

NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF WINE AND BEERMAKERS
(Amateur)
NEWS AND VIEWS

September 1991



NAWB

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N A W B (A)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WINE AND BEERMAKERS (AMATEUR)

NEWS & VIEWS

SEPTEMBER 1991

EDITORIAL

The eagle-eyed reader will doubtless have noticed the changes on the facing inside cover - a new Treasurer, and a new telephone number for the Chairman. But have you noted the new item at the top of the page? Copy for the next News and Views has to reach me by October 31st. And that, suitably up-dated, will appear in the same place in future issues. So now you have no excuse! "

Hasn't it been a superlative summer? Here in the North West I had a bumper crop of dessert plums (all eaten!), about 120 lbs of crabapples (12½ carrier bags full), and by the time you read this I shall have picked a heavy crop of damsons from my two small trees. Tayberries and Morello cherries fruited heavily, and the hedge blackberries are ripening nicely. If the rest of the country has fared as well as I have, we can look forward to tasting some excellent wines at Shows and Circle meetings in future.

Blackpool and the National are approaching fast, and I expect that the Schedules, booking forms, etc. will be sent out as usual with the December N & V. Will you get one sent to you? Of course you will - if you have paid your subs! Otherwise you will be left in the dark! Check now that you have paid; if not, there's a renewal form on the back page of this issue.



Our Chairman has sent this letter:

Dear Members,

At the last meeting of the Executive I reluctantly accepted the resignation of your Treasurer, Mike Hayter, from Committee.

Increasing pressures on his time at work and at home mean that he is no longer able to devote the necessary attention required by his position of Treasurer and Supplies Officer of N. A. W. B.

We have lost a very able Executive Officer who, in the six or so years of his service, has dedicated his time and energies to maintaining the health of N. A. W. B.'s Bank balance.

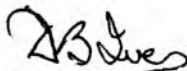
In his first year as Fund Raiser, Mike helped the then Treasurer to produce an annual surplus - against a loss the previous year! - and, as Treasurer, has subsequently wielded a controlling hand of restraint over the expenses of N. A. W. B.

I have always found Mike to be a most unassuming young man and a person of the highest integrity.

It has always been a pleasure to work with him and I am sure you will all join me in thanking him for his services to N. A. W. B.

We are indeed fortunate that the Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. Judith Irwin, has stepped into the breach and will continue in the post of Treasurer and Supplies Officer for the remainder of the year.

Sincerely,



Doug Ives

Chairman

And from our new Treasurer, Judith Irwin, a tribute :

Dear Friends,

If you have already read the inside cover of this issue, the list of Committee Members and their positions, and the Chairman's letter above, you will see that there has been a change.

Unfortunately our excellent young Treasurer has resigned due to the pressures of work and very active young family. We will feel the loss greatly as Mike has worked very hard for N. A. W. B. and has brought the handling of our finances into the 1990's. We are very sorry he is leaving but do appreciate that his family and employment must come first.

This left, of course, a vacancy to be filled, and as I had agreed to be Assistant Treasurer it falls to me to carry on the good work. I had thought, as ex-Chairman, to sit back and watch for this year, but so be it.

Now that I have had time to study our accounts in detail I feel there are some areas of confusion that could be made clearer. The first of these is Conference Tickets for the whole weekend. They cover the Show, the two dances, the cost of hiring halls etc. If you only attend for one day there is a special ticket for you. For Judges, that only attend to judge and stay for Judges at the Bar, no ticket is required, but this does not apply to wives and partners; they do need a ticket. If the Judge does decide to arrive on the Friday evening and attend the dance etc. then he also will need a ticket.

Another point often asked is when the subs. are due. Well, it is officially 1st July, as our financial year ends on the last day of June. We have not, in the past, sent out personal reminders, but perhaps this is necessary. They can be paid, in advance, at the Show, or at any time during the year. If they

are not paid by the following October your name is taken off the computer, and no further copies of News & Views will be sent to you.

