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BABB's News

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June 2007

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Editorial

First up this month, congratulations must go to BABB's members Michael Mowbray and Jye Smith, who both won a stack of awards at the Ipswich Show, held in May.

Michael claimed the title of Champion Brewer with a silver and four bronze medals, including taking out first and third places in both of the Lager and Pilsner classes.

Jye claimed the title of Reserve Champion with bronze medals for first and second places in the Ale class and second place in the Lager class. Jye's class-winning ale was a Rye APA.

With results like these, the standard of this year's BABB's annual competition, to be held on Sunday August 12th, promises to be very high.

If you'd like to challenge Michael and Jye for the title of BABB's Champion Beermaker, you have just over six weeks left to come up with your best creation to knock the judges' socks off.

Good luck to all!



QAAWBG State Dinner

To make this year's state competition dinner more accessible, the QAAWBG will be providing a charter bus service to and from the dinner.

The QAAWBG requires final numbers for this service no later than the June meeting.

If you require a seat but will not be at the June meeting, please contact Paul Hoepper or one of the committee members prior to the meeting.

June meeting

The next meeting will be held this Thursday, June the 28th.

The meeting will feature the year's third mini-comp, for Stouts and Porters. At time of entry, beer must be nominated into BABB's beer classes 6a (Bitter Stout), 6b (Sweet Stout), 6c (Porter) or 7d (Imperial Stout).

QAAWBG Raffle

The club has received its allocation of raffle tickets for the Annual QAAWBG competition dinner. The raffle tickets will be available at the June meeting.

The prizes are beer and wine (of course) and is the only fund-raising activity undertaken by the Association each year.

BABB's will receive 150 tickets in books of five tickets each. Tickets are \$1 each and our contribution can be easily met by each member committing to buy and/or sell one book each.

Club Shirts

The new club polo shirts will be available from the club store at the June meeting for \$21 each. If you did not pre-order a shirt, you'll need to get in quickly as there are only a small number of spare shirts.

Beer + Sunshine = Hot Water

www.weirdasianews.com, 8th June 2007

A Chinese farmer has made his own solar-powered water heater out of beer bottles and hosepipes.

"I invented this for my mother. I wanted her to shower comfortably," says Ma Yanjun, of Qiqiao village, Shaanxi province.

Ma's invention features 66 beer bottles attached to a board. The bottles are connected to each other so that water flows through them.

Sunlight heats the water as it passes slowly through the bottles before flowing into the bathroom, reports China Economy Network.

Ma says it provides enough hot water for all three members of his family to have a shower every day.

More than 10 families in the village have already followed suit and installed their own versions of Ma's invention.



May minutes

Meeting Opened: 8:05PM

Chaired by: Scott Macqueen
Apologies: David Lestani
Michael Mowbray
Colin Weaver
Chris Wehlau

Members Present: recorded by treasurer. See treasurer's book.

Visitors: Richard Hennesy

New members: Paul Attenborough
David Lestani
Jason Atherinos
Chris Wehlau

Previous minutes: accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Lyndon Cottam
Seconded: Leo van den Bergh

Inward correspondence: none

Outward correspondence: none

Business arising from correspondence: none

Treasurer's Report: Closing balance: as recorded by treasurer.

Moved: John Thorpe
Seconded: Ben Connery

General Business: Stubbie coolers made available, \$3 each.

General Business: Ipswich Show results.

General Business: Club competition – fee increase from \$1 to \$1.50 per bottle. This is due to the judges guild increasing their fees.

General Business: Strong Ale night postponed until 14th July at Leo van den Bergh's house. Location to be advised as Leo will be moving house. 6pm start, food provided. BYO beer - preferably strong ale.

General Business: Subs due by end of June - \$30.00. Must be a fully paid member to enter annual competition.

General Business: Reminder that 2007 annual club competition will be held on Sunday the 12th of August. Peter Buchanan will host the event and will be available to receive entries on Saturday the 11th from 12pm – 5pm.

General Business: Paul Hoepper asked the club to give more notice about all events, and to fix dates for every function, to help people with families organise themselves in advance.

General Business: Ernie Melville mentioned that numbers were down at last years Oktoberfest function and suggested that money be paid in advance to get more reliable numbers for catering.

Meeting Closed: 8:26PM



Last call for historic Guinness brewery?

Bloomberg News, June 18, 2007

Diageo PLC, the world's biggest liquor company, may stop making Guinness at a 250-year-old Dublin site after reviewing its brewing operations in Ireland, where sales of the stout are dropping.

