

RISING

THE

TUN



The Old English word 'Tun'...

... means a cask, or barrel of beer

**The newsletter from the Swindon & North Wiltshire branch
of CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale)**



“The Most Notorious House In Town”

**Winter 2015
Issue No. 112**

**Red Cat
Brewing**

**Bitesize
Beer News**

**Meet The
Chairman**



'THE RISING TUN'

The newsletter of Swindon & North Wiltshire branch of CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale)

Editor: Mark Nelson editor@swindon.camra.org.uk

Published Quarterly:

The newsletter is published quarterly in **January, April, July & October** and 2000 copies are distributed free of charge to pubs and other drinking establishments across Swindon, Devizes and the surrounding areas of North Wiltshire. If your pub doesn't currently receive copies, please email the editor and we will include you on the distribution list for future editions.

The editor would like to thank the following for their valuable contributions and help with this issue:

Alex Harkness, Chris James, Kevin Galton, Paul Arrondelle, Richard James, Vince Chilcott and other members of the Swindon & North Wiltshire branch.

Highlights from some back issues, along with all Swindon & North Wiltshire CAMRA branch Real Ale news, can be found on our website; www.swindon.camra.org.uk

Think of the environment; please share this issue of 'The Rising Tun' before disposing of it carefully.

Helpful Contacts

Swindon & North Wiltshire Branch:

Richard James - Tel: 01793 618921
contact@swindon.camra.org.uk

Trading Standards Swindon:

Tel: 01793 466155
tstandards@swindon.gov.uk

Devizes Branch

Don Jones
devizescamra@gmail.com

To Advertise:

Neil Richards, Matelot Marketing
Tel: 01536 358670

The Local Diary

All meetings and social events are relaxed and friendly. Please feel free to come along and join in. All CAMRA members and non-members are welcome to attend. Please remember to check the website (see above) before setting off for any of the entries listed below, in case of amendments to timings/venue. All meetings start at 8pm unless specified otherwise.

SWINDON & NORTH WILTSHIRE BRANCH

11 th Jan	Branch Meeting	The Merlin , Drove Road, Swindon SN1 3AF
8 th Feb	Branch Meeting	The Cross Keys , Royal Wootton Bassett SN4 7AY
22 nd Feb	GBG Selection	Royal Navy Club , Harding Street, Swindon SN1 5BZ
14 th Mar	Branch Meeting	The Patriots Arms , Chiseldon, Swindon SN4 0LU
11 th Apr	AGM	The Merlin , Drove Road, Swindon SN1 3AF

DEVIZES BRANCH (www.devizescamra.org.uk)

5 th Jan	Branch Meeting	The Cavalier, Devizes SN10 3EG
2 nd Feb	Branch Meeting	The Lamb, Urchfont SN10 4QU

Find our meetings on Facebook, search: CAMRA Swindon

WELCOME

Swindon & North Wilts. CAMRA

The biggest news from the last quarter was that global beer producers AB InBev have reached an agreement with SABMiller over a £68bn takeover, meaning one giant company will be responsible for producing a third of the

beer that's consumed in the world. On the face of it, it's a scary thought that one company will have so much control over so many brands of beer. But we shouldn't be surprised. Even as two separate entities, the pair were massive players, so it's unlikely that much will change in terms of the beer they produce. And although some may think that it's a step in the wrong direction, it's very likely that the explosion of micro-breweries and the 'craft beer' producers that we all love, has had some influence on the merger. The big boys were, quite simply, losing market share to the wave of artisan beers these micro-brewers were producing. So InBev and Molson will consolidate and probably target expanding markets, which shouldn't impact on the beer revolution going on in our country. With micro's continuing on the rise, the diversity of beer styles and flavours are not likely to be disappearing from our locals, anytime soon. I'll drink to that.

Editor

Beer Scoring

We ran a reminder to CAMRA members in our Spring newsletter about the importance of beer scoring and it's worth repeating, as it's a really valuable tool and with more and more people accessing the internet via their mobile devices, it's a really easy thing to do.

Being served with a great pint of beer when you go to the pub is important to CAMRA members and non-members alike. And if you're a CAMRA member, you have the ability to build up a picture of which pubs are consistently serving well-kept ale, by beer scoring, and your input will help other drinkers identify which pubs are worth visiting.

Big players near the top of the current scoreboard include obvious haunts like the Carters Rest and the Dockle Farmhouse, but the scores also highlight the attributes of the Old Spotted Cow at Marston Meysey and the Royal George at Purton.