The subscriptions have not been increased over the past few years and your Committee work very hard to keep expenses as low as possible. With your help we could do even better.

Please feel free to contact me with any problems, and I will do my best to find you an answer; I must explain though, that I am a novice at this, but I will do my best.

That's all for now folks, keep in touch,



GIVEAWAY CORNER

FREE BRANDY!

Yes, it's true - if you like Greek brandy! Gilbey Vintners are giving away free miniatures of Metaxa Brandy. Just send your name, address, and postcode on a piece of paper to 'Metaxa Miniature Offer', PO Box 216, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 1DD, and sign that you are aged 18 years or over. You will also get a voucher worth £1.50 towards the cost of a bottle of Metaxa, and details of a reduction of up to £60 from your next holiday. Only one application per household allowed, and your application must be received by 31/12/91.

FREE WHISKY GLASSES

Another current free offer is a Whisky Tumbler given away with each bottle of Grant's Whisky; look for the special packs in your off-licence or supermarket. And if you want to make up the half-dozen without buying six bottles of whisky, then you can send a bottle top and a cheque for £2.49 for each two extra glasses. Again, the offer closes 31/12/91.

FREE MAGAZINE

And 'Homebrew Today' Issue No 19 should be available in your local independent homebrew retailer's shop now - 16 pages of wine and beer making knowledge and advertising news for nothing!

That's all the freebies your Editor is aware of at the moment - excluding junk-mail catalogues! - but if any reader knows of an offer valid after December 15th, please let me have details to publish in the next issue. It's free advertising, I know, but if we are getting something we want for nothing, it's well worth while.

AND FOR NEXT TO NOTHING - John Carpenter's magazine, 'Fermentation', only a fiver a year, four issues sent by post. What more could you want? See his advert. later in N & V.

BOOKWORM'S CORNER

Sainsbury's have added yet another book to their range of very reasonably-priced books, the **Regional Wine Guide** series, on commercial wines. This is '**Sainsbury's Guide To The Wines Of Spain & Portugal**', a monstrous title for a very enjoyable and informative book, that costs only £2.95. It has been written by Kathryn McWhirter and Charles Metcalfe - you may have seen him giving home-made wines a favourable review on ITV's programme 'This Morning' - and reviews over 250 wines, with notes on the grapes and wine regions. A good buy at the price.

And talking of Sainsbury's, they have brought out a second edition of their booklet '**Sainsbury's Guide To Sensible Drinking**'. So if you have a niggling doubt about the amount you are drinking, or might be tempted to drink, here's a free booklet that gives you all the facts to face up to! It's useful and reliable advice from the country's largest wine retailer. Collect a copy on your next visit.

A new book on the homebrew scene is Judith Irwin's 'Making Your Own Wine & Beer', a compendium of country wine making and beer brewing. This is on sale at W H Smith's as one of their 'Exclusive Books' series of hardbacked books for a mere £8.99, a bargain if there ever was one.

As a collaborator in its production, it would be absurd, impertinent even, for me to offer you a review of the book, and I hope to have an independent reviewer give his views in the next (December) edition of N & V. What I can say is that I am pleased to own a copy, and that the colour photographs by Neil Sutherland are both profuse and beautiful. Have a look for yourself!

WINEMAKER'S WORLD

It seemed to me it might be worth reviving the old column I used to write for the 'Amateur Winemaker', headed as above. There was no other outlet for the odds and ends of the homebrew world that might prove of general interest. My family have grown up - not that that keeps them from being a source of fun and weird events occasionally - but life continues to provide me with an everlasting supply of odd happenings and curiosities. Anyway, here goes. I'm sure our members will soon tell me if they think it a waste of space, and rush to send me anecdotes, recipes, and photographs to fill the vacant pages.

