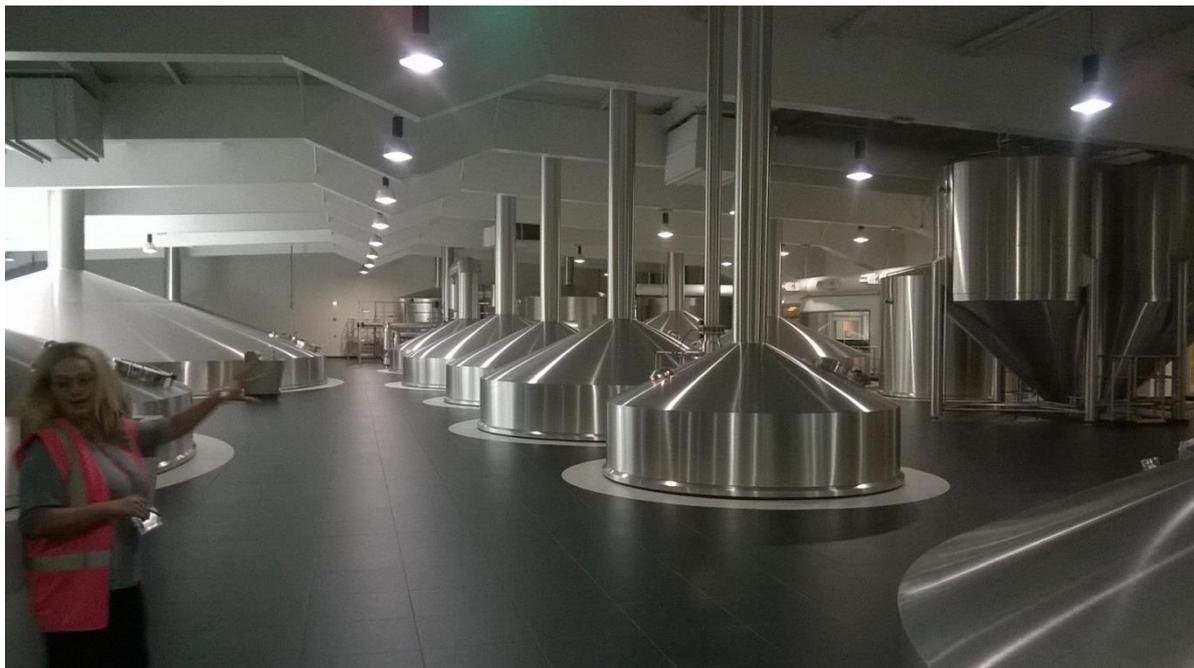


Malting Diploma Association AGM

On 15th May 2015 nine members of the MDA met at Dublin airport for a full day of tours and meetings.

First was a visit to Athy Maltings and a tour of the site. Unfortunately the coach taking the group back into Dublin at lunchtime on a Friday ran into very heavy traffic which meant the planned lunch at Gilroy's Restaurant in the Guinness Storehouse had to be cancelled and replaced with a quick visit to a petrol station and packet sandwiches for everyone on the coach.



However, the tour of the new brewhouse at the Guinness Storehouse soon put smiles back on faces – it really is quite spectacular.

Back to the hotel for the AGM: The Chairman, Richard Broadbent, reported on results achieved in exams run by the MAGB over the past year – 8 enrolments and 3 passes in the FIM; 18 enrolments and 10 passes in the GCM; 3 passes in Module 1 of the MD; 2 passes in Module 2 and 1 pass in Module 3. One candidate is currently going through the process to achieve a Master Maltster.

Richard outlined ongoing discussions with the Institute of Brewing and Distilling to develop a Diploma in Malting and MAGB members are being invited to make up the examining board. Discussion followed on whether the MAGB Malting Diploma needed a name change to avoid confusion. However, it was agreed to propose to the MAGB Executive Committee that the name should stay the same for the next couple of years to see how things develop with the IBD Diploma.

The report was followed by a presentation to Craig Simmonds of Bairds Malt Ltd who had successfully completed all three modules of the Malting Diploma.

The day ended with an excellent meal in the hotel restaurant and the occasional pint to wash it down.