



BREW

YNG GNS BREWERY WINS PLATINUM FOR LABEL DESIGN



KZN based nanobrewery Yng Gns has bagged a platinum medal for their labels in the Craft Beer Marketing Awards. The global competition launched in 2020 and recognises outstanding marketing and design. Yng Gns is the first South African brewery to win one of the awards, known as a Crushie. "We entered the CBMAs purely because we dig our labels," says Yng Gns brewer Sam Clark. "Never in a million years did we imagine that the outcome would be a platinum Crushie

award." The labels are a collaboration between art director Claire Clark and Durban muralist Resoborg. "Drawing inspiration from the local culture, patterns and colours of our land we wanted the labels to be a nod to the young guns out there," says Clark. "We are stoked to win, it's like a pat on the back for all the dedication and hard work we put into our brand. We take our beer very seriously but wanted our label to show our creative, fun and adventurous side capturing the spirit of Africa and specifically KZN."

KNYSNA GETS A NEW BREWERY

A new nanobrewery has opened in Knysna's industrial area. The Knysna Brewery is part of the Knysna Distillery, well known locally for its gins. With just 90 litres brewed at a time, the beers are currently only available at the brewery, but there are plans to can and distribute to select Knysna restaurants. "I found my love for beer while working on yachts overseas, and enjoying different beer from different places as the yachts moved around to new areas," says brewer Donald Yendall. "Like our mascot the Knysna Dwarf Chameleon, we are small and always changing our beers. From light lager and delicious pilsner, to Belgian pale ale and California common, you never know what you will find on our taps."

BREWERY MANAGER JOHN MORROW LEAVES NOTTINGHAM ROAD



L-R: Notties owner Peter Dean, Jason Black, John Morrow and former brewery manager Deon Tegg

John Morrow, brewer and brewery manager at Nottingham Road Brewing Company in KZN, has left after seven years at the helm. Jason Black, who had previously been working for CBC and Heineken has taken over John's role at the Midlands brewpub. "Knowing Jason and his skills as well as I do, I was confident that he was the man for the job and felt happy handing over to him," said Morrow. "That said, after seven years of being part of the Rawdons family, it was difficult and sad to let go." John is moving to Ireland, where he plans to stay in the beer industry.

NEWS



BREWDOG ANNOUNCES PLAN TO OPEN IN CAPE TOWN

The South African beer industry was abuzz earlier this year with the announcement by BrewDog co-founder James Watt that the Scottish brewery was considering opening a branch in Cape Town. Watt posted the news on various social media channels alongside an artist's impression

of the planned brewery. The proposed location appears to be the old Monument Station building on Christiaan Barnard Street, near Cape Town's train station. The response from the local beer industry was largely positive, although many expressed scepticism about the suggested site.



HEY JOE WINS GOLD AT EUROPEAN BEER CHALLENGE

Franschhoek brewery Hey Joe has brought home gold medals for two of its beers at the European Beer Challenge. The brewery's new session IPA took a double gold while the witbier, part of Hey Joe's core range, took a gold medal. The annual competition, held in London, is judged by European buyers representing large

retailers and importers. Judges assessed beers from 39 countries in the 2021 competition. "The European Beer Challenge is the pinnacle of the industry," says Gavin Magrath founder and owner of Hey Joe Brewery "We are honoured to win a gold as well as a double gold European Beer Challenge 2021 medal."

NEW BREWS

Saggy Stone Brut Pilsner (5% ABV)

The latest in Saggy Stone's brut series is a very limited edition version of a German style pilsner hopped with Motueka from New Zealand. Grab some while it lasts.

Capital Craft x Devil's Peak Hops on Hops Off (5% ABV)

If you're lucky – and quick – you might grab the last of this limited run batch of pale ale, brewed at Devil's Peak and hopped with African Queen grown on Capital Craft's patio. The beer is available exclusively at Capital Craft in Pretoria.

