

The 30th Beefsteak and Burgundy Convention
March 22- 24 March 2013
Yarrawonga Mulwala

Minutes of the Business Session held at 9.30am, Saturday March 23rd, 2013 at Club Mulwala

Opening

- **Welcome** - President Brian Lilley welcomed delegates to the Business Session.
- **Minutes** - The previous minutes held June 2nd in Darwin, 2012 were distributed. They were also on the Beefsteak and Burgundy Inc. web site. Amendment to note apology from Janet Brinkworth, Alexandra Club.

Business arising

- **Possible convention in China** – the President advised that this is not possible as members there move frequently and so continuity of planning is difficult.
- **Handbook App** – this suggestion has been investigated and due to cost and privacy matters was not progressed.

Presidents Report

- **Affiliation fees for 2013/14** – advised that while the public liability insurance premium is yet to be advised, increase in fees is expected to be minimal.
- **Yarrawonga cyclone** – proposed to collect at the formal dinner for those impacted.

Administration matters

- **Affiliation fees** – Thanks to those clubs that have paid. Those clubs who have not were sent a reminder in October. Clubs are reminded to include their club name when remitting electronically; otherwise confusion occurs as to which clubs have paid.
- **Life Membership applications** – clubs are requested to include sufficient detail so that the honour of life membership for all recipients can be maintained. The web site has information of what information is requested.
- **Email addresses** – The changing of the email addresses of office bearers annually and during the year makes maintaining a current email mailing list difficult. Generic club emails are being introduced – see later in the minutes.
- **Club anniversaries**- the following clubs will celebrate significant anniversaries during the coming year:
25 years: Never Never Ladies
50 Years: Launceston, Mosman, Francoise de Castella, Warrandyte, Manley, Botany Bay, John Oxley and Penola
- **New clubs formed** – Hong Kong, Mont Albert and Hobsons Bay
- **New club enquiries** – these continue to be received on a regular basis
- **The 2013 Handbook** – these were sent to all club secretaries in January. If you have not seen one please discuss with you secretary

Presentation on IT matters

- **Generic emails**

A presentation was given on the proposal to introduce generic club emails. This topic has been raised at previous conventions and is now being implemented.

- The difficulty in maintaining around 360+ current email addresses is difficult
- Each club will be provided with their own email address with the format being for example Adelaide@bsb.org.au
- The guidelines for setting up will be tested with a number of pilot clubs
- Once completed all clubs will be advised their address and guidelines for setting up
- It is recognised that some clubs will find this challenging so support will be provided as required
- Clubs will have the option for setting up other office bearers to also receive emails ie president, treasurer etc
- A major benefit will be that the General Secretary will always have an up to date email list for communications
- When office bearers change the address can be removed from one computer and added to another
- The addresses will enable members to easily contact other clubs and combined with the meeting schedule table of clubs which is now on the web site, will enable members who travel to easily contact clubs about visiting without needing the Handbook

- **Club web sites**

There was little interest from clubs in having a generic club web site for their club. As a result this proposal has been dropped. The IT Provider has contacted those clubs concerned.

- **Club management system**

A club management system has been developed by the Beijing club and is currently being used by about 5 other clubs. They are prepared to offer it to other clubs for a trial period, after which a small maintenance fee will apply. The system includes:

- Sending dinner notices and coordinating replies
- Emails members confirming attendance or apologies
- Emails guests confirming arrangements
- Monitors payments for dinners, subscriptions etc
- Maintains membership lists
- Provides option for maintaining member and club records

The system will be trialled to ensure it meets the needs of clubs within Australia. Any club wishing to test the system should contact the General Secretary.

Clubs will be advised once testing and any modifications are completed.

Future Conventions

Presentations were made by the following clubs:

2014 Convention in Adelaide (Martin Robinson)

Hosts: Clubs 1, 2 and 3 – Brighton, Lockleys and Burnside

Dates: 10 - 12 October, 2014

Program: Friday Cocktail Party, Saturday evening banquet at the Convention Centre, Sunday seafood extravaganza at the Adelaide Oval. Wine master classes also proposed.

Accommodation: recommend centred on North Terrace, Adelaide

2016 Convention in Hobart (Hein Vandenberg and Ron Boxhall)

Hosts: John Bowen Club

Dates: 22-24 May 2016

Program: Friday sit down welcome dinner, gala dinner at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Sunday lunch at the Meadowbank Vineyards

It is noted that there is currently no proposal for a convention in 2015.

General Business

Matters raised were:

- **Registration forms for conventions** – need to recognise that members may be men or women and partners may both be B&B members
- **B&B banners** – recommend that host clubs use these at functions
- **The Convention Banner** – the banner used at the Townsville convention was last seen at Perth and any advice as to its location would be appreciated as it would be useful to have at future conventions
- **Ladies pin name badge** – B&B name badges were investigated some years ago. There was little interest from clubs and cost was an issue. The proposal was not proceeded with. It was noted that a B&B bar brooch is available. B&B name cards/tags are also available.

The Business Session closed at 10.50am.

Craig Thornquest

Honorary Secretary

Beefsteak and Burgundy Inc