

BARREL



ORGAN



Salisbury & South Wiltshire Campaign for Real Ale

Summer 2003

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FREE Newsletter

Putting the best Boot Forward

The Salisbury & South Wiltshire Branch of CAMRA have voted **The Boot Inn - Tisbury** their **Pub of the Year 2003**. On July 19th several of the Branch members converged on the Boot to present landlord Ron Turner with his well deserved certificate and to sample some of his excellent Real Ales and Pizzas.

Ron has run the Eldridge Pope owned Boot Inn for 27 years originally stocking Eldridge Pope beers such as Hardy Country and Royal Oak. Since Eldridge Pope stopped brewing he has had a range of beers including Flowers Original, Wadworth 6X, Bass and Theakstons. In the late 1990s, he got rid of his hand pumps and gave the beer pride of place in casks stillaged behind the bar. In 2002 the Boot was entered in the

Good Beer Guide and it has become a favourite visit when we take the train to Tisbury for a wander around the five pubs. This year when it came to voting for the Branch Pub of the Year The Boot was a clear favourite, not only is good beer guaranteed but there is always a friendly welcome from



Ron Turner receives his certificate from members of the branch

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Ron and the regulars sat at the bar. The pub provides a relaxing place to meet and chat without loud music or games machines. Recently, Ron's son Ollie has been taking over responsibility for the Beer, ensuring it is always served in the best possible condition. When we visited to make the presentation there was a choice of Flowers Original and IPA, 6X, and Bass all excellent.



Ollie is also presented with the certificate

The evening passed with several beers a good chat and why we thought it was such a good pub.

“I used to come here for the best Royal Oak around, now I come for the excellently kept Bass” said Martin supping his pint of Bass. When it came to time to present the certificate we migrated to the garden and a delighted Ron and his wife Ruth received their award.

“Although the beer is all up to Ollie these days” said Ron. So we presented the certificate to him as well.

Congratulations Ron, Ruth and Ollie and thanks for providing us with such good beer and such a good pub. Good luck in the next stage of the competition

Factfile Pub of the Year

Every year each branch of CAMRA are allowed to enter one pub in their area in the national Pub of the Year Competition. These pubs are visited by CAMRA officials and scored on such things as quality of real ale, community focus, promotion of Real Ale. Any type of Pub can win, from a country pub with good food and gardens to a back street local, so long as they are a good example of their type. The first round of the competition results in a Pub of the Region, in our case Wessex, which is entered into the super-regional competition. The 5 or 6 super regional winners are judged for the title CAMRA National Pub of the Year.

Factfile

Eldridge Pope

Eldridge Pope were a traditional regional brewer owning a brewery in Dorchester and an estate of tied pubs as outlets for their beer. In the wave of changes after the beer orders legislation they sold the brewery and became a pubco. They expanded the pub ownership including developing the Slurping Toad range of theme pubs. They have recently fought off take over proposals which significantly undervalued the group.

Chairman Christopher Pope has admitted that there were errors in their pub development strategy and that they tried to expand too fast buying some very poor quality sites in the process. He has now announced a 'back to basics' campaign and appointed the former finance boss as the new chief executive.

The company restructuring will include selling off under performing pubs and concentrating on those where sales have held up better.

The Cuckoo Inn



The Cuckoo Inn at Hamptworth is a warm, friendly and traditional pub run by Tim & Jan Bacon.

Situated just to the north of the New Forest boundary accessible from the A36 at Landford.

It is well known for providing a good selection of beers, i.e Hopback, Pots etc., all served straight from the barrel. The Cuckoo also serves excellent food and snacks.

Children are welcome and can be accommodated within the enclosed garden that surrounds this pleasant English pub.

Private garden with barbecue and Petanque terrains available by arrangement.

**Hamptworth, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP5 2DU
Tel: 01794 390302**

THE VILLAGE FREE HOUSE

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(01722) 329707

Open 3:00 - 11:00 Mon.
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12:00 - 5:00 & 7:00 - 10:30 Sun

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A Selection of Quality Cask Ales

Abbey Ales Bellringer
Timothy Taylor Landlord
Three Ever-Changing Guest Ales

A Friendly Welcome Awaits You

*Salisbury & South Wilts CAMRA
Pub of the Year 2001*

*Downstairs at
The Village*

Function Room with private bar
Suitable for up to fifty people
Available for hire
Reasonable rates

Wagtail - You loved it

Early in 2002 when we were planning the Beerex, the Black Isle brewery in Scotland, just north of Inverness, were phoned by East West Ales of Kent enquiring if they could supply a kilderkin (kil -18 gallon cask) of Wagtail in June. 'If you can get it to Caledonian Brewery in Edinburgh we can collect it from there.'

