

## UNIT PRICING, THE PUB, AND REAL ALE

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

Pub and  
CAMRA News

Moosings  
from the  
Chair

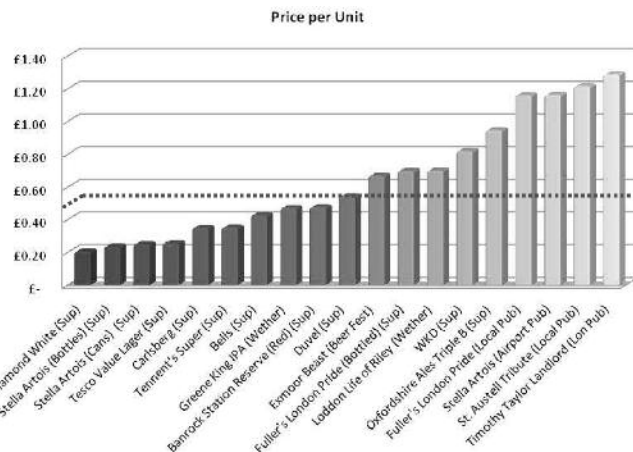
Branch  
Visits

Join  
CAMRA

Peter's  
Puzzles

CAMRA  
AGM

Wheely  
Great  
Day Out



Unit pricing for alcohol has been in the news a lot recently. We know that many pubs are currently struggling to stay in business. How could minimum unit pricing help them?

CAMRA believes that a minimum price per unit of alcohol, set high enough to stop supermarkets selling alcohol at a loss, would encourage people to drink in the regulated and social environment of the pub.

When Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe CAMRA branch drew up a chart showing where a 50p unit price would fall, they found that the only real ale affected was Wetherspoon's 99p-a-pint Greene King IPA.

Pubs, with their unavoidably higher overheads, can never match supermarket prices. While the off-trade persists in undercutting pubs, real ale drinkers will suffer a steady loss of places to enjoy their favourite tipple. If unit pricing brings drinkers back into pubs, we should support it wholeheartedly.

*This is an edited version of an article in Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe CAMRA branch's newsletter, and is reproduced with their permission.*

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call 01908 563861 for any other information

## Belgium Beckons

March saw our branch making its second foray through the Channel Tunnel to sample the beer delights of Belgium. Last year we were based in Ostend; this year it was the turn of Mechelen, a pleasant medium-sized city just north of Brussels, with fine buildings and some excellent bars. There were no breakdowns in the Tunnel this year, and the journey from Milton Keynes was pleasant and uneventful.

From Mechelen our coach took us to Antwerp, Belgium's second city and the largest town in Flanders. We visited the famous De Koninck brewery (it means 'The King' in Dutch) then, after enjoying the generous samples provided, fanned out across the city to explore its many excellent bars, returning to Mechelen in the evening to drink dry those hostelries we'd missed the night before!

Next day we paid a repeat visit to scenic Bruges to allow those unable to come last year to experience this jewel of Flanders, but all too soon we had to pile back into our coach for the journey home. We celebrated our return to British soil with a very agreeable visit to Wetherspoons in Ashford.

Once more, our grateful thanks to Doug Dillow for organising this second trip to Europe's other great ale-brewing nation.

*Our group enjoys delicious  
Belgian Beer!*



*Belgium Bound!*



### NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of Beer Moos will be published on: 1st September.  
We must have your stories, news and advertisements by: 20th August.  
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](mailto: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](http://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 Pub News, please send details to the editor by August 20th. Tell us what you've got planned for September to December, and report on events that happened earlier. Remember – if you don't tell us about it, we can't print it!*

**Branch Pub of the Season** We are hoping to start a Pub of the Season award, beginning with Autumn, and CAMRA members are invited to email us with their suggestions. Let us know the name and location of the pub, the season – Spring, Summer, Autumn or Winter - for which you are proposing it, reason(s) for your choice, your name, and your CAMRA membership number. All pubs selling real ale in the Milton Keynes and North Bucks branch area are eligible, but licensees are asked not to nominate their own pub! Email [pubs@mkcamra.org.uk](mailto:pubs@mkcamra.org.uk) before August 1st.

