committee! A good Brighton show. What a shame we can't all get together at some other time as well.

JIM CHETTLE

GLUTTONY CORNER

And now, as a special treat, we have two superb recipes for you to try. 'Jo' Wright and Pauline Joiner, of Old Bexley, both consistent prizewinners in the 'Cooking with Wine' classes at the National, have kindly supplied me with six recipes that between them gained two 1sts, a 2nd, two 3rds and a 4th at this year's Show. Loosen your belts, chaps, and smile at your wives!

CHICKEN CHAUDFROID

This gained Jo a First in Class 60, the 'Wine & Dine' Trophy, presented by Stan Baker as a new trophy for 1988 onwards.

Ingredients:

4 Chicken Breast fillets (skin to be left on)	1/4 pint Dry White Wine
1 Carrot, medium sized	1 pint cold water
1 Onion, medium sized	Salt and Black Pepper
1 stick Celery	1/4 pint Double Cream
6 Peppercorns	1/2oz. Gelatine powder

Decoration (to be prepared in advance): Chives, Rosemary leaves, and thin slices of Radish, halved.

Method: Peel carrot and onion, wash celery, and cut all vegetables into quarters. Place in a large pan with chicken fillets, peppercorns, wine, water, and seasonings. Bring to boil, reduce heat and cook gently (slow simmer) for approx. 1½ hours, or until tender. Remove chicken carefully from pan onto a plate, and set aside to cool, covering with wet greaseproof paper to prevent drying out. Strain the stock through muslin or woven nylon strainer to remove all debris and set aside to cool.

When the chicken fillets are completely cold, carefully remove the skin. Wipe gently over each piece with the flat of a knife to make surface completely smooth, and place them on a rack over a tray.

Measure 3/4 pint of reserved stock into a bowl, add the cream and mix thoroughly. Put the gelatine into a small saucepan, add 2 tablespoons of water and leave to soak for 5 minutes. Over a gentle heat, dissolve gelatine, stirring occasionally, until liquid is clear. Allow to cool slightly, then pour in a thin stream into stock and cream mixture, stirring constantly. Set aside, stirring occasionally, until sauce is thick enough to coat the back of a wooden spoon. Carefully pour sauce onto centre of

each piece of chicken; when it has run down and completely coated the sides, stop pouring. Arrange the previously prepared decorations on the pieces of chicken before the sauce sets, place in 'fridge, and leave to set. Using a spatula or palette knife, carefully transfer the chicken breasts onto a serving dish and garnish as required.

The wine accompanying this dish is Folly Wine, made from vine leaves and sultanas.

The recipe from Pauline that I have chosen gained third place in Class 59:-

ROSE AND CLARET DESSERT

Part 1: Jelly Ingredients:

2 dessertspoons powdered gelatin	3 cloves
2 Dessertspoons Redcurrant Jelly	2 tablespoons lemon juice
10 fluid oz. dry red wine	10 fluid oz. water
4 oz caster sugar	Red colouring (optional).

Method

Sprinkle gelatin onto 3 tablespoons cold water, leave to soften a little. Place basin over a pan of hot water, and stir until dissolved. Combine the remainder of the water with the sugar, cloves, and redcurrant jelly in a pan, stirring over a low heat until the sugar has dissolved. Remove from heat, and take out the cloves. Add the wine, lemon juice and gelatin and stir well. Check for depth of colour now, and adjust if necessary. Strain and leave to cool a little.

Part 2: Rose Cream

2 dessertspoons caster sugar	3/4 pint of milk
2 tablespoons cornflour	1 beaten egg yolk
2 level teaspoons gelatin	Rose flavouring and pink colouring

Method

Dissolve gelatin in 1 tablespoon cold water (as for jelly). Blend cornflour into milk in a small saucepan. Bring to boil, stirring continuously until sauce has begun to thicken. Remove from heat, beat in egg yolk and sugar until sugar has dissolved. Stir in gelatin. Flavour with essence, and colour.

Make up the complete dish by pouring 1/3 of the jelly into a wetted mould. Place in the 'fridge until well set. Onto this spoon enough of the Rose

Cream to reach the depth of about 1" -1½". Return mould to 'fridge to set. Finish with remainder of jelly. When well set, turn out of mould and decorate as desired.

Thanks, Jo and Pauline, for taking the trouble to pass on your delicious-sounding recipes; they certainly looked good on the show-bench in the Brighton Centre. There will be a further selection in the next issue of News and Views for all you galloping gourmets to try out.

