

Monday 26 February 2007

MEDIA RELEASE

THE LONG-AWAITED RESULTS ARE IN – WHO MAKES THE BEST AUSSIE BEER?

DARK LAGERS PERFORM WELL AT THE INAUGURAL SYDNEY ROYAL BEER COMPETITION

Red Oak, Sydney and Little Creatures Brewery, Fremantle take home most medals
Over 50 percent of entries receive a medal

The competition was only held last week, but the suspense for the results was unbearable from the inaugural **Sydney Royal Beer Competition** held Thursday 22 and Friday 23 February. Conceived to reward excellence in Australian beer production, the Sydney Royal Beer Competition is the only Australian competition to judge domestic beers only.

Over 50 percent of the 95 entries received either a silver or bronze medal, encouraging figures from the first year of competition. Seven judges including Panel Chairs Phil Sexton (brewer and winemaker, founder of Matilda Bay and Little Creatures) and writer/brewer Willie Simpson were impressed by the strong calibre of entries from across Australia. Following the judging guidelines of the Sydney Royal Fine Food Show, judges are selected from all across Australia for their expertise in the industry, with no judges able to sample their own entries.

The strongest classes were the Dark Lagers, which had a 100 percent medal achievement rate. Australian Pale/Golden Ales and Wheat Beers also performed well, with over 50 percent of entries in each class receiving a medal.

“We received a fantastic array of high-quality beers,” said **Chairman of Judges, Grahame Latham AM**. “All seven judges commended the quality of entries from both large and established breweries to small boutique operators. 13 silver medals and 35 bronze medals were awarded, which is a fantastic result.”

The best brewing states were NSW, with 12 companies receiving medals including **Red Oak Pty Ltd** who won the most medals – 4 Silver and 6 Bronze. **Murray’s Craft Brewing Company** from Taylor’s Arm won 1 silver and 1 bronze, with its two entries. **Hahn Brewing Company** won 1 silver for its one entry and **Malt Shovel Brewing Company** won 4 Bronze for its five entries.

Western Australia had some impressive results with five companies taking out medals including **Little Creatures Brewing Company**, Fremantle which won 2 silver and 1 bronze for its four entries. **Billabong Brewing Company** won 1 silver and 2 bronze for its three entries, and **Jarrah Jacks Brewery** in Pemberton won 1 silver and 1 bronze.

Four companies from Victoria made their state proud. **Matilda Bay Brewing Company** was most successful winning 2 silver medals and 3 bronze, and **Bridge Road Brewers Beechworth, Grand Bridge Brewing Company** and **Red Hill Brewery** all took home a bronze medal each.

The Sydney Royal Beer Competition looks to recognise excellence in Australian agriculture and production. It is the first competition in the Sydney Royal Fine Food Show February program. **A list of winners is attached.**

REWARDING EXCELLENCE IN AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURE

SYDNEY ROYAL BEER COMPETITION MEDAL WINNERS

Barons Brewing Woollahra, NSW
BRONZE - BLACK WATTLE SUPERIOR WATTLE SEED ALE

Billabong Brewing Pty Ltd Myaree, WA (only 3 entered)
SILVER - BILLABONG BREWING 4 HOP ALE
BRONZE - BILLABONG BREWING PORTER
BRONZE - BILLABONG BREWING PALE ALE

BlueTongue Brewery Cameron Park, NSW
BRONZE - BLUETONGUE TRADITIONAL PILSENER

Bridge Road Brewers Beechworth Beechworth, VIC
BRONZE - BEECHWORTH PALE ALE

Feral Brewing Company Baskerville, WA
BRONZE - FERAL WHITE

Gage Roads Brewing Company Palmyra, WA
BRONZE - GAGE ROADS IPA (INDIA PALE ALE)

Grand Bridge Brewing Company Mirboo North, VIC
BRONZE - SUPER SHINE

Hahn Brewing Company Camperdown, NSW (only 1entry)
SILVER - HAHN PREMIUM LAGER

Hunter Beer Company Nulkaba, NSW (only 5 entries)
BRONZE - HUNTER BOCK
BRONZE - HUNTER KÖLSCH
BRONZE - HUNTER PALE ALE

Jarrah Jacks Brewery Pemberton, WA
SILVER - JARRAH JACKS WHEAT BEER
BRONZE - JARRAH JACKS PALE ALE

Lion Nathan Australia Lidcombe, NSW (only 4 entries)
SILVER - TOOHEYS EXTRA DRY
BRONZE - TOOHEYS NEW
BRONZE -SOUTHWARK OLD STOUT
BRONZE -TOOHEYS OLD BLACK ALE

Little Creatures Brewery Freemantle, WA (only 4 entries)
SILVER - ROJERS BEER LITTLE CREATURES BREWERY
SILVER - LITTLE CREATURES PILSNER
BRONZE - LITTLE CREATURES BRIGHT ALE

Malt Shovel Brewery Camperdown, NSW (5 entries)
BRONZE - JAMES SQUIRE PORTER
BRONZE - JAMES SQUIRE PILSNER
BRONZE - JAMES SQUIRE GOLDEN ALE
BRONZE - JAMES SQUIRE RUM REBELLION PORTER

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Matilda Bay Brewing Company Melbourne, VIC

SILVER - DOGBOLTER DARK LAGER
SILVER - ALPHA PALE ALE
BRONZE - BOHEMIAN PILSNER
BRONZE - ROOFTOP RED LAGER
BRONZE - REDBACK ORIGINAL

Murray's Craft Brewing Company Taylors Arm, NSW (2 entries)

SILVER - NIRVANA PALE ALE
BRONZE - SASSY BLONDE

Northern Rivers Brewing Company Alstonville, NSW

BRONZE - NORTHERN RIVERS BREWING CO PALE ALE

Red Hill Brewery Red Hill South, VIC

BRONZE - RED HILL BREWERY WHEAT BEER

Red Oak Pty Ltd Sydney, NSW

SILVER -REDOAK BALTIC PORTER
SILVER -REDOAK BROWN PORTER
SILVER -REDOAK OPERA BAR BLONDE
SILVER -REDOAK WEIZEN DOPPELBOCK
BRONZE - REDOAK ORGANIC HEFEWEIZEN
BRONZE - REDOAK SPECIAL STRONG ALE
BRONZE - REDOAK OATMEAL STOUT
BRONZE - REDOAK INDIAN PALE ALE
BRONZE - REDOAK RAUCH
BRONZE - REDOAK VIENNA LAGER

Schwartz Brewery Sydney, NSW

BRONZE - SCHWARTZ DARK BIER

Snowy Mountains Brewery East Lindfield, NSW

BRONZE - BULLOCKS PILSNER

The Lord Nelson Brewery Hotel Millers Point, NSW

BRONZE - THREE SHEETS

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