

# Pint Taken

The Worcestershire County CAMRA Newsletter



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE

Autumn 2014



*The Camp House, Grimley*

## In this Issue...

- Me & CAMRA - page 8
- Supreme Champion Beer of Britain - page 14
- Worcestershire Brewery News - page 16
- Spring RambAle - page 22
- Quick Halves - page 26



# BIRDS BREWERY

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WEATHEROAK HILL ALVECHURCH

ONE MILE FROM JUNCTION 3 M42

# Editoreale

Welcome to a new look for Pint Taken. We have moved some articles around, retained some old favourites and introduced some new ones. The editorial team hope you like the new two column layout and the changes that have been made. Please keep submitting your news and articles on all matters pub, beer, cider and perry related - the next deadline is 31st October 2014.

I want to pay tribute to two long standing CAMRA members from local Midlands branches who have recently passed away. Julian Hough, a stalwart of Derby CAMRA and recently retired National Executive member and Bob Jones, member of Wolverhampton CAMRA, longest serving National Executive member and the first West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner. My thoughts are with their respective families at this sad time.

We have had some fantastic festivals and CAMRA events during the summer and I hope you have had the chance to enjoy some or many of them. As we head into Autumn, it will soon be time to sample the darker, warming winter ales from the wonderful breweries that we have throughout Worcestershire. Enjoy!

Cheers,  
Charlie Ayres,  
Editor



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Wyre Forest and  
Worcester branches of the  
Campaign for Real Ale  
(CAMRA)

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Worcester CAMRA members enjoy a social evening

# Open Night at Pope's

It was one of those rare events, a bright summer's evening in July. But for Worcester CAMRA this July evening was special for another reason – we had an invite to visit Pope's Brewery.

## TWO YEAR ANNIVERSARY

This small brewery was set up in an industrial unit on the northern edge of Worcester two years ago by the local Pope family. What's nice is they open a bar on Fridays, from 3pm, in the 'Brewhouse', but they kindly opened up for us on Wednesday.

The beer is whatever happens to be around, and we were treated to a brand new beer – Summer Holiday, a fairly bitter golden beer at 4.2%. It was fresh and young which gave it an extra bite. There was a good turn out, and between us we got through the 72 pint firkin and a selection of bottles – good effort.

## WIDELY AVAILABLE

The brewery's beers are available in pubs in and around Worcester, but you can also visit the

brewery shop and pick up some bottled take-aways. So before leaving at the end of the night, several of us visited the bottle store to get some souvenirs.



## ELDERFLOWER PALE ALE

One particularly interesting bottle was the Elderflower Pale Ale. The elderflowers came from the Pope's own back garden at exactly the right moment to produce a fine beer. Most of the beer had been shipped to local pubs in cask form, but some had been bottled and was still available. Actually not quite all the casks had all gone – two remained, stored for CAMRA's Worcester Beer Festival, a treat for those who got to the festival early.



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- CARIBBEAN NIGHTS - 4th Thursday each month
- LIVE JAZZ NIGHTS 6-10pm - 1st Sunday each month
- See website for more details



# Local News

## Pub closures and local impact

With CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, recently announcing that pub closures had risen from 28 in December 2013 to 31 per week at the latest count, it was revealed that nearly seven pubs close in the Midlands each week. This has become very noticeable around Worcestershire.

The Ivy Cottage, Catshill, seen below is now just a shell as demolition continues in prepara-



tion for a housing development. Perhaps of greater concern is the selling off or leasing of **pubs by the big Pubco's, which are snapped up** by the supermarket chains for conversion into mini or local format shops. No formal change of use is required by planning law, making pubs an easy target. The former Hundred House, Bromsgrove is under conversion to a **Sainsbury's Local, having been leased by Punch Taverns.**

Finally, the lease for the Angel, Bewdley has



been bought from Punch Taverns by Tesco. Here are two pictures of this popular pub before and after the purchase.



## Wythall's 5<sup>th</sup> Beer Festival

Featuring 22 Real Ales & Ciders/Perry

Friday 10th October 6.30pm - 11.30pm

Saturday 11th October noon - 11.30pm

Food

Entertainment

**Awarded joint Club of the Year 2014  
by Redditch & Bromsgrove Campaign  
for Real Ale**

Wythall Community Club  
Silver Street, Wythall  
Birmingham B47 6LZ  
Tel: 01564 823281

More information on: [www.wythall-park.org.uk](http://www.wythall-park.org.uk)

Anne Bradford's grandson travels to China

# Beer Festival in Dandong

My teenage grandson's mother is Chinese and he recently travelled to Dandong to see his grandmother. Whilst he was there he spotted that Dandong was holding a beer festival, based on the Oktoberfest in Germany. There were three beers on offer in the part he visited, offering Heineken, Hoegaarden and a Mango Juice flavoured beer, all at £7 a pint.

The event goes on for 12 days and covers a huge area in the Xinghai Park, possibly the largest park in Asia. It is very much a family event and food appears to be high on the agenda, with



as many as five food vendors to each beer tent. Prices were high in comparison to those charged in the supermarkets for bottled beer - sound familiar?

## INTERESTING VISIT

Although it takes 24 hours to get there, Dandong is a really interesting place to visit. It lies on the Yalu river opposite North Korea. There are two bridges across the river to North Korea. Europeans are not allowed on the one (I nearly caused an international incident when I was there trying to creep across) and the other finishes halfway across as the other half was bombed by the Americans. The airport has been upgraded within the last couple of years.



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# The best things in life are three

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[twitter.com/hookybrewery](https://twitter.com/hookybrewery)



[facebook.com/hooknortonbrewery](https://facebook.com/hooknortonbrewery)

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

  
**HOOK NORTON**  
**BREWERY**

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COTSWOLD HILLS SINCE 1849

CAMRA members share their experiences

## Me and CAMRA

Name and location

David Collins, Kidderminster

When did you join CAMRA and what made you join?

I joined CAMRA in April 2010 at a beer festival in nearby Stourbridge.

What do you like about being in CAMRA?

I have always enjoyed good real ales and friendly pubs and thought that it was time I got involved in helping to promote and preserve both for future generations.

What do you do in CAMRA?

Drinking good beers with like-minded people in many and various pubs, promoting the value of real ales to local landlords and, most recently, helping a great team organise successful beer festivals and become a new Branch.

