

beer moos

Winter 2008/9

Issue Ten



CONCRETE PINT TRIUMPHANT!

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

Pub and
CAMRA News

Moosings
from the
Chair

Branch
Diary

Join
CAMRA

Peter's
Puzzles

Meet the
Landlord



Well, all good things come to an end some time, and our Concrete Pint 2008 Beer Festival was no exception.

But what an end! By the time 'last orders' was finally called on November 1st,

over 800 customers had supped their way through 3154 pints (395 gallons!) of ale and 250 pints (30 gallons) of cider and perry.

55 different ales were served and 5 varieties of perry and cider. From these, customers voted three Beers of the Festival. 51 of the 55 beers on offer received a vote, which is a tribute in itself to the cellar team! First choice was Oakham Three Witches (appropriately, since the festival took place over Hallowe'en), closely followed by Dark Star Hophead, and Vale Gravitas. The latter of course counts as a LocAle, so its winning was particularly gratifying.

Also highly rated, and even more local (and LocAle) were Fenny Popper from Concrete Cow brewery here in Milton Keynes, and Pit Stop by the brand-new Silverstone brewery.

One of the iconic sounds of any beer festival is the thump of the cellar crew's mallet on a drained cask! Our first beers to run out were (in order): Hophead (Dark Star), Pit Stop (Silverstone), Concrete Pint (brewed by Concrete Cow specially for the festival), Three Witches (Oakham), Fenny Popper (Concrete Cow), Blonde (Tring), JHB (Oakham), Croak and Stagger (Frog Island), and Firebox (RCH). Our perry was also finished well before the festival ended.

Our Tombola proved as popular as ever, and the traditional pub game Shut the Box intrigued, and exasperated, many new enthusiasts! Our branch also signed up 43 new members to the Campaign for Real Ale – a record for any CAMRA event in North Bucks. And £135 was raised ►

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Continued from Front Cover

for the British Lung Foundation, in memory of Colin Zealley who was organising last year's festival till his untimely death before the event robbed our branch of a much-missed member.

Overseas visitors included beer enthusiasts from Sweden (see following article) and from Belgium – a pleasing endorsement from one of the world's great brewing nations.

So, we can look back with pride and pleasure on another enjoyable and successful festival. Our thanks go to all those who planned, worked at, and attended it, and in particular to our many cask sponsors, whose generosity greatly contributed to the festival's success.

We look forward to bringing you another Concrete Pint in 2009.

Vikings at our Festival!



Our Swedish Visitors

Well, they didn't exactly beach their longship outside the Pitz, but Concrete Pint beer festival was delighted to welcome two real-ale enthusiasts form the lands of the Vikings. Concerned more about spillage than pil-lage, Johan Höggström and Thomas Lager from

Gothenburg, Sweden, were drinking quietly in a corner when I went over to chat to them.

Apparently, they come to England once or twice a year to drink real ale and take in a football match. As Johan is a staunch Tottenham supporter, and Thomas likewise favours Liverpool, they were in for an interesting test of their friendship during the match they planned to attend on the following day!

Our Nordic visitors told me that in the 1980s there were only five or six breweries left in Sweden. Now, happily, microbrew-eries are springing up everywhere there. Johan and Thomas started as home brewers, and have belonged to a beer enthu-siasts group since 1990, which now has its own microbrewery, serving members and friends.

It all goes to show that 'Skol!' doesn't only mean something cheap and nasty in a supermarket can!

Jan Taylor

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of Beer Moos will be published on 1st March.

We must have your stories, news and advertisements by: 20th February
Late copy cannot be guaranteed entry.

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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

Ale no More

The Carrington Arms in Castlethorpe is still closed, as it has been since March. Our information is that the former landlady, when she retired, sold the pub to an estate agent and developer. He has promised the parish council that it will be renovated and re-opened as a pub/restaurant, but as we go to press, nothing more has happened, and the pub remains shut. If any readers have more up to date information, please let us know.

The Green Man in Newport Pagnell, one of our GBG2009 entries, has also closed, and we have no further information on its likely future. Again, if any readers can enlighten us, please get in touch.