Black Isle is a small brewery and had never before supplied East West Ales. Most of their beer is distributed around Scotland and a request for a single kil is unusual. Nothing ventured nothing gained they decided they could deliver to Caledonian on one of the days when they were selling their bottled beers at the farmers market in Edinburgh.

This well travelled Wagtail arrived at the Salisbury Arts Centre and was placed on the stillage in the marquee to settle. By the Thursday evening session it was in perfect condition, a rich black porter with lots of earthy, nutty flavours.

Beerex opened and closed, you all came and went and voted for your favourite beer of the festival. The winner was, Wagtail - a porter from a small brewery in Northern Scotland.

Dave was delighted to hear the news and discover where the beer he had left in Edinburgh had been headed. It was the first award he had won for his cask ales and it had come from a single kil at a festival in southern England We promised to visit and present a certificate.

May 2003 and two of the branch were on holiday in Inverness so took the bus across the Kessock Bridge to Munloch and walked the mile down deserted country lanes to the brewery at Old Allangrange. We were welcomed by Dave and given a tour of the brewery which is in an old farm building with thick stone walls making the beer store easy to keep cool. He has a gas fired 5 barrel plant which was partly dismantled for cleaning. Dave's aim is to use top quality, organic ingredients to produce a quality product 'Beer with the Great Outdoors Brewed In' and he has a real enthusiasm for it.

It just happened that on our visit there was some Wagtail in the conditioning tank so we were able to toast Dave with his own beer as he received his certificate.

“It is so good to get recognition from Beer festivals especially ones you didn't even know you had supplied. I employ a local youngster as my brewer, he produces all the beer and never sees where it goes or hears what people think, this is a real encouragement to people like him to see the appreciation there is for his efforts.”



Dave Gladwin receives the winners certificate Beerex 2002 for Wagtail .

The brewery owns the Kilcoy Arms Hotel at Tore, on A9 and has a share in Hootananny Ceilidh bar in Inverness. A lot of the beer is bottled, both filtered and bottle conditioned, and sold directly at the brewery, by post

and at farmers markets in Scotland.

If you can't get to the Brewery you can take a virtual tour and order some bottles of beer at www.blackislebrewery.com.

Save Our Pubs

There have been a few of our local Pubs threatened with closure in the past weeks. The **Butt of Ale** in Paul's Dene has been closed and there is an application with the planning department to build 10 houses on the site. Claims have been made that it was not a viable business but I suspect that efforts had been made to ensure it was not viable so that these claims could be made. The land is worth more for housing so the local residents can lose their Pub and drive elsewhere.

There is an application to close **The Star** in Brown St and with some new building convert it into three dwellings. Maybe in this case the regulars can pop across the road to another Pub but where does it stop and how can we lose such a historic pub, it has been a pub since 1455. CAMRA and individual members of CAMRA have been busy putting these questions to the planners as objections to the applications. We now have to wait and see and hope we can save our pubs.

On a happier note, **The Duck** in Laverstock is no longer up for sale so should remain a pub. Watch this space for further news.

As part of the Campaign for Real Ale we Campaign for Pubs so that our traditional Public Houses are available for us to drink our Real Ale in. If you know of any Pubs under threat of closure or which are changing hands please let us know. Contact The Pub Preservation Officer Richard Knox on 01722 320238 or email richard.knox@salisburycamra.org.uk.

Coming Soon - The Latest Guide to:

Real Ale in Salisbury & South Wiltshire

All the Pubs in South Wiltshire. Details of those selling Real Ale.

Bus Routes

Car Park

Opening Hours

Food

Gardens

Phone number

All you need to find your way to the next pint

Cathy and Giles

welcome you to



The Pelican Inn

STAPLEFORD, SALISBURY
Telephone 01722 790241

Home-cooked foods
inc. Sunday Roast

Traditional Real Ales

Large garden
good children's play
area

Families welcome
Special children's
menu

*Old, friendly, comfortable pub with warming inglenook and staff.
Excellent value for money. En-suite, self contained
accommodation.*

Otter and Ringwood Ales served regularly + weekly guests

Champion Beer Of Britain - Scotland does it again

Last year was the first time that a Scottish Beer had won **Supreme Champion Beer of Britain** by the tasting panel at the Great British Beer Festival. This year was the second time as **Harviestoun Bitter & Twisted** took the title.

This is a golden, very hoppy beer with citrus tastes so you almost think it must contain lemons. At 3.8% ABV an excellent summer quaffing pint.

