

Pints of View

The bi-monthly publication for the discerning real ale drinker

June/July 2004

Circulation 5000

No. 205

Woodman Voted Best Pub

We are pleased to announce the **Woodman at Wildhill** has been voted South Herts CAMRA Pub of the Year.

The **Lower Red Lion** in St. Albans was voted Runner-Up.

The Woodman is an excellent country pub and is genuinely the heart of the local community. As Phil Defriez, South Herts Chair, said: 'Firstly it is the beer and this genuine free house serves a good variety of different guest beers from micro-brewers as well as its regulars from Greene King'. As well as winning the CAMRA award for two years running (and many other CAMRA awards over the years) it also won the "Greene King UK top free trade outlet" award. Graham and Ros Craig have run the Woodman for 18 years, taking over from Ann and David Roberts who still use the pub. It has been rumoured that the Craigs may be leaving but Graham in his - *continued on page 3*



South Herts CAMRA Chairman Phil Defriez (centre) presents the Woodman's landlord Graham Craig and wife Ros with their 2003 Pub of the Year certificate

Also In This Issue:

Fight to Stop Tin Pot Travesty

A Brand New Brewery for Hertfordshire

Watford & District go to the Land of...Plenty

THE BITTER END

Fight to Stop the Tin Pot Travesty

Applications to planning authorities for change of use for pubs are not uncommon since licensed premises are worth a lot more money as private dwellings for redevelopment than for business use. Because of the financial gains for pub owners the temptation is to put forward the view that it is impossible to run a viable business to gain change of use easily, and we have received correspondence from Stephen Reeves of Wheathampstead supporting this argument about the **Tin Pot** of Gustard Wood application.

Stephen has used the Tin Pot for 25 years and is concerned about the actions of the present Landlady; he states that her attitude has driven away locals, visitors and the darts

team. He also claims that she constantly complains about the work involved in running the pub, but has dismissed two enthusiastic bar managers who had started to restore trade.

The opening hours have become erratic both lunchtime and evening and more customers have been lost, particularly walkers and cyclists.

Mr Reeves says he has witnessed a deliberate attempt to drive away trade over the last two years. The Tin Pot is up for sale at present for £900,000, which must be reliant on the change of use being granted and the three letting units and adjoining land being developed to a level that it is claimed would not be suitable for the area or the local residents. The building is listed Grade 1 and once the interior is destroyed it could not be replaced; it would be

difficult or impossible to return the building to a public house at a later date.

The Tin Pot is an historic seventeenth century building in beautiful country surroundings and was featured in an article in the Sunday Telegraph about speculatively buying country pubs to turn into houses. This may be true about the Tin Pot as we hear it is being seriously considered by an un-named developer.

There has been a large number of objections to the change of use application and the St Albans City & District Council Planning Officer - Ricardo

Rodreguez has informed us that the council would be opposing the application. The landlady then withdrew the application on 27th May.

As we went to press it is not known whether



The Tin Pot at Gustard Wood – under threat

the pub is still up for sale, though its value will be substantially reduced without change of use.

There is no doubt in our mind that the pub is viable, and if managed with the right attitude and enthusiasm could become the hub of the local community again.

The pub is reportedly haunted by Katherine Ferrers, the Wicked Lady who prayed on travellers crossing the local Nomansland Common. Let's hope her ghost can scare off any would-be buyers.

Hertfordshire's Pints Of View is produced by the Hertfordshire South and Watford & District Branches of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA). The views expressed are not necessarily those of the editor, CAMRA Ltd or its branches. Any articles or letters for publication should be sent to: Steve Bury, 14 New Road, Shenley, Herts, WD7 9EA.

Woodman Voted Best Pub

...Continued from front page

reply made it clear that nothing would change in the near future; a decision which met with great approval from the customers. Graham also thanked his son who does their holiday relief and allows him to enjoy visits to both Saracens Rugby and Barnet Football clubs' games.

The Lower Red Lion: Friday 7th May saw a joint event celebrating the runners up award and the party for the St Albans Beer Festival staff in a marquee at the rear of the pub.

Chris Adkins, Alan Dean and Mary Hamilton took over the Lower Red on December 7th 2002 and have a wealth of experience behind them. The Lower Red Lion is another true free house and prides itself on serving a wide range of beers from family and microbrewers as well as its regulars Fullers London Pride and Oakham JHB. Again this is not the first CAMRA award the pub has received and on this occasion Chris Adkins was presented with the runners-up diploma.



Chris, Phil Defriez, Mary and their diploma

There are 350 real ale outlets in the South Herts branch area, of which 28 are in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide; so there is stiff opposition.

Congratulations to both winners who have proved yet again that the best is still the best. The **Carpenters Arms**, Harpenden and the **White Hart Tap**, St Albans came a close third and fourth. All four pubs are truly exceptional and are well worth a visit.

We extend our sincere thanks to both pubs for their generous hospitality on both award and party nights.

