

# ale

Cambridge & District Branch Newsletter

Issue 360

Spring 2013



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE

**Celebrate Community  
Pubs Month by taking part  
in the CAMRA Ale Trail**



# CELEBRATING FINE ALE *in the* FINE CITY

23 May - 2 June 2013

"Well done Norwich.  
City of Ale was brilliant"

Tim Hampson, Chairman  
British Guild of Beerwriters

"Norwich boasts the most spectacular  
resurgence in beer and pub life  
witnessed by any part of the UK"

Jeff Evans, Inside Beer

**A Festival of Real Ale with a Real Difference...**

(it's held in lots of proper pubs all over the fine city)

"A brilliant event that has  
taken the enjoyment of beer  
on to a new plane"

Roger Protz, Editor,  
Good Beer Guide

"This could be the template for  
the beer festival of the future"

Darren Norbury,  
Beer Today

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#cityofale

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[norwichcityofale2013.wordpress.com](http://norwichcityofale2013.wordpress.com)

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



**NORWICH**  
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

# Pub News

Great news from the **White Swan at Con-**



**ington.** It has just been bought by The Conington Pub Company. Previously

tied to Greene King, The White Swan will become a Free house on 7th March. In an e-mail I received from Gill Fordham Conington Pub Co is described as " ...a company set up by Coningtonians, directed by Coningtonians, for the benefit of the Conington community and the local area". Tenants Sarah Jane and Chris Cole will remain in place. Their ambition is to offer a variety of guest beers, including those from local breweries, straight from the cask. Future renovations are expected but will be firmly directed towards the traditional pub look. The company held a celebratory opening on the evening of March 15th.

Sharon Crossley, landlady of **The Black**



**Horse Inn at Swaffham Bulbeck** has asked me to remind you that the Black

Horse has a Casque Mark recommendation, serves 6 real ales and has a roaring log fire. Sounds good to me.

The fight to save Cambridge pubs goes on. **The Penny Ferry, Chesterton** remains under threat despite efforts from Cambridge CAMRA and local heritage groups to ensure its future as a pub.

## Branch Diary

Don't forget that all Branch members are very welcome to attend the monthly business meetings. Those upcoming are (all 8pm)

Fri 5-Apr : 12:30, Community Pubs Month launch, Plough & Fleece, Horningsea

Tue 9-Apr : 8:00, Open Branch Meeting, Cambridge Brewhouse, King Street

Tue 16-Apr : 8:00, Awards Evening, Hopbine, Fair Street

Tue 14-May : 8:00, Open Branch Meeting, Maypole, Portugal Place

Mon 20-May - Sat 25-May : 40th Cambridge Beer Festival

Tue 11-Jun : 8:00, Open Branch Meeting, Three Tuns, Gt. Abington

## Trading Standards

If you have a complaint about any unfair trading practice, such as short measure or misleading product promotion, contact Cambridgeshire Trading Standards at: Trading Standards

Cambridgeshire County Council  
PO Box 450, Cambridge City, CB3 6ZR  
Tel: 08454 04 05 06

email: [trading\\_standards@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:trading_standards@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)  
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email: [will.smith@cambridge-camra.org.uk](mailto:will.smith@cambridge-camra.org.uk)

## To Advertise

To place an advert or enquire about our rate card please contact:

Neil Richards—01536 358670  
[n.richards@btinternet.com](mailto:n.richards@btinternet.com)

# Pub News Continued...

**The Dog and Pheasant**, also in Chesterton, has been demolished. Challenges were raised against demolition (all be it after the demolition had taken place) but were undermined by the Beer and Pub Association, (BBPA) whose demand for a judicial review against the Cambridge City Council's policy for protection of pubs has weakened the strength of that policy, and therefore the argument to have another pub built on the site.

CAMRA is asking members to contact local MPs to demand that they support Julian Huppert's Early Day Motion censuring the BBPA's action. According to Mr Huppert the BBPA, who purport to be supporters of the pub trade, should "start to work with local communities to support viable pubs."

Some good news in Chesterton though, with Milton Brewery announcing the opening of **The Haymakers** mid to late April.

The **Unicorn in Cherry Hinton** is still looking for a buyer, though the 295,000 pounds asking price might seem over the top for such a small property. Other pubs for sale in the area include **The Chequers Cottenham**, 290,000, and the **Rupert Brooke, Grantchester**, no price given.



