



Milton Keynes & North Bucks CAMRA Branch Newsletter

www.mkcamra.org.uk

beer moos

Autumn 2013

Issue Twenty Eight

Milton Keynes & N Bucks Branch of CAMRA Presents



Beer Festival

90+ Beers, 25+ Cider and Perry

Dates & Times:

16 Oct 5pm — 11pm

17-19 Oct noon — 11pm
(12 midnight on Friday)

Music Saturday
Isabelle' 7pm-8.30pm
'The Band' between 9pm-11pm

The Buszy, 401 Elder Gate, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 1LR
For more info contact Doug Dillow on 07738 598128 or email: festival@mkcamra.org.uk

www.mkcamra.org.uk/beerfestival

20th Milton
Keynes
Concrete
Beer Festival

Pub News

CAMRA &
Other News

Desert Island
Beers

Pub Review -
Three Locks

Great British
Beer Festival

Good Beer
Guide 2014

This Time
Next Year?

Amazing
Places to
Drink Ale!

Diary Dates

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

Olde England

Traditional & Unique pub

**25 Real Ales (including 5 porters/stouts/mild),
25 Real Ciders, 30 Fruit Wines & Meads**

Folk Music (Thursday)

Home Cooked Food
(Tues to Sat 12 noon - 9pm)

Sunday Roast
(12.30pm - 7pm)

Opening Times

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Tues - Sat 12 noon - 12 midnight

Sun 12 noon - 11pm

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20th Milton Keynes Concrete Pint Beer Festival

16th -19th October 2013

Oyez Oyez Oyez! – great news for beer-drinkers in Milton Keynes. Oh yes Oh yes Oh yes! - the Concrete Pint Beer Festival is back – for the twentieth time!

Milton Keynes & North Bucks CAMRA branch will present the 20th Concrete Pint Beer Festival from 16th to 19th October 2013. The festival will be held for the third year at The Buszy, Central Milton Keynes. Following last year's sell-out success it will feature 90+ beers as well as a selection of ciders and perries.

The festival will offer a wide range of beers from throughout the UK. This year the special focus is on beers from East Midlands, but there will be plenty of ales from elsewhere, including of course a wide range from our local breweries.

Back by popular demand, there will be live music on Saturday from "Isabelle" and "The Band", both local groups, and we're planning to have music on Thursday too. Hot and cold food will be available at all sessions, and a tombola to try your luck on. Once more, customers will be invited to vote for a beer and cider of the festival, with the voting slips going into a draw with beery prizes at the end, and we shall again be supporting Willen Hospice as our festival charity,

The festival's opening times are 17:00 – 23:00 on Wednesday 16th October, 12:00 noon – 23:00 on Thursday 17th and Saturday 19th and 12-12 on Friday 18th. The location is The Buszy, 401 Elder Gate, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 1LR (the former bus station, opposite Milton Keynes Central railway station and close to local bus routes).

CAMRA Members get free entry to the festival at all times. For non CAMRA members, entry charge will be £3 after 5.30pm Thursday and Friday, free at other times.

For further information, please contact festival organiser Doug Dillow on 07738 598128 or festival@mkcamra.org.uk.

Visit: www.mkcamra.org.uk/beerfestival and Twitter: @MKBeerFestival where you will find full beer listings and real time updates throughout the festival.

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of Beer Moos will be published on: Dec 1st. We must have your stories, news and advertisements by: November 25th. Late copy cannot be guaranteed entry.

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Trading Standards

If you have a complaint about any unfair trading practice, such as short measure or misleading product promotion, contact Milton Keynes Trading Standards at PO BOX 105, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes MK9 3HH Telephone 01908 252433.

Email: tsd@milton-keynes.gov.uk or Buckingham Trading Standards at 5-7 Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 1UP, Tel: 08454 040506

Local Bus information & timetables are available at www.arrivabus.co.uk.

