

# British Guild Of Beer Writers

## Newsletter September 2015



### GUILD AWARDS — TIME TO GET YOUR ENTRY IN

**T**here's still time to enter your own work or to nominate someone else's for this year's Guild awards. And the exciting news is that for the first time **There's a Beer For That** is sponsoring a brand new award—which will go to the person making the best use of broadcast media to champion the quality, diversity and versatility of beer to new drinkers. Entries can be radio, TV or online broadcasts. But if you don't broadcast about beer, don't worry, there are plenty more categories for people to enter.

**There are 8 more categories:**

**Molson Coors Award for Best Beer Writer** — National Media.

**Adnams Award for Best Beer Writer** — Regional Media.

**Fuller's 1845 Award for Best Beer Writer** — Trade Media.

**Caledonian Brewery Award for Best Beer Communicator** — Online.

**Shepherd Neame Classic Collection Award for Best Beer and Food Writer.**

**Badger Ales Award for Best Young Beer Writer.**

**Guild Award for Best Beer and Travel Writer.**

**Guild Award for Best Beer Writer** — Corporate Communications.

Despite the title, the awards are open not just open to writers, but to anyone who communicates about beer. This includes (but is not limited to) journalists, professional writers, authors, bloggers, poets, illustrators,

filmmakers, broadcasters and photographers. Entrants do not even have to be a member, but we would encourage you to join. Deadline for entries is **Friday 18 September**.

Go to [www.beerguild.co.uk](http://www.beerguild.co.uk) for more details.

**British Beer and Brewing Awards IT'S THAT** time of the year when you can nominate your choice for the British Beer and Brewing Award, or as it has come to be called, the Brewer of the Year.

This is an award that is the gift of the committee but first of all your nominations are needed. To nominate someone send Adrian 100 words on why your choice should be nominated. Also, and this is very important, could you disclose if you have brewed with your choice (or work with them regularly). Nominations are needed by September 12.

### UK Podcast of the Year

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the Beer O'clock Show, co-hosted by Guild member Steve Bentall, which has been shortlisted for the first ever UK Podcasters Awards, in the category of UK Podcast of the Year. The winner will be announced at the New Media Europe conference being held in Manchester 12-13 September ([newmediaeurope.com/2015/](http://newmediaeurope.com/2015/)).

**Awards dinner — 3 December** PLANS for the Guild's annual awards dinners at the Park Lane Hotel on Piccadilly are now well underway. So put 3 December into your diary now. Tickets will soon go on sale.

**Tim Hampson**

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**CHAIRMAN:** Tim Hampson Tel: 01865 245711; 07768 614283 [hampson.tim@gmail.com](mailto:hampson.tim@gmail.com)

**TREASURER:** Paul Nunny [paul@nunny.fsbusiness.co.uk](mailto:paul@nunny.fsbusiness.co.uk)

**SECRETARY:** Adrian Tierney-Jones Woodcote, 2 Jury Road, Dulverton, Somerset TA22 9DU  
Tel: 01398 324314 [tierneyjones@btinternet.com](mailto:tierneyjones@btinternet.com); [atierneyjones@gmail.com](mailto:atierneyjones@gmail.com)

[www.beerguild.co.uk](http://www.beerguild.co.uk)

## NEWS

• **Roger Protz** will team up with top Italian chef Eugenio Signorini from Slow Food for a beer-and-food matching seminar at Fermentazioni in Rome, 11-13 September. They will use samples of IPA from Italy, the UK and the US.

• **Cask Report 2015-16** Again this will be written by Pete Brown and he will be presenting the findings at the Cask Seminar being held at Brewers Hall in the City on the morning of Wednesday 23 September. Following on from the event we have a tasting of beers using Maris Otter to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Holy Grail of malts. Members who would like an invitation to both events email [Angie@cask-marque.co.uk](mailto:Angie@cask-marque.co.uk) and she will add you to the guest list.

• **Guild member Allan McLean** is involved in two beer and brewing history exhibitions planned for Edinburgh. Brewing Heritage Scotland, a community interest company of which he is a member, has been awarded support by the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the cost of mounting the celebrations of Scotland's heritage of brewing. The first exhibition is due to take place in the Central Library at George IV Bridge in the centre of Edinburgh from 1-31 October this year. The second exhibition will run for longer and is planned to take place next spring at the Museum of Edinburgh, in the Canongate area where many of the city's breweries once thrived. Brewing Heritage Scotland is linked to the Scottish Brewing Archive Association, of which Allan McLean is vice-chairman. Brewing archives are held at the University of Glasgow Archive Services. For more information, contact Allan McLean on 07531 129 892 or email [allanpmclean@gmail.com](mailto:allanpmclean@gmail.com).

• **Maris Otter 50th Anniversary Beer Festival** 17-19 September, The Open, Norwich. Trade Session 1pm, Thursday 17 September; opening talks compered by Guild members Roger Protz and Pete Brown.

As Guild members will know, cereal varieties usually last just five or six years before being superseded, so for Maris Otter to reach 50 years old is a real achievement. Its longevity is a tribute to the many award-winning craft brewers who steadfastly create demand for malt made from this amazing barley variety. The Maris Otter 50th Anniversary Festival is, as far as the organisers know, the only birthday party to be held in honour of a grain.

On offer at the Festival will be 50 cask beers, each from a different county or country, each a

brand new, single-malt brew created especially for the occasion. Take a look at the list of brewers at [www.marisotter50.co.uk](http://www.marisotter50.co.uk). Beers on offer will include a collaborative brew by The Norfolk Brewhouse and Guild member Melissa Cole. If you'd like to come to the trade session or would like more information on the Festival, give Frances Brace a shout — contact details on the Guild's website or in the new Directory.

## BEER ACADEMY NEWS

**NEW FROM the Beer Academy, the On-Line Beer Steward qualification!**

THIS IS an online course providing the essential introduction to beer — which will provide all those working in the beer sector, but particularly those working directly with consumers, the essential knowledge to allow them to qualify as a 'Beer Steward'.

The online course consists of eight modules, each of which is tested with an on-line multiple choice assessment. The modules take candidates on a journey from the origins of beer through the brewing process, beer styles and how to serve beer and satisfy customers. Candidates can take the modules at a pace that suits them — and re-sit the assessments as required — and will build up their portfolio at an individual pace. When all eight modules have been completed and the assessments passed then the candidates will receive a Beer Academy Beer Steward Certificate by email — which can be printed and displayed in their workplace ([www.beeracademy.co.uk/courses/beer-steward/](http://www.beeracademy.co.uk/courses/beer-steward/)).

### Beer Academy News

- 10/09 How to Judge Beer, Beer Academy HQ, London
- 12/09 Beer and Food Matching, Beer Academy HQ, London
- 14/09 Advanced, Brewhouse and Kitchen, Bristol
- 14/09 Foundation, Beer Academy HQ, London
- 22/09 How to Judge Beer, Caledonian Brewery, Edinburgh
- 22/09 Advanced Beer, Academy HQ, London

### CALENDAR 2015

- Maris Otter 50th Anniversary Beer Festival, Norwich, September 17-19
- Great American Beer Festival, Denver, September 24-26
- Brussels Beer Challenge, November 5-8, Antwerp
- British Guild of Beer Writers awards and dinner, London, December 3

Please send details of any relevant events to  
Adrian Tierney-Jones