I hear that the **Bird in Hand**, Newmarket Road, Cambridge is set to become the Brunswick Arms, a dining and drinking pub, and a far cry from the rumoured



Chinese take away we reported in the last issue.

Helen, in **The Sun, Waterbeach**, has told us that they have just had a fourth hand



pump installed. The plan is to sell Woodfordes, Adnams, and a SIBA

recommended beer. The Sun has installed a new garden complete with patio heater. They are to host a music festival 3rd- 6th May.

Susie and Matt at the **Earl of Beaconsfield**, Mill Road Cambridge, are making a determined effort to improve the quality of the real ales on offer. House ales are Woodforde Wherry, and Growler bitter, and two pumps will serve ales from the Punch Finest Cask list.



I recently attended a Well's and Young tasting evening in **The Dobblers Inn, Sturton Street** (a must if you want to watch live TV) and am happy to say the Young's Double Chocolate Stout is still to my mind a premium beer.



Good things happening to the **Longbow Stapleford**. Re-named **The Three Horse-shoes**, it has been taken over by Terri and





Jethro of the Cambridge Blue. 8 hand pumps with the customary atten-

tion to variety and quality we have come to expect from these real ale champions, who have commissioned Oakham brewery to create a new real ale, Cambridge Blue 3k (4.2%) to celebrate their 3000th real ale since moving to The Blue.

Chatting with James at **The St Radegund** I



found out that his love of cider has not waned. He has recently increased the

number of cider pumps in the smallest pub in Cambridge from 1 to 4, a move that will be much appreciated by Cambridge cider drinkers.

Barry from the **Red Lion, Swaffham Prior**



has asked me to mention their forthcoming Beer Festival 24th and 25th May, and

The **Tivoli, Chesterton Road** is starting a festival on 3rd April.

Sorry to hear that the current tenants of the **Clarendon Arms, Clarendon Street** have handed back the keys to – as they put it – Greede King.

The **Mill, Mill Lane**, will be celebrating CAMRA Community Pubs Month with a



number of events including a Spring Beer Festival featuring Gold and Blonde, Mild and Fruit

beers, and 7 varieties of cider (April 24th – 1st May). We are also promised free music, meet the brewer evenings and Morris Danc-

ing! Took a trip out to **The Bank, Willingham**, on a Saturday afternoon only to find it closed – my fault - I should do my research! Readers should note that the pub advertises opening hours as “From 5.30” and is closed on Sundays. I had to console myself with a pint of Adhams Old (4.1%) in **The**



**Red Lion, Histon** – who by the way also do a lovely chicken baguette (last orders

for food 2.30pm).

Following on a theme Ali cycled out to **The Carpenter's Arms, Great Wilbraham** late in February with the intention of tasting their home brewed beer, only to find that due to popular demand they had run out. A review of this pub will be in the next issue of ALE, along with an expose of Ali's trip.

And finally, **The Cambridge Brewhouse,**



**King Street** opened it's doors in early February. A traditional pub with the added attraction of

good food – and a brewery! As I write the first Cambridge Brew House beers to be brewed in Cambridge are being brewed...

59 High Street, Grantchester, Cambridge, CB3 9NF



## Beer Festival

29th March - 1st April 2013

**Over 65 Beers and Ciders  
from breweries including**

**Fellows, Moonshine, Black Bar, Buntingford,  
Cumbrian, Blue Monkey, Wylam, Coastal,  
Black Hole, Hogan's Cider and many more.**

**Food served all day**

**Live music all weekend**

For full information see  
[www.greenmanbeerfestival.co.uk](http://www.greenmanbeerfestival.co.uk)  
01223 844669



GreenManGrantchester



@grantchesterpub

## The Red Lion Swaffham Prior



Barry & Jo are hosting the first of hopefully many beer festivals here at **The Red Lion on 24<sup>th</sup> & 25 May**

Starting with 9 Real Ales & 2 Weston Ciders plus 4 more Ales on the bar from around the country

Looking to have **Live music** and **Food** available in our large beer garden at the rear on the **Saturday night 25<sup>th</sup> May** ... weather permitted. If not it will go ahead inside the pub.

