



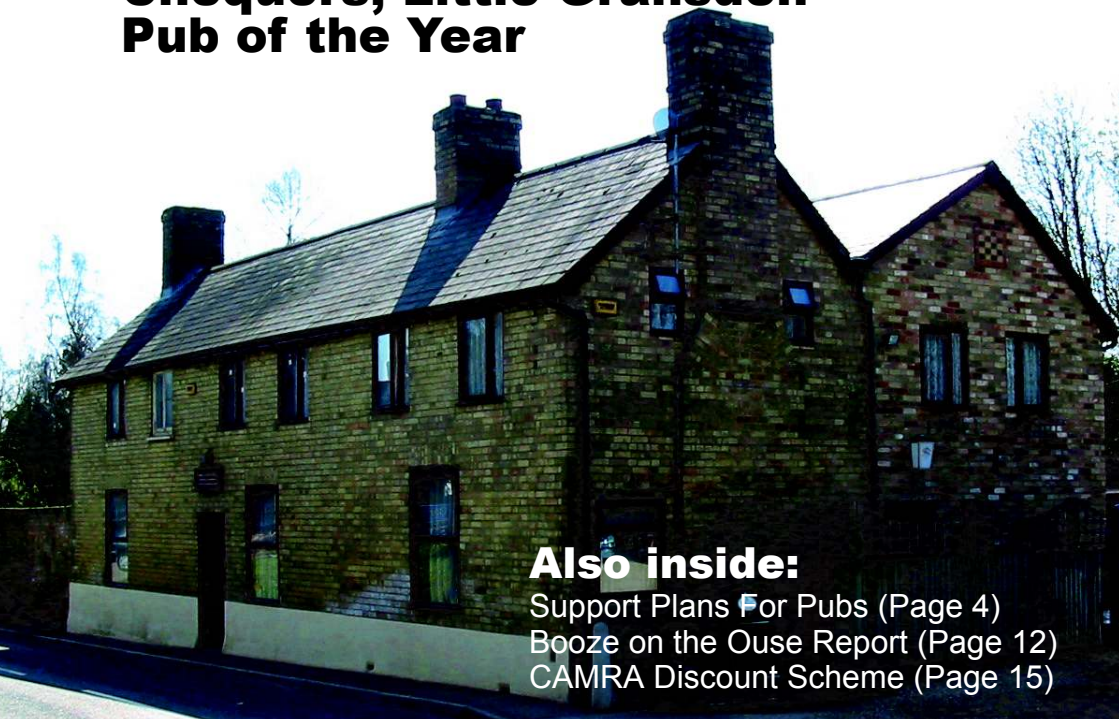
**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**

opening times

**Huntingdonshire Branch of CAMRA
the Campaign for Real Ale**

**Issue 143
Summer 2010**

Chequers, Little Gransden Pub of the Year



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Support Plans For Pubs (Page 4)
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**Booze on the Ouse, St Ives Beer Festival
Thursday 16—Saturday 18 September 2010**



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2 Support your local pub - don't give them an excuse to close it!

PUBS OF THE YEAR

Chequers, Little Gransden

The Huntingdonshire Branch of CAMRA has selected the Chequers, Little Gransden as its Pub of the Year 2010 - the sixth time that the Chequers has won the award in recent years.

CAMRA gives this annual award to the pub that it judges to provide the widest appeal for its combination of good beer, atmosphere, style, service and value.

Bob and Wendy Mitchell have owned and run the Chequers, Little Gransden for 17 years and the pub has been in the Mitchell family since 1950.

The cosy public bar with its plain wooden seating and open fire is an unaltered gem and there is a choice of two other rooms. There is always a warm welcome from Bob and Wendy and the village regulars.

The Chequers truly is a community pub, and the heart and soul of this Cambridgeshire village. Many of the regulars are country people who work in agriculture.

Bob's Son of Sid brewery, which opened in November 2007, continues to go from strength to strength. After more than 2 years Bob's imagination and creativity are unchallenged, and he continues to brew a steady stream of distinctive beers in a wide variety of styles.



There was a presentation to Wendy and Bob on the opening night of CAMRA's recent St Neots Beer Festival. Pictured are

Bob (left), Wendy (right), branch chairman Kathy Hadfield-Moorhouse and, looking on, Town Crier, Mike Blackburn.

Green Man, Leighton Bromswold

This year Huntingdonshire CAMRA have decided to give a 'highly commended' award to the second placed pub in the branch competition, the Green Man, Leighton Bromswold. In the judging, first and second place were separated by the smallest of margins.

The Green Man is a community pub with so much to offer. Locals meet for a friendly chat round the bar, families make good use of the separate family room and diners come from far and wide to sample the excellent food.

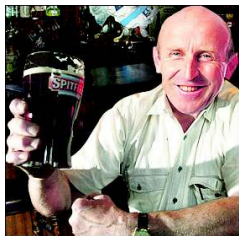
Licensee Toni Hanagan has owned the Green Man since the early 1990's and the pub's reputation is firmly established. The bank of four handpumps always offers an interesting selection of well kept real ales, and in recent times an increased range of locally brewed beers has been available.

Food has also been an important feature of the pub, and the addition of chef Bill Bennett (who used to run Bennett's Bistro at the White Hart, Bythorn) has strengthened the pub's food reputation.

Pictured below are Toni Hanagan and branch vice-chairman Richard Harrison.



NEW SUPPORT PLANS FOR PUBS



Pubs Minister John Healey has announced a major package of reforms to support pubs. The proposals have the potential to totally transform the

UK pub trade, leading to a free, fair and competitive market where consumers will benefit through greater choice, improved amenity and lower prices.