LOWER RED LION



36 Fishpool Street,
St. Albans AL3 4RX
Tel: 01727 855669

*17th Century Coaching Inn
in the shadow of St Albans Abbey
Genuine free house with
real ales and accommodation*

www.LowerRedLion.com

**Nine real ales
7 ever-changing guests
Belgian and Czech on draught
Belgian bottled beers
Malt Whiskies**

Comfortable B&B

Quiz night Wednesdays

Lunch time meals

Sunday Roast lunch

White Hart Tap

4 Keyfield Terrace, St Albans
Tel: 01727 860974

Deuchars IPA, London Pride
& two guest beers

Food served lunchtime
everyday

Live music
Saturday night &
occasional Sundays

Large beer garden

All welcome

www.whiteharttap.co.uk

Review of "The CAMRA Regional Inventory for London" Pub Interiors of Special Historical Interest.

Many of us who live in what has become the London dormitory area of Hertfordshire find ourselves in London pubs on a reasonably regular basis. I received a complimentary copy of the Regional Inventory for London and was immediately impressed by the layout and large number of colour photographs. Pubs are listed by postal areas accompanied by an honest description of all the interesting features. I have visited many of these pubs and until reading the guide had missed a lot of the outstanding interiors in the *Cittie of York* in Holborn, WC1 which is on the front cover. I have visited on several occasions and never looked up to the ceiling or noticed the giant barrels above the bar. When you are in a pub, especially if it is full of people, many of the outstanding features can be obscured; especially the flooring. This guide has revitalised my interest and will definitely encourage me to revisit and seek out more of the gems it describes. I must add that the gents' toilets in the **Princess Louise** also in Holborn are most definitely not to be missed (no pun intended). I do remember when some equally magnificent Victorian porcelain was ripped out of the Winter gardens in Blackpool (an act of sacrilege), which brings me to the reason for the booklet. More important than giving us the opportunity to wonder at these rare and interesting interiors, it is very important that we protect them. An interesting point is that London has 5,700 public houses but CAMRA only lists 133 as having important historic interiors. At only 3%, this puts the problem in perspective and gives an idea of what we have lost over the years.

Despite pub signs like 'Ye Olde ...', 'the oldest pub on Fleet Street' or the fact that Charles Dickens may have derived literary inspiration from his visits, precious few pubs have interiors with much heritage value. This is the result of recent decades of modernizing, themeing, opening out and conversion to trendy cafés or gastropubs.

Robin Forshaw-Wilson, CAMRA Regional Director for London

says, 'It's frightening how much we have lost. This new guide is a wake-up call to bring attention to the problem and help people seek out those pubs which do still have significant, genuinely old work inside'.

Geoff Brandwood, an architectural historian and co-editor of the Inventory says, 'If you have something special, why try - at great expense - to turn it into a pub looking like most of the rest?'

The CAMRA Regional Inventory for London is available on-line :

www.camra.org.uk or from the Campaign for Real Ale, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW by post or, for credit card sales, by telephone on 01727 867201, price £3.50 plus £1 for p&p.

Steve Bury



APPLICATION FOR CAMRA MEMBERSHIP

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

NAME/S.....

ADDRESS.....
.....
.....

POST CODE.....

SIGNATURE.....

TELEPHONE NUMBER/S.....
.....

I/we enclose a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd for membership for one year (tick applicable box).

Single £16 OAP single £9
Joint £19.. OAP joint £12

Send to:

THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY, CAMRA LTD., 230 HATFIELD ROAD, ST.ALBANS HERTS AL1 4LW

SHE POV#205

Red Squirrel – Hertfordshire's New Brewery

Red squirrels are an extinct species in this neck of the woods but venture into your friendly local free house over the next few weeks and you might see one sitting on top of the bar staring back at you.

For Red Squirrel is the newest brewery in Hertfordshire, established last November in Mimram Road, on the outskirts of Hertford - although it has only been brewing for a few weeks. Owned and run by Gary Hayward, who lives in the town, it may be his first brewing venture, but he is certainly no beginner to the big wide world of brewing.

Gary's background was originally in manufacturing but he decided some time ago that he wanted to set up his own business. "Like many, I had always hankered after brewing my own beer and having the opportunity to do something about it I enrolled at BrewLab at Sunderland University studying there for six solid months. I passed my exams, worked in a number of North East breweries, and am now an Associate member of the Institute and Guild of Brewing."

have the opportunity to perfect my many ideas." His final portfolio will be around six beers with "Conservation" as his everyday bitter, a 4.3% session beer with a lot of dark crystal and chocolate malt in the mash. There will also be a "Gold", a bright, hoppy beer using traditional English hops backed up those from the USA. And of course he will keep his "Stout".

He knows he has an uphill climb but has big plans for the brewery. "I hope to be expanding within a few months and getting my beers into the Midlands and beyond if possible," he says. "But I am also aware that it is relatively easy to get people to drink your beer once. The second one is not so easy and I will be concentrating on maintaining consistency and look forward to giving the drinkers in Hertfordshire something new and different to try."

And why Red Squirrel? "Well it is an endangered species and while I was studying I spotted some in the Scottish Borders. I didn't want to call my brewery after anybody or a place and everybody seems to love red squirrels. It was a natural choice."
Roger Filler



Gary wants a Conservation

His first few beers were produced from a two and a half barrel plant, borrowed from a friend. "The stout has been well received but I have had some problems with my yeast strain, it is temperamental and I have had some clarification problems," he confessed.