If you want to get involved in scoring, you don't need to be an expert and the process is very easy. When you drink Real Ale in a pub, use the National Beer Scoring Scheme (NBSS) to give it a score from 0-5. Details of the scale are outlined to the right and you simply need to log on to CAMRA's online pub guide www.whatpub.com and get scoring! You can do this on your computer at home, or even on your smartphone, or tablet, while you are at the pub – all you need is your CAMRA membership number and your password (your membership number will be on your CAMRA card and if you've forgotten your password, don't worry - this can be retrieved/reset by emailing webaccess@camra.org.uk).

The following details should help you on your way to beer scoring, but if you have any queries, or are still unsure, please visit <http://www.camra.org.uk/nbss> where there are some useful videos giving further information.

To score your beer, head to whatpub.com, simply search for the pub name and click/tap on 'Submit Beer Scores'. Drop-down menus will help you identify the brewery and

beer name - remember, if you can't decide, or if you feel that a beer falls between two grades, you can use ½ marks (e.g. 2.5).

In addition to monitoring beer quality which will help other drinkers make informed choices, your scores also assist CAMRA branches in determining which pubs are considered for the Good Beer Guide.

What Do The Scores Mean?

0 = No cask ale available

0.5 = Undrinkable

So poor you have to take it back or can't finish it.

1 = Poor Beer

Anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.

2 = Average

Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way. Not worth moving to another pub, but you drink the beer without really noticing.

3 = Good

Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to another pub. You may want to stay for another pint.

4 = Very Good

Excellent beer in excellent condition. You stay put!

5 = Perfect

Probably the best you are ever likely to find it. You would award this score very rarely.

Meet The Chairman

Hi, my name is Vince Chilcott and in April last year I put myself up for the recently vacated post of chairman. Hans the previous chairman has sadly moved out of the area. With some help from the committee and members, I hope I can be half as good as Hans. I joined CAMRA in 1997 and have been an active member for the last 12 years.

I'm the first to admit that I don't have the same knowledge as my predecessor, but hope my enthusiasm will help Swindon CAMRA continue to grow, campaigning to promote Real Ale and CAMRA aims. Hopefully we can plan events and activities that should be fun, as well as a tool for campaigning.

Swindon CAMRA is not a private members club. It

belongs to each and every member, it's your organisation, it is here to campaign on your behalf, but also to provide activities and social events.

What more could you want, good beer, and good companionship?

So please get in touch with any committee member by email, at our Beer Festival, or at our branch meetings, and let us know what you want from CAMRA - whether it's where we're getting it wrong and just as importantly, where we're getting it right. chair@swindon.camra.org.uk



Vince Chilcott - Chairman

SWINDON BEER FESTIVAL

Beer of the Festival:
Rebellion - Old Sea Dog

Cider of the Festival:
Lilley's - Mango



Main picture: Paul Arrondelle

PUB NEWS



Swindon & North Wiltshire Branch

There is a new bar in Old Town, Swindon called **Gibson's Meze Bar**. Looks like it stocks Wadworth's.

The Royal Oak in Old Town, Swindon has re-opened as a 'Champagne, Gin and Oyster' bar.

The Wheatsheaf in Chilton Foliat has re-opened under new management.

The Sun at Coate Water, Swindon has a new manager, as does **The Queens Tap** opposite the Railway Station in Swindon.

The Bayberry in Wichelstowe, South Swindon is also under new Management.

The Prince of Wales in Royal Wootton Bassett is now open again, while **The Cricketers** in the Railway Village, Swindon has closed.

The Messenger at Covingham, East Swindon has had a refurbishment and **The Bell** in Old Town, which closed in February 2013, is undergoing conversion to a coffee bar.

The Royal Oak at Bishopstone, **The Three Horse Shoes** at Stibb Green near Burbage and **The White Hart** in Wroughton, have recently had extensions built.

The Red Lion at Avebury and **The Royal Oak** at Wootton Rivers near Marlborough have been re-thatched recently.

The Carters Rest at Wroughton, **The Sally Pussey** in Royal Wootton Bassett, **The Village Inn** at Liddington, **The Wellington** at Marlborough, **The Moonrakers** at Stratton Crossroads in Swindon and **The Plough** at Wanborough, are currently on the market.

Chris James, *pub correspondent*
Swindon and North Wiltshire Branch

October's Beer Festival at Steam was well supported once again and you'll be able to see from the photos on the left, a good time was had by all. Swindon & North Wiltshire CAMRA would like to thank everyone who came along and sampled many of the ales and ciders we had on offer. Full details of the beer and cider of the festival can be found on page 6. Attendance figures were on par with the previous year, with the Friday lunchtime and Saturday lunchtime sessions slightly up on 2014. In addition to the beer and ciders, money was also raised for CAMRA's chosen charities, Prospect Hospice, Music Alive and the British Retinitis Pigmentosa Society, so we raise a glass to all that contributed. See you again in 2016!

