

# OPENING TIMES

ST. NEOTS  
& DISTRICT



BRANCH  
NEWSLETTER

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FEBRUARY 1982

STOP PRESS..... BRANCH A.G.M CHANGE.....STOP PRESS!!!

The annual General Meeting of the St. Neots and District Branch of CAMRA will be held on Tuesday March 16th 1982 and NOT the Wednesday as stated in last months newsletter. The venue is still the Cannon, St. Neots. All committee positions are up for election and nominations should be given to the secretary, Geoff Parsons, anytime before the meeting begins. The posts on the committee are:

Chairman  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Newsletter Editor  
Publicity Officer  
Membership Secretary

The meeting will start at 8pm prompt and limited free beer will be available, so COME EARLY.

## FUTURE MEETINGS.

Wed. 17th Feb. Vine, Buckden, a social.  
Wed. 3rd Mar. Royal Oak, St. Ives, a social.  
TUES 16th MAR. CANNON, ST. NEOTS, THE AGM.  
Wed. 31st Mar. Black Bull, Godmanchester, a social.  
Wed. 21st Apr. Kings Head, St. Neots.  
Wed. 5th May. Axe and Compass, Hemingford Abbots, a social.

## PUB MANAGEMENT COURSE.

Late last year I was invited to attend the one day course in cellar and pub management that Charles Wells runs for its tenants and managers at the Century at Goldington. The coupe consists of a series of lectures and films, held in the lounge bar of the pub and in a special classroom at the rear of the pub. The subjects covered during the day were: Public Health, Licencing Law, method of brewing, beer dispense, cleaning, food, and public house accounting.

I found the course very informative and worthwhile, and it should prove useful for any landlord that attends it. Being a one day course a few subjects seem to be covered in sufficient depth, but at least we have a brewery who are making an effort to provide at least a basic training to their present and prospective tenants. All participants receive a certificate at the end of the day, mine being No. 134.

My thanks go to the management of Charles Wells, especially Mr. Jim Bake (Estates director) for their hospitality and for a very interesting day. Cheers Charles!

GEOFF PARSONS.

NATIONAL A.G.M. 1982.

The 1982 National CAMRA Annual General Meeting will be held at the University of Bradford on March 26th, 27th and 28th. Members should consult their What's Brewing for accommodation details if they wish to attend.

GOOD BEER GUIDE 1982.

The new 1982 Good Beer Guide should be available soon. The cover price will be £3.95. The price to members will be £2.95, a generous discount. Copies can be obtained from most committee members or at our branch meeting. This years issue contains more than 6,000 of the best houses serving the finest pints in England, Scotland, Wales, The Channel Islands, Isle of Man, and for the first time ever, bars in the Irish Republic. Special features include a history of pub signs, the threats to the modern public houses and a plea for urgent changes in our outdated and restrictive licensing laws.

ROY ENDERSBY.

PUB NEWS.

Profuse apologies to the Bell at Eaton Socon about last months error. The excellent winterbrew on sale there is a mixture of Old Bedford Ale and Bomdardier.

The barrel race at the Half Moon, Kimbolton, raised £350 for guide dogs.

The Milkmaid, Willingsom, now sells keg Websters and not the real thing. Shame on it!

EXTRA HALF HOUR AT THE PUB?

Local magistrates are making an unusual appeal to the public for their opinion on a plan to extend pub and club drinking times. Publicans in the district are hoping to get opening times extended from 10.30pm to 11.00pm Mondays to Thursdays to keep in line with pubs in neighbouring districts. Magistrates say they want views of all the people, whether for the idea or against it, particularly those living near pubs who may be bothered by noise at night. They are also trying to find out whether there will be an increase in crime, which is associated with drink, if closing is extended.

Publicans in the Huntingdon, St. Ives and Ramsey areas will be putting their case on February 3rd at the licensing sessions in Huntingdon and those in the St. Neots area at the St. Neots court on February 5th. They will have to show why the 10.30pm closing rule should be changed.

STOP PRESS (AGAIN!).

Just before going to press, it was learned that magistrates had granted the licence to extend pub opening hours by an extra 30 minutes. From March 1st 1982, pubs in the Huntingdon district will be open until 11pm Monday to Thursday. This means that pubs will close at 11pm on 6 days of the week. A similar decision was also made when the magistrates of St. Neots heard the application.

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