

FREE

HERTFORDSHIRE'S

Pints of View

The bi-monthly publication for every discerning drinker



June / July 2017

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No. 283

Knebworth at battle stations



As Knebworth villagers become set to fight an expected planning application to convert The Station into housing, will new legislation help save their pub?

~ CAMRA Awards across Hertfordshire ~



← Left to right:
Queen's Head,
Allens Green
Hertford Club,
Hertford



Above and →
below:
Rising Sun,
High Wych



Plus:
A new pub
for Ware



3 Brewers,
St Albans

The Anti Alcohol Movement

by Steve Bury

I believe it was 2014 when CAMRA recognised that it had to actively challenge the anti-alcohol movement who were, and still are, giving out false information to anyone who will listen. It is unfortunate that the press regularly publish articles based on this misinformation and the adage “don’t let the truth get in the way of a good story” could never be more true than in this case.

CAMRA supports drinking in pubs which are a controlled environment and proven to be good for your health and wellbeing. CAMRA also challenges any incorrect information the Temperance lobby circulates and at this year’s Members Weekend our guest speaker was Paul Chase of CPL Training. When I first saw the agenda I like many others asked training about what? But Paul’s presentation soon clarified the situation and gave those present an insight into how the Anti-Alcohol Movement works, why it started and exposed the myths they put forward.

Paul was kind enough to send out his slides and I will use them to explain the problem.

Historical rise of Temperance

The movement began in Ireland in the 1830s, at first in Ireland moving to Scotland and then England. This was religiously driven “clerical temperance”, believing making alcohol available to the masses was tantamount to placing temptation in the path of sinners. The more the temptation the greater the sum of sinning! The movement had gained so much power by the start of the First World War that their leverage brought in strict licensing hours and reduction in beer strength. The reduction in beer strength was brought about by large increases in excise duty and the temperance movement still complained that the barley used for brewing should be made into food. Beer was part of the British working man and woman’s diet and the fear of causing a further drop in morale stopped the introduction of prohibition.

In modern times the anti-alcohol policy is driven by healthism, an ideology encompassing the health of the nation and uses public health as an instrument for social control and lifestyle regulation. In relation to alcohol there is a well thought out strategy to effect policy change. The end game is to turn alcohol production and sale into a sunset industry like tobacco; not actual legal prohibition, but a kind of cultural rejection which will see the sector decline and wither.

How the anti-alcohol “Health Lobby” operate

The temperance movement has spread its tentacles through a number of organisations:

Institute for Alcohol Studies (IAS), Alcohol Concern (AC); Alcohol Research UK (ARUK), temperance legacy funded; Alcohol Focus Scotland (Funded by the Scottish Government).

All of these are members of: The Alcohol Health Alliance (AHA, UK wide umbrella group); The Global Alcohol Policy Alliance (GAPA), a global umbrella group that influences and advises the World Health Organisation.

The GAPA and AHA have a strategy based on a “whole population” approach seeking to reduce:

Availability - by reducing the number of outlets selling alcohol as it is “the availability of alcohol that makes people drink it”.

Affordability - by making alcohol more expensive through duty rises and minimum pricing.

Advertising of alcohol products - banning alcohol sports sponsorship and all advertising.

The aim of the lobby is to reduce the alcohol consumption of the whole nation.

The Conspiracy Theory

Alcohol, tobacco and sugar are produced by addiction industries which drive global ill health and the larger most successful companies deliberately engineer addiction. To control this minimum unit pricing and control of ingredients by legislation if a voluntary reduction cannot be achieved. To do this you must keep the populace alarmed by continual scare tactics even if they are imaginary.

The anti-alcohol lobby try to generate a moral panic by creating myths and factoids based on junk science whilst constantly moving the goalposts.

Common Myths

Alcohol is cheaper than ever before

Not true. Despite examples of cheap alcohol in supermarkets, the price of alcohol overall has increased by 25% since 1980 in real terms, when measured against the RPI. Although wages have increased over this period those on benefits, pensions, minimum wage or student grants which have not exceeded inflation will not find alcohol cheaper or more affordable.

Minimum pricing per unit of 50 pence would significantly reduce alcohol misuse in the UK

The effect of minimum pricing is not known as it has never been tried. The University of Sheffield predicts on a mathematical model that a 50p

minimum price per unit would mean a binge drinker would consume 0.8 units of alcohol less per week - a third of a pint of beer over seven days. Or they would spend an additional £1.14 per week to keep to the same level of consumption. Problem solved then.

There are 1.2 million alcohol related hospital admissions per year

Nobody actually knows how many hospital admissions are alcohol related! If you believe that someone stands at the door of every hospital in the land recording all the alcohol related admissions then you have been misled. The figures quoted are all estimated using a modelling technique developed by the World Health Organisation over 15 years ago based on international, not UK research. This technique produces an estimate known as the "Alcohol Attributable Fraction". The Department of Health has abandoned this methodology and now estimates that around 333,000 hospital admissions each year are alcohol related. Against the 1.2 million this seems a large discrepancy but another element is the "frequent flyers" a name used for people alcohol dependent who get regularly admitted. When you take them into account the alcohol related admissions figure drops to 75,000.

We have the worst rates of liver disease in the world

The truth is we are not even the worst in Europe, England is well below the European average. Of the 27 countries in the EU 16 have worse rates of liver disease than us and in 2014/15 there was a small reduction in cases.

Underage drinking, teenage drinking and binge drinking are getting worse

For 11-15 year olds those who have tried alcohol fell from 59% in 2000 to 39% in 2013.

Binge drinking is down from 41% of men to 34% and for women from 34% to 26%. 16-24 year olds binge drinking is down 31% for males and females by 34% between 2005 and 2012.

We are drinking more and more each year

We have been drinking less since 2004 and our alcohol consumption rate is falling at the fastest rate for more than 60 years. The UK consumed an average of 9.4 litres of alcohol per adult in 2013, down 19% from 2004 and 10% lower than in 2000. The average in the EU is 10.4 litres. The percentage of frequent drinkers has also dropped between 2005 and 2012 with men moving from 22% to 14% and women from 34% to 26%.




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There has been a huge increase in alcohol related crime

There is no generally agreed definition of "alcohol related crime". A crime is alcohol related if the victim thinks the perpetrator was under the influence at the time of the offence.

If you remove volume crime, e.g. Mobile phone and handbag thefts from licensed premises (there is even doubt that these crimes are alcohol related the criminals may well not be drinking and are basically using a place where people congregate to make their thefts easier).

The truth is that alcohol related crime is down by 32% since 2004 and 47 % since 1997.

The drinker needs to be heard in the public arena!

CAMRA although specifically promoting real ale is this country's voice of the ordinary drinker and will oppose any misinformation promoted by the anti-alcohol lobby or the drinks industry. CAMRA will also produce counter statistics to challenge the scare stories. Whether CAMRA members or not, all drinkers must oppose the "nanny state" and fight for more personal choice. As I hope we all recognise moderate consumption of alcohol is part of a healthy lifestyle.

Neighbourhood Planning Bill amended before being passed

The Neighbourhood Planning Bill was passed on 27th April - before Parliament went into dissolution for the general election. The Bill, which includes an amendment stopping large supermarket companies from purchasing pubs and turning them in to supermarkets, is now law and will be implemented in July. In a strange move Punch, Heineken, Marston's, Greene King, Enterprise and Admiral plus Sainsbury's, Aldi and the Co-op have all agreed to accept the changes to planning law immediately. This set my alarm bells ringing. We have already seen the Co-op renege on an agreement with CAMRA not to convert any more pubs to convenience stores. Considering that they have continually opposed any additional planning protection for pubs why change now? My worry is that they are conceding only because they know that they can influence local authority planners, who are desperate to build more homes and ride roughshod over local campaigners. All it will do is take a little more time and effort. Perhaps we are cynical, so let's see what happens from here on.

The General Election

As this newsletter was published after the 8th June the whole thing will be well and truly over. CAMRA is non-political but does lobby parliament with a certain amount of success. With 187,000 members (more than the Conservative party) we do tend to get listened to. When the snap election was called we had a very short time to set out a manifesto as we now do at all elections, canvassing the PPCs (prospective parliamentary candidates) of all parties giving them our views and asking for their support. During this election campaign CAMRA activists have been bringing the fact that 900,000 jobs rely on the pub and brewery sector which also puts £23.1 billion into the UK economy, and asking the PPC's to pledge support for the following:-

- 1) Support Pubs to help them thrive
- 2) Represent the interests of pub goers and beer and cider drinkers
- 3) Reduce VAT on food and drink in pubs, bars and clubs
- 4) Lower excise duty on draught beer to encourage the use of pubs.
- 5) Promote Britain's 1,540 breweries.

As we know drinking in the pub is a controlled

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environment and good for your health and wellbeing. 99% of real ale is bought and drunk in pubs, so no pubs no real ale.

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Buntingford Brewery reopens

It's time we confirmed one of the worst kept secrets out there - we are pleased to announce that Buntingford Brewery is back brewing under the new ownership! Local pub operators and CAMRA members Rob Scahill and Andy Rawnsley have formed a new company, Buntingford Brewery Limited. We have agreed a new lease of the Brewhouse at Greys, near Royston, and have purchased or leased all the brewing equipment and casks. Most importantly the brands and recipes, such as *Twitchell* and *Polar Star*, will not be changing!

Past brewers Steve Banfield and Catherine Murphy have decided to concentrate on their pub venture, The **Brown Bear** in Braughing, where our beers will be regularly available. Therefore a new team has been put together, and by the time you read this, all will be on board, regularly brewing and delivering our beers. We are delighted to have Keith Bott MBE, co-founder and co-owner of Titanic Brewery, as a Non-Executive Director of Buntingford Brewery. Keith's extensive knowledge of brewing and the wider industry will be invaluable to us.

Twitchell, *Templar Gold*, *Hurricane* and *Polar Star* have all been brewed and are available in pubs. We'll also be regularly brewing *92 Squadron*, *Britannia* and *Royston Red* and all of these will form our core beer range. In mid-May we brewed *Hitchin Hedgehog* especially for the **2017 Hitchin Beer & Cider Festival** that is run jointly by CAMRA North Hertfordshire, Hitchin RFC and Hitchin Round Table. Simon Goodlad, from Hitchin RFC, came along for the day and assisted with the brewing. We will also be brewing some Single Hop beers and other specials from time to time. We also have plans for a short brew length plant that will enable us to brew smaller batches of more interesting and specialist beers.