Some stalls will be set up from local charities and the scouts group on the **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

**Starting Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 12.00 midday till late.**

Every one welcome as our goal is to put **The Red Lion** back on the grid for the community of **Swaffham Prior** with real food and great beers.



## The White Swan

Sarah and Chris invite you to visit the White Swan in the Village of Conington just off the A14 and try the Real Ales including a Weekly Guest Ale.



THE WHITE SWAN  
CONINGTON

**Bar Snack menu 12 till 2:30pm.**

**Pub food Menu and Special Board in the evenings served Wednesday to Saturday 6 till 9pm all freshly cooked.**

**Traditional Sunday Roast every Sunday served 12 till 2:30pm.**

**Table Booking form online or Telephone.**

**Families are welcome.**

**Large Beer Garden also a big outside play area for the children,**

**Free Wi-fi. Dogs welcome.**

**Elsworth Road Conington CB23 4LN**

**Tel: 01954 267251**

**[www.whiteswanconington.com](http://www.whiteswanconington.com)**



## the mill

CAMBRIDGE

### FREE HOUSE



We have 8 handpulls from which we serve a range of local Real Ales. We are part of CAMRA's LocAle campaign so we promise to always have beer available from within a 20 mile radius. We're always rotating our ales and we have had beers from local and East Anglian breweries and many others, including Black Bar, Fellows, Lord Conrads, Milton and Moonshine.

#### PERFECT LOCATION

We are close to the city centre on the beautiful river Cam next to two punting stations. Boasting wonderful views this cosy and charming pub is the perfect spot to meet, eat or relax.

#### DELICIOUS FRESH FOOD

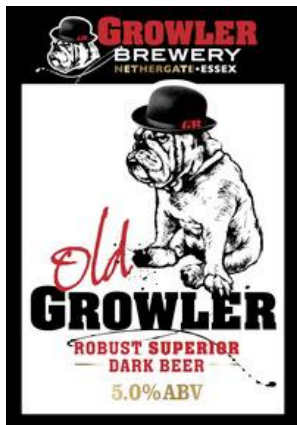
Enjoy our locally sourced, home-cooked menu of delicious traditional British pub food which is perfect for lighter snacks or long relaxed meals with friends.

#### GREAT LOCAL ALES

We are extremely proud to offer a tempting selection of fine local real ales and other craft beers, as well as an interesting wine list for you to enjoy.

**Tel: 01223 311829 Email: [info@themillpubcambridge.com](mailto:info@themillpubcambridge.com)  
14, Mill Lane, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire, CB2 1RX**

# A New Dog ...



Rob Flanagan, Managing Director of Growler (aka Nethergate) Brewery explained as I sat sipping a pint of Growler Bitter in The Mill, Mill Lane. He and fellow ex-Adnams employee Cheryl

Bullen had agreed to meet and tell me about Nethergate's steady metamorphosis into the new Growler Brewery. Rob, previously Adnams Director of Sales and Marketing, together with four colleagues, bought Nethergate Brewery in 2010.

Cheryl, who was the head of Adnams Customer Services, has taken on a similar role in this new venture. It says a lot for her hard work that practically every free house or pub with an available pump free of tie in the Cambridge CAMRA district appears to have at least one Growler or Nethergate pump clip on show.

Perhaps this is the reason that the brewery reported a 30% growth in business in the year 2010 -2011? Yes, of course it is - but the wealth of brewery experience that the new management team have brought to the business must have helped too.

Apart from Rob, there are two directors who previously held senior positions in Adnams, and a fourth, Rupert Thomson, was once owner of Wychwood Brewery.

Over two years the team has gradually introduced changes, one of which, a change to brewing schedules, has increased production by 50%. The introduction of the

Growler Brewery brand is the latest ongoing change, and was partially introduced in August 2012.

The logo still features the iconic Nethergate bulldog, but he is less aggressive looking than the original. The pump clip designs are simple and eye catching, aimed one suspects at attracting younger customers, but effective, as they always seem to draw the eye...

Looking at the list of directors it appears to me that their experience appears to be mainly associated with the sales or promotion side of the industry. Nethergate is a brewery famous for producing traditionally crafted beers that are full of flavour. I had to ask: Will the quality suffer? Will short cuts be taken and recipes change?

