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What's In Your Tankard ?

History of The Pewter Tankard

Pub Sign Art : Alive & Well

The Personal Identity Of A Pub

Prague Revisited

The Bars & Micro Breweries

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Hi,

Welcome to the start of the fourth year of '*Ale Sabrina*'

After many years of having been a visitor to Bridgnorth, The Severn Valley Railway and Beer Festivals, Janet and I purchased a house here in 2005. At the time I was still working at the Building Research Establishment in Garston Herts, so I could not get involved with the local sub-branch of CAMRA as I was living down south during the week and was only here at week-ends.

While I was in Hertfordshire, I was able to visit the St Albans Beer Festival every September and catch up with my old friend Steve Bury editor of South Herts Magazine '*Pints of View*'. On many occasions, I said that as the largest land locked county, it was a shame that there was not a CAMRA magazine in the whole of Shropshire!

In September 2010 on my visit to the Beer Festival, I told Steve that I was retiring in November. Steve, being passionate about all things real ale and CAMRA said, "now is your chance to get the local sub-branch to produce a magazine! If you need any help I am always here".

So, at sub-branch meetings, we asked if a magazine could be produced. Unfortunately, we were told it would be too expensive, nobody would contribute, pubs and breweries would not support it etc. etc. So towards the end of 2013 with Steve's words "if you cannot get support get some like-minded people together and do it" etched in my memory, we decided to give it a go.

Come New Year's Eve, the concept of a non-profit making magazine, but still supporting CAMRA, local pubs and breweries was discussed! With no backing from our local sub-branch '*Ale Sabrina*' was born. It's funny how the cost problems are clouded by alcohol!

Thanks to Major (who could sell snow to Eskimos!) Bob and Paul who knew the publishing world and Janet for her support we published our 1st issue on the 1st April 2014. This had taken a lot of touring around Shropshire to get pubs and breweries to advertise with us and many sleepless nights on my part not knowing if we could pay for it!

I'm glad to say thanks to our local publicans, brewers and contributors the 1st issue of 2000 copies and 40 pages went very well and we decided to go for 4000 copies and 52 pages for the 2nd issue- more sleepless nights!

So thanks to all our supporters and we hope you continue to enjoy '*Ale Sabrina*'.

Cheers

Bill Stuart

JIM JONES

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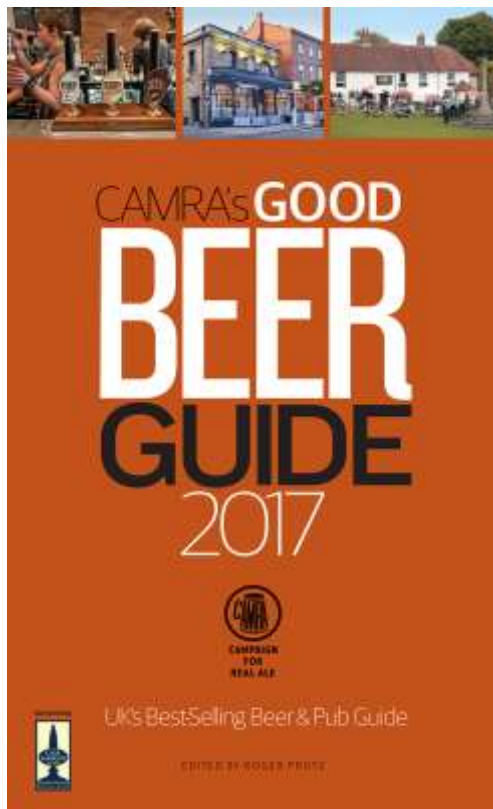
A Few Words From The Chairman

Having selected our pubs for the next edition of the Good Beer Guide, due to be published in September, we now have the surveying of those pubs and the submitting of the information to the Editor of the guide to do. But that does not mean members should stop submitting beer scores as they count all year round. To this end we are considering having quarterly prize draws for those branch members who have submitted scores during that quarter. Scores can be submitted either via What Pub or using score slips you find printed in copies of this publication.

The branch and sub-branches have chosen various establishments for the wide variety of awards we present each year. Please check the relevant branch diaries both at the back of this issue and on the web sites and What Brewing for dates of presentations. Cheers and enjoyable drinking