My primary role is that of Branch Press and Publicity Officer. Thanks to support from a local professional photographer, our branch press releases consistently feature in local and regional newspapers, and my wife's desktop publishing skills result in attractive and effective posters and other publicity material for our beer festivals. Our Branch now has an active Facebook page, but I cannot claim any credit for that as I am a Luddite as far as social media is concerned – I leave that to our younger members. I am also one of our Branch's many Pub Liaison Officers, keeping in regular dialogue with local landlords and brewers and spreading the word and literature of CAMRA's many campaigns.

What do you think are the most important things that CAMRA does or should do?

The most vital issue at the moment is to campaign to save pubs from the relentless march of supermarkets. This hypocritical Government claims to recognise the role of the pub in the community, but has relaxed national planning laws so that changes-of-use, and sometimes even demolition, do not require planning permission from local councils. This must be reversed and planning restrictions re-introduced.



What are your favourite pubs and why do you like them?

We are very fortunate in having a great choice of pubs and breweries in the Wyre Forest area. There are three towns and my choices would have to be The Station Inn at Farfield in Kidderminster where Colin and Trudy offer good ales, good food and a great atmosphere, and it is conveniently within walking distance of where I live, as is a great new real ale micro-pub, The Weavers at Park Lane alongside the Staffs and Worcester canal. In Stourport-on-Severn, I would choose The Hollybush Inn where landlady Maggie has re-invented everything that a good pub should be, including a weekly acoustic music night that packs the place. In Bewdley, The Little Pack Horse Inn, High Street, is only a matter of yards from Bewdley Brewery so obviously the beer is very good as is the food, and the Sunday night pub-quiz brings people together to compete boisterously for boxes of chocolates provided by landlord Mark.

What are your favourite real ales or ciders?

Where to start – we have 53 breweries within 25 miles, so spoilt for choice - Worcestershire Way and Sir Keith Park from Bewdley Brewery; HPA and Butty Bach from Wye Valley, Ludlow Gold and Hobson's Old Henry.



Wyre Forest pub award

# Spring Pub of the Season

The Rising Sun, Bewdley is Wyre Forest **CAMRA's Pub of the Season for Spring**. The pub is a hive of community life, always buzzing with **conversation and there's invariably something special** going on such as traditional pub games, clubs, quizzes and music on Sundays. Kay and Geoff Mansfield have kept it for four years and transformed it into a **lively 'proper pub'**, always offering top quality real ales **from Banks's, Wye Valley and Enville**. With many of these being from local breweries, the pub is accredited in **CAMRA's LocAle** scheme in which the pub always offers at least one ale from breweries

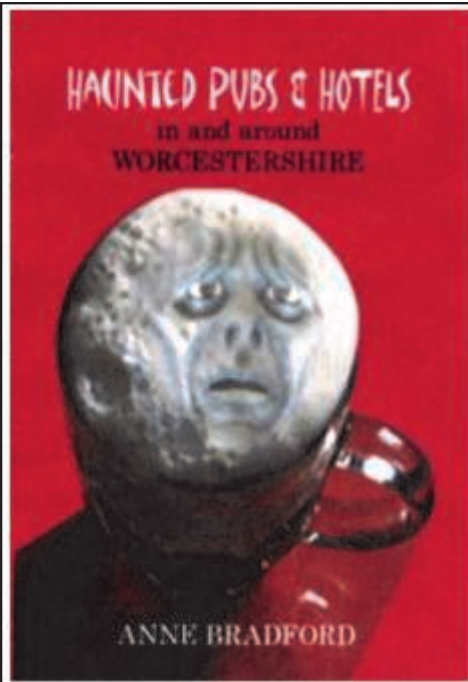
within 25 miles. Well done Geoff and Kay! The photo shows CAMRA members and regulars raising glasses, Geoff and Kaye Mansfield behind the bar and Nick Yarwood, Chairman of Wyre Forest CAMRA in the foreground.



Photo courtesy Colin Hill

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Monthly mini-beer festivals are held featuring local breweries.

A small smoking area has been constructed in the rear to accommodate those who wish to have a drink and a smoke.

Opening times:    Sunday – Thursday 9am 'til Midnight  
                          Friday/Saturday 9am 'til 1am

**Good value meals are served all day every day from 9am 'til 10pm**

# Worcestershire Winner

The search for the West Midlands CAMRA Region Pub of the Year moved towards the final stages with the recent announcement of the County winners. The judges had been checking out the four Worcestershire pubs in contention for the title of 'Worcestershire CAMRA Pub of the Year' and voted the Weighbridge, Alve-

church as this year's winning Worcestershire pub. The competition runners up were the Coach & Horses, Harvington, the Olde Seven Stars, Kidderminster and the Paul Pry, Worcester. In a close competition, the judges selected the Weighbridge as the winner for the quality of the beer, service, community involvement, value for money and atmosphere.

## ROYAL OAK PUB OF THE SEASON

The Royal Oak, Catshill was presented with Redditch & Bromsgrove CAMRA branch Spring Pub of the Season award. Pictured is licensee Pete Savin proudly displaying his certificate.



L-R Caroline, John, CAMRA Area Organiser Charlie Ayres and Jayne



# STUDLEY BEER FESTIVAL

## STARTS 26TH SEPTEMBER 12PM

REAL ALE

LIVE MUSIC

FOOD

MORRIS DANCERS

at:

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THE BELL

ENTACO CLUB

THE LARK

THE RAILWAY

THE SHAKESPEARE

THE SWAN

THE VICTORIA WORKS

A

CHANCE

TO WIN

AN IPAD

MINI

TERMS & CONDITIONS  
APPLY

For more information please contact any of the above



Wyre Forest CAMRA seek community protection for a local pub

# No Supermarket Here - Thank you!

The Squirrel Inn, Areley Kings, near Stourport, is under threat from supermarket giant Tesco who want to close it to become a supermarket. The local community is vehemently opposed to the loss of its pub to become a convenience store and it has been registered with Wyre Forest District Council as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) after being nominated by campaign group Areley Kings First. Registration provides protection by obliging the owners, in this case Punch



Taverns, to consider an offer from the community to take it over if the pub is put on sale or leased for more than five years. And against advice of council officers, but recognising local opposition and a 1200 strong petition, councillors refused **Tesco's planning application** to make alterations to the pub.

