

camra angle

The magazine from the Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead branch of The Campaign for Real Ale

Issue 35 - Summer 2014 | www.swmcamra.org.uk

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take one



Inside...

> MAIDENHEAD BEER FESTIVAL

The Bear, Maidenhead High Street, sponsors the festival.

> LIST IT OR LOSE IT

Asset of Community Value application form inside.



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wetherspoon

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> FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to this bumper 40 page Summer issue of CAMRA Angle. The pub sector continues to reflect the general improvement in the economy and, in our own branch area, pub closures seem to be slowing. The Morning Advertiser recently reported that more jobs are on offer in pubs and bars than at any point since 2008, with a 34% hike in pub jobs.

Sadly, two of our high profile cases have taken a turn for the worse. The Bull in Iver has closed its doors for good after the locals failed to raise enough cash to purchase the pub from debt-laden Punch Taverns. The Golden Harp in Furze Platt will open as a Tesco Express later this month after an exhaustive campaign led by the local action group. In this issue we have reproduced an application form to apply for Asset of Community Value status for your local; there are now more than 300 pubs that give the local community the ability to purchase their pub if it comes up for sale.

CAMRA is an apolitical campaigning body and under its remit continues to fight for proposals under the Sustainable Communities Act to government, urging it to close national planning loopholes that are leaving pubs vulnerable. Publicans have been left 'clinging on' by the year wait since the government promised to reform pub companies (pubco's). At April's CAMRA AGM, the National Executive voted not to work with pubco's until legislation is in place to give pub landlords a better deal.

Our front cover shot was taken outside The Bear in Maidenhead High Street showing manager Dan Foster and Maidenhead Beer Festival manager Alan Molloy, as well as a somewhat skinny Bear. The pub is sponsoring our festival, donating a 20% off meal voucher to be used in the week after the festival. Our hosts Maidenhead United Football Club will be officially opening their new stand on the Saturday, before staging a pre-season friendly football match against local rivals Slough Town. Sunday has been designated a Family Day with free parking available throughout most of the town.

It's also good to see Maidenhead on the up after several years of decline. It has been named Town of the Year at the Thames Valley Property Awards in recognition of the progress made towards regenerating the town centre. The award was also for efforts to boost town centre trade which has seen footfall increase by more than 100,000 last year. New offices, in anticipation of Crossrail, are helping with growth.

We have 2 local success stories. Firstly, our only indigenous brewery, Windsor & Eton, has won Regional Gold in Strong Bitter category and goes through to the finals of the Champion Beer Of Britain (CBOB) competition for their Conqueror IPA ale. The final will be judged at the trade session of the first day of the Great British Beer Festival (GBBF), 12th August. Secondly, our very own cider maker Greg Davies, Salt Hill Cider, has landed the South of England Cider Champion award judged at The Reading Beer Festival. On receiving the award Greg said 'thanks, it's good to see a Berkshire cider doing battle with the West Country boys. Although we are unlikely to ever win the overall competition at least we can show them that the eastern counties do make decent cider and perry.'

So we now have a great run ahead, the World Cup, beer festivals galore including GBBF and our own Maidenhead Beer Festival on 18th to 20th July, although it might not overwhelmingly feel like it, good times have returned. Down a few pints and be happy!

Allan Willoughby
 Editor



Thanks to Simon Smith for the festival images



> MAIDENHEAD BEER FESTIVAL 2014

Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead Branch of CAMRA welcomes you to it's main annual event >

Chris Brown, the Royal Borough's award winning Town Crier is, once again, opening this year's beer festival at 1pm at Maidenhead United's football ground in York Road on Friday 18th July. The festival of real ales and real ciders culminates on Sunday 20th July which has been designated a special Family Day featuring Border Morris Dancers Armaleggan. Children under 18 have free entry and free parking is available throughout the town on the Sunday.

This year's festival is sponsored by The Bear, in the town's High Street. The Bear will be offering a generous 20% meal discount voucher for use in the week following the festival. Entrance throughout the festival is a modest £3, for Advantage Card holders £2, and for CAMRA members £1...remember to bring your card! Opening times are 12 noon to 10pm, Friday & Saturday, 12 noon to 7pm on Sunday.

We are especially grateful to this year's sponsors who are Bingham's Brewery, West Berkshire Brewery and Windsor & Eton Brewery as well as The Bear. CAMRA is a not for profit campaigning group and the sponsorship and entrance fees help us to lay on entertainment throughout the festival. Talking of which on Friday evening the place will rock with The Mighty

Playhouse, on the Saturday with Skin & Blister, both commencing at 7pm. Like last year the football club will be hosting a pre-season friendly at the ground - kick-off at 3pm against locals Slough Town. The club will be officially opening its brand new stand prior to the kick-off.

This year's chosen charity is The Link Foundation, a Maidenhead based Children's Charity committed to improving the lives of children and their families in the Maidenhead and surrounding areas, so why not put some of that loose change to a worthy cause? Link will have its own gazebo on the Saturday operating a fun tombola

A beer festival would be nothing without a food offering and this year in addition to the Hog Roast, there will be Curry, Chilli and a Vegetarian offering helping to dampen down over 80+ beers and 20+ ciders. A souvenir Festival Mini-Angle will list all beers and ciders as well as provide tasting notes.

Last year everyone was so well behaved and the beer festival brought people from other areas into Maidenhead, which helped to support local shops - what everyone wants. Transport links into the football ground are excellent with the station less than a 5 minute walk away.

So why not put the dates in your diary and follow us on Facebook, Twitter or keep track of events on the beer festival website, www.maidenheadbeerfest.org.uk



> FESTIVAL FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Beer Festival Football, Saturday 19th July at 3pm



v.



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SLOUGH TOWN

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BEER

FESTIVAL 2014



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FOR
REAL ALE



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at Maidenhead United Football Club, York Rd, SL6 1SF

Fri 18, Sat 19, Sun 20 July

Open: Fri/Sat 12noon - 10pm, Sun 12noon - 7pm

Admission: £3, Advantage Card Holders £2, CAMRA Members £1

**80+
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for children
under 18!**

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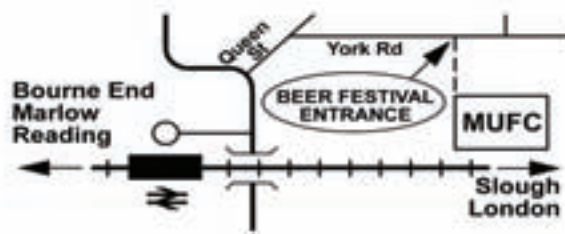
Presented by Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead CAMRA



@MaidenheadBeer

MaidenheadBeerFestival

www.maidenheadbeerfest.org.uk



> FESTIVAL ENTERTAINERS

> JOIN US FOR A DRINK OR TWO

We are holding pub crawls to publicise the Maidenhead Beer Festival, as follows >

- **Slough – Saturday 7th June.**
Meet at The Moon & Spoon at 1pm
- **Windsor – Saturday 21st June.**
Meet at The Carpenters Arms at 1pm
- **Maidenhead – Saturday 5th July.**
Meet at The Bear at 1pm or join us in the High Street Market, where we have a pitch all day. We also have a pitch at the Farmers Market on Sunday 13th July where you can sample some of our local beers, on the house!



'Armaleggan Border Morris Dancers' appear on Sunday Family Day
www.armaleggan.org

'Skin & Blister' appear on Saturday Night

 [TheSkinandBlisterBand](https://www.facebook.com/TheSkinandBlisterBand)



'The Mighty Playhouse' appear on Friday evening
www.lemonrock.com/mightyplayhouse



THE ADVENTURES OF CAMRA-N: THE REAL ALE MAN 3



CAMRA-N WAS OFFICIALLY IN HIS IDEA OF HEAVEN!

The Bounty

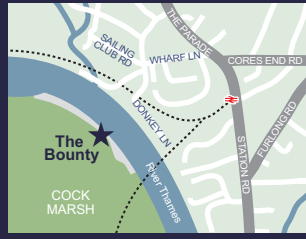


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> LOCAL NEWS



The Carpenters Arms in Windsor wins Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead CAMRA Pub of the Year >

Each year, local CAMRA members vote for their favourite pub from those which appear in our Good Beer Guide. Our 2014 winner, for the second successive year, is the Carpenters Arms in Windsor. The Carps finished just ahead of the White Horse in Hedgerley village.

Situated in a small cobble-stoned street close to the castle, the pub could easily rely on tourist trade and not bother with ale. But any tourist who is lucky enough to wander in will find an interesting range of very well kept ales ranging from national brands such as Fullers London Pride to unusual beers from smaller breweries dotted around the country.