A vertical advertisement for Ramsbury Brewery. At the top is a ram's head logo above a red banner with the word 'Ramsbury' in white script. Below this is a large circular logo with a ram's head in the center, surrounded by the text 'THE BEST WAY TO BUY OUR BEER ONLINE' and '30 MILE CLUB'. The background is a collage of various beer labels from Ramsbury, including 'RUM TRUFFLE', 'KNOBBER', 'CHALK STREAM', 'SILVER PIGS STOUT', 'FLINT KNIFE', 'KENNET VALLEY', and '25 Silver Pigs STOUT'. At the bottom, the website 'WWW.RAMSBURYBREWERY.CO.UK' is displayed, along with the phone number '01672 541407' and social media icons for Facebook and Twitter.

Bitesize Beer

News

TOP DOG

After the votes had been counted and verified, the Beer of the Festival at October's Swindon Beer Festival produced the following results;

1st Old Sea Dog (Rebellion), 2nd Feather Edge (Shed Ales) and joint 3rd Riddle De Dum (Hop Kettle) and Pooley's Golden (Weighbridge).

The result of the ciders were;

1st Mango (Lilley's Cider) and joint 2nd Butcher's Boy (Circle Cider) and Darksider (Lilley's Cider).

AN INN FOR ALL SEASONS

The Fox & Hounds at Wroughton has been transformed by a £50,000 investment, delivering a stunning new bar and restaurant for the growing village. This is the fourth pub that landlords Darren and Vicky Turner have taken on for Arkells, the pair also responsible for The King's, The Plough, and The Clifton in Old Town. An inn for all seasons, the Fox & Hounds is cosy and warm inside in the winter, and in the summer there are incredible views from the gardens over the vale of Wiltshire.

MEGA BIRTHDAY BEER

It's Bath Ales 20th anniversary and as a birthday treat, the Bath brewery launched megaGEM a ramped up version of their ever popular best bitter. Somewhere between a dark bitter and a barley wine, megaGEM is double-drop fermented and weighs in at an impressive 7.4% abv. Don't worry though, even if you get a bit sozzled, the name reads the same backwards as it does forwards, so there's no excuse for not ordering another!

BEER BOOKWORMS

CAMRA books have recently published a few new titles and if this pair didn't arrive in your Christmas stocking, then you can track them down on the

CAMRA website priced at £12.99 each www.camra.org.uk/shop

The first is CAMRA's **101 Beer Days Out** (new edition). From brewery tours and rail-ale trails, to hop farms and brewing courses, to historic pubs, it's all in here.

And if you want to know what makes a great beer, check out **So You Want To Be A Beer Expert**. A hands-on course in beer appreciation, an understanding of world beer styles, flavours and ingredients, this book, together with interactive tasting's, will show you what beer is all about.

What's more, if you're a CAMRA member they're only £10.99 each. Bargain.

ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST

Pub Operator J D Wetherspoon is selling off 34 of its UK pubs and sadly Swindon has been targeted. The Groves in Fleet Street is the one to go, which will be a great disappointment to those who make it their first stop when coming into town by bus, or the last port of call while waiting for the last bus home. Here's hoping another operator will step up to the plate and take it on.

OFF THE RAILS

More disappointing news for Real Ale lovers. There will be no beer festival at Minehead Station in 2016. Many people from our branch used to make the journey down for this unique festival where you could enjoy the beer both inside the railway carriages and on the platform. West Somerset Railway believe the event is a victim of it's own success and has outgrown the platform. A marquee outside the station was proposed, but it's reported the local CAMRA branch have rejected this alternative suggestion.

HOORAY HENRY

Devizes brewers Wadworth have given their pumpclips a bit of a makeover. In a bid to appeal to the younger drinker the core range has a sleek new look

with a more contemporary feel, while retaining the heritage behind the individual beers.

Henry's IPA is now simply known as IPA and the new clip will feature in selected pubs before Christmas. The full range or redesigned clips will become generally available from January onwards.

Research shows that 70% of the decision behind choosing a particular beer is based on the pump clip design, so for a brewer, it's a very important part of the business.

BEER IS BEST

Women who drink one or two pints each week lower their risk of suffering a heart attack by 30%, researchers at the University of Gothenburg have reported. The study monitored 1,500 women who were surveyed on consumption of beer, wine or spirits over a **50-year period**.