Successful Beer Festival at the Globe, Hanslope.



The Hanslope Wassailers held their 2008 autumn beer festival at The Globe on 23rd to 25th October. The pub's Butterfly Lounge was

converted to host the event, where a selection of 20 fine ales was on offer from some of the most exciting brewers in the country. As usual, the ales were complemented by some great natural ciders. Behind the bars there were an additional half dozen superb beers from Marston's stable.

This event was a true Credit Crunch Buster with no admission fee, and all the ales at just £2 a pint. While John looked after the bar, Jenny ensured a non-stop supply of pies and filled rolls for just £1.50 each.

The event was visited by 426 individuals. A wonderfully extravagant bonfire and firework display, held on the Saturday evening, ensured that any remainders were swiftly cleared. For further details visit www.theglobehanslope.co.uk - the spring festival will be announced on the site shortly.

News from Fenny Stratford – Historic Fenny Pub goes Real.

There's a new face behind the bar of the Chequers on Watling Street, Fenny Stratford. John Shaddick has taken over as Mine Host, after 26 years as a publican in the Luton area. He aims to serve well-kept real ales, and is currently serving Timothy Taylor Landlord, and one other rotating, including Marston's Pedigree.

The pub is a small, cosy local with Bed and Breakfast accommodation. John is planing entertainment events, such as Race Nights, and Karaoke.

Also in Fenny Stratford, Guy and Glynis Plumb are celebrating their first year at the Red Lion in Fenny Lock (see separate article on p8).

Elephantine goings-on at the Robin Hood.

There's a mammoth offer every Tuesday throughout the winter at the Robin Hood, Clifton Reynes. For only £6.50 you can enjoy a tasty home-made curry and rice, washed down with a-half-litre of Kenya's Tusker Lager. So make a trunk call at the Robin Hood any Tuesday between 7 and 9pm.

Licensees Reg and Lyn are also offering gourmet Xmas meals throughout December, and are planning a quiz, music gigs, and other entertainments for the New Year. Watch the Robin Hood's website <http://www.therobinhoodpub.co.uk/> for details, or call 01234 711574.

Buckingham News

The Mitre in Buckingham has the honour of being the first pub in our area to sign up for LocAle.



Bar Manager Matt with LocAles

Landlord Keith Templeman told Beer Moos 'At the Mitre we have struck a deal with Silverstone Brewery to have their Pit Stop as our session ale for the next three months at least. I believe this qualifies us for the LocAle initiative. (*Sure does! Ed.*) We also have Cherwell Valley, Oxfordshire Ales, and Concrete Cow on a fairly regular basis.'

If you like music with your pint, there are four gigs coming up at the Mitre. All kick off at 8pm on Saturday evenings and the dates and bands are as follows. There's a Sound of Music about one of them!:

December 20 – Tall Story

January 17 – Stray Dogs

January 31 – Loose Covers

February 28 – The Von Trapps

Veteran Buckingham landlord and real-ale stalwart Mike Hall is now enjoying a well-earned retirement after a long tenure of the New Inn, one of Buckingham's most unspoilt and traditional pubs. Beer Moos wishes Mike well, and welcomes the new landlady Vicky, who is assisted by her son Michael. We hope she will enjoy an equally long and prosperous tenure.

New at the New Inn are the weekly acoustic music night every Wednesday, and meals served from 12 till 3 and 6-9 pm every day including Sundays for just £9.99 for two.



Vicky & Michael

News from the Brickhills

Get your mystery clobber on and greet the new year in style in Little Brickhill at the Old Green Man's Grand Masqued Ball on December 31st. Tickets (sold in advance) cost £20, including buffet and disco. More details from the pub (01525 261253).

Following the success of their last Spanish evening, the Old Red Lion in Great Brickhill will host a Tapas night on Friday January 30th. Details had not been finalised when we went to press, so call the pub (01525 261715) nearer the time, and have your sombrero ready.

News Bites

Ye Olde Swan at Woughton-on-the-Green re-opened in November after a re-fit. It is now airier and lighter, and the furniture has been replaced. The upgrade has been done without compromising the old structure - at least in the view of Beer Moos's informant! Greater use is being made of the front bar, thus separating the drinking zone from the restaurant area, which seems a good idea. And - most importantly - by all accounts the refurb hasn't affected the beer quality!