TROPHY WINNERS, BRIGHTON 1988

There was a computer print-out of trophy winners available at Brighton, but for everyone's interest I am printing the list anew, and in a form readily intelligible to human beings. Congratulations to the following entrants:-

N A W B Trophy.....	Mr E W Tappenden, Old Bexley.
Bournemouth Master Winemaker Cup....	Dr M P Elliott, Bishop Auckland
The Hill Cup.....	Mr E W Tappenden, Old Bexley
Amateur Winemaker Shield.....	Old Bexley
Nottingham Trophy.....	Phoenix
Marconi Club Trophy.....	Ace of Clubs
N A W B Beer Trophy.....	Leyton Wine & Beer Circle
Chempro Trophy.....	Fedn. of Beds. & Herts.
Assoc. of Federations Trophy.....	South Western Counties Fedn.
Vina Trophy.....	Mr E W Tappenden, Old Bexley
Eric Malin Memorial Trophy.....	Mr T D Hodgkinson, Tyneside Nationals
Bastin Cup.....	Not awarded.
Bilham Tastevin.....	Mr R N Brooksbank, Nottingham
Audrey Newton Cup.....	Mr I C James, Coulsdon & Purley
Harold Beall Memorial Cup.....	Mr T D Hodgkinson, Tyneside Nationals
Turner Trophy.....	Mr G Sparrow, Tynemouth
Rankin Trophy.....	Mr N Chiverton, Grandborough
Timmins Trophy.....	Mrs J J Mustill, Sheppey
Shaw Porter Cup.....	Dr M P Elliott, Bishop Auckland
Roycroft Cup.....	Mr G Moy, Bognor

Yorkshire Trophy.....	Mrs S J Johnson,	Phoenix
Atcherley Trophy.....	Mr T D Hodkinson	Tyneside Nationals
Andrews Cup.....	Mr I D F Sykes,	Wakefield
Heriff Trophy.....	Mr C T Beabey,	Leyton
Southern Vineyards Trophy.....	Mr E W Tappenden,	Old Bexley
Loftus Cup.....	Mr B W Blankeney,	Coulsdon & Purley
Hidalgo Trophy.....	Mr W P Hicks,	Old Bexley
Ace of Clubs Trophy.....	Mr K Simpson,	Phoenix
Gorgon Instone Cup.....	Mr E N Robb,	Tynemouth
Boots Trophy.....	Mr C A Marsh,	Ace of Clubs
Tom Caxton Trophy.....	Mrs S Sisson,	Malden
Stagg Trophy.....	Mr D A Goodyear,	Bedford Truck
Wilf Newsom Cup.....	Mr G Sparrow,	Tynemouth
Temple Tankard.....	Mr W F Elks,	Luton
Itona Trophy.....	Mr G Sparrow	Tynemouth
Muntona Trophy.....	Mr W F Elks,	Luton
Cordon Brew Trophy.....	Mr T D Hodkinson,	Tyneside Nationals
Cedric Austin Cup.....	Mr T McArthur,	Tynemouth
Sybil Hill Tankard.....	Mr C T Beabey,	Leyton
Sweet 'n' Dry Cup.....	Mr E L Clarke,	British Airways
Tilly Timbrell Trophy.....	Not Awarded	
Tyneside Nationals Rose Bowl.....	Mr J Blacklock,	Phoenix
George Lashbrook Trophy.....	Mr C Stevens,	Bedford Truck
Solvino Trophy.....	(Mr E W Tappenden,	Old Bexley
	(Mr B Mustill,	Sheppey
Southern Vineyards 1983 Trophy.....	Mr C A Marsh,	Ace of Clubs
Maurice Hughes Memorial Trophy.....	Mrs G Loverseed,	Nottingham
Old Bexley Trophy.....	Mr P D Webb,	Bedford Truck
Hardy Trophy.....	Mr G Sparrow,	Tynemouth
Phoenix Trophy.....	Dr M P Elliott,	Bishop Auckland
Ironmaster Trophy.....	Mr A Mallinson,	Huddersfield
Baker Wine & Dine Trophy.....	Mrs J Wright,	Old Bexley
Morgan Savoury Salver.....	Mrs J Wright,	Old Bexley.

VIP PARTY (L TO R):
 MR. P AWBERY, PRESIDENT OF NAWB
 THE LADY MAYORESS, MRS BLACKWOOD
 MR. N CHIVERTON, CHAIRMAN OF NAWB
 HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF BRIGHTON,
 COUNCILLOR R BLACKWOOD.



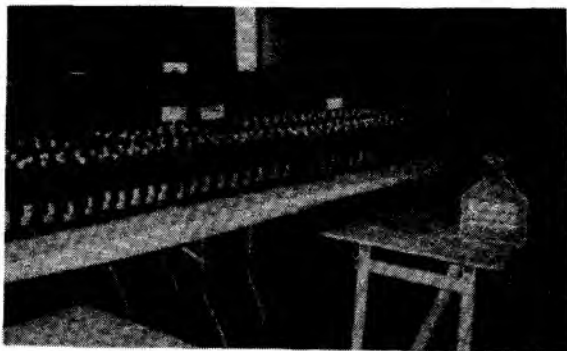
FIRST MEN (?) ON THE MOON



FLOWER POWER FROM EXETER



THE LONELY JUDGE'S
 NIGHTMARE!