***“We haven’t changed any of the recipes. We’re not allowed to and I wouldn’t.”***

Rob's reply was an emphatic “No!”. Yes, he admitted that the drive of the business is to become more commercially successful. For example, the brewery makes no secret of increasing bottled beer sales to large super-market chains. But, he assured me, beer quality will remain a top priority and as high as ever. “Our head brewer Paul Gower and his team have over 20 years experience in brewing. Paul has also been consulting with ex head brewer and founder Ian Hornsey; both to explore the possibility of brewing new ales and to help maintain the quality of those we are brewing now. We unofficially



# with all the Old Tricks

call the IPA “Ian and Paul’s Ale”.

“We still have Ian’s tasting notes and the original recipe’s. One of the stipulations made by Ian and his partner Dick Burge when we bought the business was that we couldn’t change them.”

And if awards are anything to go by I think we can take him at his word. Old Growler was the CAMRA Champion Porter of East Anglia in 2011, and Three Point - Nine, now rebranded as Growler Bitter was awarded SIBA East of England Champion Bitter in the same year. Growler Bitter is now the brewery’s leading brand.

In 2012 the Brewery was the winner of the Good Pub Guide Brewery of the year award, and according to Rob they are the smallest brewery ever to win it.

He and his fellow directors must be doing something right...

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Nethergate Brewery and CAMRA - a short history.**

The Nethergate Brewery has had a long association with Cambridge CAMRA and with the Cambridge Summer Beer Festival.

Ian Hornsey, founder, and head brewer from 1986 until 2010 was an active member of CAMRA, and a teacher at the then Cambridge Technical College when back in the early 1980’s he announced his intention to create a new brewery which would brew beers using traditional recipes.

In 1986, he and his business partner Dick Burge began brewing their first first ale, Best Bitter (4.0%) following a recipe from Yorkshire, in a converted garage in the beautiful Suffolk village of Clare, close to the River Stour.

Described in ALE 287 ( Spring1997) as “a glorious example of the brewer’s craft, beautifully balanced, packed with flavour and topped off with an enormously long bitter finish...” Nethergate Bitter was voted best beer in its category for three years running at the Cambridge Beer Festival, and once as overall champion. It was the Champion Beer of East Anglia in 1996.

For many years the brewery remained a one beer business, but public demand required a stronger beer and Old Growler Porter (5%) was introduced, once again brewed using an old English recipe, and shortly afterwards in 1990 an IPA (3.5%) ( which at the time stood for “Ian’s Personal Ale”) was created, at first, to satisfy an order from a local pub chain, but then becoming a regular brew, and a stock beer.

Ian’s passion for traditional ingredients then saw him introduce the hitherto forgotten traditional ingredient of coriander and creating Umbel Magna Porter(5%) and Umbel Ale (3.8%) creating a spicy edge to the beer and even more success for the brewery.

As sales grew it became evident that the brewery at Clare was becoming too small to cope and in ALE 318 (2005) it was reported that the Nethergate brewery had moved just across the border (but still close to the River Stour) to Pentlow, Essex, where the larger premises offered a potential increased capacity from 80 to 200 barrels a week.

The Brewery was brought out in 2010, and is currently being rebranded as Old Growler Brewery, Nethergate, Essex. Rob Flanagan, managing director, would like to re- associate the brewery and CAMRA and would welcome suggestions for new beers, or any feedback on current beers we would like to make.

*Where would*  
**WE BE WITHOUT**  
*the local?*



A Date For Your Diary  
**Community Pubs Month - Coming This April**

To find out more visit  
[communitypubsmmonth.org.uk](http://communitypubsmmonth.org.uk)

# The Cambridge & District CAMRA Ale Trails



## What They Are

*Our three Ale Trails aim to encourage local drinkers to visit local pubs, especially ones they might not know. The Trails connect to our April Community Pubs Month, though they don't need to be completed until the end of May.*

*Two Trails concentrate on pubs which (usually) sell locally brewed beers (which we call LocAles), whilst the third covers pubs which are excellent community pubs.*

## How It Works

1. Order a pint or half of real ale (a LocAle if available) in a participating pub and ask to have your form stamped.
2. Collect at least twelve stamps on a Trail to qualify for the prize of a T-shirt. There are different coloured shirts for each Trail, so you can enter one, two or three forms as you wish.
3. Send your entry, by 31 May, to Ale Trails, 32 Lovell Road, Cambridge, CB4 2QR or hand your form(s) in at the Membership Stand at the Cambridge Beer Festival.
4. Anyone visiting all the pubs on all the Trails will go into a draw for a very special prize.
5. In addition to taking part in these trails, you might wish to score your beers at the National Beer Scoring System. - go to [www.beerscoring.org.uk](http://www.beerscoring.org.uk).