To Advertise

To place an advert or enquire about our rate card please contact: Neil Richards - 01536 358670



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Pub News

Note to Licensees. If you have news from your pub that you'd like to go in the next Pub News, please send details to the editor by November 25. Tell us what you've got planned for the new year and report on events that happened earlier. Remember - if you don't tell us about it, we can't print it.

To place a paid advertisement in Beer Moos, contact Neil Richards on 01536 358670 or email him at n.richards@btinternet.com. Readers, PLEASE support our advertisers and patronise their businesses, for without them there would be no Beer Moos for you to enjoy.

News North

North Western, Wolverton is Cask Marque accredited, and licensee Boris Marcow is proud to report that on a recent inspection his beers scored 20 out of 20. The pub's anchor beers are Courage Best and Directors and there are usually two more from the Charles Wells guest list. Recent guests have included Wells Hummingbird, Young's Special, Titanic Iceberg, Arkell's Wiltshire Gold and Thwaites' Wainwright.

News East

Dolphin Newport Pagnell Veteran licensees Trevor and Julie Mason have left the Dolphin after 22 years there.

News West

Buckingham Arms, Maids Moreton Work was taking place at this now closed pub recently. The builders told our spy that it would not be reopening as a pub.

Wheatsheaf, Maids Moreton As we go to press the Wheatsheaf is currently closed, at least for the time being. Beer Moos is trying to find out what is happening at this outstandingly attractive old pub.



Closed Wheatsheaf

News South

The Old Swan, Shenley Rd, Bletchley has a new landlord (since Dec 2012) in the person of Michael Norbury. This community local has a weekly quiz on Sunday, a live band or disco on 2 weekends of each month, three darts teams, pool, and a football team. For the less athletic there's Sky Sports on TV and Greene King ales to sup while watching. Food is served daily including a Senior Citizens' lunch at just £4.99. Michael has also upgraded the outside seating area to give it a garden feel. Opening hours are Mon- Thurs 11-11, Fri, Sat 11-12 and Sun 11-11.

Foundry Arms, Fenny Stratford Scarcely has Beer Moos welcomed new tenants to this backstreet local than the signs are taken down and the pub shows every sign of having closed. It is still listed on Charles Wells's website so we are not sure what the real situation is, but it doesn't sound hopeful.



Foundry Arms - all signs gone

News Central

New Inn, New Bradwell is now under the same management as the North-Western in Wolverton. The pub has had a major facelift with a new front patio, and extensive lawns and gardens running down to the canal.

Chef Hayley Thorne lives on the premises and runs the pub on a day-to-day basis. She offers a new and

CAMRA & Other News

enhanced menu with all day breakfasts, sandwiches, snacks and main meals. The pub opens daily from 10am to 11pm (midnight on Friday and Saturday) and food is sold from 10am to 9pm (8pm on Sundays). At the bar, Wells Eagle and Courage Directors are the permanent beers, with two guests. As we go to press the New Inn is awaiting Cask Marque accreditation.

The New Inn held a Real Ale Festival over the August Bank Holiday, with 11 beers and 2 Real Ciders.

Secklow Hundred, Midsummer Boulevard Charlie Marshall, manager of the Secklow Hundred, is holding a Meet the Brewer event on Wednesday 25th September. It will feature Concrete Cow and Hopped Mad.

OTHER NEWS

Newport Pagnell and Olney Lions Club is organising a Food and Drink Festival in Newport Pagnell on Saturday October 12th. Entry is free. The festival venue is the United Reformed Church Hall in the High Street, (by the Co-op and opposite Oxfam.) There will be tastings and samplings from local artisanal food and drink producers, including Virtual Orchard Cider, and Concrete Cow Brewery.

Organiser Lion Geoffrey O'Brien says 'Our next event in Newport Pagnell shows how we try to support the community. I have been amazed at how many small, fledgling, artisan (one man or woman) businesses are out there. We are inviting them to show themselves off at this new event. So hopefully plenty of tastings and samplings.' As well as beer and cider, there will be marshmallows, fudge, chilli and jam, bread baked in Emberton, and honey, all produced locally.