Adrian Zawierka

Chairman
Campaign for Real Ale
Telford and East Shropshire Branch



The Good Beer Guide 2017

The Good Beer Guide 2017 is available to buy at <http://www.camra.org.uk/gbg>

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The Blackie Boy

By Clive Gwilt

The Blackie Boy is situated at 58 Cartway although it was first established at number 67, early in the 18th century. In 1831 it is said to have moved to number 17, however, in 1889 it is listed as number 58 Cartway. The signboard may have began as a traders sign probably a sign of a tobacconist, as a painted picture or figure. It belongs to the black slave labour of the American Tobacco and Sugar plantations. It may also have been a personal sign meaning the landlord was a chimney sweep who employed youngsters to climb inside the chimneys to sweep them. Lord Shaftesbury brought in the "Act for the regulation of Chimney Sweepers" which established a penalty of £10 for offenders. It appears to have been first licensed in 1790. In about 1824 William MacMichael had a carpet factory opposite this public house. It was later used as a hand loom factory by James Tyler and more recently a soda water factory. An old landlord Mr E. Walford caught a pike in the Severn. It weighed 14 lbs. In April 1854 William Copark Preece was the landlord he was also a barge owner. In 1861 it was being kept by his widow and her son. Mr. Preece's stepson a waterman was also living here. Mary Phillips was landlady in 1877. In February 1903 the license was transferred from William Hipkiss to Ernest Overall. William Preece was licensee in 1879, between 1885 and 1888 Edward Gittoes was licensee. In 1891 Edwin Walford was landlord. On February 5th, 1966 Cartway became a one-way system, which relieved a lot of the conjection outside this public house. It was owned by Greenhall Whitley. In the 1990's it was renamed 'The Prince Charles' as a whim of one of the landlords but lately reverted back to its old name. The

bars in front of the ground floor windows supposedly protected them from the sideways lurches of the donkeys taking coal in panniers from the riverside to High Town. It is haunted by a ghost lady in black. She is dressed in a long cape and usually seen at night. She appears to be a real person until she disappears in front of startled witnesses. A lady in blue has also been seen in various parts of the pub. Recent Landlords include Ted Sutton followed by his wife Margaret followed by his son Mick. It has recently been totally refurbished and has an extensive range of real ale pulls.



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What's In Your Tankard

By Day Tripper

Most of you who are reading this are looking at a foaming glass of ale. In earlier times men in taverns and beer-houses were served their beer in pewter tankards as these were more robust. Many tankards in later days had glass bottoms. One popular reason for this is now the stuff of legends, but the tale is so widespread that there must be some truth in it.

From the Elizabethan era to Napoleonic times men were recruited into the Army or Navy by the Press Gang, who were not soldiers or sailors themselves but a group of hard men. These men would go out into the towns and countryside to 'impress' fit young men using a form of contract called 'accepting the King's Shilling'. The Army was not seen as an attractive career because of the low pay and, once the King's Shilling had been accepted, it was almost impossible to desert.

The whole process had scope for corruption – the more men conscripted meant more money for the 'gangers'. Recruiting men while they were off guard and enjoying a pint in the local tavern was commonplace. A shilling was slipped into their pocket or into their drink and by this way they were deemed to have accepted it. The phrase 'taken for a mug' was said to have been derived from this practice. So, you can imagine that ways and means were thought up to stop the drainage of young men from the countryside, who were needed at home to farm the land. Tankards were made with glass bottoms so the drinker could not be tricked. The phrase 'bottoms up', which was originally an encouragement to drain the tankard, took on a new meaning once patrons learned that that they could raise the mug high and spot the shilling by looking through the glass bottom. Similarly, secret chambers in alehouses were built by





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What's In Your Tankard Continued

By Day Tripper

landlords to hide young men, when the Press Gang was rumoured to be in town.

In 1795 Prime Minister William Pitt passed two Quota Acts in Parliament. This was designed so that each county had to provide a conscription quota according to the general population. Men were given eight days to appeal and those with a wife and children were exempt. So, by 1800 conditions had improved, but the Press gang continued to operate and their stratagems were often ingenious. With cockades in their hats, drums rolling and fifes shrilling (and of course with their arms concealed) the gangs' men were able to march through the streets of a country town and draw huge crowds. After throwing off their disguise they went about pressing men.

A lesser known cause for the origin of the glass bottom tankard was simply to allow the patron to see the clarity of the ale being offered. The purer and more expensive beverages were clear and had a more acceptable taste. The glass bottom tankard became the vessel of choice to ensure receiving the best quality ales and to help avoid getting a mouthful of unwelcome surprises from the bottom of the mug.

In the 1920's the first mass-produced British beer glass was manufactured and innovations ever since have been propelled by the brewing industry. Whatever your preference the most important factor is the contents – a subtle balance of the main ingredients of hops, malt and yeast ready to be enjoyed!



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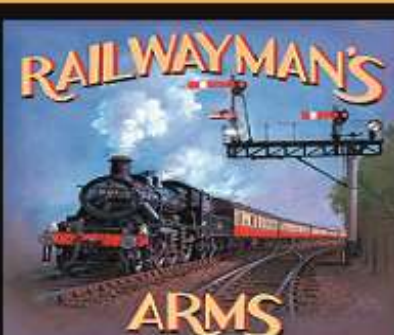
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In this age of modern graphics and vinyl, you would be forgiven for thinking that the days of traditional pub sign art are over, but for pub sign artists business is far from being on the wane.

