

OPENING TIMES

ST. NEOTS
& DISTRICT



BRANCH NEWSLETTER.

Issue No.8

Free - Monthly
Circulation 500 Copies

June 1979

Editor: Dave Cox, 41a, Kings Road, St. Neots, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE19 1LD
(Tel: Huntingdon 72250)

All material for inclusion in the July Newsletter should be in the Editor's hands not later than 27th June.

Pub News

The Hardwicke Arms, Gamlingay is now selling Bass on draught instead of Ruddles County. The draught Bass and Tolly Cantab are reported to be selling well.

We would like to welcome John and Helen Packer who have taken over the Red Cow at Covington. At 19 Helen could well be the youngest landlady in the area.

The White Horse at Eaton Socon has now had a proper handpump installed, which means that the beer can now be kept in the cellar instead of behind the bar.

The Manchester Arms at Tilbrook is serving Paines XXX Bitter by handpump. The pub is actually situated on the road from Kimbolton to Catworth.

The Old Sun in Eaton Socon is to start selling Greene King KK light mild again on handpump the Abbot being changed to gravity dispense.

Forthcoming meetings

13th June: Branch meeting at the Lord John Russell, St. Neots.
16th June: Coach trip to Stamford Brewery Museum and Peterborough. Cost approx £2 including admission to the Museum. Contact Clive Parcell on Huntingdon 72099 daytime only.

29th June: Social meeting at the Plough, Abbotsley.

4th July: Social meeting at the Darby & Joan, Abington Piggotts.

All branch and social meetings begin around 8pm.

Did you know

Did you know that 100 years ago there were approximately 45 pubs in St. Neots and 14 in Eynesbury all of which sold real ale many brewing on the premises. The population of St. Neots was just over 3,000 and that of Eynesbury just over 1,300 in 1881. Now that the populations have greatly increased we are down to 22 pubs in St. Neots and 7 in Eynesbury.

Last month's Festival Crossword.

The winner of the Crossword is Ted Francis, landlord of the Half Moon, Kimbolton.

West Midlands Coach Trip (17th March)

As we set off to the wild West Midlands, some thought we might never be seen again, but as you see, some of us survived to tell the tale...

After sadly passing many tempting pubs on the way (some wishing to stop at each one) we reached Dudley where Mitchells & Butlers, Banks's and Doris Pardoes (The Old Swan) home brewed ales were available to satisfy our drooling taste buds. Dudley was cold and snow covered as we tied up the coach and descended on the pubs we had selected, the most popular being the Old Swan, where we enjoyed Doris's excellent brew.

After an hour and a half we made our way back to the coach, where the last few stragglers were 'bombed' by local kids throwing snowballs. The kids being very good shots managed to score a 'bulls-eye' right in the middle of our secretary's glasses, our chairman following up behind went to the rescue, but soon made a hasty retreat after realising he was outnumbered.

We finally left and made our way to the next stops, first the Foley Arms which is next to the Simpkins brewery, then on to the Vine being next to the Batham brewery. By this time everyone, including the driver, Keith, were well into the spirit of things.

At closing time we left for Stratford-upon-Avon. However after a few miles and a few diversions signs that suddenly vanished, it became clear that we were slightly lost. We were now travelling down tiny country roads in our 40ft coach and when we came to a ford across the road it was only after Julie (the only one with wellies) had tested the depth that we continued. We finally found another diversion sign and arrived in Stratford about 5pm. There was just enough time to have a look around and have something to eat, then we were off again.

We arrived in Banbury about 7.30, and using a specially prepared map which included the chip shop for Paul, we went off to 'drink the town dry'. In Banbury we had a selection of Hook Norton, Mitchells and Butlers, Bass and Marstons beers and although the original chip shop was closed we found another close by. By the time we left we had all the locals saying "who is this Ted anyway". We staggered back to the coach and left to make our way home. Everyone was in fine voice and our singing could be heard as we drove through the night.

The journey back was eventful, stopping several times for a nature trail, and having so much trouble with the coach that we had to swap coached when we reached Huntingdon. After this we almost got stuck on Offord bridge just managing to squeeze through with an inch to spare on each side. At last we all got home after an exhausting but very enjoyable day.

JOIN CAMRA NOW IF YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR BEER AND PUPS
MEMBERSHIP FORM

I wish to become a member of CAMRA. I agree to abide by the memorandum and articles of association of the Campaign, and I enclose £4 (£6 for overseas members) as my annual subscription.

FULL NAME (Blocks).....

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

.....Z

Cheques should be made payable to CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE LTD.

Send to:- Roy Endersby, 30 Mayfield Court, Sandy, Beds.

Published by the St. Neots & District Branch of CAMRA.