

BARREL



ORGAN



Salisbury & South Wiltshire Campaign for Real Ale

October 2007

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FREE Newsletter

Where is my Beer Brewed?

In these days of brewery sales and mergers it is difficult to know where beers are actually brewed. In many cases breweries are bought and closed and the beer production moved without any attempt on the part of the brewery to 'come clean' as they often continue using the old company point of sale items such as pump clips.

As we campaigned to try and save Gales from closure after their take over by Fullers, we also demanded that they stop using the 'Gales of Horndean' banner. Yet pubs which have only started stocking Gales beers since they were brewed by Fullers are still sent pump clips for Gales of Horndean.

Does it matter? When does a move count as a new beer? You can argue both ways, some people like to know where the beer is brewed, others just like to enjoy the beer. Some beer tickers count a move from one site to another within the same town as a move and possibly even take installation of a new mash tun or copper as being a new beer.

My concern is not whether you know where it comes from but whether you are being misled and told it is from somewhere other than the true brewery.

Courage has used the same point of sale pump clips etc with no brewery place name throughout its moves from Bristol to Tadcaster to Bedford so no claims are being made as to its origin. Conversely, Morlands beers claimed to be from Abingdon for some time after they were brewed in Bury St Edmunds and its certainly not many years ago that you saw Flowers of Stratford Upon Avon clips although that brewery closed in 1968.

Do you know where these beers are brewed? Answers on page 3.

1 Morlands Old Speckled Hen, 2 Youngs Bitter, 3 Theakstons Black Bull Bitter, 4 John Smiths Cask, 5 Gales Butser Bitter, 6 Jennings Cumberland Ale.



Supreme Champion Beer of Britain 2007 is Hobsons Mild

Pub regularly selling short measures?- Contact Wiltshire Trading Standards (01722) 328367

Out & About

The local branch ventured a little further from Salisbury during the summer... We had a walk to the Victoria & Albert in Netherhampton from the Halfway House on Wilton Rd. The Ale in the Halfway was, I am told, awful but as the pub has a new manager since then it may well have improved. After the thirst making walk the Victoria & Albert was as good as ever.

We got the bus to Downton and managed to get around all of the pubs there. My 'pub of the crawl' was the White Horse which was both welcoming—even though we weren't wet dogs and didn't want our legs waxed—and they were keeping their beer well. My Stonehenge Pigswill was very tasty. Around Salisbury we visited Cloisters, The Market Inn and Conrans on a fairly dry Wednesday. I was especially impressed by Conrans. The Craic from Stonehenge Ales has a certain Green hue and is a special beer

THE VILLAGE FREE HOUSE

Wilton Rd - Salisbury
(01722) 329707

Selection of Quality Cask Ales

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Mild, Stout or Porter

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Pub of the Year 2001 & 2004**

Open 12:00 - 12:00 Daily



The Old Mill
Netheravon
01980 670631

Regular Beers

Spire Ale 3.8% ABV

Pigswill 4.0% ABV

Heel Stone 4.3% ABV

Great Bustard 4.8% ABV

Danish Dynamite 5.0% ABV

Seasonal Beers

Sign of Spring 4.6% ABV
(March - May)

Second to None 4.6% ABV
(June - August)

Old Smokey 5.0% ABV
(Sept. - Nov.)

Rudolph 5.0% ABV
(December - January)

www.stonehengeales.co.uk

for Conrans not Sign of Spring appearing out of season. The Hop Back Crop Circle was also very good.

Finally if you miss Cheriton Brewery, the brewers from there have set up as Bowmans and have had a range of beers available in the city. One of the main outlets is The Village Freehouse who have had Swift One, Quiver, and Eldorado. Bowman's has also been seen several times in the Rai D'Or.

Very finally, did you try the Keystone Porter at the Food & Drink Festival?

One Day ... Two Breweries

After the Regional meeting in August we were treated to a double brewery visit - Small Paul's in a domestic garage in Gillingham and Keystone on the Fonthill Estate. Thanks for the hospitality.

Beer Festival News

Many local pubs and clubs have recently held Beer Festivals. The George in Shrewton had one on August Bank Holiday weekend and the Cuckoo in Hamptworth and the Langford Cricket Club held them in September. Sadly I couldn't give advance notice of these - so Licensees take note... Include Barrel Organ in your advance information and we can let the Real Ale fans who read Barrel Organ know when your festival is on.

Where is my Beer Brewed? The Answers

1 Greene King took over Morlands and shut the brewery so Old Speckled Hen is brewed at Bury St Edmunds. They have recently reduced its strength from 5.2% to 4.5%

2 Youngs merged with Charles Wells and closed their brewery in Wandsworth so their beers are brewed in Bedford and

The Rai D'Or

**Real Ales from local
Microbreweries only
frequently Downton**

Budweiser Budvar on tap

Authentic Thai food
(early evening 2 courses £9.95)

5 pm - 11 pm Mon - Sat
69 Brown St,

Behind White Hart Hotel
01722 327137

**CAMRA members 50p per
pint Real Ale discount
excluding 1st of eve.**



HOP BACK BREWERY
Supplying award winning beers nationwide!
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website for further details
www.hopback.co.uk

BREWERS OF SUMMER LIGHTNING



they now brew Courage beers.

3 Theakstons were taken over by Scottish and Newcastle (S&N) and the Bitter was brewed in Tyne. The good news is that in 2003 S&N sold it back to the family so all beers (except possibly some of the Best Bitter) are back home in Masham.

4 John Smiths Cask is no longer produced in Tadcaster and is believed to be brewed by Burtonwood in Cheshire. S&N no longer brew any real ales.

5 All of the Gales beers are brewed in Chiswick by Fullers.

6 Although Jennings was taken over by Wolverhampton & Dudley (now called Marstons) they invested in the brewery rather than shutting it and Jennings beers are still brewed in Cockermonth. We are hoping that Marstons will do the same with Ringwood having bought them in July this year.

Branch Events

October

Wed 3rd Branch Meeting 8pm Village Freehouse
Wed 24th Wilton Crawl 7.35 Bus New Canal, 8pm
Wheatsheaf, 9pm Bell, 10pm Bear
Sat 27th Bowmans Brewery Daytime

November

Wed 7th Branch Meeting 8pm Railway Club
Wed 21st City Crawl 8pm Anchor & Hope,
9pm Frothblowers, 10 pm Red Lion

Sat 10th / 24th Minibus trip

Names for Minibus Trips to Chris 07989185049

Branch Contact Mike Bird

01722 333839

Items for Barrel Organ hilary.bird@salisburycamra.org.uk 01722 333839

Advance diary Dates

Salisbury Winterfest 11 is on Feb 29th and March 1st 2008

Salisbury Beerex is on June 27th & 28th 2008

**Enjoyed our Beer Tent at the
Food & Drink Festival?**

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Abbey Stores 30 Salt Lane**

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bottled beer, cider & perry.
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go to

www.camra.org.uk

**for offers, rates local and
national information**

Winterfest 11

Fri 29th February

&

Sat 1st March 2008

Castle St Social Club Salisbury

**Watch this space for ticket
details.**

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor, CAMRA or Salisbury & South Wiltshire Branch of CAMRA. © Salisbury & South Wiltshire Branch 10/07.