

19 April 2007



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE BEST BEERS
IN THE WORLD!

MEDIA RELEASE **EMBARGOED UNTIL 11pm - 19 April**

Winners announced for the Australian International Beer Awards

After nine gruelling days of judging, with more than 900 beers tasted, 600 glasses used and 10 kilograms of cheese eaten, the results of the Australian International Beers Awards are finally in.

The winners were announced in Melbourne tonight at a sold out dinner at the Sofitel Melbourne. The 530 guests were treated to the fine ales from around the globe, with five of the 13 trophy winners hailing from international breweries. (See below for full list of winners)

Deschutes Brewery, of Oregon in the United States, had plenty to celebrate after it took out both the Champion Stout and the Champion International Large Brewery. The brewery, which has been handcrafting traditional ales since 1988, has won numerous awards at beer competitions around the world.

Romanian brewery Ursus, which is the second largest brewery in Romania, was awarded the Champion Lager for its beer, Timisoreana. The Germans yet again proved their beer-making prowess with Weihenstephen Brewery walking away with the Champion Wheat award.

The Australian contingent also performed impressively with both the Red Oak Brewery and Little Creatures Brewing featured for the second year running. The Red Oak brewery of New South Wales took home the trophy for Champion Porter, whilst Little Creatures Brewing of Western Australia was recognised with the Champion Ale for its Little Creatures Pale Ale.



Wig & Pen Brewery & Tavern of Canberra, was another Australian brewery which impressed the judges. Wig & Pen won the reduced alcohol category with its beer, Mr Natural, which is 100 per cent organic.

The best new exhibitor category was very competitive this year, with 45 exhibitors entering for the first time. The award was taken out by Bierbrouwerij De Koningshoeven B.V of the Netherlands, which is famous for making Trappist beer under the supervision of the Trappist monks. The Koningshoeven beer is still brewed according to traditional methods and the original recipe developed by the monks.

The Awards – held by the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria (RAS) in conjunction with The University of Ballarat – have continued their international dominance, remaining the second largest beer awards of its kind in the world.

“The RAS is absolutely delighted with the impressive list of winners at this year’s awards. As the RAS is committed to awarding the best of the best, it is only fitting that we attract the best beers from around Australia and the world,” said Mark O’Sullivan, Chief Executive Officer, Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria.



The University of Ballarat also is impressed with the high calibre of winners.

“The University is delighted to partner RAS in these awards. We have Australia’s only tertiary brewing course and have been involved with these awards since their inception,” said Vice-Chancellor, Professor David Battersby. “Our research into brewing has been internationally renowned for many years.”

Visitors to this year’s Royal Melbourne Show will, for the first time, be able to exclusively taste some of the winning entries from the 2007 Australian International Beer Awards.

The awards were established in 1987 to reward excellence in the field of brewing and to assist in the promotion of the brewing industry.

- **Champion LAGER**
Ursus Breweries, *Timisoreana* (Cluj-Napoca, Romania)
- **Champion ALE**
Little Creatures Brewing, *Little Creatures Pale ale* (WA)
- **Champion REDUCED ALCOHOL**
Wig & Pen Brewery & Tavern – *Mr Natural* (ACT)
- **Champion STOUT**
Deschutes Brewery, *Obsidian Stout* (Simpson Bend, Oregon, USA)
- **Champion PORTER**
Redoak P/L, *Redoak Old Baltic Porter* (NSW)
- **Champion WHEAT**
Weihenstephan Brewery, *Weihenstephan Kristall* (Germany)
- **Champion SPECIALTY**
Feral Brewing Company, *Feral White* (WA)
- **Champion International SMALL brewery**
Colonial Brewing Co (WA)
- **Champion International LARGE brewery**
Deschutes Brewery (Simpson Bend, Oregon, USA)
- **Champion AUSTRALASIAN Brewery**
Colonial Brewing Co (WA)
- **Best New Exhibitor**
Bierbrouwerij De Koningshoeven B.V. (Tilburg, Netherland)
- **Champion PACKAGING AWARD**
Knappstein Enterprise Brewery, *Reserve Lager* (SA)
- **PREMIERS TROPHY**
Fosters Abbotsford – *Stella Artois*
- **GRAND CHAMPION – Overall highest scoring beer**
Weihenstephan Brewery, *Weihenstephan Kristall* (Germany)

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