The researchers then re-surveyed the women after 32 years and again at the end of the study. They discovered that the women who drank spirits more than twice a month had almost a 50% higher chance of cancer, and the ones who drank beer once or twice per week had a 30% lower heart attack risk. While there's always uncertainty surrounding these types of studies, the benefits of beer over other alcoholic beverages does seem to crop up time over time.

A DUCK WALKS INTO A PUB...

A Devonshire duck with a taste for Real Ale was reported brawling in a pub with the landlord's dog. Well known in the area for sticking his beak into people's pints, the duck bit off more than it could chew when picking a fight with the dog. The duck named 'Star' split his bottom beak in the brawl but the pair have since kissed and made up. The cynical might argue it was simply a publicity stunt to promote his book; Star: The Story of One Duck's rise to fame. Quackers!

On The Beers

The cat that got the beer...

On a beautiful sunny Saturday in September we boarded a coach to take us to the historical city of Winchester, capital of the ancient kingdom of Wessex. The reason for our trip was a visit to the Red Cat Brewery, situated in Sun Valley business park on the edge of the town. Before the visit we had time to visit the town centre for lunch. I went to the Old Vine in Great Minster Street which overlooks the cathedral green. As well as some good food, I enjoyed a refreshing pint of Saxon Bronze from Alfred's brewery, also based in Winchester.

After a wander around the cathedral grounds it was time for the main event and we arrived at the Red Cat brewery.



We were greeted by brewers and proprietors Iain McIntosh and Andy Mansell. Iain was a research biochemist before he became involved full time in brewing and his background certainly came through as he explained the complexities of the brewing process in detail. Andy's background includes being a landlord and setting-up two pub micro-breweries in Winchester.

While Iain led the brewery tour, Andy dispensed the beer from a makeshift bar in their cool store as well as fielding questions about the beer ranges.



This one's Andy...

Iain explained that the brewery was started over the winter of 2013/14 as an 11 barrel plant. Unlike many new start-ups, the vessels were new and made to their specification in Burton-on-Trent. This allowed Iain and Andy to use their brewing experience to get the equipment just the way they wanted it.



...and this is Iain

The beer range is quite extensive and available in cask and bottle. Iain demonstrated their bottling machine which rotated like a small carousel and could handle up to 2,600 bottles per day, although this would be a long day for three people required to operate it!

As well as the 'standard' range of beers Red Cat also have an "Untamed" range using different brewing styles and mixes of ingredients. We were lucky enough to try 'Kairos'; a highly hopped session IPA. Preparations were in hand for the next Untamed beer called 'Smoggy' which is a

Rauchbier based on the smoked lager from the Spezial brewery in Bamberg. Iain is a big fan of this style of beer and to ensure an authentic flavour he has imported smoked malt from the world famous Weyermann maltings in the centre of Bamberg.



Iain confirmed that they had some further specials planned. These included an Imperial Stout at a projected strength of 9-10% abv, a proper winter warmer ready in time for Christmas.

The plan is to make an Imperial stout each winter if it proves popular. Also coming is an American Brown Ale. This will feature plenty of hops and again form part of the Untamed range.



Leaving the Red Cat brewery later in the afternoon we had time for a stop in Pewsey before returning to Swindon at the end of a very enjoyable day out.

Richard James

To keep informed of all upcoming social events and outings, keep an eye on our Facebook page (Swindon and North Wilts CAMRA) and our Twitter account @SwindonCAMRA and if you're not already a member, why not join up using the form on page 14, or online at www.camra.org.uk/join and get involved!

Rhinoceros - Albert St. Swindon

Go back nearly 170 years and you'd find that Albert Street was one of the less salubrious parts of town. Old Swindon lacked a proper sewer system, the wells were contaminated and the public water supply was the filthy church pond. Albert Street was an area known for prostitutes and a particularly boisterous drinking establishment called the Rhinoceros. Former CAMRA Chairman **Dave Backhouse** published a book on the histories of breweries and public houses in the Swindon area and what follows is an excerpt from his book 'Home Brewed' on the infamous Rhinoceros.



Albert Street from the 1880's

*Picture: Local Studies, Swindon Central Library
Reproduced by kind permission.*

The Rhinoceros was, in its time, Swindon's most notorious pub. It was probably opened by Lucy Rogers, a former dressmaker, in July 1845. However, the real power lay with her son-in-law Joseph Patchett. The earliest court record is in 1847 when he was prosecuted for being open at 1am with 200 people on the premises.