Add to this friendly, knowledgeable staff and pleasant décor and you can see why it is popular, not only with tourists but also a loyal bunch of locals.

The award was presented to landlord, John Lee Perry by our chairman, Nick Wooldridge on 1st May.

Our warmest congratulations go to John and his staff. The pub now goes forward to the next heat of the national Pub of the Year competition where it will be judged against other branch winners in our region.

We wish them all the best.



> WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LOCAL PUB OR BREWERY?

Any beer related stories to tell? Send them to editor@camraangle.com, it's your mag!



No interest from Punch Taverns as they sell The Bull to the Audi dealer next door rather than throw a lifeline for the benefit of the residents >



The Bull, Iwer

"SAVE THE BULL" GROUP PRESS RELEASE SATURDAY APRIL 5th 2014

We have been informed that our bid for The Bull was not successful, however we are still in the frame should the current purchase not go through. We are told that the purchaser is Fontain Garage next door to the Bull. Regardless of this, The Bull remains a designated community asset and forms a significant part of the heritage of our village, being located in the conservation area and including a listed building. We would very much still like to be involved with developing The Bull as a pub serving its local community and have approached the new owner with information that may assist him.

In the meantime, once the sale has been completed, we will be returning investment cheques with an explanatory letter. However, this group hopes to be able to count on the support of all those who have been loyal to the cause should there be any planning applications that would appear to be at odds with the conservation area.

CAMRA Branch Annual General Meeting
Wednesday 6th August - 7.30pm
At the Watermans Arms, Eton

Sell out Beer Festival @ The Blackwood Arms >

The Blackwood Arms 2nd Easter Bank Holiday and St Georges Day celebration went down a storm. 15 additional ales and 4 ciders were racked outside the bar with live music over the long weekend. I arrived on the Monday amidst a torrential storm that saw the BBQ abandoned and the garden full of punters huddling under the marquees, but who cares, the ales were brilliant...by George!



Festival Beers



Slough in Bloom >

In 1994 a group of local business representatives met with Slough Borough Council officers to set up a Slough in Bloom competition. The idea was to improve the look of the town with flowers in residential gardens and commercial premises in addition

to those already provided by the council in parks and public buildings.

21 years later the competition is still running, although it is now organised by an independent committee

of professional horticulturalists and enthusiastic amateurs, with costs met by various sponsors.

If you have read this far you may be wondering what this has to do with me? Well, there is a category in the competition for public houses and restaurants. Displays of flowers do enhance the appeal of your pub. They are appreciated by your regulars and it is a known fact that passers-by and visitors are more likely to enter your hostelry than a nearby less attractive one. It may be that the cost of providing, say, window boxes and hanging baskets is a step too far in these harsh economic times, but anything is better than nothing. Perhaps it would be possible to provide a few baskets or a couple of tubs. The maintenance is important, so someone from your team would need to take on the project, if you are unable to employ a contractor.

Three Slough CAMRA pubs were successful in last year's competition. The Moon and Spoon and The Rose and Crown, both in the High Street, were gold winners and The Chestnuts in St Mary's Road, Langley, was awarded a silver for four magnificent hanging baskets.

Slough in Bloom 2014 was launched by the mayor of Slough, Councillor Balvinder Bains, on 30th April. Entries are closing on 5th July and judging takes place approximately a fortnight later.

If you would like to enter, or want to find out more, please contact me on 01753 595838 or e-mail malpinniss@yahoo.co.uk. I look forward to hearing from you.

Margaret Inniss, Chair of Slough in Bloom



> POP ALONG FOR A PINT & A CHAT!

CAMRA members are welcome to join in with our monthly meetings, pop along and meet the crew, meetings start at 7.30pm >

- June 11th - Perseverance, Wraysbury
- July 9th - Bear, Maidenhead
- August 6th - Star & Garter, Colnbrook

'Turpin pub' in Hurley given community asset listing >

The Dew Drop Inn has been listed as an asset of community value by the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. It means residents and community groups in Hurley will have a say on its future if its owners put it up for sale.

Dick Turpin was said to have visited the watering hole in the 1720s and 30s on his trusty steed Black Bess.

Under the Localism Act of 2012, The Community Right to Bid scheme gives local groups the opportunity to nominate assets they believe are of social and cultural value for protection.

The pub was nominated by the Burchetts Green Village Association which will have six months to bid to buy the public house, should it be put up for sale by current owners Brakespear.

Councillor George Bathurst, Cabinet member for policy and performance, said: "The Dew Drop Inn has a long history, including an association with one of England's most notorious highwaymen that cements its place in Hurley's social and cultural heritage."

Brakespear welcomed the listing and insisted it had "absolutely no plans" to sell the pub.

Chief executive Tom Davies said: "It is good that communities are standing up for their pubs but I wouldn't be surprised if many of the people who supported this motion do not use the Dew Drop on a regular basis.

"To keep these types of pubs viable communities need to turn this passion into actual pub sales, a Christmas day drink is simply not enough to keep these pubs alive."



It's over for The Golden Harp but more than 100 households vow to boycott new Tesco >

After more than 12 months of campaigning The Furze Platt Action Group (FPAG) have conceded that Tesco have got their own way.

FPAG distributed a questionnaire in light of the new store which is being built in what was once The Golden Harp pub building in Furze Platt Road. More than 130 households are planning to boycott Tesco Express when it opens in Furze Platt, according to a survey carried out by opponents to the store.

Building work has been going on at the site in Maidenhead but the company has not released an opening date.

A total of 166 of the 600 houses who received the survey returned it to the FPAG, the majority of which live in Courthouse Road, Furze Platt Road, Linden Avenue and Oaken Grove. Results also revealed that 94 per cent of the people that completed it are concerned about the increase in traffic and 91 per cent want loading restrictions and yellow lines implemented around the site.

FPAG began campaigning in 2012 to prevent The Golden Harp from being turned into a Tesco Express, with measures including protests, petitions and submissions to the planning inspector. The results of the survey have been passed on to the Royal Borough.

> LOCAL NEWS



Conservative Club wins awards

A Brace of Awards for Conservative Club >

Maidenhead Conservative Club in York Road has been presented with two awards by the local CAMRA branch. The awards are for the branch Club of the Year, and the Vic Powell award for club steward Ray Williams and his wife Viv to mark his upcoming retirement after 26 years at the club.

Every year, local CAMRA members get the chance to vote for their favourite club from those within the branch area. The Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead Branch of CAMRA – the Campaign for Real Ale, is pleased to announce that The Conservative Club in Maidenhead has been voted branch Club of the Year for 2014.

The Vic Powell Award is an occasional award presented in honour of a CAMRA member and former branch chairman who died at a tragically young age. This discretionary award is presented in recognition of long service at a particular establishment and support of real ale through the years.

These awards have been given to Ray and Viv and The Conservative Club in recognition of the quality of the real ales served. Located right in the heart of Maidenhead town centre the Conservative Club has built up an outstanding reputation for the range and quality of the real ales from across the country. It serves a range of ales from Fullers and includes guest beers from around the country and holds a beer festival showcasing a wider range of beers.

Many congratulations to steward Ray Williams and all the staff for all the hard work they have put in over the year. The club has appeared regularly in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide in recognition of the quality of the ales available and has won many accolades over the years.

The award presentations were made on Saturday 5th April 2013 during the Festival of Beers held at the club over the weekend. The certificates for both awards were presented to Ray by Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead Branch chairman Nick Wooldridge.

The Conservative Club will now go forward for judging against other award winning clubs within the South Central region in the Club of the Year competition.



Festival of Beers, When it's Spring again >



To celebrate Ray & Viv Williams' retirement after 26 years, Maidenhead Conservative Club opened their doors to all with 12 additional beers and 4 ciders. Pictured are 2 volunteer helpers sampling the goods.

> KEEP FIT & ENJOY BEER AT THE SAME TIME!

Mark Carter, Social Secretary invites you to join The Hedgerley Real Ale Ramble >

The Hedgerley Real Ale Ramble has been held for many years on a quarterly basis and is a great way to keep fit and enjoy some excellent beers and good company at the same time. The walk covers about 8 miles and takes in four of the area's best real ale pubs - **The Blackwood Arms** at Littleworth Common, **The Jolly Woodman** also at Littleworth Common (weather allowing at this pub), **The Royal Standard** at Wooburn Common and **The White Horse** in Hedgerley (in that order).

We meet at Hedgerley Pond, which is very near the White Horse, at 10.00am and then take a scenic route which varies from walk to walk to keep things interesting for regular participants. Lunch is optional and is taken at the Royal Standard before returning to the White Horse around 4.30pm.