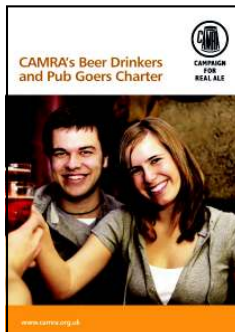
The day after the announcement, CAMRA's Chief Executive, Mike Benner, said 'Yesterday was a fantastic day for CAMRA, real ale drinkers and pub goers.'

The government proposals include:

- Greater protection for pubs under threat of demolition
- A ban on restrictive covenants that prevent the use of buildings as pubs when sold
- Greater flexibility for pubs to diversify by adding shops and other facilities without the need for planning permission
- £1 million government funding for the 'Pub is the Hub' advisory organisation including seven full time advisors
- £3 million to support community pub ownership
- Greater freedom for pubs to host live music without a specific licence
- Implementation within one year of the recommendations of the recent Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) Select Committee report on pub companies, including a new code of practice for pub leases, a free of tie option and a guest beer right for tied tenants.

CAMRA has been lobbying hard to encourage other political parties to unveil their policies to support pubs before the General Election and it seems likely that other major parties will support reform to help the pub trade and licensees.

CAMRA's 'Beer Drinkers and Pub Goers' Charter' was launched at a Westminster parliamentary reception and sent to over 2,000 general election candidates. Over 200 candidates signed up to:



- Promote the interests of UK pub goers
- Champion well-run community pubs
- Rebalance alcohol taxation to support beer and pubs
- Reform the beer tie to deliver a fair deal for consumers
- Support the role of well-run pubs as solutions to alcohol misuse

Before John Healey's announcement, the Office of Fair Trading reopened its investigation of the beer tie and launched an open consultation following CAMRA's appeal against the OFT's rejection of its super-complaint about 'anticompetitive practices' in the pubs industry.

The BIS Select Committee restated its call for major reform and urged the Office of Fair Trading to look more carefully at the issues involved as it responds to CAMRA's super-complaint for the second time.

4 Check out local music events at www.huntscamra.org.uk/gigguide

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Open all day Saturday and
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A la carte menu is served in our restaurant Monday to Saturday.
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A LOOK BACK IN TIME

25 YEARS AGO

Throughout the summer of 1985, CAMRA continued its campaign of support for Blackburn brewer Matthew Brown in its 'tooth and nail' fight against a hostile takeover bid from Scottish and Newcastle. The bid had been referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and as it continued to hear evidence, CAMRA produced badges, posters and banners to display its 'Hands off Matthew Brown' message. In June, 400 CAMRA members attended a demonstration in Edinburgh. Earlier, a parade of Matthew Brown drays led a rally at the House of Commons at which a 5000-signature petition was presented to Blackburn MP Jack Straw. *The brewery closed in 1991 with production of Matthew Brown brands being relocated to S&N's Home Brewery in Nottingham and on its closure to Mansfield Brewery.*

Mansfield Brewery agreed terms to buy North Country Breweries of Hull for £42 million. The Hull brewery was expected to close. *Mansfield Brewery was acquired by Wolverhampton & Dudley (now Marstons) in 1999 and closed in 2001.*



St Neots brewers James Paine bought London-based wholesaler Robert Porter from brewers Gibbs Mew of Salisbury. Paines pub the Queen Victoria in St Neots

was for sale, but Paines were denying rumours that another of their pubs, the Bell at Sawtry, was to be sold.

CAMRA's Norwich and Norfolk branch produced a report claiming that a pubs monopoly in Norfolk was working against

the public interest. Rodney Mann, director of Watneys' Norwich Brewery company claimed that his organisation owned less than half of Norfolk's pubs and said he was 'not worried' about any referral to the Office of Fair Trading. Norwich Branch's Paul Moorhouse said 'I think he should be worried. Some of the licensing areas we researched showed a Watney ownership of nearly seven out of ten pubs. In terms of prices and pub closures we have a sound case of an abuse of monopoly power'.

St Neots CAMRA held summer meetings at the Golden Knight, Sapley and the Half Moon at Kimbolton. Socials visited pairs of pubs in Somersham (the Windmill and George), Needingworth (the Queens Head and Chestnuts) and, to the west of Huntingdon, the Mermaid at Ellington and the Fox at Catworth. A July evening walk around St Neots began at the Kings Head.



Liverpool brewer Higsons was taken over by its Manchester neighbour Boddingtons brewery in a £26million 'behind closed doors' deal. Higsons' capacity for lager production was a main driver for the deal. *The Boddington breweries were sold to Whitbread in 1990 who finally closed the Higsons Stanhope brewery site shortly thereafter.*



A LOOK BACK IN TIME

10 YEARS AGO



Interbrew

British brewing became a global industry as Belgian brewers Interbrew completed a double swoop ten years ago, snapping up the brewing operations of Whitbread, then Bass, for £2.7 billion. This followed the acquisition of the French Kronenbourg brewery by UK brewers Scottish and Newcastle earlier in the year. The Bass takeover was subject to clearance by regulators and this would eventually result in the enforced disposal of parts of the Bass brewing business and its acquisition by US brewer Coors.



Nick and Susanna Steiger transformed the Grange Hotel in Bampton into a magnet for lovers of good food and beer following their move

there from the old Bridge Hotel in Huntingdon.



Adnams of Southwold axed their highly regarded cask beer Adnams Extra. Old Ale and Oyster Stout were also dropped and replaced by the dark 4.5% ABV Fisherman. Adnams were brewing at full capacity and

planning expansion of the brewery to boost their annual production capacity from 66000 to 90000 barrels.

