

BARREL



ORGAN



Salisbury & South Wiltshire Campaign for Real Ale

October - December 2004

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FREE Newsletter

Butt of Ale SAVED!?

On August 10th the appeal by developers Pennyfarthing Homes Ltd against the councils decision to refuse their plans for houses on the Butt of Ale site on Pauls Dene was heard by Her Majesties Inspector of Planning, Michael Hall. The council had refused the change of use of the site as the local plan states demolition of the pub that 'the change of use of premises within settlements that are currently used, or have been used for retailing, as a public house or to provide a community facility central to the economic and/or social life of the settlement, will only be permitted where the applicant can prove that the current or previous use is no longer viable'.

Feeling is high on Pauls Dene and the appeal was attended by about 150 residents, the local beat constable - who spoke in support of the pub and the local branch of CAMRA's Public House Officer.

The developer's argument was simply that PS3 (the policy covering loss of amenities) does not apply to developments in Salisbury and it only applies to rural communities. The Council response was, while PS3 was never meant to be applied the commercial centre of Salisbury, the city area includes a number of distinct satellite communities, including Pauls Dene, to which the policy can be, and is applied.

The Inspector has refused the appeal, further he considered evidence given to him that the Butt of Ale was not viable was "insufficient" and it appeared from the evidence presented that a decision to close the premises was taken within a period of three months of the public house being acquired. There was no evidence about changing or improving the service provided to the community, improve the viability of the pub, advertising the pub, changing the tenant or of any attempt to sell or let the property to another operator. In summary, the Inspector decision, upholds that of the council and recognises the importance of the Butt of Ale to the local community. Brilliant news that vindicates the campaign by local residents to keep there pub.

What happens now? There is a rumour that the developers have submitted a plan to redevelop the site that incorporates a public house in the development. This could be an acceptable compromise. I will keep you informed.

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Winterfest 7 - The Presentations

At Winterfest 7 in January this year from the range of 21 Real Ales you voted for you favourites in the Beer of the Festival competition.

The Winner was:

Skidders Pennycomequick - a full bodied very tasty stout

Joint Runners up were:

Roosters Hooligan - pale aromatic and with citrus flavours.

St Austell Tribute - a traditional malty pale amber bitter.

It is good to see three different beer styles appearing in the winners list and to see all of the beers at the festival attracting some votes.

This left the task of presenting the winners with their certificates, festival glasses and programmes (so they could see who they bettered).

While visiting York for the Rail Festival and several crawls around the magnificent

pubs there Mike, Hilary and Joe travelled to Knaresborough to see Sean Franklin at **Roosters brewery**. After an interesting tour and an update on Roosters beers Sean was presented with his certificate. The only downside of the visit was that Blind Jacks an excellent beer pub in Knaresborough was shut at lunchtime.

Summer saw branch members holidaying in Devon & Cornwall take the opportunity to visit Skidders and St Austell - not on the same day.



Skidders moved to new premises last year and have just about completed the conversion of the old Plumb Centre into the new brewery complete with shop and tours. The change since our visit last year, only weeks after the move, was amazing and beer has been brewed throughout. Delighted with another certificate from Salisbury - visit them to see how many there are on the walls of the tasting bar - Steve Skinner received his award for Pennycomequick and told us to get along to the Falmouth Beer Festival if we wanted to see what a festival should be like.

When we get there we'll tell all.



St Austell is the longstanding traditional regional brewery for Cornwall and West Devon, established in 1851. Over the past few years they have launched a number of new beers which have been more readily available outside their traditional area. A trip around the brewery is well worth the time and it is great to see a victorian brewhouse still doing what it was designed to do and doing it well within today's brewing industry.

It's a pity Salisbury doesn't have one!