Between them these pubs have around 25 different real ales for our thirsty walkers to savour, more than enough to keep anyone happy!

The next Hedgerley Real Ale Ramble will take place on **Sunday 8th June**. All are welcome, please call Mark the walk leader on 01753-534777 if you have any queries and to reserve a dining place, as the Standard does get very busy on Sunday lunchtimes. Come and join us!

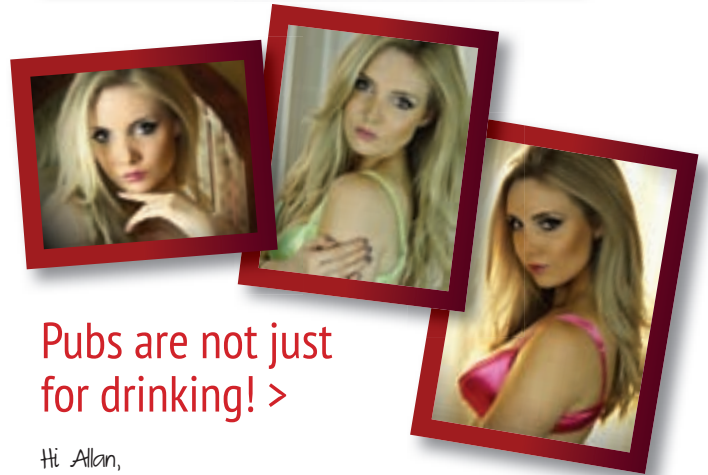


You might not be able to get a decent pint of real ale at The Three Tuns in Slough but it's useful for anyone with a low cholesterol reading! >

RAISING MONEY FOR CANCER RESEARCH

John Mortimer, Landlord of the Crown Inn, Farnham Royal is doing a 1000 mile bike ride in September from Land's End to John O'Groats to raise money for Cancer Research UK. Good luck John!

To donate please visit John's JustGiving webpage: www.justgiving.com/John-Mortimer3



Pubs are not just for drinking! >

Hi Allan,

Just to show, who you can meet in a pub.

I am an electrical engineer and a keen amateur photographer.

I was in the Stag & Hounds in Farnham Common watching the six nations Rugby and chatting to a guy and his girl friend. It turns out (although you would never know it in her jeans and sloppy jumpers) that she is a fashion/lingerie model for Topshop, ASOS and Selfridges amongst others.

During conversation, I mentioned my interest in Photography and I got the offer to take a few shots of 'Rosie' to help develop my skill level.

This was great news for me as previously my photography was limited to landscapes, seascapes and family, but to work with a professional model for free, was something else.

I have attached a few shots.

Regards, Phil

> LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Cask Marque Appreciation >

Very recently I was in the new Wetherspoons at Beaconsfield Services when I noticed your Spring Edition.

Having read it I just wanted to drop you a line to say how much I enjoyed it and impressed

I was with the number of houses advertising in your magazine that displayed the Cask Marque logo. I feel so many CAMRA branches seem to ignore Cask Marque but the whole edition was littered with our logo and presumably shows your support for houses that are in our scheme.

Many thanks for your support and I do hope your branch prospers in the future.

Roger Clayson

www.cask-marque.co.uk

CAMRA Members' Discount

- Acre, Windsor 15% OFF Ales
- Bear, Maidenhead 20% OFF Food
- Moon & Spoon, Slough 20% OFF Food
- Windlesora, Windsor 20% OFF Food
- Grenfell Arms, Maidenhead 10% OFF Ales
- Fox & Pheasant, Stoke Poges 20p OFF a pint
- Three Tuns, Windsor 20% OFF Ales
- Thatched Cottage, Cox Green 10% OFF Ales

Plus, we understand that Chef & Brewer pubs are offering 10% OFF Ales, and that covers;

- EThorpe Hotel, Gerrards Cross
- Feathers, Taplow
- Red Lion, Shreding Green, Iver
- Royal Oak, Farnham Common
- Shire Horse, Littlewick Green.

If any pub or club would like to offer discounts, please email the details to be included in the summer issue to editor@camraangle.com

> RURAL PUB WINS CAMRA'S "NATIONAL PUB OF THE YEAR" AWARD 2014



Lancashire Pub judged Best in Britain >

A sleepy village pub has been thrust into the limelight after being named the best in the UK by CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale.

In an idyllic setting across from a small stream and surrounded by green fields, The Swan with Two Necks in Pendleton, Lancashire, has beaten off competition from over 57,000 pubs across the UK to be crowned CAMRA's National Pub of the Year.

Steve Dilworth, landlord of The Swan with Two Necks, says the pub is something of a hidden gem and hopes that the award will provide a boost for the surrounding community.

"We are delighted and proud to have been judged CAMRA's National Pub Of The Year. We've been at The Swan with Two Necks for Twenty Seven Years and think of it as our hidden gem. This is a fantastic achievement not only for

ourselves but our dedicated staff - and a great boost for our community."

Pubs are judged by CAMRA on a variety of criteria such as atmosphere, level of service, value for money and community focus, with extra weighting of course given to the quality of their real ale, cider and perry. Any landlords looking to make their pub the best in Britain might want to take note of Steve's somewhat unorthodox advice on getting the best out of his real ale, as he claims "Talking to the barrels has finally paid off!"

The three other finalists are, in alphabetical order, The Hope in Carshalton, The Horse and Jockey in Stapleford, and The Old Spot Inn in Dursley.

The presentation of the National Pub of the Year award took place at The Swan with Two Necks, Pendleton, Lancashire, BB7 1PT on Wednesday the 12th February.



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Each year The Regatta's surplus income goes to a local charity, Alexander Devine Childrens Hospice is 2014's



Please Drink Responsibly



Jolly Brewer



Jolly Brewer

> LOVELY LINCOLN...

Delia Allott enjoys a holiday in Lincolnshire trying out the local pubs >

February, being a pretty gloomy time of the year, needed something to cheer it up, so what better than a week's holiday in Lincolnshire! Of course, holidays in this country will have to involve the customary "beery day out", so Valentine's Day was the perfect day to head off into the city.

With the beer bible in hand, the first point of call had to be breakfast and a planning meeting in the Wetherspoons, **The Forum**, which provided us with the best breakfast of the holiday! Lincolnshire sausages were coupled with orange juice and coffee, it was a little early for the range of strong ales available!

The **Wig & Mitre**, which is a haul up Steep Hill, is mainly for eating, but drinkers are made just as welcome. Tom Woods Lincolnshire Gold and Oakham JHB were in good condition and welcome after the climb.

The next pub, the **Strugglers Inn**, was full of character, cosy and friendly and the nine handpumps made the choice very difficult.

Scarborough Chinook and Oldershaw Grantham Porter being two of the ales we tried. They were so tasty we had to stay for another two and got chatting to a guy from Grantham who recommended our next choice. Shame I forgot to write them down, we got so engrossed in conversation!

The **Jolly Brewer's** amazing art deco interior wasn't the only thing that made us fall for this gem of a pub! The juke box had some pretty heavy rock music as the main theme and the punters were happy to keep feeding it, so we kept feeding ourselves with ale! Wellbeck Abbey Portland Black (4.5%) and Henrietta (3.6%) were followed by Just a Minute Tyme Tunnel and Dixons Riverside Dynamite.

The **Treaty of Commerce** had been recommended as a decent Batemans pub, but we found it uninspiring. Tables for dining and high ceilings, along with average quality ales gave us a good reason to move on!

We had decided to stay outside of Lincoln, between here and the coast, in a small town called Horncastle, which is famous for its antique shops. However, the best find was the Batemans pub in the town, locally called the **Thatch**, the **Kings Head** had a good range of the Batemans ales, including Black & White, XXXB and XB. It was no surprise that the landlady had won cellar manager of the year in 2013.

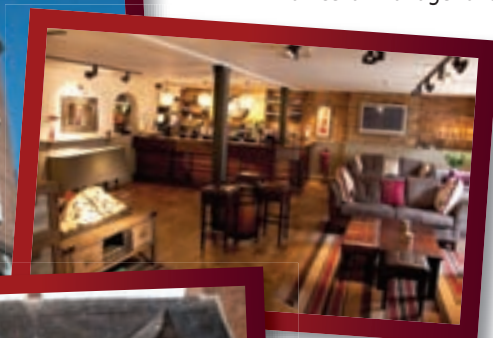
The other surprise was the Best Western hotel, the **Admiral Rodney**, where we stayed. The three handpumps had ever changing guests from local breweries in excellent condition. The hotel bar was in two parts, either sit at a table, or slouch on a sofa in comfort.