**Cask Ale Week** in April was marked by at least 21 pubs in our branch area. Here are the ones we know about, and there may have been more about which we weren't told! But congratulations to the Bull Hotel, Stony Stratford; Bull & Butcher, Akeley; Cannon, Newport Pagnell; Cock, Hanslope; Crown, Stony Stratford; Plough, Stony Stratford; Plough, Simpson Village; Red Lion, Tingewick; Red Lion, Fenny Lock; Old Red Lion, Great Brickhill; Royal Oak, Tingewick; Station, Woburn Sands; Shoulder of Mutton, Calverton; Swan, Milton Keynes Village; Victoria, Bradwell; Wetherspoons, Midsummer Bvd; Whale, Buckingham; White Horse, Stony Stratford; Woolpack, Buckingham.

Our congratulations also to the Globe at Hanslope, which had a very successful beer festival just before and leading up to Cask Ale Week to whet customers' appetites for it, and to the Mitre in Buckingham which also marked Cask Ale Week with a successful festival.

**Citizen's Pub Choice.** Readers of the Milton Keynes Citizen voted the Nags Head, Great Linford as their pub of the year, with the Craufurd Arms in

Wolverton the runner-up. Beer Moos readers may like to check them out. Don't forget to send us your beer scores (see p14) for these and all the pubs you visit.

**For England and St George!** Bedecked with bunting, The Red Lion at Fenny Stratford's canal lock celebrated St George's day - April 23rd - with patriotic fervour! Throughout the day, epic English sporting triumphs, selected by landlord Guy Plumb, were re-lived on screen, including such landmark events as the 1966 England v Germany world Cup Final, 1993 England v Australia rugby World Cup, and 2005 Ashes Series. An assortment of suitably national music was also played.

## News North.

Hanslope Wassailers 2009 Summer Ale and Cider Fest kicks off on Saturday 4th July - Independence Day - at the **Globe, Long Street, Hanslope**. The festival runs from noon till midnight on the four days from Saturday through till Tuesday. Queen's Oak morris men will dance the event in on Saturday night, and out on Tuesday evening.... Bus 33 passes the door, so come along and have the time of your life...! For details call John or Jenny on 01908 510336 or visit [www.theglobehanslope.co.uk](http://www.theglobehanslope.co.uk). Also in Hanslope, the Watts Arms has a new email address: [thewattsarms@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:thewattsarms@tiscali.co.uk). Landlady Pauline offers two regular cask ales (Wells Eagle IPA + guest) and hopefully a third soon. And at the **Greyhound, Haversham** landlord Barrie now sells four cask ales, GK IPA & Abbot plus two regular guests, and always stocks Old Rosie cider. We have had no further news on the long-closed **Carrington Arms, Castlethorpe**, other than rumours it may be turned into flats.

## News East.

Beer Moos has heard unconfirmed rumours that the **Green Man, Newport Pagnell**, once a fixture of the Good Beer Guide, may be converted to residential use. New landlords at the **Rose & Crown, Newport Pagnell** have taken out the dartboard in the lounge and replaced seating with

comfy sofas. A village campaign has persuaded Charles Wells to put the **Swan at Sherington** up for sale. As we go to press, we understand a buyer may have been found. The **Lamb, Stoke Goldington** has an exciting summer program of events planned. On Saturday 13 June there's a one-day Music and Beer festival with seven bands, barbecue, and lots of real ale. Entry is £5 and the event runs from 1 till 9pm. On Wednesday July 8 at 7.30pm the Stony Steppers Clog and Morris dancers will perform. Call Steve or Rachel on 01908 551233 to find out more. The closed **Crown in Olney** now has planning permission to make alterations (it's a listed building) and is rumoured to become an Indian takeaway.