One of Adnams' senior managers, Steve Simms, bought the Mauldons microbrew-

ery in Suffolk following the retirement of its founder Peter Mauldon after a lifetime in the brewing trade. Mauldons brands, including the award winning Blackadder, were to be retained.



St Neots CAMRA held summer meetings at the Lord John Russell in St Neots, the White Hart, St Ives and the Prince of Wales at Hilton, where a plaque was awarded to owner Robin Doughty for 12 consecutive appearances in the CAMRA Good Beer



Guide. There was a visit to Potton brewery and a Sunday lunchtime riverside walk taking in the Pike and Eel at Needingworth and the Old Ferry Boat at Holywell.

CAMRA launched an action plan to try to save one of Britain's most treasured breweries after Badger brewers Hall and Woodhouse of Dorset acquired the revered Sussex real ale brewer King and Barnes and announced the planned closure of the brewery.

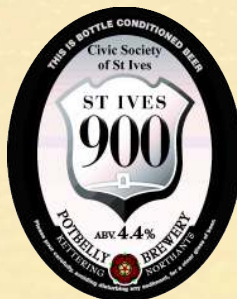


Another brewery closed when the Inn-Spired group closed their Ushers brewery in Trowbridge, Wiltshire. Ushers was formerly a part of the Watney brewing empire.

HALF PINTS



Marstons has launched 'Fast Cask' technology to extend the availability of cask beer to outlets that have restricted cellar space. Casks contain fresh yeast immobilised in a gel. Marstons say this allows it to be served immediately as it does not need time to settle and casks can be moved into place as needed. CAMRA's Technical Advisory Group believes that whilst the technique may strictly meet CAMRA's definition of real ale, there are concerns that beer will not be given time for its flavour to mature after venting, as usually occurs when conventional cask beer is left to settle and condition in the pub cellar.



Potbelly brewery of Kettering has produced a special bottled real ale to help St Ives celebrate the 900th anniversary of the granting of its fair charter by King Henry I in 1110. The golden beer, brewed to 4.4% alcohol by volume using the single hop variety Styrian Goldings, was produced in a limited edition of 500 bottles and was available from Easter at the Oliver Cromwell in St Ives and at the Easter medieval market held in St Ives as a part of the town's 900th anniversary celebrations. There are details of the celebrations that are running throughout the year in St Ives at www.stives900.co.uk

The latest budget brought little joy to beer and cider drinkers. Beer duty went up by 2% above the current rate of inflation and cider was hit by a 13% rise in duty. In ad-

dition, the excise duty escalator of 2% above inflation is to be extended for a further two years.

Chancellor Alistair Darling has also said that HMRC would be looking at the definition of cider with the possibility of imposing a higher duty rate on the super strength 'industrial' ciders from September.

The new Draycott Brewery in Buckden is producing real ales in bottle, including a roasty porter, Buckden Black. A range of the beers was on sale at CAMRA's 'Booze on the Ouse' beer festival in St Neots in March.



Admiral Taverns has announced it will be selling 200 of its 2000 pub estate. Admiral ran into financial problems last year and was bailed out by Lloyds Bank in a debt for equity swap.

Carlsberg, the Danish brewer that owns Tetleys brewery in Leeds, has announced that cask Tetleys Bitter will be contract brewed at Marstons brewery in Wolverhampton when the Leeds brewery closes. Lib Dem Leeds MP Greg Mulholland has called on beer drinkers in Leeds to boycott Carlsberg beers in protest at the closure of the Leeds brewery. CAMRA has also hit out at Carlsberg. Bob Stukins, CAMRA Vice Chairman, spoke

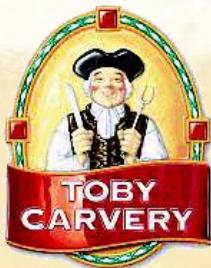


HALF PINTS

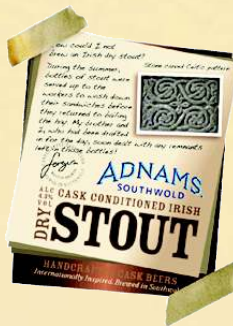
about the adverse impact of the move to Wolverhampton on the pub going community in Yorkshire.



Leicestershire brewery Everards produced cask Abbaye Blonde (5.5% ABV) for JD Wetherspoon's 'World's Largest International Real Ale Festival'. The beer was brewed with the help of Belgian brewer Val Dieu.



Mitchells & Butlers, one of the largest chains of managed pubs, is exiting from its 'wet-led' outlets to concentrate more on food-led outlets. The number of Harvester, Toby Carvery and Sizzling Pub Company outlets could more than double to 400, 300 and 400 respectively. Regional brewers may be expected to pick up the wet-led pubs that M&B will be disposing.



Suffolk brewer Adnams produced a cask Irish Dry Stout in time for St Patrick's Day. This was the final beer in Adnams' innovative series of world style cask beers. Meanwhile, in Northern Ireland, Guinness

have been trialling a new black lager produced using roasted barley, late hopping and a lager yeast.

Waverley TSB is to axe 200 jobs and 12

depots as part of their restructuring plans. Three depots will close outright - Park Royal, Newbury and a C&C in Colchester. Nine others will close but be replaced by stockless transit depots. The distributor, which is owned by Heineken, made a loss of £21m in the year to the end of December 2008.

Molson Coors' new National Brewery Centre in Burton on Trent was due to open on May 1. The old Bass Museum and its microbrewery were closed by owners Molson Coors last year despite a vigorous local campaign of opposition, supported by CAMRA. Attractions at the new centre will include shire horses, a working micro-brewery, beer tastings, bars and restaurants.



