

AGWB September 2014 Newsletter

Next Meeting: Wednesday 24th September 2014

This Months Topic:

Its "Beer of the Year" time! Bring your best efforts along (remember 2x750ml bottles). Paul will be along to talk about Croucher brewing and judge the results.

Remember that any alcohol you bring along must be labelled with your name and alcohol content. (The beverage's alcohol content)

Also make use of the feedback table if you would like people to leave feedback on your beer or wine

Bring For Competition:

Beer -	BOTY	Beer of the Year Croucher Lowrider
Wine -	WOTY	Wine of the Year

Highlights

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Founded in 1972 The Auckland Guild of Winemakers and Brewers is the oldest club of its kind in Auckland

Meetings take place at the Mt Albert Senior Citizens Hall in the Rocket Park Complex on the 4th Wednesday of the month. This is on the corner of New North Road and Wairere Avenue.

Entry is \$7

There is an informal happy hour from 7.30 to 8.00 followed by a presentation, raffle and supper.

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President's Musings

Greetings All!

Another month has gone by and the end of the year is ever drawing closer. Over the course of the year a lot has happened in beer. The Council's LAP is rolling through, with handy times for concerned members of the public to have their say, pretty much the 9-5 workday hours which confide the vast majority of us to the daily grind.

One thing that the LAP is dead set against is the opening of new liquor drinking venues, such as the NZ craft beer centric 16 Tun on the commercial office block side of the Viaduct. Why would probably one of the most wealthy commercial areas of the country want a bar that focuses not only on quality over quantity but promotes solely New Zealand craft beer? Hopefully the LAP will succeed and nobody else will fill a gap in the market in a similar manner.

It's all enough to turn you to drink. Speaking of which, have you tried the Hallertau + Liberty Hatorade yet? Far and away the best cult beer I have drunk, this sour IPA was a work of subtle art rather than the knockout punch it was billed as. Firstly, it's not sour, well not in the traditional yeast manner anyway, the sourness comes from the use of 10% acidulated malt, offering more of a long dry finish with a touch of lactic on the very back end. At a time when I haven't had much fun with American hopped IPAs this came as an unexpectedly awesome experience, anyway, get yourself some before it's gone.

All that talk of beer is making me thirsty, so after a long brewday, with another lined up for tomorrow, I will retire to have a well deserved beer. See you all on Wednesday!

Cheers!

Mark Jackman.

August Competition Results

James Millar	Kolsch	Silver
James Millar	Imperial IPA	Bronze
Mike McCormack	Imperial IPA	Bronze
Chris and Ben Gilmore	Dopplebock	Silver
Mike McCormack	Dopplebock	Silver
Mike McCormack	Dopplebock	Gold
Rhys Williams	Strong Ale	Silver
Mike McCormack	Strong Ale	Gold
Mike McCormack	Strong Ale	Gold

Intention to Incorporate - Ratification

Looks like we will vote again on this issue just to make sure everyone had enough notice about the change. As announced earlier this month this coming meeting will be a Special General Meeting in conjunction with our regular meeting.



Club Night Fees

Unfortunately as discussed and agreed at last months meeting we need to increase the club night entry fee to \$7. Brett will have extra change on hand but please bring coins if you can. Alternatively, people can always pay in advance straight to the bank account (38-9002-0914309-00).

Regionals Dinner!

I hope everyones bought a ticket for the presentation night, Bob's gone to amazing lengths to organize a fantastic dinner and entertainment. It starts at 6:30pm at the Ellerslie Masonic Centre. Its \$70 pp and payments can be made directly to **38-9002-0914309-03**. See you there!

Regionals Entries

Regionals are looming so just a reminder don't bring your regionals competition entries to the next club meeting because the closing date will be well past. You need to have entries to Brewers Coop by midday, Saturday 20 Sept.

Likewise, if you are planning to come to the presentations event on the evening of 4 October you need to purchase and pay for your ticket(s) by Saturday 20 Sept.