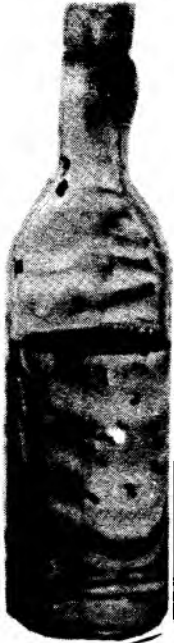
Lost Your Marbles? At a recent Northern Show, there was one competitor who would be unable to collect his entries for about a week. Realising his wines would oxydise or worse in the time before he could retrieve and drink them, he obviously remembered his childhood "Aesop's Fables" and sent a box of sterilised glass marbles, to be dropped into the bottles after judging. This would raise the level of the wine and so drive out the air that might spoil the wine.

Not surprisingly, these strange-looking bottles on the show bench caused quite a lot of comment from the public, the least of which was "That bottle has won a prize and hasn't been judged! It's still full!"

As NAWB has so many very experienced showmen and exhibitors amongst its members, and most of the National Guild of Judges, I thought that it might be interesting to invite your views on this novel event.



The photograph above is a mock-up of my own; the one below



is of a bottle of sugar syrup. This was left in my storeroom until needed, and was capped with a double layer of Cling-film held tightly in place with an elastic band. Obviously this was no lasting barrier to the voracious ants that that infest this sandy neighbourhood. They quickly found out what the bottle contained, and chewed their way through the seal, only to die in their scores in the sticky but very attractive sugary liquid. Needless to say (I hope), the syrup and its collection of corpses was soon flushed away down the kitchen sink. Formic is not an acid I enjoy in my wine!

Dear Roy,

I was leafing thro' 'Poetic Gems' by the late lamented Victorian doggerel writer William McGonagall, when the Muse struck me! W McG thought he was the best thing prior to sliced bread, I don't know if my effort is suitable for News & Views, as readers may think I'm trying to write great poetry! Heaven forbid!

Best Wishes,

Jan Mitchell

Jan - after several years of Roy Alliver, anyone expecting straight verse in N & V must totally lack humour! Here goes:

POETIC GEM

With apologies (very much tongue-in-cheek) to the late, great
William McGonagall

BREAN SANDS 1991

'Twas in the year of 1991, and on the 4th of May,
Which Wales & West members will remember for many a long day,
That judges did go bravely forth into the gloom,
And strove to find the wines within the Somerset Room.

Valiant and faithful stewards bearing buckets sternly,
Made for cloakrooms at the back,

(though they are "toilets, really!")

The judges held the bottles up and tried to find some light,
By all accounts, or so I've heard, it was a solemn sight.

The Somerset Night Club is fascinating and grand,
With lights wondrously created by the Almighty's hand;
What works were done that day will be remember'd ever,
For to work in Stygian gloom was surely very clever.

Jan Mitchell,
(Poet & Tragedian)

*(A marv'llous feat of poesy, the dread result of which'll
Be dropt from next year's judges list - Mrs J S Mitchell! Ed.)*

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The Magazine for the Wine and Beer maker

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Our dear Chairman also writes:

Dear Members,

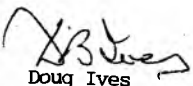
At our recent symposium we, your Committee, decided that we should build up a comprehensive history of N. A. W. B. from its inception.

Your P. R. O and Editor, Roy Ekins, has volunteered to be the N. A. W. B. Archivist, and it is to this end that I appeal to any Member who might have any printed documents or printed material which could be of interest and relevance, to contact him.

It is possible that any such items could be copied and the originals returned to the owner, if so desired.

I am sure Roy is looking forward to hearing from all of you.

Sincerely,



Doug Ives

Chairman

Well, that puts everybody in the picture. ('Ark at 'im, the Archivist!) I should be glad to receive any of the official records that past Hon. Secretaries, Treasurers, or other Executive Members have been carefully storing on NAWB's behalf, lest they go astray, and of course, any past papers, photographs, or other details relating to the Association in years gone by, from any one at all.

Any private papers submitted will be most carefully looked after, copied if required, and returned if the Member so wishes. Old copies of the Amateur Winemaker, Federation newsletters, programmes and result sheets from Conference are examples of the sort of material that Members may hold among their personal records. Postages refunded where over normal

letter charges, if asked for.

