



**CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE**

# opening times

**Huntingdonshire Branch of CAMRA  
the Campaign for Real Ale**

**Issue 144  
Autumn 2010**

FOCUS ON CIDER



**Booze on the Ouse, St Ives Beer Festival  
Thursday 16—Saturday 18 September 2010**

# 2010 Beer Festival at Wyboston Lakes

Friday 13th - Sunday 15th August



## Have a 'firkin' great time!

🍷 With a selection of local real ales and ciders 🍷

🍽️ Delicious hot and cold food 🍽️

🎵 Live entertainment from local bands 🎵

🍷 Family day with games and roast lunch on Sunday 🍷



For further details, contact us quoting OT on

**Tel: 01480 223033**

or email [brasserie@wybostonlakes.co.uk](mailto:brasserie@wybostonlakes.co.uk)



Wyboston Lakes, Great North Road, Wyboston, Beds MK44 3AL  
[www.wybostonlakes.co.uk](http://www.wybostonlakes.co.uk)

# PIG n FALCON - St. Neots

## Live Music

Wed, Fri + Sat

**3** Large heated outdoor areas



Ales to date

**350**

Since 9/4/09

Huntingdonshire Camra

**Most Improved  
pub of the year**

**2010**

**'Rock and Ale' every weekend** with up to **16** Ales & Ciders

Discount for Camra Members 30p off per pint or 10p per half

Potbelly Best **£2 pt** Oakham Inferno **£2.40 pt**

GK IPA **£2.20 pt**

Open 10am (11am Sunday) til' late Monday - Sunday!

**WWW.PIGNFALCON.CO.UK**

**Tel 07951 785678 - New st, St Neots - PE19 1AE**

**2 Support your local pub - don't give them an excuse to close it!**

# FOCUS ON CIDER



With the coming of Autumn and the apple and pear harvest time, CAMRA's thoughts focus on Cider and Perry.

The last year has been a period of growth and success for Cambridgeshire cider producers.

In the 2010 East Anglian Bottled Cider Competition, three Cambridgeshire cider makers celebrated wins. **Cromwell Cider** took first place for Oliver's Choice Cider, **Ouse Valley Cider** took second place, and **Cam Valley Orchards** from Meldreth, took third place. Cromwell also took first place in the bottled perry competition.

The winning cider, **Oliver's Choice**, was described by judges as having 'a pleasant aroma with a hint of vanilla and full of flavour. Desperately drinkable!' Another judge commented 'the taste of the apples really comes through in this cider.' The winning Perry was described by judges as having an 'inviting, floral aroma with a sweet, light, fruity and honey taste followed by a lingering aftertaste. A perfect drink for the summer.'

Tony Hobbs of Cromwell Cider said 'All at

Cromwell Cider are 'over the moon' to have once again had success with our premier cider Oliver's Choice, and now Oliver's Perry. It is CAMRA we have to thank for our venture into Perry, and with the success of our perry at this year's Cambridge Beer Festival it has spurred to trying our hand once again for next season. My thanks go to all my colleagues and friends for their honest judgment.'

Ouse Valley Cider, which came second, was described by judges as being 'a dry cider with a hint of lemon in the aroma and an aftertaste that fades to an easy finish. Very refreshing.' Roger Featherstone of Ouse Valley Cider said 'We were very pleased to win a prize in the bottled cider competition at the Cambridge Beer Festival and would like to thank the organisers for giving cider such a high profile at this event.' Ouse Valley Cider is a blend of Cambridgeshire grown cider and dessert apples and is produced by traditional methods by Roger Featherstone, John Spencer and Ian Ogilvie. Apple varieties used include Dabinett, Stoke Red, Discovery and Cox.

Meanwhile, at CAMRA's National Cider and Perry Championships, held at the Reading Beer and Cider Festival over the May bank holiday weekend., there was success for **Pickled Pig** of **Stretham**, Cambridgeshire. Their Porker's Snout took the bronze award in the Cider competition.

The proven quality of our locally available ciders has stimulated interest in our local pubs, and there has been a significant increase in the number of local pubs offering cider, both regularly and occasionally.

CAMRA has launched a new scheme to promote pubs serving real cider, with win-



# FOCUS ON CIDER



dow stickers issued to any pub that has at least one real cider available throughout the year.

Already five local pubs have been issued with these window stickers:

- Cock, Hemingford Grey—Cromwell Oliver's Choice
- Fox, Catworth—Weston's Old Rosie
- Lord John Russell, St Neots—Weston's Traditional Scrumpy
- Oliver Cromwell, St Ives—Cromwell Oliver's Choice
- Pig 'n' Falcon, St Neots—a wide variety on offer, but at least 2 ciders always available, and often ciders from award

winning Gwynt y Ddraig.

As well as the above, real cider has been seen from time to time in the Mad Cat, Pidley, the Chequers, Little Grandsen, and the White Hart, Alconbury Weston. Local real cider has also been regularly seen at local pub beer festivals over recent months.

Given that we have such a range of award winning bottled ciders being produced in the area, we will be encouraging local licensees to consider stocking bottled cider from Cromwell and Ouse Valley. Many pubs may be reluctant to stock a draught real cider but we hope will consider a bottled real cider. If you see these bottled real ciders in our local pubs, do give them a try!

