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Campaign
for
Real Ale

Cambridge & District Branch Newsletter Issue 398 June 2022



Congratulations Your Majesty!

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Pub News

As we move towards Summer and (hopefully) brighter weather I thought it might be nice to begin Ale 398 with some brighter news.



Congratulations to the Queen Edith, Wulfstan Way which has been designated as the Cambridge CAMRA Pub of the Year 2022.



The competition was very keen, with the much favoured Rural Pub of the Year, Three Horseshoes, Stapleford a close second by a handful of votes.



Our third major award, the Cider Pub of the Year, was given to the Hare and

Hounds at Harlton, helping landlord Tom

Branch Diary

Don't forget that all Branch members are very welcome to attend the monthly business meetings, as well as our socials.

Tue 14 Jun: 20:00. Special General Meeting and Open Branch Meeting, King William IV, Histon

Tue 12 Jul: 20:00. Open Branch Meeting, Admiral Vernon, Over

Sat 16 Jul: 12:00 or 13:00 (tbc). July Strolling Social. Using Citi 7 bus to visit Saffron Waldon, Ickleton, Sawston & Stapleford

Thu 21 Jul: 19:30. Thursday Throng Social, Haymakers, Chesterton.

Tue 9 Aug: 20:00. Open Branch Meeting, Bell Inn, Balsham

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Edited by Will Smith, 32 Lovell Road, Cambridge, CB4 2QR. email: will.smith@cambridge-camra.org.uk

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To place an advert or enquire about our rate card please contact: Neil Richards - 01536 358670, n.richards@btinternet.com

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Pub News continued

Canning to maintain his record of receiving acclaim at every pub he has managed.



Well done to Jess Clausen, landlady of the Elm Tree, Orchard Street, Cambridge who has been recognised as the Charles Wells Beer and Cellar Champion of 2022.



Good news in Great Wilbraham, with the opening of the fully refurbished Carpenters Arms. We

have yet to visit, but if the publicity photos are anything to go by the pub, complete with a fully glazed extension, has been completely transformed. The promise of open fires is always to be welcomed!

We were recently contacted by Amanda Borrill of the Histon newsletter HI HUB www.hihub.info. She, like us, had heard rumours that the Rose and Crown, Glebe Way, Impington was about to close. Amanda contacted Everards who confirmed that the pub will be closed for a short period, but that in their view it has a future as a pub. Cambridge CAMRA objected to a planning application to build a house on a plot of land behind the pub, but a previous application, to build two garages with road access through the pub gardens, went through unnoticed.



Things are looking grim at the Little Rose, Haslingfield. The building has been half demolished, it would appear without having

planning permission. Our pubs officer contacted South Cambs planning office who are aware of the situation but think that the work is acceptable.

It's not looking hopeful that we will see the return of the Chequers in Pampisford. We understand that the pub, which was gutted by fire, has been sold by Admiral Inns. Facebook evidence suggests that it's former licensee may have taken on the White Lion, Sawston. A group of local residents are campaigning to have the pub rebuilt.

A further application has been requested for The Seven Stars, Newmarket Road. The plan is to add two "shoe box sized" flats to the rear of the pub.

There have been a few changes of licensees over the last couple of months, unfortunately with some leaving the trade for good. Jenna Johnson, landlady of North Herts pub, Woodman Inn, Nuthampstead, and of our own The Pheasant Great Chishill, is reported by The Royston Crow (<https://www.royston-crow.co.uk/>) to be moving to work in a local marketing agency, whilst husband Stuart, who's family had run the Woodman for 37 years, has secured a job in the soon to reopen Tivoli, Chesterton Road, Cambridge.



Barry and Fran have left the Duke of Wellington, Church Street, Willingham. When we contacted him,

Pub News continued

new landlord Fab Pylee was celebrating his first weekend in charge : "They drank us dry!"

Barry and Fran continue to own and manage the Porterhouse, Station Road, Willingham.



The Pickerel, which has claims to being the oldest pub in Cambridge, also has a new licensee. Karl Harris learned his cellar skills from former landlord Nathan (?). Locals tell us that both the quality and the selection of beer has improved.

Several pubs have marked the end of Spring with a celebratory beer festival. We managed to get to them all and can happily report of successful events in the Red Lion, Histon, the Three Horseshoes, Stapleford, the Chestnut Tree, West Wrating, the Sun, Waterbeach, the White Horse, Swavesey the Hare and Hounds, Harlton, the Waggon & Horses, Milton and the Haymakers, Chesterton.