There are a few more pubs mentioned in the Good Beer Guide, but our short time here did not allow for further investigation. Lincoln is worth a visit to ensure a

good selection of beers from a region where beers don't seem to make it to the South very often.



Wig & Mitre, Lincoln



Kings Head (left), Admiral Rodney interior (above) Horncastle



> PECULIAR PUBS

Prince of Wales, Kenfig, South Wales >

With the current landlord only the eleventh since 1816, this inn dates from around the 15th Century and is steeped in local history as it is one of the only remaining buildings from the original village.

Apart from a few farm buildings, most of the other buildings in the ancient city were swallowed up by the shifting sands along the Bristol Channel. Lost buildings include the church, court and a hospital. The Inn was built as the town hall and still houses this in the long room upstairs.

Now, visitors can expect 3 or 4 quality ales on gravity, good food, and a very warm welcome. Family and dog friendly, the interior is comfortable and cosy, and outside is a stunning view over Kenfig Nature Reserve and pool. The Draught Bass is renowned throughout the local area, outselling the pub's lagers combined by 3 to 1.



White Hart, Canterbury, Kent >

This pub has a spooky past, having been built on the ruins of St Mary's church, and the park next door was once a graveyard, where tombstones line up against the wall. Inside the pub, the cellar - which was once the mortuary to the church - still has a body chute.

Real ales come from Shepherd Neame and are pumped up from the creepy cellar. The pub has been tastefully refurbished and has a large beer garden.



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throughout the long summer months.

The popularity and fun of the event means it's a great platform to raise money for good causes. This year the target is £10,000! It's all for charity, nothing is deducted as the organisers are all volunteers.

The course is a length of 700m and a drop of 32m. It should be noted that the course has some very tight corners; drivers can expect to reach speeds of 30-40mph!

www.gravitygrandprix.co.uk







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John Perry

> MEET THE PUBLICAN

THE CARPENTERS ARMS, WINDSOR

Spreading the word of ale to the World >

Firstly, congratulations are well in order having won the branch pub of the year award for the second year running, that takes a lot of doing with such fierce competition on the doorstep. Part of the Nicholson's group of freehouses, The Carpenters Arms, for the few that don't know, is nestled in the shadow of Windsor Castle; but then so are several other pubs, so what makes this pub different? Enter John Perry who 4 years ago made the very short journey from The Royal Oak, where he had run the pub for 11 years. Previously, Liverpool born and bred, John had run the beer tents at Liverpool Cricket Club, ably assisting his parents. After a spell at University, John by chance stumbled across Windsor with his wife to be and both fell in love with the town.

As you would expect tourism, especially in the summer months, plays a huge part of the business; the castle has a constant exodus of worldwide visitors, with cash in their pockets, many who are looking to experience the 'typical' British pub. John takes on the task of spreading the word of beer and good local food, to tourists from around the globe.

What about the locals? There is a healthy base of locals that come from miles around to drink and eat at the pub. It's a traditional pub boasting a minimum of 8 ales and, for Windsor, is very reasonably priced, no £4.00 a pint here unlike some of its neighbours. Every Thursday is cask ale night with pints starting from £3.00 a pint. Meet the Brewery evenings coincide with cask ale Thursday and details can be found on their website and Facebook. As new beers come on details are also tweeted to keep those of us Social Media minded up to date.

The deals continue, when I visited the pub Nicholson's Pale Ale Friday was in play with a pint at £2.80... pretty cool! John and his staff run beer festivals in the spring and autumn, with the latest bash dispensing 62 different ales in 31 days. On this point John is quick to dispel the 'old man' image for ale. In a recent survey 40% of his ale drinkers were under 25, and there is a growing tendency to match ales with food, to offer a true British pub experience.

Real lagers and a comprehensive range of wines accompany the ales. You can also chat him up: the pub was preparing for a birthday party when I visited, where the organiser could pick the beers in advance. That's what I call customer friendly!

So can John and his team make it a hat trick of CAMRA awards for 2015? Plenty of pubs in our branch will hope not and it's down to CAMRA members to vote on the quality of the beer through the branch contact, or via the website, or through the recently launched WhatPub.com. For sure the pub ticks a lot of the boxes. Pop in and see for yourself, with change out of £4 a pint it promises to be a great Windsor experience.



> BREWERY NEWS

Windsor & Eton Brewery News >

www.webrew.co.uk



Eton Boatman should be available about mid June- taking over from **Kohinoor**.

There will be a special collaborative beer for the World Cup – we are brewing this with a brewery in Brazil.

Work continues on our development of **'Magna Carta'**, a strong ale which should be available in bottle in the Autumn and through the celebrations next year (800 years since John 'signed'). This is being developed by a competition amongst London Amateur Brewers to produce the best recipe from a taste competition - winning beer will be

brewed collaboratively on full scale. Horse drawn deliveries in Windsor are restarting for the summer. Demand for product continues to grow- we are regularly brewing twice in a day.

We will be supplying beer to Royal Ascot again.

After a very successful Christmas Windsor & Eton Brewery have done it again with the launch of their NEW seasonal beer **Zinzan's Drop**. This "All Black" 4% beer was launched to coincide with the All Nations Rugby tournament and was an immediate hit and will continue as the annual seasonal for January to March. For fans of **Treetops** this will continue to be brewed, but just as a one off special in January.

The extra 35 barrel fermenter is now installed.

The first brew of **Kohinoor** is in the pubs and is Windsor & Eton Brewery's second seasonal beer. (April - June). Windsor & Eton Brewery are brewing their **Bostin' Mild** again for May, an excellent mild.

Windsor & Eton Brewery Awards:

1. Champion Beer of Britain (CBOB) – **Conqueror** has won Regional Gold in Strong Bitter category and goes forward to the Great British Beer Festival (GBBF) - 2014.
2. CBOB - **Knight of the Garter** has won Bronze in the 2015 GBBF competition.
3. SIBA National – Bronze for keg **Republika**.
4. International Craft Beer Dublin – Silver for keg **Republika** & Bronze for cask **Guardsman**.



Paddy & the team with CAMRA award for Conqueror



The Branch presentation to the Windsor & Eton Brewery for **Conqueror** & **Knight of the Garter** took place on Friday 16th May at 19.30 at the brewery. It was a great evening with all Windsor & Eton's beers available to taste. I'm sure you were there!

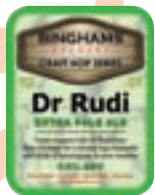


Binghams Brewery Update >

www.binghams.co.uk



Binghams Brewery has launched a series of 4.5% ABV monthly beers as part of a Craft Hop Series which will all be brewed with extra pale Maris Otter malt and a single hop variety. The hops will be sourced from around the world and have been chosen to provide a variety of different characters and flavours.



The first hop to be used is Dr Rudi, a hop from New Zealand and it will be hitting pubs in the second half of May. **Dr Rudi** provides a big hop flavour with lemongrass and a little pine needle aroma too. June and July will see

the next two beers in the series using Delta and Junga hops which are from USA and Poland respectively so look out for them down your local. **Danamite Blonde** will be returning in June 2014 by popular demand. Brewed using a blend of Dana and Celeia hops it proved so popular in the hot Summer of 2013 that Binghams ended up extending its availability right up to September!

Vanilla Stout will be in the final of the Champion Beer of Britain in the Speciality Beer category to be judged at the Great British Beer Festival to be held at Olympia in August.

CAMRA LocAle 2014 Pub Listings >

- Acre - Windsor
- Barleycorn - Cippenham
- Barley Mow - Cox Green
- Bear - Maidenhead
- Bounty - Cookham
- Bridge House - Paley Street
- Craufurd Arms - Maidenhead
- Crooked Billet - Maidenhead
- Emperor - Farnham Royal
- Fox & Castle - Old Windsor
- George - Burnham
- George on the Green - Holyport
- Green Man - Denham
- Grenfell Arms, Maidenhead
- Greyhound (Lloyds No 1) - Maidenhead
- Hinds Head Hotel - Bray
- Horse & Groom - Windsor
- Jolly Farmer - Cookham Dean
- Jolly Gardener - Moneyrow Green
- Jolly Woodman - Littleworth Common
- Kings Arms - Cookham
- Moon & Spoon - Slough
- Novello - Littlewick Green
- Oak & Saw - Taplow
- Ostrich Inn - Colnbrook
- Pinkneys Arms - Pinkneys Green
- Red Cow - Slough
- Rising Sun - Hurley
- Rising Sun - Slough
- Rose - Maidenhead
- Rose & Crown - Slough
- Royal Stag - Datchet
- Shire Horse - Littlewick Green
- Stag & Hounds - Farnham Common
- Star & Garter - Colnbrook
- Swan - Clewer
- Thatched Cottage - Cox Green
- Union Inn - Old Windsor
- Vansittart Arms - Windsor
- Watermans Arms - Eton
- Wheatsheaf - Slough
- White Horse - Hedgerley
- Windlesora - Windsor



> BREWERY NEWS



Vale Brewery News >

www.valebrewery.co.uk

Of 300 Champion UK beers at the SIBA Beer X in Sheffield in March two were from Vale Brewery. Winners from regional competitions were chosen to appear at the festival and **Gravitas** and **Black Swan Mild** were both in attendance. Both beers well worth looking out for.