Lions clubs support international, national, and local causes. To learn more about them visit:

<http://npolneylions.btck.co.uk>

BREWERY NEWS

Woughton Orchard has almost sold out their 2011 vintage products and will soon be dipping in to 2012's crop. They have a new brand: *Woughton Orchard: Cider from*



the City, white on black with a 'city landmarks' graphic.

Virtual Orchard has brought out two new ciders, both ABV 5.5%, called Hogshead and Falstaff.



Concrete Cow has brewed a new beer called "Ben and Ali's" which is available at Wetherspoons CMK (where Ali is the manager) and the Gary Cooper, Dunstable (where Ben is the manager.) There are mugshots of both of them on the pump clip, so you should not be able to miss it! The beer is also called Cowzat and is available in some local pubs. It's a session beer at ABV 3.9%, hopped with Cascade hops for bittering and Citra hops for flavouring.

The brewery has also produced a special label for its Old Bloomer bottled ale to celebrate the 175th anniversary of Wolverton's railway works, recently relieved from closure.

Not just for Lads!

Beer is definitely not just a guy's drink – if it ever was! Here two friends of ale are enjoying the delicious products of Belgium's De Dolle brewery on our branch visit there earlier this year.



Not just for the lads!

My Eight Desert Island Beers



by Jim Scott

This issue it falls to me, your editor, to select the eight beers I'd choose to have with me if marooned on a desert island. Today there's such a wide and varied choice of beers in a bewildering array of styles that it was no easy task to pick just eight. Also on a desert island there's unlikely to be a real ale pub with temperature-controlled cellar, far less a real-ale brewery to supply it. Nonetheless, with a little imagination I've come up with four cask-conditioned ales, two craft keg beers, and two that come in bottles – hopefully a good representative choice from the wonderful contemporary beer scene.

My number one choice is **Banks's Bitter**. This is by far my favourite draught ale. For years in the 1990s I regularly cycled the 9 uphill miles from my house to the Globe in Hanslope which at the time was the only Banks's outlet locally. Later, the much-missed Green Man in Newport Pagnell met the need. The Globe's then landlord used to tip me off when a new cask was coming on, as Banks's bitter seemed to change its flavour profile as the level dropped, but when in its honeyed perfection from a fresh cask, it was and remains my number one choice of all draught ales.

Banks's bitter is a traditional English-style ale. A Scottish equivalent – and I am a Jock after all – would be **Caledonian 80/-**. Less well known and less heavily promoted than its cellar-mate Deuchars IPA, at its best it's a deliciously drinkable, subtle beer whose taste I find hard to describe but which I know I love. Like Banks's it needs to be in tip-top condition to be fully enjoyed, but when it is, it's unbeatable and is my second desert-island choice.

Number three is **Tring Side Pocket for a Toad** – a golden session ale crammed with aromatic American hops (God Bless America when it comes to hops!) that's flavoursome and quenchingly delicious and of moderate strength so one is still *compos-mentis* after several glorious pints of it. Tring Brewery is LocAle to this CAMRA branch, but sadly few Milton Keynes pubs sell its products.

For my fourth choice I'm picking **Batemans Dark Mild** now called **DM**. This amazing beer has an ABV of just 3% yet has a fabulous taste and mouthfeel I can only call 'silk and burnt toast'. This was the mild that first turned me on to milds and in my view is the mild by which all other milds should be judged. Mild is still sometimes regarded as a drink fit only for flat-capped pensioners, so rebranding it as DM, with overtones of bovver-boots and youthful

machismo, was an inspired piece of marketing which I hope has been rewarded with healthy sales.

My fifth choice takes me across the Channel to Diksmuide in Belgium and it is **De Dolle Special Extra Export Stout**. I encountered this on this year's branch trip to Belgium and came home with two six-packs of this gloriously rich, dark, intensely flavoured bottled brew. At 9% ABV this is one to savour not glug, perhaps lolling in a vine hammock slung between palm trees on my island beach, admiring a tropical sunset.