BrewDog, the Scottish brewery that has attracted attention for both strong and expensive beers, has reclaimed the title of the world's strongest beer from a German rival. Sink the Bismarck contains 41% alcohol by volume (making it 82 proof). After BrewDog released Tactical Nuclear Penguin, a 32% abv beer, German brewer Schorschbrau followed with Schorschbock, 40% abv. BrewDog said Sink the Bismarck would cost £40 for a 330ml bottle and would only be sold online.



PUB PIECES

The Grade II listed **Three Horseshoes** at **Abbots Ripton** is expected to be fully



restored within around two years following a devastating fire that wrecked the old thatched part of the

pub after embers from the pub's chimney set the thatched roof alight in a freak accident. Owner Lord de Ramsey has said that a six-figure sum will be needed for the restoration including £40-50,000 for the thatching alone. Most of the newer parts of the premises were saved by a firewall installed during a refurbishment prior to the long-awaited reopening of the pub around five years ago.

Real ale has been reinstated at **Alconbury Mill** following its reopening with a change of licensee;



the products of Wadworths and Thwaites have been noted here.

The **Addison Arms** at **Glatton** is stocking the award-winning real ales of local brewers Digfield.



The **White Horse** at **Tilbrook** was expected to become one of the latest outlets for draught **Cromwell Cider** and has signed up to **CAMRA's Discount Scheme** to

offer a discount to all CAMRA members. The **Horseshoe Inn** at **Offord Darcy** has also agreed to join the CAMRA Discount Scheme. See page 15 for more details.

An unusually late happy hour promotion has been noted at the **Old Bridge Hotel** in **Huntingdon** – from 9:30-10:30 pm.

Whitbread's **Brampton Hut** has been stocking cask beer from Suffolk brewers Adnams.

The **Cock** at **Hemingford Grey** reinstated Potbelly brewery's popular roasty brew Beijing Black in early spring this year and it was expected to remain until the summer.

Greene King's **Bell** at **Great Paxton** has a new tenant.

In **St Neots** the **Lord John Russell** is again offering three to four cask beers direct from the cask in addition to other beers on the bar.



The **King's Head** in **St. Neots** has been reported to be for sale freehold following earlier reports that it would reopen later this year after a major refurbishment planned by owners Punch Taverns.



The **Plough** at **Eynesbury** is now run by the owners and is now selling real ales.

The **Queen Adelaide** at **Croydon** has been serving a real ale specially brewed for them by Cornish brewer Sharps.



PUB PIECES

CAMRA member Neil Titmus has a mobile bar, available for use at functions. He has obtained a personal licence and has linked up with **Potton Brewery** for beer supplies, to offer a real ale bar at events that can include fund raising events for charities, parties and any kind of special event. The mobile pub includes 50 chairs and tables. Hog roasts can be included as a part of a package.

The **Woolpack St Neots** has had yet another change of management. Pete Butler who was temporarily managing the Woolpack for Charles Wells has left, and a new management company has taken over operating the pub.

As summer approaches, a large number of pubs in the area have announced plans for beer festivals.

At the **White Horse at Tilbrook**, Tilfest Real Ale and Music Festival is on 29th-31st May. Live Music every day, BBQ and Caribbean cooking.



The **Horseshoe Inn, Offord Darcy** will be running a midsummer beer fest on the Millennium Green, Offord Darcy on Sat 19th June, featuring 8 real ales and real cider, with a music festival taking place all day.



The **Pig 'n' Falcon, St Neots** is having a summer beer festival on Tue 6th-Sun 11th July, with 30+ beers, culminating

in a birthday party for licensee John Nunn on Sunday 11th.

The **Mad Cat, Pidley** is having a beer festival on Thu 5th—Mon 9th Aug, with 11 real ales and cider, at £2.50 per pint.



The **Black Bull, Brampton** is having a beer festival Thu 5th—Sun 8th Aug, with 18 real ales, and 4 real ciders. Live music Fri & Sat night and Sunday lunch. BBQ Fri night and all day Sat. Fireworks Sat night.



Wyboston Lakes is running a beer festival Fri 13th—Sun 15th Aug, with a selection of local real ales and cider, live music from local bands, and a family day on Sunday.



The **White Hart, Godmanchester** is holding a beer festival Thu 12th-Sun 15th Aug, with local real ales and ciders, a hog roast and barbecue, and live music.



The **Cock at Hemingford Grey** has their beer festival Fri 27th—Mon 30th Aug, with 25 real ales, a BBQ, and live music every night.



'BOOZE ON THE OUSE' TRIUMPH

The St Neots Beer Festival in March this year was a huge success. 1,330 visitors enjoyed over 3,900 pints of real ale, over 470 pints of cider, and around 420 bottles of foreign beer.

The theme of the festival was local beers and ciders, and the feedback from attendees was very positive. Cambridgeshire and its neighbouring counties have many breweries and cider producers but their products are not often seen in our local pubs. Following the festival we hope that more licensees will be asked by their regulars to stock these products.

The festival enjoyed some special visitors. On the opening night a group of town councillors attended, led by Town Mayor Gordon Thorpe. Their objective was to sample all the different mild ales we had available, and having done so they made a special award for Elgoods Black Dog, which they judged was the 'best mild of the festival'. Below, Councillor Thorpe, (left), is presenting an award to Bar Manager Paul Moorhouse.



On Friday night we had a brief but very welcome visit by local MP Jonathan Djanogly, who is now becoming a regular visitor to Booze on the Ouse.