Of course, there are far fewer pubs around now than there were only 20 years ago, and before the days of modern supposed all-weather materials, and the corporate Pub-Co bland pub sign, all pub signs were painted by hand.

The pub sign was, as it should be today, seen as an important statement – and the personal identity – of any inn or tavern. Indeed, no two pub signs were ever the same – even those with the same name would have their signs ‘open to interpretation’. In fact, the pub sign should not be underestimated. In a recent vote on English icons, organised by the Campaign to Protect Rural England, 15 per cent put the pub sign at the top of their list.

With an estimated 1,300 pubs closing each year, and the decline in demand for hand-painted pub signs over the last couple of decades, the number of specialist artists has also fallen off, but this in turn has meant that business is booming for those who still practice the art.

Indeed, there seems to have been something of an upturn in demand for traditional pub signs from more discerning pub owners who realise that what you hang on the outside of the pub is just as important as the quality of the hand pulled pints and locally produced pork pies sold over the counter.

A Royal Act was passed in 1393 making it compulsory for all pubs and inns to have a sign hanging outside, which helped a largely illiterate population to identify them. Just like the barbers pole or the pawn-brokers balls, the tradition has lasted into the 21st century.

St. Austell Brewery maintains its proud tradition of having its own signwriter. As well as upholding a fine tradition, it also helps to give the brewery’s pubs a consistent style across its estate. Andrew Grundon, 51, was a professional painter for 15 years before he started painting pub signs. He has since set up his own business, Signature Signs, and as well as providing his services to St. Austell, has cast his net wider to the licensed trade and says “Business is booming!” Andrew turns out pub signs at the rate of around one every week to a week and a half (both sides) and has a long waiting list of customers.

The best pub signs are those that use traditional material: durable signwriters’ enamels on exterior plywood, and sometimes on steel or copper, which can be stripped back and used time and again. Traditionalists look down on those who buy bespoke sign-making software, that churn out shiny vinyls that blister and fade in a short space of time.


Other exponents of the traditional art include Rob Rowland and David Young, while here in Bridgnorth we have our very own John Austin. Rob is a freelancer based in Gloucester, while David is based in Devizes and has painted well over 250 signs for local brewery, Wadworth.



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By Paul Appleton

John is actually based in Devon, and is a railway artist first and foremost, but it is his handiwork that hangs outside the Railwayman's Arms on Bridgnorth station platform! The sign has a different picture on each side, and enterprising fund-raisers have used the same images on tee-shirts and polo shirts to promote the pub and raise funds towards the development of Bridgnorth station and bar.

Andrew Grundon once told *The Telegraph* in an interview "I have seen pubs that have had the spirit sucked out of them with plastic or vinyl signs. At heart I am a traditionalist; I like to be sharpening pencils and using gold leaf. It is important to keep these skills alive because once they are lost you are one generation away from losing that skill."

Pub signs have a tradition of being named after local historic landmarks, characters or are of a heraldic nature. However, today there seems to be no getting away from the anodyne corporate branding of some of our pub owning chains. Pub names that once reflected an area's history or folklore have been replaced with those of jokey meaningless – The Newt and Cucumber, The Slug and Lettuce, and other 'empty' names.

As Andrew remarked in the same article; "I once did a sign for a pub called the Bucket of Blood. Apparently, it used to be a smugglers' meeting place and one day when they drew water from the well it was full of blood – there was a dead revenue man down there!" Try that with the Newt and Cucumber.

So, it is good to know that this art form - which dates back to medieval times - is alive

and well in many parts of the country. Next time you see a hand-painted pub sign, doff your cap, because it is preserving an ancient craft, and the small band of unseen heroes who keep the art alive never get the recognition of a gallery audience, even though their work is seen by thousands of people every day.

Andrew Grundon can be contacted at Signature Signs

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Includes some material sourced from Mail Online and The Telegraph



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A to Z Of Bridgnorth Inns and Alehouses

By Clive Gwilt

The Boars Head

The Boars Head was located at Tasley and may have been another name for the Blue Boar. The signboard was in the Heraldic group and once existed on the Wenlock Road. It may have derived from the old English custom of serving a boar's head with an apple or lemon in its mouth as a centrepiece at various festivities, including Christmastime. The landlady, Mrs. Florence May James, aged 28 was burnt to death on 27th March 1900. Her husband, Francis Thomas James (27) was later charged with her murder but there was not enough evidence. Between 1859 and 1868 Henry B. Yapp was the landlord. In July 1914 a Mr Jennings was landlord.

Isaac Bailey was landlord of the hand and bottle In 1828 Thomas Brown was the landlord.