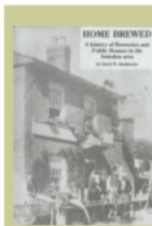
In evidence, the constable said that Patchett had told him he would be in court in the morning to pay the fine and would do it again whenever he pleased. This was no mere boast, there were many other court appearances; in 1851 an open sewer at the back of the premises; in 1854, Charlotte Brown, a prostitute, drunk and disorderly; in 1857 Edith Dyer cut her face on a spittoon, "the most notorious house in town" stated the policeman in evidence. That same year Patchett was accused of the manslaughter of his mother-in-law whom he was alleged to have struck on the head. He was acquitted at the Assizes, but was bound over in 1858 to keep the peace. In 1859 he decided to cash in and the Rhinoceros was offered for sale. The description read "The stone-built property in Albert Street comprising Five bedrooms on the first floor, Large Bar Parlour, Bar, Little back room, Taproom, Underground cellar, Large brick and stone club room at

the back with a shooting gallery, back kitchen with rooms over and back entrance from Back Lane. J. Patchett Lic." It was bought by Reuben Edwards, a butcher, but things did not improve as in 1860 he was prosecuted for keeping a disorderly house and in 1867 for selling putrid meat. All this went on despite no less than three constables living in Albert Street, the magistrates having little control over Beerhouses.

This all changed in the 1869 Act and the Rhinoceros was closed forthwith on the grounds that there was a prostitute living on the premises.

Patchett had moved on to the Red Cow (another Beerhouse in Cow Lane, now demolished) but had still not learnt his lesson. In 1864 he fell into an argument in the Lord Raglan (a beer and lodging house in Cricklade Street) and settled it by pouring the contents of the privy over his adversary's head! Finally in 1866 he was yet again in court charged with sleeping in an outhouse and damaging straw. The magistrate commented: "His history is a social warning! He came to Swindon as an engine driver and married a female with some property, opened a beerhouse in Albert Street which was conducted in a most disreputable manner. He was prosecuted many times for disorderly conduct and infractions of the Beerhouse Act. Five years (sic) ago he was charged with the manslaughter of his wife's mother but was acquitted at Assizes. His career took a downward turn, he disposed of all his property and he now lives the life of a vagabond begging from his friends." He was jailed for 14 days.

The former Rhinoceros became Vitti's lodging house and was demolished in the 1960's to make room for garage extensions for Wiltshire Newspapers Ltd.



The local CAMRA branch have recently reprinted the 1992 version of David Backhouse's book 'Home Brewed' a history of breweries and public houses in the Swindon Area, complete with old adverts giving the publication a real authentic feel. It's available for £5.00 - please e-mail contact@swindoncamra.org.uk if you would like to purchase a copy.



Albert Street today



The Roaring Donkey

The Assizes referred to in the text concerning the Rhinoceros and Joseph Patchett were the local courts of their time. Quarter Sessions handled summary offences and misdemeanours, while the Assizes generally heard the more serious cases.

Today, Albert Street is no longer the meanest street in Old Swindon. Publicans flaunting the licensing laws and manslaughter, are thankfully, crimes of the past.

Indeed, Albert Street remains home to the Roaring Donkey, which dates back to a similar time as the infamous Rhinoceros. The Beerhouse was originally called the Heart

In Hand, before changing it's name to The Rising Sun around 1845. For an unknown reason the pub was always referred to as the Roaring Donkey, a name it formally adopted in 1999.

Today, it remains a traditional back street local, which is a refreshing change from some of the more modern drinking establishments which can now be found around Old Town.

Next time you're up that way, why not take a walk down Albert Street, partake of a pint in the Donkey and ponder the goings-on from that bygone age?

Hearts Of Glass

Could alternative glassware help publicans increase beer sales?

It may well do, judging by a recent survey by Friends Of Glass which suggests that some women may be dissuaded from drinking beer because of the pint glass.

In the survey 47% of women thought that drinking from a pint glass was unfeminine and the majority would prefer to drink from a continental lager glass, when given a choice of glassware options.

Although there does appear to be an increase in the number of women trying ale for the first time, it's impossible to dispute that there are

more male drinkers than female, but the irony is that beer is made up of many female parts.

In history, women were the original brewers, the hop cones that are used for bittering and aroma are from the female plant and with the myriad styles of beer that are now available to us, beer is no longer simply a brown, bitter liquid. It can be as diverse, if not more so, than wine, offering all kinds of aromas and depth of flavours.

Interestingly, nearly 40% of the 1000 women questioned agreed that using an elegant glass for beer would help change its masculine image and a

quarter said that this would also make drinking beer more pleasurable.

If we want to get more people drinking beer, then maybe the marketing people need to take heed. This survey suggests that it's not about the taste for many women, but how the beer is presented.