The Castiglione family owners and licencees of the Maypole, Portugal Place, Cambridge has asked that we let you know they are open.



Apparently, people are fooled into thinking the pub has closed when they see the boarded-up building site that was the Park Street car park. We recently attended a Star Wars themed tap takeover and can confirm that the beer quality is still very good.

You can keep up to date with pub events happening in the Cambridge area by visiting the events page of Cambridge and

District CAMRA website cambridge-camra.org.uk.

And finally ...



We had a call from Graham, the landlord of the Railway Arms, Saffron Walden. He wanted us to know that his pub had been

recognised as the North West Essex CAMRA Pub of the Year. We are invited over for a beer – an offer we will surely take up as we have learned that the Citi 7 bus offers a direct ride to the historic town and its excellent pubs. We are now planning a Strolling Social on 16 July to start at the Railway Arms.

Will Smith

An advertisement for whatpub.com. It features a man holding two beer glasses up to his eyes like binoculars. The text 'WHAT? PUB' is prominently displayed at the top. Below it, the website 'whatpub.com' is shown with the tagline 'Featuring over 35,000 real ale pubs'. At the bottom, there are three icons: a glass of beer with the text 'Over 96% of Britain's real ale pubs featured', a book with the text 'Information updated by thousands of CAMRA volunteers', and a smartphone with the text 'Created by CAMRA who produce the UK's best beer & pub guide'. The bottom of the ad says 'Thousands of pubs at your fingertips!'.

2022 Summer of Pubs



Before the pandemic, for many, the Cambridge Beer Festival marked the start summer. Sure we had the odd downpour but it's the sunny afternoons and evenings lying on the young grass of Jesus Green with friends, sipping some well-kept beers and ciders from a festival glass that sticks in the memory the longest. Beer Festival week was when summer in Cambridge traditionally began. It wasn't just for Cambridge folk either. People came from across the region and beyond. Some even timed their UK trips to coincide with the Beer Festival. They didn't just enjoy the festival either. They often also tracked down some of our excellent pubs. Pubs that reminded them of times spent when living in Cambridge.

Sadly, for the third year running, there will be no Cambridge Beer Festival on Jesus Green. Obtaining supplies of key elements of the site infrastructure on the scale we needed at the time we wanted them proved to be more than we could manage.

But there will be a summer in Cambridge in 2022 and it will include sunny afternoons and evenings spent sipping well-kept beers and ciders with friends. It may not involve

Jesus Green in late May. Instead it will be in pubs and in villages across the whole of the Cambridge & District branch area and beyond. Without the threat of lockdowns many more beer festivals will be held this year. Pubs like the Maypole, the Empress, the six venues (Blue Moon, Alexandra Arms, Geldart, Calverley's, Peterfield and Cambridge Blue) in the "Cambridge Beer Quarter" and the Pastore & Milton brewery taprooms in Waterbeach will all be holding beer festivals during Beer Festival week (23-28 May). Others will be holding them before and some over the weeks and months that follow. We maintain an informative Events section on our branch website (www.cambridge-camra.org.uk/events) to help you find out what's happening when. This year we want things to be a bit more interactive so we have also set up a Cambridge CAMRA 2022 Summer of Pubs Facebook group (www.facebook.com/groups/359163956145085). We plan to use it to promote local festivals and we want you to use it to tell us about which beers and ciders you are enjoying and where and also to tell people when you hear about events we don't know about. You can post descriptions and pictures. They don't just have to be from beer & cider festivals. You can instead choose your favourite pub or a pub that you have just discovered. You can design your own ale & cider trail in the city or in the countryside that you will spend a day walking, cycling or using public transport to get around. Our map of branch pubs will help you to track them down (<https://pubs.cambridge-camra.org.uk>). CAMRA nationally has its Summer of Pub running from early May to late August. We're going to have our own local version starting sooner and lasting longer with most of the events shared with the nation. Together we can make 2022 a summer to remember.

Alistair Cook

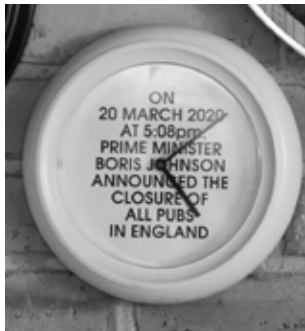
Pubs Officer, Cambridge & District CAMRA

Congratulations Your Majesty!

