

BARREL



ORGAN



Salisbury & South Wiltshire Campaign for Real Ale

June - July 2008

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FREE Newsletter



Is this one of 58 this month?

The annual Pub Watch Survey by CAMRA has demonstrated that an average of 58 Pubs a month are closing permanently for demolition or conversion. This was before the latest attacks on the Pub tradition from the alcohol is bad for you lobby and the duty increase announced at the last budget. Although at last it is being recognised that pubs are a regulated drinking environment and most of them do not contribute to problems of anti social behaviour.

In our area we know of several closed pubs at least some of which are looking for change of use. The Tollgate in Salisbury has a new planning application for conversion to five dwellings. Neither the Crown at Orcheston nor the Black Horse at Tilthead have been open for ages. The Crown has recently applied for conversion to residential use and the Black Horse had change of use refused even though they have already made the alterations. The Royal Oak at Swallowcliffe has been closed for several months as has the Pheasant at Winterslow.

Keep your local open - Drink in it

Beer Fest Bonanza

It's only May and already the Beer Festival season is hotting up with many pubs and clubs putting on a great range of beers for us all to enjoy.

April 19th saw a minibus of thirsty punters off for a social with North Hampshire branch at the Tally Ho in Broughton festival. A quick visit to the **Lions Head, Winterslow** on the way was very welcome as we thought we might lose the pub last year. On May 9th I joined the Morris dancers at the Rugby Club all 18 beers on the stillage were in great condition with Skinners Cornish Knecker my favourite. I have made my first visit to the **Winchester Gate** Festival and sadly one of my all time favourite beers - Triple FFF Pressed Rat & Warthog wasn't available - so I'll have to go again. I really liked the Hobson's Mild, Mighty Oak Burntwood Bitter and of course Orkney Dark Island (another of my real favourites).

By now the EdUKAid festival at the **Victoria & Albert, Netherhampton** will have happened but don't worry there are plenty more festivals planned...

Why not support Downton Scouts on 21st June or visit the **Antrobus Arms, Amesbury** for August Bank Holiday? Going further afield you could go to a pub I discovered last week - the **Organ Inn, Warminster** for their festival in September. Finally I've heard a whisper to keep an eye on the **Boat House**.

Finally - **Have you got your Beerex Tickets yet?**

Was it a Mild May?

CAMRA promote a number of endangered beer styles throughout the year including Mild. May is Mild month and I have been pleased to see a few about. The **Village Freehouse** has had several different milds during the month and there were two at the **Winchester Gate** Festival. Don't be swayed by tales of waste beer being sold as mild it just isn't true now. Many breweries produce a mild for all or part of the year and as much care and attention goes into them as any other beer they brew. They are often but not always dark in colour with malt flavours rather than intense hoppy bitterness but that means some of them taste of chocolate! If you see a mild - why not give it a try.



Mild

Out & About..... by bus

Continuing our efforts to get around the pubs in our area we recently took a minibus to Chicks Grove, Chilmark, Dinton & Barford. Five welcoming pubs between them offering a wide selection of ales. The **Compasses** had Bedrock from the local Keystone brewery, the **Black Dog** is owned by Wadworth and has their beers including the light fresh Horizon. The **Wyndham Arms** had Everards Sunchaser and I saw Ruddles Best for the first time in ages at the **Penruddocke Arms**. The Badger seasonal beer in the **Barford Inn** was Hopping Hare. My best beer of the evening was the Bedrock but the others were pretty tasty too.

..... and on Foot

We toured Harnham in May and chose a big football night to do it! We sat outside at the **Greyfisher** and enjoyed Greene King beer in much better condition than on our last visit. Then Wells Bombadier in the **Rose & Crown** and Keystone Gold Standard in the **Three Crowns**. Finally some pleasant Greene King IPA and Old Speckled Hen in the **Old Mill** before wandering back along the town path for a mild in the **Village**.