Soul Barrel Old Cellar Barleywine (12.4% ABV)

For the full lowdown on Soul Barrel's bold and warming barley wine – including a homebrew-sized recipe – check out page xxx

Afro Caribbean Hubba Bubba Habba Nero Sour (3.6% ABV)

The third in a trio of sours, Hubba Bubba features mango and has just a subtle hint of chilli on the finish. Along with Optical Distortion and Dragonberry Kaleidoscope, Hubba Bubba is now a permanent part of the ACBC range.





“SHEBEEN KING” CROWNED IN AFRICA DAY UMQOMBOTHI COMPETITION

The sole male contestant in the Africa Day Mqombothi Brew Contest took the top prize, earning the title of 2021 Shebeen King. Sibusiso Skosana, founder of 1632Crafts in Thembisa, was one of 10 competitors in the contest, which seeks to champion the brewing of traditional beer.

The competition was organised by Johannesburg based Brewsters Craft in partnership with The Box Shop Lifestyle and was held on Vilakazi Street in Soweto. Supported by the Beer Association of South Africa (BASA), Chibuku, and Mohope Craft Beer, the competition

was held in celebration of Africa Day. Traditional homebrewers were invited to showcase their brewing skills in front of special judges. Skosana won a R5000 cash prize, a gift voucher from Africa Brew and Tolokazi Beer, goodies from local brands Zyle clothing and Nubian Beau, and of course the title of “Shebeen King”.

“I decided to take my brewing seriously and learned the basic African way of brewing umqombothi,” says Skosana. “My hard work paid off as I was crowned the 2021 Shebeen King against nine strong women. I would like to thank the sponsors for all the prizes

that I’ve received.” Apiwe Nxusani-Mawela, founder of Brewsters Craft, was inspired to start the competition in 2017. “The idea came after reading an article in which umqombothi was part of a list of soon-to-be-extinct food products,” says Nxusani-Mawela. “The author noted that young people are now spending all their time in urban city areas and ooGogo back in the villages do not have anyone to pass the tradition of brewing to. With this contest, my aim is to celebrate and educate people about beer brewing in Africa in order to preserve our African culture and heritage.

CAPE TOWN'S BREWERS CO-OP POURS ITS LAST PINT



The Brewers Co-op, a nano-brewery based in Woodstock, Cape Town, has closed down, announcing the sale of the equipment and lease. The cooperative brewery, which saw 15 brewers sharing equipment and tap

space, struggled through last year's lockdowns, with most members choosing to sell their shares. Over the years the Co-op launched a number of successful brands, including Ukhamba Beerworx, Little Wolf and Beerworks.

DOCKSIDE BREWERY UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT



Port Elizabeth based Dockside Brewery has reopened under new management. New owners Marius and Christy Reyneke and Jaco Parsons took over late last year and have been slowly rebuilding the brand. The new taproom on Rogley Street is now up and running, serving three new beers: light lager, pale ale and the flagship cream ale. Look out for them in cans soon.

FOLK & GOODE MOVES TO ELIM



Hermanus brewery Folk & Goode has moved into Black Oystercatcher winery. Fraser Crighton stays on as brewer and will continue brewing Fraser's Folly beers alongside the Folk & Goode range and the Old Tin Hat label, also owned by Folk & Goode.

NEW BREWERY FOR CAPE TOWN'S NORTH

LITTLE WOLF ANNOUNCES CLOSURE



It's been years in the making but Starke Brews finally launched at the start of 2021. Based in the Durbanville winelands, Cape Town's newest brewery is a family-friendly spot with wood-fired pizza and a range of beers all brewed on site. The core range includes a weiss, golden ale, IPA and stout, with rotating brews always available on tap.



Much loved Cape Town brand Little Wolf has ceased trading. The gypsy brewery, which had previously produced at Devil's Peak and Stellenbosch Brewing Company among others, was best known for its wild ales and use of Cape flora in beers. Brand owner Stefan Wiswedel has taken on the role of head brewer at Patiala Brewery, where his Hoppy Wheat can still be found on tap.



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