It has to be said that getting the brewery in to production has not been without challenges. Forming the company, registering for VAT and as a Brewer with HM Revenue and Customs were all completed quickly. What we didn't expect was effort needed to secure approval under the Government's recently introduced Alcohol Wholesaler Registration Scheme (AWRS). The scheme aims to reduce the supply of illicit alcohol, which is commendable, but it does add an additional layer of administration. AWRS approval took much more time and effort than we ever anticipated. We had to demonstrate that there was

a ready market for our beer; that our record keeping systems are accurate and that we were fit and proper persons to sell alcohol! We did it and our beers are back on the bar.

Rob Scahill & Andy Rawnsley

Marston's buy Charles Wells Brewery

It was announced on the 18th May that Charles Wells brewery had been bought by Marston's for £55million. Wells will keep their 200 pub tied estate which is based in the UK and France, initially being supplied by Marston's and intend to open a small brewery in Bedford to supply its estate at a later date. Wells sales are up 2% and they produce 100 million litres of beer each year, brewing Young's, Courage and McEwan's. Wells also have the UK distribution rights to Kirin, Estrella Damm, Erdinger and Founders, as well as Cockburn and Campbell wine merchants. Wells' 300 employees at the brewery will transfer with the plant to Marston's.

Marston's have taken over other brewers Wychwood (Refresh UK) Oxon, Ringwood, Hampshire, Jennings, Cumbria and most recently Thwaites, Blackburn in 2015. It is not clear whether this will mean an increased beer range being available in the Wells pub estate, we will have to wait and see.

Steve Bury

Twenty Five Years of Tring

It has now been a quarter of a century since Tring Brewery opened in November 1992. Brewing started at Akeman Street but outgrew the site and moved in 2010 to Dunsley Farm, London Road where the new brewery has seen several extensions to meet demand. Yes we know it is not November yet but there will be events throughout the year to celebrate the anniversary.

Chief Jester Farr charity brew

Over the past year Farr Brew have supported schools, local community projects and charities wherever possible. Several years ago, a very close friend (Joe 'Chief' Paul) passed away at a very young age. He was a chap who always went the extra mile in working for local charities and caring for those near and dear to him. 'Chief Jester' is the latest addition to Farr's core beer

range. It has been created using hops called 'Jester' which have an intense, punchy aroma, with notes of grapefruit and tropical fruits. Combined with WGV bittering hops and selected grains, they have created an easy drinking 3.6% pale session ale that is tasty and refreshing in equal measure.

Farr Brew will be donating 10% of all profits made from sales of 'Chief Jester' to the Rennie Grove Hospice. Rennie Grove Hospice Care is a charity providing care and support for adults and children diagnosed with cancer and other life-limiting illnesses and their families. Every year through their 24/7 Hospice at Home service, their Family Support services and the range of Day Services at Grove House they give thousands of patients the choice to stay at home, surrounded by their families and friends.

3 Brewers Strong Bitter Award and Blonde Ale Launch

The 3 Brewers of St. Albans were presented with their Gold award for winning the Champion Strong Bitter of East Anglia. This has been judged during 2016 featuring at a number of beer festivals where the judging of beers in each category took place.

Mark Sutton of the 3 Brewers was pleasantly surprised to find out their *Special English Ale* had come tops in the Strong Bitter category. There are around 140 breweries in the East Anglian region featuring some heavyweights in Essex with Maldon and over in Suffolk - with the likes of Greene King, Adnams, Green Triangle and Cyclops to mention a few. To beat so many superb breweries in the region is a very significant milestone for the 3 Brewers and shows that local ale (LocAle) in South Hertfordshire is getting recognition.

Their Special English Ale (4.8%) is a robust and full bodied premium ale, made with chocolate malt to give it a deep copper colour and the finest English hops give the ale a hint of red berries. It is a well-balanced ale, smooth and moreish.

The next stage and final part of the competition is to be at the Great British Beer Festival being held in Olympia in the first week of August.

The presentation took place at the **Lower Red Lion** in St Albans on Friday 28th April, on the same evening as the launch of the 3 Brewers brand new *Blonde Ale* (4.2%).

Subsequently Mark explained their launch has got off to a cracking start "This has sold quicker than any beer we've ever launched, with the original

Dating in parts from the 15th century and a Grade II listed building, Lombard House has been home to this Private Members Club since 1897*

CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2014/15/16/17

**South Herts CAMRA Club of the Year
2015/16/17**

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gyle (brew) selling out in the first week. The beer is golden in colour and has a big citrus flavour from the extensive addition of Mosaic hops. Blonde Ale was launched on 24th April 2017 and is the seventh permanent beer in our range."



*Pictured Above, left to right: South Herts CAMRA's
Rob Strachan, and from 3 Brewers - Matt Sutton,
Mark Fanner and Pete Zivkovic*

*Rob Strachan, 3 Brewers CAMRA Brewery Liaison
Officer*

Ed Says: The **Lower Red Lion** in St Albans is a great example of how many good real ales there are in Hertfordshire, and only stocks real ale brewed within the county.

Oakham Ales Update

2016 was a very successful trading year for Peterborough based Oakham Ales, with total output from the Brewery reaching 27,000 brewers barrels (around 8 million pints) sold over the bar counter - a rise of 6 per cent on 2015. *Citra* now accounts for over 30% of total production taking into account bottle sales as well. Of all the *Citra* hops imported to The U.K. from the United States, over 50% is used by Oakham Ales. The expansion work at the Brewery continues and work is now well under way with strong progress promised for late winter into spring 2018. Twelve seasonal ales will be brewed this year with some old favourites complemented by four new beers. For January *New World Order* a pale gold beer at 4.0% abv appears for the first time and features five different hop varieties. June will see a 3.7% pale gold beer called *MK Ultra* featuring the new American hop Eureka, whilst August has a 4.1% amber coloured addition called *Hanger 17*. Finally *Moon Landing* a Ruby beer at 4.2% will feature during November and will include six different malts & four hop varieties. The Cask Aged range looks pretty healthy for the year with a new addition called *Dr Phobia* a 5.2% dark chestnut beer. *Green Devil I.P.A.* the multi award winning beer will be available all year round where as other beers in the Cask Aged range with feature at different times of the year. *Blue Skies I.P.A.* returns after strong public support for it. These beers will no doubt feature at the **2017 St Albans Beer Festival** which features an Oakham brewery bar. South Herts branch had a very successful trip round Oakham Brewery in August 2016.

Herts and Essex Borders CAMRA Cider Pubs of the Year

Hertfordshire:

On Saturday 15th April 2017, the branch met at the **Queen's Head**, Allens Green to award the Cider accolade to landlord Cliff Caswell once more. Janet Bullerwell, the branch Cider Officer, presented the certificate to Cliff (as pictured top right). She praised the extensive range of ciders and perries, which has grown in recent months. "The range includes not just a lot of choice, but a wide range of types, including ones with other fruit and flowers," she enthused. Cliff replied that it was wonderful to receive the award again. He added that the current seventeen

ciders came from a wide area, with the new fruit ones proving popular. "People are travelling from further afield to visit this small village pub for both the real ale, and more and more for the cider and perry," he added.



Essex:

On 19th March 2017, the branch went to the **Woodbine** in Waltham Abbey, to present Rob Chapman with the Branch Cider Pub of the Year award once again. We have just heard that the pub has also won the prestigious award for Essex, so the branch members are very proud to have a county winner, well done, Rob!



Rob has currently 34 ciders on his menu. He said that when he took over the pub, real cider was not sold, but gradually with a wider clientele, this has developed. He has always aimed to run a real pub, with local food and mostly local real ale, so cider fits well with this use of natural products. He

said, "We aim to support local cider producers and we plan to produce our own. I was delighted to receive the award as we have built up the cider menu, because the cider customers are increasing as they get to hear of our extensive list".

Janet Bullerwell, the branch Cider Officer said as she presented the certificate to Rob (pictured above), "I am pleased to see so many good ciders on offer, what a good place for cider drinkers to come after a walk in Epping Forest!"

Chris Sears, Publicity Officer, Herts and Essex Borders Branch

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Prestigious award for Bishop's Stortford club facing closure

A popular Royal British Legion club threatened with closure in Bishop's Stortford has been awarded the coveted **Real Ale Club of the Year** award by the Herts & Essex Borders branch - in a move campaigners hope will convince the National Royal British Legion to change its plans.

Celebrations were held at the **Bishop's Stortford Royal British Legion Club** on Sunday 2 April, for the presentation of the Real Ale Club of the Year award. Presenting the award, the CAMRA Branch Clubs Officer, Melissa Cherry, said "There is no other club in our area more deserving of this award. It is a great privilege to present this prestigious award to you." However, a shadow was cast over the proceedings by the knowledge that this successful, profitable and popular club is being forced to close in September. Club members are fighting the closure, but the premises owners, the National Royal British Legion, are continuing with plans to sell the property to developers.

An application is currently under consideration by East Herts District Council to get the club listed as an Asset of Community Value, which may give some protection against the development plans.

CAMRA Branch Chairman, Brendan Sothcott said, "This case typifies one of the main issues facing so many pubs and clubs today, where property values are so high that we all too often see a profitable business which provides a source of employment and a valuable social function, being sacrificed to make a quick profit for the building owners. Despite the depressing news that the club may close, it is great to see the members and staff putting on a good fight, and still providing an excellent club and great Real Ale".

British Legion Club Committee member, Tim Kelly said 'It is a huge honour for Bishop's Stortford Royal British Legion Club to be voted Real Ale Club of the Year 2017 by the Herts and Essex Borders Branch of CAMRA. For many years, the Club has striven to provide members with an interesting range of real ales. We continue to improve the quality of our products through the management of Steve and Lyn Obeney and hope that such a prestigious award may influence the Royal British Legion in their intention to close the Club.'