Gary hopes that is now in the past for by the end of May he will be brewing through a brand new 10-barrel plant, purpose-built for the new brewery. "The last couple of months have been an exercise in tweaking recipes and processes. Once the new plant is commissioned I shall

THE SILVER CUP St Albans Road Harpenden



**FRESHLY PREPARED TRADITIONAL
FOOD**

Served 12-9 Daily

Comprehensive Wine Selection,

Real Ales – Cask Marque

Sky – Pool – Lounge Bar – Public Bar

Great views across Harpenden Common

01582 713095

WATFORD & DISTRICT FEATURE

Land of Liberty, Peace and Plenty of Beer

Situated at Heronsgate in the very outer reaches of the Watford branch, the award winning **Land of Liberty, Peace and Plenty** can be a tricky pub to get to, but the effort is rewarded by one of the more interesting beer ranges in the area. We popped along on Saturday 1st May for the annual May Bank Holiday festival. The hand-pulled ales indoors, which always include a number of guests, were supplemented by a barrel of Weston's Old Rosie Cider on the bar and several casks of beer in a marquee outside. Food was laid on in the form of a pig roast, of which I enjoyed a generous portion before moving onto the beer.

I started on Orkney Red MacGregor (4.0% ABV), a favourite from previous years, before moving on to Archer's Mulcock's Strong Dark Mild (5.0% ABV), a heavy brew with a strong tang of smoked malt and a flavour that left the drinker in no doubt as to its unusual strength. It was good to see the pub serving mild so early into May. A number of Tring Brewery beers were available. Colley's Dog (5.2% ABV) is a particular favourite in the pub and may well be a regular now. For a change I tried Tring's Abbot's Wonderful Clock (4.3% ABV). I presume this was a special or seasonal as I haven't seen it before. The beer put me in mind of the rare Ridgeway Bitter as it was somewhat mellow compared to such brews as Sidepocket for a Toad and Jack 'O' Legs. Tring nearly always give their beers names taken from Hertfordshire history and folklore. Presumably Abbot's Wonderful Clock refers to the amazing medieval timepiece, the Wallingford Astronomical Clock, which was built for St. Alban's Abbey, a working replica of which is still to be found in St. Alban's Cathedral. For my money the best beer of the day was Skinner's Cornish Knocker (4.5% ABV). This was a perfect pint, clean and refreshing with a wonderful floral aroma that crept up on me. Luckily it's available from the brewery all year round so if you find some, drink it.

The pub itself is a rather intimate, single-roomed establishment but has a large car park and plenty of space outside, including a boules alley (commandeered for the pig roast). Outside seating and a play area mean that families can enjoy the social atmosphere without the kids getting bored. Food is served all day but evening meals are popular so advance booking may be advisable.



The Land of Liberty, Peace and Plenty in Long Lane, Heronsgate.

As for the pub's name, Heronsgate was the site of one of the Chartist communes set up by Fergus O'Connor in 1846 for the benefit of northern industrial families. It was forbidden to sell alcohol in O'Connorville: Land of Peace and Plenty, as it was called, so a pub was set up on the adjoining land and was named the Land of Liberty. Thanks must go to Chorleywood Parish Council for that bit of historical information.

If you fancy a pint in the Land of Liberty, Peace and Plenty it can be found on Long Lane, up the road from M25 Junction 17. It's about 20 minutes walk from Chorleywood tube/train station, but take a map or street plan (OS023949). Red Rose Travel operates the R4 shuttle bus, which starts in Watford Town Centre and visits Long Lane, but services are infrequent. By telephone you can contact John or Maggie Moir on 01923 282226. Alternatively, you can find the pub in the Good Beer Guide 2004.

Andrew Vaughan

Some Rare Beers in the Watford District and Where to Get Them

Go into most pubs in the Watford & District branch area and you're likely to find Fuller's London Pride or Greene King beers for sale. Changing guest beers are available in many establishments, but what of the more unusual regular ales? Here are 5 pubs and bars that routinely sell beers that are rare in our area. They're in no particular order, except the order in which I thought of them.

Marston's Pedigree – Bar Bodega, The Parade, Watford

In many parts of the country, of course, Pedigree has similar market dominance to London Pride's in Watford. Bar Bodega, however, is one of very few regular outlets for this ale in the Watford district.

Caledonian Deuchar's IPA – Southern Cross, Langley Road, Watford

Despite winning CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain award in 2002, Deuchar's IPA has not so far succeeded in finding its way into many of our pubs. This popular Scottish beer has recently replaced John Smith's Cask (itself a rarity in our area) as a regular ale in the Southern Cross. Also to be found in the **Hogshead** in Rickmansworth High Street the last time I looked.

Tring Sidepocket for a Toad – Sportsman, Scot's Hill, Croxley Green

Despite being perhaps the closest thing we have to a local brewer Tring Brewery has difficulty getting a look-in in Watford. Sidepocket, however, is a welcome regular in this well regarded pub.

Ansell's Mild – Swan, Park Road, Bushey

This is the only regular mild outlet in our area. The Swan now serves its Ansell's straight from the tap from a cask on the bar. Also serves Jennings Cumberland Ale.

Tring Colley's Dog – Land of Liberty, Peace and Plenty, Long Lane, Herongate

Another Tring brew given a chance by this free house. It may not strictly be available 100% of the time but it's very popular and you'll find it on 7 times out of 10.