And now for a slight diversion, provided by our Resident Poet (his words!)

DRINKING SONGS AND SNATCHES.....by ROY ALLIVER

A WEEKEND IN BRIGHTON

Oh, let's have a weekend in Brighton,
 Let's have a weekend of shame,
 Let's leave 'Brum' and Nuneaton,
 There's steaks to be eaten, and liquor that sets you aflame.

Do let's have a weekend in Brighton,
 Let's have a weekend of sin,
 Let's go and be flighty
 With toothbrush and nighty, and oodles and oodles of gin!

We can't go to Brighton, my darling,
 We can't go and set it alight,
 'Cos it's quite full of Judges
 And they're all such fudges, we'd better not go there tonight!

TRANSYLVANIA

A beautiful damsel called Mabel
 Was a real Vampire, not just a fable.
 This thirsty young miss
 Gave her boy friend a kiss,
 Then drank him, under the table!

THE LONG DRINK.

From Oddbins to dustbins, in one easy 'lessen'....

BRIGHTON'S JUDGEMENT DAY

One night as R-y Ek--s lay sleeping,
 A voice thundered into his dreams,
 "Who was it ruined the tasting?" it roared,
 "Who wrecked the Bulgarians' schemes?
 Who gave our Judith those nightmares,
 From which she still wakes up and screams?"

R-y cried "Jealousy made me unstable,,
 I couldn't bear to see her success,
 So I pulled off a leg of the table
 And the wine made a terrible mess!"

"You must be one of the Devil's own tools!"
 The Voice cried, and filled him with fear,
 "This Show is run by Lord Queensbury's Rules,
 We'll have none of Lord Sainsbury's here!"

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CLOSING TIME

The room swings softly round my head, I hear the landlord mutter
 "If you don't rise and walk from here, I'll roll you to the gutter!"
 But still we booze and gossip, and bawl a Christmas carol,
 Till the licensee ejects us, as he sings 'Roll out the barrel.....
 So we wander happy homeward, without a care for him,
 And the fried fish that we purchase has a second chance to swim.

oooooooooooooooooooo

SCRIMSHAW

An Ancient Mariner's a silly antique sort of person what'll
 Spend hours and hours of wasted time to put a ship inside a bottle.
 Greatly it annoys me - in fact I really get the pip!
 For any man of sense would choose to have a bottle in a ship.

THE SONG OF THE SUFFERING JUDGES

It doesn't seem proper a plastic topped stopper
 Should replace the old mushroom
 Around we are reeling as they hit the ceiling
 Atop the judging room.
 They're smooth and they're greasy and it isn't easy
 To jam them in the neck,
 We grab and we fumble, the bottles all tumble,
 Before we hit the deck.

You should know, a judge's life is tough, lads,
 Sometimes mighty rough, lads, sometimes full of mouse,
 Even so, a judge can always grin, lads,
 Take it on the chin, lads, 'cos drinks are on the house

So, ain't it it a whopper, to use the new stopper
 There'll be no cork waste from now on,
 This situation means no insulation
 Or mats to stand things on,
 No solar topees, no tiles for your ease,
 No composite corks to break,
 We're not enthusiastic for your bits of plastic,
 So change the rule back, for sanity's sake!

THE 'GENERAL'

When I joined Sparrow's Army, little did I reck
 Volunteering as a Steward I'd be at everybody's beck
 It was "Fetch that table over", and "Now then, put it back"
 But every Steward's s'posed to have a Judge's baton in his pack.

When you've staged 500 bottles, and your joints begin to creak
 The chairs are just for moving, and your mouth's too dry to speak,
 When you say you're not going to the 'Pool that's known as Black,
 Remember, every Steward's got a Judge's baton in his pack.

FUTURE SHOWS

At the AGM, under 'Any Other Business', George Lashbrook went further into the argument in favour of visiting Torquay, that was printed in an edited version in the November 1987 issue of News & Views. He made some interesting points, so here is the gist of his speech for everyone's benefit:

TORQUAY: POTENTIAL FESTIVAL VENUE WITH A BIG DIFFERENCE: PART 2

First of all I would like to thank our Editor, Roy, for the way in which he presented my report in N & V; unfortunately one paragraph that was omitted concerned the accommodation costs, so I would like to give you a comparison of the costs at Torquay with the cost I have found here at Brighton.

