

A Taste of Beer

The first beer consumed in Australia arrived in Sydney about October, 1972. The beer was Porter, a type of dark ale related to stout.

Our first recorded brewer was John Boston, who arrived in 1794 and soon after was brewing something like beer. By 1804 Australia's first, and last Government brewery as operating out of a site in Parramatta, and soon afterwards crops were successfully cultivated and Australia brewing future was secured.

The early colonial brewers usually made a heavy English style ale but the lack of quality ingredients made it difficult to produce and maintain a good beer. The beer often went off during lengthy transporting by bullock cart under the hot sun.

Thomas Cooper began brewing beer and stout in 1862 and Coopers remain today as Australia's only privately owned brewery employing descendents of the founder.

Much of the locally brewed ale was regarded as a joke by the locals who preferred the imported English Ale.

The Foster brothers from New York took Melbourne by storm in 1888 when they delivered their new Foster's Larger to pubs with slabs of ice from the modern refrigeration plant. Within 18 months of operation they were bought out by Carlton and United Breweries. The Fosters brand was nearly terminated by CUB Management early this century, but survived to become our best known brand internationally.

Today the majority of the small brewers such as Eumundi, Powers, Hahn, SA Brewing and Redback have been taken over by Lion Nathan and CUB, who control approximately 95% of all beer going down our throats.

CUB controls the following brands: Forster's, Carlton, VB, Melbourne, Carlton Cold, Fosters Special Bitter, Redback, Cascade and Power's.

Lion Nathan: Toohey's, XXXX, Emu, Swan, Hahn, Sydney Bitter, Eagle, Southwark and West End.

Coopers in SA have Cooper's range and Black Crow.

The two majors have in recent times launched Carlton Cold and Hahn Ice both in clear long neck bottles.

In the international world of "cool" beer, Miller in the US have developed a clear beer. By extracting the amber colour. Will this be the next trend in Australia?

This Month we have a 12-pack selection of the world's finest beers in a distinctive gift box. The range includes one bottle of the following: Asahi (Japan); Beck's (Germany); Corona (Mexico); John Courage (England); Kronenbourg (France); Miller (US); Molson Ice (Canada); Moosehead (Canada); Red Back (WA); Stella Aritos (Belgium); Tuborg (Denmark); Cascade (Tasmania). The pack retails for \$29.95.

CONSULTING ACTUARIES

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