I volunteered for this job as I have a naturally acquisitive nature, and already have a foundation of bits and pieces that adds to the utter confusion in my study, and causes Irene to throw up her hands in despair! So what's a few more heaps of paper here and there? Seriously, it would be shame if NAWB's history slowly faded into the limbo. We have many members who have been involved since its foundation, and I would be delighted to receive their reminiscences and tales of characters no longer with us, old photos, and anything else that will help put flesh on the bare official bones if - nay, when - a NAWB History is someday written. Cyril Lucas has kindly set the ball rolling, for which I am most grateful, and I look forward to hearing from others. Come on Cyril! How about it, Ivor? And Ken? And Sybil? And others too numerous to mention! Drown me in paper, please!

Dr. Bernard Lamb sent this true story:

FRIENDLY OPPOSITION

Some years ago, I was going to the National for the first time, to judge at Scarborough. As I was not also competing, I travelled from London by coach, and soon got talking to the lively elderly lady sitting next to me.

When she asked where I was going, I mentioned Scarborough, the National, and the joys of wine making, tasting, and judging. I really enthused about wines, liqueurs, and beers, and how they improved one's enjoyment of life. Her kind and friendly face took on a strange look and I was afraid that I might have bored her, so I asked about her hobbies.

"I love going to Temperance meetings," she replied with a warm smile. "I have done for years, and they are such good fun."

My face was probably registering incredulity as I asked how a Temperance Meeting could be enjoyable.

"Oh, we have all kinds of interesting talks. At our big meetings we have celebration dinners with speeches and toasts."

"And what do you drink at such celebrations?" I could not help asking.

"Wine," she said teasingly. Then before I could accuse her group of mass hypocrisy, she added "De-alcoholised, of course."

She did not try to get me to sign the pledge, or to join the Band of Hope, from which my father was expelled in his youth. In spite of our totally opposed views on drink, we were on excellent terms when she finally alighted at Beverley.

On the Saturday morning, as I thoroughly enjoyed my half of a superb class of 108 Red Dessert wines, I felt really sorry for those well-meaning but misguided temperance types!

Bernard Lamb

Thank you for that charming little anecdote, Bernard. News & Views is as delighted to receive such vignettes, glimpses of life of a winemaker or brewer, as it is to get contributions of the more down to earth variety.

Incidentally, though I heartily approve of anyone holding any views that are not actually anarchistic, I cannot see how your fellow-passenger's persuasion can call themselves Temperance, which means in moderation or with self restraint. Teetotalism is intemperate in the strict sense of the word.

God Preserve Britain's great and rich variety of illogical viewpoints! Editor.

HOLIDAYS IN SPAIN?

If anyone is interested, I have a leaflet available about a villa in rural Spain. It is in a village called Vilella Baixa, among the mountain vineyards of Catalonia in the north of the country. It seems to have all or most mod. cons., is half an hour from the coast and an hour and a half from Barcelona; a car is essential.

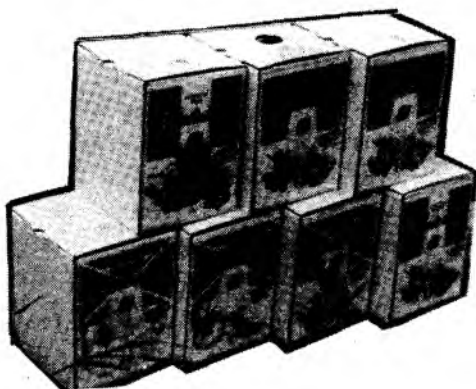
Please note I have not been there - this leaflet was quite unsolicited - and I cannot endorse it or comment further. Send an SAE if you want a copy. You'll have to decide for yourself, unless the Treasurer will authorise me to go and try it out for a couple of weeks at NAWB's expense. Some hope!

