



## Government green light for supermarkets to keep selling booze at pocket-money prices

By setting the proposed price for a unit of alcohol at the cost of VAT and DUTY the government is still allowing supermarkets to sell alcoholic drinks at less than the cost of producing it. It has long been recognised that cheap supermarket drink is contributing to the closure of so many pubs.

*CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale has expressed regret at the Government's failure to ban the sale of alcohol below cost. The Government are instead banning the sale of alcohol at below excise duty and VAT which is just 47p a pint. This will have virtually no impact on the rock-bottom prices of beer in supermarkets and will do nothing to alleviate the pressure on pubs where the price of a pint is frequently over £3 per pint.*

CAMRA has long been campaigning for a ban on below cost sales of alcohol, which was a clear manifesto commitment of both the Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats. However, for any ban to have a meaningful impact it is vital that the cost of alcohol production is factored in, which for beer will produce a floor price of around 40p a unit - double what is being proposed.

*"It is a blow to pub goers that with pub prices often over £3 a pint the Government have decided to give the green light to the supermarkets to charge as little as 47 pence a pint."*

*"The Government appear all too ready to impose higher costs and regulations on well-run community pubs but are prepared to turn a blind eye to the irresponsible attitude towards alcohol expressed by the supermarkets."*



### THE VILLAGE FREE HOUSE

Wilton Rd - Salisbury  
(01722) 329707

**Selection of Quality Cask Ales**

**Downton Quadhop**

**Timothy Taylor Landlord**

**Three Changing Guest Ales**  
including an ever present  
**Mild, Stout or Porter**

A Friendly Welcome Awaits You

**Salisbury & Sth Wilts CAMRA  
Pub of the Year 2001 & 2004**

Open 12:00 - 12:00 Daily

**The Rai d'Or,  
69 Brown St,  
Salisbury SP1 2AS**



Tel. 01722 327137

Historic freehouse dating from 1292, now a cosy pub with a relaxed bar bistro atmosphere. Reasonably priced Thai food is served 5.30 -10.30 but book a table as the pub is often full mid-evening although bookings can usually be made on the day. Early and late evenings usually don't need booking but it is still best to call ahead. There is always room for drinkers at the bar (enjoy the CAMRA discount if you stay for more than one pint). We specialise in local microbrewed ales including Downton, Stonehenge and Bowman. Dark Star is also regularly on. If you want to guarantee a table mid-evening just for a drink, call ahead and tell us your requirements.

**Open Mon-Sat 5-11 p.m.**

Salisbury Arts Centre  
Rotary COGS  
Salisbury CAMRA

bring you

**BEEREX 31**

Fri & Sat 17th & 18th June 2011

Book the Date

[www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk](http://www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk)

Love Real Ale?

Love your Local Pub?

Discounts at Beer Festivals

All reasons to join CAMRA the  
most successful consumer cam-  
paigns organisation ever!

Can 119,715 people be wrong

[www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk)

## Abbey Stores and Coombe Bissett Stores

- good beers
- good ciders
- good wines
- good food

Coombe Bissett Stores

Homington Road • Coombe Bissett • SP5 4LR

01722 718852

Abbey Stores • 30 Salt Lane • Salisbury • SP1 1EG

01722 336984

If you are planning an event,  
we can do the bar.

***We work, you drink!***

### So Why all the Crawls???

We try our best to get around all of the pubs in our area - it's tough but it has to be done...!

With our monthly minibus trips into the country pubs and crawls of Salisbury and places we can get to on public transport mid week we do get everywhere. We also try to keep in touch with our pubs via this newsletter and the person who delivers it to you.

We prepared for Christmas with a tour of Downton working from the Wooden Spoon to the Bull. We had TEA (from Hogsback brewery) in the Wooden spoon and a choice of Wadworth 6X and Ringwood Best in the Kings Head. The White Horse had a choice of 4 beers including excellent Hop Back Summer Lightning. The Bull sadly only had Ringwood Best on offer.

Our main Christmas crawl was of all 8 pubs in Salisbury Centre in the Good Beer Guide. My favourite beers were Cheriton Porter in the Winchester Gate, Ginger Stout in the Wyndham Arms, Batemans Rosey Nosey in the Anchor & Hope, Andwell Gold Muddler in the Rai D'Or and Downton Chocolate Orange Delight in the Village Freehouse. We also visited the Royal George, Deacons and Kings Head.

Now we are ready for another year of getting to our pubs and it's fair to say we are nowadays rarely disappointed with the real ale quality.

If you want to join us on a crawl just turn up or for a minibus trip you can contact Jill - see the back cover for details.

## Branch Events

### February

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Branch Meeting 8pm Winchester Gate  
Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Minibus to Netherhampton, Barford, Chicksgrove  
Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Wilton Crawl 8.10 R3 bus New Canal,  
8.30 Wheatsheaf, 9 Greyhound, 9.30 Bell, 10 Bear

### March

Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Branch Meeting 8pm Wyndham Arms  
Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Minibus to Hampton Inn, Hurdcott, Winterbourne, Porton,  
Idmiston  
Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> City Crawl 8 G&D, 8.30 Avon Brewery  
9 Haunch of Venison, 9.30 Ox Row, 10 Cathedral

Socials contact Jill 01722 330445

More details about events on [www.salisburycamra.org.uk](http://www.salisburycamra.org.uk)

Items for Barrel Organ [hilary.bird@salisburycamra.org.uk](mailto:hilary.bird@salisburycamra.org.uk) 01722 333839

## SALISBURY RUGBY CLUB

# BEER FESTIVAL

**Fri & Sat  
6th & 7th May**

7pm to Midnight

**16 Real Ales  
Ciders & Cheese**

Tickets £5-00

from

Salisbury Rugby Club  
Telephone (01722) 325317

## Stonehenge Ales

The Old Mill  
Netheravon  
01980 670631



### Regular Beers

Spire Ale 3.8%  
Pigswill 4.0%  
Heel Stone 4.3%  
Great Bustard 4.8%  
Danish Dynamite 5.0%

### Seasonal Beers

Old Smokey 5% (Jan - Feb)  
Sign of Spring 4.6% (Mar - May)  
Great Dane 4.6% (June - July)  
Eye-Opener 4.5% (Aug - Sept)  
Bodyline 4.3% (Nov)  
Rudolph 5.0% (Dec)

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