Or perhaps beer number six would be better for that. It is **BrewDog Hardcore IPA**, also 9%, but light in colour and bursting with wondrous hoppy intensity. I am a great fan of BrewDog, not just of their beers and anarchic attitude but because, though Scottish like me, there is not the least trace about them of bagpipes-tartan-and-shortbread-tin kitsch. All draught BrewDog beers are currently craft keg,

For beer number seven we have to take a 14-hour flight to the sweltering island-metropolis of Singapore. I can't sleep sitting up in planes, so when visiting New Zealand a few years ago I stopped off in Singapore simply to avoid night flying and let my body-clock catch up. Good beer was the last thing I expected to find there. Then I discovered Brewerkz (www.brewerkz.com) and was so overwhelmed that on subsequent flights to Australia I spent two days in Singapore both going and returning just to drink there. Of their great range of (craft keg) beers it would be hard to pin down a favourite but I am going reluctantly to pass over their delectable Oatmeal Stout and IPA, and plump for **Brewerkz American Pale Ale** (ABV 5%). My desert island will probably share Singapore's stifling climate so beer from one should be ideal in the other.

Finally - from tropical sublime to street-corner cor-blimey. Beer number eight is **The Co-operative Premium Czech Lager**. Who actually brews this own-label bliss-in-a-bottle is a trade secret, but it represents the very best the land where Pilsner was created can offer, and stands in flavoursome reproach to home-grown peddlers of sterile gas-bloated lager-ades. There are always a few bottles of Co-op Czech Lager in my fridge, and there will be in the solar-powered one on my desert-island too.

And these, dear reader, are the eight beers I would take with me on my insular exile. My one luxury? Air-conditioning. And one book? Why, the Good Beer Guide, of course!

Have you bought your copy yet?

Pub Review

Three Locks, Stoke Hammond

Each Moos edition, as Pubs Officer, I am going to review a pub I have visited recently and enjoyed. I am not going to write just about the beer but the whole pub experience. I'm doing this because there are so many worthy pubs in our Branch area but we are only allocated 13 places in the Good Beer Guide and we would like to praise those we can't fit in,

Let me start off with the Three Locks between Leighton Buzzard and Bletchley on the old A4146 (not the new dual carriageway) where I turned up on a sunny Tuesday evening. I received a warm friendly smile and was happy to see that they had two Tring brewery beers on. Their menu is well thought out, with something interesting for vegetarians, and wonderful things like venison in the right season.

The pub is by the Grand Union canal and I was asked where I would like to sit, so chose a table looking out of the door viewing the canal. Now, I had just had a long hard day at work and the quiet background music was pleasant but not intrusive and the calm excellent service and friendly banter with the locals across the bar was very relaxing to hear. The food when it arrived was delicious, and I was asked, mid meal, if everything was OK. The food did take a moment or two to arrive but I prefer that; it was a quiet time and obviously the food had been freshly cooked for me.

The beer was of good quality and well kept so I was very happy to score it 4.5 on the CAMRA scale (see p11 for beer-scoring.) The cleanliness of the pub and the facilities could not be faulted and the décor is modern enough, but they have kept lovely old things like the big old wooden bar. The Three Locks would be an excellent place for a civilised meal, and children are made welcome – but do be aware that, as the name suggests, you are right by three deep locks on the canal. There is an outside seating area as well. Disabled access seemed good, as they have double doors and a flat access that can accommodate wheelchairs. There is also a good-sized car par with flat access to the pub. The landlords here are new this year and so will not be eligible for the Good Beer Guide quite yet. They have bravely taken over from a Pubco. and are confident that they can make a go of it. So please support them.

Lyn Norman



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Great British Beer Festival 2013

This year's Great British Beer Festival was held at Olympia in London in August. Over the festival's five-day run, 52,000 punters downed a quarter of a million pints of beer and cider/perry, making it one of the most successful ever. Around 890 volunteers made it happen.

GBBF is over now till next year, but if you missed it you can still catch something of the atmosphere in bijou form at our very own Concrete Pint beer festival in October!



Good Beer Guide 2014 is here!