## Public Transport

Most pubs on the Trails are accessible by public transport, though buses are few and far between to some of the rural pubs.

For details, visit our website at

[www.cambridge-camra.org.uk](http://www.cambridge-camra.org.uk)

*Please don't drink and drive.*



# *1 LocAle Trail*

Carlton Arms,  
Carlton Way

☐

White Swan,  
Quy

☐

Cambridge Blue,  
Gwydir Street

☐

Emperor,  
Hills Road

☐

Chestnut Tree,  
West Wrattling

☐

Maypole,  
Park Street

☐

Crown,  
Linton

☐

Live and let Live,  
Mawson Road

☐

Green man,  
Grantchester

☐

The Bank,  
Willingham

☐

Flying Pig,  
Hills Road

☐

Black Horse,  
Rampton

☐

The Mill,  
Mill Lane

☐

White Horse,  
Swavesey

☐

My favourite beer was ..... in .....

My Name .....

Address & Postcode .....

..... Email .....

T-Shirt Size (Please circle)    XXL    XL    L    M    S

I would like to collect my T-Shirt from (name of pub) .....



# 2 LocAle Trail

Three Blackbirds,  
Woodditton

☐

Hopbine,  
Fair Street

☐

Tickell Arms,  
Whittlesford

☐

The Empress,  
Thoday Street

☐

The Brew House,  
King St

☐

St Radegund,  
King Street

☐

Jolly Brewers,  
Milton

☐

Dykes End,  
Reach

☐

Devonshire Arms,  
Devonshire Road

☐

Red Lion,  
Histon

☐

The Alexandra Arms,  
Gwydir street

☐

The Geldart,  
Ainsworth Street

☐

The Three Horseshoes,  
Stapleford

☐

Carpenters Arms,  
Great Wilbraham

☐

My favourite beer was ..... in .....

My Name .....

Address & Postcode .....

..... Email .....

T-Shirt Size (Please circle)    XXL    XL    L    M    S

I would like to collect my T-Shirt from (name of pub) .....

# 3 Community Trail

Plough and Fleece,  
Horningsea

☐

Bees in the Wall,  
Whittlesford

☐

Green Man,  
Thriplow

☐

Queens Head,  
Newton

☐

Ickleton Lion,  
Ickleton

☐

Six Bells,  
Fulbourn

☐

Plough,  
Duxford

☐

Red Lion,  
Swaffham Prior

☐

Elm Tree,  
Orchard Street.

☐

Castle Inn,  
Castle Hill

☐

The Boot,  
Dullingham

☐

Champion of the  
Thames, King Street

☐

The Blue Ball,  
Grantchester

☐

The Free Press,  
Prospect Row

☐

The Sun,  
Waterbeach

☐

Kingston Arms,  
Kingston Street

☐

My favourite beer was ..... in .....

My Name .....

Address & Postcode .....

..... Email .....

T-Shirt Size (Please circle)    XXL    XL    L    M    S

I would like to collect my T-Shirt from (name of pub) .....

# THE PLOUGH

Great Shelford



*Good Food,  
Real Ales and  
Fine Wines*

Home cooked food  
served daily 12-2, 6-9

Sunday Roasts 12-4

Wednesday Sausage & Mash £1.95  
and Quiz


Live Music every weekend  
(No Karaoke or Discos!)

2 High St, Great Shelford, Cambs, CB22 5EH

Tel 01223 847986

[sue.clough1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sue.clough1@hotmail.co.uk)

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

 Find us on Facebook

There's something  
*different* brewing  
on Mill Road.

Step inside the refurbished *Earl of Beaconsfield* on Mill Road and prepare to be surprised. Under new management, it's now home to four rotating Cask Marque ales, two draught ciders, four fine lagers, a range of quality wines from Cambridge Wine Merchants, and the best Guinness in Cambridge. Probably, Oh, and a bonkers cocker spaniel called Smoky Bacon. Lots of reasons to raise a glass and celebrate the refreshing difference you'll find the moment you walk through the door.