Winterfest 8

4th & 5th February 2005

Fri 6.30—11.00

Sat 11.00—3.30

Sat 6.30—11.00

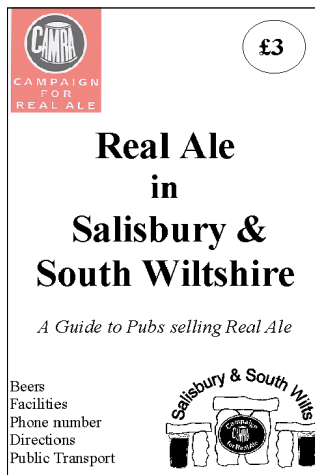
Castle Street Social Club
Scots Lane
Salisbury

Tickets £4

Available in December 2004

From Ottakars, Village Freehouse,
Wyndham Arms, Salisbury,
'Winterfest' 32 Linkway, Salisbury,
SP1 3EP. Send SAE, state which
session contact phone number and
enclose cheque payable to Salisbury &
S. Wilts CAMRA

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Available from Tourist Information
Ottakars, Cross Keys Bookshop,
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Mail order from "Local Guide," New
House, Cherry Orchard Lane
Salisbury SP2 7JG.

Include address and cheque for £3.50
(inc P&P) payable to Salisbury & S.
Wilts CAMRA

Take the Kids!

Whilst we all enjoy a night out with friends at a good pub drinking good beer, occasionally it's nice to take the family out. It has been some time since the branch last toured on a Sunday lunch and it is a great afternoon out for both parents and children. Lunch time along the Wylde Valley we visited three pubs all of which allowed children, in the gardens at least, and all with food for those who needed to soak up some of the ale.

We arrived at Wylde before **The Bell** opened so the children enjoyed a spell on the swings and climbing frame. Four real ales were available: Hop Back GFB, Ringwood Best, Butcome Bitter and Stonehenge Pigswill. The beer was disappointing and the dispense unusual. (It was under temporary management and is reported to be fine again now so worth a visit to find out for yourself. - ED)

Next was **The Carriers** at Stockton with Hop Back GFB and Butcombe Bitter both in good condition. A great atmosphere, very much as I remember of Sunday lunchtime at village pubs.

Finally **The Dove** at Corton with a good choice of Real Ales including Timothy Taylor Landlord which certainly lived up to its excellent reputation.

Ian

Your Public House Officer Calling

Rai D'Or., Brown Street, Salisbury. Although approval has been now granted to convert it into housing we are delighted that the Landlord Simon Wheeler **is NOT planning to change use**. Excellent news from a first-rate city pub. Use it or lose the oldest (probably) operating pub site in Salisbury.

Appletree Inn, Morgans Vale: An application to use the derelict site for housing was turned down under PS3. The site owner (and the former landlord) has now appealed this decision. No date has yet been set for this appeal.

The Three Horseshoes, The Alley, Bishopstone. Closed. An application for change of use from public house to residential property has been refused by the Council. This application raised a lot of objections with a strong local action group pressing for the pub to be saved, other residents supported the application. The report by the planning officer stated that PS3 should not apply to this application mainly because there is another, nearby, pub in the village and the proposed development should be allowed. This view was rejected by the area planning committee. Again, I will keep you informed of any future developments.

The Moon, Woodside Road, Bemerton Heath, Salisbury. Closed. Built in 1969 as the 'Conquered Moon' this was a typical estate pub with only fizz to drink. The Council have made it known that they consider PS3 does apply to the Bemerton Heath area of Salisbury and they could also see the site developed as a community facility (probably unlicensed).

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The Cuckoo Inn



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

Beer at the Stag

Over the Autumn bank holiday, the Stag at Charlton-all-saints held a small beer and cider festival. This is the first one held there - new management which took over earlier this year - so there weren't huge numbers of patrons, and possibly the fact that the weather wasn't particularly outdoorsy brilliant may well have discouraged people too. The Stag lies on the Salisbury Rd. between Salisbury and Downton and is a deliciously quirky pub; being on the busy A338 makes for a noisy background to conversation, in the garden at least but the buses stop right outside. The pub has of late made a play for the biker contingent, presumably attracting out of the passing traffic; however, my experience has been that bikers drink more ale than the other stuff, so that may be a good thing. Certainly there were a noticeable sprinkling of bikers to be seen at the festival. The beer is doubtless the subject of most interest to you so I'll get straight to that:- There were three from Moles: **Rucking Mole**, **Landlord's Choice**, and **Molecatcher**. Then there were three from Burton Bridge: **Festive**, **Battle Brew**, and **Golden Delicious**. Also, **Pitchfork** from RCH, and **Lady of the lake** from Glastonbury Brewery. That made for a fair range of flavour and a range of ABVs from the early 3% s to 5.5%. Many of you may not be as interested in cider as I am, but for the record, there was Black Rat, in it's cask form, tying in to the Mole's connection, Janet's Jungle Juice from Westcroft, Weston,s Old Rosie, and an unidentified one referred to as Hairy Armpit! ABV's from 6% to 9.3% and ranging quite dramatically between dry and sweetish.