The female drinker remains a large untapped sector of the market and if we are to encourage the fairer sex to take an interest and start enjoying beer, then why not promote alternative glassware?

Mark Nelson



Picturesque walks

5 Local Ales, craft lagers & ciders

Fresh "Traditional British" menu

Beer garden



Wilton, SN8 3SS
Marlborough 8 miles
01672 870274

info@theswanwilton.co.uk
www.theswanwilton.co.uk



Est. 1760

THE CROSS KEYS
GREAT BEDWYN

Real Ale

Regular Saturday Night Live Music

Home-cooked Food served

Mon - Fri: 12 - 2pm & 6 - 9pm

Sat & Sun: 12 - 3pm

Opening Hours

Mon - Fri: Noon until 3pm & 6pm until 11.30pm

Sat: Noon until Midnight

Sun: Noon until 7pm

Tel: 01672 870332

The Cross Keys,

16 High Street, Great Bedwyn, Wiltshire, SN8 3NU

www.crosskeysbedwyn.com

The Weighbridge Brewhouse

Penzance Drive, Swindon.

Wiltshire.

SN5 7JL.

Tel : 01793-881500



OUR BEERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO TAKEAWAY IN SIZES 4 PTS, 9PTS, 18PTS
AND 36PINT CONTAINERS.

OR FOR A BIG PARTY YOU CAN PURCHASE A 72PT BARREL ALONG WITH
STILLAGE AND GLASSES AS A LOAN PACKAGE.

OUR NEW SUMMER MENU IS NOW UP AND RUNNING, WHY NOT COME AND
TRY SOME OF OUR NEW DISHES. WE CAN CATER FOR AN INTIMATE MEAL,
RIGHT THROUGH TO A BIG STAFF CHRISTMAS PARTY.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.weighbridgebrewhouse.co.uk

OR GIVE US A CALL: 01793 881500

BEER FESTIVALS

The following is a selection of beer festivals over the coming months and the major and local(ish) festivals are shown in bold. This is not intended to be a comprehensive guide. For a more complete list of festivals, please visit the main CAMRA website; <http://www.camra.org.uk/events>

January

Fri 15th - Sat 16th	27th Exeter & East Devon Festival of Winter Ales - Exeter City Football Club, St James Park, Stadium Way, Exeter EX4 6PX
Wed 20 th - Sat 23 rd	Manchester Beer & Cider Fest - Manchester Central, Petersfield, Manchester M2 3GX
Tue 26 th - Sat 30 th	9 th Colchester Winter Ale Festival - Colchester Arts Centre, Church St, Colchester, CO1 1NF
Fri 29 th - Sat 30 th	7 th Elysian Winter Beer Fest - Maltings, Ship Lane, Ely, Cambs CB7 4BB
Fri 29th - Sat 30th	Salisbury Winterfest XIX - British Legion, Endless Street, Salisbury SP1 1DL

February

Thu 4th - Sat 6th	21st Tewkesbury Winter Ales Festival - George Watson Hall, Barton St, Tewkesbury, Glos GL20 5PX
Thu 4 th - Sat 6 th	Stevenage Winter Beer Fest - Stevenage Arts & Leisure Centre, Lytton Way SG1 1LZ
Fri 5 th - Sat 6 th	28 th Dorchester Beerex - Corn Exchange, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1JF
Wed 17th - Sat 20th	National Winter Ales Festival - Roundhouse, Pride Park, Derby DE24 8JE
Wed 17 th - Sat 20 th	Chelmsford Winter Beer & Cider Fest - King Edward VI Grammar Schl, Broomfield Road, Chelmsford CM1 3SX
Thu 18 th - Sat 20 th	Liverpool Beer Fest - Metropolitan Cathedral Crypt, Brownlow Hill, L3 5TQ
Thu 18 th - Sat 20 th	33 rd Luton Beer & Cider Fest - Community Sports & Arts Ctr, Luton LU2 0JD
Fri 26th - Sat 27th	Devizes Festival of Winter Ales - Corn Exchange, Devizes SN10 1HS
Fri 26th - Sun 28th	Red Lion Winter Beer Fest - Red Lion, High St, Cricklade SN6 6DD

March

Thu 17th - Sat 19th	37th Burton CAMRA Beer & Cider Fest - Town Hall, King Edward Place, Burton Upon Trent, DE14 9JG
---	---

NATIONAL WINTER ALES FESTIVAL
17th-20th FEBRUARY 2016
400+ REAL ALES
CIDERS & PERRIES, BOTTLED WORLD BEERS AND MEAD



Come & see
Swindon's
favourite Local

50 yards behind Regent Circus



THE BEEHIVE

Local Real Ales & Craft Beers

Locally made Pies, Mash and Gravy

Regular Live Music

Local Art regularly on display around the Pub

Free WI-FI

Open all day from Midday -7days

Cask ales, craft beers and locally
sourced food...your perfect local.