## News West.

The **Mitre, Buckingham** no longer sells Fosters and Stella, and now stocks Cotswold lager. This is brewed near Chipping Norton to German purity law standard, and is lagered for four weeks like the best continental beers. As always, the pub has an exciting program of music gigs, including a Beer and Music festival on August Bank Holiday weekend. Phone Matt, Keith, or Jane on 01280 813080 to find out more. The **Wheatsheaf, Maids Moreton** has added Silverstone as well as Tring beers to its regular LocAles. Landlord Gary also hosted a very successful nine-ale beer festival over May Bank holiday. Still in **Buckingham**, the **Woolpack** held its usual Spring bank holiday festival, with eight real ales and two real ciders to help the hog-roast go down. Another festival is planned for August Bank Holiday. At **Preston Bissett** the **White Hart** now takes Concrete Cow beer, while the **New Inn, Padbury** is back in business after suffering damage when a vehicle crashed into it.

## News South.

Following a meeting of Aylesbury Vale DC, the **Old Crown, Little Horwood** is undergoing valuation to prove if the asking price set by the freeholder is reasonable: if so, then the change-of-use application is likely to go ahead. If not, then we understand that the freeholder may be forced to set a lower asking

price to bring out more offers, possibly to keep the pub open. As we went to press, the **Old Green Man, Little Brickhill** was found to have closed; we understand that this may be only until a new owner is found. New landlords Chris and Susan James have taken over at the **Wheatsheaf, Bow Brickhill** selling Eagle IPA and Youngs Bitter, occasionally adding another Wells and Youngs beer, and the **Three Locks, Stoke Hammond** now offers six mainly regional real ales.

## News Central.

Beer Moos welcomes the new licensees Dennis and Pauline Lejniaks to the **New Inn, New Bradwell** who are offering Wells Eagle IPA, Bombardier, and Courage Directors on hand pump, fine food in restaurant and bar, and a friendly pub dog to welcome and keep the customers amused! The **Pilgrims Bottle** at Great Linford local centre, which has been closed for many months, has now reopened as an Sri Lankan restaurant. New landlord Paul Hepworth has taken over the **Cross Keys, Woolstone** and intends to raise the profile of real ale. The **Grebe, Great Holm** is under new management and now regularly stocks five cask ales. And one-time Good Beer Guide stalwart, the **Fox and Hounds, Stony Stratford** is still waiting, as we go to press, to reopen as the Kremlin Wine Bar.

## What's in a Name

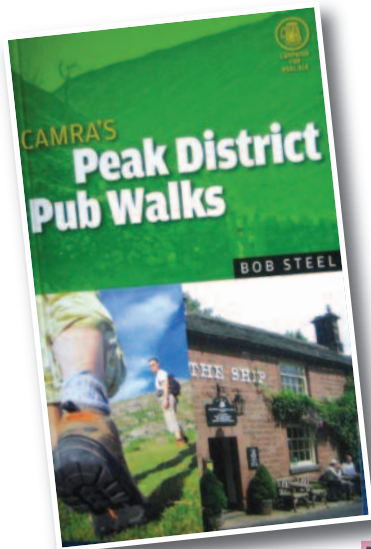
### Ubu

Delicious 4.5% ale from Purity brewing of Alcester, Warks; this ale is named after faithful hound Ubu (pronounced OO-BOO), whose "picture" is also shown on the pump clip. According to the brewery's website Ubu is 'our faithful/feared canine friend, protector of our secrets.' A sketch of the little dog appears on the Ubu pump clip, and on the label of the bottled version. Beer Moos has been informed that Ubu is an acronym for Useless Bloody Urchin. And there was your artsy-fartsy editor thinking it referred to Ubu Roi, the hero of an 1891 play by the French surrealist writer Alfred Jarry....

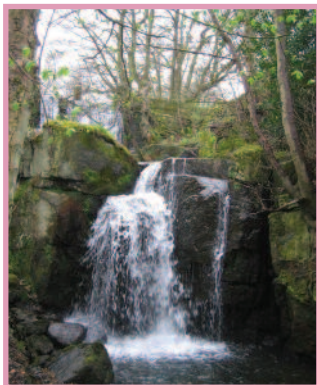


# Things you can do on a CAMRA Peak District Pub Walk

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## Diary Dates

Please note that this diary information is always subject to change – check online for latest information at <http://www.mkcamra.org.uk/diary.htm>.