## SIMPLE REQUEST

Wyre Forest CAMRA provided information and advice to Areley Kings First during their battle and continues to back the community in its campaign. Registering a pub as an ACV simply requires an application to the local council signed by 21 local electors. It can be used to provide protection for treasured community venues and sends a strong message to potential predators. An ACV need not be invoked just in the face of a threat - takeovers are usually kept very quiet in the hope that by the time the news **emerges it's a done-deal.**

## STOP AND THINK

If you have a treasured pub, just stop and think for a moment, if it were no longer open **when you next go for a pint.....**

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Pub: Market and Droitwich Winoskey Stourport Birmingham England UK.

Wyre Forest brewery check-up

# Keeping In Touch!

One of the activities that CAMRA members very much enjoy doing is keeping in good contact with local breweries - and clearly the best way to do that is visit them! Wyre Forest CAMRA members are seen here with Enville Brewery's Jerry Hedges (centre, 2nd row) raising a glass of Enville Ginger or Enville Ale during a very entertaining and informative tour of the brewery. Cheers Jerry!



# The HOP POLE

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FUNCTION ROOM AVAILABLE TO HIRE

# Champion Beer of Britain

After over a year of local tasting panels and regional heats leading up to the finals, CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, announced that **Timothy Taylor's Boltmaker has been crowned the 'Best Beer' in Britain at the Great British Beer Festival, Olympia, London.**

## SUPREME CHAMPION

The West Yorkshire brewed real ale was judged the Supreme Champion over a host of other finalists in seven different beer categories (Bitters, Best Bitters, Strong Bitters, Golden Ales, Milds, Winter Beers, and the Speciality class), including beers from both small microbrewers and large regional brewers.

**This year's Silver award went to Oakham Citra,** whilst the Bronze award went to local West Midlands brewery **Salopian, for their Darwin's Origin.**

## LOCAL WINNERS

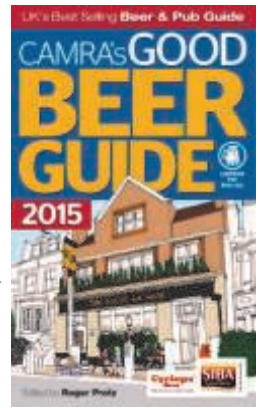
In the Best Bitters category the Gold award went

to **Salopian Darwin's Origin,** with Purity Mad Goose sharing the Bronze award jointly with Langton Inclined Plane bitter.

Salopian Hop Twister won a Bronze in the Golden Ales category and in the Strong Bitters category the Gold award went to Church End for their Fallen Angel.

## MORE DETAILS

More details of the winners, the breweries that brew them and the pubs that sell these and many more beers will be in the next edition of **CAMRA's Good Beer Guide 2015.** Due out in September, this best selling guide to beer and pubs will be available in all good bookshops and from CAMRA directly.



Sample our award winning ales at:

### THE PLOUGH

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Chaddesley Corbett  
DY10 4SD

Tel: 01562 777302

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Beer garden, Live Jazz.

The Teme Valley  
Brewery  
The Talbot  
Knightwick  
Worcester  
WR6 5PH



Tel: 01886 821235  
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www.temevalleybrewery.co.uk

*The Teme Valley Brewery is situated at the Talbot at Knightwick which offers accommodation and distinctive and delicious food made from locally produced ingredients.*

Featuring all year round in the West Midlands...

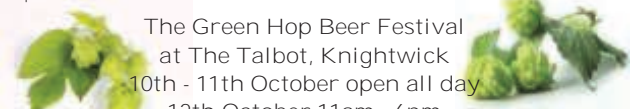
## This That T'OTHER blond

3.7% ABV  
Virtues of an easy drinking light ale with vivid hop aroma.

4.1% ABV  
Malt balanced by hops. A beer for the connoisseur.

3.5% ABV  
Light taste showcases delicate Goldings fragrance.

4.4% ABV  
A rich, smooth character that is in a class of its own.



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12th October 11am - 6pm  
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# Brewery News



Ambridge (Inkberrow, WR7 4HT) [ambridgebrewery.co.uk](http://ambridgebrewery.co.uk)

Ambridge began brewing in 2013 and they subsequently acquired the Wyre Piddle Brewery. The beers from both breweries continue to be brewed on the outskirts of Inkberrow.

Bewdley (Bewdley, DY12 2DZ) [bewdleybrewery.co.uk](http://bewdleybrewery.co.uk)

Bewdley began brewing in 2008 in an old school. Brewing experience days are offered. Beers are brewed with a railway theme for the nearby Severn Valley Railway. A shop opens on Saturdays.

**Bird's** (Bromsgrove, B60 1PH) [birdsbrewery.co.uk](http://birdsbrewery.co.uk)

**Bird's began brewing in 2009, supplying its beers to pubs across the West Midlands. Beers are produced for special events. A shop is open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 10am-4pm.**

Brandy Cask (Persore, WR10 1AJ)

Brewing started in 1995 in a refurbished bottle store in the garden of the Brandy Cask pub. The brewery and pub operate under one umbrella, with brewing carried out by the owner/landlord.

Cannon Royall (Uphampton, WR9 0JW) [cannonroyall.co.uk](http://cannonroyall.co.uk)

**Cannon Royall's first brew was in 1993 in a converted cider house behind the Fruiterer's Arms.** The brewery supplies a number of mainly local outlets. Seasonal beers are regularly produced.

Firefly (Worcester, WR1 2SE)

Established in 2012 using a half barrel plant. At present only the pub is supplied.

Friday Beer (Malvern, WR14 1UQ) [thefridaybeer.com](http://thefridaybeer.com)

Founded in 2011, the company primarily produces bottle-conditioned ales with some cask ale available in a small number of local pubs. A shop is open Mon-Fri 9am-6pm.

Malvern Hills (Malvern, WR14 4ND) [malvernhillsbrewery.co.uk](http://malvernhillsbrewery.co.uk)

Founded in 1998 in an old quarrying dynamite store and now an established presence locally and in Birmingham and the Black Country. The core brews are supplemented by a rolling programme of monthly specials.

**Pope's** (Worcester, WR3 8TJ)

A family-run brewery established in 2012. A 4.5-barrel brew plant is used supplying to the local free trade and further afield. Beer names are influenced by the local area. The shop is open Fri 5-10pm.

**St George's** (Callow End, WR2 4TF) [stgeorgesbrewery.co.uk](http://stgeorgesbrewery.co.uk)

The brewery was established in 1998 in old village bakery premises and acquired in 2006 by Duncan Ironmonger, who owns three nearby pubs. The brewery supplies local free houses and also distributes further afield.

