

OPENING TIMES

Issue No.5

FEB 1979

Distribution: Due to the problems of getting 'Opening Times' off the ground after a long absence. Issue No.4 may not have reached your area. We apologise for this, and in some cases Issue.4 is attached to this edition.

MEETINGS: At several recent meetings the question of STRONGER CAMPAIGNING and increased MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH has been raised. In an effort therefore to consolidate our known membership this issue has been mailed out to all members in our area in the hope that we may see some old and new faces at our forthcoming meetings. Should any person however wish to receive future copies, a supply of stamped address envelopes should be sent to the Editor for the amount of free issues required.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS: SOCIALS ETC. Wed 21st Feb 1979 (Social) Prince of Wales. HILTON. Wed 7th March 1979 (Annual General Meeting) The Falcon - BUCKDEN. Sat 17th March 1979 - Real Ale Trip to Dudley/Banbury. Wed 21st March 1979 (MEETING) The Plough - Eynesbury. Wed 4th April 1979 Fountain Gamlingay (Social). Non-members and new members are welcome at all functions. Meetings and Socials usually start around 8.00pm.

PINTS OF INTEREST: The PLOUGH at ABBOTSLEY (following the mention in Issue 4) have agreed to take our branch hand pump on loan as soon as it is available. They will be using it to serve PAINES BITTER. Did you know that at one time there were five Breweries in St.Neots? One defunct such brewery is still standing. It is on the river bank behind the CROSS KEYS, Market Square and was formerly DAVE & SONS.

PINTS OF INTEREST: The WHITE BART at STRAUGHTON have indicated that their first delivery of Mares' IPA is imminent. This is quite an unusual pub, with a landlord who has been in the trade for many years, and with souvenirs of his licensed past on view, such as a HUNTINGDON BREWERY rubber floor mat and a PHIPPS ashtray. Issue 4 referred to Keith Wilson of the ANCHOR at TEMPERFORD moving to DESBISHIPE. Apparently it is quite a success with people virtually queuing up to get in.

Anyone want to start a Brewery? - Sales of Cambridge and Royston Brewery (PHILIPS) are both on the market. The Royston brewery was (I am told) bought out by GREEN'S of Luton, which in turn was bought and closed by WHITBREAD'S. I am also informed that parts of the defunct FORDHAM'S brewery at Ashwell near Royston may be viewed in the museum which is situated there.

Work has finally started to rebuild the very old stone-built BARLEY MOW at Hartford - Huntingdon - this will be another WELL'S real-ale outlet for the area.

'WHITBREAD' BY PAUL RACKETT

For many years now Whitbread have supplied only Keg and Bright Beers in this area. Two recent developments however indicate an easing of their attitude to Real Ale, and it seems possible that we may see traditional Whitbread beer becoming more freely available.

Firstly, two local Whitbread houses (The Black Bull-Godmanchester, and the White Horse-Eaton Socon) have started selling Whitbread, Wethereds bitter from MARLOW, Bucks.

Secondly, The LONDON WHITBREAD managment have indicated their willingness to put REAL ALE into any pub of our suggestion provided that they consider the outlet is suitable. Whilst we do not have many WHITBREAD outlets in our area it would be nice to see more of them offering an alternative to all that Keg beer. Anyone who uses WHITBREAD pubs and would like to see cask beer on sale there, now has a chance to do something positive. We would therefore be very interested to hear of any other WHITBREAD outlets where the landlord would like to serve REAL ALE - comments and information to PAUL HACKETT, 6 Clover Road, Eaton Socon, Huntingdon, Cambs. (Huntingdon 212645 - Evenings).

COLLECTERS. Do you collect Beer Mats, Pub ashtrays or similar? If you would like to contact others in the area with a view to exchanges or meetings please write to "OPENING TIMES". We will put you in touch.

OUTLETS. In each edition of Opening Times a selection of local premises serving Real Ale will be mentioned. This edition features various areas. A booklet "REAL ALE IN CAMBS" edition 4 can be obtained through "Opening Times" price 62p inc. P & P (Crossed cheque or P.O. to CAMRA)

1) Three Tuns, Abington (Charrington) 2) Darby & Joan, Abington Piggotts. (Greene King) 3) Axe & Compass, Arkesden (Rayments) 4) Lardwicke Arms, Arrington (Bass, Greene King & Ruddles) 5) Crown Ashley, Newmarket. (Greene King) 6) The Jester, Ashwell and Morden (Bass). 7) Black Bull, Balsham (Bass, Fullers) 8) Royal Oak, Barrington (Courage, Greene King) 9) Three Hills, Bartlow (Greene King) 10) The Hoops, Barton Cambs. (Greene King) 11) The Golden Bull Boxworth (Adnams), Greene King, Paines, Ruddles, Sam Smith, Tolly and Wells.)

BEER OUTING. Most copies of this edition should have a booking form attached for our forthcoming 16 hour Real Ale trip. This should be our best trip yet so please book early as seats are strictly limited to one coach.

Edited and published by CHRISTOPHER KNOWLES 29 Childs Pond Road, St. Neots, Huntingdon, Cambs. (Huntingdon 215370) Articles urgently required. Branch contact - Ted Bradshawe (Sandy 80162) CAMRA Membership is only £4.00 per annum with associate membership for £1.00 - Contact Ted Bradshawe.

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Please note:

April meetings are altered as follows:-

Wed 4th April 1979 (Meeting) Black Bull, Brampton.

Wed 18th April 1979 (Social) Fountain, Gamlingay.