Andrew Vaughan 7

THE GARIBALDI

61 ALBERT STREET

ST. ALBANS

01727 855046

"A back street Victorian gem, well worth hunting out."

Now offering a selection of FIVE different cask ales.

Occasional Live Music.

Open All Day, Every Day.

Traditional Pub Lunches Served

Tuesday – Saturday.

Roast Sunday Lunch

12.00pm – 2.30pm

AUTHENTIC THAI FOOD

NOW BEING SERVED

Six Evenings Every Week.

6.30 – 10.00pm.

THE WHITE HORSE

33, CASTLE STREET,
HERTFORD

01992 501950

One of Hertford's oldest pubs, offering a fine selection of up to 10 cask conditioned ales from around the country

Good pub food served 12.00 - 2.00pm daily.
Traditional Sunday Roast served 1.00 - 3.00pm

NO SMOKING AREA

in the upstairs function rooms.

WELL SUPERVISED

Children permitted, upstairs only.
Bar Billiards Room and Traditional Pub Games.

'Simply A Proper Pub!'

SWIFT HALVES

Another half Pint Rip Off Reported

I was pleased to receive correspondence from Robin Lacy of York - how the newsletter travels! Having read the article in newsletter 203 "Should a Half be Half " he writes:

"I have drunk in many places over the years, and since the demise of the half penny piece, most of us have come across a slight mark up on half pint prices. However most of the time we do not make a fuss.

Several times though, I have been stirred into action. In a St Peters pub in London I found the mark up on the half pint was 17p. The pint was £2.90 with a half at £1.62. I challenged the bar staff, whose excuse was that it took almost the same time to pour a half as a pint, and the glass took up nearly as much room in the glass washer as a pint glass. I pointed out that I was paying for the beer not the vessel it came in. As the pub was not busy I was not taking up the staff's valuable time, and preventing some other person from being served (anyway this should be covered as are all the overheads etc. in the advertised price per pint). The staff then avoided any contact with me, so I drank up and departed. At the moment I have no plans to return (despite the beer being in good order)".

The pub concerned is the **Jerusalem Tavern**, 55 Britton Street, Clerkenwell, EC1.

This is obviously something that CAMRA needs to work on. I am not a mean person, but I like value for money. I do not wish to be just another victim of the often-quoted RIP OFF BRITAIN.

Steve Bury

WANT TO COMPLAIN?

Local Trading Standards exist to protect the interests of consumers.

If you are experiencing short measure after politely asking for a top-up, if you find pubs do not show an accurate price list or if you feel a pub is deliberately ripping you off Trading Standards will investigate.

Trading Standards Department,
45 Grosvenor Road, St Albans Herts
Tel: 01992 556799

Short Pint Rip Off Condemned Again

Ian Pearson, Labour MP for Dudley South, has condemned brewing industry guidelines which allow a pint to consist of 95% liquid for short-changing customers. He says "The industry might say that drinkers have the right to ask to be topped up – but where else do paying customers have to negotiate with staff to get what they have paid for?". Weights and Measures Chris Howell said " The Audit Office had found that licensees appeared to have sold 200 million more pints than they ordered in 2003 and made £130million from selling short measure".

Trading Standards surveys have shown that 89.4% of pints served fall below 100% fluid and 27.7 % below the 95% British Beer & Pubs Association (The Trade) standards.

An attempt by the BBPA to get their guidelines legalised in 2002 was shelved after CAMRA and Trading Standards objections.

Old Cross Tavern



Real Ale Free House

"The way pubs used to be"

8 St Andrew Street, Hertford

Tel: 01992 583133

Food available lunchtimes

Monday-Saturday

SOUTH HERTS PUB OF THE YEAR
1999 & 2000

SWIFT HALVES

Drinking Vessels

After the Yard of Ale article in edition 203, I thought it would be interesting to do a mini history of interesting drinking vessels and the people who used them.

One of the earliest was the Saxon Ale Bucket, which was taken to the grave by our forefathers who were renowned for being "potent in potting". The drinking cups that accompanied the buckets had round bottoms purposely designed in this fashion so that the drinker would have to empty the vessel before it could be put down on the table again.

The Norsemen believed that when they reached the halls of Woden they would forever quaff strong liquor from the skulls of their enemies. So as to be ready for the event many a skull of an enemy became an earthly drinking vessel, skull drinkers also referred to the vessel as "A Soldiers Cup". Lord Byron, renowned for his eccentricity, became obsessed with this somewhat barbaric idea and ransacked the graves of his ancestors in Newstead Abbey for a suitable skull to be converted into a cup.



It was not sensible because of the risk of infection to make drinking vessels out of base metal. And as silver was even more valuable than today most people used horns up to the middle ages. Most had the pointed ends removed and a flat base fitted. It was only the legendary Robin Hood who would use a full horn when drinking ale brewed by Friar Tuck (in other words fantasy). Following horns, a "Mazer" became popular. A vessel made from maple wood, the name derived from "masarm", the old English name for the tree. The cups could be made to provide an equal measure, which was perfect for alehouses.

The Dutch introduced the pewter trade to this country in 1482, and of course, the drinking tankard. Some tankards have glass bottoms and

the story goes that if the "recruiting sergeant" was in the area it was not uncommon for him to ply the young lads with drink in the local hosteleries. At the appropriate time a shilling would be dropped into the tankard and if the unwitting drinker finished the ale he had taken the King's Shilling and enlisted. The glass-bottomed tankard was designed to give drinkers a chance to avoid the deception.