TRADE NEWS

Some of you certainly have tried the water filters supplied by John Davis, (Park Marketing that was), especially the pocket size filters that are so useful as part of a Judge's kit. These handy little water filters contain silver oxide as well as activated charcoal, so the filter cannot build up a resident colony of bacteria.

John Davis has passed on the franchise for his filters to Philip Pye and David Grey, trading as RainBow Water Systems. Their address is 4 Tamworth Close, Etherley Dene, Bishop Auckland, Co Durham DL14 0RN, and the telephone number is 0388 606937. I am at present fitting one of their larger filters to our domestic water supply, which should improve the standard of life for me and my houseplants, and facilitate my home brewing.

VINA have brought out a range of gallon 'Winebox' kits similar in concept to the 'Just Wine' kits, i.e. bag-in-a-box wines that just need water and 500 g (say 1 lb 2oz) of sugar adding. Each of the seven different kits includes the usual range of



additive sachets, yeast, finings, and so on, and they produce wines with surprisingly good flavours. Mine aren't quite ready for drinking yet, but I anticipate some good drinking shortly.

VINA have realised that the bags and boxes, taps etc are too good to throw away after just one gallon, so you can buy a supplementary kit to make two more gallons for the price of the original kit. You can of course choose a different wine from the one you bought initially if you wish.

HAMBLETON BARD have brought out a range of seven beer kits, especially suitable for people who haven't made beer before, or who want to try something different, or simply want to produce a few bottles of beer with little trouble, to give to occasional visitors. They are one-gallon kits you can make in a demijohn, and the only criticism I have is that the early kit instructions said to make the wort up to eight pints initially, which of course means the beer overflows everywhere. Keep it down to six pints for the first few days, then top up the demijohn with water, and you'll have no trouble. Everything except water is included, and I find these little kits make beers at least as good as, or even better than, the beer from the five-gallon kits they have been scaled down from. I even took a case of these assorted beers with me on holiday, and never regretted it!

DATES FOR 1992,

The N W Fed.: March 20/22, at Pontin's, Ainsdale,
 The NATIONAL: April 10/12 at the Norbreck, Blackpool
 The Wales & West: May 1/4 at Pontin's, Brean Sands

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CORRECTION:

HBWTA Trade Show, EXXPO '92: this will be on May 16th (not 9th as forecast), again at the Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool. Don't miss it!

And a new entry: The 11th Great Western Beer Festival, November 1st-3rd 1991 at Bristol. Details from Miss V Purnell, 21/23 Clare St. Bristol BS1 1TZ (0272 215206).

MID-WESSEX ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SHOW

9TH NOVEMBER 1991

The Mid-Wessex 'Open Competition' welcomes entries from
 Individuals as well as member Circles and Federations.

To be held in Camberley, Surrey - full details can be

obtained from the Entries Secretary,

Mrs. Eva Freemantle, on 0252-615191.

MORE COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE:

John Carpenter, our new Membership Secretary sends the following plea:

STAMP IT PLEASE

May I via the pages of News & Views give polite notice, make a request, or even beg, that when members renew their membership they enclose a stamped and addressed envelope. Failure to do so delays the return of membership certificates, makes

additional work, and most of all, places additional cost on the funds.

Only a small item, you may think, but the reason a SAE is requested at the top of the Application Form is to provide an efficient and smooth-running system. I know all members will want to assist in this aim, and feel confident that from now on I will be surrounded with SAEs.

Or am I just hoping?

John Carpenter.

Membership Secretary.

MEMBER'S CORRESPONDENCE

Joyce and Bernard Wills of Poole, whose Ruby Wedding anniversary was pictured in the last N & V, kindly wrote:

Dear Roy,

We have been rather occupied since we last saw you, having just come back from visiting our son and his wife, our daughter and her husband, and not least, our little grandson in Sydney, Australia, where they all live. So as you can imagine, we had a marvellous and eventful time.

Whilst out there, they threw a surprise Anniversary Party for us, with all our Australian friends and resident 'Poms' attending, to give us something to remember for the rest of our lives. So we had two celebrations, one with great friends here, the other with our Family out there. Wonderful!