Also on the opening night, the festival was officially opened by Town Crier Mike

Blackburn (below), who also announced another special presentation for our branch Pub of the Year (see page 3).



Congratulations to Bartrams brewery—their speciality honey beer, Bees Knees, was voted beer of the festival. In second place was Dr Buskers Bitter Black from the Son of Sid brewery and in third place was Digfield Fools Nook.

Congratulations are also due to Bruce Collier of Bicester, Oxfordshire who was the winner of our prize draw for those completing our feedback form. He wins a copy of a CAMRA book.

Volunteers from our charity for the festival, the local Huntingdonshire group of the Wildlife Trust, did sterling work dishing out glasses, and collected funds in the process.

The **St Neots Beer Festival** will return in **2011** from the **10th to 12th March**. Please make a note in your diary. But you do not have to wait that long for another breathtaking selection of real ales, because the **St Ives Beer Festival** will take place on the **16th to 18th of September 2010**, at the Burgess Hall, St Ivo Centre, St Ives. See you there!!

12 Join 110,000 members of CAMRA and fight for Britain's beer heritage

The Green Man



Hunts
CAMRA
'Highly
Commended'
Pub of the
Year 2010

Picturesque 16th century village pub, The Green Man serves a choice of cask ales and traditional home cooked meals, by courtesy of 'Bennett's'. Together with a sociable friendly atmosphere, and typical pub games, we also have a converted barn for celebration's or meetings.

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01480 890238, www.greenmanpub.org

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Fish menu
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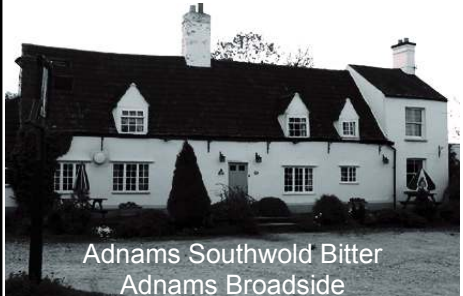


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Title Surname

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I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

I enclose a cheque for 0709

Signed Date

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- If an error is made by CAMRA or your Bank or Building Society, you are guaranteed a full and immediate refund from your branch of the amount paid.
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by writing to your Bank or Building Society. Please also send a copy of your letter to us.

CAMRA MEMBERS' DISCOUNT SCHEME

Supporting Community Pubs

CAMRA has launched a new initiative to help drive trade to community pubs by introducing a national, unified real ale discount scheme for CAMRA members.

Plenty of pubs across Britain already offer CAMRA card-carrying members discounts on the real ales they sell. This new scheme will help these pubs, and hopefully some new pubs, to promote these offers clearly to CAMRA members, hopefully resulting in more trade.

The discount is at the discretion of the pub and can be as little or as large as it feels suits their business. All pubs selling real ale can participate in the scheme.

Full details of how the scheme works, and how pub operators can sign up to the scheme, and pubs already participating, can be found on the CAMRA national website at www.camra.org.uk/discountscheme.

Locally, two pubs have already signed up to this scheme.

The **Horseshoe Inn** at **Offord Darcy** has recently launched a VIP card loyalty scheme, which rewards regular visitors with points for purchases, with accumulated points being exchanged for drinks or a meal. Licensee Ian Kennedy's offer to CAMRA members is double points, that is CAMRA members that join the Horseshoe VIP club will receive double points on production of their CAMRA membership card. VIP card holders will get other special offers. See the advert on page 2 for an example. The Horseshoe Inn is also making the pledge that they will not be knowingly undersold within a three mile radius of the pub, which includes all the pubs in Buckden, Brampton and Godmanchester.

At the **White Horse** in **Tilbrook**, licensee Richard Binks is offering CAMRA members a 5% off their bill at the White Horse

on production of their CAMRA membership card, the discount applying to food as well as to drinks.

We hope to be reporting on other pubs offering CAMRA member discount schemes in the coming months. Details will be included in Opening Times and on a special page on our web site www.huntscamra.org.uk/discountscheme.



The Addison Arms

Ian & Michelle would love to welcome you to The Addison Arms, where you can enjoy the atmosphere of a traditional country pub.

You can choose from a selection of real ales or wine and sample dishes from our traditional English menu. Food is served daily, except on Sunday nights when we hold a popular pub quiz where all are welcome.

Opening times:

Monday - Saturday 11:30 - 2:30 Food served 12:00 - 2:00 5:30 - 11:00 Food served 6:00 - 9:00, Sunday 12:00 - 15:00 Food served 12:00 - 2:30 7:00 - 10:30 No Food served - Quiz Night.



Sawtry Road, Glatton, PE28 5RZ
01487 830 410
www.addisonarms.co.uk

CAMRA MEMBERS' INVESTMENT CLUB



CAMRA
MEMBERS
INVESTMENT
CLUB

Have you ever wished that you owned part of a brewery or one of the many pub chains now in existence?

We turn that wish into a reality and, as company shareholders, we help to make a difference to policies introduced by their directors.

We have been investing in breweries since 1989 and we have approximately 4,000 members in the Club. At the end of February 2010 the fund value stood at £8.67m with a unit value of £2.98.

You are eligible to join us at the CAMRA Members' Investment Club only if you are a member of CAMRA. You can invest any amount from £5 to £83 per month with an annual maximum of £1,000.

The funds are invested in a wide range of

companies including Black Sheep, Marstons, Greene King, Fullers and Youngs, together with a few overseas companies including Duvel Moortgat and the Cantillon Brewery, both in Belgium. The Committee is actively seeking to increase the Club's involvement with the ever increasing micro-brewery sector.