Each month Vale brewery produces a special brew, the theme and style designed to be topical for the season. It also gives the brewers a chance to use new malt and hop combinations.



Coming in June is our new monthly special, themed around the World Cup. **Telstar** is a Bronze / Copper coloured bitter kicking in at 3.9%. The name is after the football first used in the 1970 world cup in Mexico. It has 32 Black and White panels, and at the time aided visibility in the days of Black and White TV.

The Brewery shop in Brill continues to develop and in addition to the range of Vale and sister brewery Aylesbury Brewhouse beers, bottles from other UK breweries are often available and with a permanent range of nearly 60 foreign bottles there is something for everyone.

Vale Brewery are on Facebook & follow us on Twitter @ValeBrewery

Both the Vale Brewery and the Aylesbury Brewhouse have shops which stock Vale bottle conditioned beer and a large selection of foreign imported beers as well as wines and brewery merchandise.



Aylesbury Brewhouse News >

www.aylesburybrewhouse.co.uk

Big news for Aylesbury's only brewery - bottling has started! Limited Edition runs of selected brews are now available bottle conditioned from their Brewery Shop at the brewery. The first to be bottled, since the



Sink or Swim brewed in collaboration with Roger Protz, is **Hei Tiki** - 5.5% New Zealand IPA brewed exclusively with NZ hops for a full fruity hoppiness with a balanced, floral malt body.



The second Limited Edition run of bottles is the popular **Indian Gold**, a 4.7% golden ale brewed with freshly ground black pepper - originally grown in India - and American hops, for an easy drinking spicy bitterness.

Ever wanted to brew your own beer? Well now you can, with 'Brewer For A Day' down at ABC! Get involved from start to finish in all

aspects of brewing alongside Head Brewer Hayden Overton. An ideal gift for someone with an interest in beer who wants to know a little more about the art of brewing or perhaps just to make a change from all those boring hot air balloon rides and fast car track days! Contact us for more info and to arrange a great day out at Aylesbury's only brewery!

The next Brewery Tour & Tasting has been scheduled for Saturday June 28th - an afternoon of tasting their new beers in Hayden's capable hands, where you'll get to try our brand new Limited Edition Beers and find out what makes ABC different from every other brewery in the UK!

Aylesbury Brewery are on Facebook & follow Aylesbury Brewhouse on Twitter @AylesburyBrewCo

West Berkshire Brewery >

www.wbbrew.com



We have two new bottled beers available: **Maharajah's IPA** (5.9% ABV) and **Gold Star** (5.2% ABV). The Maharajah's is a golden, citrusy IPA with a strong bitterness and is named after the Maharajah's Well in Stoke Row. The **Gold Star** is back by popular demand and is a dark honey gold. A lightly floral beer, we've used local honey to add a faint undertone of sweetness alongside plenty of hops.

Not only that but we have brewed a beer for the Brazil World Cup. Called **IPAnema** this IPA is slightly spicy with notes of tangerine; pleasantly bitter with a mild sweetness. Named after the iconic Rio beach and its girl IPAnema is tall and tan and truly lovely. Perfect for enjoying in the sunshine. This will be available as draft.

Our monthly special beer for May is **Cousin Betty**; a refreshing mild ale. Continuing our English Insults range for 2014 Cousin Betty is an old English term for a deranged woman. A low level of hops and bitterness is balanced with gentle sweetness and malt. A combination of three traditional hops (Fuggles, First Gold and Target) gives subtle earthy, spice, fruit and citrus tones.

Our June special is the **IPAnema** above and our July special will be **Spatherdab**, an enchanting elderflower ale. As part of our English insults range a spatherdab is a gossip and chatterer; a woman who spreads news.

We have two brewery tours coming up; one on the 14th June and another on 12th July.



> SLOUGH, WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD BRANCH OFFICERS



In the third of a series, Alan Molloy details the roles of Secretary, Pubs Officer & Brewery Liaison Officer >

Hi, I'm Alan Molloy, secretary and pubs officer for our Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead branch of CAMRA. I've been secretary for over 5 years, having been a CAMRA member for approximately 17 years.

I started drinking real ale under my father's watchful eye at the age of 15 in local pubs. In those days there were NO supermarkets and the only place to buy alcohol was in a pub or an off-licence, and most of these were attached to pubs. So responsible drinking was enforced by the landlord who by and large knew his customers and their children. However, by the time I reached legal drinking age, the keg revolution was taking place. The wonders of Watney's Red Barrel and Ind Coope Double Diamond were everywhere and they made me physically sick, so all through my 20's I drank whisky and ginger or gin and tonic. It was only when I reached 30, in 1978, that CAMRA's influence in re-awakening the real ale market brought me back to drinking the nectar. I've always enjoyed visiting interesting pubs, often combined with a lovely country walk. I also take short walking holidays in Wales, Peak District and Lake District where you can get away from the hubbub of life and enjoy the magnificent scenery and great locally brewed ales, sometimes staying in a pub! I'm also interested in brewing, having progressed from homebrew kits to brewing with the basic ingredients. The rear of my garage is my personal brewery (a tiny quarter barrel plant), where I strive to brew the perfect pint!

I joined our committee when I realised the branch was struggling without a full time secretary. Becoming secretary was not an obvious role for me as all my friends will tell you, because as an engineer and ex-accountant I am more a numbers man. A year ago I also took on the role of pubs officer having worked closely with the previous person, but when she decided to stand down due to pressure of work it seemed only natural that I carry on her good work.

What does my role involve?

As Secretary I take accurate minutes at our monthly committee meetings, supporting the Chairman to achieve the branch goals in an efficient manner. I advise the Chairman on procedural issues and arrange the Branch AGM.

As Pubs Officer I am responsible for keeping the Whatpub.com database up to date. This is a fantastic tool for checking out what type of pub you want to visit and what beers they sell, particularly when visiting a place that is unfamiliar, and I urge you all to make use of it. In addition our branch supports the CAMRA LocAle initiative and I am responsible for keeping the Locale register up to date. This is done by committee members and Angle deliverers keeping an eye on current LocAle pubs and potential new additions. It is good to see an increasing number of pubs stocking locally brewed ales.

As Brewery Liaison Officer for the only brewery in our branch (Windsor & Eton Brewery), I am responsible for collecting all the brewery and beer information needed for the Good Beer Guide (GBG) brewery section and the Champion Beer Of Britain (CBOB) competition. This competition was designed by CAMRA to promote breweries and their beer. It is important that Windsor & Eton beers are entered on to the Brewery Information System as this is how you all voted in December to select the beers that will go forward to the next round for judging in blind tastings. The final phase is the Great British Beer Festival judging where the Champion Beer of Britain is announced.

As you will have read in previous branch officers articles, Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead branch began running an annual beer festival five years ago, initially in Windsor and then last year we moved to Maidenhead Football Club. As a practical guy who likes organizing things I volunteered to be site manager for the first festival and last year took over the overall organization. I have a brilliant team of volunteers who look

after all the key tasks that make a festival run smoothly. If anybody reading this article would like to join our team of like-minded volunteers to help at the festival, there are a wide range of jobs available, for which you will get a free beer allowance! If you are interested, please contact David Jackson, staffing manager at membershipsww@outlook.com.

Cheers! Alan

> SPOTTED

Whilst out & about >





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Flooded Somerset. Photograph: Jeff Thomas

> SUNSHINE AFTER THE FLOODS

Despite the incessant rain and repeated floods Greg Davies expects a bumper season ahead >



A small orchard in Somerset which was swamped by the flooding event at the beginning of 2014. Photograph: Adam Gray/SWNS

Cider experts have warned that winter flooding has wiped out acres of orchards leaving the UK facing a cider drought.

The damp weather has meant that many of the million apple trees planted over the past decade in an attempt to restore one of the UK's native crops could be lost.

Farmers across the West Country now face an agonising wait to see if the water has destroyed their livelihoods, or if the fruit will defy the odds and blossom.

Julian Temperley, one of Somerset's most renowned growers and cider makers said it was hard to remain upbeat and described his 170 acres as "touch and go".