Silver was awarded to a slightly stronger hoppy golden beer, **Crouch Vale Brewers Gold** which is often available in the Winchester Gate in Salisbury.

Bronze was one of my all time favourites which I discovered at Norwich Beer Festival several years ago, **Lidstones Rowley Mild** at just 3.2% you can quench a true thirst and walk home yet you would never believe its low gravity as it is full of chocolate, toffee and other malty flavours.

The only local success this year in the competition was **Bronze** in the Bitter Class for Triple FF of Alton with Alton Pride.

Factfile

CBoB is judged by a tasting panel of experts from the Brewing Industry, CAMRA and celebrities. The results are announced at the trade session of the Great British Beer Festival at Olympia. Beers for tasting are nominated by local tasting panels, beer festivals and CAMRA members.



Beer by Bus X4 Salisbury to Bath



The pubs of the Wyllye valley can all be reached by the X4 from Salisbury or anywhere on the route. The bus runs hourly from 7 am to 6 pm Mondays to Saturdays so lunch at any of the pubs is possible. If you time it right you can lunch at one and visit another but remember they are not all open in the afternoon.

The Bell Wyllye 01985 248338 is a short walk down from the Deptford Flyover. The Rainbow on the Lake, Steeple Langford 01722 790251 has the bus stop in the Village. The Pelican, Stapleford 01722 790241 has a stop outside. The Swan, Stoford 01722 790236 is also on the main road or from Stoford you can walk ½ mile to the Royal Oak, Great Wishford 01722 790079. Next is The Bell, South Newton 01722 743336 on the main road and a selection of pubs in Wilton.

Tickets from Salisbury are easy as to get far out of the city it is cheapest to buy a Getaway ticket for unlimited travel that day.

For bus times visit the bus station or phone 01722 336855 or visit www.wdbus.co.uk



Winterfest VI

Although Winterfest I seems only yesterday, February 14th & 15th 2003 brought you Winterfest VI.

With 21 Real Ales and all tickets sold it was a great success with all the beers up to scratch and lots of happy punters. The pasties and rolls were appreciated by the

peckish and the beers quenched 300 thirsts.

For this festival we concentrate on winter beers and take the opportunity to feature milds, stouts and porters although all tastes were catered for with other brews ranging from the light 3.5% Milk Street Gulp to Batemans 4.8% XXXB and Briscoe's 5.8% Puddled & Barmy not forgetting Oakham White Dwarf Wheat Beer.

Get Wise Jazzed up Friday and The Widgets covered Saturday evening.

Your Beer of the Festival was Roosters Oyster Stout with Skinners Jingle Knocker and St Austell Black Prince second and third.

Winterfest VII Fri & Sat 30th & 31st Jan 2004 .

Barrel Organ—In a Pub near You?

Is the quarterly newsletter produced by the Salisbury & South Wiltshire branch of CAMRA. It is produced and distributed by volunteers to a number of Pubs in the South Wiltshire area.

If it isn't in a Pub near you please let us know and we'll try to deliver it there.

If you want your own personal copy we offer a postal service for £1.50 per year (4 copies) to cover postage. Please apply to the editor.

Any articles, news and views should be sent to the Editor.

Hilary Bird, New House, Cherry Orchard Lane, Salisbury, SP2 7JG

01722 333839 or Barrel.organ@salisburycamra.org.uk

The editor reserves the right to edit all contributions.

If you would like to advertise in Barrel Organ contact the Editor.

For other branch matter contact Mike Bird 01722 333839

or email mike.bird@salisburycamra.org.uk

PRESS DATE - The deadline for articles for the next edition of Barrel Organ is November 15th 2003.



The Old Mill
Netheravon
(01980) 670631

Regular Beers

Benchmark 3.5% ABV
Pigswill 4.0% ABV
Bodyline 4.3% ABV
Heel Stone 4.3% ABV
Danish Dynamite 5.0% ABV

Seasonal Beers

Sign of Spring 4.6% ABV
(March - May)
Second to None 4.6% ABV
(June - August)
Old Smokey 5.0% ABV
(Sept. - Nov.)
Rudolph 5.0% ABV
(December - January)

**ENGLISH ALES
SCOTTISH MEASURES
IRISH CRAIC**

DEACONS

FISHERTON STREET
Salisbury
01722 504723

PLUS A WARM WELCOME FROM FRANK, ANNIE AND STAFF

We're in the Good Beer Guide

Festival Focus

Wot no Beerex

This year June came and went and the Salisbury Beerex didn't happen. It had been planned that the Arts Centre would be closed for refurbishment during 2003 so Beerex would miss a year. Sadly this didn't happen and it now looks like the Arts Centre will be shut in 2004 so won't be available for Beerex 2004. Do not Despair there will be a CAMRA beer Festival next summer although it will probably be a smaller event. Watch this Space for News.