Joseph Herbert Smith (Hanley Broadheath, WR15 8QS)

Established in Staffordshire in 2007. In 2008 it relocated to barns adjacent to the Fox Inn. All equipment is gas fired and ingredients are sourced locally where possible.

Teme Valley (Knightwick, WR6 5PH) [temevalleybrewery.co.uk](http://temevalleybrewery.co.uk)

Established in 1997 to brew beer for the Talbot, Knightwick. Only hops grown in Worcestershire are used in brewing. Outlets supplied throughout the Marches and West Midlands.

Two Dogs (Crowle, WR7 4AX)

New brewery that started in May 2014 producing real ale in a bottle.

Weatheroak (Studley, B80 7AP) [weatheroakbrewery.co.uk](http://weatheroakbrewery.co.uk)

The brewery was set up in 1997 at Weatheroak Hill. It is now in a spacious factory unit in Studley. The brewery tap is the nearby Victoria Works pub.

Weatheroak Hill (Weatheroak Hill, B48 7EA)

Weatheroak Hill brews at the Coach and Horses pub and restaurant near Alvechurch. The range has increased over the last two years. The beers are brewed mainly for the pub (which usually stocks five), there are plans to make the beers available more widely.

Winning Post (Worcester, WR1 3HB)

Has been fully operational for six months. Run by Jim McKeever, landlord of the pub opposite, the six barrel plant is tended by brewer Jim Wonders since his retirement from Canon Royall.

Worcester (Worcester, WR3 8BQ)

New six barrel brewery that rolled out its first brew in April 2014.

Worcestershire Brewing (Hartlebury, DY11 7YJ) [worcestershirebrewingcompany.co.uk](http://worcestershirebrewingcompany.co.uk)

Established in 2011 (as Attwoods) using a 10-barrel plant. It is housed in old railway buildings, a conversion of the Hartlebury railway station.

Brewery news will be a regular feature in Pint Taken but we need updates so send brewery news to [editor@pinttaken.org.uk](mailto:editor@pinttaken.org.uk)



# The Windsor Castle Public House

Welcome to the Windsor Castle Inn - a bright new public house in the heart of the Black Country. We pride ourselves on serving perfect pints of real ale and freshly prepared homemade food.

We are open 7 days a week for food and drink...  
Sunday through to Saturday 12pm - 11pm

Extensive Range of TRADITIONAL ALES  
brewed on the premises.

Try our EXTENSIVE MENU of home cooked food  
including our speciality  
Sadler's Beer Baked Ham,  
Home Baked Sadler's Beer Bread,  
Special Jack's Ale Sausages  
Free-Range Chicken  
and our renowned Hand-cut Chips.  
ALL AT SENSIBLE PRICES

7, Stourbridge Road, Lye, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY9 7DG  
Tel: 01384 895230 • Fax: 01384 893666

[www.windsorcastleinn.co.uk](http://www.windsorcastleinn.co.uk)

SADLER'S TAP HOUSE  
**WINDSOR CASTLE**

IN THE HEART OF THE BLACK COUNTRY



the  
bridge  
at  
stanford bridge



Welcome to the Bridge, a warm, welcoming pub nestled amidst the stunning Worcestershire countryside.

Situated on the banks of the River Teme, our riverside location is the ideal starting point for scenic walks, and exploring our unique and beautiful countryside.

We pride ourselves on our selection of real ales, ciders and perries, offering 6 cask ales and 2 real ciders/perries at any one time.

**OPEN EVERYDAY From 12**

Home-made, locally produced food served:

Mon-Thur 12 - 2.30, 6 - 9

Fri-Sat 12 - 2.30, 6 - 9.30

Sun 12 - 4

We hold various events throughout the year including beer festivals, live music nights and pub quizzes. Join us on Facebook and stay informed of upcoming events.

Stanford Bridge, Nr Great Witley  
Worcs. WR6 6RU tel: 01886 612771

The Bridge - The Best Pub in Stanford Bridge

[www.stanfordbridgepub.co.uk](http://www.stanfordbridgepub.co.uk)

## Fancy a spot of pub grub?



## Now open for Lunch!



what's on?

See website for more details

follow us on facebook for more info

# Never Mind The Weather

Despite some unseasonably wet weather, more than 2,500 people from all over the country descended on Bromsgrove Rugby Club for the annual Bromsgrove Beer & Cider Festival. The marquee layout was improved providing separate cider, perry and beer bars, with the marquee located closer to the Rugby Club clubhouse for ease of access.



was Gwatkin Blakeney Red Perry.

The West Midlands Beer of the Year award winner, judged on the Thursday night, was Holden's Black Country Bitter.

## FESTIVAL FACTS

A superb selection of 116 real ales and 40 different ciders and perries were served, with beer, cider and perry available right up to the close.

71 new members joined CAMRA over the course of the weekend and the festival charity, Worcestershire Wildlife Trust received a donation of nearly **£450 from those attending the festival.**

Joint beers of the festival, as voted by the visitors were Arbor Triple Hop and Pope's Elderflower Pale Ale and the cider/perry of the festival

## PRESENTATIONS

Presentations were made to The Weighbridge, Alvechurch, winner of the Redditch and Bromsgrove CAMRA Pub of the Year award and to the Rocklands Social Club, Headless Cross for Club of the Year award. In summing up Charlie Ayres, festival organiser said it had been a great event and thanked all the volunteers who gave of their time so freely making the festival a fun event for the visitors who attended.

# The Clent Club



The Clent Club  
Pool Furlong  
Clent  
Nr Stourbridge  
DY9 9RE

Tel 01562 730 279

Dawn & Steve Bubb  
welcome you

Serving 4 real ales (HPA permanent and 3 guest ales) each week plus 2 traditional ciders

- Sky TV Free Wi-Fi
- Best views in Clent
- Warm friendly atmosphere
- Saturday night entertainment

# Beer Scoring and the Good Beer Guide



You are probably aware of the 'Good Beer

Guide', National CAMRA's flagship publication which lists the best pubs in the UK. But what you may not know is how those pubs are selected to appear in the Guide. The answer is that it is largely via beer scores submitted by CAMRA members from all over the country. So if you are a CAMRA member you can send in beer scores. If **you've ever wondered why your favourite pub isn't in the Guide**, this may well be because you, and others, haven't entered scores rating the quality of beer there. By beer scoring, you can contribute to the process of selection of pubs that go in the Good Beer Guide.