The company is "considering a number of important investment decisions on upgrading and renewing its brewing facilities in

Ireland in the coming years," according to an e-mailed statement released today. "No decisions have been made or will be made until the assessment is completed," it said.

The St. James' Gate site, near the River Liffey, exports Guinness extract, the "essence" of the drink, to more than 45 countries. The site, where production began in 1759, also makes all Guinness for Ireland and the U.K. since Diageo closed its Park Royal brewery in London in 2005.

The amount of Guinness sold in Europe fell 7 percent in Diageo's fiscal first half as demand waned in Ireland and the U.K. Andrew Morgan, president of the London-based company's European division, said in April that Diageo is reversing cuts in its marketing budget for the region in an effort to boost sales of the dark brew.

The Sunday Independent newspaper yesterday said Diageo may move the brewery in Dublin's St. James' Gate to a new site to the north of the city and sell the existing property for as much as \$4 billion. Grainne Mackin, head of corporate communications at Diageo Ireland, called the report "pure speculation."

"All options are going to be looked at, but no outcome has been decided," Mackin said in a telephone interview. "Diageo Ireland is very important to Diageo as a brewing hub."

The 64-acre property, which also houses a seven-story visitor center and bars, has grown 16-fold from the original property Arthur Guinness acquired on a 9,000-year lease. If sold, it would join the Irish Times newspaper headquarters and Dalymount Park football stadium among landmarks that have been bought to feed a decade-long property boom that has seen home prices and office rents in the capital quadruple.

Companies including Jurys Doyle Hotel Group and Readymix Plc have also sold sites in Dublin, while property developer Liam Carroll has bought a 29.5 percent stake in food company Greencore Group Plc, which is planning to develop two sites in the Irish midlands.

BABB's Strong Ale Night

The postponed BABB's Strong Ale Night has been rescheduled for Saturday, July the 14th. The function will now be held at Leo van den Bergh's new abode, at 59 Laura St, Tarragindi, and will commence at 6pm.

Food with a distinctly German flavour will be provided, and a modest fee will be charged to cover costs.

BYO beer - preferably strong ale!!!!.

If you would like to attend please RSVP to Leo as soon as possible at leovdb@gmail.com or 0438 410 334.

Please be sure to make appropriate travel arrangements beforehand - as this a fairly high-octane affair things can catch up with you quite quickly.

Treasurer's report for May 2007

Income:	(cash)	(cheques)
Members fees:	\$162.00	
Guests' fees:	\$ 6.00	
30 th party tickets:	\$290.00	
Subscriptions:	\$270.00	

Total Income: \$728.00

Expenses:	(cash)	(cheques)
Snacks:	\$ 53.20	
Door prize:	\$ 15.00	
Store Supplies:	\$291.50	

Sub-totals: \$359.70 \$ 0.00

Total Expenses: \$359.70

Beg. Float:	\$150.00
Plus Income:	\$728.00
Less Cash Expenses:	\$359.70
Equals Total:	\$518.30
Less Float:	\$150.00
Equals Banking:	\$368.30
Actual Banking:	\$368.30
Equals Variance:	\$ 0.00

Bank Reconciliation for May 2007

Opening cashbook balance:	\$2703.03
Add Income:	\$ 728.00
Less Expenses:	\$ 359.70
Closing cashbook balance:	<u>\$3071.33</u>



Although they restricted themselves to one drink at lunch time, Alan and Roger found they were not at their most productive in the afternoons

Belgians drink 89 litres of beer

Expatica News, 19 June 2007

BRUSSELS - The average Belgian drinks 89 litres of beer each year, making it far and away the country's favourite alcoholic drink.

Beer consumption in Belgium was down 1.1 percent last year, a decline which brewers attribute to fewer visits to bars and new consumption habits. 55 percent of Belgian beer production was exported.

The export of Belgian beer rose last year by 15 percent, according to figures presented by the federation of Belgian Brewers last week.

Production last year rose by 6 percent due to the increase in exports. Belgian brewers produced more than 1.8 billion litres of beer in 2006.



Beer can boat sails the Brisbane River

www.shortnews.com, 24 June 2007

Three Queensland men have spent three days sailing down the Brisbane river in a craft constructed out of beer cans in an effort to raise money for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome research.

The men decided to build the boat while drinking beer and contemplating the problem of large numbers of empty cans. The project was initially to be about recycling but the focus changed after one of their daughters died from SIDS in January.

The voyage took them from Karalee to Brisbane with regular stops along the way to collect donations. The three men, Brad Gillam, Rob Meharg and Chris Taylor, hope to raise AU\$200,000.