Royal British Legion Bishop's Stortford Club President Squin Clarke said 'This prestigious award

is for all the hard work put in by members of the Royal British Legion Club and support from CAMRA. The annual Real Ale Beer Festival held in the Club Garden has been a great success. I hope that the National Trustees of the Royal British Legion will take note'.

The British Legion Branch Chairman, David Reynolds, commented "Fantastic achievement for the Club to be voted Real Ale Club of the Year 2017. Despite all our other problems with the lease, it is most gratifying to know that our efforts to look after our ale loving members has been recognised with this award from CAMRA".

Further details from:

Brendan Sothcott (CAMRA), tel: 07778 780807
chairman@heb-camra.org.uk

Tim Kelly (Royal British Legion Bishop's Stortford Branch) 07747772351, tim.kelly5@biinternet.com

The Rising Sun Shines Again

The **Rising Sun** in High Wych near Sawbridgeworth, was awarded the Herts and Essex Borders **Branch Pub of the Year** in March. It is now run by Lauren Cunningham,



helped by her parents, Garry and Sharon. All the beers are on stillage, with at least three on during the week,

mostly from the East Anglian breweries Woodforde's, Oakham and Tring. At weekends there is often an extra, such as Courage Directors or a dark mild.

Brendan Sothcott, the Branch Chairman said as he presented the certificate to Lauren (as pictured), "There are so many good pubs in the branch that it is hard to win, so well done!" The Rising Sun has been a frequent winner in the past and has been in nearly every Good Beer Guide since the start of publication in 1974.

Lauren replied, "We were delighted to be given the news that we had won! Whilst we keep high standards at all times, it is lovely to have the hard work recognised. We would like to thank our loyal customers, both old and new, for their continued support."

*Chris Sears,
Publicity Secretary Herts and Essex Borders Branch*

Battle starts to save the Station, Knebworth

Supporters of the campaign to save the **Station** in Knebworth delivered a questionnaire in February to 2,000 homes in the vicinity of the recently closed pub. The response was a phenomenal 474 returned, of which 452 answered 'yes' to a pub being important in the village.



The exercise further requested ideas of what features people would most like to see if the pub can be saved. Response included nice restaurant, warm welcome, music, petanque, garden, car park, function room, family area and real ale. Basically the things we expect of any pub.

Greene King sold the Station, the only pub for a



attended meeting in Knebworth Village Hall (pictured above).

The Station is ACV listed and a planning application is expected, which will be vigorously opposed. The local group is setting up crowdfunding and organising social events to raise the capital to buy the pub. It is hoped that the new planning regulations may be in force in time to influence the future of the Station.

For the most up to date information there is a Facebook page, and website:

See also website: www.stationpub.org.uk

Malcolm Chapman, North Herts Pub Preservation Officer

mile in any direction, to a property developer Market Homes, and the questionnaire was followed up by a well-

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Hertford Club Hat Trick

Congratulations to the **Hertford Club** in Bull Plain, Hertford – winner of the South Herts Branch **Club of the Year** award for 2017. Winner also in 2015 and 2016 the club continues to move forward – now with up to four real ales, a coming beer festival and a new riverside terrace for the benefit of members and visitors. Our award looks for good beer, good value, friendly atmosphere and how well a club sits in its community. Five years ago the Hertford Club had reached a low ebb and members decided it was time to get a grip and breathe new life into both the club (it was founded in 1878) and the building, Lombard House, a 15th Century Grade II* listed building with walled garden, full of character and standing and which sits on the banks of the River Lea. A greater emphasis on quality followed with new wines and real ales. There were changes to the food menu with speciality steak and fish nights, and a new openness emerged which saw the Club taking part in town musical events and Heritage Days.

With new vigour, members, volunteers and staff have carried out much-needed building maintenance and garden projects culminating, this year, in the clearing of a formerly cluttered area to make way for a restful riverside terrace.



Significantly other improvement projects have been identified for the coming months and years as the Club continues with its quest to progress. Once a Conservative Club it has for many years been politically unaligned and is owned by the members for the members - now a thriving asset for the community. CAMRA members are welcome and may be signed in on production of a membership card.

Our picture above shows South Herts Branch Chairman, Les Middlewood, presenting the award to Hertford Club Chairman, Nic Gaskin (left) at the Club's recent AGM.

Who's Opening Round at the King's Mead?

Not only a round of drinks but a round of golf. It's not often that *Pints of View* can report on the construction and opening of a brand new pub – all too often we hear of pub closures – but April 2017 has seen the opening of **the King's Mead** – a new pub built by McMullen's on the A119 road, between Hertford and Ware and opposite the "Meads" which lie in the River Lea Valley opposite. The pub also sits high above Chadwell Springs, the open head of the New River, a man-made aqueduct that was originally built in 1613 to take fresh water to the people of London.



When Mac's decided to completely redesign and extend their Chadwell Springs 9-hole golf course, the plans included for a new pub. The old golf course needed modernisation and the five-year project has not been without significant geographic challenges – the course sits over former chalk mines. The new family golf centre will include a 20-bay floodlit driving range, a nine-hole pitch and putt course, practice green and family foot-golf – all of which will open later this summer. A golf equipment shop is now open and a new Par 3 golf course which will follow in 2018. The new pub is managed by mine hosts Karen and Steve Jordan.

Inside there is a pleasing use of traditional building materials, including a liberal use of timber and fenestration, all making for areas of light and airy space. There is comfortable furniture throughout, some interesting photographs of local views and events on the walls and a wood burning stove will provide additional warmth in the winter. And if some modern pub developments only seem to cater for diners, the King's Mead has an area close to the front doors earmarked for drinkers though on our visit the clamour for food had also engulfed this space. The pub joins another dozen or so in the company's Destination Pub portfolio, so there is a strong leaning to the provision of quality meals and snacks. McMullen's Retail Director, Heydon Mizon, says "The team will provide fresh food, international beers and our locally crafted ales, brewed using

'brewer's liquor' (water!) that is extracted in Hertford from the same aquifers deep beneath the golf course and pub". Mac's real ales will always be to the fore with well-kept Country, IPA and the pub's own King's Mead ale – actually Cask Ale – and a Rivertown brew, all on handpump.

The King's Mead is a welcome addition to the Ware



and Hertford pub scene and will be especially popular with golfers, diners and families. It is fully accessible and has baby changing facilities. Outside, dogs are allowed in the patio areas and there are racks for visiting cyclists. There are bus stops immediately outside and a gate opposite the pub leads to a footpath directly down to the Meads where Chadwell Springs can be closely inspected. The King's Mead is well worth a visit this summer.

Les Middlewood

**4th Annual Riverside Real Ale Festival ~
Saturday 8th July ~ Noon—11pm
Fletcher's Lea at Ware Priory**



**22 Real Ales & Ciders available (wine
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available mid-June and valid for day and evening. Families
welcome before 6pm ~ entertainment for the kids in the
afternoon. Adults only after 6pm & live music
All proceeds to the Ware Festival Charities 'CHIPS' & Ware
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Epping & Ongar Railway Beer Festival

From the 28th to 30th of July, Epping Ongar Railway's North Weald station will host its 5th beer festival. With the range of ales expanded to 65, this year the festival celebrates 60 years since the first tube train rolled through the Essex fields. For three days, heritage steam and diesel trains will amble through the forest, complete with the on board 'Flag and Whistle' bar serving drinks until the last train after dusk. Classic Routemaster buses will provide transport to and from the festival site, with pick up points at Epping (Underground, Central Line) and Shenfield (TfL Rail and Greater Anglia). The transport options mean there is no need to designate a driver and bring the car! Bus services will be evenly spaced into the evening, the last Epping service leaving when the bar closes and a later Shenfield service than in 2016.

Drinkers will be treated to live music on Friday evening, Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon – if the last years are anything to go by, the late night trains will be harmonious affairs, filled with the sound of folk songs!

With the 60th anniversary of London's Underground just around the corner, this year's beer selection will feature many London and Essex breweries. Some beers will be brewed specially for the occasion and it is planned a 60/- style will be on offer! A full list of both ales and ciders will be published in advance along with full details of the cuisine on offer. CAMRA members can buy discounted tickets, including bus and festival train travel. Tickets are available now for advance purchase and on the day. For further information and to book tickets, take a look at www.eorailway.co.uk

Ware's 2017 Summer Saunter

Spare Saturday in June? In need of refreshment? On Saturday 24th June why not join Ware and Hertford CAMRA members on a friendly walk around some of Ware's best real ale pubs. Our itinerary will take you to community locals, historic hostelrys and town centre pubs – and a wide range of beers from all over Britain. Those marked "F" offer food – but check times; those marked "C" offer real cider.

- 1.00pm **Maltings**, Watton Road
- 1.45pm **Old Bull's Head**, Baldock Street (F)
- 2.30pm **Brewery Tap**, High Street (F) (C)
- 3.30pm **Waterside Inn**, Bridgefoot (F)

- 4.15pm **Punch House**, West Street (F) (C)
- 5.00pm **High Oak**, High Oak Road
- 5.45pm **Crooked Billet**, Musley Hill (C)

Ware is an historic town worth exploring on foot. It was once dubbed the maltings capital of Europe. Though malting and brewing has sadly ceased in the town, the activity has left its mark with many old maltings buildings and a brewery still standing. Along Ware's busy and picturesque High Street you will find many a former coaching inn. And then there's the famous gazebos to be seen on the River Lea, the surprising Bluecoat Yard and Ware's interesting town museum. So, maybe make a day of it, with a stroll around town before meeting up at 1pm.

And early drinkers/eaters might fancy a visit to The King's Mead, the new destination-style pub opened by McMullens in April, at Chadwell Springs, overlooking the Lea Valley. It's a ten-minute walk from Ware Railway Station up along Hertford Road and on leaving the pub a 15-minute walk, via footpath, across the Meads, over the railway line and across Ware lock to join up with the Saunter. Ware Railway Station has direct links to Hertford East Station and to Cambridge, Bishop's Stortford, Harlow and Liverpool Street via Broxbourne. The 724 Green Line bus connects Ware to Hertford, Welwyn Garden City, Hatfield, St Albans and Watford in the west and Harlow in the east. The 310 bus travels north along the Lea Valley from Waltham Cross, Cheshunt, Hoddesdon, St Margaret's, through Ware and on to Hertford. Look forward to a good range of real ales from far and wide. And as usual.....