The Beehive Pub

55 Prospect Hill, Swindon SN1 3JS

T 01793 523187

E post@bee-hive.co.uk

W bee-hive.co.uk



Celebrating 21 Years of Successful Brewing

RCH Brewery

West Hewish

Nr. Weston-super-Mare

Tel: 01934-834447

www.rchbrewery.com

Brewers of award-winning beers including

- P.G. Steam
- Pitchfork
- East Street Cream
- Firebox

Guest Beers and Beer Festivals catered for



THE GLUE POT
3rd REAL ALE &
CIDER FESTIVAL
25th - 28th MARCH 2016
Over 20 Real Ales
& 10 Traditional
Ciders

The Glue Pot, 5 Emlyn Square,
The Railway Village, Swindon,
SN1 5BP

01793 497420

GBG Listed for 8 Consecutive Years!

BREWERY NEWS

ARKELL'S

It's the Christmas season, so Sir Noel (abv 5.0%) is the order of the day from Swindon's family brewers. Full bodied, but light in colour, this Christmas treat will be available in Arkell's pubs throughout the winter months. With the National Hunt racing season in full swing, Arkells have also teamed up with Cheltenham Racecourse to supply a beer for their 'Arkle' bar. Arkle was one of the sport's greatest equine



performers and "Arkle Ale" (abv 4.0%) pays tribute to the three-time Gold Cup winner.

HOP KETTLE

Tom at the Red Lion in Cricklade is continuing to brew many hoppy delights under the 'Hop Kettle' banner.

There's recently been a new updated version of their Double IPA, Hydra Version 2.

Their delicious Black IPA "Blackadder" is also back for the winter and after the huge success of "Riddle de Dum" the plan is to produce another singled-hop beer using another English hop variety.

The hop is 'Boadicea' and the beer will be christened "Warrior Queen" with a planned abv around 4.8%

Don't forget the Winter Beer Festival will take place at the Red Lion this February Fri 26th-Sun 28th

XT

We reported in the Autumn edition of the Rising Tun that our friends across the border at XT were expanding. The brewery extension is nearly finished - new storage area, cold room and brewing space have been completed and the new brewery tasting room is now ready. The tasting room provides an area for beer tastings and to buy fresh beer in mini-casks and bottled beer to drink at home.

No less than three new special Christmas beers are available from XT:

The "XT-25" (abv 4.5%) is a cold brewed burgundy 'AltBier' slow fermented for a smoother deeper flavour.

Animal "Robin" is a bottle only Rockin Ruby Ale (abv 4.5%) a rich malty winter ale.

Animal "Rudolf" is a cappuccino stout (abv 4.5%) This is a collaboration beer brewed with their friends at Dusty Ape Coffee and using their very special

'Silverback' Espresso. Silverback delivers a punch that is worthy of the king of primates. Intense and fruity, this coffee has a sweet aroma with blackcurrant and plum notes. Syrupy and full-bodied, with a fresh lime finish and blended with lactose to give a really smooth stout - a perfect Christmas drink.

The new brewery shop and tasting room will be open from 9:30 to 4:30pm Monday to Saturday from December 1st.



RAMSBURY

The boys at Ramsbury were keeping themselves very busy in the run up to Christmas. "Rum Truffle", a deep beer made with rum and spices (abv 5.7%) was brewed again and this year it was also being bottled for the first time. Two other beers were also made for Christmas this year: "Festive Ale" a chestnut coloured beer (abv 4.7%) and "Christmas Cracker" a light and hoppy number (abv 4.1%). "Red Velvet" an American IPA (abv 4.6%) is also being brewed and should be available around the time this edition of the Tun hits the press. "Same Again" (abv 3.8%), dry hopped with Waimea from New Zealand is still proving to be a popular session ale and is now a regular brew. The distillery has now produced its first vodka, which was bottled in early November and launched at the BBC Good Food event at Olympia in London. The Brewery, Distillery and Smokehouse are all exhibitors there.

With all that's going on, it's a wonder they have time to stop and enjoy a pint!

WORLD'S END

The Pub hosted another successful Winter Solstice Beer Festival again last year. They have been brewing recently "Bitterus Magnus" (abv 4.2%) and "Quaff Ale" (abv 3.7%). These were joined by a new Christmas Ale (abv 4.5%).

A Campaign of Two Halves

Fair deal on beer tax now!

Save Britain's Pubs!