The fund and the investments are managed by an elected, ten-strong committee that meets on a regular basis to discuss the Club's portfolio, future investments and other matters which may affect the Club.

The Club has its own web site, www.CMIC.uk.com where you can find more details, including planned brewery trips and other events, reports on past visits and the AGM which is normally held in June each year, usually in Beeston, Nottingham.

2010 Beer Festival at Wyboston Lakes

Friday 13th - Sunday 15th August



Have a 'firkin' great time!

🍺 With a selection of local real ales and ciders 🍺

🍽️ Delicious hot and cold food 🍽️

🎵 Live entertainment from local bands 🎵

🍷 Family day with games and roast lunch on Sunday 🍷



For further details, contact us quoting OT on

Tel: 01480 223033

or email brasserie@wybostonlakes.co.uk


WybostonLakes
Celebrations

Wyboston Lakes, Great North Road, Wyboston, Beds MK44 3AL
www.wybostonlakes.co.uk

16 Find local pub music and other events www.huntscamra.org.uk/gigs



2010



BEER FESTIVAL

Thursday 1st July - Evening

Friday 2nd July - All day

Saturday 3rd July - All day

Sunday 4th July - Lunchtime



**BEERS
& CIDERS**

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

TRADITIONAL FESTIVAL FOOD AVAILABLE

Tel: 01536 512475

or see www.wicksteedpark.co.uk

For Wicksteed Park, Kettering follow the brown signs from Junction 10 of the A14.

The Beer Festival is part of a great weekend at Wicksteed Park..... alongside The Way We Were Festival....& The Steam Weekend!

To allow settling not all beers will be available at any one time.
Also some beers will become SOLD OUT as the Festival progresses.
Entertainment is on evening sessions only.

Entry ticket £2.00 per session (CAMRA card carrying members £1.00)

The White Horse Tilbrook

Tilfest 2010* The Real Ale and Music Festival of 2010, 29th-31st May. Live Music every day including Split Whiskers, Owen Edwards with Redsox, 32/20, Hugh Grundy from the "Zombies", John Verity of the "John Verity Band" and "Argent" and much more. Enjoy fantastic BBQ food and Traditional Caribbean Cooking from Jamaican Chef Jodi Jenny. Plenty for the kids to do including face painting. There will be a Charity Fund Raising Raffle with proceeds going to the MS Society. Large Marquee so don't worry if the weather isn't great. Do not miss this great event. Ring us or email us for a full programme of events over the 3 days.



CHARITY FUND RAISING EVENTS IN AID OF THE MS SOCIETY

THE WHITE HORSE, TILBROOK

PRESENTS

Tilfest 29th-31st May 2010

beer and music festival

12 REAL ALES
BBQ FOOD EVERY DAY
LIVE MUSIC EVERY DAY

free entry

White Horse, High Street, Tilbrook, Cambridgeshire, PE28 0JP

Tel: 01480 860764, www.whitehorsetilbrook.com

COMMUNITY PUBS TOUR 2010

As part of CAMRA's community pubs week, the Huntingdonshire branch of CAMRA organised a coach trip. This took place on Saturday the 13th of February with the aim of visiting some of the more far flung pubs on the northern fringes of the branch area. While we waited for the coach to complete its pickups in St Neots and Huntingdon, the St Ives contingent slipped into the Floods Tavern for a quick half of Elgood's Greyhound. Surprisingly given the area that we were touring, this was to be our only encounter with the Wisbech beers.

Our first stop was the Green Man at Leighton Bromswold. Arriving around 1pm, we found this friendly rural pub to be very busy with locals as well as some travelling rugby fans. In addition to some well presented beers, a few of us enjoyed a game or two of Northamptonshire hood skittles and chatting with the locals.

Moving on a short distance to the Swan at Old Weston, again we found a pub busy with locals enjoying a lunchtime pint. We enjoyed Oakham and Taylor's beers in front of a roaring fire. Leaving Old Weston, we eventually found our way to the Addison Arms at Glatton, and we were very glad we did. As well as some delicious sandwiches, we found some interesting beers here, including a house beer brewed by Digfield.

Next, we ventured just outside the branch area to the Admiral Wells, Holme—a large pub alongside a railway level crossing. Inside, there are several high-ceilinged rooms each with access to a central bar, where again we found Digfield beers, as well as others from Nethergate and Oakham. Moving back into our branch area once again, we called in at the Three

Horseshoes in Wistow to enjoy their Adnams beers. This thatched pub is at the heart of the village of Wistow, and once again we found the locals very understanding of having their pub briefly overrun by an increasingly enthusiastic bunch.



Moving on to the final stretch, we called at the Royal Oak in Warboys. For many of us, this was a first visit since the pub changed hands last year, and it was pleasing to see interesting real ales being



served. Our final port of call was our pub of the year for 2009: the Mad Cat in Pidley. As ever, Darren and his team gave us a very warm welcome and supplied some great beer to finish off the day. Some hot snacks were very welcome by this stage and they kept arriving even as we sadly had to rejoin the coach for the trip back home!

As well as providing a thoroughly enjoyable opportunity to visit some great pubs without having to do any driving, this trip showed once again how many great and welcoming pubs we have in our branch area. It was also refreshing to see such a variety of small local breweries represented in the pubs that we visited. Most of us managed to visit at least one new, or rarely visited pub and a good time was had by all. Thanks once again for the warm welcome received at all of the pubs, the great beer and the roaring fires. If you are interested in coming on future pub tours, some of which are open to non-CAMRA members for a small charge, check our branch diary at www.huntscamra.org.uk/diary.