Everyone welcome!

Les Middlewood



Trading Standards

If you have complaints about short measure, lack of a price list or misleading promotion of products and fail to get a satisfactory response, contact Hertfordshire Trading Standards Service, tel: 08454 04 05 06 or St Albans Trading Standards Service, tel 01707 292429. Email Trading Standards at:

tradingstandards@hertscc.gov.uk



The "C" word

Nothing has muddied the waters (sic) more than the five letter word 'craft'. Whilst we have a dictionary definition of 'Real Ale' no-one really knows what the 'C' word means as it is used in all kinds of contexts, even some mega-keggeries claim to be 'craft'.

I ask you and all other CAMRA publications to avoid using the 'C' word wherever possible, there are plenty of alternatives like: pasteurised, filtered, carbonated, top pressure, cask breather, brewed with adjuncts, kegged etc.

When we were campaigning back in the seventies and eighties last century, we used the word 'keg' as an alternative swearword. Anything that was a bit naff was said to be 'keg.'

So let us be more accurate in our reporting, know exactly what we are talking about and avoid using wishy-washy words like Craft.

Bob Norrish

Ed says: Absolutely right Bob, I whole heartedly agree. At the recent national conference in Bournemouth a motion proposed by a member of the national executive to encourage branches to embrace 'craft' to include real ale was roundly rejected. I will urge all our contributors to be accurate in their description of products they report on.

A Run Out Of Town Corrected

Can I give some feedback about the 'A Run Out of Town' article in POV 282. To cut to the chase - it was factually inaccurate for three out of the five pubs described.

Elephant and Castle, Amwell - The article says Greene King beer range plus a guest is available.

In January it had five hand pumps two of which are from the SIBA list and one dedicated to LocAle.

Swan, Wheathampstead - It says "...under the stewardship of Glen and his team", and four beers from national breweries are normally on offer.

For a start his name is Glenn not Glen. And Sally is actually the one running the show. So this should have said 'Sally and her team'. Sally holds the lease and she is behind all the organisation involved in running the Swan. Everything from staffing, events, meals and the core logistics needed to run a pub. Of course Glenn supports the show but it is Sally who is front of house. She has the Elephant and Castle pub's lease in her name and was behind the business plan to take it on.

The pub, apart from when closed after the fire has had five real ales on at all times for the

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last 10 years. Yes Greene King is a 'new' national brewery with the permanent IPA served. Their permanent St Austell *Tribute* is a medium sized independent. The other three hand pumps most of the time have SIBA supplied beers including Locale. One of those three may end up being another GK guest. I found out today that GK are restricting the GK beers - good news as they can now get more SIBA listed beers!

To say 'normally has four' suggests you may go in and find it has only three or two. It belies their dedication to always having five beers on.

Queens Head, Sandridge - The article gives a range of "Doom Bar and Landlord".

On my visits it has had five beers on including Fullers Pride and a Locale.

I would also have added 'walking down Brewhouse Hill Wheathampstead and admire the Old Brewery'. This article has effectively lost CAMRA credibility in the Wheathampstead Parish. Two of the pubs mentioned take 125 POVs between them. In my view the damage is done. Both the landlady, Sally at the Swan, and manager Joe at the Elephant and Castle were less than impressed. They did of course appreciate the article from the point of view of getting to the pubs with the detailed bus times and



walking directions.

In my view some sort of correction is in order. In general, the content of POV is absolutely spot on and I struggle to find any inaccuracies apart from the occasional spelling mistakes. I was very surprised that this article got published without the usual thorough checking of content.

Rob Strachan

Ed Says: Obviously as editor of *Pints of View* I can't go on holiday. I spent most of March in Japan, whilst the proof read was being circulated. The newsletter is checked by up to five people before it goes to the printers, and as editor I have to ultimately take the blame for any errors. I apologise for any inconvenience or upset that may have been caused by the "A Run Out of Town" article and hope the letter above puts the record straight. The bonus is as Rob states that we have highlighted how you can get to the pubs by public transport which will be a bonus in the next few months when the weather finally improves.

More Criticism of Pubs Adjudicator

I was very surprised when CAMRA let pubs adjudicator Paul Newby write his own hagiography in CAMRA's monthly member publication *What's Brewing* for March. The government claims that their new pub code which applies to the 'big six' PubCos gives some 12,000 tenants new rights and protections such as a fair rent assessment, but I assume it hasn't escaped your notice that Paul Newby's appointment as the man to adjudicate in disputes between tenants and the PubCos has been widely criticised as he has strong links to the 'big six'? Until April 2016 he was a director of PubCo adviser Fleurets who earn some 25% of their income from the 'big six' and he has worked for Enterprise, Punch and Marston's over the last five years. Importantly, Mr Newby continues to own an 11.52 per cent stake in Fleurets. This potential conflict of interest has caused MPs on the Commons' business, innovation and skills committee (and CAMRA's favourite MP Greg Mulholland) to call for his replacement by someone in whom tenants can have more confidence. Since it's well known that the 'beverage' is still bankrolling the Tory party with regular donations, perhaps it's an appointment that ought not to surprise; but I'm very disappointed that CAMRA as a 'campaigning' organisation has apparently turned a blind eye to this controversy.

References:

"MPs call time on pubs adjudicator" Financial Times 29 July 2016:

<https://www.ft.com/content/6c23ddc4-557c-11e6-befd-2fc0c26b3c60>

"Who will adjudicate the adjudicator?" ReARM blog 10 June 2016:

<http://rednev-rearm.blogspot.co.uk/2016/06/who-will-adjudicate-adjudicator.html>

Pubs and Pubmen, "Ties that Bind", Private Eye, 1418, 13-26 May 2016:

"Loan Drinker", Private Eye, 1420, 10-23 June 2016
"Code Red", Private Eye, 1422, 8-21 July 2016

And a very well-resourced and referenced article here: "The pubs code; a very British compromise" August 20, 2016:

<https://londonlowlife.wordpress.com/2016/08/20/the-pubs-code-a-very-british-compromise>

Ed Says: I'm with Bob and I hope readers remember my article on the Adjudicator in POV 282. I am amazed that CAMRA nationally has not supported calls to have Mr Newby replaced, as it is obvious that he is not impartial. The article in *What's Brewing* was something of an own goal as the "Pubs Code" following the Greene King challenge is fast becoming worthless.

Customer service I think not

Barclays Bank appear to know very little about the concept of the pub. (*Pints of View* No.281).

Pay at the Pump may be fine for petrol stations but the pub serves a very different purpose. The main function of the pub is hospitality and you don't get hospitality through a machine. Most people visit a pub for companionship, conversation and continuity, not just to consume alcohol, and expect to be greeted and served by Mine Host or a known member of staff.

If I am to be served by a machine I shall go elsewhere where personal service is on offer.

I agree that waiting for service can be a problem in these days of staff shortages, especially in remote country pubs, but if a licensee wants to be successful he must make every effort to avoid this. In Benskin's (admittedly in a rather more expansive era for the pub) we encouraged our licensees to follow the "ten second rule" - Try to acknowledge a customer within ten seconds of his (or her) entry into the bar with a "Hello" or a wave. Most people don't mind waiting (within reason!) if they see you are busy - but they do object to being ignored.

Sam Hall

Bob Steel

Ed says: Always good to hear from Sam who is absolutely correct about these machines. The only



place where I have had the use of one confirmed is a bar in Covent Garden, and I will be surprised if this pay at pump beer dispenser has much future. Having just visited Japan the level of service is excellent with an abundance of staff on petrol station forecourts. Not only do they clean your windscreen, they will check your oil and water and do the tyre pressures (something you have to pay 50 pence to do yourself here). Then one of the staff will stop the traffic to ensure you make a safe exit. That of course is the up side - the beer is pretty awful.

Heineken ownership errors

I would hope that someone else has pointed out that *Pints of View* No. 281 has further errors regarding brewery ownerships but if not I will do so now. The article re-Heineken acquisition of Punch Taverns pubs asserts that Heineken owns Theakston - wrong, the latter reverted to family ownership in 2003, and also that Caledonian, indeed owned by Heineken itself owns Harviestoun- wrong The latter regained its independence in 2008. Proper admission of error this time, unlike your circumlocution over the previous error re-Marstons/Thwaites!

Maurice Colburn

Ed Says: Let me deal with the last comment first concerning POV 276/277. What was published in POV 277 June/July 2016 is as follows:

"Marston's and Thwaites

POV 276 page 22, Marston's has not acquired Thwaites, only certain brands including "Wainwright". I wish they were still doing some specialist beers. CAMRA Investments has a large holding in Thwaites and I have a few shares personally.

Maurice Colburn

Ed Says: *The 2016 Good Beer Guide says as follows "In April 2015, Thwaites sold its brewing division to Marston's for £25.1 million, The Blackburn brewery founded in 1807 closed in February 2014 with the brewery's 100,000 barrels (36 gallons each) a year transferred to Marston's Wolverhampton plant. Marston's have a 10 year deal to supply Thwaites' 350 pubs". A 100 barrel pilot Thwaites brewery is planned for Blackburn so Maurice may well get his wish and find Thwaites specials on sale again in the near future.*

The only beer listed in the 2016 GBG is Nutty Black ABV 3.6 %."

As far as I am concerned my reply was correct to Maurice's contribution. The only conclusion I can come to is that as I did not initially make it clear (in

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POV 276) that the Thwaites pub estate was still stand-alone and being supplied by Marston's. Again I do not see where I was avoiding the issue and gave the best information available to me at the time.

As for POV 281 page 4, I obviously made two errors on ownership and have shown myself not to be keeping up-to-date. Harviestoun did in fact become independent again in 2008 having been bought by a group of Caledonian directors. Theakston's was bought back from Scottish & Newcastle in 2004 by four Theakston brothers so is also now back in family ownership.

As I am sure readers are aware none of this has anything to do with the implications of the Heineken take-over of Punch, whose pubs it is now suggested will continue to be supplied through SIBA (Society of Independent Brewers).