The 2014 issue of CAMRA's flagship Good Beer Guide was published on 12th September - bigger and better than ever. The pub listings feature 1,080 new pub entries with full details of the facilities they offer and contact information. The brewery listings include over 1,000 real ale breweries of all shapes and sizes - and the key beers they brew - from across the nation.

CAMRA's Good Beer Guide 2014 is sponsored by the Society of Independent Brewers (SIBA) and It's Better Down the Pub. It is the UK's best-selling beer and pub guide.

Unique features include

- Complete entries for over 4,500 pubs from all over the UK, nominated and reviewed by CAMRA volunteers
- A beer lover's best friend including a special Places Index and regional maps that make finding a good pub and a great pint easy no matter how far you are from home
- The unique Breweries Section and Beer Index provides information on every real ale brewery operating in the UK and the key beers they produce
- The full-colour features section is packed with articles on the importance of pubs to communities throughout the nation and why we should fight to save every pub

Order the book direct from CAMRA and you'll be helping to fund campaigning for real ale, British pubs and consumer rights! Prices are £10.00 for CAMRA members, or £12.99 for non-members. You can also buy your guide from Amazon, and from all good bookshops. Good Beer Guide Apps for Apple and Android, updated for 2014, will be released to coincide with the launch.



To mark publication of the Good Beer Guide's 2014 edition, Milton Keynes and North Bucks CAMRA branch held a launch social at the Cannon, in Newport Pagnell, a pub which has earned an entry in every issue of the Guide for 18 years. Landlady Molly Hepburn, seen here with branch chairman Phil Swinbank, generously provided a buffet for us, and several of the licensees whose pubs feature in the new guide were present to receive their licensee packs and collect copies of the guide to sell at their bars. The evening was well attended and was enjoyed by all.

This Time Next Year?

This time next year there may not be a Campaign for Real Ale branch in Milton Keynes and North Bucks. What could this mean for you? No more Concrete Pint Beer Festival, no Beer Moos newsletter, no reviews of pubs, no Pub News; no pubs campaigned for, real ale campaigned for, or social events (such as brewery tours) organised.

Why? Because due to circumstances beyond our control most of the current branch committee will be resigning at the AGM in January 2014. We each would like to have someone to pass our roles on to and would hope that people would come forward to work beside us for these last few months so that you know what each role entails. The commitment isn't heavy - it boils down to about an hour a week on average (a bit more at 'crunch' times like the Beer Festival) and a two hour meeting in a nice pub once a month.

My experience over the seven years I have been on the committee is that I have learnt so much more about real ale; local nice pubs; local excellent brewers (and cider makers) and I have had a lot of fun and some wonderful social events on the side of this. Maybe I am unusual but I don't expect something for nothing - I am prepared to put in an hour a week or so to make things happen. I have opinions on pub closure; on what constitutes real ale, what brewery we should next visit etc. and a CAMRA branch is where they are listened to and discussed and acted on.

The reasons we need new volunteers are simple - without a Treasurer (the current one is moving to another county), a Chairperson (the current one wants to devote more time to other voluntary organisations), a Membership Secretary (the current one has had an increase in job load and works all over the country), and a Secretary (the current one is also moving away) we cannot legally constitute a Branch - *legally*. This year the above mentioned, myself, and a couple of others have taken on all the committee roles to keep the Branch going but the three of us remaining after the others have gone could not cope on our own. I personally would be prepared to do one role - however, I cannot do more than that as I run my own business and need to devote more time to that.

We are not scaremongering. Without new blood the branch will fold and all its activities come to an end. Perhaps we need a totally new committee and let the old guard bow out gracefully! So come on CAMRA members!! There are 683 of you who are member of this branch. Stop waiting for someone else to do it all for you!! The current active members are very happy to be available by e-mail for help and advice for the new committee. Our AGM is in January 2014 (see diary on page 13). Come along to the next meeting - talk to us at the Beer Festival. Otherwise this time next year there will be no CAMRA in Milton Keynes and North Bucks.