The 2022 Cambridge and District CAMRA Branch Pub of The Year is The Queen Edith of Wulfstan Way, Cambridge.

As I and many other CAMRA members, mingled with the pub regulars gathered around the well-stocked bar, which boasts the full range of Milton Brewery beers, two guest beers and a hand pump dedicated to real cider, I was struck by the age range of the people gathered in the room. Young couples, families, groups of females sitting comfortably beside gatherings of young males with a smattering of more ancient drinkers (like me). The Queen Edith is part of the Individual Pubs Company, which also boasts previous award winners, The Devonshire Arms and The Haymakers, so it is no surprise that pub manager, Jutt Bloxham, works hard to promote the pub as a hub of the community.

He was brought up in the area. He attended Netherhall School and is keen on local history – there is an historic photo of his grandfather standing outside a local shop – a theme he hopes to continue.



Currently the walls are adorned by “about 40” clocks. (“No-one has asked me how many there are before”) A collection which started as a whim, but

was taken up and carried on by regular customers who continue to donate timepieces to the pub. All but one, which runs backwards, is set to 5.08 pm, the exact time of day in March 2020 Boris Johnson made the announcement that English pubs must close if we were to win against the COVID Pandemic.



Jutt and assistant manager Joe Reijs are keen to continue to raise funds for local causes.

Charity events include regular quiz nights. The proceeds of the latest is going to support the son of a regular customer who is raising funds for a trip to South Korea. They also raise funds to support local schools, and I shouldn't forget the annual beer festival (“This year will be bigger”) which is scheduled for July.

But what about the beer? Is it good?

I'll leave the last word to Steve Maycock, Cambridge CAMRA Branch Secretary, who stated as he voted in favour of the pub: “I have never known them serve a bad pint.”

individualpubs.co.uk/queenedith/

Twitter: @QueenEdithPub



A Cambridge Brewhouse Brewing Experience by Oak

On 8th March as part of International Women's Collaboration Brew Day (IWCBD), The Cambridge Brewhouse's head brewer, Vanesa, hosted an Open Brew Day. This was



The Brew House

part of a worldwide event where female brewers (aka Brewsters) and beer enthusiasts across the world gather in groups to make beer. Participants of IWCBD will usually work in collaboration with their chosen charitable organisation and donate an amount of money made from the beer. This year, Vanesa had chosen Cambridge Women's Aid (CWA).



Front Row L-R Oak, Vanesa, Daryl and Sophie, Back Row L-R Ana and Catia



Oak mashing in

For me, the day started at 10 am. I arrived just in time for mashing in! To my surprise, an ITV Anglia crew turned up

to film a story for the evening news. Vanesa sat down for an interview about the day. I managed to mumble a few nervous sentences for the camera which I hoped would not air!



A batch of 1948 that Vanesa made earlier so we could drink some on IWD

This year was Vanesa's 5th IWCBD and she decided on a West Coast IPA (5%). Named 1948 after the year women were finally granted a Cambridge degree. The Queen Mother was the first as she was given an honorary degree by the University.



Daryl adding hops to the boil

After a couple of hours or so, Sophie (from The Blue Moon) and Daryl (from The Live and Let Live) arrived and we transferred the wort to the kettle and added the hops.

We drank some beer.

Once the wort cooled, it was then transferred to the fermenter where yeast was added. This special brew would be dry hopped for maximum aromas.

After all the hard work was done, we sat down to eat together with the team from

CWA and learned about the incredible work they do as a local organisation that provides support to women and children affected by domestic abuse.

As we made our way through the beer offerings, sure enough, the conversation



Daryl and Oak prepping hops

eventually led to topics such as how the beer industry is not always as welcoming to women as it could be, amongst other things.



Sassy Sophie

When asked about her experience of the day, Sophie said “The importance of brewing this beer as a collective of women was highlighted by the older gentleman in the corner who interjected to tell us how

adorable it was that we were doing this, and who later contradicted head brewer Vanesa by telling her and indeed the entire room that she had underestimated how long it would take to condition. There are so many amazing women in the beer industry, from brewing to drinking and it was incredible to be part of that process. There is still a way to go in terms of visibility and acceptance, but I hope we make a small impact on the Cambridge Beer scene”

Throughout the day, Vanesa generously shared her knowledge with us as well as other groups who dropped by for quick



Vanesa, in her element, making delicious beer

visits. As a new Cambridge resident this was the ideal opportunity for me to meet like-minded woman in the area. It felt good to be in such a welcoming environment, having candid conversations that I might have been reluctant to have otherwise. All in all, it was a great day out and long may it continue.