Shiver me timbers it's the Admiral Benbow

In response to the article (page 22 *Pints of View* 281) about nautical pub names in which Steve Bury says he does not know of a pub called Admiral Benbow. The Admiral Benbow does exist, it is in Penzance, a short distance from the harbour. If in the area a visit is a must. You will get a warm welcome from Trish, Julie and Steve with well-kept beer and cider plus good food. Make sure you see the rear dining



area, you will swear you are on an old galleon. The pub is decorated with original timbers from old ships and all things nautical. Outside, on the roof is a lookout ready to warn of the revenue men (don't ask, you just need to see).

David Holmes

Ed Says: Thanks for bringing the Admiral Benbow to our readers' attention, I don't believe the pub you describe could have been the one used by Robert Louis Stevenson in the book *Treasure Island*, though I may be proven wrong on this as well.

A music lover writes

I've only recently discovered your magazine via the newly opened library's "What's on Locally" bookstand!

Having been apprenticed as a bookbinder/pen-ruler at the Clunbury Press (sadly long gone) in Berkhamstead throughout the 1970s, a lunchtime pint or two after the canteen dinner was the normal done thing. Apprentices, tradesmen, foremen would all partake in what seemed to be a standard rite of passage! Usually playing darts!

Where the company was situated, we were spoilt for choice when it came to a lunchtime pint as then there seemed to be a pub on every nearby street!

I'm glad to say our local the Boat situated on Gravel Path, overlooking the Grand Union canal was our most favourite (and it's still there!).

Other nearby pubs within a couple of minutes walking distance were the Brownlow Arms Ravens Lane, the Goat; Bull; and the Black Horse all on the nearby High Street.

Almost every Friday lunchtime (12.30-1.30), we, that is anything up to six fellow workers, would travel by car to a pub that was just a bit further out of the way (by about ten minutes). The **Alford Arms**, Frithsden, was the favourite. A good meal usually sausage, egg and chips with slices of bread and butter washed down with a couple of pints, followed by a game of darts and a dash back to work for the afternoon!

Friday was (cash) pay day then, and it seemed somewhat a tradition amongst the (then) younger workers!

A decent juke-box was very important to us teenagers back then. The **Boat**, Brownlow Arms, and the **Goat** all had decent selections of music current and older at 1play for 5p, or 3plays for 10p. In the early/mid 1970s Rod Stewart, T-Rex, Slade, Roxy Music, Paul McCartney & Wings, Don Maclean, E.L.O., and Wizard were the most popular on a constant rotation of plays.

Having worked as a volunteer on hospital radio for 25 years plus spells on radio Luxembourg, Forces radio, Gibraltar Broadcasting, and Radio Z in Zurich I have played a lot of music over the airways since 1975 and would like to give my "Top Twenty Pub Related Songs" for you to enjoy, or, smirk at, with discretion!!!

Top Twenty Pub Related Songs

- 1) *Milk & Alcohol* Dr Feelgood No9 1979
 - 2) *Whiskey In The Jar* Thin Lizzy No6 1973
 - 3) *Special Brew* Bad Manners No3 1980
 - 4) *I've Been Drinking* Rod Stewart & Jeff Beck No 27 1973
 - 5) *Cigarettes And Alcohol* Oasis No7 1994
 - 6) *The Bartender & The Thief* Stereophonics No3 1998.
 - 7) *Wide Eyed & Legless* Andy Fairweather-Low No 6 1975
 - 8) *Beer Drinkers & Hell Raisers* Motorhead No43 1980
 - 9) *Hurry Up Harry (we're going down the pub)* Sham 69 No10 1978
 - 10) *Have A Drink On Me* Lonnie Donegan No 8 1961
 - 11) *The Sideboard Song* (I've got my beer in the sideboard here) Chas & Dave No. 55 1979
 - 12) *Cheers Then* Banarama No45 1982
 - 13) *A Pub With No Beer* Slim Dusty No3 1959
 - 14) *Seven Drunken Nights* The Dubliners No7 1967
 - 15) *Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps* Please Splodgenessabounds No7 1980
 - 16) *Pump Up The Bitter* Star Turn On 45 (Pints) No12 1988
 - 17) *Long Tall Glasses* Leo Sayer No 4 1974
 - 18) *I Am A Cider Drinker* Wurzels No3 1976
 - 19) *The Bottle* Paul Weller No13 2004
 - 20) *Closing Time* Deacon Blue No42 1991
- Bubbling under:
Stone Cold Sober Rod Stewart (b-side of *Sailing* No1 1975)

Mike Beeson

Ed Says: I assume the lunchtime drinking reminiscences were brought on by the Legend in Your Own Lunchtime article in POV 282. Juke Boxes or their modern day equivalent do feature in this magazine from time to time, as there are all sorts of licensing and copyright issues which can cause problems these days. Like all top twenties they are a personal choice and it's all a bit of fun.

Any comments, articles or letters for publication are welcome. Please send to: **Steve Bury, 14 New Road, Shenley, Herts, WD7 9EA.** Or send an Email to us at: pintsofview@hotmail.co.uk

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Find each of the WORDS listed in the grid.

Alehouse, Apples, Barley, Bar Towel, Beer Garden, Bitter, Brewery, Bung, Cask, Chock, Cider, Dray, Drip Tray, Glass, Handpump, Hops, Lounge, Mild, Pears, Perry, Pint, Porter, Public Bar, Public House, Real Ale, Saloon Bar, Shire Horse, Spile, Stout, Stillage, Tap, Tankard, Tavern, Ullage, Yeast.

All entries to be sent to: Steve Bury 14 New Road, Shenley, Herts, WD7 9EA. 1st correct entry drawn 14th July wins a copy of the **CAMRA 2017 Good Beer Guide**.

SOUTION TO EDITION 282 CATHERINE WHEEL >

An Apology...

The Brewery Names Anagram Catherine Wheel in the last edition 282 did not have the last clue (No14) printed. Eight entries were received, G. Tong of Stevenage, M. Verrells of Harlow, and R. Palmer St Albans giving three possible answers, and another two from C. Smith of Rickmansworth and M. Pilkington of Pinner both with an incorrect answer to clue 14. Another from A. Greer of Ruislip and M. Nichols of Warwickshire left clue 14 blank. The entry from D. Gregory of Stevenage actually got all the answers correct and is the winner. The last brewery name was EAST LONDON and the clue was AN OLD STONE in Hackney. I congratulate you all for outstanding effort. Apologies again - Ed

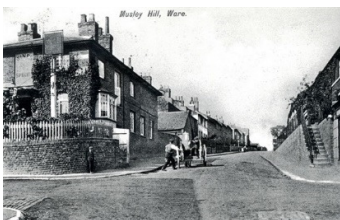
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A Pint at the Local – A Regular Pints of View Series

No.2. The Rifle Volunteer, Collett Road, Ware

The **Rifle Volunteer**, on the corner of Collett Road and Musley Hill, Ware, harks from 1841 when it was owned by Samuel Adams, a Ware maltster. It was built as the town residential areas spread north on the hillsides overlooking the town centre. By 1850 it had gained its original name - the Union Jack – and as well as its bars had a club room and a garden with arbours and summerhouses. The pub was one of a number of ‘locals’ including the **Crooked Billet**, **Rising Sun**, **Windsor Castle** and **Cannon Tavern**, which opened to serve this area of the town. It took its current name around 1870.

An early landlord was John Dye who presided over the pub between 1855 and 1870 and who must



have witnessed the setting up of the Ware Rifle Volunteers in late 1859. The Volunteer force was formed in line with many others, as communities in England showed their concern over French belligerence and militarisation – the nation’s army having seen a serious depletion of numbers in previous years. By 1860 the group had proudly becoming the 9th Corps of the 2nd Administrative Battalion of the Hertfordshire Rifle Volunteers. It is unknown whether the pub had any direct connection with the setting up of the Volunteers but it was not the only pub in the land to adopt the name. By the 1920’s it had locally gained the nickname the “bandsman house”, the pub a base for the local band led by a Volunteer, Jack Dye, immortalised in a 1920 poem written by John Rogers which lists the town’s pubs that existed at the time (there were 46) - “The ‘Volunteer’ in Jack Dye’s time, nicknamed the bandsman house”.

In 1850 Samuel Adams sold the pub to Thomas Cox, who had acquired the Cannon Brewery in Ware. The brewery was sold to McMullen’s in 1864 but it seems that the pub was acquired by William Baker and Sons, Hertford brewers who owned it until they themselves were bought by McMullen’s in 1920. The pub developed some rooms for accommodation. It remained in Mac’s hands for 70 years until 1990, when the “Vollie” was put up for



Burton on Trent and underwent a major refurbishment, opening the pub up inside - but just 2 years later it was sold yet again, to Greene King with whom the pub remains today. In its last 50 years, the pub has operated as a popular community pub, with a strong traditional pub games leaning, including 2 darts oches and a pool table. A petanque piste has been moved into the small car park. There are pub teams of crib, dominoes, pool and darts and TV Sport is also a favourite draw. The pub offers accommodation with six modernised and refurbished en-suite bedrooms available for hire. Current leaseholders, Hayley Summerson and Nigel Buckley decided that it would be sensible to recreate a smaller bar, to enable those wanting a quieter drink to move away from the lively main bar. Against all trends, a two-bar pub has been created, not the other way around! At the bar, Greene King IPA and Abbot are on handpump. With the addition of live bands often on Fridays and poker and bingo nights during the week, the pub is busy most evenings of the week. From April to October, in association with Greene King, the pub is this year hosting “The Voice of Ware”. Sixty local singers will be taking part to see who will be crowned with the title – and receive the



£1, 000 first prize. Nigel says “Quite simply, our pub is a lively and popular traditional community local – where our customers are to the fore and enjoy meeting here with friends and family”. The pub opens at 4pm, Monday to Friday and all day from noon at the weekends.