☞: Items marked with a ☞ symbol are 'official' CAMRA events.

### JUNE 2009

☞ **Saturday June 13.** CAMRA Central Southern Regional Meeting at the Hop Pole, Aylesbury, 1pm. (HP19 9AZ for your SatNavs!) pub crawl for non-attendees, public transport by Arriva Bus 100, 1045am or 1145am, Stop H3, Point, CMK

**Saturday June 13** One-Day Beer and Music Festival. Lamb, Stoke Goldington 1-9pm. £5. Details 01908 551233

☞ **Thursday June 18.** Branch Social, Crown, Great Horwood (we may also visit the Swan), 8pm

☞ **Monday June 29.** Branch Meeting, Globe, Hanslope, 8.30pm.

### JULY 2009

☞ **Saturday July 04.** Beer of the Festival Presentation, Oakham Brewery, Peterborough, mini-coach departs 9.30am from Milton Keynes Central Rail Station. Fare £13.75. All welcome – contact social secretary 07939 213426 or [social@mkcamra.org.uk](mailto:social@mkcamra.org.uk)

☞ **Thursday July 16.** Branch Social, Plough, Simpson, 8pm.

☞ **Monday July 27.** Branch Meeting, Three Horseshoes, Drayton Parslow, 8.30pm.

### AUGUST 2009

☞ **August 4-8.** Great British Beer Festival (GBBF), Earl's Court, London. [www.gbbf.org.uk](http://www.gbbf.org.uk)

☞ **Friday August 7.** Branch Visit to GBBF. Meet MK Central 11.00 for 11.13 train or 11.10 at Bletchley

☞ **Thursday August 13.** Branch Social, Greyhound, Havesham, 8pm.

☞ **Saturday August 15.** CAMRA Central Southern Regional Meeting at the Hungerford Club, 1pm. RG17 0HY for SatNav, or X5 coach to Oxford, then train (change Reading).

☞ **Monday August 24.** Branch Meeting, Wheatsheaf, Maids Moreton, 8.30pm.

**August Bank Holiday 29-31.** Party on the Pitch Beer festival at Bletchley Rugby Club. There are also festivals in Buckingham at the Mitre and at the Woolpack.

### SEPTEMBER 2009

**Friday-Saturday September 4-5.** Stony Stratford Beer Festival, York House MK11 1JQ. See branch website for details [www.mkcamra.org.uk](http://www.mkcamra.org.uk)

☞ **Thursday September 10.** Social and Launch of Good Beer Guide 2010, Red Lion, Fenny Lock. 8pm. To be confirmed, check branch website nearer time.

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Saturday September 12.** Music Festival, Lamb, Stoke Goldington, Details 01908 551233.

☞ **Monday September 28.** Branch Meeting, Lamb, Stoke Goldington, 8.30pm.

☞ **October 29-31.** Milton Keynes 'Concrete Pint' Beer Festival, The Pitz, Woughton Campus.

## MOOSINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Since CAMRA campaigns for drinkers' rights, you might be surprised that we were actually supporting the Chief Medical Officer's proposal back in March to charge a minimum of 50p per unit of alcohol (see front page.)

It's because we try to promote quality, not quantity, and it's drinking cheap booze in quantity that causes the problems that are all too familiar in our society. Also, we are on the side of pubs, and no pub sells any alcohol for that little. Only Wetherspoons with their pound-a-pint Greene King IPA promotion comes close.

Incidentally, Wetherspoons did not have to strike a new deal with Greene King to offer their promotion – the beer was already less than £1 per pint wholesale (far less than what GK's tied pubs have to pay). The Bury St Edmunds brewers were reportedly upset that Wetherspoons were cheapening their brand. Could it be that they themselves were cheapening their brand by selling it for so little?