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Lost pubs of Cambridge(shire)

Yes, I'm still here! Sorry to any loyal readers who were disappointed not to see this column in the last issue of ALE: it was submitted way back in March 2020, but in the intervening two years seems to have got lost. So here it is at last. I hope it was worth the wait!

But first, another apology, this to readers of my occasional Midlands Meanderings column: thanks to my laptop playing up (and more importantly me not checking the proofs – wrists slapped) what was published as the meanderings around Stourbridge was an earlier draft, not the final version. If anyone would like to read it in all its completed glory, with better and more enticing descriptions, get in touch at pub-history@cambridge-camra.org.uk and I'll send you a copy. I revisited back in October 2021 and am happy to report that, aside from the apparent closure of the unimpressive Webster's Brewhouse, all is as it was two years previously.

Right, to business. Those with very long memories will recall that last issue's lost pub was the Duke of Argyle, Argyle Street.



If you've ever wondered whether the pub got its name from the street, or vice versa, well, I can put your mind at rest: the street came first. Along with the adjoining Hope Street and Stockwell Street, Argyle Street shares its name with one of three streets in the centre of Glasgow. "Why should streets

in Glasgow inspire the names of streets in Cambridge?", I hear you ask. Er, I have absolutely no idea...

So, back to the pub. Frederick Bailey of the Star Brewery had an eye for an opportunity. He saw in the mid-1880s how quickly streets and houses were beginning to spring up along Mill Road beyond the railway tracks, and realised that soon the area would need more than the existing three licensed houses to serve them, so he threw up a building on a still-empty stretch of Argyle Street "especially for the accommodation of the public" with "a large square room, a bar, and altogether nine rooms". Building completed, in October 1886 he applied for a licence on behalf of himself and his prospective tenant, a Mr Frank Henry Strickland Pitman.

Having previously viewed the premises, the magistrates were inclined to grant the licence, but at the licensing sessions objections were raised – in a rather excitable manner, apparently – by a Mr Herbert Gape, ratepayer and student at the University, armed with a petition. Such establishments, he contended, were "a cruelty to children – they are already a cruelty to animals," and furthermore would detract from the work of the two Temperance Mission Halls nearby. During a lively exchange between him, the Mayor and the Licensing Bench which probably did his cause no good whatsoever, he had to admit that he was the owner of one of the said Mission Halls. So, not exactly a disinterested party, then. Not surprisingly, Frederick Bailey, with a petition of his own, won the day, and the Duke of Argyle was born (as it were).

How much interest Mr Pitman had isn't clear, and it seems as if he left the running of the place to his wife, because in April 1889 the Cambridge Daily News reports that a "select concert" was held at the Duke of Argyll (sic) for the benefit of Mrs Pitman,

late proprietress. “The programme included some capital songs and recitations, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Mr Wotten acted as accompanist.” They knew how to party in those days! And so the Pitmans removed first to Norfolk and finally to Lancashire, Frank having given up the licensed trade in favour of being a commercial traveller.

Charles Sendy (sometimes Sendey) had already taken over by then, making his mark in January of that year by hosting a dinner for “thirty friends”. After dinner the company were entertained with, yes, you guessed it, “music and songs”, some “excellent”, apparently, from Mr Johnson, Mr Smith and the host. Party like it’s 1889!

Sendy and his wife were originally from Devon, but had evidently spent some time in Canada before turning up in Cambridge, as their two youngest daughters, Daisy and Lily, were born in Toronto. He probably picked up a few songs while he was there, too. Lily will come up again shortly.

Later in April 1889, with the Pitmans well out of the way, Sendy established the Duke of Argyle Bowling Club and held an event to inaugurate the new bowling green and quoit ground behind the pub. Quoits and bowls were relatively unknown in Cambridge at the time, apparently, so the opening day attracted quite a crowd: around 60 curious persons – including some ladies, no less! It was a very successful day, and everyone was most impressed with the catering. Sadly it is not reported whether there was any singing involved as well. But there probably was.