The Ship Ashore at Willen hosted a 'Halloween' themed evening on Friday October 31. The staff had gone to a lot of effort and the pub was absolutely packed. Shows what imagination, and a bit of effort, can achieve.

Wolverton's Craufurd Arms has reopened under new management. Reports from readers welcomed. At the Open University, one of the two bars which sell real ale regularly has beer from Concrete Cow brewery.



It seems to be an eventful time for any local pub with 'Kings' in its name! The King's Arms in Newport Pagnell is under new management, and the King's Head in Buckingham now also has a new team in charge, and will reopen soon following extensive refurbishment.

Oops! We're Sorry!

In Moos 9 we wrongly implied that the Anchor at Aspley Guise was a Greene King house. It is, of course, part of the Charles Wells estate. Apologies to Wells and Young, and to the Licensee and staff at the Anchor, for our slip-up.

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.

DECEMBER 2008

Friday December 5th - 19.00

Open evening hosted by Frog Island Brewery.

Malt Shovel Tavern, 121 Bridge Street, Northampton NN1 1QF

Saturday December 13th - 10.50

Xmas Crawl round Northampton.

Meet Milton Keynes Central rail station around 10.50 to catch 11.04 train to Northampton. (10.58 from Bletchley, 11.08 from Wolverton).

Friday December 19th

Evening Pub crawl in London. Details from Chris Scoggins chris.2.scoggins@bt.com 01908 665304

Wednesday December 24th - 14.00

Informal Xmas Eve Social – all readers of Beer Moos welcome, whether CAMRA members or not. J D Wetherspoons, Midsummer Bvd, Milton Keynes.

JANUARY 2009

Thursday Jan 15th - 20.00

Social. Nut and Squirrel, Westcroft.

January 21-24 - 12.00-23.00

CAMRA National Winter Ale Festival. Co-operative Hall, Manchester. See CAMRA national website for details. Highly recommended.

Monday 26th January - 20.00

Branch AGM (see page 12) followed by branch meeting. Cannon, Newport Pagnell.

FEBRUARY 2009

Thursday February 12th - 20.00

Social. Vaults Bar at Bull Hotel, Stony Stratford.

Saturday February 21 - 13.00

Regional Meeting (CAMRA members only). Catherine Wheel, Henley-upon-Thames.

Saturday February 28th

(Date to be confirmed.) - 12.00

Six-pub Redway Cycle Crawl Starting and ending at the Ship Ashore. Willen. See p9 and check our website for the confirmed date.

Monday March 2 - 20.30

Branch Meeting and GBG2010 finalising meeting. Lamb, Stoke Goldington.

LOOKING FARTHER AHEAD

March 20-21 - 12.00 – 23.00

Winslow Lions Beer Festival. Winslow Public Hall, Elmfields

MOOSINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Another year, another beer festival over. A huge amount of work, especially for the organiser, Carl Dillow. Well done Carl and all the other volunteers. I hope the people who helped out for the first time enjoyed the experience, and might be prepared to help the Campaign in other ways in the future.

You might ask why a small local CAMRA branch like ours feels the need to hold beer festivals. Well, they are a rare opportunity to sample more than the usual two or three beers that are on sale at your local pub. And while there are several pubs in the area who do a fine job of running small beer festivals, you can't beat a choice of several dozen from up and down the country in a big venue.

A small digression: the Globe, Hanslope had unintentionally arranged to hold their own Beer and Fireworks festival (see Pub News) on the same weekend as the Concrete Pint. I'd just like to take this opportunity to thank John and Jenny at the Globe for moving their festival forward to avoid clashing with ours. I and several other CAMRA regulars went along to show support in return, and it was an excellent event, and very well attended.

Digression over. There may be some, even in our own branch, who mutter "get your own campaign", but it has to be said that the opportunities for sampling real cider and perry are even rarer. It's good to be able to broaden people's drinking horizons!

Cheers

Phil Swinbank

Gate.