Les Middlewood

sale and it was purchased as a Free House by Ruby Dunn. In 1997 it was sold to Marston’s of



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The Kings' influence on pub signs

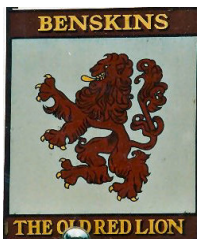
In 1393 Richard II was very concerned about the quality of the beer being served in his realm and in particular London (sometimes I think things have not changed much). He decreed that all premises selling ale should have a clear sign hung outside so that they could be easily identified by the Ale Tasters. In London the sign should be that of the King, which in Richards's case was the White Hart - his family emblem. Ale tasters were elected locally and paid an honorarium for undertaking the task of ensuring that all ale sold was drinkable and that short measure was not being administered. They could issue punitive fines and if necessary close premises for persistent offences. Will

Shakespeare's father held the post in Stratford and it would be good to see the job reintroduced. Of course pubs in Hertfordshire called the White Hart may not have held the name since the time of Richard II as the White Hart is prominent on the Hertfordshire Coat of Arms. A good example is the **White Hart** in Welwyn which used to house the Assizes and had the Hertfordshire Coat of Arms hanging outside. The name White Hart is the fifth most popular pub name in Britain.

Later in history Henry VIII changed more pub names than any other monarch when he closed the monasteries following the reformation. Because the church was a large landowner and the monks undertook most of the brewing they owned nearly all the pubs, which of course had religious names. The Cross Keys - the sign of St Peter - is a good example, which also indicated that it was also a resting place for pilgrims. When the pubs changed hands the old catholic religious symbols had to go and the new owners were very much in support of Henry. This caused many pubs to be renamed the King's Head, the King Harry or the King's Arms. Henry had recently added a Bull to his Coat of Arms, having defied the Pope's edict, which was known as a Bull because there was a Bull's Head on the Pope's seal. This explains why there are so many pubs named the Bull, Bull's Head or Black Bull as the Pope used black sealing wax.

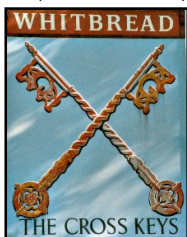
In 1603 James VI of Scotland became King James I of England. He was so pleased to have control of Scotland's old enemy England that he proclaimed that his flag should fly outside any important building. His flag was a Red Lion rampant on a yellow background. For those of you who are not

conversant with heraldry that means the Lion is standing on its hind legs. Again this changed a lot of pub names, as when asking for directions to the pub people would say next to or across the road from the Red Lion. There is an earlier reason for pubs being



named Red Lion, which is the influence of John O' Gaunt. He was in his time more powerful than the King and had great wealth and lands in France through marriage and conquest. His Coat of Arms was also the Red Lion but this time walking normally on all fours (like the Lion on an England football shirt) as it is depicted on many pub signs. John O' Gaunt was associated with Hertford and was hated and feared, being credited for causing the Peasants' Revolt. When those in the uprising broke into John O' Gaunt's London home, the Savoy Palace, they took his jewellery reputed to be worth a small fortune and melted it into a ball in a bonfire and then threw it into the Thames. Wat Tyler who led the revolt was opposed to looting, but some of the rebels had broken into the wine cellar and were drunk to the point of being comatose. Unfortunately for them Tyler ordered that the palace be bricked up not knowing that they were still inside. Although a lot of people think otherwise Red Lion is the second most popular pub name in the UK. Other Lions also have a connection to the King. The Black Lion was the sign of the heir to the throne (later to be called Prince of Wales) and of course pubs named the Prince Of Wales use the three feathers, his emblem, as a sign. The Golden Lion was also used by the second heir. The White Lion also appears on royal coats of arms.

So what is the most popular name? It surprised me as well, but it is the Crown. The Crown of course can be the Rose & Crown, the Crown & Anchor and there are the One, Two and Three Crowns. The last



line of Kings that changed pub names drastically were the Hanoverians, who had five monarchs between 1714 and 1837. There are of course pubs named after the Georges, including the pub in Queens Road Watford, named the Mad George after George III. Another Hanoverian to have pubs named after him is of course William IV, who introduced the guinea licence and caused an explosion of new pubs to be set up most of which took his name. If you had a William IV next door the next best thing was to name your pub the White Horse, which was the Hanoverian's family emblem. Queen Adelaide was William IV's wife and there was a pub named after her in Shenley which has now been converted to housing. Apparently she did visit the village. The Duke of York, Prince Fredrick Augustus was also a Hanoverian. White Horse is the eighth most popular pub name.

I will finish with a cautionary tale about pub signs. Around 1810 when Stephen Raggett was the Innkeeper of the Cock in Redbourn, he failed in his duty to provide refreshment for soldiers marching through the town and refused to billet them. The commanding officer called for a ladder and a saw and proceeded to cut down the pub sign. He pinned a notice on the wall saying "This license is terminated" and the Inn ceased to trade and never reopened.

Steve Bury

Pictures courtesy: Before They all Disappear, The Pubs & Pub Signs of St. Albans and its Parishes, by Rosemary Wenzel and Tony Stevens

Foster's Lager is Craft Beer

Fosters is owned by AB Inbev but is brewed and distributed by Heineken under licence in the UK. The uninspiring lager is produced at the Royal Brewery Manchester owned by Heineken. It is surprising therefore that a rebrand is highlighting the lager's Australian heritage. The new advertising claims (as Fosters have done for many years) that their lager is Craft Beer, a term that CAMRA amongst many others realise is worthless, as it has no definition and tells the customer nothing about how the beer is brewed its ingredients or provenance.

Fuller's go Cloudy

I have noted that a lot of brewers are now producing unfiltered cloudy beers, I made my comments on this in my article "Beer Cloudy or Clear" in POV 280 and genuinely cannot see what the attraction is in these murky offerings. I also find

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myself having to ask when confronted by a beer I do not recognise if it is bright or not, as often this is not obvious on the labelling at the point of dispense. Fuller's have now joined the trend and are producing a "cloudy" Keg, *London Pride*. Why they have not used a new name I do not know, and this may well cause confusion for customers. Are they in danger of damaging *London Pride's* reputation, and is there a market for this beer? Only time will tell.

Steve Bury

In pain? Try a couple of beers first

Dr Trevor Thompson of Greenwich University is an expert on pain and how to deal with it. He is the author of two books "Pain" and also edits the "Journal of Pain", so there is little doubt about the contents. For the journal 18 studies were undertaken on over 400 people which deduced that alcohol is a better pain killer than codeine and paracetamol. Having a drink acts on brain receptors to reduce pain levels and also lowers anxiety levels, so having a couple of real ales should ease your aches and pains. It is agreed that a beer a day can reduce heart attack chances by a third, and alcohol reduces arthritic pain as well.

1st Festival for Society for the Preservation of Beers from the Wood

The Society for the Preservation of Beers from the Wood (SPBW) was formed in 1963 to stimulate the brewing and encourage the drinking of traditional draught beer, drawn direct from the cask by gravity, or by a hand pump, or by other approved methods (e.g. bottled-conditioned beer). The SPBW was so named as wooden casks were still regarded as synonymous with traditional draught beer.

The SPBW's aims are similar to those of CAMRA, but the emphasis is on activity within its autonomous branches, which is mainly of a social nature.

The SPBW has been regarded as a somewhat low key group, until now. The past couple of years has seen a huge uptake in breweries using wood for conditioning and, more especially, for serving in licensed premises.

Now the Society has organised its first national Beers from the Wood festival and found it to be of

international appeal, with ticket sales from as far away as California and a bit closer in Norway. Present will be some noted people, like Roger Protz, for our beer judging. With SPBW products & tombola stall, a huge selection of beers including N. Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, all for £2:50 entry - what's not to like?

The Festival

will take place at the **Horse & Jockey** public House, Church Street, Castleford, West Yorks. from the 6th to 8th July. Information can be found at the Woodfest 2017 website - <http://woodfest2017.com> - and social media posts. If you would like to volunteer for the event then please do so at the Woodfest website, there are still some slots available.

Tickets can be purchased online at our SPBW shop - <https://www.spbwshop.co.uk>

For further information contact Festival Organiser Rob Shacklock, at: organiser@woodfest2017.com



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CAMRA East Anglia Pub of the Year Winners 2017

Listed below the best pubs for the CAMRA East Anglia Region, as voted for by each constituent branch

Bedfordshire

E. Bedfordshire - **New Inn Ale House & Kitchen**, Biggleswade

N. Bedfordshire - **Three Cups**, Bedford

S. Bedfordshire - **Black Lion**, Leighton Buzzard

Cambridgeshire

Cambridge & District - **Red Lion**, Histon

Ely & District - **Drayman's Son**, Ely

Huntingdonshire - **King of the Belgians**, Hartford

Peterborough - **Letter B**, Whittlesey

Essex

Chelmsford/Mid Essex - **The Hop Beer Shop**, Chelmsford

Colchester & N. E. Essex - **New Inn**, Colchester

Maldon and Dengie - **Compasses**, Great Totham

N. W. Essex - **Red Lion**, Belchamp Otten

S. E. Essex - **Mawsons**, Southend-on-Sea

Essex – contd.

S. W. Essex - **White Hart**, Grays

Tendring - **White Hart**, Weeley

Hertfordshire

Herts/Essex Borders - **Rising Sun**, High Wych

N. Hertfordshire - **Red Lion**, Preston

S. Hertfordshire - **Mermaid**, St Albans

Watford & District - **Land of Liberty Peace and**

Plenty, Heronsgate

Norfolk

Mid Anglia - **Old Kings Head**, Brockdish

Norwich & Norfolk - **Kings Head**, Norwich

West Norfolk - **Kings Arms**, Shouldham

Suffolk

Ipswich & East Suffolk - **White Horse**, Sweffling

North East Suffolk - **Stanford Arms**, Lowestoft

West Suffolk - **Dove**, Bury St Edmunds

It's Grim up North

The Prince of Wales pub stood at the corner of Church Street and Freeman Street, Grimsby, for many years until it was replaced by a modern building.

Dick Oakes ran what was considered to be one of the friendliest pubs in Grimsby in the thirties and in 1934, published a wonderful little booklet.

Dick's version of the Ten Commandments went thus:

1st When thirsty, thou shall come to my house and drink, but not to excess; that thou may live long in the land and enjoy thyself forever.

2nd Thou shall not take anything from me that is unjust, for I need all I have and more.

3rd Thou shall not expect too large glasses, nor filled too full, for we must pay our rent.

4th Thou shall not sing nor dance, only when thy spirit move thee to do thy best.