The Bottle In Hand

The Bottle in Hand or the Hand and Bottle was the name given to the Bandon Arms at one time, but later moved to Cartway. Its signboard was similar in style to the Bird in Hand and always leads to confusion with the Bandon and Hand and Bottle. The signboard is probably personal hoping to recall memories of holding a bottle of beer and thus attract custom.

On 22nd August 1801 a main of cocks was fought for a prize of 5 guineas a battle. On Saturday 17th October 1818 an auction was held here to sell land at Astley Abbots and Madeley. The establishment later moved to 8 West Castle Street and appears to have changed its name to 'Bird in Hand'. In 1829 it is listed that a John Winnall from the Hand and Bottle was declared bankrupt. In 1790





A Ride With the Ladies To Harrogate

By John Cliff

When you read this edition of *Ale Sabrina* your thoughts will be far away from last December, but close to Christmas I joined a coach load of ladies from the Embroiderers Guild on a trip to Harrogate. The driver and myself were the only blokes aboard. I must straightaway say that I am not an embroiderer myself and I had no inclination to visit the Knitting and Stitching Fair they were destined for. I had taken advantage of a spare seat. Notwithstanding the fact these ladies were extremely pleasant and, I must add, well behaved, my focus was on a more interesting aspect – a visit to Wetherspoons; not any old Spoons, but The Winter Gardens establishment, allegedly their poshest.



After the coach disgorged its load onto a cold, bright sunny Harrogate, I made my way up the street and soon found the grand entrance to the very busy Winter Gardens. I was lucky to find a small table embossed with an equally lucky number 33 at the foot of a spacious stairway. Next to me was a large potted palm doing its best to conceal an intrusive gaming machine winking at me through the leaves.

Their menu provided an introduction to

Harrogate's former Royal Baths which included the Winter Gardens – *built so that visitors could relax and stroll in any weather. During the 1920's people could relax here, amid potted palms, listening to music from grand piano. In the 1930's the Municipal Orchestra played every morning throughout the year, with free admission for the patients of the baths.*



So over to the bar to see what was on offer. Wadworth Epic Brew, Black Sheep Pathmaker, Sharps Doom Bar and Liberation Pilsner Cask Lager (a Channel Islands creation) passed my eyes but not my lips.

I went for a pint of Nightjar from Daleside while waiting for my steak and chips which arrived much sooner than expected. Full marks for service. Another drink was inevitable and I chose a seasonal offering of cherry chocolate stout, 6% abv offering from Bridge House and why not a Blitzen Black Sheep Ruby Christmas Ale to round off. Ho, ho! Thank goodness for that Wetherspoons rarity, a ground floor toilet.

While I supped my last drink, I chatted with a gentleman who revealed he had visited

every Wetherspoons in Britain and Ireland, except for one recently opened in Wellington, Somerset. It's taken him several years mostly accompanied by his wife whom I considered extraordinarily dedicated to her enterprising husband. She later appeared by



his side and knew exactly what we were talking about.

Is this the poshest Wetherspoons? The gentleman I spoke to was unconvinced. It's certainly an impressive building, authentic to its era, but I can think of one or two having an aura of more splendour. It depends on ones criteria for poshness. Anyway, the beer was good.

I had arranged to meet Anna, my partner and three other ladies for afternoon tea at Bettys famous tearooms in Harrogate. Oh what a genteel way to finish the day: petite sandwiches, gorgeous cakes and rose petal china tea. A man knows how to live.





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Pub _____

Location _____

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Beer _____ (Optional)

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Surveyor _____

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Pub _____

Location _____

GBG County Area _____ Score 0 - 5 _____

Beer _____ (Optional)

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Surveyor _____

Mem. No. _____ Date of Survey ____ / ____ / ____

Pub _____

Location _____

GBG County Area _____ Score 0 - 5 _____

Beer _____ (Optional)

Scores

0 = Undrinkable
(or no real ale)

1 = Poor

2 = Average

3 = Good

4 = Very Good

5 = Perfect

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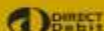
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Old Gate Inn, Heathton

It was with great pleasure that Bridgnorth Sub-Branch Chairman, Eleanor Haddon presented Kevin Wall, the landlord of the Old Gate with the award of Pub of the Season for Spring 2017. A one-time regular in the national Good Beer Guide, the pub continues to serve a good selection of beers from both local and other breweries. House beers are brewed on contract by other breweries although Kevin has plans for setting up his own plant on site.

Approached down narrow country lanes, the pub is actually only a mile from Wolverhampton Airport at Halfpenny Green. Popular in summer, the pub has an extensive and attractive beer garden while the open

log fires and cosy rooms with exposed beams make this truly a pub for all seasons. Home cooked meals are served in the restaurant and bars (except Sunday nights), and a selection of real Somerset cider is also available.