March 27-29 - 3 days

Weekend in Antwerp – direct coach from/to Northampton and Milton Keynes. Places still available. Inclusive cost £187 (£222 single.) Contact us for details.

Looking Farther Ahead

April 17-18 - 2 Days

CAMRA Members' Weekend and National AGM.

Winter Garden, Eastbourne. See CAMRA national website for details. Early booking of accommodation advised.

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MEET THE LANDLORD A YEAR IN THE LIFE



Guy and Glynis outside the Red Lion

Guy Plumb, a CAMRA member, has just completed his first year as a pub landlord at the Red Lion at Fenny Stratford Lock. CAMRA's Jan Taylor asked him how it has been.

Why did you become a publican?

My wife Glynis decided I should!.... It had always

been a dream of hers to run a pub, and the building work I was doing was becoming patchy. My only reservation was that I might start to drink too much, but I haven't done so.

What were your expectations and goals for the first year of trading?

Well, even as early as November 2007 there were indications that it was not a good time to become a publican, so I was hoping to break even the first year. My long term aim is to build a successful business that gives Fenny Stratford an outlet offering well kept real ale.

Have you achieved these?

Financially, yes, we have broken even. The feedback I am getting is that I am serving a decent pint. My aim is to provide a pub where people are greeted by a constant face (ugly though it might be!), and can have pleasant conversation.

What has surprised you?

The things that people steal from pubs - light bulbs from the Gents, flower arrangements, liquid soap and pot pourri, from the Ladies. Petty thefts, really; it's disheartening.

On a lighter note, I'm quite amazed at the number of pickled eggs people eat! And - most cheering of all - how supportive my customers are.

Tell us the Score

Wherever you go, please don't forget to send in your beer scores for the pubs you visit. Fill them in online at our website or email pubs@mkcamra.org.uk

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.

Take You For a Ride?

In chilly February, what better way could there be to beat the cold and work up a glow than a pub crawl by bicycle? For the last three years CAMRA has marked Community Pubs Week (now renamed Local Pubs Week) with a not too energetic tour of some of our city's best hostelrys, mostly using the Redways.

The crawl begins and ends at the Ship Ashore at Willen local centre at 12.00 noon. The date is Saturday February 28th.

We ride to:

Nag's Head, Great Linford

New Inn, New Bradwell

Victoria, Bradwell Village

J D Wetherspoons, Midsummer Bvd

Barge Inn, Woolstone

Ship Ashore, Willen

Our website www.mkcamra.org.uk has a route-

map and description of previous crawls - see photo of our riders enjoying one of them. It will be updated with details of the 2009 event should there be any changes, so please keep visiting our website, and join us for what has always been a highly enjoyable day out.



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Somerset Cider Legend Goes Down in CAMRA Folklore

The Pomona Award 2008

A pioneering figure in the world of real cider has added an extra chapter to his already successful resume by winning the CAMRA Pomona Award for 2008.

Roger Wilkins of Wilkins Cider, Wedmore, Somerset, scooped the award, which is named after the Roman Goddess of apples, and is presented by CAMRA to the person, place or thing who has done the most to promote real cider or perry over the previous twelve months.

Roger's company has been winning CAMRA awards since the 1980s, most notably taking the Cider of the Year accolade at both the 1988 and 1989 Great British Beer Festival. It has a concern for tradition, keeping alive the ancient tradition of 'wassailing', held every January. Roger Wilkins took over the family business after the death of his grandfather in 1969, and produces up to 20,000 gallons annually. Some customers have been buying cider from the farm for over 30 years, so it must be good!

For more information on National Cider and Perry Month, or to find an event near you, please visit www.camra.org.uk/cider

Real cider and perry are produced naturally from apples and pears respectively, and are neither carbonated nor pasteurised. The fruit ripens throughout September and October, when it is milled and pressed. The juice is left to ferment and mature until April/May when it is ready to drink.

Carlsberg to close Tetley Brewery - the largest real ale brewery in the World

'Probably the worst decision in the World'

CAMRA has attacked the decision by Carlsberg UK to close the Tetley Brewery in Leeds by 2011, and failing to promote Tetley beers at a time when consumer interest in real ales is growing.