5th Thou shall honour me and mine, that thou mayest live long and see me again.

6th Thou shall not destroy or break anything on the premises, else thou shall pay for double the value; thou shalt not care to pay me in bad money, nor even say Chalk or Slate.

7th Thou shall call at my place daily. If unable to come, I shall feel it an insult unless thou send a substitute or an apology.

8th Thou shalt not abuse thy fellow bummers, nor cast base insinuations upon their character by hinting that they can't drink too much.

9th Neither shalt thou take the name of my goods in vain by calling my beer "hops" for I always keep Hewitt's Famous Ales and am always at home to my friends.

10th Thou shalt not so far forget thine honourable position and high standing in the community as to ask the Landlord to treat.

The booklet also had a message for drinkers. It read: "A man is engaged in the yard to do all the cursing, swearing and bad language that is required in The Prince of Wales Hotel.

A dog is kept to do all the barking.

Our potman (or chucker out) has won 99 prizes, and is an excellent shot with a revolver.

In conclusion Dick Oakes mine host writes an open letter :-

"Dear Sir or Madam,

For the following reasons I am unable to send my friends the donations for which they ask, as I have been held up, held down, sand-bagged, walked upon, sat upon, flattened out and squeezed by the

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Income tax, the super tax, the tobacco lax, the beer tax, the spirits tax, the motor tax, and by every society, organisations and club that the inventive mind of man can think of, to extract what I may or may not have in my possession – for the red cross, the black cross, and the double cross, end every hospital in the town and country.

"The Government has governed my business till I don't know who owns it. I am inspected, suspected, examined and re-examined, informed, required and commanded, so that I don't know who I am, where I am, or why I am here at all.

"All that I know is that I am supposed to be an inexhaustible supply of money for every need, desire, or hope of the human race, and because I will not go out and beg, borrow or steal money to give away, I am cursed, discussed, boycotted, talked to, talked about, lied to, lied about, held up, rung up, hung up, robbed and nearly ruined.

"The only reason I am clinging to life at all is to see what the hell is going to happen next."

Ed says: Things were pretty grim in the 1930s, but I am sure many publicans would agree wholeheartedly that the experiences of Mr Oakes in Grimsby do not differ much from their plight today.

Steve Bury – this article was originally published in the Grimsby Telegraph, 10 March 2017

Sad News from the Lytton Arms

We are saddened to report that James Price, landlord of the **Lytton Arms**, Old Knebworth, passed away suddenly late in the evening on the 8th May. James had suffered a heart attack just after the Easter weekend and was recuperating from that when a second major attack struck, and this proved fatal. Our thoughts are with his partner Tina, family and the Lytton Arms team.

British Pubs - things to avoid

- 1) Any bar serving sausage and mash for over £10, and where beer seems like a grudging sideline
- 2) All bars which describe their food as 'Traditional Fayre' or as 'World Famous'
- 3) Any trendy bar with its own merchandising (T-shirts, keyrings and other tat)
- 4) Any pub still clinging to the tails of the long-gone karaoke fad
- 5) Barn-like pubs acting as unofficial day-centres for the mentally ill
- 6) Bar-staff clearly chosen for their looks rather than an ability to serve drinks, speak English or count.
- 7) Any bar with a tips jar (attempting to usher in the US system where bar-staff are minor deities) or where staff pass your change on a dinky tray and expect you to leave some of it.
- 8) Bars with dayglow-coloured, star-shapes in the window advertising 'Half-Price Doubles' and 'Happy Hour'
- 9) Pubs with that carpet (the red one with the swirly pattern)
- 10) All Australian or South African themed bars
- 11) Any pub with more than two gaming machines (Don't you mean *any* gaming machines? **Ed**.)
- 12) Pubs with 'No Football Colours' or 'No Hard Hats' signs, which are generally rammy magnets (what are rammy magnets? **Ed**) *Sent anonymously*

Swearing banned in Samuel Smith's pubs

Enjoying your F....g pint with your F.....g mates? Well, don't start telling everyone at the bar in any of London's Samuel Smith's pubs any time soon. The Tadcaster brewer famed for affordable pints and Victorian décor is about to become famous for another reason, having introduced a zero tolerance swearing policy to its pubs in April.

Instructions issued by the brewery insist that landlords and landladies prevent the use of bad

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language on the premises which could lead to those using bad language being barred from the premises. Sam Smith's updated policy states that customers may be refused service if they're found to be using inappropriate language and swearing and is a country-wide ruling on all pubs they own. In London this includes the **Princess Louise** in Holborn, the **John Snow** in Soho, the **Cask & Sugar Loaf** and **Old Cheshire Cheese** in Fleet Street, and the **Champion** in Fitzrovia. We can't see it fitting in with certain foul mouthed London customers one bit. The subject of bad language has featured several times in this newsletter, and in the past two pubs in Hertfordshire have had swearing bans applied. One has now shut and the other has relaxed its policy.

Guinness goes Vegan

Guinness has announced that all their draught stout will be going vegan as they have stopped using finings which contain fish products. Before we get too excited, draught Guinness has been keg for a long time, served under a mixture of nitrogen and CO₂. The difference is that it will now be passed through a special filter to remove any particles of yeast and other brewing ingredients to give a perfectly bright beer.

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This year we are also offering a selection of food, including some long attending favourites and we will have a whole host of entertainment such as rock, pop and alternative bands which appear alongside auctions, traditional pub games and Saturday's Big Pub Quiz for you to enjoy.

If you are looking for some light entertainment, our tutored tastings will allow you to not only sample a selection of beers but also learn how to best taste and appreciate beer.

Enter today for your chance to go to this year's Great British Beer Festival
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We look forward to seeing you there!

Terms and conditions do apply please visit www.gbbf.org.uk/competitions for more information



This section contains information from a large number of sources and occasionally errors may occur. News items are supplied to meet newsletter deadlines, and which in some cases may unfortunately be out of date upon publication. Comments or additional information should be sent to our contact details on page 18.

Anstey: The **Blind Fiddler** (previously Chequers) has the Freehold for sale at £475K.

Barnet: Although not in Hertfordshire, the **White Lion** is in St Albans Road. An ACV lodged by Enfield & Barnet CAMRA on the pub was accepted in October 2015 by Barnet Council. The branch received an e-mail in November 2016 from the council saying Fuller's had lodged a late appeal, and the council had agreed to revoke the ACV. We were informed that the council have a discretion to allow late appeals (what a joke) and the branch was never given a chance to make representations against Fuller's appeal. The Lion had suffered a succession of temporary or uninterested managers, was closed then sold in March. There is a car wash next door which we also understand was sold as part of the same deal. We don't know for certain what is happening with the site but there seems little doubt it will go for housing. Hopefully the new planning regulations will stop this kind of thing happening again. See article on page 4.

Bishop's Stortford: Herts & Essex Borders branch last night voted on their Club of the year, and duly elected it to be the **Bishops Stortford Royal British Legion Club**, Bishop's Stortford. Congratulations to all concerned. See article Page 10.

Elstree: The **Waggon & Horses** in Medburn is looking most welcoming since its external redecoration. Improvements to the garden have been extensive and the building in the car park, which we were initially told would be a farm shop, is in fact to be a coffee shop. It is also intended to sell country fruit wines and some farm produce may be on offer when the project is finished, hopefully in the next two months.

Mill Green: The **Green Man** owned by the Gascoyne Estate has been closed for over seven years and is in a bad state of disrepair. As part of plans to build new houses it is intended to restore and re-open the pub, with plans showing the addition of a brewery on the site.

Harpenden: **Billy's Bar** has now been changed to **Harry's** after undergoing redecoration work. As was the case under its previous name, the bar does not sell real ale

Hertford: The **White Hart**, in Salisbury Square, has re-opened after a major refurbishment by McMullen's. Outside the dark green woodwork and distressed signage provides a brooding presence on

the town centre site. Inside the pub brims with quirky artefacts and images. Traditional beers are to the fore with a selection of Mac's ales including one from Rivertown. To the rear the large outside area remains a suntrap in the summer months. At the **Old Barge** a new extension has been added at the rear – providing additional seating and dining space. At the bar an always-interesting range of real ales includes beers from national and local brewers. The **Greyhound** at Bengoe, still closed after a major fire, is due to re-open during the summer. Congratulations to the **Black Horse** rugby team who, in their 40th celebration year, have won the Herts & Middx Merit Table 4 and promotion. The pub holds an all-day charity music festival, West Fest, on the 17th June, in aid of the Isabel Hospice, featuring pub games, stalls, barbeque and local musicians and bands.

Hitchin: The **Red Hart** (Grade II listed) has been sold by Greene King. It is rumoured that it has been bought by a food operator.

Kensworth: The **Packhorse** seems to still be closed.

Knebworth: The **Station Hotel** has closed – see article on page 11.

Newgate Street: The **Crown** (near Cuffley) has its Punch leasehold up for offer.

Puckeridge: The **Crown & Falcon** has its freehold for sale at £650K.

Redbourn: The **Chequers**, a listed building, is having work undertaken on the thatched roof which meant that for most of May it was covered in scaffolding. Due to unforeseen circumstances the pub was closed for one day on the 5th May but remained open during the duration of the work.

Shenley: A planning application by Greene King to extend at the rear of the **William IV** has been refused, and a revised application is in the pipeline.

South Oxhey: Three Rivers District Council have approved the plan to demolish the **Grapevine**.

St Albans: The **Brickyard** (previously the **Spotted Bull**) has been left in a most unsightly condition following its closure. The demise of the pub has been reported at length in this newsletter and has culminated with planning permission being given to convert to one five bedroom house. James Hanning the owner has no doubt recouped his original investment with interest. The **King Offa** closed by the council (who own the pub) in 2015 has been boarded up.

Stocking Pelham: The **Cock** - an empty shell of a building requiring a total refit (circa £200K) - has sought offers for the freehold or lease.

Ware: The **King's Mead**, a new pub located between Ware and Hertford, has been built and opened by McMullen's at the entrance to Chadwell Springs Golf Club. See our separate report on page 12.

Watford: Punch Taverns has submitted a planning application to extend and alter the interior of the **Estcourt Arms**.