## Bedford Beer & Cider Festival

Corn Exchange, St Paul's Square, Bedford MK40 1SL

### Wed 6<sup>th</sup> - Sat 9<sup>th</sup> October 2010

Over 100 real ales, 30 ciders / perries  
Draught and bottled foreign beers

OPEN Wed 4-11pm, Thu-Sat 11.30am-11pm  
ADMISSION before 5pm FREE  
From 5pm: Wed £2, Thu £3, Fri £5, Sat £1  
CAMRA members free at all times  
Evening pass-outs for smokers  
Wheelchair access to all floors  
**NO ONE UNDER AGE 18 ADMITTED**  
Souvenir glass £2 sale or return  
Tasty hot and cold food, free soft drinks  
Tombola, clothing, gifts and books  
ENTERTAINERS: Wed eve: Dr Busker, Sat lunch:  
Bedford Morris Men, Sat eve: Hayley Strangelove

[www.northbedscamra.org.uk](http://www.northbedscamra.org.uk)

# A LOOK BACK IN TIME

## 25 YEARS AGO



Tony Bevan, managing director of St Neots brewer James Paine met with local and national representatives of CAMRA to discuss CAMRA's concerns about

pub disposals and declining character and consistency of Paines cask beers. Despite trading arrangements that had taken Paines cask beers into the pubs of Tolly Cobbold in Cambridge and Allied's Ind Coope in Burton on Trent, only around a dozen tied Paines pubs remained and recent pub swaps involving the Queen Victoria in St Neots and the Bell at Sawtry were seen as further evidence of a shrinking local presence. CAMRA expressed profound fears for the future of the brewery.



The revered Lincolnshire brewing company Batemans was also under threat 25 years ago as a

family feud led to the brewery and its pubs going up for sale. John Bateman and his sister Helen decided to sell out their combined share of 60% of the firm. George Bateman, who owned the remaining 40%, mounted a spirited bid to hang on to the company along with potential partners. CAMRA, brewery staff, pub-goers and well wishers rallied round in support, with one local Batemans drinker offering to mortgage his home to fund a donation.

National group Allied Breweries came under threat of takeover in late 1985 with a £2billion takeover bid from Australian

brewing group Elders IXL, well known for their Fosters brand then already produced in the UK by the Watney group.

Simpkiss, brewers in Brierley Hill in the West Midlands for over 100 years, was taken over and immediately closed by Warrington brewing company Greenall Whitley. The 15 Simpikiss pubs began to stock Greenall Whitley cask beers in place of the Simpikiss brands.



Suffolk brewers Adnams launched a new cask beer, Extra. With an original gravity of 1044, the new brew was aimed at fulfilling consumer demand for a stronger cask bitter and added to the existing range of Mild (1034), Bitter (1036) and the seasonal Old (1042).



St Neots CAMRA met at Manns pub the Green Man in Colne in August 1985 and there were two-pub autumn socials at the Elephant and Castle at Woodwalton (free house) and Stag and Hounds



in Oldhurst (Manns), the Downing Arms (scratching Cat) in Tadlow (free house) and Queen Adelaide at Croydon (free house), and the White Hart at Bythorn (free house) and George in Spaldwick (Manns).

# A LOOK BACK IN TIME

## 10 YEARS AGO

Ten years ago CAMRA's annual prices survey revealed no increase over the previous year in the price of real ale in the pubs of the UK's independent brewers. The average price of a pint of cask beer was £1.68 in pubs owned by the independents, compared with £1.84 in the pubs owned by the national brewers.



Harrier, Brampton

St Neots CAMRA held meetings at the Old Bridge in Huntingdon and the Chequers at Little Gransden, and there were autumn socials at the Grange and Harrier in Brampton and the Royal Oak in St Ives.

Closures of a number of microbreweries led to renewed calls for progressive beer duty to help the UK's smallest brewers in the face of denied access to large sectors of the pub trade due to the brewery and pub company tie. Four Rivers brewery in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Backdykes of Thornton in Fife and Station Brewery at Easingwold, North Yorkshire were the latest closures. Four Rivers blamed cash flow problems associated with a contract to supply a large national pub company.

Ruddles brewery in Rutland was reduced to rubble in late 2000 as the brewery buildings at Langham were demolished after the brewery had been successively taken over by Grand Metropolitan, owners of the Watney brewing group, then Grölsch, then Morlands, who closed



the brewery, and finally Greene King.

Trade Secretary Stephen Byers referred Interbrew's takeover of Bass to the Competition Commission, although he allowed Interbrew's takeover of Whitbread to go through. Mr Byers said, 'The Bass merger would reduce the number of national brewers from four to three . . . and significantly increase the level of concentration in the hands of the top two brewers.'

A cask mild became CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain as Black Cat, the 3.4% dark mild from Burnley brewer Moorhouse's, won the coveted award at the Great British Beer Festival at London Olympia. It was the first mild to win the competition in 20 years – Moorhouse's Blackburn neighbour Thwaites won the award for its Best Mild in 1978 and 1980.



Oxfordshire brewer Brakspear announced a £750,000 investment in new plant and a



Brakspear Brewery

25% boost in capacity to cope with higher demand expected following a new distribution deal with Scot-

tish Courage. The main investment was in ancillary plant such as a new boiler and conditioning tanks and overhauled electricity and water supplies, cleaning systems and cask handling. The main brew house and its ingredients and brewing methods were to remain unchanged.



# HALF PINTS

For the second year in a row, local cider makers Cromwell Cider of Hemingford



Grey have won the Best Bottled Cider award for their Oliver's Choice in the CAMRA East Anglian bottled cider competition.

Their bottled perry, Oliver's Perry, won Best Bottled Perry. Ouse Valley Cider of Cottenham came second in the bottled cider competition. The competition was held at CAMRA's Cambridge beer festival in May. CAMRA's regional cider coordinator Chris Rouse said 'It's great to see the emergence of East Anglian perry. Long may it continue.'

Greene King is converting a large number of its tenanted estate to managed houses and selling off underperforming tenanted pubs. Over the next three to five years its managed estate will swell by over 200 pubs to reach around 1100 and its tenanted estate will be cut by over 380 to around 1200 pubs.



Punch Taverns and Enterprise Inns plan to allow some of their lessees to buy beer direct from a local brewer. Punch will offer a ten year lease option that will include the right to sell beers brewed by a small brewer. Enterprise will offer a free-of-tie guest ale option for beer from members of the Small Independent Brewers' Association, a free-of-tie option on all cask beer for any microbrewer taking on a pub and a

new lease that offers free-of-tie pricing in return for higher rent.