Bob Stukins, CAMRA Vice Chairman said, "While we recognise the enormous challenges facing the brewing industry at present, I think this is a short-sighted decision. Recent statistics clearly show that real ale is performing better than other beer styles in a declining market. There is an opportunity to respond to this, invest in the Tetley brands and bring them back to glory."

CAMRA is seeking a meeting with Carlsberg UK bosses to discuss a way forward for the brewery. The brewery still has its unique open 'Yorkshire Square' fermenters, and brews various real ales including Tetley's Dark Mild, Tetley's Mild, Ansells Best Bitter, Burton Ale and of course Tetley Bitter. Mr Stukins added, "We have a two year window of opportunity before the brewery gates are set to close for the last time. We will be supporting anyone who has a plan to keep the mash tuns running in this historic brewery and we'll be looking at every possible option to save the Tetleys."

CAMRA Club of the Year 2008- 'Leyton Orient the Premiership Champion of Real Ale'

A thriving football supporters club, renowned for its commitment to serving a diverse range of cask-conditioned ale, has been named the joint CAMRA Club of the Year 2008.

Leyton Orient Supporters Club was presented with the award during their annual Beer Festival in October. CAMRA found one of the most outstanding aspects of the Club was that, although the football club had an average attendance of just under 5,000 people throughout the 2007-2008 season, the Supporters Club could boast more than 1,300 members during the same period.

Every one of CAMRA's 200 branches was asked to put forward a submission for the Club of the Year award, with criteria based upon the availability of the club's membership to the general public, and the consistently high standard of the real ale served. The Leyton Orient Supporters Club, joint

winner with the Appleton Thorn Village Hall, Cheshire, pipped a whole host of working men's, social, and community clubs to scoop the award for its devotion to improving the match-day sporting experience for supporters. As one avid supporter noted: 'The Club is a great example of how real ale can really work when done well, and shows that football fans shouldn't have to put up with poor quality hospitality and bland lager when they support their teams.'

Speaking of his delight at the Club winning the award, Supporters Club Bar Manager Mike Child, said 'On a busy match-day we can sell in excess of 700 pints. Our devoted staff members do all they can to provide supporters with the best quality and variety.'

With five hand-pumps serving guest ales, and real cider available, supporters and guests alike are spoilt for choice, and national recognition now strengthens its already formidable reputation. CAMRA's Regional Director said: 'To find real ale at a football club, regardless of its condition, is truly rare. For the Leyton Orient Supporters Club to show this degree of devotion to our national drink is totally unique. When you consider the vast numbers of football fans being converted to real ale it is a true testament to this club's efforts.' Beer Moos can only add, 'MK Dons please take note!'

CAMRA Real Ale in a Bottle (RAIB) Retailer Awards 2008

CAMRA has commended retailers great and small in their unflinching support for stocking real ale in a bottle, and commended three bottled beer retailers at its annual awards lunch at Lord's Cricket Ground, London in October.

Entrants were judged on their range of products, sales methods, value for money to the consumer, and the attitude of their staff in striving to promote Real Ale in a Bottle.

The winners of the three categories were -

Large Retailer (more than 5 outlets)- Booths Supermarkets of Preston, Lancs.

Small Retailer (less than 5 outlets)- The Offie, Leicester (www.the-offie.co.uk)

Mail Order/Online Retailer- The Real Ale Shop (www.therealaleshop.co.uk)

CAMRA supports Real Ale In a Bottle (RAIB). This is

the next best thing to, and the bottled equivalent of, the draught real ales you can enjoy at the pub. It is a natural live product which contains yeast for a slow secondary fermentation in the bottle, thus ensuring wonderful fresh flavours, and a pleasant, natural effervescence. RAIB is never pasteurised or artificially carbonated.

CAMRA's logo, "CAMRA says this is real ale", is used to clearly identify natural, living, bottle-conditioned beers. It is important to note that the bottled editions of some cask-conditioned real ales do not undergo secondary fermentation in the bottle, hence are not Real Ale. The logo will be able to clearly identify those which are.