A good little festival I thought, and if they do it again sometime I shall certainly toddle along. It's a nice easy cycle, or even walk, from Downton and has an X3 bus-stop right outside for those less inclined towards exercise. Hilton

Downton Drivel:

Welcome to the first of a series of an occasional (possibly very occasional) articles with news and comment from the extreme southern corner of the South Wilts region. This is comprised of the villages of Redlynch, Morgan's Vale, Woodfalls, Lover, and Downton itself. That is the sort of area which will have the greatest emphasis at any rate, though this is quite likely the last time you'll see mention of Lover since it fails to contain a pub. To compensate, there may be the need to make the odd foray over the border to Fritham, Whitbury, or even Woodgreen.

Refurbishment is the subject of this particular effort, the reason being that the **King's Arms** has had a refit this year, the last pub in Downton to have major reorganisation: an opportunity then for a synopsis and summary of recent changes.

The Bull had a spruce up late last century when Hopback took it over and it briefly kept the full range of Hopback output plus a Downton brewed cider. The loss of the latter and the lovely Entire Stout was a terrible shame. The Bull is a fine pub in many respects but can be a gamble one's pint. I have been served a truly awful pint of Thaiphoon, although I wondered whether it was simply not to my taste. I've never had a foul pint of Summer Lightening there though.

Next to have extensive work done was the **Wooden Spoon**. Whilst they were building up their now considerable reputation for good food, they operated out of a miniscule kitchen, which was not a feasible long term option. Happily plans do appear to be long term and the old pool room has made way for an enlarged kitchen. At the same time a rather nice old wood-burning stove has appeared in the public bar.

The White Horse hadn't had a major renovation since the old stables were converted into an eating area (and we lost the Museum - but that's an old gripe). A lot of people, it seems, felt that this made it feel too cavernous in there, and even though there were little side-rooms and nooks which offered a greater feel of intimacy if one wished. A large partition has sorted that out, breaking up internal hall. The White Horse provided a sociable venue for the Six Nations tournament, and started trying different beers. They usually have Ringwood Best and Greene King Abbot. The third beers tried thus far include Durdle Door from the Dorset Brewing Company - a very tasty, malty brew which I've tried at the Dorchester Beerex, Molecatcher from up the road at Melksham, Hole-Hearted from Oakleaf in Gosport, Ringwood's 49er, and Butcombe Best.

Finally we return to the **King's Arms**. It is a positive feature of it's temporary closure, I think, that people who otherwise might not have exposed themselves to the other delights in the village have been forced to vary their experience; it has been good for other village pubs because a lot of King's Arms drinkers are committed ale drinkers, not namby-pamby drinkers of 'girly' * drinks like lager or nitro/smooth/John Smiths extra-cool and the like, and they showed appreciation for good beer where they found it by emptying casks of it; which stimulated publicans to get more in. The pub was difficult to recognise inside, for some: The old Lounge bar is now the Public bar and vice-versa, the kitchens are in a completely different place, there is a Gamesroom in the place of the old kitchen, and the blackened exposed beams are now sandblasted pale.

Up the road in Morgan's Vale, the incinerated Apple Tree Inn awaits it's fate. Her's hoping it will be another refurbishment (radical) story in the future. It has been saved from obliteration thanks to a vociferous crowd up at Morgan's Vale and Redlynch though the developer wishes to appeal the decision. The developer (or perhaps 'vandal' would be a better word) hopes to replace an old, thatched Freehouse dating back to the 14th century, with 5 houses!