## SO HOW DO I SCORE THE QUALITY OF THE BEER?

**You don't have to be an 'expert' to begin scoring** your beer. However, it is not about your personal favourite beer receiving the highest scores! You may try a beer that isn't to your normal taste but what you need to consider is the quality of that beer, how well the pub has kept it and served it, and score it according to the general guide above. It is a simple 0 to 5 point system, with half points being used if your opinion of the beer falls between two categories.

## HOW DO I SUBMIT MY SCORES?

In order to submit your scores you need to login to **CAMRA's online pub guide**

[www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com) either on a computer or by smart phone. Here you will find a list of over 35,800 real ale pubs from all over the UK; these are not all Good Beer Guide pubs, merely pubs that serve real ale. In order to start submitting scores via What Pub you need to:-

1. Login. To do this you need your membership number and your CAMRA password.

2. You can then search for your pub by name.

Be careful here as there are many pubs in the country which share the same name. My advice is to search by the pub name and the town. The What Pub smart phone web page also gives you the option to search for real ale pubs nearby, very useful if you are in an unfamiliar town.

3. Once you have found your pub a 'Submit Beer Scores' box will appear on the right hand side of the screen (or on the tab bar underneath the pub photo if you are using a smart phone).

4. Simply fill in the date and your score then as you begin

typing the brewery name should automatically appear underneath where you are typing. You do not have to enter the name of the beer you are drinking but if you wish to do so once you have entered the brewery name you should be able to click on the arrow in the beer box and a **drop down list of that brewery's beers** should appear. In some cases the beer you are drinking may be new or a one off by the brewery so may not appear on the list, if this is the case you can simply type in the beer name. Select the correct **one, click 'submit score' and your score will be** entered into the database.

It is as simple as that. An added bonus is that it will keep a record of your scores so you can look back to see what beers you have had and how you rated them if you want.

This article by Sonia James-Henry originally appeared in Mersey Ale. For more information go to [whatpub.com/beerscoring](http://whatpub.com/beerscoring)

- 0. No cask ale available
- 1. Poor Beer is 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 the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again
- 4. Very Good Excellent beer in excellent condition. You stay put!
- 5. Perfect Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.







# Rocklands Club

59 Birchfield Rd, Headless Cross, Redditch, Worcs B97 4LB  
Tel 01527 544356

Now Serving a range  
of Real Ales  
including Bathams Best



- ★ Large and Small Function Rooms Available for Weddings, Parties, Christenings etc.
- ★ Dance Sessions for Jive, Line Dancing & Ballroom.
- ★ Rooms Available for Meetings and Conferences.
- ★ New Members, Families and Card Carrying CAMRA Members Welcome



## The Retired Soldier

83 Newtown Road  
Malvern WR14 1PD

**01684 439104**

## The best little pub in Malvern

**Butcombe Bitter  
always on Tap**

*50p off 12 - 5 Mon - Fri*

Open 12 - 11.30 Every day

# The Wyche Inn Free House



**AA** 4 star Inn accommodation



*Good Beer Guide*  
2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

A welcoming traditional pub and B&B in an elevated position in the Malvern Hills looking over the Three Counties Showground and the Cotswolds

### Opening Times :

Mon-Fri 12-11

Sat 11-11

Sun 11-10.30

### Food Serving Times:

Mon- Fri 12-2.30 & 6- 8.30

Sat : 12-8.30 ( snacks only 2.30-5)

Sun 12-3.30 & 6-7.30

**We have a selection of ever changing real ales  
from small and micro breweries far and wide**

Wyche Road, Malvern WR14 4EQ 01684 575396 [www.thewycheinn.co.uk](http://www.thewycheinn.co.uk) [thewycheinn@googlemail.com](mailto:thewycheinn@googlemail.com)

# The Soggy Seven

Seven brave walkers met on a fresh spring Sunday morning to brave the elements and take on the seventh Redditch & Bromsgrove CAMRA RambAle! Even though it was March, the sun was out and shining over the Worcester & Birmingham Canal.

As we started our cruise at a steady 3mph, we weren't the only ones out that morning. The Hopwood Heron was up and hunting and we spotted him several times circling the canal looking for something to eat.



The Hopwood Heron

## FIRST PORT OF CALL

As we approached Bridge 66 it was time to change our route and we headed west to our first pub. After passing over Lower Bittell Reservoir we followed a footpath over farmland to reach the Barnt Green Inn, our first port of call. This large merchant house has an excellent patio area, where we all enjoyed Purity UBU, while Wye Valley HPA was also available.

## CHARITY SUPPORT

Our next bearing was south-east; where we climbed Cherry Hill Drive to the outskirts of the Lickey Hills then followed a footpath back down to Barnt Green rail station. It was about this time

that the heavens opened and gave us all a good drenching; but fortunately an eagle-eyed member spotted a nice shiny cask in a gazebo in Barnt Green Park. Upon further investigation, it was a local fun run to raise money for Sport Relief complete with beer tent; so we did our bit for charity by sampling the Weatheroak Hill IPA on offer, while making full use of their shelter!

## TOP OF THE HOPS

**Having broken the RambAle's sunshine satisfaction guarantee, our next pub was just a stone's throw away at the other end of the village.** The Victoria Inn is a Vintage Inns pub with three beers available, including Adnams Mosaic and Great Yorkshire Top of the Hops, a golden ale brewed with a record-breaking variety of UK hops. After enjoying this complex flavoured beer, it was time to carry on with some hopping of our own.

## FANTASTIC VIEWS

We continued south out of Barnt Green village then followed a footpath by the Scout hut up to Coopers Hill, which offers fantastic views of the surrounding area. A handy footbridge took us over the M42, then after following the road ahead there was a steady descent into Withered Green, and into the Crown Inn. During our port of call, this cosy pub had two beers from Thwaites brewery, which were Wainwright and Lancaster Bomber, a malty beer with a warming aftertaste.



Six of the seven on Bridge 66

## SELECTION OF FIVE ALES

Leaving the Crown, we continued south and re-joined the Worcester & Birmingham Canal. But just ten minutes later we found ourselves at the award-winning Weighbridge, Alvechurch, where a selection of five real ales awaited us alongside



On the patio in the sun at the Barnt Green Inn

some wholesome pork pies to keep us going. The house beer from Kinver, appropriately named as **Bargee's Bitter for the nearby canal**, was in superb condition; while the Hobsons Mild certainly helped us to warm up the atmosphere.

