



THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE SOUTH HERTS. NEWSLETTER

JULY 1976

NUMBER 1

BIG BOOST TO REAL ALE IN HERTFORDSHIRE...

The good news over the last month has been Ind Coope's decision to launch Burton Ale to some 600 pubs in the South-East. Further to this 90 of these pubs fall into the Hertfordshire area - most in the southern half of the county. Draught Burton Ale is a high gravity, naturally conditioned beer and will be served mainly by handpump, in a few cases on gravity. Ind Coope have categorically stated that under no circumstances must carbon dioxide pressure be used on the beer. Although some pubs have had their pumps fitted already, Ind Coope say most of the installation work will be completed within the next month or so.

Pricing

Although such a large introduction of real ale must be applauded, there are a few criticisms, especially pricing. Certainly as a rule higher gravity beers are more expensive but the 30p per pint, recommended public bar price is not being adhered to and some pubs are in fact charging up to 35p per pint. It also seems to be the case of another big brewer (following Courage and Watneys) cashing in on the current trend back to real draught ale. Ind Coope do in fact brew a perfectly good 'ordinary' bitter from Burton which has not been 'readily' available to landlords in the South-East.

Availability

However, Burton Ale is an extremely palatable pint and is well worth sampling. The introduction of Burton Ale into such places as Watford, where there will be seven pubs, St. Albans (10), Hatfield (4) and Hemel Hempstead (4) has certainly filled many relatively 'dry' areas. A list of proposed Ind Coope houses to serve Burton Ale is included in the following pages.

First Issue

Welcome to this our first issue of the South Herts Branch of CAMRA newsletter. Yes, it is absolutely free - all costs are met from branch funds.

The South Herts branch tries to cover an area from Watford in the west to Ware in the east and from Welwyn in the north to Barnet in the south, but with only seven members on the committee it becomes a little hard to keep in touch with everything going on within the area and it is hoped that these newsletters will encourage a two-way flow of information.

Everyone is invited to contribute articles, great or small, to this newsletter provided they are relevant, clean and non-libelous, closing date for any issue is the first day of the month.

If you would like to make certain of getting a copy, you can send an SAE to the Editor or collect one from one of the listed pubs (see back page)

BOB NORRISH, Chairman.

Burton Ale in Herts:

The following is a list of pubs where it is proposed to sell draught Burton Ale. Many of these pubs are already selling it.

ABBOTS LANGLEY
The Breakspeare

ALDENHAM
The Red Lion

APSLEY
The Fountain

BARNET
The Arkley
The King William IV

BERKHAMSTED
The Crooked Billet

BOREHAMWOOD
The Crown
The Red Lion
The Wellington

BOVINGDON GREEN
The Royal Oak

BRICKET WOOD
The Fox and Hounds

BUSHEY
The Harbour Light
The Three Crowns

BOXMOOR
The Three Blackbirds
The Fishery

CHESHUNT
The Coach and Horses
The Goffs Oak Hotel
The Woolpack

CHORLEY WOOD
The Gate, Rickmansworth Rd
The Black Horse

COCKFOSTERS
The Cock

CROXLEY GREEN
The Artichoke
The Red House

DIGSWELL HILL
The Red Lion

EAST BARNET
The Jester

ELSTREE
The Fishery

EPPING GREEN
The Beehive

ESSENDON
The Salisbury Crest

FLAMSTEAD END
The White Horse

GARSTON
The Three Horseshoes
The Badger

HARPENDON
The Queens Head

HATFIELD
The New Fiddle
The White Hart
The Green Man,
Mill Green
The Rose and Crown

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD
The Mayflower
The Cupid
The Royal Stage
The White Lion

HERTFORD
The Plough

HODDESDON
The Golden Lion

KINGS LANGLEY
The Eagle

LEAVESDEN
The Hare
The Hammer in Hand

LONDON COLNEY
The Bell

NEW BARNET
The Railway Bell

OXHEY
The Happy Hour

POTTERS BAR
The Strafford Arms
The Green Man
The White Horse

RADLETT
The Railway

RICKMANSWORTH
The White Bear
The Feathers

SARRATT
The Boot
The Plough

SHENLEY
The Black Lion

ST. ALBANS
The Baton
The Rats Castle
The Boot
The Great Northern
The King Offa
The Midland Railway
The Pineapple
The King Harry
The George and
Dragon
The Green Dragon

