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CROSS KEYS IN SAXON STREET FITS HANDPUMPS - 'BETTER BEER,' SAYS TENANT

The Cross Keys, Saxon Street, near the Trumpington Street and Lensfield Road junction, is the latest Cambridge pub to reinstate beer engines.

It is now serving Greene King Abbot and IPA on handpumps, and a third pump may also be given over to IPA.

Tenant Roger Stearn (left) had a simple explanation when asked why he should install beer engines.



'Better beer!' he said.

And dedicated CAMRA member, Jim Godfrey, helped him to put them in.

Roger, 29, a former Green Dragon (Greene King) regular, and his wife, Teresa, took the pub - their first - six months ago.

'Before I knew Jim, I wanted to get them changed back,' he said, 'and with a little bit of persuasion, that was it.'

'We already had Abbot on draught. I was running downstairs for it.'

The Cross Keys is a typically Victorian 'backstreet' pub - with an atmosphere all its own.

Its excellent handpumped beer now bears investigation by CAMRA members and all 'real ale' drinkers.

ALAN HILL KILLS RUMOUR THAT IT'S HOSKINS' BEER FOR THE SALISBURY

CAMRA Investments' Cambridge pub, the Salisbury, due to open on Thursday June 3, will not serve beer from Hoskins', of Leicester.

Cambridge chairman Alan Hill has dismissed a report to this effect in the April issue of the Derby branch's newsletter as 'just a myth.'

Hoskins' is a highly-palatable 'real ale', as some lucky visitors to the Cambridge Beer Festival last year will testify. Only a limited quantity was served.

Rumour has it that Bateman's, of Wainfleet, and Charles Wells', of Bedford, will be served at the new pub - and bottled Sam Smith's.

ON DRAUGHT ... Next social, Black Bull (Ind Coope), Sawston, tonight ... Branch darts final, the Sun (Tolly) Waterbeach, on Monday (May 10), with an extension until 11 p.m. ... Sadly, the old Star Brewery in Newmarket Road, Cambridge, has just been demolished - Tolly last brewed beer there on June 29 1972 ... Allan Challis predicts 220 kils of beer, 20 more than last year, for the third Cambridge Beer Festival in July ... Golden Ball (free house) Boxworth, has now added Bass from the cask to its range of 'real ales' ... April issue of 'In Britain' (30p) features home-brew pubs... Beware 'real ale' stickers and advertisements for pubs that don't serve beer by CAMRA-approved methods.