Cheers  
Phil Swinbank



## A Wheely Great Day Out!

A highly enjoyable day was had by all who marked Local Pubs Week with a Redway pub crawl by bicycle on Saturday, 28th February.

The crawl began at the Victoria Inn at Bradwell Village, our Pub of the Year for 2009, where joint landlord Dave supplied a hearty breakfast. The intrepid troupe of 29 riders then set off on a southward loop to sample the beer at seven more hostleries before finishing at the Moon Under Water in the Snowdome. Visited on the way were J D Wetherspoon's on Midsummer Blvd, the Old Swan at Woughton-on-the Green, Plough at Simpson, Red Lion at Fenny Lock, Caldecotte Arms, and the Cross Keys and the Barge in Woolstone.

The object of the trip was to raise the profile of local pubs, and have a great day out in the process. Both objectives were magnificently achieved, and for the first time we were covered in the local press. This was the crawl's fourth year, on a new route this time, and the best attended – 29 came on the ride and others joined us at the pubs. As ever, the weather was kind, and a great time was had by everyone who took part. Once again our thanks go to Alan Sanders for devising the route and organising the event.

Details of the route can be found on our website [www.mkcamra.org.uk](http://www.mkcamra.org.uk).





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## Pub of the Year 2009

### VICTORIA, Bradwell Village



Following its success as runner-up last year, the Victoria Inn at Bradwell Village has been voted Milton Keynes and North Bucks CAMRA's Pub of the Year 2009.

Perhaps best described as a village pub in the city, the Vic, as it's universally known, was once the local for one of the villages swallowed up by the Milton Keynes conurbation. Small and vibrant, it has an friendly, enthusiastic, and faithful local clientèle and is deeply engaged in the life of its community in Bradwell and farther afield, with pub quizzes (your editor is in the team!) pool and darts matches, coach trips, music gigs, karaoke nights, and all the many activities of a lively community pub.

The Vic is a true free house and is run by real-ale enthusiast Dean Davies, assisted by partner Val, father Dave and staff. It holds frequent beer festivals, and celebrated May is Mild Month with a mild festival that lasted most of the month, with a mouth-watering choice of unusual light milds as well as the more familiar dark ones. Excellent and reasonably priced food is a feature of the Vic, but most of all it's a pub serving a rotating selection of superb real ales, in tip-top condition, and very competitively priced. Unusually for this area, there's always real cider as well. Real ale now outsells lager at the Vic, and Dean has had to install an extra handpump to meet demand!

It would be fair to say that, as in most new towns, the Milton Keynes urban area is hardly over-supplied with good real-ale pubs. The Victoria stands out in our city like the proverbial good deed in a naughty world, and is a very worthy winner of its award.



## A Pub to Remember

One of the pleasures of going to CAMRA's national AGM is the chance to visit pubs in parts of the country where you've never been before. Such was your editor's experience when, from Eastbourne, I took a bus to the exquisite downland village of East Dene, home of Beachy Head Brewery, and their delightful pub The Tiger Inn. This beautifully restored and extremely friendly tavern stands on the traffic-free village green. It serves excellent – and very reasonably priced – home-made food, and acts as brewery tap for Beachy Head ales.

If any *Beer Moos* readers find themselves near the East Sussex coast, a visit to the Tiger is heartily recommended. Buses 12 and 12A between Brighton and Eastbourne take you to East Dene, and the pub is in the old village, a very short walk from the stop. Enjoy!





# CAMRA and Other News

## CAMRA says - "Stop this beer tax insanity"



CAMRA's 2009  
Prices Survey

shows that the 18% beer tax increase by Government has forced real ale prices up by an inflation-busting 5.5% since February 2008. Independent free houses are the worst affected, with prices rising by 6.2% in the last year.