The Earl of Beaconsfield, 133 Mill Road, Cambridge, CB1 3AA

 @EarlBeaconsfield |  The-Earl-of-Beaconsfield

*Real ales | Fine lagers | Quality wines | Live music | Warm welcome*



# oakham ales

[www.oakhamales.com](http://www.oakhamales.com)

Tel 01733 370500

# CAMRA Lobbies Parliament

A cold December Wednesday saw CAMRA step up their campaign against the Beer Tax Escalator. Since being introduced in 2008 the escalator has raised beer duty by 2% above inflation every year. Combined with the increase in VAT to 20%, taxation on beer has risen by 42% in the last three years and now accounts for £1 of the price of a pint in a pub. It has been a contributory factor in the 30% drop in pub beer sales in the last 6 years, during which time 7,000 pubs have permanently closed, and threatens the 1 million jobs beer supports. Claims that the Government has no choice but to proceed with inherited fiscal measures is misleading. Despite a 5% increase in duty in the 2012 budget, revenue from beer duty fell between April and December compared with the same period in 2011.

On 12th December over 1,000 CAMRA members from across the country descended on parliament to lobby their MPs. Good organisation ensured that the queues at security, although long, were manageable. Entering

through Westminster Hall we progressed to the Central Lobby to await our MPs. Two members from Cambridge Branch met outside the committee rooms with Julian Huppert who was, as usual, very supportive. Our discussions ranged over various pub related issues. Another Cambridge Branch member had a longer wait before Andrew Lansley, MP for Cambridgeshire South, came out for a brief meeting.

Lobbying completed, CAMRA members met up in nearby Emmanuel Hall for refreshment and stirring words of encouragement from supportive MPs, CAMRA officers, brewers and publicans. The day was heralded a success. MPs and Parliamentary workers had been impressed by our numbers, arguments, good humour and organisation. Certainly we felt empowered. But was it really a success? I guess we won't really know until 20th March when the chancellor presents the 2013 budget...

Ali Cook

## A Campaign of Two Halves

**Join CAMRA Today**

**Complete the Direct Debit form opposite 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, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

Your Details		Direct Debit	Non DD
Title _____ Surname _____	Single Membership	£23 <input type="checkbox"/>	£25 <input type="checkbox"/>
Forename(s) _____	(UK & EU)		
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____	Joint Membership	£28 <input type="checkbox"/>	£30 <input type="checkbox"/>
Address _____	(Partner at the same address)		
Postcode _____	For Young Member and concessionary rates please visit <a href="http://www.camra.org.uk">www.camra.org.uk</a> or call 01727 867201.		
Email address _____	I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.		
Tel No(s) _____	I enclose a cheque for _____		
<b>Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)</b>		Signed _____	Date _____
Title _____ Surname _____	Applications will be processed within 21 days		
Forename(s) _____			
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____			

**01/08**

**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

**Service User Number** 9 2 6 1 2 9

**Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society**

To the Branch: \_\_\_\_\_ Bank or Building Society

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**Reference** \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE LTD OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

This is a 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 authority received by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this form is a part of the instruction to your Bank or Building Society and will be passed electronically to my Building Society.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Notes and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of accounts. This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payer.

**The Direct Debit Guarantee**

**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)**



## The Bell at Panfield



Traditional pub,  
with real beams,  
real log fire,  
and traditional  
pub food.

### Beer Festival

Friday 31st May - Sunday 2nd June

Live music all weekend in a marquee

Village fete Saturday lunch

Food all weekend including BBQ

Camping facilities available (phone to book)

Open: 11.30am-11pm Mon-Thu, 11.30am-  
12.30pm Fri & Sat, 11.30am-10.30pm Sun

**37 Kynaston Road, Panfield  
Braintree, CM7 5AQ  
[www.panfieldbell.co.uk](http://www.panfieldbell.co.uk)  
01376-324641**

## THE CHEQUERS

**71 Main Road, Little Gransden  
Tel: 01767 677348**

*Bob and Wendy Mitchell invite you to try  
their unique unspoilt village local with its  
own special atmosphere*