We did enjoy the National, and if all goes well will be at Blackpool next year with Poole, and hope to see you there.

Wishing you 'All the Best'

Yours,

Joyce and Bernard



SOME LOVELY BLONDE HEADS AT CAMBER SANDS
(PHOTOS COURTESY DR. BERNARD LAMB)

"THIS'LL CLEAR YOUR SINUSES!"
GERRY SPARROW AND HIS STEWARD (foreground)



Remember the letter in the June issue of N & V from an anonymous writer, asking about the Judges responsible for examining the Bottle Label Classes at the National? Peter Awbery has sent this remarkable epistle:

**Bottle
And
Label
Legislation
Society**

Dear Sir,

As the founder of this Society I was so pleased to read the "genuine anonymous enquiry" which in effect paid a long overdue tribute to the skills and expertise shown by the Adjudicators of the Open Support Classes 62 to 64 incl., at Camber.

At least GAE (Genuine Anonymous Enquirer) showed sufficient interest in our society to be motivated to put pen to paper., but what surprises me was that GAE did not appear at JAB (Judges at the Bar) session, altho' possibly we were so busy that time was unavailable to speak with anyone except the competitors, bless 'em all.

GAE does mention the possibility of entrance examination and/or being summoned to do stewarding duties. How does one deal with such elementary points when quite obviously no background work has been attempted? May I say immediately that the requirements we look for in our Adjudicators run at least parallel with and are, with respect, often slightly above those required by NGWBJ (National Guild of Wine & Beer Judges).

Very briefly, a strict procedure is followed at the AA (Actual Adjudication) when marks are awarded (not deducted!)

against five headings and SSI's (Sub Section Interests) If sufficient comment is forthcoming in the future, I will elaborate on these markings, if I am able to make time from my regular occupation as a CPS (Coronation Programme Salesman).

Our motto is "A Good Label does not make a Good Wine - But a Good Wine deserves a Good Label". Anon.

Finally, I will finish with a note to the Editor. (Have you noticed he always writes in funny print like this?) I was more than horrified to note that you should resurrect the Macedonian affair. Perhaps you will be interested to hear that following representations to LUST (Labels Universal & Sanguinely Terrestrial) and with the production of the offending Vulture I was able to prove the inclusion of the dung both on the label and in the wine. How did I do that? Well that's another story.

Yours sincerely (I think)

Peter Awbery
BAJLC

Footnote: If your knowledge of Macedonia extends to Russia you will immediately recognise this acronym of our Society..

What can I say as Editor on this indelicate topic, except perhaps thereby hangs a tail! What a remarkable nose/palate/eye this man Awbery must have. Editor - or as the Moabites might have inscribed it on clay tablets three thousand years ago.

7A7X0A !

Stan Baker writes on this same topic, (*Labels, not Vulture Dung*) in more serious vein, in one of his erudite articles:

Dear Roy,

WINE BOTTLE LABELS

Affixing a bottle label centrally between seams and at a determined height above the base of the bottle is one of the chores facing exhibitors at most wine shows. Admittedly a label fixed slightly out of position will not result in disqualification, but a row of uniformly positioned labels does add to the presentation of the Show. (*And, importantly, helps to keep the anonymity of the entrant during judging - Ed.*)

Without labels the bottle entries secretaries at shows would not be able to cope because the primary function of a label is to identify the type of wine and the name of the producers. Commercial wine labels include additional information that should promote sales by adding to the customer's knowledge.

Historical records show that bottles did not exist as wine vessels centuries ago. Wine was mostly stored in large Greek and Roman amphorae, and later in wooden barrels which were more suitable for transport by pack horse, wagons, and sailing vessels.

In those days wine was transferred from the large vessel by a pouring vessel (pitcher) into drinking vessels such as goblets and mazers.

Eventually it was discovered that wines would have a much longer life if they were stored in small chemically inert glass vessels, the contents being sealed from the air by molten wax. In time it was discovered that stoppers made from the bark of of the cork oak were equally effective.