Charles Wells is to allow its Cask Marque accredited pubs to stock a free-of-tie guest beer from a small brewer in return for a payment of £65 for every 36 gallons. To be eligible, pubs will need to have at least four handpumps and turn over casks within three to four days.



Wells & Youngs has introduced new point



of sale identification for Eagle IPA Bitter. The new branding includes a striking eagle symbol, a feature

of the Bedford town crest, framed with barley.

In the Queen's Speech, the new coalition government announced a ban on below-cost alcohol sales and a community right to buy pubs threatened with closure. The government is also to review alcohol taxation, give stronger powers to remove licences for problem pubs and clamp down on underage sales of alcohol.

There is to be no review of the current smoking ban legislation. The previous government had planned a review after three years but the Department of Health has announced its cancellation.

The Government is considering a drop in the drink driving limit from 80mg to 50mg per 100ml of blood and an even lower limit

# HALF PINTS

of 20mg for new drivers for the first five years after passing the driving test.

Anheuser Busch InBev is reported to be selling its cask beer brands Draught Bass, Boddingtons and Flowers. Company president Stuart McFarlane said 'Our focus is on Budweiser, Becks and Stella. I'm happy to say to the UK regional brewers, you take control of the cask ale business – you do it better.' Bass is already brewed under contract by Marstons, cask Boddingtons by Hydes of Manchester and Flowers by Brains of Cardiff.

Highgate and Davenports Brewery in Walsall has gone into compulsory liquidation and closed.



Highgate Brewery produced only dark beer for most of its existence, brewing mild ales to slake the thirsts of workers in the local leather industry. Founded in

1898, it was taken over by Mitchells and Butlers in 1938 and sold by Bass to the brewery management in the 1990's. Local brewer Aston Manor took over in 2000, then the Global Star pub group in 2007, at which point it was renamed Highgate and Davenports.

Heineken has sold its Waverley TBS beer and drinks distribution service to an investment company. A supply arrangement with Heineken will remain.

Trumans, the famous London brewing name, has been revived by beer lovers James Morgan and Michael-George Hemus who have launched cask Truman's Runner, produced by Nethergate Brewery in Essex, in pubs in the East



End of London, including the Scolt Head in Culford Road, Canonbury, and two pubs in Shoreditch, the Water Poet, Folgate Street, and the Carpenters Arms, Cheshire Street. There is also a plan for a new brewery to produce Trumans beer in East London.

The Government has confirmed that the Home Office will take over responsibility for licensing from the Department for Culture, Media & Sport. The 2003 Licensing Act for England and Wales is to be thoroughly reviewed with Home Secretary Theresa May promising to crack down on 24 hour drinking. It has been pointed out that, as the reality is that hardly any pubs are open for 24 hours, this move will mainly affect supermarket chains.



# HALF PINTS

Smoking in bars in Bavaria is to be banned. Bavarian beer drinkers who want to smoke whilst down their local tavern will have to go outside in future. In a referendum of voters, 61% voted in favour of a smoke ban. The turnout was however a fairly low 37.7%. The result will hit those attending this year's Munich Beer Festival where visitors will need to leave the tents to smoke.

The new **Wharfebank** microbrewery has been opened by Leeds North West MP Greg Mulholland. Wharfebank's brewery is located in a converted paper mill on the bank of the river Wharfe in Pool-in-Wharfedale near Otley. The brewing team includes Ian Smith, the recently retired Head Brewer of Tetley Brewery.



Three world beer mat flipping records have been broken. Dean Gould flipped and caught 35 beer mats with two fingers whilst blindfolded, performed 800 flips in 41.06 seconds and caught 108 mats after dropping them from his elbow.

Bill King has sold the brewery, **W J King**, that he set up in 2001 following the sale of his family brewery **King & Barnes** to Hall & Woodhouse. The purchasers are Ian Burgess, for 19 years the number two brewer at Harveys and Nigel Lamb.



Supermarket Waitrose is looking for

closed pubs as potential sites for planned new stores – the group plans to open 300 new convenience stores in the next 10 years. Such moves do not require planning permission and Tesco Express caused local outrage in Chorlton, Manchester by opening a store on the site of a former pub with no opportunity for public objections

Tasty pub lunches for dogs are being offered by Butcher's Pet Care, in partnership with the Brakspear pub chain.

The Hofbraü Kaltenhausen is set to be closed by owners Heineken. The brewery, which is part of the Braui Union group of breweries was bought by Heineken some years ago and brews beer brands such as Edelweiss Weissbier and Kaiser. Brewing of these beers will be transferred to another brewery in the group - the Zipf brewery. There are plans to open a brewpub on the site



of the brewery.

The Marstons pub chain is to launch annual awards for its licensees. There will be seven awards including Cask Ale Pub of the Year. The top pubs amongst Marston's 1,700 pub estate will be assessed during a four-month judging process, and the winners will be announced in November.



# PUB PIECES

The Marriott Hotel in Huntingdon is now stocking beers from the Draycott brewery in Buckden. Draycott supplies bottled beers which are CAMRA accredited as 'Real Ale in a Bottle', and the Marriott is offering all of Jon Draycott's beers: Buckden Bronze Bitter, Buckden Black Porter, and Buckden Pale Ale. It is hoped that more local pubs, hotels and restaurants will be offering Draycott beers in the coming months.



The **Lord John Russell, St. Neots** has agreed to join the CAMRA Discount Scheme, with a 5p/pint price reduction on showing a CAMRA membership card. They are also accepting Wetherspoons vouchers.



The **Pig 'n' Falcon, St. Neots** has also joined the CAMRA Discount Scheme, with a CAMRA membership card giving a discount of 30p/pint and 10p/half, on any beers excluding the special offer beers (Greene King IPA, Potbelly Best and Oakham Inferno).