*Celebrating 60 years as a family run pub*

**Home of Son of Sid Brewery**

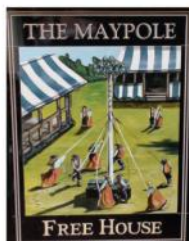


**Hunts  
CAMRA  
Pub of the  
Year  
2011**

**CAMRA  
East Anglia  
Pub of the  
Year 2008**

## The Maypole Free House

20A Portugal Place Cambridge CB5 8AF 01223 352999



Family run since 1982

**Cambridge CAMRA  
District Locale Pub Of the Year 2012**

(New) 16 Real Ales on Handpump

Many local Ales from Micro Breweries

Over fifty foreign speciality bottled beers

# Ping Pong n Pints

Last Summer, athletes from all over the planet assembled in Britain for a great sporting festival. However, at these events, due to the corporate lure of fizzy lagerbeer, the organizers did not serve our national ale. Fred Laband gives us a guide of where we can see sport locally with real ale.

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Cambridge Table Tennis League started as early as the 1930s with hundreds of teams playing all over the county. In around 10 divisions, teams were fielded by Fulbourn Hospital, the Conservatives and Chivers. The RAF at Oakington and Waterbeach were once avid players and there was even a team that played on the top floor of the Guildhall. Research reveals that there was also a team in the 1940s entitled "The Dreadnoughts", but their origin remains a mystery...

In all this time, players of all ages and backgrounds have been brought together to pelt a 2.7g celluloid ball back and forth for hours on end.

Today there are only 4 divisions left comprising approximately 40 teams. In a similar time the number of pubs in the area has also roughly halved (to around 100). Numbers have dropped but nobody could argue that real ale or table tennis is dead.

Table tennis and real ale can be found at many venues; here are some of them:

NCI are one of Cambridge's oldest teams and they are based in Holland Street. The trophy cabinet above the bar is huge and full of shining reminders of past glories. They have several teams of mixed strengths from Division 1 to 3 and the same can be said of their beers. They have 2 guest beers available; I went for an excellent St Austell's Tribute (4.2%); very clear

and crisp. NCI is also handily positioned for a nip around the corner to Bacchanalia, a renowned off license with an unparalleled stock.

Cambridge TTC have played in many venues, and for the last 2 years have hosted matches in **Stow-cum-Quy** Village Hall. Why play so far out of the city? Simple, 50



yards away is the excellent **White Swan**. This pub has 4 hand pumps. Regulars include Adnams Southwold

Bitter, Woodforde's Wherry and Oakham's JHB and the fourth always has a local ale. The last guest I had was "Brew 09" (Black Light Blonde 4 %) which was delivered by bike from the Black Bar Brewery of Harston. (I find the numbering of these beers rather confusing, but I suppose that some people find 'pushes' or 'anti-spin pimples' bewildering too.) The pub has a growing reputation for food; the puddings are medal-worthy.

Impington TTC play their matches at Impington VC which, being a school, of course does not have real ale, but the neighbouring area has a superb choice of pubs. In fact **Histon** and Impington buck the trend in terms of beer and table tennis, as



numbers of pubs and players remains strong. My favourite pub here is **The Red Lion** (I love staring at the brew-

eriana hanging from the ceiling for inspiration); there are 7 hand pumps featuring the ever present Oscar Wilde Mild (3.7%).

**The Railway Vue** at the other end of town is definitely also one to look out for. After reading ALE magazine's issue 355, I decided to make a prematch visit. I saw St.

Austell's Tribute, Green King IPA and Oakham's JHB on tap. I had a pint of Woodforde's Wherry (3.8%) which is also a favourite here. The evening food was fairly basic. However, my fishcakes were crispy and tasty and with a crunchy side salad were very reasonably priced indeed at 2 meals for £7.50.

In the village of Over, ping pong is played in the Community Centre. This venue may not appear in many ALE magazines, but always serves quality table tennis and beer. Whenever we play there, we always seem to encounter fog or snow, or the A14 is shut. On arrival, Elgoods or Woodfordes beers are often available to calm the frayed nerves! Elgood's Cambridge Bitter (3.8%) was in top form on my last visit. This centre even had its own beer festival in the summer.