#### RAILWAY DEVELOPMENTS

Bearing north-east onto Bear Hill, we rambled past the new railway station development and into the grounds of St. Laurence church. From there, a half mile walk found us in the comfortable lounge of the Red Lion. This busy restaurant pub is in the heart of Alvechurch, and Oakham Citra was the favourite here from a selection of three real ales. After enjoying the gooseberry aroma from this golden beer, it was time to roll out our own barrels for the final leg of our journey.

#### LONGEST LEG

Heading west, we re-joined the canal at the end of the village and followed a narrow boat heading north. Though it was a long stretch to our final pub, the canal's towpath made light work of the journey as we re-passed the reservoir to finish our eight mile journey at the Hopwood House Inn. We found a cosy corner to relax in the pub's lounge enjoyed a well-earned Banks's Sunbeam along-

side Jennings Lakeland Stunner, a golden bitter with light citrus aromas. All in all, it had been a great day in great company with great beer.

#### AUTUMN EVENT

Our next RambAle takes place around Upton Warren and Stoke Prior, leaving the Crown Inn, Wychbold (Droitwich) at 11.30am on Sunday 5th October. Our walks are open to all regardless of CAMRA membership. Be seeing you?



Ensuring support for Sport Relief - despite the rain

## The Brewer's Arms

**Lower Dingle  
West Malvern WR14 4BQ**

**A traditional village pub with a friendly atmosphere in the heart of the Malvern Hills**



**Real Ale, Real Food and a Real Welcome**

**MHB Black Pear, Wye Valley HPA, Marston's Bitter  
and up to 4 guests - see website for weekly update**

**Excellent home made food served daily  
Curry night Wed 6 - 9 £1.00 per item**

**Breakfasts and newspapers on sale from 9 a.m. Sunday  
Function/dining room (seating for 32) available for free hire**



**Worcester Pub of  
the Year 2010**

Best view from  
a pub garden  
award 2005

Open: Mon - Thu 12-3 6-12  
Fri - Sun 12-12

Tel: 01684 568147  
brewersarmswithaview.co.uk



# Visitors Flock In

The Kidderminster Beer Festival returned to the Town Hall again for three days at the end of May. Over 900 visitors enjoyed 48 beers and 14 ciders and perries so that on the Saturday evening there was virtually none left!

## COASTAL ALE THEME

The theme this year was coastal ales – the splendiferous setting of the Town Hall was decorated with large inflatable sea creatures and upon arrival the first 500 visitors were given a special stick of beer flavoured rock, courtesy of the nearby Swan Centre.

## SUPERB RANGE

Beers from around the coast ranged from Orkney's **Skull Splitter**, a **thundering 8.5% tasty** concoction that was predictably popular, to **Redruth Coastal Brewery's Hop Monster** which was voted Coastal Beer of the Festival. Winner of the **LocAle** section was **Fownes Korvak's Triumph**, a delicious 5.2% Honey Porter. Fownes beers can be enjoyed in pubs around the area and at the Jolly Crispin brewery tap in Gornal.



## GREAT ATMOSPHERE

The Friday evening atmosphere was electrified by GazRaz, resplendent in their colourful Hawaiian shirts, singing unaccompanied sea songs followed by Belly Fusion who portray stories through dance routines in a fusion of traditional belly dancing and modern interpretation – a fantastic display! The lively atmosphere continued all evening with local duo The Ranters belting out Irish jigs, reels and songs to keep the feet tapping.


**Last year's feat of recruiting 35 members to CAMRA** was topped this year as an amazing 60 new members joined, over 40 being in the Wyre Forest CAMRA Branch area and **they'll be able to help raise the** profile of real ales locally and enjoy social events such as brewery visits. The Branch now has over 320 members and this year 70 volunteers took part in making the festival a great success.

The festival charity this year was KEMP Hospice and a **magnificent £655 was raised through the** raffle, beer pump clips sales and unused beer tokens donated by visitors. KEMP provides support locally for people with life-limiting illness and to those that have been bereaved.

Many visitors and volunteers made a point of saying how much they enjoyed the selection of beers, the tutored beer tasting session, the splendid Victorian town hall venue and most importantly how friendly and welcoming they found everyone to be. So **we'll happily do it all over again at** the end of May next year!

**THE OLD COCK INN  
DROITWICH**

**REAL ALES WITH 10% DISCOUNT FOR CAMRA MEMBERS**



**77, FRIAR STREET DROITWICH WORCS**  
**T: 01905 770754 W: www.oldcockinn.co.uk**

**WE SHOWCASE AT LEAST 3 REAL ALES DAILY**

**ALES UPTO 3.9% ABV = £2.75**  
**ALES 4.0% - 4.4% ABV = £2.85**  
**ALES 4.5% - 4.9% ABV = £2.95**  
**ALES 5% ABV & ABOVE = £3.05**

**REMEMBER 10% OFF THESE REAL ALE PRICES WHEN A VALID CAMRA MEMBERSHIP CARD IS SHOWN**

# GLOUCESTER BREWERY

Real Ales, proud to be brewed in the historic Gloucester Docks



*Award  
Winning Ales*

Available in cask, keystack, bag in box and naturally bottle conditioned  
direct from our onsite shop or delivered to your pub!

SIBA

REGIONAL  
WINNER  
2012

Bronze



## GLOUCESTER GOLD 3.9%

Malt: Pale, Caragold. Colour: Golden. Taste: Crisp, refreshing, rounded.

Aroma: Passion fruit, peaches, citrus. Finishing Hops: Galaxy, Motueka. IBU: 48.

SIBA

REGIONAL  
WINNER  
2012

Silver



## MARINER 4.2%

Malt: Pale, Crystal. Colour: Copper. Taste: Mellow, malty, balanced.

Aroma: Biscuity, earthy, floral. Finishing Hops: Cascade, Bobek. IBU: 32.



Craft Ale: 04. GALAXY 5.2% Due to popular demand, now available all year round!

Malt: Pale, Caragold. Colour: Golden. Taste: Full bodied, rounded, bitter.

Aroma: Passion fruit, peaches, citrus. Finishing Hops: Galaxy, Waimea. IBU: 40.

## *A New Range*

of bi-monthly changing 'Craft Ales'



Craft Ale: 05. CHINOOK 6.4% (Available May/June 2014)

Malt: Pale, Carapils. Colour: Light golden. Taste: Full spikey, bitter.

Aroma: Grapefruit, Mango, resinous. Finishing Hops: Chinook, Centennial, Citra. IBU: 75.