* The word 'girly' is used here in the perjorative sense to imply general frilliness, softness, and inability to throw properly, and not to impugn the female sex as a group. The group it is intended to impugn is that which considers itself masculine yet continues to consume these peculiar substances. Including alco-pops.

**ENGLISH ALES
SCOTTISH MEASURES
IRISH CRAIC**

DEACONS

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PLUS A WARM WELCOME FROM FRANK, ANNIE AND STAFF

We're in the Good Beer Guide



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Sign of Spring 4.6% ABV
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(December - January)

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Come and see us to talk about beer - it's our favourite subject.

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Sunday 10.00am – 1.00pm

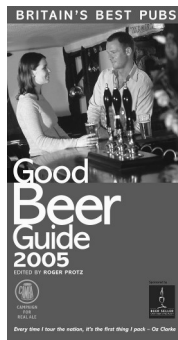
Real Ale in a Bottle

In August this year CAMRA launched a new initiative to allow shoppers to easily see which bottled beers are bottle conditioned or in other words are **Real Ale**.



By the launch about 40 brewers had joined the initiative and bottles with the Real Ale logo (above) should be appearing on the shelves now. Look out for the logo so when you can't drink real ale in its natural habitat - the pub, you can still enjoy the quality of a decent drink. If you are worried about choice - there are over 500 available, many from small producers. They should be available in some supermarkets but the best range is usually found in shops specialising in quality products.

Good Beer Guide 2005 - Out Now



Published in September this is the Guide to the Pubs with Good Real Ale. All the entries are supplied by CAMRA branches and are the pubs in their areas which they felt had the best Real Ale at the survey time - Feb/ Mar 2004.

For each pub there is a list of the Real Ales stocked at the survey time, a description of the pub sometimes with pointers at to how they select their range of beers and other useful information such as food, accommodation garden and most valuable so you can check details before travelling a long way - the phone number. From bookshops or CAMRA and there is a discount from CAMRA if you are a member.

Also has details breweries and their real ales. When I go somewhere new the GBG pubs are my starting point for the Good Pub & Good Real Ale hunt.

From the Diary - What the Branch Did in the Summer.

June - The first of our summer walk city crawls saw us meet in **Tom Browns** for Goldfinch Tom Browns or Flashmans Clout before our guided walk to Netherhampton and the choice of 4 excellent ales stocked at the **Victoria and Albert** (a nice walk and even nicer beer!)

Sat 19th saw us on a train to Romsey to the GBG pubs there - **The Star** and **The Abbey** were fine, but I liked **The Tudor Rose** best - could be Theakstons Old Peculiar!

July became festival month with our own **Summerfest 1** - not a bad turn out for the first festival - followed by the Summerlite Festival at **The Village** with a good selection of beers all below 4%.

We had a Branch AGM and elected a new Chairman - Richard Knox and officially made Ian Turner Webmaster. Our city crawl was by bus to Wilton and **The Wheatsheaf**, **The Greyhound** and **The Bear**.

August saw the second of our summer walk city crawls starting at **The Royal George**, then to **The Winchester Gate** and over the hill to **The Duck**, Laverstock.

Coach trips resumed with a tour of the three pubs of the Woodford Valley - none of which I have visited before. **The Wheatsheaf**, Lower Woodford served a fine pint of Fursty Ferret from Badger and were very particular about checking the quality of the new cask before they would sell it - good cellarmanship in action. **The Bridge**, Upper Woodford was very busy with food and **The Black Horse**, Durnford is an amazingly eccentric pub with well kept beers from Ringwood and Hop back. We ended the evening with Stonehenge Ales Pigswill, sandwiches and chips at **The Dog & Gun**, Netheravon.