The Rai D'Or Salisbury CAMRA Pub of the Year 2008

Continuing to sell Real Ales
from local Microbreweries
frequently Downton

Budweiser Budvar on tap

Authentic Thai food

5 pm - 11 pm Mon - Sat

69 Brown St 01722 327137

Still treating CAMRA members
to a 50p per pint Real Ale
discount
(excluding 1st of eve)



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

**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



QuadHop 3.9%

A very hoppy crisply refreshing lower gravity bitter.



**Chimera IPA
6.8%**

Award-winning real IPA with the alcohol and hops to survive at trip to India (we believe). Available in bottles.



Also a range of monthly specials contact Martin 01722 322890

Highland Fling!

A month-long working visit to The Highlands gave me the opportunity to prove that Scotland isn't all about haggis and whisky (though these were very nice, of course). So, I made the most of what free time I had, put a lot of miles on the bicycle, drank some beer, met some great people and saw a few sights. I won't bore you with too much detail, so here are the highlights.

Best day out was the 79-mile cycle ride from Fort William to Fort George. In between the outstanding scenery I managed to visit all the pubs that were open as I got to them, one of which had the best beer of my month – Orkney's Red MacGregor sampled in the fantastic Benleiva Hotel in Drumnadrochit (once I managed to find it). This trip also found the best pub food, in the Cawdor Tavern.

Most interesting – and frustrating – event was a visit to the Black Isle Brewery. Whilst there is no doubt that their beer is excellent (Heather Honey and Red Kite even managed to impress some of my lager-drinking colleagues), their catchline "Save the Planet, drink organic" doesn't stand up to scrutiny. The co-Director Mike Gladwin explained that some of his hops come from Eastern Europe, though he was hard to pin down as to exactly where (probably outside the Soil Association's area of influence), while others were flown in from New Zealand – organic, yes, but eco-friendly? Similarly, his malt is brought up from Wiltshire by road – again, not very planet-friendly. Finally, Mike pointedly remarked that he doesn't need to sell any beer in Britain to make a profit, as he gets so many orders from overseas. So why the million-pound expansion, Mike?

Most enjoyable session was in the quirky but thoroughly pleasant Anderson Hotel in Fortrose. A classical jukebox, some delicious European beers, first-class food and a wonderful welcome from the superbly eccentric landlord made this a highly memorable experience. I even bumped into some CAMRA members from Aberdeen who were staying there for the weekend.

Ian

Branch Events

June

Wed 4 th	Branch Meeting	8pm Boat House
Sun 8 th	Bike Ride to Cuckoo	10.30 Petersfinger
Wed 18 th	Tisbury Crawl	6.23 train or 7.30 Boot
Sat 21 st	Downton Scouts Beer festival	
27 th & 28 th	Salisbury Beerex	Salisbury Arts Centre

July

Wed 2 nd	Branch Meeting	8 pm Rugby Club	
Sun 6 th	Bike ride to Malet Arms	10.30 Rugby Club	
Wed 23 rd	Amesbury Crawl	Bus Station	Greyhound

August

Wed 6 th Aug	Branch AGM	7.30 pm Boat House
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Branch Contact Mike Bird 01722 333839
Items for Barrel Organ hilary.bird@salisburycamra.org.uk 01722 333839
Bike Ride details from Ian 01722 331134

Advance diary Dates

Antrobus Arms Festival August Bank Holiday
Organ Inn Warminster Festival 13th - 15th Sept
Winterfest is on Jan 30th & 31st 2009

Salisbury Arts Centre & Rotary COGS

SALISBURY BEEREX

Salisbury Arts Centre

June 27th & 28th

Fri eve, Sat afternoon, Sat eve

Tickets £10 including first pint
from Arts Centre Box Office

01722 321744

Beer management by CAMRA

Music All Sessions

Supporting the Stars Appeal

Join CAMRA Online

www.camra.org.uk

Current membership 90,000

SOLSTICE BEER FESTIVAL

Proudly Sponsored by Hop Back Brewery,
Bowmans, Royal Oak Fritham, Hampshire
Brewery & Thwaites

**The Scout Hut & Grounds
Barford Lane, Downton
Sat 21st June
7.30pm**

Top quality local beers, cider
Music from Candlestick Park
Hog Roast

**Tickets £5 on the gate
Tel: 07875 043867**

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

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