The **Racehorse at Catworth** has been closed for a brief period and was expected to reopen soon under new management.



Marstons Inns and

Taverns have applied for planning permission to build a large £2 million 'family diner' style pub development on the outskirts of St Ives on the south side of the A1123 Needingworth Road near the St Ives Business Park..

The **White Hart at Bythorn** is being repaired following a serious fire a year ago, which left the building without a roof.



The **Merry Boys in St Neots** is closed and offered for sale by owners Admiral Taverns who acquired the pub from Greene King a couple of years ago.



In **St Ives** Punch Taverns pub the **Manchester Arms** has undergone a stylish refurbishment with impressive new signing.

A planning application has been submitted to convert the **Kings Head in St Neots** into a DIY shop, offices and flats. Owners Punch Taverns put the Kings Head on the market after its licence was suspended and hours curtailed early this year due to a number of incidents of disorder. Punch then announced a refurbishment to create a more food-oriented pub but later put it on the market. West End Wallpapers, which runs a small chain of DIY shops, is now hoping to open a new shop on the site by April next year.



# PUB PIECES

## Pub Beer Festivals

**Wyboston Lakes** is running a beer festival Friday 13th—Sunday 15th August, with a selection of local real ales and cider, live music from local bands, and a family day on Sunday.



The **White Hart, Godmanchester** is holding a beer festival Thursday 12th—Sunday 15th August, with local real ales and ciders, a hog roast and barbecue, and live music.



At the **Waggon and Horses in Steeple Morden**, a wide variety of ales and ciders will be on offer on Saturday 14th August from 1pm until late, with two live bands, a BBQ, and a bouncy children's castle.



The **Cock at Hemingford Grey** has their beer festival Friday 27th—Monday 30th August, with 25 real ales, a BBQ, and live music every night.



The **Pheasant at Keyston** is holding a beer festival on Sunday 29th August, with 10 beers from local breweries including Buntingford, Nethergate and Digfield Ales,

live music, games, a petting zoo and a BBQ.



The **Red House, Longstowe** is having a beer festival on August Bank Holiday Monday 30th August, with 12 real ales including local microbrewery beers and some 'unusual' beers, plus local real cider and food.



The **George and Dragon in Eaton Socon** will be offering 15 real ales at their beer festival on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th of September.



From Thursday 23rd to Sunday 26th of September, the **White Hart at Alconbury Weston** is having a beer festival, with 8-10 beers plus real cider, live music and an 'exotic' BBQ.



The **Chequers, Little Gransden** has their annual beer festival on the first weekend in October, Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd. A wide range of Son of Sid and other microbrewery beers is planned.





# 34th BOOZE ON THE OUSE



individualistic beer styles in the world, such as Trappist, lambic and wheat beers.

## CIDER AND PERRY

The traditional cider bar will be serving a selection of tasty traditional cider & perry, focussing on local Cambridgeshire cider producers.

## FEATURES

### VENUE

The festival is being held at the Burgess Hall, in the St Ivo Centre, Westwood Road, PE27 6WU, close to the centre of St Ives.

### FOOD AND DRINK

A variety of food will be available at all sessions. Free soft drinks will be available from the cider and foreign beer bar for the designated driver of your party.

### CHILDREN AT THE FESTIVAL

Whilst lunchtime is the ideal time to bring the family to the festival, we do allow children into the hall up to 8pm in the evening.

### CAMRA PRODUCTS STAND

Come along and chat to our staff and learn about CAMRA, beer brewing and pubs. CAMRA and brewery products will be on sale, including sweatshirts, t-shirts and polo shirts, as well as books, pens, badges and beer mats. Adjacent will be the fabulous 'Every One's A Winner' tombola stall.

## OTHER DETAILS

### THE WORKERS

The festival is organised and run by members of CAMRA who are all unpaid volunteers. We always need more helpers

## OPENING TIMES

Thursday 5pm–10.45pm

Friday 5pm–10.45pm

Saturday All day; 12 noon–10pm.

### Entry Including Programme:

Thursday - £1 from 5-7pm; £2 after 7pm

Friday - £1 from 5-7pm; £3 after 7pm

Saturday - £1 all day 12noon-10pm.

Families welcome until 8pm.

Please Note: No entry or re-admission after 10.15pm on Thursday and Friday, and 9:30pm on Saturday.

Free entry to CAMRA members at all sessions - a good reason to join CAMRA!

## BEERS

### REAL ALES

We hope to serve *over the course of the festival* around 55 real ales from all over the UK, both from the well-established independent breweries and the newer, smaller micro-breweries.

### FOREIGN BEER

The popular foreign beer bar will be selling a range of Belgian, Dutch, German, and Czech bottled beers including examples of the most distinctive

**12 Join 115,000 members of CAMRA and fight for Britain's beer heritage**

# ST IVES BEER FESTIVAL

## PROVISIONAL REAL BEER LIST

### MILDS

- Son of Sid Muckcart Mild
- Tom Wood's (Highwood) Dark Mild
- Tring Mansion Mild
- Tydd Steam Cock

### BITTERS

- Bartram 3.8
- Crouch Vale Essex Boy's Bitter
- Digfield Barnwell
- Fat Cat Bitter
- Oldershaw Mowbray's Mash
- Potbelly Best Bitter
- Son of Sid Bitter
- Tring Side Pocket
- York Guzzler

### BEST BITTERS

- Castle Rock Preservation
- Elgoods Pageant
- Full Mash Spiritualist
- Grain Best Bitter
- Green Jack Trawler-boys
- Mighty Oak Simply the Best
- Milton Pegasus
- Oldershaw Byard's Leap
- Shalford Stoneley Bitter

### STRONG BITTERS

- Brass Monkey Silver-back
- Highland Orkney Blast

### GOLDEN ALES

- Acorn Nelson Sauvin IPA
- Cliff Quay Tolly Roger
- Crouch Vale Brewer's Gold
- Digfield IPA
- Farmers Pucks Folly
- Mighty Oak Maldons

