

OPENING TIMES



BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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PUB NEWS

The Three Horseshoes at Longstowe is undergoing refurbishment including a new restaurant area plus the installation of cold cellar facilities to enable beers to be kept at the correct temperature in the hopefully hot summer months. Beers currently available there, are Marstons Pedigree, Adnams and Everards Tiger.

The Crown, Eaton Socon has new landlords Ian and Sue Robinson, who are serving Adnams and Banks and Taylor bitters on handpump.

Real Ale drinkers are welcome at The Mermaid, Ellington. Landlady Wendy Minchington who took over the free house in October is looking to expand her trade in real ale and now has Mitchells and Butlers Springfield Bitter and Greene King I.P.A. both available on gravity dispense.

The George and Dragon, Eaton Socon also has a new landlord and landlady, Keith and Elaine Morton who will continue to sell Greene King Abbot, I.P.A. and mild on handpump.

Other new landlords to the district are Mick and Margaret Foxon who have recently taken over at the Old Sun, Eaton Socon. The newly refurbished Ye Olde Ferryboat Inn at Holywell has now re-opened selling Bass, Greene King Abbot and I.P.A.

The Prince of Wales Free House, Hilton now has new landlords Paul and Gina Stanford who are serving Paines XXX Bitter and E.G. on handpump, whilst the Mill Restaurant at Brampton is serving St. Neots Bitter and E.G. Paines are also active in renovating their public houses, the latest to come in for up-dating are the Hare and Hounds at Eynesbury which under new landlords Vic and Sal Roberts has undergone an internal face-lift with the addition of a new area for hood skittles. Also the back yard has been much renovated to give an attractive garden area suitable for couples with children. The Lord John Russell in St. Neots centre is also undergoing internal refurbishments.

Wilson's Original Bitter (O.G. 1036) is now available at more Manns pubs in the area including The Falcon Inn, Huntingdon, The Bell, Huntingdon, The Seven Wives, St. Ives. The Robin Hood, St. Ives and the Three Jolly Butchers, Wyton.

Just out of the area Midsummer Inns (the former CAMRA Investment Company) have bought further pubs, the Botolph Arms Free House in Peterborough and the City Arms in Cambridge.

The Pear Tree at Bassingbourne now has available five handpumped bitters - Adnams, Ind Coope Burton, Banks & Taylor's Eastcote and two from Victoria Brewery - Hellfire and Albert.

Future Meetings

All meetings start around 8pm.

Wednesday 30th May	- Meeting - Red Lion, Bassingbourne (Tolly)
Wednesday 13th June	- Mini-Bus trip to Peterborough - £3.00 per head (contact editor for further details)
Wednesday 27th June	- Meeting - Red Cow, Covington (Free)
Wednesday 11th July	- Social - Jolly Sailor, Ramsey (Manns)
Wednesday 25th July	- Social - Hardwicke Arms, Arrington (Free) 8.00 - 9.30. Queene Adelaide (Free) Croydon 9.30 onwards.

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Brewery News

Local brewers Paine's have won a competition run by CAMRA Canada. In CAMRA Ottawa's First Ever Homebrew Competition their John Bull beer kits romped home easily into first place, bearing testimony to the foremost homebrew kit selling in Canada.

Bedford Brewers Charles Wells will soon be publishing a brand new guide to their pubs. Titled Eagle Country, it is their most recent guide since 1976. In a competition run by Charles Wells, the Crown & Pipes at Fenstanton got a new tenants runners-up prize for Alan and Pam Pierce for selling an extra 128 barrels in a year. While at the New Tavern Great Staughton David and Sheila Bickley pushed beer sales up by 107 per cent over the year.

Brewery Trip

Anyone interested in a trip to Tolly Cobbold's brewery at Ipswich, could they please contact Steve Leader on Huntingdon (0480) 75095. The coach leaves Buckden between 5pm and 5.30pm on Wednesday 15th August. The fare will be £3.50 and a deposit of £2.00 is required.

National News

The 1984 Great British Beer Festival has unfortunately been cancelled owing to a fire at the proposed venue Bingley Halls Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

In the first 'Big Six' brewery takeover bid for more than a decade, Scottish and Newcastle are poised to buy up Camerons of Hartlepool for £44m. This proposed sale leaves the future of Tolly Cobbold of Ipswich in serious doubt, as owners David and Frederick Barclay had previously given assurances that they would not sell off the breweries. However, with funds being required for ventures elsewhere a generous offer from a major brewer may prove difficult to refuse.

Marstons of Burton-on-Trent have now completed their takeover of Border Breweries of Wrexham.

At a time when the country is welcoming the new small breweries it is with sadness that we learn of the death of Mrs Doris (Ma) Pardoe. She started home-brew pubs with The Old Swan at Netherton, Staffordshire in 1932. The licence predates to 1869, even the recipe for the pale bitter has remained the same. Doris leaves two pubs, the other one is the White Swan in Dudley. Both pubs will continue brewing. In toasting her memory, remember she was one of only four small home brewers that kept the local traditional flag flying in the dark days of the early seventies.

Real Ale in Clubs

As we are looking to update our information on real ale in clubs in our area any details to this end would gratefully be received by the editor.

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