Paying your bottle entry and or the money for the presentation event into AGWB's 03 account, with your name in the direct credit details, by 20 Sept is sufficient.

If you wish to pay by cheque just add the money to the bottle entry cheque that goes with your bottles or contact me (Bob). There is a Presentation Event registration form on the website if you feel you need one.

Please make sure that your bottle entries are paid for and that each bottle has its details on an AGWB bottle tag. - There will be some at Brewers Coop if you don't have any of your own.

Everything is lining up for the competition and presentation event to be a great weekend. Hope to see you there at some time in the weekend.

Cheers

Bob Lawton

Club Assets

Do you have any club assets taking up space in your garage? We have a new asset manager, Tom Coleman and over the next month he's going to be updating the asset register and hopefully finding a way to make booking and using club equipment easier. If you've got anything belonging to the club please send an email with all the details to tomcoleman71@gmail.com



Supper

Last month David Whitehead provided the club with supper. Delicious corned beef with coleslaw and rolls. Thanks David!

Action Required by ALL Members!!

Books and Magazines - Please return all books or magazines you have taken from the club library. Loans should be brought back to the meeting following the withdrawal so others can enjoy and benefit as much as possible. If no one else wants the book or magazine the librarian is happy to reissue them to you. If you are going away for an extended period of time, it's particularly important that you return items before you go. If you cannot get to a meeting, contact any committee member and arrange to deliver the items to them.

Library Rules – Please bear in mind that you must be a financial member of the club and have attended three club meetings before you are permitted to borrow books from the library.

Submit your Entry for Competition into club competitions and see how you go. These are an ideal forum to get constructive help. Submit your entry for feedback and appraisal. This has now been re-addressed to achieve a better system of feedback to members who want it. After all that is why many of us are here to learn to make a better wine or beer!!! So pop your beer on the feedback table and ensure you have written your name, the beer style and alcohol content on the laminated sheet. Those tasting your beer will write down the honest appraisal.



Name Tags — A lot of energy and effort has gone into making name tags. Please collect your name tag and wear them so that other members and new guests can see who you are. If you are anything like me I can forget names but not faces between meetings and I need that gentle reminder. Plus we have a lot of new members joining and guests attending and rather than standing back trying to figure out a name you can roll right up and take a glance!!!. Don't be frightened to join in any discussions as we all have lots to learn.

Finally... please wash your glass before you leave the meeting.

(Please don't use detergent—it destroys the foam head on the next beer. If you do use detergent, thoroughly wash and rinse the glass

Bullying over Hop Names

So I'm drinking the delicious [Croucher St. Ella](#), a sweet easy drinking IPA hiding a dangerous 7% ABV. As of today you can find it on tap at [Hopscotch](#). Its \$18 for 1L but get in quick, those taps are ever changing!

The hops featured in the beer are [Ella](#), developed in Tasmania. These are interesting hops, I'd love to see them used in a Belgian beer or maybe blended with something a bit sharper. Not too massive in the aroma stakes but a decent amount of flavour.

Anyway when I bought the beer I heard a little story. Originally the hops were called Stella but some big international beer brand decided to pressure Hop products Australia (HPA) into dropping the name.



Hop Products
@HopProducts



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As a result of a little pressure from a large int'l brewer hop variety "Stella" will be renamed "Ella" starting crop 2013. Same great hop !

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What a bunch of bullies. I wish [HPA](#) had the guts, time and money to stand up to these guys. "Stella" could be a girls name, a colloquial version of stellar, a reference to the stars and surely refers to something different (a flower no less) than the finished product that this beer company seems to be so vehemently defending.

So Croucher, having heard the story has named their IPA St Ella as a little bit of a efff you to the international brewery. Damn straight Croucher. Good call. *(Maybe Paul can elaborate more of the story for us on Wednesday)*

And it's a good beer, it won gold at the 2014 NZ brewers guild awards. You should get some.