

# OPENING TIMES

ST. NEOTS  
& DISTRICT



BRANCH NEWSLETTER

Issue No.4

November 1978

## REAL ALE

Real Ale, in a nutshell (usually draught as opposed to bottled beer) is brewed traditionally from malted barley and hops, without modern substitutes. It is not filtered or pasteurised and is served by hand pump, or electric pump or direct from the cask (wood or metal) and served without any Co2 gas pressure.

CAMRA was formed to combat the spread of Keg Beer, to the point where draught Real Ale was on the verge of disappearing completely. Not only has CAMRA stopped the march of Keg Beer but has actually seen a tremendous expansion of Real Ale with new Real Ale Breweries being opened.

KEG BEER is a bitter, bland drink served by Co2 gas pressure; usually manufactured with substitutes for the traditional ingredients; is pasteurised and filtered to the point where it is dead (Real Ale is live beer) and was thrust upon the public during the 50's, 60's and early 70's by the "big six" who gobbled up scores of small breweries such as Lacons, Steward and Patterson, Huntingdon Brewery and Phipps, taking away variety and choice from you, the drinker.

-DO YOUR BIT FOR TRADITION-

SINK A REAL PINT BEFORE CHRISTMAS AND TASTE THE DIFFERENCE.

## SPOT THE FIZZ

A Keg or pressurised Beer can usually be recognised by the little plastic box on the bar, (of the D/D or Red Barrel type) or in the case of Greene King an imitation hand pump about 8 inches high signifies a pressurised Beer.

In each addition of Opening Times a selection of local premises serving Real Ale will be mentioned. This edition features St. Neots, while in future we hope to gradually cover all Real Ale pubs in Cambs. A full list, 'Real Ale in Cambs'. Edition 4, can be obtained through Opening Times price 62p inc. P&P (Crossed PO or Cheque to CAMRA).

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1). Bell, 37 Great North Road.<br>Eaton Socon (Wells) | 8). Old Sun, Great North Road<br>Eaton Socon (Greene King) |
| 2). Cannon, New Street<br>St. Neots (Wells)           | 9). Queen Victoria. Camb. Street<br>(Paines)               |
| 3). Cross Keys, Market Square<br>St. Neots, (Paines)  | 10). Royal Oak, High Street<br>St. Neots (Paines)          |
| 4). Globe, Huntingdon Street<br>St. Neots (Wells)     | 11). Wagon & Horses, Eaton Socon<br>(Paines)               |
| 5). Plough, Eynesbury (Watney/Mann)                   | 12). Wheatsheaf, Eaton Socon<br>(Wells)                    |
| 6). Lord John Russell<br>Russell Street (Paines)      | 13). Woolpack, Church Street<br>(Wells)                    |
| 7). Merry Boys, Eynesbury (Greene King)               |  |

## FESTIVAL

PENRHOS PORTER, ARKELL'S KINGSDOWN, BRAKSPEAR'S SPECIAL and HOOK NORTON BEST BITTER: Just some of the mouthwatering brews being considered for the CAMRA beer tent at the 1979 St. Neots Riverside Festival. Plans are well in hand to make 1979 the best ever Festival for us, with an extended range of beers, more publicity and the Ted Bradshawe 'Special Plan' to make the beer flow faster.

To create more public interest in our participation in the Festival, we are hoping that some clever beer swiller with artistic leanings may come up with a design for us to use in all of our publicity. We would like to tie this up before Christmas, so any ideas please to the Editor of 'Opening Times' it should be worth a beer or two.

## PINTS OF INTEREST

Watney's Fined Bitter and Mann's I.P.A. have now arrived at the Plough, Eynesbury.

A change of landlord at the Plough, Abbotsley in November gives drinkers a chance to discuss politely with the new tenant the possibility of trying some Real Paines at this popular local, why not pop in and give it a try?

Just outside of our borders, THE ANCHOR at Tempsford changes hands on Dec. 1st and becomes the property of the Chef and Brewer Group (Grand Metropolitan/Watney's). We can only keep our fingers crossed at this stage that there will not be too much damage done to this permanent local Beer Festival. The popular Wilson family who have run the Anchor for many years have bought a pub in the free trade in Derbyshire: The station and County Hotel in Matlock Bath (Junction 28 off the M1). A range of Real Ales will be available, including possibly Marstons and Wards. A visit when passing will certainly be worthwhile.

A recent coach trip to the Norwich Beer Festival was thoroughly enjoyed by all that went but as usual the coach was poorly supported. Any person wishing to be contacted when we run these trips in future should write to the Editor, who will ensure that a circular reaches you. (Non-Members Welcome)

## CAMPAIGNING

You don't need to be a CAMRA member to help the survival and expansion of Traditional Ale in your area. Every drinker that orders a pint of Real Ale when he goes out for a drink helps to strengthen our position around the bargaining table. If every person who reads a CAMRA news letter in Britain between now and Christmas drinks 4 pints of Real Ale in that period, something like 2,000,000 extra pints of Real Ale and not Bland, fizzy Keg or Lager will be drunk. No Brewery can argue with figures like that.

## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS. ST. NEOTS BRANCH OF CAMRA.

Wed. 29th Nov. The Crown, Litlington (Greene King) 8.00p.m. New Members Welcome.

Edited & Published by CHRISTOPHER KNOWLES 29 CHILDS POND ROAD ST. NEOTS. (HUNTS. 215370) Articles welcome.

BRANCH CONTACT: TED BRADSHAW (SANDY 80162) for membership Detls.