September included the National Food and Drink Week and Salisbury's first Festival of Food & Drink. Hop Back sponsored the Beer tent which was supported by 9 local brewers and staffed by the brewers and CAMRA members. Stonehenge Ales launched their new brew - Spire Ale - at the festival and it was the first to sell out in the beer tent. In all 1600 pints of Real Ale were drunk and next years festival is in planning. Our city crawl was again out of Salisbury, by train to Tisbury and all 5 of the pubs. Top marks for atmosphere and quality ale go to **The Boot**, **The Crown** and **The South Western** - all with different atmospheres, all with different beers and all very welcoming. Why not join in - look at the diary and come along, you need to book for coach trips.

HIDDEN BREWERY

	ABV	
OLD SARUM	4.1 %	REGULAR
HIDDEN PINT	3.8 %	SEASONAL
HIDDEN QUEST	4.2 %	REGULAR
HIDDEN DEPTHS	4.5 %	SEASONAL
HIDDEN TREASURE	4.8 %	SEASONAL
HIDDEN POTENTIAL	?? %	SEASONAL



01722 716440

WWW.THEHIDDENBREWERY.CO.UK

Chimera Wheat ABV 4.7%

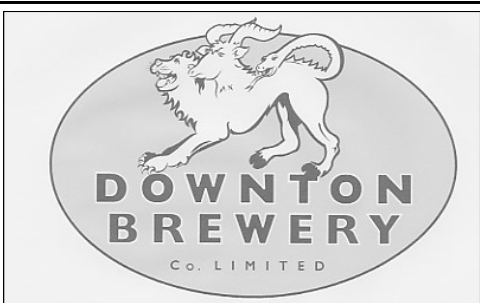
A golden wheat beer, brewed using East Kent Goldings, Pioneer Hops and pale wheat malt. Soft tasting with slight citric fruit flavours and a pleasingly clean aftertaste

Chimera Gold ABV 4.3%

Brewed using organic First Gold Hops, and organic pale and crystal Optic malts. Amber gold in colour, with a pleasant hoppy bitterness and citric fruit flavours and a pleasing hoppy, bitter aftertaste.

Chimera IPA ABV 6.8%

Traditional very strong bitter IPA brewed using Challenger, East Kent Goldings and Pioneer hops.



Chimera Red ABV 4.6%

Brewed with Tettnang and East Kent Goldings, Chimera Red is a copper-coloured beer with a delicious malty bitterness and a subtle floral finish.

For more information contact Martin: (01722) 322890

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)

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I/We wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale.

Signature.....

Date.....

Salisbury and South Wilts Branch BO October 2004

Branch Diary

October 2004

Wed 6 th	Branch Meeting	20.00 Village Freehouse
Thu 7 th – Sat 9 th	Great Western Beer Fest Weymouth	SIBA & CAMRA
Fri 15 th	Presentation Hidden Brewery	names to Chris
Wed 20 th	City Crawl	20.00 Royal Oak, Devizes Rd, 21.00 Wilton, Wilton Rd, 22.00 Deacons
Fri 29 th / Sat 30 th	Overton Beer Festival	

November 2004

Wed 3 rd	Branch Meeting	20.00 Winchester Gate
Wed 17 th	City Crawl	20.00 Haunch of Venison, 21.00 Chough, 22.00 White Horse
Sat 27 th	Presentation - Milk Street Brewery	early evening coach trip names to Chris

December 2004

Wed 1 st	Branch Meeting	20.00 Royal George
Sat 18 th	Christmas Social	19.30 Village Freehouse
Wed 22 nd	City Crawl	19.30 Rai D'Or details to follow

Look out for further details or log on to
www.salisburycamra.org.uk

Further dates to be arranged: the branch meeting is on the first Wednesday of every month, there are monthly pub crawls, regular coach trips to country pubs, trips out on public transport and visits to breweries.

Names for coach trips to Chris White 07989185049

Other information contact Mike Bird 01722 333839

Another way to know what we are doing is to join CAMRA and see it all in What's Brewing the monthly newspaper FREE to CAMRA members.

Barrel Organ 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. Or maybe you would like to volunteer to deliver it to a few pubs.

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

Any articles, news and views or requests for advertising 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. For other branch matters 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 December 15th 2004.

Cheers!

1988 - 2003

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REFRESHINGLY HOPPY BEERS

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