Peg tankards; holding a quart with marker pegs inside showing four half pint measures were popular and used for communal drinking up to and during the English Civil War. These were made of Pewter or Oak and used as a sign of comradeship; it is no wonder that disease passed from person to person very quickly.

Wooden vessels were often carved and engraved to the same level as a decorative metal counterpart, often depicting religious images or prominent figures of the time. Caricatures also became popular on both cups and jugs with the advent of coloured glazed pottery vessels. Some of the earliest were called Greybeards or Ballarmines, after a Jesuit Cardinal of that name, and were intended to ridicule.

The Toby Jug first arrived in the eighteenth century and depicted a stout ruddy faced toper with his clay pipe. The rhyme goes

*Toby Tossput was as thirsty a soul
As e'er drank to a health or emptied a bowl.*

A tosspot being one who is always tossing back the pots of ale; a serious drunkard.

There are some modern-day drinking vessels of interest including sewn leather tankards lined with pitch, but most of the above make our Nonic 20 fluid ounce glass seem almost boring.

Make a note...

The 9th St. Albans Beer Festival will be taking place at the Alban Arena – Wed 29th Sept. to Sat 2nd Oct.

...more details in our next Newsletter

CAMRA Condemns Closure of the Tyne Brewery

The Campaign for Real Ale has condemned the decision by Scottish and Newcastle to close the Tyne Brewery in Newcastle next year. Beer has been brewed at the site for well over 100 years.

John Holland, CAMRA's National Executive Brewing Industry spokesperson and a resident of Newcastle said, "The loss of the brewery is a blow and represents another nail in the coffin for the British brewing industry. S&N is now very much a global company, but its roots lie in Newcastle and they would do well to remember that".

S&N announced the closure of Fountainbridge Brewery in Edinburgh in February. Brewing from both Edinburgh and Newcastle will move to Gateshead. Mr Holland added, "It will be interesting to see if S&N change their name, as 'Not Scottish & Near Newcastle' would now be more accurate, or maybe just '&'.

The famous Newcastle Brown Ale is brewed at the Tyne Brewery and has protected geographical indication status from the European Commission, so it cannot be brewed outside of Newcastle. If the beer is to be brewed at Federation in Dunston, Gateshead, it does somewhat undermine the brand and local consumers will care about that 'CAMRA is concerned that continued consolidation in the beer industry and the global focus of the market leaders is eroding the heritage of British beer'.

The sale of Federation marks the end of an era of clubs owning breweries. It is the last club-owned brewery in the country.

Mike Benner, Head of Campaigns and Communications said, "Over the last few years we've seen the big global brewers dump Bass, Whitbread and Tetley's from their company names, replaced by Coors, Interbrew and Carlsberg UK; names which have little to do with our unique brewing heritage and mean very little to most beer drinkers. The top four brewers have over 80% of the beer market and most of their promotional activity is on key global lager brands.

We need to see more commitment to the UK market with the big brewers producing and

promoting real ales, nationally and regionally, to balance their lager portfolios and give consumers greater choice.

Following the sell-off of Theakston's, the closure of Fountainbridge and now Tyne Brewery, S&N is seriously reducing its capacity and restricting its ability to grow, which may leave it in a vulnerable position within the industry".

Guinness Park Royal Brewery to Close

Guinness is now owned by global giant Diageo, who in a rationalisation programme intend to close the Park Royal Brewery in West London - home of British brewed Guinness since 1936. Guinness production will move to St James's Gate brewery in Dublin, which will be extended to cover the extra production when Park Royal closes next year, with the loss of 90 jobs.

Jenny Prior – an Obituary

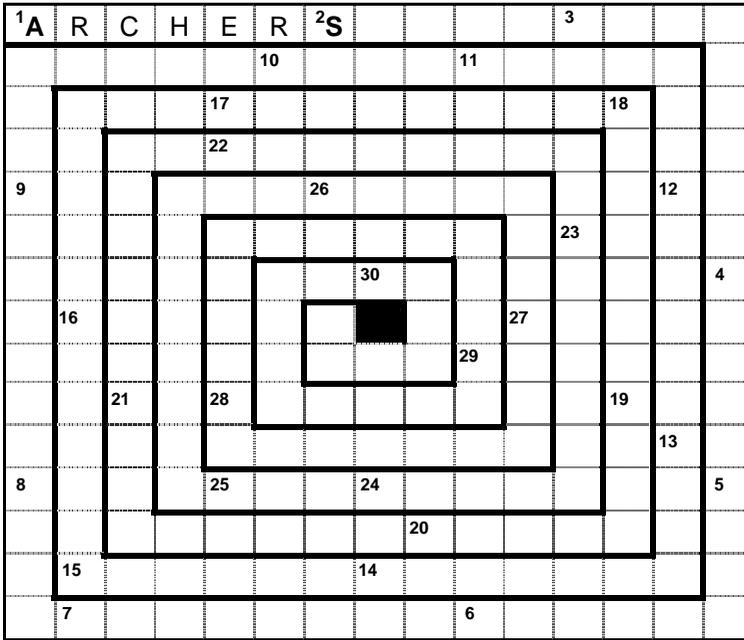
It is with regret that we have to report the death of Jenny Prior, of the **Rising Sun**, High Wych (also known as Sid's). She died on 26th April after a long illness.

