

## 21 September 2017 – Brewers Guild of New Zealand Annual Report

It is my pleasure to present to members the 2017 annual report for the Brewers, and to preface the upcoming conference, AGM and Awards with a summary of the previous 12 months.

Last year finished on a real high with an excellent celebration of 10 years of the Guild Awards, an historic milestone for our organisation. Every year of the Guilds existence has seen growth in the industry, demonstrated for us by increased membership and awards entries year on year. We are pleased to say that this year the growth has continued with a record 126 members at the time of writing and 964 beers entered into the awards.

It has been a challenging but rewarding year for the Guild with some limitations on what the Committee has been able to achieve while we worked through a full review of the Guild. Nevertheless there have been some key highlights throughout the year and we look forward to sharing these with you at our upcoming Conference, AGM and Awards Dinner.

### Highlights

There have been a number of highlights throughout the last year that are worthy of mention as we review the previous 12 months, including

- **Education:** Progress continues to be made on providing a better framework for recognised education opportunities in the Brewing sector. The Institute of Brewing and Distilling are active in NZ and offer world class qualifications and with the Guilds assistance we hope these will soon be recognised by NZQA.
- **Advocacy:** The Guild has been involved with and made submissions on a review of the Customs and Excise act, the Alcohol Excise Plan and more recently on industry consultation relating to Energy Labelling of Alcoholic Beverages. Special thanks to our President Emma McCashin who regularly takes the lead on ensuring the Guild's voice is heard at a regulatory and legislative level.
- **Awards/Conference:** We are thrilled to be bringing the Guild Awards to the South Island for the first time since the Guild was formed. This year in Christchurch will be a great opportunity for the industry to get together and celebrate and experience the great beer culture that has developed in the mainland over the last 20 years. This has been a big piece of work for the committee and especially Catherine van Venrooy so if you have not already booked yourself in please consider joining us for the celebration.
- **Sub-Committee Review:** As an outcome of the 2016 AGM the Guild formed a sub-committee of industry participants to review the future structure and purpose of the Guild. The sub-committee has returned a challenging and aspirational proposal that would see the Guild grow and mature. We engaged in the broadest consultation with our members in the history of the Guild and as part of your AGM pack we now present motions for a vote to continue this development of our organisation.

### Outcome of Sub-Committee on the Future of the Guild

Further to the highlights outlined above the Sub-Committee formed to review the future of the made recommendations earlier this year that were broadly consulted on with members. After receiving a large amount of feedback these recommendations have been refined and are now included with the AGM documents for review.

In short, the proposal is for a well-funded Guild with full time staff and an aspiration to deliver significantly more value to our members and the wider brewing industry.

There are included a number of motions for the Guild's membership to vote on in order for the recommendations to be adopted. Please take the time to review the proposal and the motions to be voted on as this is a significant step in the history of the Guild.

### **Guild Executive Committee**

As part of the AGM process every year the sitting committee of the Guild will be up for election. In order for the Guild to continue to effectively represent our members we aspire to have a committee of capable and committed members that are representative of our industry, both geographically and in scale. This coming year is an exciting opportunity for Committee Members to make their mark on the organisation as we undertake substantial change so please put some serious consideration into what you may be able to offer and we would love to see some new faces on the committee.

Nominations are open now so you can register your interest in joining the team.

### **Thankyous**

As always, there are a number of public acknowledgements to make and many others deserving of thanks that we don't have the room to list!

Special mentions to

- Our generous and passionate Sponsors and our 60+ Corporate Members who unfailingly support the Guild to continue to deliver value to our industry. We truly couldn't exist without your help.
- Craig Bowen and team (judges, stewards, helpers) who tirelessly work every year to deliver a world class beer awards that brings enormous credit to the Guild and the NZ brewing industry.
- Cathrine van Venrooy. After project managing the awards last year Cathrine has taken on the Executive Officer role and has performed admirably throughout the year. As well as managing the relocation of the awards to Chch Cathrine has also been instrumental in attracting and retaining record levels of sponsorship this year.
- Members of the Sub-Committee formed to review the future of the Guild. Our sincere thanks to Jenny Cameron, Tracy Banner, David Cryer, Gareth Smith, Luke Nicholas, Emma McCashin and Ralph Bungard for their valuable input and guidance throughout the process.

Finally, a huge thank you to the current Guild Executive committee, President Emma McCashin, Treasurer Matt Stevens, Ralph Bungard, Ava Wilson, Lucie Campbell Alan Spinks, Andrew Childs and Keith Riley. Your continued commitment to the Guild is appreciated and I look forward to celebrating with you and all our members at the upcoming Conference Events and Awards.

**Jonathan Alve**  
**Chairman**