

Merri Mashers Brewing Club

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MAKE.TALK.DRINK.BEER.

LETTER FROM THE PREZ

Welcome to the September edition of our newsletter. It's exciting times at Casa del Mash at the moment, with heaps of great stuff going on.

As mentioned previously, we have nine members going up to ANHC Four next month, which is an impressive inaugural contingent. We'll be putting six of our beers on for the infamous club night, including our entry into the club night competition, which this year is called the "Ultimate Session Beer" (USB). The only rule for USB is that it must be under 4.5% abv. Challenge Accepted!

We'll be brewing our club's comp entry this Sunday September 21, at the first ever "Northern Craft Beer Festival", being held at Pentridge Prison's infamous D-Division. Make sure you get along and give us a hand!

Committee member Shannon has been diligently building a 5-tap font to serve our beers at ANHC, and this excellent unit will become part of the club's equipment library post-ANHC. This will be very handy for club events, such as the case swap/brew day at my place in November, and will also be available to borrow. Awesome work Shannon!

We're close to finalising the club's spot in Vic-Brew's competition calendar, with March/April looking like the most suitable time frame. There's still some work to be done on the details, but as a teaser you can expect our categories to include Black IPA's. More on this soon....

Finally, and I know we've been promising this a while now, but I'm assured our new website is very close to complete. We recently signed up with a website hosting provider, so it's all pretty much ready to go. I'll send an email out once we have it officially up and running.

Cheers!
- Justin

AUGUST MEETING RECAP

The final winter meeting for 2014 was another success for the Merri Mashers.

Luke Corbin dispensed thirty new stainless steel growlers he organised through Full Pint to happy customers and the meeting agenda was quickly dispensed with. New members were welcomed, events discussed and many beers compared.

The Gertrude stayed open late and several Mashers soon descended to the beer garden for some exceptional craft beers of delicate depth and flavour. The Gertrude certainly chooses its taps well!

We hope to see all members at the September meeting. If you can't make it, cancel your other plans!

BREW DAY CASE SWAP

The inaugural Merri Mashers case swap has been confirmed for November 23 at Justin's house in Thornbury. We currently have 20 participants - which out of 29 paid members is a turn-out we should be proud of!

Given there will be over twenty brewers drinking, brewing and feasting on the day the responsibilities for beers, food and preparations will be shared between anyone willing. If you are particularly keen to get involved in any part of the day just email or talk to someone on the committee.

There is no beer style rules for the swap: all beers are welcome. Jump onto the thread on AHB to confirm your attendance or send one of the committee members an email.

It is bound to be heaps of fun. Some of the beers being brewed for the occasion over the coming weeks also sound exceptionally promising!

EQUIPMENT LIBRARY

The equipment library has expanded to include a full font and keg system, with its maiden voyage being the trip to club night at ANHC in Canberra.

Following that it will be filled with members' beer for the Brew Day Case Swap in November, and then the system will be up for borrowing by members.

If you want to use or borrow any equipment, simply contact the president by email or ph. and he will tell you who has the item and where. This process will be more automated with the development of the new website which is still in progress (but should be online before the next meeting).

Details of each item will then be published online.

Remember, if you have any ideas for further club equipment purchases don't hesitate to raise them at the next club meeting or by email!

BALD OKTOBERFEST

A quick reminder about the Bayside Brewers Oktoberfest that is coming up. Who is going?! German beers and sausages, ehrfurcht gebietend!

October 4th, 2014 HICKINBOTHAM WINERY DROMANA

Oktoberfest is an annual homebrewed beer competition organised and run by the Bayside Brewers.

Entries are open for all German Style Beers in the German Ales, Pale Lager, Dark Lager and Bock Categories.

Entries are open to all Victorian and interstate independent and club-affiliated amateur brewers.

PRIZES AWARDED FOR:

Champion Brewer (Trophy and \$100 Grain & Grape Voucher)
Champion Beer of Show (Trophy and 25kg Grain)
First Place in each Category (Trophy & \$75 Voucher)
Second & Third Place in each category (5kg Grain)
Best Novice Brewer (Trophy & \$60 Vicbrew Award)

ENTRIES CLOSE 12pm SATURDAY 27th September
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE SEE ENTRY FORM
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE - BAYSIDEBREWERS.ORG.AU

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting is planned for Tuesday September 30 at the Gertrude Hotel. With ANHC coming up soon, Oktoberfest even sooner and VICBREW just passed there will be plenty talk about as we share recipes and beers. There may even be take-aways of a certain Schooner malt brew if you bring along an empty growler!

ANHC 2014

There are nine Merri Mashers attending the Canberra ANHC this coming October. Shannon has worked hard on delivering a five-tap font system and the kegs and associated bits of kit have been added to the equipment library in time for the club's ANHC brews to be kegged and transported. Furthermore, each of the members going up to ANHC has ordered an official Merri Mashers work shirt.

It's going to be a blast!

SHIRTS TO MASH IN

The first order of Merri Masher shirts has gone through and been confirmed by the Treasurer. We should have them by the next meeting. The price for this order was \$50 per shirt - if you are interested in buying a shirt just contact the Treasurer.

IPA CLUB TASTINGS

The cogs are in motion for another blind club tasting with a similar structure to our infamous free hop tasting at Temple earlier in the year. This time the theme is IPAs: so get your thinking caps on brewers! The internal club competition will most likely be held during the January 2015 club meeting.

CLUB RESOURCES

Club Website:

<http://www.merrimashers.org>

Blog:

<http://www.merrimashers.org/blog/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/merri.mashers>

Aussie Home Brewer:

<http://aussiehomebrewer.com/forum/101-the-merri-mashers/>