In 1902 another club was inaugurated at the pub: the Romsey Town Cycling Club. Sendy landed the job of treasurer, one of thirteen elected officers. One wonders if there were actually any ordinary members, or did everyone turning up at the meeting get a committee post?

In around 1912 we find a new chap at the helm, Jonathan Martin by name. New name he may be, but he wasn’t a stranger: in the

1911 census he is living on Mill Road along with his son, Frank, and daughter-in-law, Lily – yes, the same Lily who was Charles Sendy’s daughter. She and Frank had been married long enough to have a two-year-old daughter of their own, but it looks like they were soon to move back to Argyle Street.

Jonathan’s tenure seems to have been peaceful – at least, nothing happened to get his name in the papers – and in 1931 he handed the reins over to Frank.

Frank, however, was quick to get out – maybe his wife had had enough of the place – as in the following year we find Sidney Walker in charge, who remained there until the mid-1950s. Even when he retired he only moved a few doors along Argyle Street. Again, his tenure seems to have been untroubled. There was a darts team, and that’s about it as far as the newspapers go.

And then, sadly, we have the usual gap in the recent record – at least, until some rich patron is prepared to grant me a sizeable bursary so I can spend the rest of my life buried in archives – so I’m grateful to Peter Thompson for reporting that during the 1970s/80s the pub was looked after by Ray and Jean Patten and boasted the legendary Argyle Aztecs football team, pictured below.



If anyone can furnish more details about the team and this period of the pub’s life, do get in touch – anonymity available on request.

After that it developed a rather forbidding reputation, as I recall, and had no real ale for most if not all of its final years. In 1994, Pints Worth Finding could only muster the following description:

Lost pubs of Cambridge(shire)

Straightforward back-street local with a single U-shaped bar. Small upstairs function room. Skittles and pool played.



Not something that would encourage a visit, really, is it? Needless to say, it never appeared in the Good Beer Guide, and it eventually closed in 2009, to be replaced by houses:

You wouldn't even know it had been there – which is actually a great compliment to the developers, leaving something seamlessly in keeping with its surroundings rather than

hideously out of place, but it would have been nice to have included some sort of indication of what had once been there (cf. the Fleur-de-Lys).



Now, I think it's time to have a look out of town. Here's the next mystery lost pub. Shouldn't be too difficult to identify:

You know the deal: Tell me what, if anything, you remember about it at pub-history@cambridge-camra.org.uk. It's also not too late to send stories about the pubs I've previously covered. If there's any other pub you'd like to know more about, do get in touch. Don't be shy, I like a challenge!

Cheers for the Beers! Histon Beer Festival makes a welcome return



Don Kelly has been the Chair of The Histon Beer Festival committee for 3 Years. 2022 is the first year that he is having to manage

anything. Yes, The Histon Beer Festival, hosted by the Red Lion pub is back. It runs from 5th to 9th September when Don reckons there will be over 60 beers and ciders on offer.

A variety of music will be played, ranging from Monday evening's Waterbeach Brass Band to Friday's Freddie Hall Motown Special. Traditional pork pies, pizza, Thai food, and a hog roast will be provided by local suppliers – and the profits from the beer sales all go to local good causes.

It's not a festival to be missed!

Schubert, Strauss and Haydn

During the last 2 years I have, like most, not been to many pubs. And, I suspect like many people, I have developed in different directions. While some are now great cooks, others have taken up virtual biking, or rediscovered their childhood love of building Airfix models. Me? I have begun an appreciation of classical music.

I have also discovered that there is a rich variety of classical music to be found in our city - often in the most agreeable of locations. And also near to pubs...



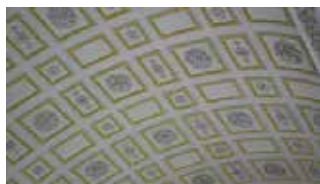
It is a Monday lunchtime and here I am at The Eagle on Bene't Street. The front bar is impressive enough boasting 7 real ales, mainly from the Greene King stable. It is a big pub, popular with tourists. All the tables are brightly polished,

with vases of vibrant spring flowers. There is great attention to detail in this welcoming pub. There are a couple of Wolf Brewery beers, but I opt for a pint of Milestone Hop & Glory (4.3%) from Newark. I am startled to hear that this will set me back a whopping £5.20! This is a balanced, golden ale, with plenty of body, quite oily in texture. After settling with my beer in a little snug to the right of the main entrance, I decide to explore and find the stunning RAF bar.



