

# Ale

Cambridge and District branch  
of the  
CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

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Watney's are brewing a new 'real' ale, Fined Bitter, in Norwich - and taking it to London without giving East Anglian drinkers a chance to sample it. JOHN BISHOPP claims -

## WHAT WE WANT IN CAMBRIDGE IS A FAIR TRIAL FOR WATNEY'S NEW 'REAL' ALE

Watney's claim scant attention from the Cambridge and District branch of CAMRA. However, this brewery is performing what could be said to be a confidence trick on East Anglian drinkers.

At the same time they are launching 'East Anglian' bitter - which their head brewer has the audacity to call 'real' ale - they are brewing in Norwich a real draught beer, Fined Bitter, which will only be available in London.

This beer is being brewed in the heart of one of the biggest real ale deserts in England, and is then being taken away for sale in a city which is rich in real ale pubs.

This exercise is therefore surely only a sop to the CAMRA organisation rather than an attempt to market a real beer in an area in which it is genuinely needed.

Watney's, if you can go out of your way to brew a new real beer, why don't you sell it where people are crying out for it?



## SON HOPES TO SUCCEED FATHER AS HEAD BREWER AT PAINE'S ST NEOTS BREWERY

Walter Pateman, head brewer, has worked for Paine's of St Neots for 36 years ... and one day his son, Alan, now assistant to the brewer, hopes to take over his job.

The Patemans were friendly and personable hosts to Cambridge CAMRA members who visited the exquisite small brewery just off St Neots market square on Saturday February 14.

'Wally' confirmed that Paine's new, extra-strong brew, EG, introduced last year, had proved exceptionally popular. Based upon an old formula, it had turned out to be as strong as Abbot.

Members sampled as much lunchtime EG ('Eynesbury Giant' or 'Extra Gravity') as they needed to round off a morning both enjoyable and informative, spent at one of Cambridgeshire's two remaining breweries.

**ON DRAUGHT ...** Next event, Campaign for Real Ale annual meeting, Metropole Hotel, Brighton, on Saturday (February 28) ... Next social, Bonnet (Greene King), Ashdon, and Sun (Ridley's), Saffron Walden, on Thursday March 4 (coach leaves New Square, 7.30 p.m. - non-members welcome) ... New t-shirt available on the premises advertises: 'I Love the Real Ale at the Golden Ball Boxworth' (£1.25 each) ... Local guide, 'Real Ale in Cambridgeshire', now £68 in profit - new edition will be published for the beer festival.