STANDON
The Bell

STEVENAGE
The Squirrel

WALTHAM CROSS
The Castle

WARE
The Royal Oak

WATER END
The Red Lion

WATFORD
The Coachmakers Arms
The Robert Peel
The Oddfellows Arms
The Beaver
The Highwayman
The One Bell
The Victoria Tavern

WELHAM GREEN
The Hope and Anchor

WELWYN GARDEN CITY
The Hedgehog

WHEATHAMPSTEAD
The Tin Pot

WHETSTONE
The Black Bull

WIGGINGTON
The Cow Roast

WOOLMER GREEN
The Chequers

WORMLEY
The Queens Head

Pressure on Fake Handpumps

With Real Ale becoming increasingly 'trendy' these days a growing number of pubs are using handpump handles to actuate pressure taps to give the impression of a traditional pub. Recently two CAMRA branches have scored successes against two pubs using this method of dispense. Their local Weights and Measures departments agreed with them that customers could be misled into thinking that the beer was being served traditionally, and not under top-pressure. Hence the pubs were required to display notices to that effect.

We are currently trying to bring a similar case against the Feathers Inn, Wadesmill and would like to hear of any other possible cases in the area. More information later.

A Fine Day in Radlett

On Saturday the 10th July the branch provided an information and Real Ale stand at the Radlett Round Table summer fete. The event took place at Christchurch field, Radlett. The landlord of the Railway, one of the pubs recently changed over by Ind Coope, very kindly obtained a licence for the Round Table. Alongside the soft drinks and Double Diamond, the branch sold three firkins of Adnams in a very successful afternoon - (helped by the excellent weather). Some interest was taken by the local press and a good few members of the public were able to sample the delights of Real Ale for the first time

Darts

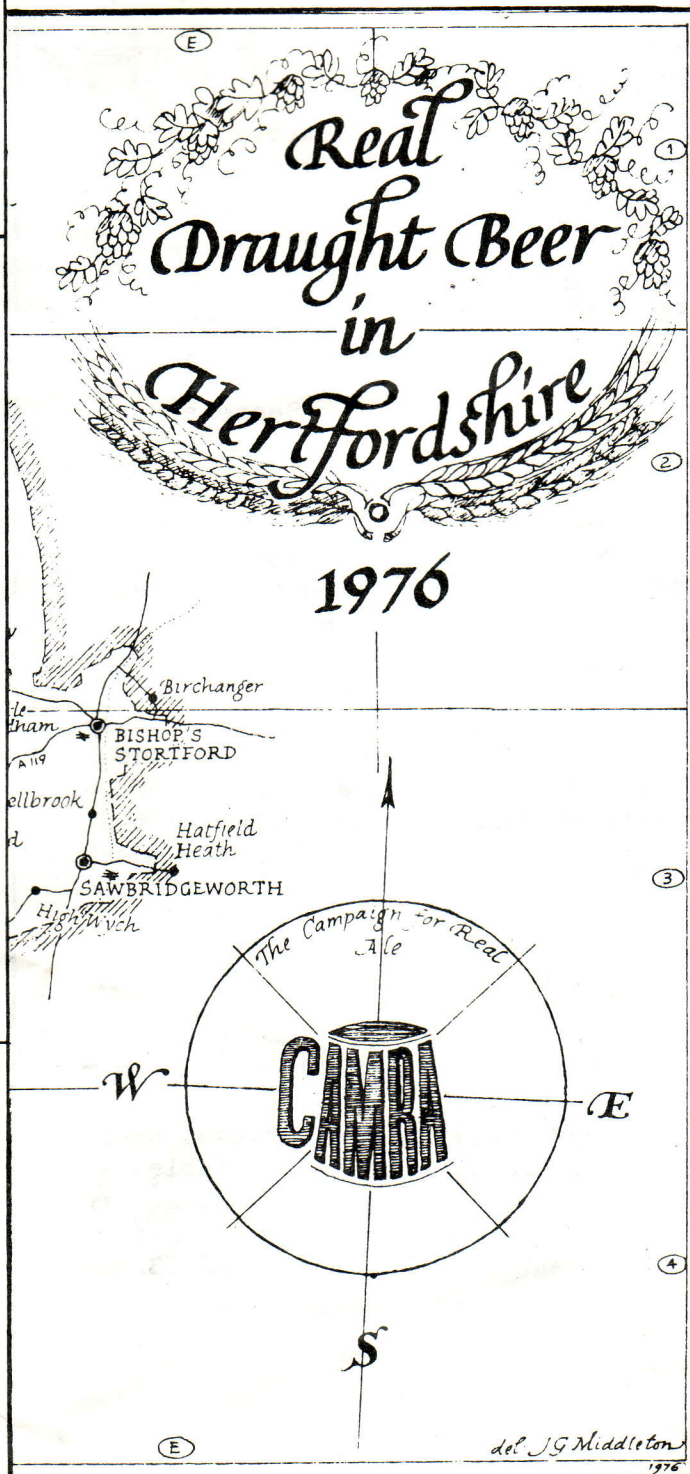
The Hertfordshire South Darts Team, unbeaten as yet, has been invited to compete in the 1976-77 London CAMRA Darts League.