CAMRA announces early success for 'LocAle'

Over 20 CAMRA branches (including ours) have launched 'LocAle' schemes since July. In the last issue of Beer Moos we featured the LocAle initiative to encourage pubs to sell locally brewed beers. Since then, CAMRA has announced that 21 branches have signed up to the CAMRA 'LocAle' scheme since the national launch in July 2008. Milton Keynes and North Bucks Branch is one of them.

The original 'LocAle' concept was created in 2007 by CAMRA's Nottingham branch. Following its success with around 80 pubs in Nottingham signing up to the scheme, CAMRA decided to build upon the growing consumer demand for local produce and an awareness of 'green' issues by converting 'LocAle' into a national campaign.

The idea of 'LocAle' is to encourage pubs to stock at least one locally-produced real ale. Each participating CAMRA branch can decide upon their exact definition of a locally-produced real ale, as long as it falls between a 20-30 mile radius. Our branch has chosen 30 miles as our limit.

However, some pubs have been hindered from joining the scheme by their owning pub company. In many places, tied pubs, although enthusiastic about the scheme, could not sign up to LocAle, due either to a restricted beer portfolio, or inability to commit themselves because of external pressures. Nevertheless, there have been branches which have signed up almost 20% of the pubs in their areas.

Coming up in the Branch: GBG 2010 Surveys

It takes time – lots of it – to produce a book. It must be put together, edited, set, the proofs checked and corrected, printed, and distributed before anyone can buy it. The Good Beer Guide is no exception, and though you may be reading this in 2008 or early 2009, in January and February we have to choose pubs for the 2010 edition, and submit them by a set-in-stone deadline of March 4th.

Our small band of activists can't monitor every pub in North Buckinghamshire, so we're asking for recommendations from all real-ale drinkers to help us decide which ones to survey for inclusion. To make our list representative, it's important to consider as many pubs in as many parts of our branch area as possible.

There is one criterion, and one only, for a pub to be included in the Good Beer Guide, and that is consistent quality over time of all the cask-conditioned ale it sells. Not how quaint it is, or how many ales it sells and who brews them; not its food, style, barmaid's superstructure, or Laura Ashley co-ordinates in the Ladies' lav – a GBG pub is judged on beer quality alone.

With this in mind, please send us your nominations for pubs you think worthy to go in GBG2010. Don't include the pubs in the 2009 guide, as we'll survey them anyway. Tell us, though, if you think any of the 2009 pubs shouldn't go forward into the next guide, and tell us why. Send your list to pubs@mkcamra.org.uk.

If you are a CAMRA member, we could use your help doing the surveys. We're allocated space in the Guide for only 13 pubs, and there are an awful lot of candidate pubs in North Bucks to choose from! So please let us know if you could be available for help, and especially if you are able to do some of the driving.

CALLING ALL 460 CAMRA MEMBERS IN NORTH BUCKS

Branch Annual General Meeting
on Monday January 26th 2009
to be held in the Function Room at
The Cannon, 50 High St, Newport Pagnell, at 8pm

This is probably the most important meeting of the Milton Keynes and North Bucks CAMRA branch, for it's there that you, the members – 468 of you at the latest count - elect the branch officers who will keep the show on the road in 2009.

CAMRA is a wholly volunteer-run organisation and the work of our branch has typically been shouldered by a tiny fraction of the 468 members we have. If you are one of that 468, PLEASE come along to the AGM and offer your services. It's fun, it's satisfying, and the more volunteers we have to do things, the less work there is for each one.

You will need an up-to-date membership card to vote at the AGM.
SEE YOU THERE!!!! PLEASE!!!!

Good Beer Guide On Your Sat-Nav

To accompany the launch of the Good Beer Guide 2009, new and updated Sat-Nav POI files are now available to download from www.camra.org.uk/page.aspx?o=280240.

The 'GBG2009' POI file allows TomTom, Garmin and Navman users to see the locations of all 4,500-plus Good Beer Guide 2009 pubs, and plan routes to them. There's no excuse now for not finding your nearest GBG pub!