A super venue for table tennis and beer is the Townley Hall in Fulbourn. This is part of the thriving Fulbourn Centre which boasts

farmers markets, regular ballroom dancing lessons and of course table tennis. The bar itself now has 4 handpumps, 2 of which are Charles Wells/Youngs beers. The third pump tends to have an Oakham Brewery beer, and the fourth also offers something interesting. On my last visit I enjoyed the rich Ketts Rebellion from Woodfordes Brewery in Norfolk. This beer was very bitter and seemed much stronger than the advertised 4.3%. Not far away is The Six Bells with 6 handpumps; on my last trip, their Adnams Bitter (3.7%) was fantastic.

So there we have it. To find and/or contact your local table tennis club, a good starting point is the website [www.tabletennis365.com/cambridge](http://www.tabletennis365.com/cambridge). Next time you fancy coming along to see (or play) sport with real ale why not visit one of the above venues. If only the worldwide games at E20 2ST in August 2012 had provided the same...



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# What do you do ... with a redundant bank?

**Well-You could turn it into another tax-exempt coffee chain ... or, you could open another LLOYDASPOONS**

**But what if it's a village bank barely big enough for Two Tellers and six customers?**

**Well if you are the Postmaster in Willingham near Cambridge you turn it into the area's first Micro Pub!**



Chris Warren always thought running a pub might be a good thing to do between closing the blinds at the Post Office at 5.30pm and letting in the postmen at 5am, so when Lloyds Bank decided to give up the bank in Willingham, wheels started turning in real ale lover Chris's mind and the "What if?" scenario slowly turned to "Why not?" and The Bank moved from imagination to hard bricks and mortar.

With the help of Wife Linda designing and planning the customer side of things, and opening just before Christmas 2012, The Bank offers a selection of real ales served straight from the cask behind the bar in excellent condition.

The range on offer varies from week to week and often day to day as the policy

appears to be to offer the greatest choice of available beers to the public without ties to Breweries.

The first time I visited there were only two beers available, Adnams Broadside (4.7%) and American IPA (4.8%), both in superb condition.

I was told that the reduced selection was due to the good villagers of Willingham seeing off 5 different casks of Ale the previous night! A little investigation revealed the evidence- 12 empty casks awaiting collection at the back of the premises!

On my next visit to The Bank there were four ales available, the Adnams Sole Star (2.7%) and Milton Pegasus (4.1%) that I sampled were, as I have come to expect, on top form. Quietly working on the stillage ready for the next session were Black Sheep and Everard's Old Flame.

The Bank is situated on High Street, Wil-



lingham CB24 5ES and is approximately 5 miles north off the A14 at Bar Hill, it is

also easily walkable from Longstanton Guided Busway.

The Bank is open from 6pm to 10pm on Tuesdays, 5.30pm to 10pm Wednesdays and Thursdays to Saturdays 5.30 to 11pm.

For more details call Chris or Linda at The Bank on 01954 260331

D.T.E. Clowne January 2013



# Tucking Inn - Will's Foodie Page

Ady Hill, one of the seven Milton villagers who clubbed together to save The Jolly Brewers pub, sent me this recipe created by The Brewers' Head Chef, Steve Goddard.

Situated at the north end of the village, this wonderful pub serves locale beer and offers a combination of a community atmosphere accompanied by a dining experience which is a little bit special. The beers should be in tip top condition. Ady and his colleagues have recently successfully completed a Greene King cellar management course.

## Beef and Milton Pegasus Stroganoff

For 4 persons

1/2 kilo good cut of steak (fillet, sirloin or rump) cut into thin strips  
1 x large onion, diced

10 x button mushrooms cut into quarters  
1/2 pint of Milton Pegasus  
1/4 pint of double cream or sour cream  
1 x tablespoon of mustard grain  
Salt and pepper to taste  
1 x teaspoon of Paprika (optional)  
In a good cast iron pan or wok add a tablespoon of oil, when lightly smoking add the steak strips and diced onion.  
Keep stirring until the meat is browned on all sides, add the Milton Pegasus and reduce by half, once reduced add the mustard grain, seasoning.

Add double cream/sour cream and quartered button mushrooms. Reduce the sauce a little to a thick consistency and add the paprika if you like.

Check your seasoning and serve on fluffy boiled rice.

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[www.thesun-waterbeach.co.uk](http://www.thesun-waterbeach.co.uk)



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