Langford Beer Festival

The 4th Langford Beer Festival is on 19th & 20th September on the sports field at Steeple Langford. The sessions are Fri 7-11, Sat 12-4 and Sat 7-11. There will be at least 21 Real Ales, music at the evening sessions and Saturday afternoon is suitable for families. For details and tickets contact 01722 792700 or www.langfordbeerfestival.org.uk

Pompey Beerex

The 28th Pompey Beerex is on 19th & 20th September at the University with over 100 Ales. 6.30-11 Fri, 11-3.30 & 6.30-11 Sat. Tickets £7 including glass and £1.50 worth of beer. For more details contact the ticket hotline 023 9282 0867 or www.pompeybeerex.org.uk.

Branching Out

Over recent months the Local Branch have been out and about all over their branch area. Almost every month there is a coach trip to some of the country pubs or a brewery. There is also a crawl around a few pubs in Salisbury and a trip out by public transport to somewhere like Tisbury or Amesbury. In the summer months there is usually a Sunday Bike Ride to one or two country pubs.

Farther afield members from the branch head off to visit breweries and beer festivals around the country sometimes to present awards from our festivals. This summer has seen bike rides to The Bell at Wylde, The Hook & Glove at Farley and The Swan at Enford. The coach trips have taken us to all the Pubs in Whiteparish then on to the Newport Inn in Braishfield for their excellent Gales Beers and traditional Saturday night sing-along. You don't have to sing and "This Festival Mild is wonderful stuff I could drink it all night" said Charlie - and he did!

We got the bus to Downton for a long awaited visit to Hop Back brewery and in July treated ourselves to a visit to Stonehenge Ales in Netheravon and were pleased to welcome several new faces along.

July saw us presenting a certificate to the Boot Inn, Tisbury and in August we got the train to Southampton for a mini crawl. The South Western Arms in St Denys had a choice of 9 beers including Portchester Slingshot and some very tasty Cottage 'Ernie Ales'. The Richmond Inn in Portswood had some excellent Green King XX mild and finally Hop Back's Waterloo was serving 6 of their beers including excellent Entire Stout and a guest from Robinsons.

We were invited to send two representatives to the Ringwood Brewery 25th Anniversary celebrations. The lucky nominees spent a few hours with a brewery tour, hog roast, the Old thumper Jazz Band and Ringwood beers "It is such hard work representing the Branch" said Mike.

City crawls usually include 4 or 5 pubs so we get to all of the Pubs in Salisbury every couple of years. We have crawled around Harnham, Fisherton Street and the City Centre.

If you always thought CAMRA was boring meetings but this sounds like fun the Diary is on the back page and is published in What's Brewing - sent to all CAMRA members. City Crawls, and rail trips you can just turn up, other trips should be booked (see back page for details).



Branch Diary

September 2003

Wed 3rd	Branch Meeting	8pm Wyndham Arms, Salisbury	
Sun 7th	Bike Ride to Newton Tony	Rugby Club 10.30	
Sat 13th	Skittles vs Martin Club	7pm Coach Station	
Wed 17th	City Crawl	8pm Hogshead (Fisherton St), 9pm Haunch of Venison,	10pm Kings Head Wetherspoons
Fri 19th	Langford Beer Festival	Book Direct 01722 792700	
Sat 20th	Portsmouth Beer Festival	Book Direct 023 9282 0867	
Sat 27th	Mystery Trip	7pm Coach Station	

October 2003

Wed 1st	Branch Meeting	8pm Royal George
Sat 11th	Presentation to Roosters	
Wed 15th	Tisbury Crawl	6.50pm Station, 7.45pm Boot
Sat 25th	Wylve Valley Coach	7pm Coach Station

Bike ride details contact Ian 01722 331134

Other trips and bookings contact Martin 01722 502813

JOIN CAMRA TODAY

Fill in the form and send it with a cheque (payable to CAMRA Ltd.) to:
Membership Secretary, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Rd, St Albans HERTS AL1 4LW.
Rates: Single £16 Joint £19 per year (Concessions available)

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode.....

I/We wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale and agree to abide by its rules.

Signature.....

Date.....

Salisbury and South Wilts Branch BO September 2003

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor, CAMRA or Salisbury & South Wiltshire Branch of CAMRA. © Salisbury & South Wiltshire Branch 09/03.