



Press Release

26th March 2009

Unlimited Inspiration for Meantime Limited Editions



The Meantime Brewing Company are pleased to announce that Britain's Brewer of the Year 2008, their founder and brewmaster Alastair Hook, is celebrating great beers in a Limited Edition range to be enjoyed by a small and engaging band of lucky drinkers in both draught and bottled formats.

In typical Meantime fashion, Alastair has looked beyond Britain's shores to the other two-thirds of brewing's 'Holy Trinity' – Belgium and Germany - as an unlimited source of inspiration from which to craft these Limited Edition beers. Consequently, the 2009 vintage series is merely the first annual programme of hand-crafted beers to come out of Meantime bearing a 'Limited Edition' imprimatur.

Small batches of no more than 30 barrels of draught beer will be made available in individually numbered kegs to a select and very small number of those Meantime Brewery accounts who have always shared and supported the Meantime vision of fully matured beers presented in a way that helps the customer appreciate the full breadth of flavours great beer has to offer.

In addition, a small proportion of the brew will be packaged into individually numbered 500ml bottles and will be available exclusively to members of the Camra Beer Club (www.camrabeerclub.co.uk).

First in the series is this April's beer, "Famous Belgian". At 6.5% ABV this beer is made with a genuine 'Trappist' yeast strain and, in true Belgian tradition, a touch of candy sugar and plenty of English hops: Goldings, on this occasion. This pale orange beer is typical of the strong, malty, fruity, well-rounded, top fermenting ales that make up the family known as Abbey beers. A restrained orange fruitiness on the nose and a hint of brown sugar in the palate give way to a sappy dryness on the finish.

Alastair comments. "It is remarkable how inventive and cutting-edge bars and pubs in our home city are switching from dull mainstream British and European commodity beers to beers that educate and ask questions. For me this is a realisation of a teenage dream: being able to brew draught Abbey style beers, eclectic and specialist lagers, beers brewed using funky ingredients that have stood the test of time, all brewed and served right here in London. Let us not forget, London was once the brewing capital of the world, and at Meantime we believe in thinking as if it still is. So now is a great time to be able to do all this as we are riding a wave of increasing adventurousness amongst consumers, eager to discover new and exciting flavours, and learn about beer, its provenance and heritage."

A full listing of the outlets where Britain's first limited edition draught and bottled beer range can be obtained is available at www.meantimebrewing.com.

APR	"Famous Belgian" 6.5% Blonde Abbey Style Ale
MAY - JUN	"Elderflower Maibock" 6.0% A lighter 'Bock' style lager
JUL - AUG	"High Saison" 5.0% Belgian Saison Style Ale
SEP - OCT	Oktoberfest Style 5.6% The Classic Long Matured lager
NOV - DEC	Smoked Bock 6.5% Liquid Christmas

ENDS

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