

OPENING TIMES

ST. NEOTS
& DISTRICT



BRANCH
NEWSLETTER

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CHRISTMAS PARTY 17TH DECEMBER

This year's Christmas party for branch members and friends, will be held at Kisby's Hut in Papworth. Tolly Original is on handpump and it is hoped that Tolly Old will be available on gravity. A coach is booked, picking up at St. Ives, Huntingdon, Godmanchester, Brampton and St. Neots. For all you merry revellers who wish to join in the fun phone Clive on 51545 to book seats now.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Wed. 8th December - Social, White Hart, Alconbury Weston then onto the Crown, Alconbury.

Wed. 12th January - New Inn, St. Neots, open meeting everyone welcome, come along to this informal meeting to find out what CAMRA is all about.

Wed. 26th January - Social, White Hart, Godmanchester.

PUB NEWS

Eynesbury has at last a Real Ale pub, the Hare and Hounds, which is now serving James Paines XXX Bitter by handpump. Congratulations to the landlord for an oasis in a Real Ale desert.

The Crown, Eaton Socon now has Shefford Bitter on handpump to compliment the Adnams.

We welcome Keith and Ann Miller who recently took over as managers of the Kings Head, St. Neots. James Paine 1041, EG, and XXX are available on handpump.

Welcome to John and Leslie Begley who have taken over at the White Hart, Godmanchester. They intend to build on a childrens room and open the beer garden: but more immediate plans include re-opening the off-sales and serving food as soon as the kitchen is refitted. At present, Mann's IPA is on handpump.

CHRISTMAS ALE

Greene King are brewing a strong Christmas ale again this year available in your local from now until the New Year.

PUB NEWS

The Axe and Compass, Hemmingford Abbots, which could well end up CAMRA St. Neots district pub of the year for 1983, is now selling all of their Mann's beers on handpump only. No longer will you be able to buy a pint of Mann's in keg form in this splendid pub, also Cider and Mann's Mild are soon to be available on handpump.

It is also rumoured that the Green Man at Colne will shortly be following this example, of selling Mann's beers only by the traditional method. This is due to Mann's brewery at Northampton realising that the drinking public prefer Real Ale as opposed to gassy keg beers.

CHRISTMAS STOCKING FILLERS

GOOD BEER GUIDE 1983

Available now at branch meeting and socials the 1983 G.B.G. which gives details of 6,000 pubs serving Real Ale throughout the British Isles at a special pre-Christmas price of £3.50.

THE BEER DRINKERS DIARY

The best selling new diary of 1982 is now out in the 1983 edition, this tall, slim pocket size diary in black or dark brown with a day to a page will cost you only £1.90, a sure stocking filler.

FLEXIBLE OPENING HOURS FOR PUBLIC HOUSES PETITION

The Campaign for Real Ale as a national body are organising a petition to the government, with the backing of the home office minister, Timothy Raison and the NULV for a change in the old fashioned laws governing opening times. This does not mean longer opening hours, but allows landlords to open their bars to suit the demand of the customers. Instead of having an empty bar at 10.30a.m. surely it would be better if landlords could open at say 12.00noon and stay open until 3.00p.m. The laws have recently changed in Scotland and instead of more drinking related offences, the number has in fact dropped, because there is time to enjoy your drinking instead of gulping down in the last half hour. Together with the saving in lighting and heating costs and the increase of trade in sociable opening hours the pubs would make more profit, therefore giving a better service to the customers. I therefore urge everyone to sign the "flexible opening hours" petition, which should be displayed in your local. Help us to obtain one million signatures to send to the government in the new year.

Extra petition forms and posters advertising the campaign can be obtained from the editor at the address below.

LATE NEWS

The Rocket at Eaton Ford is now selling Matthew Brown's John Peel Bitter on handpump, complimenting it's range of James Faine beers.

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"Opening Times" is published by the ST. NEOTS AND DISTRICT BRANCH OF "THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE" (CAMRA).