The Old Gate has its origins in the 17th Century, but is still thriving in the 21st. Do go and find it for yourselves, you will not be disappointed!



TELFORD BRANCH—Pub Of the Season Spring

The Platform Alehouse, Albrighton.

By Alison Taylor

Our micropub is nestled in the very east of the CAMRA branch map on Platform 1 of Albrighton railway station, on the popular Wolverhampton to Shrewsbury railway line. We open on Thursday and Friday evenings until 10.30pm, Saturday, noon to 10.30pm and Sunday from noon till 6pm.

A little about the history of the pub.....The 1848 building had lain in disrepair for almost 10 years after two failed restaurant ventures. With lots of eateries in the village, it seemed that the building's destiny lay in finding another use.

An unsuccessful bid for heritage funding by the Albrighton Civic Society saw it become more dilapidated as time wore on and a crying shame for commuters and the building owner alike.

It caught our eye after driving past down Station Road and the partnership of a husband keen on real ale, a year's career break for me, and teenage children looking for part time work, the micropub venture was born and opened in July 2016.

Several months down the line, we are holding our own, developing a lovely clientele of locals and visitors alike - word is spreading now of our existence. Support by CAMRA members is vital for us as the ethos of the pub is very much to provide good quality real ale, refreshments (yes including wine and limited spirits to keep everyone happy!) in a friendly traditional pub atmosphere. We endeavour to source our ales from good quality local microbreweries which are plentiful and as we have total independence, every week brings something



different. We have had over 50 different ales through our six hand pumps since July and look forward to maintaining the levels of interest in identifying and making available the best the region has to offer. Live music is also an interest and at least once a month we provide open mic or evening session opportunities for local talent.

The winter brought its challenges with a leaky roof and further investment needed in an 8kw multi fuel burner to warm the place, as well as providing a lovely ambience.

We actively encourage dogs to bring their well-behaved owners! Our long term aim is to renovate the building alongside back to its former glory as one of several key historical sites in the village deserving of this attention. Being a Stationmaster's building, the layout has been opened out from the small functional waiting rooms and along the railway line, another example of the similar building is in place at Codsall. We are in early stages of coordinating an Ale trail with like-minded establishments along the route so keep your eyes and ears open regarding this project in the coming months.

The Taylor Family and Ryan our Bar Manager, are delighted to receive the Telford and East Shropshire CAMRA pub of the season Spring award and look forward to welcoming many more CAMRA members to enjoy our ale (and discount!).

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BEER FACTS

Did You Know?

The builders of the Great Pyramid of
Giza were paid with a daily ration of
beer.

Sales Of Free-From Food Products Forecast To Surpass Half A Billion In The UK In 2016

It seems that the free-from phenomenon has well and truly taken hold in the UK, as new research from **Mintel** reveals that sales of free-from foods are forecast to grow by 13% to reach £531 million in 2016, up from an estimated £470 million in 2015.

The market growth comes as a result of free-from users widening their repertoires, with almost half (48%) of those who eat or buy free-from saying they are likely to eat more free-from food in the next year. What's more, Mintel forecast the market to grow further, to reach £673 million by 2020.

So what does all this have to do with beer you might ask!

The answer is this, as well as food, millions are now seeking a great gluten-free pint and the good news is that some breweries are now starting to realise that by adding some gluten-free beers to their range, they are reaching a whole new market that they have overlooked for years, but unfortunately, it is still only a few.

Most restaurants and food outlets are now catering for the demand, so why are the breweries and pubs not getting in on the act as well? If they did, they would reach a whole new market, which in turn might help save some of the many struggling pubs from closing.

As most of you will probably know by now, I suffer from coeliac disease, so gluten is poisonous to me, so I have no choice, I have to avoid gluten. What the pub trade need to realise is that I'm not the only one, there are millions of others who either have coeliac

disease, have a gluten intolerance, or choose a gluten-free lifestyle and if we don't go in a pub because there is nothing for us to drink, the people we are with are also taking their trade elsewhere, therefore, that pub loses out on a group of people spending money on drinks, and possibly food as well. My wife Helen and myself enjoy going out for a meal and there are plenty of great places to eat in our home town of Bridgnorth, but we don't do it as often as we would like, mainly because I won't be able to have a drink with my meal and what I do find strange is the fact that some pubs now happily boast about having a gluten-free menu, but they don't have any gluten-free ales to go with the meal, surely the two go together, don't they? They are missing an important ingredient.

It's been around four months since I started my **Campaign for Gluten Free Real Ale** and it is gathering momentum. It seems to be reaching quite a few people who are also in search of a decent gluten-free pint.