YOUNG MEMBERS' SOCIAL

Saturday 6th March 2010 saw the branch's first event aimed specifically at Young Members. A small but select group of the branch's young members (and some of those young at heart) attended the Cambridge RAG Beer Festival – an event organised by Cambridge Students RAG Appeal but supported by the Cambridge CAMRA branch.

The University Social Club (which also hosts CAMRA's successful Winter Ales festival and Octoberfest) played host to an event featuring 20 real ales and 10 ciders over two days. The beer range had a strong regional flavour - highlights including Wolf Lavender Honey and Cambridge Moonshine's Chocolate Orange Stout, both of which drank especially well with

the good cake range available!

All profits from the event go to Cambridge Council of Voluntary Services which supports voluntary groups across Cambridge.

We hope to organise some more Young Members Events over the next year. Technically a Young Member is 18 to 30 – but age is a state of mind! Anyone wanting more information or to come on future events should contact Helen Barnard at young@huntscamra.org.uk.



Huntingdonshire Communities Festival

At the Godmanchester Recreation Ground
(behind the Chinese Bridge)

Saturday 15th May 2010

12 noon - 6pm **Free entry**

Music from local bands

Food from around the world and outside bar

Free dance workshops from:

Senzala Capoeira

Rug-cutters Lindyhop

Little D Promotions Street Dance

Dance and theatre performances from local groups

Films and arts exhibition

And lots more



For more information please contact Karolina Bober on 01480 388262

LOCAL SUPPORT FOR CASK ALE WEEK



Cask Ale Week, held during the Easter week, included a live Twitter real ale tasting led nationally by CAMRA's Roger Protz, joined by tasters on Twitter in their local pubs. FemAle Day encouraged women drinkers to try cask ale and many pubs joined in for celebrations during the week. Cask Ale Week, organised by CAMRA, Cask Marque and the brewing and pubs industry to encourage more drinkers to try real ale, was supported by numerous local pubs.

Greene King provided free beer at the **Pig 'n' Falcon** in **St Neots** to encourage CAMRA members to 'introduce a friend' to cask beer. As well as the friends that 30 CAMRA members brought with them, we made lots of new friends during the evening. Pictured below is committee member Sonia Clarke with 'friends' Marcin and Paul.



Other participants in Cask Ale Week included the **Seven Wives** in **St Ives**, with an extension to its usual regularly changing range of real ales, and the **White Horse** at **Tilbrook**, with cut price real ale from Charles Wells.

The **Axe and Compass** at **Hemingford Abbots** rotated a range of six cask beers during the week from brewers including Elgoods, Adhams and Brewsters.

The **White Hart** at **Alconbury Weston** replaced its Easter weekend beer festival with a week of celebration in conjunction with Cask Ale Week. The emphasis was on locally-brewed real ales and beers voted in for the week by the pub's regular customers. During the week there was also an extended food specials board to help keep hunger at bay, including exotic burgers.

Greene King also supported Cask Ale Week by calling for a national lager amnesty. In London, Greene King gave out cards enabling drinkers to swap their lager for a free pint of Greene King IPA at a number of London pubs.

Wells & Young's celebrated Cask Ale Week by launching Young's London Gold, a new permanent Young's cask beer to complement the existing portfolio of Young's Bitter and Young's Special.

www.huntscamra.org.uk/gigs

GOING OUT LIVE
Live event guide, Huntingdonshire and surrounding areas

To find out about live music events in Huntingdonshire and surrounding areas go to www.huntscamra.org.uk/gigs.

To subscribe to our weekly newsletter send an email to: camragol-subscribe@yahoogroups.co.uk

To submit an event to the guide, send the details to:
gigs@huntscamra.org.uk
or
(01480) 477118

20 Read Opening Times online: www.huntscamra.org.uk/news

JOHN BURR: BREWING EXECUTIVE

St Neots man John Burr was a leading figure in the UK brewing industry and was credited with introducing the bestselling lager Carling Black Label to England. He rose rapidly through the industry's ranks and as brewers large and small began to merge in the 1960s and 1970s it fell to him to oversee the smooth expansion of the biggest of them all — Bass Charrington.

John Burr was born in St Neots in 1918. After attending Bedford School, he joined brewers Wells and Winch in Biggleswade in 1937. In his first week he distinguished himself by letting a brew of IPA flow from the mash tun onto the brewery floor.

After the war he returned to the Biggleswade brewery, and remained there until 1951, when he moved to London brewery Charrington & Co in the Mile End Road as bottling manager.

The 1960s was a period of rapid expansion for Charrington. Burr was a key figure in ensuring the rapid success of their mergers and acquisitions.

In 1967 Bass Charrington was formed, with Burr becoming managing director of the brewing and distribution company Bass Production, based in Burton upon Trent.

While there he created the Bass (later Coors) Museum of Brewing to house the records of breweries.

John Burr, MBE, died on January 18, 2010, aged 91. (From The Times, February 12, 2010).



The Cock *at Hemingford Grey*



Four Real Ales from breweries such as Nethergate, Potbelly, Wolf, Oldershaw, Great Oakley, Milton, and Oakham. Cromwell Cider.

Beer Festival – August Bank Holiday:
Band every night. Somersham T Band Sunday afternoon.
25 Beers: Top Quality BBQ

**National and Regional Dining Pub of the Year 2010
(Good Pub Guide)**

In a continued effort to source all of our produce locally we have adopted a policy of only using breweries for our real ale within a one hour drive.