"We've had an appalling late December, January and February - trees over the whole of the South West have taken a hammering," Julian, from Martock, Somerset, said.

"There's certainly a big worry about waterlogged trees and there will be a considerable number dying."

"We have one orchard that's been under a foot of water. I'm not certain if the trees will survive."

It is believed that a huge proportion of the UK's 17,300 acres of cider orchards may have been ruined by the rain and floods.

Despite a fortnight of recent intermittent sunshine, which has seen some fruit trees blossom in earnest, - with fruit already set - growers have warned there is no guarantee of success.

The crisis has prompted the National Association of Cider Makers to prepare for the worst, and issue a stark warning crops may not live up to expectations for the next few years.

Paul Bartlett, chairman, said: "We hope for the best though recognise that the potential impact could seriously affect the income of growers this season and for several years to come."

And the weather could spark a second year of worry for grower Kier Rogers, who last year lost hundreds of trees through groundwater flooding, after prolonged rain made drainage impossible.

Kier, from Herefordshire, said: "We've had surface water here since the end of December when it started raining - and

that causes me great concern - I don't know what the long-term effects will be on the trees, and the damage we will see this year."

There are around 480 cider-makers across the country and the traditional trade plays a crucial role in the UK's rural economy and communities.

After the bumper apple crop in the autumn of 2013 we made more Salt Hill Cider than ever before so hopefully there will be plenty available throughout the year at the usual good pubs and beer festivals around our area and a few new ones as well.

We managed to get a great range of apples all from around Berkshire and a few from Buckinghamshire from our many generous fruit donors and I'm expecting a vintage year due to the outstanding quality and variety of the apples we used and the high sugar levels in the apples due to the summer sun in 2013.

It could easily go over 8% ABV by the end of summer because real cider is a living thing and the natural yeast will continue to ferment the natural sugars all through the year creating a stronger and drier cider as time passes.

Hopefully not too much damage has been done to the fruit trees in orchards across the country during the endless rain of the winter just passed;

Apple trees can withstand having roots under water for prolonged periods but four months may prove to be a big challenge to our orchards and this may have devastating consequences for the harvest in the autumn of 2014.

For all the latest local cider news go to www.salthillcider.wordpress.com or the SWM CAMRA website at www.swmcamra.org.uk



> CAMRA APPROVE FROZEN CIDER DUTY

CAMRA has welcomed the Government's decision in the Budget to freeze cider duty >

Making the announcement, the Chancellor highlighted that some cider producers in the West Country had been hit hard by recent weather conditions so needed additional support.

This duty freeze will apply to cider with a juice content of 35% or higher, and will not apply to sparkling cider between 5.5% and 8.5% abv.

This is a welcome move which will support Britain's real cider and perry producers – a vital traditional British industry. Andrea Briers, Chair of CAMRA's Apple Committee commented:

"Cider is a traditional British product and I welcome the Chancellor's decision to freeze cider duty to help those who keep this tradition alive. I would encourage you to help real cider or perry makers thrive by visiting a pub and trying some."

CAMRA has cautioned that small cider producers (making below 70 hectolitres each year) already pay no duty, so the benefit of this duty freeze will primarily be felt by slightly larger producers.

CAMRA is continuing to campaign for a new cider duty system to support real cider with a considerably higher juice content.

For more info on real cider and perry, visit www.camra.org.uk/cider

> NATIONAL & SOUTH OF ENGLAND CIDER & PERRY CHAMPIONSHIP

The results from the 2014 championship judged at The Reading Beer & Cider Festival >

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP PERRY

- 1st - Olivers
- 2nd - Kent Cider Co
- 3rd - Raglan Cider Mill

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CIDER

- 1st - Sheppys
- 2nd - Dove Syke Cider
- 3rd - Wilce's Cider

SOUTH OF ENGLAND PERRY CHAMPION

- 1st - Tutts Clump

SOUTH OF ENGLAND CIDER CHAMPION

- 1st - Salthill
- 2nd - Tutts Clump
- 3rd - Marshwood Vale

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Tampa Bay Beer Festival



Tampa Bay Brewery

> THE FLORIDA CRAFT BEER SCENE

Alan Molloy revisits the States to escape the floods back home (Part One) >

If you are ardent Angle readers then you may remember an article by Michele and I about the first Florida Brewers Guild beer festival in Tampa, 3 years ago. Our weather was so awful in January that we decided to visit our friends Robert and Nancy in St. Petersburg to get some winter sunshine, and check out the beer scene by visiting the now renamed Tampa Bay Beer Fest on the 1st March. In 2011 there were 30 breweries in the whole of Florida, with just 3 being situated in the suburbs of St. Petersburg (Dunedin, Peg's Brewpub & Saint Somewhere Brewing) and 2 in Tampa (Cigar City & Tampa Bay). All of these were at least 45 minutes drive away.

There are now 39 breweries in the Tampa/St. Petersburg area alone, with the total for Florida standing at approximately 90. The revolution is spreading.

One of our first trips was to the Florida State Fair to see the rodeo which is always excellent and to remind ourselves how awful American food can be. As the fair is just west of Tampa, it made sense to drop into the **Tampa Bay Brewery** for some good food and beer on the way home. They always have 8

beers on draught. I had the Red Rye Amber ale, ABV 6% which reminded me of a traditional English bitter with roasted malts coming though with a light hop flavour from the Hallertau hops. This was followed by Jack the Quaffer Porter, also 6%, where the chocolate malt gave it a rich roasted flavour making this a really quaffable ale. In the meantime Michele had a Wild Warthog Hefeweizen, which she said was an excellent copy of the German style.

All these beers were natural and unfiltered, but pumped out by gas. However, they regularly produce cask conditioned ales, served on hand pump. Unfortunately there were none available on our visit. Prices for craft beer are approx \$4 to \$6 for an American pint (16 fl.oz. against an English pint at 20 fl.oz.), however, most bars have happy hours at \$3/pt!

A couple of days later Robert and I went in search of two breweries about 15/20 minutes north of where they live. **Rapp Brewing** and **Pair O' Dice** (which said quickly sounds like Paradise!). These two breweries are both located in industrial units, about 5 mins apart, but have approached brewing in a totally different way.

At **Rapp Brewing** we met Dan the brewer who gave us a tour of his 1.2 UK barrel plant with 22 fermenters. This allows him to brew many different styles which they serve in their 20 tap tasting room. They only serve their own beers and major on German/Belgium beer styles, with 11 available when we visited. An example of this was Gose, a German beer from Goslar, near Leipzig, which is a salty sour wheat beer @ 4.5%. Not our cup of tea. We stayed with traditional British styles and had Robust Porter (5%), English ESB (5.8%) and Bitter (3.6%). All OK except the English Bitter, which was watery and tasteless. The feedback was taken well by Dan. A neat feature of the tap room was that the ceiling was lined in all different types of grain sacks.

At **Pair O' Dice**, husband and wife owners Ken and Julia are young mechanical engineers with Anheuser Busch experience who have returned home to Florida to brew "proper" beer. They have ambitious expansion plans with a 13 UK barrel plant and 4 x 25 UK barrel fermenters. They also have a 20 tap tasting room, but only 5 taps are theirs with 15 taps available for other local breweries. The beers on when we visited were Pale, Red, Wheat, Stout and Nitro Stout. The pale was a little light on flavour, but could be passed through a container of fresh strawberries to give it a fruit flavour! The Red was almost black with a terrific roasted malt flavour and hoppy, which I followed with the excellent Stout.

On Sunday we went in search of **Green Bench Brewing** and **Cycle Brewery**, both in downtown St. Petersburg. Green Bench Brewing are based in a 1926 red brick garage a short walk from



Rapp Brewery with Robert

the Tropicana baseball stadium. The name comes from the fact that St. Pete. was once known as the "city of green benches". The 1,500 sq. ft. 15 tap tasting room features an excellent view of the 13 UK barrel brewhouse where a live band were playing. Outside is a family friendly garden area. On our visit they had Black IPA, Dry Stout, Brown Ale, Wheat, Pale, IPA and 4 saison beers plus 2 beers from other local breweries. Michele and I tried the Wheat, Dry Stout and IPA.

While we were there the Brew Bus arrived and disgorged its cargo of thirsty customers. This clever idea was started in 2011 by two guys and a couple of luxury 20 something seater coaches that offer "the ultimate craft beer experience". Their standard tour is 3 Tampa Bay breweries, with a tour of each plus a free pint at each stop, and of course any number of customised options. During the tour, draught beer is available on the bus, but they faced a real dilemma of whose beer to serve on the bus. Facing a near impossible decision, they decided to brew their own beer and in 2012 **Brew Bus Brewing** was created. They have 4 beers available all year round: Rollin' Dirty Irish Red Ale, Last Stop American IPA, Are Wheat There Yet? (a wheat beer) and You're My Boy, Blue! blueberry wheat ale. In addition they brewed a porter called Double Decker, which was very good.