The Eagle's ceiling is a celebration of anarchy, with scrawls of lipstick and charred images from the 2nd world war, all left there by airmen wanting to leave their mark, to not be forgotten. I adore the curved rear bar, housed among an

array of air memorabilia, bathed in history. I finish my pint and reflect that while £5.20 is undoubtedly more than I am normally willing to part with, this pub must take quite some upkeep, and I am happy to contribute towards this.



Time for some music – a short walk along Kings Parade takes me to a part of Cambridge

that is normally behind closed doors: Clare College, more specifically their 1760s built chapel, resting in the neighbourly shade of Kings College. On entering via the porter's lodge, I turn right and right again and there it is. A simple chapel with 3 rows of pews each side, a chequered black and white tile floor. There are 2 cellos and a set up for 3 further strings. The assembled 40 to 50 audience are hushed and our 5 musicians enter. From the very first strains of Schubert's String Quintet in C Major (D956), the harmonies develop and fill the space. It is only now that I look up and for the second time today my breath is taken away by a magnificent ceiling. As I become lost in the swirling music I could be forgiven for thinking that there is an entire orchestra in here. The second movement is far slower and I find it quite distant and meandering, whereas the third and fourth finish with real force.



The sheer dedication and excellence it takes to perform this

music is truly admirable; I am totally in awe. And all FREE. I leave a few coins in the retiring collection and on leaving I naughtily exit through the rear gate of the college. Not normally open to the public, I enjoy the

by Fred Laband

riot of daffodils and the carpet of crocuses before rejoining The Backs.

There appear to be free lunchtime concerts all over Cambridge, and on Tuesdays it is the turn of the West Road Concert Hall. Today I join 100 or so in the audience for The Cambridge University String Orchestra. We witness a comparatively short piece, Concerto for Strings by Polish composer Bacewicz. This rattles off with gusto and the pace swings along like a giant pendulum – there are 23 strings here, and of course the acoustics are excellent. What a treat. I have never seen a double bass in an orchestra before and there are 3 of them! (A perfect beer match would be a pint of Bass, read on to find out if this happens...)



The second piece is Richard Strauss' *Metamorphosen* from 1946. Further reading reveals that some consider this to be a lament for those that lost their lives in Munich during the second world war. It is a haunting piece of music and I feel lucky to be here. I could only think of one word to sum up this experience; WOW!



On leaving West Road, I turn right and head south for 4 or 5 minutes to The Granta. Another of Cambridge's larger pubs, nothing appears to have changed greatly during the last 2 years. There is still

plenty of warm indoor space with a fine cityscape view across Coe Fen. The Granta's

outdoor area would no doubt have been very attractive during lockdown but on this biting Spring afternoon, I am happy to stay indoors. There are 3 real ales on offer. (No Bass, but it would have been a very long shot!) I go for Punter's Ale, a foaming 3.8% bitter. I am of course NOT fooled into thinking that it has been brewed here and upon asking the barman am not surprised to learn that it has come from Greene King. At £4.45, this really is very well balanced with a good dose of malt and caramel. Largely speaking I do prefer to know the provenance of my drinks, so I contend myself that this could well be a pint of Belhaven Best. It is very good indeed. I negotiate the slalom of internal doors to get to the toilets and then head out into the wind feeling much the better for my visit.



Downing Place United Reform Church offers a superb programme of free lunchtime recitals, and this Wednesday is no exception. Peter Britton and John Richens provide an entertaining menu of piano duets. They kick off with Haydn

(pronounced high-dun) *Il Maestro e lo Scolare*. From 1770, this follows a call and response format, where the master leads the scholar. The structure makes it very immediate to listen to and very enjoyable; perhaps Haydn should have composed more works for 4 hands! There follows some Mahler and Ravel (*Mother Goose*) – the latter features some piano work dominated by the black keys, lending it an Oriental mood. Finally, we enjoy a flourish of dance movements by Seiber.

Schubert, Strauss and Haydn *continued*

This venue always provides a good welcome and even goes as far as providing a detailed little programme so that people like me can appreciate what they are listening to! This is quite a cavernous modern building and I feel very relaxed here. I leave a modest donation which this month is for the Sing Inside organization, raising funds for singing workshops in prisons and young offender institutions. The obvious real ale pairing for today's classical music is just two doors along Downing Street...