Call 01480 463609 or see website cambscuisine.com

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EVENTS AND SOCIALS

May 2010 – Trip to Peterborough

- Sat 15th Visit to the **pubs of Peterborough**, to include the Palmerston Arms, Charters, the Coalheavers, Brewery Tap, and more. Starting in the Drapers Arms at 13:00. The itinerary will be confirmed via the website.
- Sat 15th CAMRA will be running a real beer stall at the **Huntingdon Communities Festival**, on the **Godmanchester** Recreation Ground, just over the Chinese Bridge, between 12 noon and 18:00. On offer will be 8 real ales and 3 real ciders (all from local breweries and producers) and a selection of continental bottled beers. See the advert on page 19.

June 2010 - Trip to Sheffield

- Tues 8th Open Committee meeting at the **Pike and Eel, Needingworth** (20:30 pm)
- Sat 19th Visit to the **pubs of Sheffield** including: a trip to the **Kelham Island brewery** (£5 per head), current and previous CAMRA Pubs of the Year, the **Kelham Island Tavern** and the **Fat Cat**, amongst others. Itinerary to be confirmed via the website. Please contact Mel Ellis if you wish to visit the brewery and for further details.

July 2010 –Local Tours of Pubs in St Ives, Buckden and Offords

- Tues 6th Open Committee meeting at the **Three Horsehoes, Houghton** (20:30 pm)
- Fri 9th **Local pubs of St Ives.** A trip around the pubs of St Ives starting in the **Aviator** 20:30 / **Floods Tavern** 21:00 / **Nelsons Head** 21:30 / **Dolphin** 21:55 / **Oliver Cromwell** 22:20.
- Sat 24th Visit to **pubs of Buckden and the Offords**, using the 65 bus and/or a stroll between the villages. Itinerary to be confirmed via the website.

August 2010 - Beer festival. The Cock, Hemingford Grey

- Tues 10th Open Committee meeting at the **Addision Arms, Glatton** (20:30 pm)
- Fri 27th Beer Festival at the **Cock, Hemingford Grey**. Entertainment will be provided. Meet at the bar (in the beer garden) at 20:30 pm

An up to date listing of social events can also be found at the website: www.huntscamra.org.uk/diary.

For more information contact the Social Secretary (see below).

WHO TO CONTACT

Chairman: Kathy Hadfield-Moorhouse, 01480 496247 (h), chairman@huntscamra.org.uk.

Secretary: Helen Barnard, 07866 171176 (m), secretary@huntscamra.org.uk

Treasurer: Edric Ellis, 01480 492213 (h), treasurer@huntscamra.org.uk

Membership: Margaret Eames, 01480 385333 (h)

Socials: Melanie Ellis 01480 492213, socials@huntscamra.org.uk

Pubs Info: Roy Endersby, 01480 473364, pubs@huntscamra.org.uk

Going Out Live Event Guide: Chris Knowles, 01480 477118 (14:00-22:00)

TRADING STANDARDS

Your local Trading Standards organisation is Cambridgeshire County Council Trading Standards. If you have any complaints about trading standards issues at local pubs, such as short measure or misleading product promotion, please contact them.

They have a role to protect consumers from errors or frauds concerned with quality, description or price of goods, services or facilities and to detect and rectify unfair advertising practices.

Contact **Cambridgeshire Trading Standards** helpdesk on 08454 040 506, or at Trading Standards Division, Sackville House, Sackville Way, Great Cambourne, Cambridgeshire, CB2 6HL. The local trading standards web site is www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/trading/. The national trading standards web site is www.tradingstandards.gov.uk.

OPENING TIMES

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To Advertise

To place an advert or enquire about our rates please contact:

Neil Richards: 01536 358670 or N.Richards@btinternet.com

Printed by Lodge Printers Ltd Tel 01487 832629

Deadline for Autumn 2010 issue (144) is Friday 16th July 2010.

Beer Festival

Saturday 12th June
Nene Valley Railway
Wide range of real ales



Bring the whole family for a great day out.....

- Phillipe - Phillope
- "PennyLess"
- Roundabouts
- Thomas playing in the yard
- Pub games

Transport from all NVR stations Peterborough, Orton Mere, Ferry Meadows and Yarwell.

Free bus service from the Brewery Tap - 12 noon, 2pm and 4pm. Additional stops along Oundle Road, please call for details.

Special Offer!
Free pint on production of rail river ticket



For further information contact Hannah on 01780 784444

Nene Valley Railway, Wansford Station, Stibington, Peterborough, PE8 6LR

THE CHEQUERS
71 Main Road, Little Gransden
Tel: 01767 677348



East Anglia
CAMRA
Pub of the
Year
2008
Hunts
CAMRA Pub
of the Year
2010

Bob and Wendy Mitchell
invite you to try their unique
unspoilt village local with its
own special atmosphere

Different Real Ale each week

The Royal Oak



Darren and Sinead of the Mad Cat, Pidley

Interesting range of real ales.

Traditional home cooked pub food served daily.

Tue-Sat 12-2.30; 6-9, Sunday carvery 12-4.

Open all day every day 12 noon—11pm

70 Mill Green, Warboys, PE28 2SB

Telephone: 01487 824248

The Mad Cat



A warm welcome from Sinead and Darren

2 real ales from local breweries, constantly changing

Food available daily. Traditional home cooked pub food. Mon-Sat 12-2.30; 6-9, Sunday carvery 12-4.

Beer Festival Thu 5th—Mon 9th August
11 real ales, all at £2.50 per pint, plus real cider.

Hunts CAMRA Pub of the Year 2009

High Street, Pidley, PE28 3BX

Telephone: 01487 842245, www.madcatinn.co.uk