Join CAMRA Today

Complete the Direct Debit form below and you will receive 15 months membership for the price of 12 and a fantastic discount on your membership subscription.

Alternatively you can send a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd with your completed form, visit www.camra.org.uk/joinus or call 01727 867201. All forms should be addressed to the: Membership Department, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

Your Details

Title _____ Surname _____
 Forename(s) _____
 Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____
 Address _____

 _____ Postcode _____
 Email address _____
 Tel No(s) _____

	Direct Debit	Non DD
Single Membership (UK & EU)	£24 <input type="checkbox"/>	£26 <input type="checkbox"/>
Joint Membership (Partner at the same address)	£29.50 <input type="checkbox"/>	£31.50 <input type="checkbox"/>

For Young Member and other concessionary rates please visit www.camra.org.uk or call 01727 867201.

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

I enclose a cheque for _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Applications will be processed within 21 days

Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)

Title _____ Surname _____
 Forename(s) _____
 Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____
 Email address (if different from main member) _____

01/15

Campaigning for Pub Goers & Beer Drinkers

Enjoying Real Ale & Pubs

Join CAMRA today – www.camra.org.uk/joinus



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

Please fill in the whole form using a ball point pen and send to:
Campaign for Real Ale Ltd, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society Service User Number

To the Manager _____ Bank or Building Society

Address _____

Postcode _____

Name(s) of Account Holder _____

Bank or Building Society Account Number _____

Branch Sort Code _____

Reference _____

9 2 6 1 2 9

FOR CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE LTD OFFICIAL USE ONLY

This is not part of the instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Membership Number _____

Name _____

Postcode _____

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay Campaign For Real Ale Limited Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Campaign For Real Ale Limited and, if so will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s) _____

Date _____



This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payer.

The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay by Direct Debits.
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit by The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society.
 - If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when The Campaign For Real Ale Ltd asks you to.
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

The Abbey Mead

Abbey Mead Village Centre
Elstree Way, Swindon, SN25 4X
Tel: 01793 726208



Great Darts, hosts of the biggest independent darts comp in Wiltshire



3 Ales, 6 Lagers, 3 Ciders, 2 Bitters & Guinness on tap.



A warm welcome awaits you at The Abbey Mead. You will find a really spacious, friendly modern pub with a great garden and outdoor play area for the children, plenty of areas, both inside and out, for you to enjoy a superb meal or sit and relax with a drink. Traditional Pub Menu with a difference. Beer Garden. Live Music, Race Days and many more events. Open Sun to Thurs 12-11, Fri & Sat 12-12
Keep up to date on Facebook: /AbbeyMeadsSwindon

RELEASED 25 JAN 2016

RELEASED 4 APRIL 2016

RELEASED 2 MAY 2016

ARKELL'S FAMILY BREWERY

FLAVOUR COLLECTION

Strawberry SENSATION

DELICIOUS ALE WITH A HINT OF STRAWBERRY

5%

ARKELL'S FAMILY BREWERY

FLAVOUR COLLECTION

Tinge of Ginge PALE ALE

DELICIOUS ALE WITH JUST A HINT OF GINGER

3.5%

ARKELL'S FAMILY BREWERY

FLAVOUR COLLECTION

Vanilla Pod ALE (VPA)

DELICIOUS ALE WITH A HINT OF VANILLA

4.5%

ARKELL'S FAMILY BREWERY

ARKELL'S FLAVOUR COLLECTION

A Flavour Explosion!

ARKELL'S FAMILY BREWERY

ARKELLS.COM

The best things in life are three

Visitor Centre open Monday to Saturday 9.30am - 4.30pm
www.hooky.co.uk e: vc@hooky.co.uk

HOOK NORTON
BREWERY

HANDCRAFTED BEERS FROM THE
 COTSWOLD HILLS SINCE 1849

The Brewery, Hook Norton, Oxfordshire, OX15 5NY 01608 730384



- Roaring log fire
- 10 daily changing real ales
- Swindon North Wilts Pub of the Year 2011
- Unique guest lagers and beers from around the world
- 30 bottled beers from craft brewers around the world
- Delicious homemade dishes individually matched with our beers
- Spotless, warm and comfortable bedrooms
- 74 High Street, Cricklade Wiltshire, SN6 6DD
 t: 01793 750776

The Red Lion

The Red Lion Inn is situated just off the Thames path as it passes through historic Cricklade. The pub dates back to the early 1600's and there are still many historic features playing a part in creating the perfect British pub atmosphere.

The Red Lion combines contemporary features in its stand alone restaurant with all the things that make pubs so much of an institution.

www.theredlioncricklade.co.uk