Cycle Brewing was officially the first brewery to open in downtown St. Petersburg, with Doug Dozark still brewing at his Mother's restaurant, Peg's Cantina in Gulfport, to fill the gap until the kit was ready. Cycle Brewing has a long narrow storefront on the high street, with a 3 UK barrel brewhouse in the back and a 12 tap tasting room up front. When we visited all 12 taps had their own beers on - too many to mention. Michele had the Coffee Porter, made with local Mazzaro's coffee called Cream & Sugar Please, (4.9%) and I had Flower Pedals IPA plus Ryerish Red, all excellent. The recently installed indoor cycle rack keeps bikes dry and safe.

After a week with Robert and Nancy we headed south to Cape Coral to see Kate, another old school friend of Michele.



Alan & Michele doing what they do best!

Cycle Brewing

Unfortunately Cape Coral has no craft breweries or bars, with the only brewery being in Fort Myers across a toll bridge, so we existed on craft bottled beer all week. At the end of the week we did a one way car rental back to St. Pete, stopping off at an out of town shopping mall. A thirsty business (shopping) so we called in to **Motorworks Brewery** in Bradenton. This is an imposing brick building from the 30's that used to be a car garage and showroom for Hudson cars. This brewery was the first to open out of three that were planning to open in early 2014, and they had been open four weeks. So new, that they had not got their Certificate of Operation and as a result had to sell you a glass and fill it up with beer for free! There is always a way round laws! We got talking to the head brewer, Bob, who said the plant being installed was 30 barrel. They are currently brewing on their test kit and have 5 beers available, but with a potential market of 5 million people in a 30 mile radius Bob feels confident he has got the right capacity. We had a flight of their beers, Kolsch, Belgian Winter, Sweet Stout, IPA & India Brown Ale, but the stout was the best. The IPA was average and the IBA too sweet, but the "Sweet Stout" was NOT sweet and excellent.

... To be continued in the next issue

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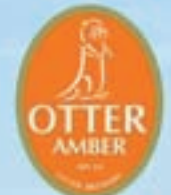


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> BEER DUTY CUT FOR SECOND YEAR RUNNING

CAMRA branches across the country celebrated as Chancellor George Osborne announced the cut >



Thanks to the incredible efforts of over 6,500 CAMRA members who lobbied their MP ahead of the Budget, consumers have yet again raised a glass to the Chancellor to toast another Budget for British beer drinkers.

Beer supports nearing 1 million jobs and contributes £22 billion to the UK economy, and another cut in beer duty in 2014 will help maintain a healthier pubs sector.

Members of Kernow CAMRA (pictured) raised a glass to the campaign's success in Beerwolf Books pub in Falmouth.

Licensee Dom Smith [pictured centre left] says he is delighted with the Budget outcome, stating that: "A penny doesn't seem like much but it will definitely make a difference".

Kernow CAMRA branch Chairman, Norman Garlick, added that: "This Budget success is a real testament to the weight that CAMRA members and supporters are able to bring to the battle for a fairer deal for pubs and ale drinkers".

This is an incredible success thanks to another year of fantastic campaigning by CAMRA members on this issue. CAMRA would like to thank local branches for their fantastic campaigning efforts in shifting over 500,000 Budget 2013

success beer mats and posters, and the many thousands of CAMRA members who lobbied their MP and secured the support of 119 MPs.

CAMRA's Chief Executive Mike Benner commented:

"CAMRA is delighted to see the Chancellor implementing an unprecedented second consecutive cut of a penny in beer duty. This is not only about keeping the price of a pint affordable in British pubs but helping an industry which has been in overall decline continue on its long road to recovery.

"CAMRA cares greatly about the future of the Great British pub and it is clear from this Budget announcement that the Government do too.

"Keeping the price of a pint affordable is vital for the long-term health of the pub sector and CAMRA would hope this latest vote of confidence in British pubs will go some way to slowing the rate of closures, by encouraging more people to make use of their local this summer".

If you would like any more information on CAMRA's campaigns please email campaigns@camra.org.uk."

> ROLL UP, ROLL UP, TO BRITAIN'S BIGGEST PUB

The Great British Beer Festival, Olympia, London, 12-16 August 2014 >

CAMRA's Great British Beer Festival will be bringing a carnival atmosphere to London's Olympia exhibition centre this summer with an extravagant circus theme complete with live-action circus performers.

But fantastic beer will of course remain the star of the show, with over 350 different breweries offering 900 different real ales, ciders, perries and international beers to over 50,000 thirsty beer lovers throughout the week-long event.

The festival will feature 29 bars including 11 brewery bars run by the Nation's biggest and best brewers of real ale, plus food and merchandise stalls as well as a full schedule of entertainment on the GBBF music stage.

The event is set to be one of the biggest and best Great British Beer Festivals ever, so don't miss out on your place at the festival and buy a ticket now via www.gbbf.org.uk/tickets.



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Slough & Beer Festival 2014

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"Publicans Barrel Roll" Bank Holiday Sunday, Aug 24th.

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August Bank Holiday Weekend

> LIST IT OR LOSE IT!

Asset of Community Value - List Your Local >

If you love your local pub and think it adds lots of value to your community you can now have the opportunity to give it extra protection from developers and can list it with the Council as an Asset of Community Value.

Under the Localism Act 2011 people living in England can nominate a pub to be listed as an Asset of Community Value.

Listing your local as an ACV provides communities with the power to stop the clock when faced with the a pub going up for sale, earning valuable time to explore options for saving the pub.

Increasing numbers of local councils are taking into account Assets of Community Value when considering new planning applications against the pub. Listing a pub show the value it has to the community.

Listing your local means property developers who are keen for a hassle free purchase are less likely to show interest.

If a listed pub goes up for sale, its ACV status has the power to postpone the sale for up to six months. That's just enough time for pub campaigners to gather together a suitable bid to buy the pub and run as community-owned.

Since the Asset of Community Value scheme started in 2012, pub activists have used their new powers to halt the sale of many of their beloved locals.



HOW DO I LIST MY LOCAL?

To list your local as an asset of community value, all you need to do is follow these simple steps:

- Go to your local authority website and look up the section on Assets of Community Value or Right to Bid
- Download a nomination form (or if there isn't one available you can download CAMRA's template form from www.camra.org.uk or use the one opposite)
- Fill in the form with as much detail as you can on why the pub should be classified as a community asset
- Demonstrate that at least 21 people from the local community support the listing of the pub
- Check your local council website to see where the nomination needs to be submitted. Many councils have produced guidance explaining how they are accepting nominations.

For advice and support, see www.camra.org.uk/listyourlocal or contact CAMRA's Campaigns Team – email: campaigns@camra.org.uk, call: 01727 867 201

> GUIDANCE NOTES FOR THE COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID NOMINATION FORM OPPOSITE

These guidance notes are provided to help you complete your Community Right to Bid nomination form (see opposite). The guidance is set out question-by-question for ease of use.

Section 1 - COMMUNITY ORGANISATION

Q1 - YOUR ORGANISATION

Enter your organisations name and address.

Q2 - TYPE OF ORGANISATION

It is important you state which organisation type you are as only those shown here are currently eligible to nominate and all but unconstituted community groups are able to bid. Unfortunately any nomination received from any otherbody will not be accepted.

Q3 - WHO TO CONTACT ABOUT THE NOMINATION

The contact name must be the same as the person signing the declaration overleaf. Ideally, this will be a member of the management team (chairperson, secretary or treasurer).

Section 2 - PROPERTY TO BE NOMINATED

Q4 - WHICH ASSET DO YOU WISH TO NOMINATE?

Property: Enter the full name and postal and address of the property you wish to nominate.

Owner: It is very important that you include the details of the owner of the freehold interest in the property as the Council will need to contact the owner to inform them of the nomination and allow them to comment.

Current occupier: The current occupier may not be the same as the property owner so it is important we advise all affected should the property be registered. You should therefore provide details of all tenants/occupants at the property. *It is particularly important that this question is completed as correctly and accurately as possible as this could delay the assessment of your nomination.*

Section 3 - COMMUNITY VALUE OF THE ASSET

Q5 - WHY DO YOU FEEL THE PROPERTY IS AN ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE?

In here you need to put why you feel the property currently boosts the social interest and social wellbeing of the local community or if it had in the past why it is realistic to think that it could in the future.