It was the invention of the clamshell mould that made production of glass bottles relatively inexpensive, the bottle mould being hinged in two halves. Hence the seams on the

modern bottle, showing where the two halves of the mould meet. Names of the producers and the vintage were carved into the early moulds, and similar seals were added to hand-blown bottles, so no further identification was necessary.

As the population grew and wine, then relatively lightly taxed, became almost an everyday beverage, it was necessary to greatly increase production of bottles. The expensive glass seals were replaced by paper labels, which contained all the relevant data that was thought necessary in those days.

Printing by engraving on metal or wood had reached a high standard, so the earliest wine labels were often ornate, but usually printed in one colour: black. At the beginning of this century German printing technology had developed a process that made the printing of multi-coloured labels relatively inexpensive. It was probably about this time that the collection of wine bottle labels became a popular hobby.

Choosing a descriptive title for any Society is not an easy task. One Society, now defunct, was known as the 'Vinititulists', from the Latin Vini (vines) and titulist (title). Similarly Oeno (wine) and Graphitiae (Art) This new society known as the 'English Association of Oenographitiae' welcomes new members. Interested NAWB members should contact the founder at 5 Mallards Way, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 6BT (0732 863689).

Cheers,



(Or you could call yourselves the *Gesellschaft auf Sammler von Weinflascheaufschrift*. Or even the *Wine Bottle Label Collectors' Society!* What's in a name? Ed.)

And from Mrs J R Rawlins, here is the recipe for the winning dish in Class 60, Dessert, from the 1991 Show at Camber Sands.

APRICOT AND ORANGE MOUSSE GATEAU

Ingredients:

Mousse:

¼ pkt lemon jelly

Small tin mandarin oranges

2 x 14 oz tins of apricots (canned in juice, not syrup)

2 tablespoons orange juice

2 oz caster sugar

¼ pint white wine

¼ pint double cream

1 pkt gelatine

Sponge Base

2 oz SR flour

2 oz margarine

1 egg

¼ pint sweet apricot wine

2 oz caster sugar

Sponge base:

Cream sugar and margarine, beat in the egg, and fold in the flour. Bake in a 7" sandwich tin at 180° C for approximately 20 minutes. Turn out and cool. When cool, dribble the apricot wine over the surface and allow to soak in.

Mousse:

Make up the jelly as directed, pour a little into a 7" mould and allow to set. Drain the mandarins and arrange the pieces in a pattern over the set jelly, and cover with the remaining jelly; leave to set.

Put the apricots in a pan with the sugar, orange juice, and 2 tablespoons of the juice from the cans. Heat until the sugar is dissolved and then purée. Dissolve the gelatine in the wine over a pan of hot water, cool, then add to the fruit mixture.

Fold in the lightly whipped cream and pour the mixture carefully into the mould; leave to set.

When set, place the sponge base onto a serving dish, then turn mould out onto the sponge.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS are now over, so why not sit back and reflect on the strange sights you saw, the ludicrous mistranslations, the weird things that happened to you while supposedly enjoying yourself, and above all, the gorgeous wines and beautiful beers you drank - even if you took them with you. Browse reminiscently through all those photographs and slides you took, and remember the fun you had, the vineyards (or distilleries!) you visited. Didn't you have great time? And what wonderful weather we have enjoyed!

Well, don't be so damned selfish! Sitting there gloating! Get your pen or pencil - or your word processor, or even your telephone - and tell me about it. Send me your pictures or slides - I GUARANTEE to return them safely. We all like a varied magazine, with anecdotes and bits and pieces in it.

Where do you think they come from? Our world-wide team of far-ranging eagle-eyed reporters? Access to the international film and photo libraries?

Not on your Nelly!

It's just your Editor, and a very small band of members that supply a few letters etc. to help fill News & Views. We all have holiday snaps; let's give some of them an airing! NOW! PLEASE! YES, YOU!

And just to show willing, here's one of mine!



CONWAY STREET SIGN