With an eye on this the team is willing to play friendly matches against any other darts teams. Please contact:
Jim Axford Tel: Horely 72661 or
Marion Birch Tel: Rickmansworth 73913

BOOK REVIEW Real Ale Afloat

This month sees the publication of the Real Ale Guide to the Waterways, published by CAMRA and Robert Nicholson Ltd., already known for their other waterway guides. (The cover price is £1.95 and is available from CAMRA Headquarters: - 34 Alma Road, St. Albans, HERTS., or from good bookshops).

It lists around 1000 real ale pubs on or near canals, complete with maps, descriptions and photographs. A must for any canal 'freak' who cares about what he drinks.



Where to get it

All future newsletters should be available from the following pubs:

<u>St. Albans</u>	The Jolly Sailor
<u>Shenley</u>	Pinks Hotel
<u>Hertford</u>	The White Horse
<u>Thundridge</u>	The Windmill
<u>Watford</u>	West Herts. Sports and Social Club

The aim is that this newsletter will be distributed as widely as possible and that it should be available in Public Libraries etc. We would appreciate any help which members could give in getting this into as many places as possible.

Committee

The current branch committee is as follows:

Bob Norrish	Chairman
Dave Burns	Secretary
Neil Campbell	Treasurer
Richard Steward	Campaign Organiser
Phil Middleton	Minutes Secretary
Marion Birch	Social Secretary
Jim Axford	Social Secretary

Any queries involving the branch should be directed to either
Bob Norrish St. Albans 59507 or
Dave Burns 01 440 6566

This newsletter is produced monthly by the Hertfordshire Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale. All letters, contributions should be sent to the Editor by the first day of the month.
Editor: Les Middlewood,
81a Linden Way,
Southgate,
London,
N.14 4NG.

Local Guide

The revised 1976 Real Draught Beer in Hertfordshire will be available shortly, price 10p plus postage from Neil Campbell, 105 Batchwood Drive, St. Albans, HERTS.

DIARY of EVENTS

HERTFORDSHIRE SOUTH

- August 17 Branch Meeting.
~~White Hart, Welwyn.~~ 8.00pm
10 Darts Match v Mid-Chilterns Branch at the Dumb Bell, Hornhill, Bucks. 8.00pm.
24 Pub Crawl around Hertford. Meet Bell and Crown 8.00pm

Mid-Chilterns

- August 3 Branch Meeting. 8.00pm
Green Dragon, Flaunden.

Enfield and Barnet

- August 11 Branch Meeting, 8.00pm
The Kings Head,
Market Place, Enfield.

North Herts

- August 11 Annual General Meeting
8.00pm. The 3 Horseshoes,
Norton, Letchworth.
18 Social. Sword in Hand,
Westmill, Nr. Buntingford
8.00pm.

CAMRA

CAMRA is an independent organisation fighting to improve the quality of beer and pubs.

Why not join and help us improve the lot of the drinking man and woman?

I wish to become a member of CAMRA. I agree to abide by the ideals of the Campaign and I enclose £2.00 as my annual membership subscription. Any additional amount received will be welcomed as a donation.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Telephone Number

Please send to:

The Membership Secretary,
Campaign for Real Ale,
34 Alma Road,
St. Albans,
HERTS, AL1 3BW.