

Drink cheap, not nasty

“We need to remember that Jesus turned water into wine ... he didn’t infuse it with isotonic.”

Yes, I know what you’re thinking. And yes, it’s not by chance that I have ended up writing on this topic. I know. I have all the necessary qualifications, I’m an alcoholic and I’m cheap. And not the other way around.

I actually come from a long line of alcoholics going all the way back to a convict sent to Australia for being a drunk bum and a thief. Some people stole fish, some people stole bread, my ancestor stole beer. True story, it’s history.

Ok, it’s not technically a true story. My ancestor was really a sergeant in the Rum Corps, I know how ironic, he grew rich selling alcohol and I’m broke because I spend all my money on alcohol.

So you can be assured that for me, cheap drinks are not a matter of choice but a matter of necessity.

However, there are depths of cheapness that nobody should ever sink to. I’ve been into these trenches and back again and believe you me the shit ain’t pretty. Before we continue I think it is essential to point theme out.

- Never drink XXXX or VB.
- Unless the cask is tied to a washing line drinking ‘goon’ is not permitted.
- Methylated Spirits: Just because it has the word ‘spirits’ in the title doesn’t make it ok to bring with you to a BYO restaurant.
- Walking around the bar or party at the end of the night and collecting the empty bottles and



glasses is a responsible and polite way to thank your host but walking around at the end of the night collecting the dregs from practically empty bottles and glasses is not.

Finishing another person’s drink is acceptable under the following

guidelines.

- You know them and they don’t mind
- You don’t know them but they’re too wasted to notice
- They walked away and left the drink unattended – there is no

excuse for negligence.

I have said it before and I will say it again there are few things in this world as beautiful as something that’s free; there are even fewer things as beautiful as free drink. The free drink is like a miracle, you

can barely believe it even when you see it. It is often unexplained and unexpected. Don’t question people, simply give thanks and receive.

We can’t however rely on divine intervention to make out party dreams come true. We need to be smart, thrifty. We need to be cheap. It is amazing the lengths people will go to for the cheap drink, its amazing the distance they will cover to bathe their tastebuds in cheapness. Despite having perfectly reasonably priced drinks locally, if the pots are say, 50 cents cheaper 50 miles away well, there’s no question where we’ll be drinking tonight.

I asked a friend where a good place to go for cheap drinks was and she said Thailand, so you know where I went. But we can’t all go to Thailand, so with that in mind I’ve compiled a short list of personal favourites (they each have a website if you’re lost).

Workshop Bar

413 Elizabeth Street, City
\$10 jugs Monday to Wednesday
12pm-4pm.
www.theworkshop.com.au

The Hawthorn

481 Burwood Road Hawthorn
Tightarse Tuesdays, \$11 jugs of
Boags Draught, \$5 basics.
www.thehawthorn.com

Station Hotel

96 Greville Street Prahran
Uni Nite Thursdays 8pm – free
entry, \$2.50 pots, \$5 basics, \$3.50
bubbles, \$12 jugs, \$5 wet pussy
shots, \$8 jager bombs.
www.stationhotel.com.au

And generally stay vigilant for uni nights on Thursdays and backpacker nights on Tuesdays.

(You don’t actually need to be backpacker to attend backpacker nights – if you’re capable of imagining what it would be like to be in another country you pretty much qualify.)

Finally we need to remember that Jesus turned water into wine. He didn’t scoop up some sea water and desalinate it so we could fucking hydrate, he didn’t infuse it with isotonic. He turned it into alcohol. Don’t forget what was served at the last supper, bread and wine, carbs and alcohol. **Q**

Tom Cummins