Lyn Norman

CAMRA Raffle 2013

With 26 pubs closing every week, CAMRA is leading on four Key Campaigns to reverse this trend of closures. These are:

- 1 Stop tax killing beer and pubs**
- 2 Secure an effective Government support package for pubs**
- 3 Encourage more people to try a range of real ales, ciders and perries**
- 4 Raise the profile of pub-going and increase the number of people using pubs regularly**

To help us achieve these objectives, we need to raise funds to support the activities that surround them, and have decided to devote our annual raffle to this.

You can find out more and enter our raffle on-line at www.camraraaffle.org.uk. The top prize is £3,000, second prize is £1,000 and the third prize is £500, plus there are many smaller prizes to be won. The raffle will close on Friday 24th October 2013 and the draw date will be Friday 31st October 2013.

Open Day at Buckingham Brewery

At the end of July, Buckingham Brewery invited us to the launch of their new brewery in Buckingham Industrial Estate. Although they have actually been in the new premises for four months, this was the official opening event for friends of the brewery with a barbecue and singer laid on.

Though head brewer Eddie Hynes had been heroically running a brewery with the same equipment out of his domestic garage, a real industrial unit makes the whole operation much easier, especially when it comes to cask cooling. Beer Moos is happy to report that all of the brewery's beers were available to sample, and in excellent condition.

In the photograph Councillor Robin Stuchbury (left) cuts the ribbon to open the brewery. Besides being the local representative, Robin's family has history in brewing in Buckingham: they ran the old Buckingham Brewery in the building that is now the West End Garage. Beer Moos published a feature on it in issue 17 which you can still read online on our website.



Phil Swinbank

Visit to XT Brewery

On a sunny Saturday in July, fifteen CAMRA members headed for Long Crendon to visit XT brewery. There we were welcomed by Russell and Gareth and after an inspection of the plant (which is in an attractive farm location) we set about attacking the generous samples offered.

We then progressed to the Rising Sun, a Good Beer Guide-listed pub in nearby Haddenham, before moving on the the Hop Pole in Aylesbury where a second brewery tour awaited us. This unexpected bonus was the Aylesbury Brewhouse, established behind the pub, and though it's owned by Vale Brewery, produces its own line of ales. There were samples to enjoy here too as well as a superb bottled-beer store where many of us bought beers to take home. Then our mini-coach returned us to Wetherspoons early in the evening where we were able to sink a few more pints to end a most enjoyable day.



XT Brewery



Aylesbury Brewhouse

Farewell to our Regional Director



Beer Moos joins many others from CAMRA's Central Southern Region in saying goodbye to Sandie Gill, our regional director for the last three years, who is standing down..

Our region comprises Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Oxfordshire, and part of Hertfordshire and it has been Sandie's

task to oversee and co-ordinate CAMRA activity within it. It is not a charge for the faint-hearted, and she has done a fine job during her tenure and will be missed.

Sandie's successor will be Nick Boley from Bracknell in South-East Berkshire branch. Beer Moos hopes to profile Nick in the next issue.

Amazing Places to Drink Ale!

Outside it's minus 20 degrees Centigrade, but inside the mess tent it's comfortable enough, so long as you keep on your merino underwear, all your layers, and a down jacket, topped with hat, buff and gloves!

We are in Nepal at the Everest Base Camp. We are one small group out of the 200 or so volunteer subjects for medical research, who trekked up to Base Camp this spring and Charlie, one of our number, has thoughtfully transported a bottle of the Sixpenny Brewery's Ale all the way from his and its home in Dorset, to drink at our celebration.

Doctors from a group of English and American university hospitals are testing us to find out how



the lack of oxygen at altitude affects us, in order to gain insight into how better to treat some of the patients in Intensive Care Units who suffer from lack of oxygen to the major organs.

If you would like to find out more about the Xtreme Everest 2 research, you could watch a TV film made of the trek, in which my sister and I feature. Just Google "Aljazeera English -The Cure" and select the "Special- Doctors on Everest" programme.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/thecure/2013/06/201361784925869756.html>

Oh and by the way – the ale was delicious! I had to say that, didn't I, but in sad fact the bottle was shared between 8 people, so I don't actually recall how it tasted.

