



## British pub fights get safer with new design glasses

### 新款酒杯可望降低英酒吧酒後鬧事傷害

**D**runk pub fights in Britain are set to get safer with the invention of a strengthened beer glass that health authorities hope will cut the huge bill for treating people involved in drunken **brawls**.

The traditional pint glass — which holds just over half a liter of beer and is favoured by drinkers across Britain — has been redesigned so it is harder to smash, said Design Bridge, the company behind two prototypes.

And even if the new models are smashed, the dangerous **shards** of glass are held together by a layer of resin, said the company at a launch event last week.

For British Home Secretary Minister Alan Johnson, the minister with overall responsibility for the curbing crime in the UK, **the glass is half full**. He praised the new models and said the properties of the current pint glass are to blame for much of the country's alcohol-related violence.

Alcohol-related injuries cost British health authorities an

estimated £2.7 billion (US\$4.3 billion, NT\$135.7 billion) annually, and official figures put the number of glass attacks each year at around 87,000.

Talks are under way with pub chains about trying out the glasses and it is hoped a **pilot** scheme will be launched within a year.

(AFP)

**英**國發明了一款新的強化玻璃啤酒杯，酒吧酒醉鬥毆的傷害可望減輕，衛生當局希望能藉此減少酒醉鬥毆者的醫療支出。

設計新舊兩款酒杯的「設計橋」公司表示，深受全英國飲客喜愛、容量比半公升多一點的傳統品脫杯經重新設計後，變得較不容易打破。

該公司上週在新品發表會上表示，即使這種新酒杯被打破，危險的碎片也會被一層樹脂包黏住。

負責遏制英國整體犯罪率的英國內政部長艾倫·強森樂觀其成。他讚賞這款新酒杯，並說目前使用的品脫杯的材質，是導致國內許多和酒精相關暴力事件的元兇。

英國衛生當局每年花在處理飲酒傷害事件而支出的費用約為二十七億英鎊（四十三億美元，新台幣一千三百五十七億元），而官方數據也顯示，每年發生的酒杯攻擊事件約有八萬七千起。

和連鎖酒吧協商關於新款杯子試用事宜正在進行，試驗計畫可望在一年內展開。

(法新社／翻譯：袁星慶)

**British Home Secretary Alan Johnson unveils the world's first prototype unbreakable pint glass in central London, on Feb. 4, 2010.**

PHOTO: AP

二月四日，英國內政大臣艾倫·強森在倫敦市中心向公眾展示世上第一款耐摔品脫杯。

照片：美聯社

**WARNING: Excessive consumption of alcohol can damage your health.**

飲酒過量有害健康

#### TODAY'S WORDS

##### 今日單字

#### 1. **brawl** /brɔl/ n.

鬥毆 (dou4 ou1)

**例:** Mike was involved in a brawl outside a nightclub last night.  
(麥克涉及昨晚某夜店外的鬥毆事件。)

#### 2. **shard** /ʃɑrd/ n.

碎片 (sui4 pian4)

**例:** Shards of metal flew through the air, injuring bystanders.  
(金屬碎片飛散空中，傷及圍觀民眾。)

#### 3. **pilot** /ˈpaɪlət/ adj.

試驗性的 (shi4 yan4 xing4 de5)

**例:** The service is being cancelled following an unsuccessful pilot scheme.  
(這項服務在試驗計畫失敗後就被取消了。)

#### LANGUAGE POINT

##### 重要片語

**the glass is half full**  
水杯半滿

The question “**Is the glass half full or half empty?**” is used to show that a situation can be perceived optimistically or negatively. According to the article, **the glass is half full** for Alan Johnson, meaning he is optimistic about the new unbreakable glasses.

「Is the glass half full or half empty?」這個問題用來表示，同一情況可分別從樂觀或悲觀的角度來解讀。上文中提到，艾倫·強森認為「**the glass is half full**」，表示他對這種新款耐摔酒杯持樂觀意見。