I first joined CAMRA in the seventies, so I think it's a shame that CAMRA has so far failed to recognise this whole new market, and after many conversations with CAMRA HQ, I soon realised that they are not interested and that I'm on my own, so Helen and myself decided to terminate our membership last September when it was due for renewal.

I will continue to campaign until at least one gluten-free real ale is the norm in pubs, which it will be one day, without doubt! It's just a pity I have to do all this without any support from CAMRA.

CAMRA started with just a few people discussing the need for real ale back in the early seventies, and they've achieved what they set out to do. Virtually every pub in the country now has at least one real ale on offer, so if you want to join me, or have any advice on how to make my campaign better, you can contact me through my campaign's Facebook page.

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campaignforglutenfreerealale](http://www.facebook.com/campaignforglutenfreerealale)



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Enville Ales Introduce Stourton Brewing Co.

To distinguish between its traditional range of speciality cask and bottled beers infused with honey, ginger and a host of other fine ingredients Enville Ales have launched Stourton Brewing Co. to introduce a different style of ales to address the rapidly increasing demand for 'craft style' beers incorporating 'New World' ingredients and using new brewing and conditioning techniques.

Stourton Brewing Co's first new beer, American Pale Ale, is an authentic American style beer, creamy, smooth and bursting with citrusy aroma and flavour and features a trio of America's finest hops, Magnum, Cascade, and Chinook.

Brewery director Jerry hedges commented "The rapid growth of 'craft brewing' is something Enville Ales have wanted to embrace for the past couple of years but the continuing success of our existing brands has allowed little time for experimentation. After several trials and tasting sessions our brewers came up with a really exciting new beer that we believe is worthy of Enville Ales whilst at the same time different enough to warrant separate branding to avoid taste and style confusion. For many people Enville's 'honey bee' logo subconsciously creates a slightly sweet taste expectation and previous attempts to launch a more citrusy hoppy style of beer have been greeted with a degree of 'surprise' which is why we have decided to create the new brand Stourton Brewing Co".

Stourton Brewing Co's American Pale Ale

goes on sale Friday 10th March and is already in the cellar at: The Cat Inn, Enville, The Waggon & Horses, Stourbridge, The Shovel Inn, Lye, Kinver Constitutional Club, Kinver, The Navigation, Greensforge, The Robin Hood, Amblecote, The Park Tavern, Kingswinford and other outlets around the region.



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Praque—Revisited

By Steve James

We have been to Prague on several occasions, visiting most of the classic city centre bars and micro-breweries, but this time, we thought we would try some other bars and micro-breweries more off the beaten track and in the suburbs. With increasing tourism, some of the city centre bars and beerhalls are becoming (relatively) pricey and so our trips into the suburbs once again found beer at around £1 for 500ml.

Our trip actually started in Berlin, last August, where we sampled many beers at the Berlin Beer Festival and met Tony & Bridget Scirving and their friends from Stourbridge & Halesowen CAMRA. We then travelled by train to Prague to sample some new and not so new bars and micro-breweries.

We stayed at the Old Town Clarion Hotel, which was within spitting distance of many of our old favourite bars. First we visited the **Beer Museum**, a specialist beer bar in Dlouhá in the Old Town with an extensive range of beers, many from local breweries. We had two 'flights' (trays) of five sample beers in 20cl glasses at varying prices and strengths, which wet our taste buds for the beers to come later. We particularly remember the Cornet 12 Red and the India Pale Ale. One of our favourite city centre bars is the **U Dvou Koček** (Two Cats), in Uhelný trh in the Old Coal Market District. This microbrewery opened in 2010 and offers two natural Kocka beers in the typical Czech style (dark and light). When busy, non-diners are discouraged from sitting at the tables, but this is OK when the restaurant is less crowded.



Another microbrewery in the Old Town we visited was the **U Medvidku**, in Na Perstýne, about 10 minutes' walk from Charles Bridge. This bar and restaurant is set in a former medieval brewery dating from the 15th century. The original bar is now the hotel reception and you can now drink your beers while sitting in something very much akin to a copper brewery kettle. The bar serves typical Czech-style unpasteurised beers, with lagers and dark beers, including 'X' Beer 33, 1466 and Oldgott Barique (half dark lager). All very tasty.

Our first trip out to the suburbs was to the **Jihoměstský Pivovar**, in Podjavorinske, in a new residential area, a 15-minute walk (half mile) from the end of Metro line C (Haje). The building was originally a boiler house which has been transformed into a

restaurant with an on-site microbrewery and beer garden. It offers a choice of unfiltered beers, including lager, pils, blonde, dunkel and dark, at 11, 12 & 16 strengths. Good food is available, including home-cooked chips (crisps), but not fancy dining.