Why don't you tell us about an amazing place where you have drunk ale?

Jan Taylor

Have you Scored yet?

CAMRA's National Beer Scoring System (NBSS) is an easy 0-5 point scale for judging beer quality, and to find out which pubs consistently sell well-kept ale. So we invite all real ale drinkers, not just CAMRA members, to send us their beer scores for pubs both in our area, and elsewhere in the UK. We forward scores for out-of-area pubs to the relevant branches. These results help us decide which pubs to consider for the Good Beer Guide.

E-mail your scores to us at pubs@mkcamra.org.uk, bring them to any of our meetings or social events, or submit them online at www.beerscoring.org.uk. You'll need to give your name, CAMRA Membership Number (if you're a member), Date of Survey, Pub's Name and Location, Beer Name and Brewery, and of course, your score.

0 No Real Ale	<i>No cask-conditioned ale available</i>
1 Poor	<i>Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.</i>
2 Average	<i>Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing.</i>
3 Good	<i>Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again.</i>
4 Very Good	<i>Excellent beer in excellent condition.</i>
5 Perfect	<i>Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.</i>

Virtual Orchard

www.virtualorchard.co.uk

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<http://www.virtualorchard.co.uk/cider.html>



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info@virtualorchard.co.uk

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The Red Lion

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ales, many from micro breweries to
tempt your taste buds.

Honest homecooked food at realistic
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Continually changing Specials Board.

Lagers, Stouts, Western Scrumpies Cider
plus a good range of Real, White &
Rose Wines.

Freshly prepared Meat, Poultry, Fish
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A Real Pub for Real People.

Food served from 12.00 - 2.30 & 5.00 - 9.00 Monday - Friday,
All day Saturday, Sunday 12.00 - 5.00, Booking Highly Recommended

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Nags Head

16th century thatched village pub

Voted MK Citizen Pub of The Year 2009

Good real ale selection • Cask Marque accredited

Food served all day everyday

Traditional Sunday roasts

Quiz Night - 1st Sunday of each month at 8pm

Quiz night every Sunday at 8pm

Seating Area to rear of Pub



30 High Street, Great Linford, Milton
Keynes MK14 5AX Tel: 01908 607449

Diary Dates

Please note that this diary information is always subject to change – check online for latest information at www.mkcamra.org.uk/diary Items marked with a tankard symbol are official CAMRA events

September 2013

Monday September 30th

Branch meeting Galleon, Old Wolverton 8.15pm.
Laurence Conisbee of Virtual Orchard Cider, whose premises are next door to the Galleon, invites CAMRA members to visit from 7pm onwards.

October 2013

Wed-Sat October 2nd - 5th

Bedford Beer Festival, Corn Exchange, Bedford

Wed-Sat October 16th - 19th

Concrete Pint Beer Festival 2013 at The Buszy, 401 Elder Gate MK9 1LR (opposite MK rail station)

Monday October 28th

Branch meeting, Carlton House Club, Olney 8.15pm

November 2013

Thursday November 14th

Welcome social for new members – Wetherspoons, 201 Midsummer Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes 8pm

Tuesday November 26th

Branch meeting, Robin Hood, Clifton Reynes 8.15pm

December 2013

Saturday December 7th

Pre-Xmas Pub Crawl in Northampton. Meet Malt Shovel, 121 Bridge Street NN1 1DF 12noon.

Tuesday December 24th

Xmas Eve social Wetherspoons, 201 Midsummer Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, 2.30pm onwards

Looking Ahead

Monday January 6th

Branch meeting, British Legion Club, Newport Pagnell 8.15pm

Monday January 27th

Branch Annual General Meeting, Barn, Central Milton Keynes 8pm



The Cannon *Free House*

A completely independent
Free House that is owned and
run by the Hepburn family.