Herts & Essex Borders Branch of CAMRA send their condolences to Steve Prior.

Steve & Jenny took over the pub in 1984 after the retirement of Sid Puncher, and have maintained the continuous GGB standard throughout this period, with all beers still served by gravity, and no draught lager.

Brendan Southcott

Catherine Wheel Cryptic Brewery Names Competition



Completed entries to: Steve Bury, 14 New Road, Shenley, Herts, WD7 9EA

 1st Prize: 2003 St. Albans Festival Polo Shirt , 2nd Prize: CAMRA 2004 Good Beer Guide

Winner of Wordsearch 203 was Geoff Hembrough of Harpenden

Starting from the top-left corner, fill in the answers from the clues given below. The last letter of the previous answer is also the beginning letter of the following one. The first answer is shown as an example, so the next answer starts with an 'S'. Complete all the answers to fill in the 'Catherine wheel'. All breweries are listed in the Good Beer Guide.

CLUES – All breweries are featured in the 2004 guide unless otherwise stated

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Bowmen of Swindon (7) | hamper (7) |
| 2) Many grins in Bristol(6) | 16) Powerful old English tree (6, 3) |
| 3) See the nog on Salisbury Plain (10) | 17) Shaked gin cocktail in Suffolk (5, 4) |
| 4) Place of beauty on Somerset-Devon border (6) | 18) Doug's hoe in Redruth (8) |
| 5) Snob irons in Stockport (9) | 19) Pyramids, sphinx etc. all in W. Yorks (8) |
| 6) Wears cross on the Isle of Wight (9) | 20) The teen Rag Ball in Suffolk (10) |
| 7) Swell in Bedford (5) | 21) A mole rash is not rare in Suffolk (4, 5) |
| 8) Market street in St. Albans, or brewer in Suffolk (8) | 22) Rest me kilt in Frome (4, 6) |
| 9) Adonis won in Gwynedd, Wales (9) | 23) Devon's worthy tinge (11) |
| 10) Isle in Scotland (5) | 24) In Mayor Ken's parlour (4) |
| 11) Dean's hag in Pembroke (4, 4) | 25) Hand Liam's elk over (6, 6) |
| 12) Highly intelligent sea mammal (7) | 26) Darts ark in West Sussex (4, 4) |
| 13) Robin Hood and a forest here (10) | 27) Ironing deal in Berks (7, 4) - <i>This brewery in 2003 Good Beer Guide</i> |
| 14) Used for spring country dance (7) | 28) Cold worth tons on Glos. (5, 8) |
| 15) Worcester brewer in Jim Reeves | 29) Red sore went pop in Consett (7, 4) |
| | 30) Vile Len from Stourbridge (7) |

Pubwatch Successes

Following the setting up of the Borehamwood, Elstree and Shenley Pubwatch last year, landlords and the police are celebrating an exceptional decrease of 50% in drink related disturbances. The improvement is even more impressive if you look at the national figures, which are showing a 15% increase in drink related crime.

The scheme is chaired by the landlord of the **Wishing Well** in Shenley Road, Borehamwood who stated "when I started here eight years ago there was a free-for-all in the town, now we are really cutting down on crime particularly with drugs".

Borehamwood has always had a bad reputation for disturbances in or around its pubs and the police as part of Pubwatch have had 16 people banned for life from all the pubs in the Borehamwood area for serious offences. Hertfordshire Police Pubwatch co-ordinator PC Alan Davis said, "As trouble makers are excluded we get less call-outs to deal with. I am not saying we have cracked it. Attacks on staff or customers and drug dealing will not be tolerated".

Most landlords are now given drug awareness training and the late licences always have doormen. New testing kits will be available behind bars so that customers can test their drinks for the date rape drug Rohypnol.

A spokesperson from Hertsmere Borough Council, which works closely with Pubwatch and has paid for the date rape testing kits, said "It seems that banning people has curbed alcohol related violence and has served as an effective deterrent".

Every pub in the Borehamwood, Elstree and Shenley area is now part of the scheme.

St Albans: The St Albans Licensing district, which also covers Harpenden and London Colney, is recording an equal amount of success to that of its counterpart in Borehamwood. The area is exceptional in so far as it has 152 licensed premises, one of the highest concentrations in Europe. There are 46 pubs within a mile of St Albans Town Hall of which 36 are in the Pubwatch scheme.

London Colney has a further seven.

St Albans has recorded a 40% drop in drink-related incidents over the last fifteen months and has 30 people banned from licensed premises, with a further eight in Harpenden.

St Albans City Centre Manager Melvyn Teare said "St Albans has a very busy night-time economy and attracts young people from a wide area, but the efforts of the police and the licensed trade have made it very safe. We operate a very strict anti-drugs policy and also come down hard on those who abuse staff and other customers".

Subscriptions for Pints of View

£4 for 18 issues. Send to: John Lightfoot, 66 Dryfield Road, Edgware, Middx., HA8 9JT. Cheques made payable to: CAMRA South Herts Branch.

