



OPENING TIMES

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THE BEDFORD BEER FESTIVAL

Once again it's Beer Festival time with the North Beds Branch of CAMRA presenting their 5th Beer Festival at Bedford Corn Exchange from Wednesday 30th September to Saturday 3rd October. Only CAMRA members and landlords are allowed on the Wednesday. Beers expected to be available are Archers, Devenish, Eldridge Pope, Felinfoel, Fullers, Hall & Woodhouse, Marstons, Morrells, Rayment's, Ruddles, Shipstones, Smiles and Youngs.

As usual food will be available at lunchtime sessions. The entertainment on offer includes "The Bedstead Stompers" on Saturday evening. The opening hours are lunchtimes: 11.00-2.00pm and evenings: 5.00-10.00pm. So if you enjoy a good range of beers and a festival atmosphere, why not come along and have a good time?

Roy Endersby

FUTURE DATES

Wed. 7th Oct.	Ferryboat, Holywell, a social.
Wed. 21st Oct.	Globe, St. Neots, a meeting
Tue. 20th Oct.)	Norwich Beer Festival, St. Andrews Hall, Norwich.
to Fri 23rd Oct.)	Lunchtime: 11.30-2.30 pm
	Evening: 5.30-11.00pm

Tuesday evening for CAMRA members only.

Tue 27th Oct.	Prince of Wales, Upper Dean, a joint social with North Beds Branch.
Wed. 4th Nov.	Darby and Joan, Abington Piggots, a social.

All meetings start at 8.00pm PROMPT.

PUB NEWS

There is a new landlord in the Longboat, Sapley, Huntingdon and also at the Angel in Ramsey, the former having moved from the Robin Hood, St. Ives. Both pubs serve Manns IPA.

The Old Falcon Hotel is now selling Bulmers medium cider by handpump.

The Bell at Stoneley is selling Charles Wells Bitter and IPA direct from the cellar but this must be asked for.

The Green Man, Leighton Bromswold is also under new ownership and is selling Tolly Original and Mild and Bass.

Dave Cox is now the new CAMRA Area Organiser and covers the St. Neots, Peterborough and Kings Lynn branches.

THE ISLE OF MAN

Anyone interested in traditional beer should not miss the delights of this island. There are two breweries on the island, Castletown (at Castletown) and Okells (at Douglas), all but one pub selling traditional beer. This one pub, the Keppel Hotel near Douglas, has no cellar and sells only keg Castletown beers. The Victoria in Castletown is the only Castletown pub to sell draught mild and to use gravity dispense for its beers.

Castletown brewery are running a passport scheme this year and a sticky label (each depicting the particular pub) can be obtained from every-one of their 35 hostelryes and stuck into the passport. Just about all their pubs can be reached by public transport although one or two villages with pubs have only a very sparse bus service and careful planning is required. The longest walk was to the Keppel Hotel (1½ miles from the nearest bus stop); many of the other pubs were at bus stops and stations or in the towns. With 20 different labels in the passport you qualify for a certificate and are eligible to enter a prize draw (the first prize is a weeks holiday on the island next year). Okells are not running a similar scheme and personally I was rather thankful!

The great thing about the island is that during the summer months all the pubs are obliged to open from 10.30am until 11.00pm; during the winter they don't open until 12 noon.

Why can't we have the same hours in England???

Dave Cox.

TRIP TO NORWICH

On Saturday 14th November there will be a trip to Norwich costing £2.00 to members and £3.00 to non-members. The coach will leave at about 2.00pm and return after closing time. Further details will be in next months newsletter but your place can be reserved by contacting Mick Ewen at the next meeting or on Huntingdon 50150.

Please make a note of this in your diaries and let us have a FULL attendance on this trip.

THE NEWSLETTER

I would like to thank publicly those members of the branch who took the time and trouble to contribute to this months "Opening Times". If they can do it so can YOU and therefore I request and require that ALL other active members make some contribution in the very near future so as to ensure the continuation of THEIR newsletter.

The Editor.

"OPENING TIMES" is published by the ST. NEOTS & DISTRICT BRANCH OF "THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE" (CAMRA).

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