We have appeared for the last 17
years running in the CAMRA
Good Beer Guide

Function room available to hire

50 High Street, Newport Pagnell, Bucks
MK16 8AQ Tel: 01908 211495

Wednesday 2nd to Saturday 5th October 2013
Corn Exchange, St Paul's Square, Bedford MK40 1SL

Wed eve: Dr Busker
Sat lunch: Bedford Morris
Sat eve: Kerry Hodgkin



Wheelchair access to all floors

www.northbedscamra.org.uk



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Facebook



A Campaign of Two Halves

Fair deal on beer
tax now!

Save
Britain's
Pubs!

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Complete the Direct Debit form opposite and you will receive 15 months membership for the price of 12 and a fantastic discount on your membership subscription.

Alternatively you can send a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd with your completed form, visit www.camra.org.uk/joinus or call 01727 867201. All forms should be addressed to Membership Department, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

Your Details:

Title _____ Surname _____
Forename(s) _____
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____
Address _____
_____ Postcode _____
Email address _____
Tel No(s) _____

Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)

Title _____ Surname _____
Forename(s) _____
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____

Single Membership

(UK & EU)
£23 ☐ £25 ☐

Joint Membership

(Partner at the same address)
£28 ☐ £30 ☐

For Young Member and concessionary rates please visit www.camra.org.uk or call 01727 867201.

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 _____
Signed _____ Date _____
Applications will be processed within 21 days

Campaigning for Pub Goers
& Beer Drinkers

Enjoying Real Ale
& Pubs

Join CAMRA today - www.camra.org.uk/joinus

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NEW FOR 2013

**MOONGAZER 4.3 ABV
A RUBY AUBURN, CITRA &
CHINOOK HOPPED,
EXPLOSION OF FLAVOUR.**



TRING
BREWERY Co.

Here at Tring Brewery we select the finest ingredients and craft them into a variety of sumptuous, award winning ales.

In fact we produce over 25 different cask ales every year. A beer to suit all palates?

We'd like to think so.

For 2013 we continue to champion UK hops by using established and newer "experimental" varieties in all our monthly specials.

All these great ales are available at local pubs, clubs and restaurants or from our brewery shop.

For more information visit
www.tringbrewery.co.uk
or call 01442 890721

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EAT.YOUR WORDS:

"BEAUTIFUL PUB WITH STUNNING FOOD"

"Food quality great...presentation amazing"

"Great is an understatement"

"You can taste the passion these people have for their food"

"Cow Pie - Wow Pie"

"Champion of Breakfasts"

A delightful place to escape to at reasonable prices"

These are just some of the warm words of appreciation from the global travellers of tripadvisor who sank us among the top ten restaurants in Milton Keynes and have just awarded us their 2013 Certificate of Excellence.

Now you can see what all the buzz is about by reserving your seats for our new winter menu.

But remember that although we serve fabulous food, we still hail real ale.

Our first Augustfest celebration of nearly 30 handcrafted beers was a huge success and will be the first of many.

But in the meantime we always have a minimum of four great beers on tap - with a constantly changing line-up of great guests from the local area and the rest of the country.

Why not pop in for a pint and a pie? Our cows are delicious!

The Cross Keys at Woolstone -
putting the cheer back into beer.

01908 679404

Newport Road, Woolstone,
Milton Keynes, MK15 0AA

www.crosskeysmiltonkeynes.co.uk



Leased pub opportunities in your local area



Crown

Station Road, Flitwick, Bedford, MK45 1LA

Key Attributes

- Punch Taverns Investment Planned
- Based in the centre of Flitwick the Crown is a great community led pub
- The Crown offers two bars, a beer garden and extensive external trading space
- Great opportunity to develop a food offer

George Inn

The Green, Rugby, CV22 7LY

Key Attributes

- Fantastic opportunity to develop a great food offer
- Punch Taverns Investment being considered
- This established community pub displays an open plan trading area
- A spacious games area is complete with entertainment in the form of counter skittles and a pool table



**Find out more about running one of these pubs
or similar pubs in the area by contacting**

Dan Cashmore on 01283 501999 or daniel.cashmore@punchtaverns.com



On iPhone | On Android | Online
Download the Punch Taverns Mobile App!