Welwyn Garden City: The **Beehive**, closed for a number of months, re-opened in February as **Coopers Grill House at the Beehive** after undergoing a refurbishment. It is primarily a restaurant serving a carvery on Sundays, and has a small bar area, where Young's *London Gold* and *Special* are being served.

CAMRA BRANCH DIARY

ALL HERTS CAMRA BRANCHES

Thu 20 Jul: Herts Liaison Meeting - **Royal Oak**, Tabard St., London SE1 7pm

HERTS & ESSEX BORDERS CAMRA

Mon 12 Jun: Branch Meeting - **Chequers**, Wareside 8.30pm.

Sat 17 - Sun 18 Jun: **Gibberd Garden Beer Festival**, Old Harlow, CM17 0NG. **See back cover for more info.**

Sat 8 Jul: Branch Judging of East Anglian Pub of the Year. Mini-bus trip - seats must be pre-booked with Graham at secretary@heb-camra.org.uk

Thu 27 - Sat 29 Jul: **The Eighth Bishop's Stortford Beer Festival**, Royal British Legion Club, Bishop's Stortford. **See back cover for more info.**

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE CAMRA

Thu 8 - Sat 10 Jun: **Hitchin Beer Festival** - Hitchin Rugby Football Club, Old Hale Way, Hitchin. Opening times Thu 5-11pm, Fri & Sat noon-11pm.

Thu 15 June: Letchworth Social - **Garden City Brewery**, **Crafty's**, **Three Magnets**, **Arena Tavern**. Starts at 8pm.

Sat 24 Jun: Minibus trip - **Sword In Hand**, Westmill, **Fox**, Aspenden, **Brambles**, **Crown**, Buntingford, **Beehive**, Hare Street. £5 members, £8 non-members. Pickups from 6pm, Stevenage, Hitchin, Letchworth, Baldock & East Herts. Book via socialsecretary@camranorthherts.org.uk.

Wed 12 Jul: Royston Social - **Manor House**, **Green Man**, **Boars Head**, **Old Bull Inn**. Starts at 8pm.

Sat 22 Jul: Minibus Trip - **Rose & Crown**, **Bushel &**

Strike, **Three Tuns**, Ashwell, **Red Lion & Cricketers**, Weston. £5 members, £8 non-members. Pickups from 6pm, Stevenage, Hitchin, Letchworth, Baldock & East Herts. Book via:

socialsecretary@camranorthherts.org.uk.

SOUTH HERTFORDSHIRE CAMRA

Sat 17 Jun: Branch trip to Tring Brewery. Brewery at 2-4pm. With lunchtime in the **King's Head**, Tring. After the brewery, a pub tour in Berkhamsted. Price £15. Pick-ups at Ware College 10.30am; Hertford East Station 10.40am; Hatfield Station 11am; St Albans City Station 11.20am. Return 8pm.

Tue 20 Jun: Branch Meeting - **White Horse**, Hertford. Speaker: Dave Devine on The Butterflies and Moth Pub Names of Harlow. 8pm.

Sat 24 Jun: Branch Social - The Ware Saunter - 7 pubs in Ware - 1pm start at the **Maltings**, Watton Road. See page 14 for more details.

Tue 18 Jul: Branch Meeting - **Horse and Groom**, Hatfield. Speaker: Ellie Hudspith on The Liberals, pubs and beer in St Albans. 8pm

Fri 28 Jul: Branch Trip - Mini-bus to Ongar Beer Festival. Contact our Socials Contact for more details.

WATFORD & DISTRICT CAMRA

Sat 3 Jun: Buzzrail Ale Trail, Leighton Buzzard Railway, Page's Park Station, Billington Road Leighton Buzzard, LU7 4TG, 12pm. Catch 11.11am train from Watford Junction and 11.45am D1 bus from Leighton Buzzard station. See <http://www.buzzrail.co.uk/> for prices and other details

Tue 20 Jun: Watford Social - **Mangans**, 28 Market Street, WD18 0PY, 8.30pm; **Molloys**, 66 - 68 The Parade, WD17 1AH, 9.15pm; **Moon Under Water**, 44 High Street, WD17 2BS, 10pm

Fri 23 Jun: Branch Pub of the Year Presentation, **Land of Liberty**, **Peace & Plenty**, Long Lane Heronsgate, WD3 5BS, 8.30pm

Mon 26 Jun: Branch Meeting. **West Herts Sports Club**, Park Avenue, Watford, WD18 7HP, 8pm.

Tue 11 Jul: Sarratt Stumble - **Cricketers**, The Green, Sarratt, WD3 6AS, 1pm; **Boot**, The Green, Sarratt, WD3 6BL, 2pm; **Plough**, Dunny Lane, Belsize, WD3 4NP, 3pm

Thu 20 Jul: Bushey Social - **Red Lion**, 50 High Street, WD23 3HN, 8.30pm; **Swan**, 25 Park Road, WD23 3EE, 9.15pm; **King Stag**, 15 Bournehall Road, WD23 3EH, 10pm

Mon 31 Jul: Branch Meeting. **Southern Cross**, 41 - 43 Langley Road, Watford, WD17 4PP, 8pm

Wed 9 Aug: Great British Beer Festival Social.

Olympia, Hammersmith Road, Kensington, London, W14 8UX, 6pm. Meet hourly at membership stand.

CAMRA BRANCH CONTACTS

Herts & Essex Borders CAMRA

Chairman – Brendan Sothcott, Tel: 01279 507493

Minibus Bookings – Call Graham on: 07753266983, Email: mini-bus@heb-camra.org.uk

Pubs Officer – Vacant, any urgent enquiries to

Chairman Brendan Sothcott.

Socials Contact Email: social@heb-camra.org.uk

Email: Secretary@heb-camra.org.uk

Internet: www.heb-camra.org.uk

North Hertfordshire CAMRA

Chairman – Gill Richardson

Email: chairman@camranorthherts.org.uk

Socials Secretary – Jeremy Kitson

Email: socialsecretary@camranorthherts.org.uk,

Internet: www.camranorthherts.org.uk

South Hertfordshire CAMRA

Branch Contact: John Bishop, Tel: 01582 768478,

Email: realales@yahoo.com

Socials Secretary: Ian Boyd, Tel: 07402 323525

Email: ian.boyd@me.com

Internet: www.hertsale.org.uk

Watford & District CAMRA

Branch Contact: Andrew Vaughan.

Email: branch@watford.camra.org.uk

Phone: 01923 230104. **Mobile:** 07854 988152.

Internet: www.watford.camra.org.uk

Want to advertise in Pints of View? See page 4

Your Beer Festival Planner

Beer Festivals advertised in this newsletter

Dates – Venue – Location – Page mentioned

17 – 18 Jun: **Gibberd Garden**, Old Harlow – p32

23 – 25 Jun: **Strathmore Arns**, St Paul's Walden (near Hitchin) – p3

6 – 8 Jul: **Horse & Jockey**, Castleford, West Yorkshire – p24

6 – 9 Jul: **Hertford Club**, Hertford – p7

7 – 9 Jul: **Great Northern**, St Albans – p4

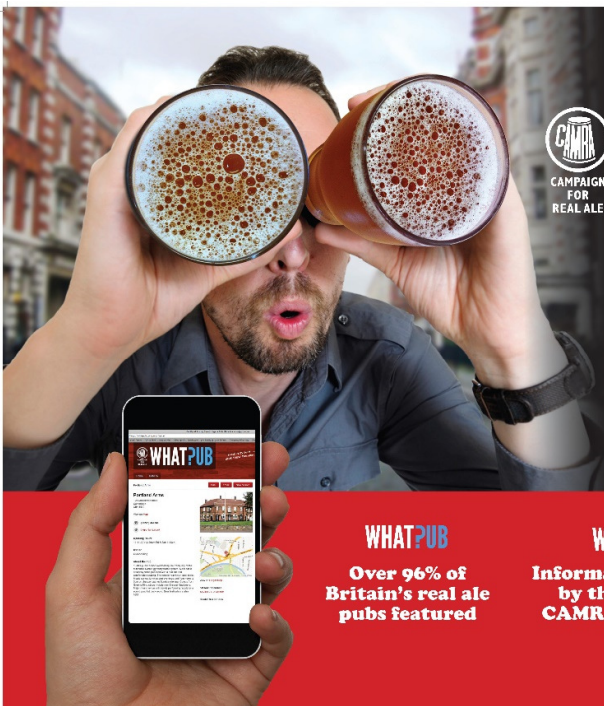
7 – 9 Jul: **Fox**, Willian – p9

15 Jul: **Pakex Stadium Parkfield**, Potters Bar – p11

27 – 29 Jul: **Royal British Legion Club**, Bishop's Stortford – p32

8 – 12 Aug: **Olympia**, London – p27

27 – 30 Sept: **Alban Arena**, St Albans – p5



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*Price for paying by Direct Debit and correct at April 2017. Concessionary rates available. Please visit camra.org.uk/membership-rates



**CAMPAIGN
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REAL ALE**



THE GIBBERD GARDEN

Saturday 17th &
Sunday 18th June 2017
Garden and Tea Room
open 12noon – 8pm

Beer Festival by CAMRA
A wide variety of beers and
ciders on sale from
local brewers.

BBQ until 5pm each day
Please note: no picnics

Entertainment for children
on Fathers Day Sunday 18th.

CAMRA BEER FESTIVAL

Herts & Essex Borders Branch CAMRA

www.heb-camra.org.uk/gg

www.thegibberdgarden.co.uk



The Eighth Bishops Stortford Beer Festival

Open Thursday 27th of July 17:00 to 23:00

Open Fri 28th and Sat 29th July 12:00 to 23:00

Featuring a large selection of unusual and interesting
Beers, Ciders and Perry's from breweries near and far.

The Legion Club will be putting on a BBQ in the evenings,
Rolls and sandwiches.

Admission to the Festival:

Adults £2 / Concs, RBL & CAMRA Members £ Free /
U16 Free. Refundable Glass Deposit £2

**The RBL club is located just at the top of Windhill, very
close to the town centre of Bishops Stortford, with a 20
minute walk from the train station.**

The Royal British Legion Club, 28 Windhill,
Bishops Stortford, CM23 2NG

More Details - <http://www.heb-camra.org.uk/bsbf>



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