Another suburban brewpub we visited was the **Pivovar Hostivar**, in Lochotinska, reached via No 125 bus and Tram 26. This is a modern brewpub, opened in 2013, with good food and a wide variety of well-served beers, including seasonal specials and Hostivar 11, 13 & 15 and Polotmava 12.

Sometimes the names chosen for these small bars is interesting. **Zlý Časý** means 'Bad Times', but this is a complete reversal of the experience here. Located in the suburbs, in Cestmírova and reached via Tram 11/18 or





7/24, this is an old building tucked in a side street. It stretches across three floors, with a cosy bar on each floor, all serving nearly 50 beers mainly from small craft breweries in Bohemia and Moravia, including pils, lagers, dunkels, IPAs and stouts, with a bottle shop next door. I remember sampling the Matuska Raptor, and far from being a ‘bad time’, we stayed here instead of visiting another selected bar.

Back in the Old Town, it was time to visit a new micro-brewery; **Pivovar U Dobrenskych** is located in U Dobrenskych, just around the corner from Charles Bridge. It is a classy small restaurant with a small on-site micro-brewery (and classy prices). It offers three different beers, all infused with herbs, including a pils flavoured with lemongrass, Salvi stout flavoured with sage and a house beer flavoured with herbal Viagra..... It didn’t seem to work on me!

Another new city centre bar we visited was **The Craft House**, in Navratilova, focusing on craft beer (rather than tennis!), with unusual

Swedish-style snacks. It has 27 taps, a bottle shop and an Imperial Bar, with porter, kriel, saison, altbier, dunkel, IPA, APA, Imperial Stout and fruit beers from the Czech Republic and wider afield, along with a few ciders. The owner once served Brewdog beers and was hoping to get the franchise, but wasn’t successful.

Back in the suburbs, we also visited the **Beznoska Minipivovar**, in Klicovska, Prosek, at the north-eastern end of Metro line C. This bar offers some excellent food and beer and a wide range of locally brewed Beznoska beers, including lager, weissbeer, dark dunkel and IPA.

One of our last visits was to another suburban bar, **Pivovar u Bulovky**, in Bulovka, reached via a Metro and tram ride. Here we found some good basic food and four excellent beers, including weizen, IPA and stout from the Richter brewery and Holander

Got An Article Of Interest ?

Please submit it for review to feature in the next edition.
Please contact Bill by email: bsturt@alesabrina.co.uk

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Bell & Talbot Bridgnorth WV164QU
Fosters Arms Bridgnorth WV15 5AG
Friars Bridgnorth WV16 4DW
Golden Lion Bridgnorth WV16 4DS
Harp Inn Bridgnorth WV16 4DX
Jewel of the Severn Bridgnorth WV16 4DS
Kings Head Bridgnorth WV16 4QN
Old Castle Bridgnorth WV16 4AB
Railwaymans Arms Bridgnorth WV16 5DT
Shakespeare Bridgnorth WV16 4AD
Stable Bar Bridgnorth WV16 4QN
The George Bridgnorth WV16 4AX
Vine Bridgnorth WV 15 5AG
White Lion Bridgnorth WV16 4AB
Rose & Crown Burford WR15 8HA
Bulls Head Chelmarsh WV16 6BA
Plough Inn Claverley WV5 7DX
Golden Cross Clee Hill SY8 3LZ
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Kings Arms Cleobury Mortimer DY14 8BS
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Sun Inn Corfton SY7 9DF
Halfway House Eardington WV16 5LS
Unicorn Inn Hampton Loade WV16 6BN
Old Gate Inn Heathton WV5 7EB
Malt Shovel Highley WV16 6HT
Ship Inn Highley WV16 6NU
Crown Inn Hopton Wafers DY14 0NB
Eagle & Serpent Kinlet DY12 3BE
Bennetts End Inn Knowbury SY8 3LL
Longville Inn Longville in the Dale TF13 6DT
Acton Arms Morville WV16 4RU
Pheasant at Neenton Neenton WV16 6RJ
Fighting Cocks Stottesdon DY14 8TZ
Lion O'Morfe Upper Farmcote WV15 5PS
Three Horseshoes Wheathill WV16 8QT
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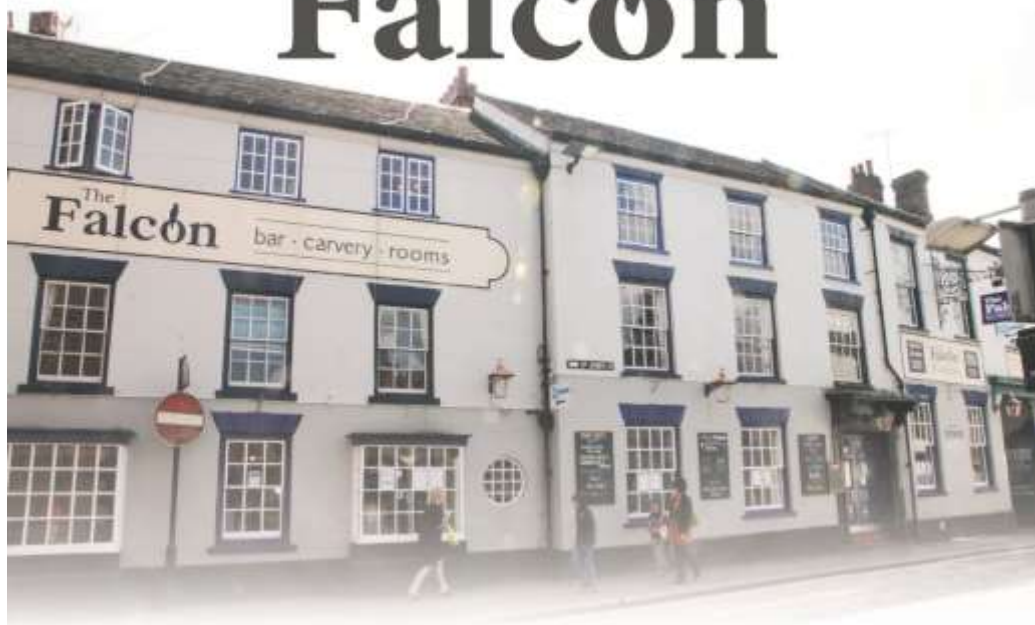
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Broseley Social Club Broseley TF12 5EZ
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New Inn Newport TF10 7LX
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Get Your Thinking Caps On