I am staying at a 2-star hotel; the normal charge for Dinner and B & B is £33, but with a party booking this was reduced to £28. With Corporation car parking charges of £5.20 per day, my bill for two days and a few hours was £67.60, for just one person. (For 2 members and car, £123.60)

Now if this year's Festival had been held at the English Riviera Conference Centre, Torquay, I would have stayed at either the Victoria or the Derwent, both 3-star hotels that I have stayed in for weekend holidays during the last three or four years. The tariff for the Show period in 1988 is (Derwent) £42, and (Victoria) £44 rear room or £46 front (sea view) per person for ANY TWO NIGHTS, and no single room supplement to pay. These prices include the dreaded VAT, and dinner, B & B, and early morning tea, tea or coffee mid-morning, and afternoon tea and biscuits. There is also ample car parking space, at NO EXTRA CHARGE, in most of the hotels in the area. From the above-mentioned figures (£44) you can see that a single member would have saved £23.60, whilst a couple would have saved £35.60. So if the Committee had to increase the Conference rate from £5 to £10 per member to hire the English Riviera Conference Centre, then Torquay would still be far cheaper than Brighton. For those who prefer just 'B & B' there is within two or three hundred yards a number of AA-listed accommodation, from about £8.50 per head, and dinner around £4 - still cheaper than Brighton.

To get to Torquay use the M5 Motorway as far as Newton Abbot, then the A380 dual carriageway. It is a comfortable three and a half hour drive from London, three hours from Birmingham, and four from Manchester. By coach,

direct from all major towns and cities in the UK. By rail, fast Intercity trains connect with all parts of Britain.

George Lashbrook.

A convincing argument, George, thank you. Of course the Executive will have to look closely at the costs of staging the National in Torquay, but personally I like the idea of having a Spring event like ours as far South as it is possible to get, even if it does mean a bit of extra driving. Would anyone like to let know their views, please? The E.C next meets on July 10th, so there is ample time to think it over and drop me a line. And of course, we are now talking about 1991 at the earliest.

Stan Baker wrote me a long and welcome letter on the Brighton National, but unfortunately I haven't room to reproduce it all. However, with reference to future shows he wrote:- "Planning ahead into the next decade, NAWB Committee will obviously consider costs if deciding to stage the Show in Torquay. I would very much like to return to this lovely West Country resort, and once again enjoy the pleasure of sitting under a palm tree basking in the sun. High speed trains and motorways should make travel much easier than on my previous NAWB visit in 1986." (Stan has also brought to our attention the British Rail 'Conference Connection' concessional ticket arrangements, and details of this are at present being evaluated; details later- Ed.) "It is several years since NAWB visited Bournemouth (1964! Ed.) and in the meantime the spacious International Centre has been built. Hire of the complex may prove too expensive for NAWB's limited budget, but it might be worth investigating." Stan then adds more about the benefits of a show in London at the City University, which I will pass on to the Committee, and then says " A return visit to Llandudno in North Wales should also be considered. I was most impressed with the NAWB '87 venue, as it reminded me of an up-market Italian seaside resort. Lack of space at the Aberconwy Centre was the only main problem, and now that a larger hall is being built it could prove to be a most enjoyable weekend.

The Channel Tunnel, due to be opened in 1993, will not, in my opinion, make much impact on the choice of future NAWB venues. Ashford in Kent will be the site of an international railway station, and although several multi-million pound projects are envisaged, I cannot foresee Ashford being a

suitable NAWB venue. However, the coast road to Margate, a previous NAWB venue, is being modernised. The seaside town will probably be in need of customers, and might welcome a return visit from NAWB.

England is continuing to change from being an industrial country to one where leisure activities are actively promoted, and there may well be some exciting new NAWB venues still in the pipeline."

Stan Baker, Chatham, Kent.

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INSURANCE RISKS

The Central Counties Amateur Winemakers Federation is negotiating a public liability policy at a very low premium, and the Federation will be the policy holder for all its member Circles. If any NAWB members would like to write and tell us of the disastrous experiences that have befallen them or their Wine Circle, I would be delighted to pass them on to the C.C.A.W.F., to help them emphasise to their member circles how important insurance is. It might also make interesting reading for those other NAWB members who don't really think it's worth bothering about. After all, it's not going to happen to you is it? Famous last words!

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ATTACK ON MAYOR - NATIONAL 1988

A final word on Brighton: As you may know, there was an unpleasant incident when a disgruntled guest at the Mayoral Ball on Saturday night forgot his manners towards his host, and most rudely insulted the Mayor personally because he was dissatisfied with the band that had been provided to entertain us. The Chairman and Committee of his Wine Circle (Scraptoft) have since done their best to make amends, and I am assured by the Circle Secretary that the offending person will not be attending the National again as a member of Scraptoft.

A copy of a letter received from the Secretary of Scraptoft, Barry Pearce, is reproduced on the next page. It would seem that Scraptoft have done what they can in this matter, and we all hope that this will be the last we shall hear of this distressing affair.