### Gold

- Milestone Loxley Ale
- Oakham Inferno
- Oakham JHB
- Potbelly Aisling
- Red Squirrel RSB
- Shalford Levelly Gold
- Son of Sid Golden Shower Extra
- Spectrum Bezants
- Wolf Golden Jackal

### OLD ALE

- Spectrum Old Stoat-wobbler

### STOUTS

- Milton Nero

### PORTER

- Hopshackle Historic Porter
- Red Fox Black Fox Porter

### BARLEY WINE

- Hopshackle Resination
- Oakham Attila

### SPECIALITY BEERS

- B & T Fruit Bat
- Bartram Cherry Stout
- Cairngorm Trade Winds
- Dark Star Espresso
- Fox Grizzly Beer
- Humpty Dumpty Lemon and Ginger
- Milestone Raspberry Wheat
- Moonshine Budding Moon
- Moonshine Red Watch
- Nethergate Umbel Ale
- St Peters Honey Porter
- Wolf Lavender Honey

so please join at the festival's CAMRA stand.

### STAFF NEEDED

The festival always needs more staff, so if you can help at any session please contact Andy Shaw (see below).

### CONTACT

Festival Organiser, Newsletter & Festival Programme Editor, Andy Shaw - 01480 355893 - festival@huntscamra.org.uk.

Also visit our web site for updates [www.huntscamra.org.uk/festivals](http://www.huntscamra.org.uk/festivals)

### ADVERTISERS

A 32-page programme will be produced for the festival. Advertising at competitive rates. Reach 3,000+ beer drinkers. Contact the Programme Editor for more information.

**Thursday 16th –  
Saturday 18th  
September 2010**

**Burgess Hall  
St Ivo Centre  
Westwood Road  
St Ives, PE27 6WU**

**55+ REAL ALES**

(over the duration of the Festival)

**plus Cider and  
Bottled Foreign  
Beer**

# The Cock

*at Hemingford Grey*



Four Real Ales from breweries such as Nethergate, Potbelly, Wolf, Oldershaw, Great Oakley, Milton, and Oakham. Cromwell Cider.

**Beer Festival – August Bank Holiday:**  
**Band every night. Somersham T Band Sunday afternoon.**  
**25 Beers: Top Quality BBQ**

**National and Regional Dining Pub of the Year 2010**  
**(Good Pub Guide)**

In a continued effort to source all of our produce locally we have adopted a policy of only using breweries for our real ale within a one hour drive.

Call 01480 463609 or see website [cambscuisine.com](http://cambscuisine.com)

## *The White Horse* *Tilbrook*

Great Real Ales with ever changing guest ales.

Fantastic home cooked food from handmade pies, hand battered fish and chips or traditional Jamaican food all cooked by Jamaican Head Chef Jodi Jenny.

Impressive wine list featuring wines from around the world.

Speciality Coffees and Hot Chocolate.

Large and family friendly gardens with goats, chickens, ducks and a goose to look at!

Newly installed professional quality 18mx9m Marquee available to hire for any event – ring or email us for more information.



White Horse, High Street, Tilbrook, Cambridgeshire, PE28 0JP  
Tel: 01480 860764, [goodtimes@whitehorsetilbrook.com](mailto:goodtimes@whitehorsetilbrook.com),  
[www.whitehorsetilbrook.com](http://www.whitehorsetilbrook.com)



**oakham ales**

www.oakhamales.com Tel 01733 370500

**CELEBRATING 100,000 MEMBERS!**

**Join CAMRA today...**  
in our quest to reach 200,000 members!

Complete the Direct Debit form below and you will receive three months membership free and a fantastic discount on your membership subscription. Alternatively you can send a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd with your completed form, visit [www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk) or call 01727 867201. All forms should be addressed to Membership Secretary, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

**Your Details** Applications will be processed within 21 days

Title ..... Surname .....

Forename(s) .....

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) .....

Address .....

Postcode .....

Email address .....

Tel No (s) .....

**Partner's Details (if joint Membership)**

Title ..... Surname .....

Forename(s) .....

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) .....

Please state which CAMRA newsletter you found this form in? ..... Direct Debit Non DD

Single Membership (UK & EU) £20 ☐ £22 ☐

Joint Membership (Partner at the same address) £25 ☐ £27 ☐

For Young Member and concessionary rates please visit [www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk) or call 01727 867201.

I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

I enclose a cheque for ..... 0709

Signed ..... Date .....

**Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit**

Please fill in the form and send to:  
**Campaign for Real Ale Ltd.**  
230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW

**Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society**

To the Manager Bank or Building Society

Address .....

Postcode .....

**Name(s) of Account Holder** .....

**Bank or Building Society Account Number** ..... **Branch Sort Code** .....

**Reference Number** .....

**Originators Identification Number** 9 2 6 1 2 9

FOR CAMRA OFFICIAL USE ONLY This is not part of the instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Membership Number ..... Name ..... Postcode .....

**Instructions to your Bank or Building Society**

Please pay CAMRA Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with CAMRA and it will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s) ..... Date .....

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account.

**The Direct Debit Guarantee**

This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payee.

- This Guarantee is offered by all Banks and Building Societies that take part in the Direct Debit Scheme. The efficiency and security of the Scheme is monitored and protected by your own Bank or Building Society.
- If the amount to be paid or the payment dates change CAMRA will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed.
- If an error is made by CAMRA or your Bank or Building Society you are guaranteed a full and immediate refund from your branch of the amount paid.
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by writing to your Bank or Building Society. Please also send a copy of your letter to us.