The file is simple to install and use and full instructions are provided. Priced at just £5.00, it is the perfect tool for any serious ale explorer. No more wasting time thumbing through road atlases or getting lost down country lanes. Navigate your way easily, every time, and make the most of Britain's best pubs.

**Join CAMRA today
and receive £20 of JD Wetherspoon Vouchers**

From 1st November 2008, JD Wetherspoon has kindly agreed to supply all new and renewing members £20 worth of JD Wetherspoon real ale vouchers as part of their CAMRA membership package!

This new benefit will only run for 12 months and is a 'thank you' from JD Wetherspoon to all our members and prospective members for their support in the past.

The vouchers will be sent to you in the post automatically when you join CAMRA or renew your membership (whether by cash or DD payments) anytime on or before Saturday 31 October 2009. Members will have approximately a year to spend all of their vouchers.

The vouchers are split into 4 sheets of '50p off a pint' units, with each sheet having a 3 month deadline. Only one 50p off a pint voucher can be used per visit.

There are two reasons for these conditions - CAMRA promotes responsible drinking and if we supplied £20 worth of vouchers that could be used in one visit to the pub, then this could be seen to not support this policy.

This offer is obviously very generous from JD Wetherspoon and they feel this scheme will encourage people to visit a number of their fantastic pubs across the UK throughout the 12 month's of their CAMRA membership.

The idea of this added benefit is very simple and good fun. Put the vouchers in your wallet / purse and use them when you are near to a JD Wetherspoon pub and fancy a nice pint of cool real ale!

Please note that Life Members will also receive £20 worth of JD Wetherspoon vouchers in early 2009. For more details visit <http://www.camra.org.uk/page.aspx?o=joinus>

It takes all sorts to campaign for real ale

Join CAMRA today...

Complete the Direct Debit form below and you will receive three months membership free 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 or call 01727 867201. All forms should be addressed to Membership Secretary, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

Your Details

Applications will be processed within 21 days

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)

Please state which CAMRA newsletter you found this

form in? Direct Debit Non DD

Single Membership (UK & EU) £20 ☐ £22 ☐

Joint Membership (Partner at the same address) £25 ☐ £27 ☐

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 Mem Form 0108

Signed Date

Save money by
paying by
Direct Debit

Join CAMRA today... **Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit**

Please fill in the form and send to:
Campaign for Real Ale Ltd.
230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

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FOR CAMRA OFFICIAL USE ONLY This is not part of the instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Membership Number

Name Postcode

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay CAMRA Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards authorised by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may result with CAMRA and it so will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

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Signature(s) Date

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Bank and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of account.

The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payer.
- This Guarantee is offered by all Banks and Building Societies that take part in the Direct Debit Scheme. It guarantees that the payment will be made on the date specified and that the payment will be made in full.
- If the amount to be paid or the payment dates change CAMRA will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed.
- 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.

A cartoon illustration of a man with a lightbulb idea. He is wearing a blue shirt and brown shoes, holding a briefcase. A yellow lightbulb is on his head, and several small blue circles are floating around it, indicating a thought or idea.

- In the days of yore, more than a century before CAMRA was born, beer was usually sold in large 'table jugs', rather than measured pints. On one occasion a group of revellers entered a tavern and asked the landlord for six pints of his finest. The dismayed publican explained that he only had five and seven pint jugs, so could not dispense the required amount. "Of course you can, my man!" was the reposte & they proceeded to explain how it could be done, just using his two measures (only one of each). Invariably some beer would be surplus, but that could be sold to less finicky drinkers. How was the six pint measure achieved ?



TIME WASTER ANSWER:- Fill the five and pour it into the empty seven. Fill the five again and top up the seven, leaving three pints in the five. Empty the seven and then pour the three from the five into the seven. Refill the five and use it to top up the seven, leaving one in the five. Empty the seven (again) and pour the one from the five into the seven. Finally fill the five and pour it into the seven which was already

1. In Marmite 2. Bradwell Abbey. 3. Hanslope 4. Pitstop 5. 36 gallons 6. The Cross Keys and the Barge Inn 7. Yes 8. Cribbage 9. Wadsworths 10. Beer Mats



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