Definition of an asset of community value - A building or land is deemed to be of community value if, in the opinion of the council:

- its actual current use furthers the social wellbeing and interests of the local community, or a use in the recent past has done so; and
- that use is not an ancillary one; and
- for land in current community use it is realistic to think that there will continue to be a use which furthers social wellbeing and interests, or for land in community use in the recent past it is realistic to think that there will be community use within the next 5 years (in either case, whether or not that use is exactly the same as the present or past); and
- it does not fall within one of the exemptions e.g. residential premises and land held with them.

Social interests include (a) cultural interests; (b) recreational interests; (c) sporting interests. Social well-being relates to social interaction and engagement. It is a sense of involvement with other people and their communities

Q6 - THE BOUNDARY OF THE PROPERTY?

We need to know the extent of the property you are nominating; this may include the car park area as an example. *It should be noted that any area which is in the ownership of a statutory undertaker (i.e. electricity substation) cannot be registered. If possible please include a plan with the boundary marked on it.*

COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID NOMINATION FORM

SECTION 1 - ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY ORGANISATION

Q1 - NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR ORGANISATION	
Organisation name:	
Address & postcode:	
Registration number: <i>(if you are a charity, company, CIC or social enterprise)</i>	

Q2 - PLEASE SPECIFY WHAT TYPE OF ORGANISATION YOU ARE	
CATEGORY	TICK ✓
PARISH/TOWN COUNCIL	
UNCONSTITUTED / UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITY GROUP <i>whose members include at least 21 individuals who appear on the electoral roll</i>	
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM <i>designated as pursuant to section 61F of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990</i>	
INDUSTRIAL & PROVIDENT SOCIETY <i>which does not distribute any surplus it makes to its members</i>	
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE <i>which does not distribute any surplus it makes to its members</i>	
COMMUNITY INTEREST COMPANY <i>which satisfies the requirements of Part 2 of the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004</i>	
CHARITY - <i>You must provide your charity number</i>	Charity No.:

Q3 - WHO SHOULD WE CONTACT TO DISCUSS THIS NOMINATION?	
Name:	
Address & postcode:	
Telephone number:	
Email address:	

SECTION 2 - ABOUT THE PROPERTY TO BE NOMINATED

Q4 - WHICH ASSET DO YOU WISH TO NOMINATE?	
Name of PROPERTY:	
Address & postcode of PROPERTY:	
Name of PROPERTY OWNER:	
Address & postcode of PROPERTY OWNER:	
Telephone number:	
Email address <i>(if known)</i> :	
Current occupier's name <i>(if different from PROPERTY OWNER)</i> :	
Details of occupier's interest in property:	

SECTION 3 - DEMONSTRATING THE COMMUNITY VALUE OF THE ASSET



Q5 - WHY DO YOU FEEL THE PROPERTY IS AN ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE?

Please give as much information as possible about the current use of the asset i.e. what activities take place, what groups use the facility currently or in the recent past etc. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Definition of an asset of community value can be found in the guidance document.

Note: Any information entered into this section only may be copied and passed onto the owner of the property you are nominating.

Q6 - WHY DO YOU FEEL THE PROPERTY IS AN ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE?

Please give as much detail as you can and include a plan if possible. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

ATTACHMENT CHECKLIST

- Copy of group constitution (if applicable)
- Names and home addresses of 21 members registered to vote in nomination area (if group is not constituted)
- Site boundary plan (if possible)
- Evidence of current community use (e.g. activity programmes, website links etc.)

DECLARATION

I can confirm that to the best of my knowledge the information contained in this nomination form is complete and accurate

SIGNED:	POSITION IN ORGANISATION:
PRINT NAME:	DATE:

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> LOST PUBS OF SLOUGH

Kevin Phillips regrets the loss of pubs of suburban Slough since 2000 but finds instead a McDonald's, a lonely bus stop and a Care Home >

As with my recent articles on lost pubs of Windsor and Maidenhead, I have chosen to concentrate on Slough pubs lost since the year 2000 to keep things to a manageable length.

In my last article, I looked at the pubs lost in central Slough since the year 2000 and was surprised to find that as many as 16 hostelrys had permanently closed their doors in under 14 years. I therefore went prepared for my tour of suburban Slough and found exactly the same pace of change in Chalvey, Salt Hill, Cippenham and Britwell where large suburban areas have become virtual deserts for those seeking a pint in a community local.

At the turn of the 21st century, however, there was still plenty of choice outside the centre of Slough. In Chalvey for example there were five pubs where now there is only one, the Garibaldi. In those not so distant times, the thirsty visitor still had some choice and if they entered Chalvey on the Windsor Road could have popped into the **Prince of Wales** for a pint and perhaps a whisky mac. Now, if they go in, it would

have to be a milkshake and a Big Mac as the pub has turned into a McDonald's.

The building of this once large community pub still remains and dates from the 1950's. The original was demolished to make way for the Slough by-pass and the conversion to a McDonald's took place around 2006.

Journeying further into Chalvey, the traveller would have found a large pub on the High Street called the **Keys**. This was formerly the Cross Keys and the original old building was rebuilt in 1950 in mock tudor style. It was demolished in 2006 and the site redeveloped.

Perhaps an even sadder site however is not far away on Chalvey Road West where all that remains of the **Forester Arms** is its name on a bus stop. Imagine the disappointment of an old Chalvey resident returning for a pint in his favourite local, being re-assured of its existence by a copy of the no 5 bus timetable only to find that the name on the bus stop is all that remains! The original pub was demolished for housing in 2007 and was quite old for Slough with parts dated back to the late 19th century. The exterior of the pub was a good example of the 'Courage Tudor' style with twin gabled bays and projecting chimney stacks.

Our traveller from the past would also get a surprise if he ventured into Church Street for a pint in the **Flags**. Here, instead of a traditional pub, he would find an exotic dance venue. Its conversion from a pub was not without controversy however, and Slough Borough Council tried to ban its nude dancers. In March 2006, the owners successfully appealed against this and, rightly or wrongly, a bit of exoticism still remains in Chalvey. Thankfully, the exterior of the building remains substantially unaltered with its sedate mock tudor style strangely at odds with what goes on inside.

Not too far away in Salt Hill, the changes in the drinking landscape continue. The **Windmill** on the Bath Road was originally one of Slough's



Formerly The Flags pub & pub sign





coaching inns which hosted notables such as the Emperor of Russia and the Duke of Wellington. Following a fire in 1882, Wethereds of Marlow built the Windmill Hotel on the same site which was a pub rather than an inn. It was demolished in 2001 and the Windmill Care Home now stands on the site. The developers did however echo its former use by copying the tudor-style gable from the pub. It remains a subject for speculation on whether any of the pub's regulars have swapped the day care available in their local for the more permanent care now available.

Moving eastwards to the former village of Cippenham, the duck pond fortunately remains. It is now the only one in the Slough Borough area. Unfortunately, the **Swan** pub across the road has not shared this good fortune and in 2011 it was redeveloped for housing. Rather strangely, the post for the pub sign remains with the Swan emblem at the top although the sign itself has disappeared.

The Kings Head and the Barleycorn still survive by Cippenham pond although further north along the Bath Road the **White Horse** together with its Wacky Warehouse has been demolished for car parking for a car sales business.

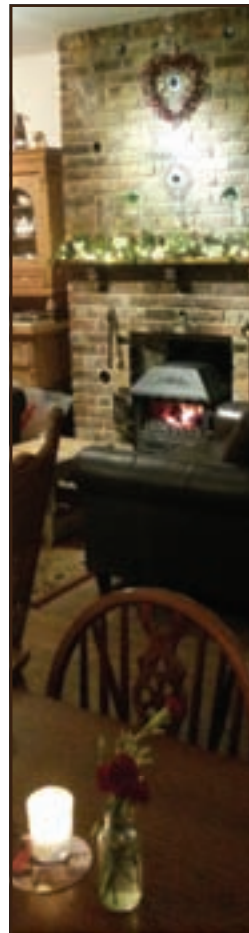
Finally, it is worth recording the demise of the **Jolly Londoner** at Britwell. It was named after the thousands of Londoners who moved to the area when the Britwell Estate was opened in the 1950's.

That concludes our tour of Slough's suburbs. As you can see the pub closures since 2000 are just as extensive as in the town centre. With every pub closure, a bit of local history also disappears and the pace of change in Slough is such that there is now not much visible history to be seen anywhere.

If the remaining pubs are to survive, they really do need your support so if you live or work in Slough and value community pubs, the clear message is use them or lose them.



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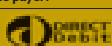
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