GOOD BEER GUIDE ENTRY 2004



The ELEPHANT & CASTLE

AMWELL LANE, AMWELL,
WHEATHAMPSTEAD, HERTS.

Tel: 01582 832175

QUALITY FOOD

Greene King IPA, Abbot Ale
& two rotating Guest Beers

Elstree: The **East**, previously the **Plough** (mentioned in Edition 204) is now a Chinese Restaurant. It is selling real ale on two handpumps, one believed to be Fullers London Pride. More info needed, watch this space.

Flamstead End: The **White Horse** pub is now a Zeus Chinese restaurant.

Gustard Wood: The **Tin Pot** was up for sale for £900,000 with speculative change of use to residential and development of the land adjoining. See article page 2.

Patchetts Green: It is pleasing to note that the pub sign on the **Three Compasses** has got its third compass back. Unfortunately the unusual 3-D sign has been replaced with a standard model.

Radlett: The **Cat & Fiddle** is having an external refurbishment for the summer. The patio has been levelled and a walkway provided so that you do not have to walk through the car park to the garden. Kiddies' play equipment has also been provided.

The **Railway's** destruction and conversion to a Pizza Palace is well underway, **Ryans Bar** (No Real Ale) further down Watling Street has been closed during April for major internal works; presumably to attract the customers ASK (the new owners of the Railway) have evicted.

We would like to welcome Cameron and Cass Wares who took over at the **Red Lion**, Watling Street in early May.

St Albans: The **Mile House** hearing, mentioned in the last edition, was held on 15th March and the plans presented by Weston Homes for 39 flats in three blocks on the site were refused. An appeal by the developers has now been set for 15th June.

The **Boot** has been redecorated and is now serving 5 real ales at the same time.

BRANCH DIARY

WATFORD & DISTRICT

Wednesday, 9 June: Hunton Bridge Social. **Dog & Partridge**, 8:30pm; **King's Lodge**, 9:15pm; **King's Head**, 10pm.

Monday, 21 June: Football Social - England v. Croatia, **West Herts Sports Club**, Park Avenue,

Watford, 7:30pm.

Saturday, 26 June: Social at **Clarendon Arms**, Chandler's Cross, 1pm.

Monday, 28 June: Committee Meeting, **Estcourt Arms**, Watford, 8.15pm. All members welcome.

Tuesday, 6 July: Chorleywood Social. **Rose & Crown**, 8:30pm; **Black Horse**, 9:15pm; **Old Shepherd**, 10pm.

Wednesday, 14 July: Watford Social. **Estcourt Tavern**, 8:30pm; Wellington, 9:15pm; **Estcourt Arms**, 10pm.

Thursday, 22 July: Abbots Langley Crawl. **Royal Oak**, 8:30pm; **Boy's Home**, 9:15pm; **Compasses**, 10pm; **Swan**, 10:30pm.

Monday, 26 July: Committee Meeting, **Estcourt Arms**, Watford, 8.15pm. All members welcome.

Branch Contact: Andrew Vaughan. Telephone: 01923 230104.

Email: branch@watfordcamra.org.uk

Web site: www.watfordcamra.org.uk

SOUTH HERTFORDSHIRE

Tuesday 15 June: Branch meeting – **Elephant and Castle**, Amwell 8pm – all members welcome.

Tuesday 22 June: Beer Festival Committee meeting - **Lower Red Lion**, St Albans 8pm

Monday 12 July: LEO's cheque presentation night, **CAMRA Headquarters** 8pm – all CAMRA members welcome

Tuesday 13 July: Branch meeting - **Lower Red Lion**, St Albans 8pm – all members welcome.

Friday 16 July: Branch trip to **Mid Chilterns 30th Anniversary Beer Festival** – meet outside St. Albans Thameslink station at 7pm (minibus transport available, check for fee)

Tuesday 20 July: Beer Festival Committee meeting - **Lower Red Lion**, St Albans 8pm

Tuesday 3 August: Branch trip to **Great British Beer Festival** (London) - meet at festival

Branch Contact: John Bishop. Telephone: 01582-768478

Email: realales@yahoo.com

Website: www.hertsale.org.uk

Minibus transport reservation: 07903 174444



THE FARMERS BOY

London Road, St Albans

Tel: 01727 766702

Open all day for homemade
food and drink

Home of Verulam Brewery

"One of Britain's Best 500 Pubs"

Roger Protz

Jennie & Nathan
welcome you to one of St Albans'
friendliest pubs



The Mermaid

98 Hatfield Road

St Albans

01727 837758

Food available (Lunchtimes only)

Licensed until midnight on
Wed, Fri & Sat.

Music sessions every Wednesday

*Always three regular real ales
and two guests*

mermaidstalbens.btinternet.com

Mid Chilterns Branch 30th Anniversary

Although there have been two occasions when the Mid Chilterns Branch of CAMRA nearly folded, a rejuvenation took place two years ago and the local members have never been more active. The good news continues with the branch that has boasted a National Chairman from its ranks having now clocked up 30 years of campaigning, no mean feat in itself.

To celebrate the event a Birthday Beer festival will be held: See details: 

Trains: Frequent services to/from London Euston via Watford, Kings Langley & Apsley, and to/from Milton Keynes via Tring & Berkhamsted
Buses: Watford-Tring (Route 500) stops at train station. Routes 2 & 3 run a frequent service from Hemel Hempstead town centre/train station to beer festival.