Situated on the site of the old Cambridge Building Society, I am very pleased to see a new venture; The Cambridge Tap, an unexpected outlet for McMullen's Brewery from Hertford.



On arrival, I am immediately welcomed, impressed by the number of staff. I do find the pub quite dark with the music louder

than I like, but am pleased to go upstairs which is much lighter featuring views of Emmanuel College across the road.



Looking forward to a pint of Hertfordshire's finest AK bitter, I am now very disappointed to learn that the Tap doesn't serve any cask ale at all... It does have 4 Rivertown brews, all light/pale so I opt for a 4.1% SIPA.

As a session pale ale, I find this quite syrupy

and heavy, but the honeyed taste almost parma violet aftertaste I find more than makes up for my disappointment. I go for an Oklahoma burger (£9.95) served in the most buttery of brioches. A thick slab of beef is accompanied with melted cheese, mustard mayonnaise and some tremendous crunchy beer onions. I resolve that The Cambridge Tap has many positives and look forward to the time when they do indeed provide real ale.

This has been a brief classical music tour of what can be enjoyed in Cambridge at very little expense. Many of these institutions may appear to be inaccessible but they are all genuinely pleased to have people come long to support and enjoy their music. Cambridge's music venues and variety of pubs can take a well-earned bow.



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Paws for thought

Uncle John, my human who organises the Ale magazine deliveries, has been very poorly, so it has been up to my male human to organise the recent deliveries of our favourite pub newsletter. He isn't very organised, so I have helped him with a few deliveries to some new pubs. This has been good fun and I have made lots of new friends.

Our first drop off was to The Plough in Duxford. My human really likes this pub, he says the cellar skills of the person who looks after the beer are very good. It has a lovely, secluded garden and an outside covered drinking area too. I got a lot of attention from Lucy, who happily let her hair down for our impromptu photo shoot.



Gladys and Lucy

Duxford is famous for its historic airfield, which the local customers told me dates back to The First World War and which is



Gladys and Chloe

now a museum. I like to keep my paws on the ground, and we didn't visit.

We then took a drive to Melbourn high street where we found The Dolphin pub. What a wonderfully dog friendly pub this is! I don't think I have ever had my fur more ruffled from getting so much attention. This pub has a doggie get together coffee morning every Tuesday from 10.00 to 12.00. There can be up to 30 dogs! In August they hold a Gruffs Dog show, which raises money for the Wood Green Animal Shelter, who provide the judges.

Sounds like a competition I ought to win! Here I am with Chloe, we had a great time!

It is a short walk from The Dolphin to the Black Horse on Orchard Road. My male human was very taken with the Harvey's Sussex Best Bitter in this pub. He said it is a very rare thing to find it in the Cambridge area. We were welcomed by a very nice



Spike

couple, Rick and Mary Ann who are regular customers to the pub. They recognised me instantly and introduced me to their rescue dog, Spike.

Like my human, Spike's male human is a member of CAMRA, so Spike and I waited patiently whilst they rambled on about different beers until it was time for us to go.

I did have a chance to chat and cuddle with lovely bar person, Jade before we left!

Strictly speaking, I shouldn't be telling you

The wonderings of a pub going dog



Gladys and Jade

about The Maypole, Portugal Place, Cambridge. Dogs aren't allowed inside. However, we are allowed in the heated dining and drinking area beside the pub. On May the 4th we attended to celebrate a Storm Trooper Brewery Tap Takeover event. We were confronted by an Imperial Storm Trooper. I



was about to see him off, but then he sat down and offered me a doggy treat so I decided that maybe storm troopers aren't all bad.

You'll notice the back ground of Cambridge colleges. Don't be fooled, these are only photos, but they do look real. As you stand at the entrance to the pub (at least from my height) it looks just like a very posh street - no lamp posts though - which is probably a good thing.

The Red Lion, Histon, which didn't used to be dog friendly, is now very welcoming to dogs.



Gladys and Lauren

I popped over during their Easter beer festival to say hello to my friend and assistant manager

Sheryl, whom I have known since I was a puppy. She introduced me to lots of new friends, including Lauren, who gave me a lot of attention as I was waiting for my photo shoot.

Woof for now,
Gladys Emmanuelle

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