Craft Ale: 01. CASCADE 4.8% (Available July/Aug 2014)

Malt: Pale, Crystal. Colour: Chestnut red. Taste: Full bodied, fruity, bitter.

Aroma: Bold, spicy, floral hops. Finishing Hops: Cascade, Simcoe. IBU: 35.

T: 01452 690 541 / M: 07503 152 749 W: [gloucesterbrewery.co.uk](http://gloucesterbrewery.co.uk) E: [gloucesterbrewery@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gloucesterbrewery@yahoo.co.uk)

A: Gloucester Brewery, 12-14 Llanthony Rd, The Docks, Glos, GL1 2EH



# Quick Halves



- The Newtown Club in Malvern now admits card-carrying CAMRA members as visitors. This family friendly club on the Newtown Road serves three ever changing regional real ales, such as Otter, Exmoor and Brains.

- Worcester CAMRA member David Chapman has joined the branch committee as Young Members representative and also Worcester Branch Membership Officer. He is also the Real Ale Society representative on the Young Members executive. Congratulations David!

- Rich's Farmhouse Dry Cider has been recently spotted at the Royal Oak, Catshill.

- At short notice, CAMRA members from Wyre Forest attended the new Weavers at Park Lane, Kidderminster, as extras in a Midlands Today news presentation all about regeneration in Kidderminster. The news item cited the Weavers as being illustrative of the subject.

- **This year's February floods meant the only way** to the Camp House Inn, Grimley was by boat, as the pub was under several feet of water. This delightful riverside pub, on the Severn upstream from Worcester, was out of action until last **month. Now there's more bad luck, as a fire in the** kitchen caused considerable damage to the living area and this of course means the pub is currently unable to serve hot food. The bar remained open though and the landlady is determined to fight through this setback. Members from Worcester CAMRA branch showed their support for the pub by holding their most recent branch meeting there.

- Local Tenbury band, the Fabulous Bordellos appeared as the headline act on the Friday night **of this year's Great British Beer Festival, Olympia. . The Fabulous Bordellos are a four piece 'mod revival' band who play tunes by The Jam, The Who, Paul Weller, The Kinks, Secret Affair, the Small Faces and many more.** Apparently the band members ale requirements are Nev (bass guitar), Enville Ginger; Justin (drums), Hobson's Town Crier; Dave (lead guitar), Robinson's of Tenbury Cider and Big Roy, (vocals and front man), any-

thing from the Three Tuns Brewery, Bishops Castle. But to be honest, if you buy these boys any sort of real ale they will receive it with tremendous relish!

- Currently a somewhat reduced service is being offered on the CAMRA national website following an attempted hacking episode. No data or details were accessed, but the decision to limit access was taken to guard against any further incidents.

- The Weighbridge, Alvechurch is holding its Autumn beer festival on Friday 19th September and Saturday 20th September. Opening times are from 6-11pm on the Friday and 12-11pm on the Saturday.

- The first Studley Village Beer Festival will be held from Friday 26th to Sunday 28th September with eight pubs taking part, offering a range of real ales, entertainment and food throughout the weekend.

- The annual Green Hop Beer Festival will be held at the Talbot, Knightwick offering a range of beers made with fresh green hops (harvest permitting) along with those made with traditionally dried hops. The event takes place from Friday 10th to Sunday 12th October. More details are available on the Talbot pub website [the-talbot.co.uk/events](http://the-talbot.co.uk/events)

- The Three Kings, Hanley Castle, a pub with a nationally important historic interior, will be holding its annual beer festival from Friday 7th November.

- Guy Stephenson, owner of the Bell, St. Johns, Worcester and several other pubs in the Evesham, Pershore and Upton area has bought the Old Oak, Drakes Broughton. The pub is due to reopen at the end of August, with one cask beer initially, rising to possibly four if demand warrants it.

- The Wheatsheaf, St. Johns, Worcester is up for sale by auction in September, with a reported **guide price of £220,000.**



Pubs worth seeking out

# Little Gems

NORTH RIDING BREWPUB  
NORTH MARINE ROAD  
SCARBOROUGH

The North Riding Hotel, originally built in the 1850's, is a family run Public House/Hotel on the quieter side of Scarborough, two minutes from the North Bay beach and Peasholm Park and ten minutes from the town centre. It is Scarborough's only brewpub and current Local CAMRA Town Pub of the Year, an award that has been won on at least six occasions. The pub has served nearly 2000 guest beers in addition to its own North Riding beers. Two or more guests come from micro-breweries from far and wide and it is a regular outlet for Elland, Thornbridge and Yorkshire Dales. The regular beers are Timothy Taylor Landlord and York Guzzler with four guest ales also served.

The public bar features a large screen TV for sport, a pool table, a jukebox and a quiz machine. Wi-Fi access is also possible in the public bar. The licensees are big fans of Yorkshire Cricket Club



and a collection of autographed cricket memorabilia adorns the walls.

The lounge bar is the total opposite in character and has been restored to its original features including a solid fuel fireplace and also an oak bar. An upstairs dining room serves home-cooked food.

Quiz nights are held every Thursday evening hosted by the landlord and the regulars on a rotating basis. Brain power being optional, with banter being compulsory!

A visit is highly recommended.

## The Huntsman Inn

Green Street, Nr Kempsey, Worcs WR5 3QB  
Phone: 01905 820336

Serving Three Real Ales  
(Batham's Best, Wye Valley HPA & Greene King IPA)  
in a Traditional Old World Country Inn setting

- ✿ Restaurant Serving Homemade Food ✿
- ✿ Cosy Atmosphere with Open Log Fires ✿
- ✿ Skittle Alley & Function Room ✿
- ✿ Weddings & Parties Catered For ✿
- ✿ Large Car Park ✿



## The Bell at Peasay

Abberley, Worcs, WR6 6AE



01299  
896677

Worcestershire CAMRA  
Pub of the Year  
2002, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2009 and  
2010

West Midlands Region  
Pub of the Year 2003 and 2007

At least five real ales, all from  
independent and micro-breweries

Real Cider and Perry  
Home made food available  
Lunchtime Specials

Open Mon-Sat 12-2.30  
(Closed Mon lunch), 5-11  
Sun 12-10.30

Near Abberley on the B4202

## Meetings & Events

### Worcestershire branches of the Campaign for Real Ale

*You are most welcome to attend our meetings.*

*All meetings start at 8pm unless stated.*

Redditch and Bromsgrove branch (Contact Paul on 07974 889553)