Walking: Approx. 20 mins from Hemel Hempstead town centre via St. Johns Road-Northridge Way-Chaulden Way or 5 mins from train station via Fishery Road-Northridge way-Chaulden Lane. Further details on Internet site:

<http://uk.geocities.com/midchilternscamra/> 14

 MID-CHILTERNS CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE 

BOXMOOR

1974  MID CHILTERNS  2004

BEER FESTIVAL

16th - 18th July 2004
30 Real Ales & Cider
Camelot Rugby Club,
Boxmoor,
Hemel Hempstead,
Herts. HP1 2BS
Live Music on Saturday

Opening Times:
 Friday 16th: 5-10.30pm
 Saturday 17th: 12-10.30pm
 Sunday 18th: 12-3pm

Admission:
 CAMRA members £1.00
 Non-members £2.00
 Free entry Sunday

Why the Beer Belly May be a Myth

There is no such thing as a "beer belly", according to scientists.

Researchers in Britain and the Czech Republic surveyed almost 2,000 Czechs, who are generally regarded as the world's biggest beer drinkers.

They found no link between the amount of beer they drink and the size of their stomachs.

Writing in the European Journal of Clinical Nutrition, they said claims people are obese because they drink too much beer are wrong.

Beer drinkers

Dr Martin Bobak from University College London and colleagues at the Institute of Clinical and Experimental Medicine in Prague questioned 891 Czech men and 1,098 women between the ages of 25 and 64 as part of their study.

The Czechs traditionally top world league tables on beer drinking, consuming more beer per person than people in any other country.

All of those questioned as part of the study were selected at random and drank either no alcohol at all or only beer.

The survey showed the men consumed on average 3.1 litres of beer each week with women drinking on average 0.3 litres per week.

There were few heavy drinkers. Just 3% of men drank more than 14 litres of beer in a week and just five women regularly consumed more than 7 litres in a week.

All of those questioned also underwent a short medical examination.

Doctors measured their weight and their waist to hip ratio and body mass index, both used to measure obesity.

The scientists found no link between beer consumption and obesity.

They said the findings suggested there is no truth in the claim that drinking too much beer makes people obese.

"There is a common notion that beer drinkers are, on average, more 'obese' than either non-drinkers or drinkers of wine or spirits," the researchers said.

"This is reflected, for example, by the expression 'beer belly'.

"If this is so, then beer intake should be associated with some general measure of obesity, such as body mass index or with indices of fat distribution such as waist to hip ratio or with both."

But they said: "The association between beer and obesity if it exists is probably weak."

A study published earlier this year suggested

some people are genetically predisposed to develop beer bellies. Italian researchers said men with a certain gene variation have a tendency to get a flabby stomach.

Nigel Denby, of the British Dietetic Association, urged beer lovers not to seize on the study's findings to run down to their local pub.

"People shouldn't

assume that they can now drink freely," he told BBC News Online. "Any food taken in excess can lead to obesity. Drinking any type of alcohol can also lead to obesity.

"People who want to drink should enjoy alcohol but they should only drink in moderation."



Beer belly is a myth, say scientists

BBC News, 12 October 2003

Want to advertise in our Newsletter?
Contact John Bishop on 01582-768478 for details

A decorative banner at the top of the page. It features a red horizontal bar with the text 'Great British Beer Festival' in white. Above the bar are several beer glasses of different shapes and colors (yellow, red, orange) and a brown beer bottle on the right side.

Great British Beer Festival

Held at London Olympia every year, the Great British Beer Festival is Britain's biggest beer festival and has much to offer you with a choice of over 700 real ales, ciders, and perries. Why not catch up with friends or unwind after work with a good quality pint? There is also live entertainment and music, traditional pub games and a fine selection of food including many pub favourites. Drop in and enjoy all the fun at the Great British Beer Festival from Tuesday 3rd – Saturday 7th August.

The festival brings together the widest beer range from around the country with a handpicked selection of over 700 real ales, ciders and perries. Our enthusiastic bar staff are also happy to advise you on the wide-ranging international choice of beers and real lagers from all around the world at Bières sans frontières.

Cider drinkers will find a wide choice of real ciders on offer at the Real Cider and Perry Bar and there is also a large range of bottled real ales for you to enjoy at the Bottled Beer Bar. There are dozens of different bars at the festival and you will find many of your favourites as well as some of the newest beers available. What's more, to truly appreciate the tastes on offer, you could attend one of our tutored beer tastings hosted by our international team of beer experts; this year the tastings include Beer and Chocolate and Belgian Beers.

Not only is a trip to the Great British Beer Festival an enjoyable day out, if you book your tickets in advance you can save money. Book your ticket by 23rd July and receive a £1 discount on all single session tickets. If you are a CAMRA member you will also receive an additional discount.

CAMRA welcomes families to the festival and provides a Family Room with entertainers and games open until 9pm every night. Children must be supervised by a family member at all times and under 18s must remain within the Family Room.

You can also bring along your work colleagues as we provide a number of corporate hospitality options including tutored beer tastings and a Corporate Lounge. For further information, please visit the festival website www.gbbf.org or telephone CAMRA on 01727 867201.