Find The Brewery



Find the following words in the puzzle.
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘.

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BLACK SHEEP
BRAINS
WYE VALLEY

FULLERS
HOBSONS
BATTLEFIELD
HOOK NORTON
JOULES
SAMUEL SMITH
THWAITES

THREETUNS
ST AUSTEL
THREE TUNS
YOUNGS

Phrases and Sayings

Can you work out the well known phrase or saying from the initial letters?

- 1, EAP 2, EHP 3, EWTT 4, EHLTB 5, EBB
6, MHAOHCRCR 7, MDNLBBA 9, YAWYE 10, YGOMW
8, MATWISIJ

Answers On Page 44



Phrases & Sayings

- 1 EAP - Easy as Pie
- 2 EHP - Eat Humble Pie
- 3 EWTT - Economical with the Truth
- 4 EHLTB - Elvis has left the Building
- 5 EEB - ET to, Brute
- 6 MHAOHCR - Make him an offer he can't refuse
- 7 MDNLBBA - Man does not live by bread alone
- 8 MATWISIJ - Many a true word is spoken in jest
- 9 YAWYE - You are what you eat
- 10 YGOMW—You get on my wick

Deadline Dates for 2017

July 2017 Issue 14 Dead Line, 20th May 2017

Please make a note of these dates as a lot of the articles and adverts we do receive are coming in at the last minute and need editing or compiling for the next issue, this puts extra last minute work on the editor and compiler, your help in this matter would be much appreciated!

Bridgnorth Meetings

Tuesday 4th April at 20:00
Branch Town Pub of the Year Presentation
At Cock Hotel
148 Holyhead Road, TF1 2DH Telford

For information about meeting and events
please contact

Dave Haddon
dhaddon@hotmail.com
07809 887159 01746 862884

For more news, dates and information see
Our Facebook page
@BridgnorthCAMRA



TES Meetings

Tue 11th April – 8pm
Branch Meeting & Market Drayton Pub Of The Year presentation
Red Lion, Great Hales Street, Market Drayton
TF9 1JP

Tue 9th May – 8pm
Branch Meeting
Venue TBA

June AGM
Date TBA Usually a Saturday
Venue will be TES Branch Pub Of The Year

TES Social Events
Tue 18th April - Usual Pickups with 6pm start
Trip to Hobson's Brewery and Brewery Of The Year presentation
c.£15 inclusive of beer and food depending on numbers
Contact Paul Jones for early booking
paul.jones.@caskale.net 01953 460456

Sat 13th May
Trip to Burton on Trent for Regional Mild In May Celebration
Various coach pick-ups available c.£15 depending on numbers. Contact Paul Jones as above.

Market Drayton Events

No Information Provided

For more information
please contact
Brynn Pass Bpass@btinternet.com
07949 321442

*Times and venues are subject to change at short notice. New events may be arranged after print date.
Please check with Dave Haddon (Bridgnorth CAMRA) and Facebook for up to date information*

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Situation currently vacant....

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Should you wish to contribute to the next issue please contact Bill by email: bsturt@alesabrina.co.uk

Prices to advertise start at £25 for a quarter page.

The final copy date for the next edition is 20th May 2017.

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