[www.rbcamra.org.uk](http://www.rbcamra.org.uk)

- Tue 23 Sep Branch Meeting - Nevill Arms, New End (nr Astwood Bank, Redditch), B96 6NB  
Sun 5 Oct RambAle starting at The Crown, Wychbold WR9 7PF, 11.30am  
Tue 28 Oct Branch Meeting - Boat & Railway, Stoke Prior, B60 4EQ (Haunted Pubs)  
Sat 8 Nov Chester Pub Tour including brewery taps  
Tue 25 Nov Branch Meeting - **Fruiterer's Arms, Uphampton WR9 0JW (Good Beer Guide 2016 & Pub of the Year nominations)**

Worcester branch (Contact Simon on 01684 563857)

[www.worcestercamra.org.uk](http://www.worcestercamra.org.uk)

- Wed 10 Sep Social meeting - Rose & Crown, Severn Stoke WR8 9JQ  
Wed 24 Sep Surveying trip - Fernhill Heath Pubs  
Wed 8 Oct Branch Meeting - Firefly, Lowesmoor, Worcester WR1 2SE  
Wed 22 Oct Social Meeting - Old Chestnut Tree, Lower Moor WR10 2NZ  
Wed 12 Nov Branch Meeting - Lion and New Inn, Clifton upon Teme WR6 6DH  
Wed 26 Nov Branch Meeting - Bell, St. Johns WR2 5AG (Good Beer Guide 2016 selection process)

Wyre Forest branch (Contact Nick on 07812 451547)

[www.kidderminstercamra.org.uk](http://www.kidderminstercamra.org.uk)

- Tue 2 Sep Branch meeting - Hampstall Inn, Astley Burf, DY13 0RY  
Tue 7 Oct Branch Meeting - The Old House At Home, Blakedown DY10 3JE  
Tue 4 Nov Branch Meeting - Black Boy, Wyre Hill, Bewdley DY12 2UE  
Tue 2 Dec Branch Meeting - Penny Black, Kidderminster DY10 2AZ

Shakespeare branch (contact Liz on 01386 761313)

[www.shakespearecamra.org.uk](http://www.shakespearecamra.org.uk)

Covering Evesham area

## CAMRA Beer Festivals

Cannock Chase Beer & Cider Festival  
Prince of Wales Theatre, Cannock WS11 1DE  
18 - 20 September 2014

Birmingham Beer Festival  
The New Bingley Hall, Birmingham B18 5PP  
29 October - 1 November 2014

Dudley Winter Ales Fayre  
Dudley Town Hall, Dudley DY1 1HP  
27 - 29 November 2014

For more information on your local branch go to

[www.pinttaken.org.uk](http://www.pinttaken.org.uk)

**Items for publication should be sent by 31st October 2014**

© Redditch & Bromsgrove / Worcester / Wyre Forest CAMRA 2014

# 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](http://www.camra.org.uk/joinus) or call 01727 867201. All forms should be addressed to Membership Department, CAMRA, 295 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) \_\_\_\_\_

### Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

Direct Debit    Non DD

Single Membership    £25     £25

(UK & EU)

Joint Membership    £28     £30

(Partner at the same address)

For Young Member and concessionary rates please visit [www.camra.org.uk](http://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.

01/08

**Campaigning for Pub Goers & Beer Drinkers**

**Enjoying Real Ale & Pubs**

## Join CAMRA today – [www.camra.org.uk/joinus](http://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, 295 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW

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

To the Principal    Bank or Building Society

9 2 6 1 2 9

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Account Holder \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Sort Code \_\_\_\_\_

Bank or Building Society Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Reference \_\_\_\_\_

### FOR CAMRA OFFICIAL USE ONLY

This is a copy of the instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Membership Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

### Instructions to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay Campaign for Real Ale Direct Debit from the account details set out in the instructions below to the company provided by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that the details on this form will be shared with Campaign for Real Ale Limited and I will be provided automatically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



This Guarantee should be retained and returned by the payer.

### The Direct Debit Guarantee

- The Guarantee is offered to all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay by Direct Debit.
- If there are any changes to the account, 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 affected or an advance agreed. If you request The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd to correct a technical error on the account and this will be done as soon as the bank or building society is able to do so.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit to The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd or your bank or building society you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount and 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.
- The only way to cancel a Direct Debit is to ask your bank or building society. Where instructions have to be changed, please do so early in the month.

Banks and Building Societies may ask various Direct Debit instructions for more copies of account.



# And Finally...

## Election Fever hits Kempsey...

It was the night of the recent European elections. The candidates had settled in ready to receive the verdict of the electorate. Now they were all lined up, calmly awaiting judgment. Their campaign managers were there, trying some last minute canvassing before the voters poured into the polling station.

### VOTERS CHOICE

At last the time came to face the voters. The doors opened and in they came. It was decision time. Three good-looking candidates on show. How refreshing, but how to decide? Luckily this was no ordinary election. Here you could try all the candidates to see how they performed against their promises before exercising your democratic right. Just as well, because you will have to live with the result for two years.

### DARK SECRETS

It was good to see people taking their social responsibility seriously. No half measures. All the candidates were subject to an in depth analysis. Did they have any dark secrets? Were they in any way bitter? Did they have the strength to carry them through to the finish? What was their true colour? Could they deliver a sparkling performance or were they going to fall flat?

### THE CANDIDATES

There was the golden boy with his crisp appearance and keen taste. The local candidate was modern and brash, with European ingredients contributing to its sharp character. The more traditional candidate had a darker appearance and gave a solid performance through to the end. Finally it was time to mark the ballot paper. The returning officer paced up and down waiting for all the votes to be cast so the counting could begin. The tellers counted up, and it was a very close vote leading to calls for a recount. Then it was time for the

returning officer to pronounce the results.

### RESULTS ANNOUNCED

The pub fell silent as Martin Lloyd Morris, the landlord of the Walter de Cantelope, Kempsey, read out the results of the poll. Hill Climb from Prescott Ales in Cheltenham and Hop Market from Worcester City's Pope's Brewing Company deliver a strong result, but they were pipped at the post by the Bitter from Herefordshire's Wye Valley Brewery.



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12-3 & 7-10:30pm

**PUB OF THE YEAR** WORCESTERSHIRE 2008, 2012, 2014 REDDITCH & BROMSGROVE 2005, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013  
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WYE'S WORDS No. 5



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THIRST SERVED

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