



MCB meeting at Organ Grinder,  
Loughborough 12 January 2013

1. Attendance: AQ, R& MA, AG, PF, SS, SJ, JF, RP, JC, MC, PS, SH, JS, IRB, SR, DS, and TL.
2. Apologies: RC, RB, LW, DW and FA.
3. AQ made some combined observations on the discussion at the last meeting about comparison brews and the results of the blind tasting at Burton (Sept. 2012). Some conclusions about judging beers at these meetings could be made. In spite of the years there is still no agreed format for “beer appraisals”, e.g. judging against styles vs. judging against enjoyment. At the Burton meeting 17/20 agreed on the top two beers (condition, aroma and flavour), some scorers were more generous than others (no surprise) but one judge more or less scored all beers the same. Based on the above it was proposed that appraisals for the day will be done blind, in groups and not all groups would taste every brew. It was agreed that one positive was that 4 per group could share 1 pint. Two beers intended for the clinic were included in the blind tasting. The results of the appraisal are attached (Appendix 1). Brewers should identify their own beers by the descriptions provided. There were some very interesting outcomes which are worthy of debate at the next meeting. It was agreed that this was a good approach but needed refinement, as a minimum the intended Style should be provided before tasting. Top scorer was PF with a Northern Brown Ale.
4. TL (a man for all Seasons) gave a brief update on the status of the Saison brews as most folk who volunteered had commenced brewing. TL requested updates from brewers as and when. A more detailed analysis will be provided at the next meeting when the Seasons are tested.
5. TL provided an overview and a handout on the subject of hop growing. Please contact TL for a copy.
6. Bottle swap 23/2/13 at the Brunswick (coincides with Derby Beer Festival)
7. SR reported that he had reviewed the accounts produced by PF and all was correct.
8. AG in process of getting bulk buy of Saaz hops. Contact him if interested.
9. Summer social will probably be Sheffield but suggestions for alternatives to RA.
10. TL requested that more consideration should be given to bulk buying.
11. Next meeting in Leicester 16/3/13.

PS Organ Grinder was a good venue and they would be happy for us to repeat the visit.