70,000 people have signed up to Axe the Beer Tax campaign, and 25,000 have contacted their MP to

call for a freeze on beer taxation and abandonment of plans for annual above-inflation beer tax hikes. The 'Axe the Beer Tax - Save the Pub' Campaign was launched in November 2008 by the British Beer & Pub Association, and CAMRA. For more information, please visit the campaign website at [www.axethebeertax.com](http://www.axethebeertax.com)

## CAMRA Cider and Perry Awards

CAMRA is delighted to announce that Gwatkin's Yarlington Mill cider from Herefordshire, and Broadoak Perry from Somerset, beat 24 ciders and 20 perries to win Gold at CAMRA's National Cider and Perry Championships 2009. For more information, visit [www.camra.org.uk/cider](http://www.camra.org.uk/cider). Cider lovers will also enjoy CAMRA's new publication 'Cider', available from bookshops, and online at [www.camra.org.uk/shop](http://www.camra.org.uk/shop)

## CAMRA National AGM 2009 at Eastbourne

Several members attended this annual event, held this year on the South Coast at Eastbourne. The motions discussed will all be listed in What's Brewing – what many may not know is that there's also a 100-firkin Beer Festival modestly called the Members Bar to take attendees' minds off all the boring stuff. Our branch members did it fullest justice!

Appropriately, beers from the southern counties featured prominently, augmented by a clutch of visits to some of the breweries where they were made. Harvey's of Lewes proved a popular choice, as did Dark Star, whose delicious HopHead was Cellarman's Choice at our Concrete Pint Beer Festival in October 2008.

Here Chris Scoggins, head of our cellaring team and former branch chairman, presents the certificate to brewers Mark Tranter (left) and Rob Jones at a very rainy Dark Star brewery. Afterwards we all decamped to the warmth of the Stand-Up Inn in nearby Lindfield for pizzas and – more delicious Dark Star ale.

Next year's AGM is held on April 16-18 in Douglas, Isle of Man. Not only does the island apply a German-style beer-purity law to its brewers; it is also home to some of the most unspoilt and idiosyncratic pubs – and some of the loveliest scenery – in the British Isles, so a memorable weekend is guaranteed. Flights (from Birmingham and Luton) have limited space, the sea-cat from Liverpool is less constrained, but even so you will need to book well in advance, no later than October. The Isle of Man's superb public transport – vintage stream trains, Edwardian trams, and modern buses – ensures that you can pub-crawl your way round the whole island on a day or weekly travel pass.





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## A Keg on the Road to Real

This true, but little known story in brewing history, comes with a health warning! It is not about Real Ale. It is about keg beer, and a massive national brewing and pub owning company

Back in the early 1970's my husband and I were pub managers for St. George's Taverns, a division of Watneys. Our pub, the Lewes Road Inn, was less than a mile from the former Tamplins' Phoenix Brewery in Brighton. One day, the rep popped in to say that there had been a "mistake in brew", resulting in a beer that was neither Special nor Red Barrel. Nevertheless, Watneys were not willing to throw away a rather large quantity of perfectly good ale, so it was going to be sold in a few of the local pubs, being marketed as a limited edition beer, under the name of Watneys Export Red.

We duly took delivery of the aforementioned brew, which was served from a spare keg font in the Lounge Bar. I found it so pleasant, that after a while, I stopped reminding the Public Bar customers of its existence, as I wanted to drink it myself! It was not long after that, that I discovered Gales Hordean Special Bitter, a real ale, served by beer engine, and so began a whole new era of my beer appreciation!

Jan Taylor

*Editor's Note on Watneys: For readers under a certain age, this notorious company - long passed unlamented into history - was one of the six giant combines that dominated brewing in Britain back in the 60s and 70s, the others being Allied Breweries (formerly Ind Coope, now Carlsberg), Courage and Scottish & Newcastle (now merged and owned by Heineken), Bass (now Coors), and Whitbread. Watneys perpetrated the infamous Red Barrel keg beer that Jan mentions, and it was these Big Six's policy of replacing real ale with pasteurised, artificially gassed keg beer that prompted CAMRA's founding in 1972. It's interesting that, out of the Six, both Watneys and Whitbread abandoned brewing altogether, and the others have ceased to brew real ale, selling or sub-contracting their few remaining real ale brands to other brewers.*



# Branch Visits

## Cambridge Beer Festival Visit



Seven branch members took advantage of glorious weather over Whitsun to visit Cambridge beer festival. This is a large event in a marquee on Jesus Green, with 200 real ales and 80 ciders and perries. We went on the holiday Saturday, which was the festival's last day, hence much had sold out (including Concrete Cow's Cock 'n Bull and Ironbridge), but there was still plenty remaining to ensure a convivial and enjoyable day out.