**LETCWORTH GARDEN CITY**  
2010 Beer & Cider Festival



**50+ Cask Beers - Foreign Beer**  
**Cider - Perry - Wine**  
Tombola, Products, Hot & Cold Food

Thur 23rd Sept. 5pm - 11pm  
Fri 24th & Sat 25th Sept. 12noon - 11pm  
Plinston, Broadway, SG6 3NX

Entry: £2 with 50% discount before 4pm  
CAMRA, EBCU members & OAPs FREE  
Family Area available Saturday till 7pm  
Check [www.camranorthherts.org.uk](http://www.camranorthherts.org.uk) for info  
Organisers reserve the right to refuse admission

## The Three Horseshoes

### Wistow

*Gerry, Julia and Nick invite you to  
their traditional village pub.*



**Adnams  
Bitter and  
Broadside**

- Traditional pub food served 12-2pm Mon-Sat; 12-2.30pm Sun (no roast); 6-8pm Mon-Sat.
- Children's menu available.
- Beer garden.
- Pool table and wii sports.
- Opening times 12-3 6-11pm Mon-Fri; 12-10pm Sat; 12-4pm Sun.

**Mill Rd, Wistow, PE28 2QQ**  
**(01487) 822270**

**350 Draught REAL ALES!**

**REDUCED RATES FOR CAMRA MEMBERS**

**SMALL BEER**

**Trade session sponsor**

**PETERBOROUGH BEER FESTIVAL**  
**24th to 28th August**

**FIVE DAYS OF LIVE MUSIC**

**NOW with an EXTRA Marquee!**

Opening Times & Prices			
Tue 24th	12:00-11:00	£3	£5.00-11.00
Wed 25th	12:00-11:00	£3	£5.00-11.00
Thurs 26th	12:00-11:00	OPEN ALL DAY	£6.00, £4 before 5pm
Fri 27th	12:00-11:00	£3	£5.00-11.00
Sat 28th	12:00-11:00	OPEN ALL DAY	£6.00, £4 before 5pm

NB All entry prices include a fully refundable £3 glass voucher

For further information please contact:  
Tel: 07900 056940  
E-mail: [info@beer-fest.org.uk](mailto:info@beer-fest.org.uk)  
[www.beer-fest.org.uk](http://www.beer-fest.org.uk)

The Peterborough Beer Festival is organised and run by the Peterborough & District Branch of the Campaign to Stop Ales

## THE SWAN

Main Street, Old Weston

Tel: 01832 293400

**REAL ALES and REAL FOOD**



**Adnams Southwold Bitter  
Adnams Broadside**

**Greene King Abbot + Guests**  
Hunts CAMRA Pub of the Year 2004  
Fish & Chips Wednesday Evening  
Restaurant open Friday & Saturday  
evenings & Sunday lunchtimes

# A LOAD OF OLD BULL!

Among the lots on sale at CAMRA's 25th National Breweriana Auction is a sign from the defunct St Neots' brewery of Paines, displaying the famous figure of John Bull. Paines was founded in St Neots in 1831 but closed in 1987 after being purchased by Tolly Cobbold.

If you have never been to the National Breweriana Auction before, the auction is great fun to take part in and is an opportunity to get some great bargains plus many of the items on sale can appreciate in

value. And, of course, like any CAMRA event, there is some good beer on sale all day, in this case provided by the local Old Cottage Brewery.

The event takes place on Saturday 16th October at Burton Town Hall, King Edward Place, Burton on Trent, DE14 2EB so there are plenty of good pubs to sample too. The event starts at 11am with the opportunity to view the lots and browse the breweriana stands that will also be there. Bidding starts at 1pm. Entrance is by catalogue (£2.50), available on the day, or £3.50 in advance, by post from Bill Austin: 01923 211654 (answerphone) or [baustin@supanet.com](mailto:baustin@supanet.com). If you can't get there, postal bids are accepted, just contact Bill.

## The White Hart

**For Info Tel: 01480 414050**  
[www.whitehart-godmanchester.co.uk](http://www.whitehart-godmanchester.co.uk)  
**2 Cambridge Road,**  
**Godmanchester**  
**PE29 2BW**

### AUGUST BEER FESTIVAL

Thursday 12th August 6pm - Late

Opening Night for our popular Beer Festival

28+ Local Real Ales  
 and 8 Homebrew Ciders

Friday 13th August Midday -

Late

Hog Roast & Barbeque with Live Music



Saturday 14th August Midday - Late

Hog Roast & Barbeque with Live Music

Sunday 15th August Midday - 11pm

Hog Roast & Barbeque with Live Music

Restaurant Open as usual for Food and Bar Snacks are available during all sessions



# CAMRA VOLUNTEERS ...

As a small token of appreciation to all of those who volunteered their time to help at the St. Neots Beer Festival the branch organised a coach trip to Cambridge on Saturday 24th April.

After rescuing the St. Ives contingent from the Floods Tavern beer garden, we headed out of the branch area to the **White Horse at Swavesey**.

This eighteenth century village pub was C a m b r i d g e branch Pub of the Year in 2009. Four real ales were offered on our visit including Nethergate Barfly and Buntingford Cobblers Ale.



Moving on towards Cambridge, we arrived at the **Red Lion in Histon**, just in advance of the local football fans before Histon's home game. The Red Lion is covered with breweriana and boasts an impressive range of real ales, as well as a well-stocked foreign beer range. Some



meant we could enjoy the pub's lovely beer garden.

The coach then took us to the **Devonshire Arms in Cambridge**, in its new guise as Milton Brewery's first Cambridge pub.

The trip was an opportunity to present Milton with an award for their Othello stout winning Beer of the Festival at St.Ives festival in late 2009. Othello is a dark and moreish stout brewed with finest Columbian coffee.



No Othello on sale on the day of our trip, but there were five Milton beers (C o l o s s u s , Sparta, Tiki, Nero and Pegasus) supplemented by three guests (including Dark Star Espresso for those who wanted their coffee-stout fix).



We were then faced with quite a dilemma – a free choice of the pubs in the Mill Road area of Cambridge. Members headed off to a variety of the famous pubs of the area – the Cambridge Blue, Kingston Arms and Live and Let Live were all destinations – and I believe they all served good beer on the day but a small group of us were determined to experience the Cambridge Branch Pub of the Year – the **Empress**.

