

# BREWERS AND LICENSED RETAILERS ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The 95th Annual General Meeting of the Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association was held at 42 Portman Square, London W1, on Wednesday, 8th December 1999, at 12 noon, Mr Michael Foster in the Chair.

### Annual Report and Statement of Accounts

On the proposal of the Chairman, Mr Michael Foster, seconded by, Mr Ebbe Dinesen, the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year to 30th September 1999 were approved and adopted.

In presenting the Annual Report, the Chairman congratulated Rob Hayward on his achievements since his appointment as Chief Executive in March. The internal restructuring of the BLRA had not been an easy task and it was recognised that all the staff had been through a difficult period. Despite this upheaval, the Secretariat had done an outstanding job in dealing with a large volume of complex issues generated by Government. This course was expected to continue and further challenges clearly lay ahead. The industry must now consider how to handle its relations with Government in a proactive way and the need for a united group was never more evident.

Rob Hayward thanked the Chairman for his kind remarks and paid his own tribute to BLRA staff. He was aware that the difficulties faced by the staff had been protracted and he expressed his appreciation for the support given to him over the past few months. However, some tough decisions had yet to be made to improve performance, particularly in relation to finance, and it would be important to set firm priorities.

### Election of Chairman

On the motion of Mr John Brackenbury (on behalf of Pubmaster Ltd), seconded by Mr Christopher Lees-Jones (on behalf of J W Lees & Co Ltd), Mr Michael Foster was unanimously re-elected as Chairman of the Association for the coming year.

Mr Brackenbury expressed appreciation for the time Mr Foster had devoted to the reorganisation of the BLRA which had benefited from his hands-on approach. In seconding the motion, Mr Lees-Jones agreed that the industry was very fortunate to have such a knowledgeable and approachable Chairman who had generously devoted so much time to the BLRA's affairs.

Mr Foster expressed his appreciation for the honour bestowed upon him by members.

### Election of Vice-Chairman

On the motion of Mr Michael Foster (on behalf of W H Brakspear & Sons plc), seconded by Mr Tim Bridge (on behalf of Greene King plc) Mr Timothy Clarke was unanimously re-elected Vice-Chairman of the Association for the coming year.