## Concrete Cow Brewery Visit



Sixteen branch members made their way to Milton Keynes's own Concrete Cow brewery early in May. Fenny Popper had been ordered, and brewer/proprietor Dan Bonner also racked off some of his new Cowzat cask lager, plus Lazy Daisy - a "mistake" brew of over-sparged Ironbridge, dry-hopped to give a remarkable aroma. Cowzat, named to sound

like "owzat" in cricket, is brewed with lager malt and lager hops, and is very drinkable, and ideal for the summer.

The brewery is located in Bradwell Abbey, and has a 5.5-barrel brew length. Dan bottles 20-30% of his output though he would rather sell everything in cask. The group hugely enjoyed their visit, thanking Dan for the snacks provided, and the excellent ale, and look forward to seeing Concrete Cow beers in even more outlets in our branch area. There is no beer that is more LocAle!



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# Peters' Puzzles



1. In our CAMRA area, there are two pubs called 'The Shoulder of Mutton' Where are they ?
2. What brewing ingredient is sometimes kept in the "Safe deposit service for brewers"
3. To the nearest 10,000 how many paid-up members does CAMRA have?
4. Where in our Branch area is the Dove pub?
5. Which well known brewer was based at the Mortlake Brewery in London?
6. What Bedfordshire school is named after a brewer?
7. What is the second part of this phrase "Women are like a fine wine ...."
8. In the film "Ice Cold in Alex", when John Mills finally got his drink, what shaped glass was it in ?
9. Who brews Harp Lager ? - they also make Kaliber alcohol free lager.
10. In the UK a pint is 20 fluid ounces, but in America it is how many ?

### TIME WASTER

This one is based on a puzzle I first heard over 50 years ago. The old chestnuts are the best, Eh?

I was standing in a pub next to a fruit machine which three CAMRA members were playing. They had agreed to split any wins in the proportions of one half to Ali, a third to Brenda, and a ninth to Chris. They duly hit the jackpot (and won a bonus too), but were faced with the problem that the total amount (in pounds) could not be divided by either two, three, or nine. I told them that I could help them out by adding a pound to the win. This now meant that they could now share out the win correctly, and, amazingly, there was just a pound left over, which, of course, I pocketed. What was the total of their win?

**EASY BONUS QUESTION** - How many times does the hour hand of a clock go round in a complete day?

# SCORE!

Have you ever wondered how CAMRA selects pubs for the Good Beer Guide? The National Beer Scoring System (NBSS) is an easy 0-5 point scale for judging beer quality in pubs. We use it to find out which pubs consistently sold well-kept ale over the previous year, and 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.

0 Undrinkable	No cask ale available, or so poor you have to take it back or can't finish it.
1 Poor	Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.
2 Average	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.
3 Good	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.
4 Very Good	Excellent beer in excellent condition.
5 Perfect	Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.

E-mail your scores to us at [pubs@mkcamra.org.uk](mailto:pubs@mkcamra.org.uk), bring them to any of our meetings or social events, or submit them online at [www.beerscoring.org.uk](http://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 your score.

ANSWERS

1. Calverton and Little Horwood 2. Yeast - the strain is often cultivated over many decades 3. 90,000 4. Newport Pagnell 5. Watneys 6. Samuel Whitbread (Shefford) 7. They improve with age 8. Tulip shaped 'lager' glass 9. Guinness 10. 16 fluid ounces

TIME WASTER & BONUS QUESTION ANSWERS

£17 and the hour hand goes round twice in a day.

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