A little further down Mill Road, this true local offers a great beer garden with pet pigs. Whilst some of us petted the pigs a couple of us learnt how to play bar billiards on the pubs table. All washed down by Excelsior Golden Ale – one of five ales offered.



## ... OUT AND ABOUT



As if that wasn't enough we loaded back onto the coach and headed back into the branch area to Little Gransden for the Second Chequers Beer Festival where licensee Bob Mitchell had laid on a wide range of his own Son of Sid Ales and some excellent guest beers. This was also a chance to taste Bob's newly finished 'A Chequered Past' bottled ale made using

wild service berries – the first such brew made in Britain for over 200 years (see 'Beer from Brampton Wood' in the Spring 2010 edition of Opening Times for more information).



All in all it was a great day out and some truly excellent and unusual beers were available – a great reward for volunteering to help at the festival. We are always in need of more volunteers to help and our St. Ives festival in September is nearing. Interested in helping? Email: [festival@hunts.camra.org.uk](mailto:festival@hunts.camra.org.uk)

# B.W.P

ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES

*Accounts*

*Tax Returns*

*Bookkeeping*

**VAT**

**PAYE**

*Home and Business visits available*

**Competitive Rates**

120 St Leonards Road,  
Northampton NN4 8DW  
Tel: 01604 768022  
Fax: 01604 766043

## THE CHEQUERS

**71 Main Road, Little Gransden**  
**Tel: 01767 677348**

*Bob and Wendy Mitchell  
invite you to try their unique  
unspoilt village local with its  
own special atmosphere*

**Home of Son of Sid Microbrewery**



Hunts  
CAMRA  
Pub of the  
Year  
2010

CAMRA  
East Anglia  
Pub of the  
Year 2008

"IT'S YOUR JOCKEY, ARE YOU HERE OR NOT?"



## THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ASCOT RACECOURSE BEER FESTIVAL

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2010

- Exclusive HALF PRICE admission for CAMRA members – prices from £5.50 on Friday and £10 on Saturday.
- Excellent programme of racing.
- Over 200 real ales, ciders and perries to sample supplied predominantly from local craft brewers, all at £1.40 per half pint and £2.80 per pint. Free tasting notes provided.
- Gates and Bars open at 11am. Last orders 5.20pm.
- Hot and cold food available all day.
- Live music on both days.
- Free parking or a 7 minute walk from Ascot Railway Station.



To book, call 0870 727 1234 or  
visit [ascot.co.uk](http://ascot.co.uk), quoting CAMRA10







**ST. ALBANS BEER FESTIVAL**  
**2010**

**29th Sept - 2nd Oct**  
ALBAN ARENA, ST ALBANS

**OVER 300 REAL ALES plus Ciders, Perries & Foreign Beers**

Wednesday 29 Sept 12noon - 11pm £2.50 (£2 before 4pm)  
Thursday 30th Sept 11am - 11pm £2.50 (£2 before 4pm)  
Friday 1st Oct 11am - 11pm £3 (£2 before 4pm)  
Saturday 2nd Oct 11am - 11pm £4 (£3 before 4pm)

**CAMRA MEMBERS FREE AT ALL TIMES**  
Ticket Box Office 01727 844488 (no advance tickets Saturday)  
**SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE ON STAGE - CLIMAX BLUES BAND**

Don't drink and drive. Use the train to bus. NO ONE UNDER THE AGE OF 16 CAN BE ADMITTED.  
www.stalbanbeerfestival.com Contact: realales@yahoo.com

## THE RED HOUSE

LONGSTOWE

[Sing-for-your-supper.co.uk](http://Sing-for-your-supper.co.uk)

From mid July

You can eat out for free

Offer open to solo and duo artists

Solo artist sing a set of five songs

Duo's set of 10 songs

Tables available at 7, 8, and 9pm

Bring your own instrument.

To book your table phone Martin on:

01954 718480

Open Tuesday-Saturday

12.00-3.00 & 5.30-11.00

Sunday 12.00-10.30

## BEER FESTIVAL

August Bank Holiday Monday  
12 REAL ALES



*Passionate Chefs,  
Fine Quality Food,  
Great Wines,  
Real Ales.*

Voted No. 1  
St Neots

'best loved' business  
by our customers.

As recommended on

**thebestofstneots**

[www.thebestof.co.uk/stneots](http://www.thebestof.co.uk/stneots)

Never knowingly undersold  
on our drinks prices locally

Over 1,000 people have independently endorsed our food.  
See them on [loca secrets.com](http://loca secrets.com), [thebestof.co.uk/stneots](http://thebestof.co.uk/stneots), [huntingdonpeople.co.uk](http://huntingdonpeople.co.uk) and  
[aboutmyarea.co.uk/PE19](http://aboutmyarea.co.uk/PE19)

Top Quality Sunday Lunch 12 midday—5.30pm.

'A la Carte' Monday-Saturday. 12pm-2pm & 6:30-9pm

Large grassy garden, kids play area, large car park. Two bars.

**Normally 5 Real ales**

Between St. Neots &  
Huntingdon on the B1043  
**01480 810 293**

*Cut this out and present for  
a 10% reduction on your  
food bill*

90 High Street  
Offord D'arcy.  
St. Neots. Cambs.  
PE19 5RH

# EVENTS AND SOCIALS

## August 2010 - Beer festival, The Cock, Hemingford Grey

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Beer Festival at the **Cock, Hemingford Grey**. Entertainment will be provided. Meet at the bar (in the beer garden) at 20:30 pm

## September 2010 - Booze on the Ouse Beer Festival

Tues 7<sup>th</sup> Pre festival meeting **Manchester Arms, St Ives**, (20:30) for all those helping at the St Ives Beer festival. If you would like to help at the festival, please contact Andy Shaw, on 01480 355893

Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> to Sat 18<sup>th</sup> **Booze on the Ouse Festival**, Burgess Hall, St Ives. Opening Times: Thurs: 5-10.45 pm; Fri 5-10.45 pm; Sat 12-10.00 pm. FREE ENTRY to CAMRA members. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME Contact: festival@huntscamra.org.uk

## October 2010 - Bedford Beer Festival

Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Post festival social. **Oliver Cromwell, St Ives**. (20:30). Open to all. All volunteers from St Ives Booze on the Ouse festival and all new members will be treated to a free pint.

Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Visit to **Bedford Beer and Cider Festival**, Corn Exchange, Bedford. Meet at Foreign beer bar at 19:00

Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Open Committee meeting at the **Chequers, Little Gransden** (20:30)

## November 2010 - Pub Quiz

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Open committee meeting at the **Market Inn, Huntingdon** (20:30)

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Pub quiz at the **Market Inn, Huntingdon**. 20:30 start in the function room. Come and join us for our general knowledge quiz, and knowing Keith there's bound to be a music round too!

## December 2010 - Pubs of Huntingdon

Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> A stroll around the pubs of **Huntingdon**. Meet at the **Old Bridge** from 19:30, **Victoria** 20:30, **Samuel Pepys** 21:15, **George Hotel** 21:45, **Market Inn** 22:15

Tues 14<sup>th</sup> Open Committee meeting at the **Hyde Park, St Neots** (20:30)

An up to date listing of social events can also be found at the website: [www.huntscamra.org.uk/diary](http://www.huntscamra.org.uk/diary). For more information contact the Social Secretary (see below).

# WHO TO CONTACT

**Chairman:** Kathy Hadfield-Moorhouse, 01480 496247 (h).

**Vice-Chairman:** Richard Harrison, 07740 675712 (m), vicechairman@huntscamra.org.uk

**Secretary:** Helen Barnard, 07866 171176 (m), secretary@huntscamra.org.uk

**Treasurer:** Edric Ellis, 01480 492213 (h), treasurer@huntscamra.org.uk

**Membership:** Margaret Eames, 01480 385333 (h)

**Socials:** Melanie Ellis 01480 492213, socials@huntscamra.org.uk

**Pubs Info:** Roy Endersby, 01480 473364, pubs@huntscamra.org.uk

**22 Keep up to date with our socials: [www.huntscamra.org.uk/diary](http://www.huntscamra.org.uk/diary)**

## TRADING STANDARDS

Your local Trading Standards organisation is Cambridgeshire County Council Trading Standards. If you have any complaints about trading standards issues at local pubs, such as short measure or misleading product promotion, please contact them.

They have a role to protect consumers from errors or frauds concerned with quality, description or price of goods, services or facilities and to detect and rectify unfair advertising practices.

Contact **Cambridgeshire Trading Standards** helpdesk on 08454 040 506, or at Trading Standards Division, Sackville House, Sackville Way, Great Cambourne, Cambridgeshire, CB2 6HL. The local trading standards web site is [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/trading/](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/trading/). The national trading standards web site is [www.tradingstandards.gov.uk](http://www.tradingstandards.gov.uk).

## OPENING TIMES

Opening Times is published by the Huntingdonshire Branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale (© 2010) All rights reserved.

Views or comments expressed in this publication may not necessarily be those of the Editor or of CAMRA.

**Editor: Andy Shaw**, 01480 355893 (h), 07802 485449 (m), [andy.shaw@hunts.camra.org.uk](mailto:andy.shaw@hunts.camra.org.uk), 13a Peppercorns Lane, Eaton Socon, St Neots, PE19 8HL.

### To Advertise

To place an advert or enquire about our rates please contact:

Neil Richards: 01536 358670 or

[N.Richards@btinternet.com](mailto:N.Richards@btinternet.com)

Printed by Lodge Printers Ltd Tel 01487 832629

**Deadline for Winter 2010 issue (145) is  
Friday 15th October 2010.**

A traditional old country  
pub and  
restaurant with a warm  
and friendly atmosphere.

Traditional Sunday Lunch.  
**Children's menu available.**

Open all day Saturday and  
Sunday.

4 real cask ales served including Adnams Bitter, Fullers London  
Pride plus 2 guest ales. Bar Meals are available every day.

A la carte menu is served in our restaurant Monday to Saturday.

The menu caters for all tastes including vegetarian and  
any special dietary needs.

*The Pig and Abbot*

High Street, Abington Pigotts, Nr. Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 0SD  
Telephone: 01763 853515



# *The Royal Oak Warboys*



Lenny and the team welcome you to the Royal Oak.

Interesting range of real ales.

Traditional home cooked pub food served daily.

Tue-Sat 12-2.30; 6-9, Sunday carvery 12-4, Breakfast  
every Saturday from 10am.

Open all day every day 12 noon—11pm.

September 11th, end of season party, BBQ 6pm-9pm,  
Karaoke disco 7pm-late.

70 Mill Green, Warboys, PE28 2SB

Telephone: 01487 824848

# *The Mad Cat Pidley*



A warm welcome from Darren and the team.

Food available daily. Traditional home cooked pub  
food. Mon-Sat 12-2.30; 6-9, Sunday carvery 12-4.

Beer Festival Fri 6th until stocks last, £2.50 per pint,  
£1.25 a half, 10 real ales, plus real cider, BBQ 7th at  
6pm, live music Matt Harvey and Jonny O.

Painting competition to design new Mad Cat swing  
sign—£5 entry age 12 and over, £200 for the winner,  
£100 for the runner up. 12 years and under special  
prizes, all entries in by the 18th September—ring for de-  
tails. Gallery of all entries—25th of September at 2pm  
with BBQ.

*Hunts CAMRA Pub of the Year 2009*

High Street, Pidley, PE28 3BX

Telephone: 01487 842245, [www.madcatinn.co.uk](http://www.madcatinn.co.uk)