

# Shakespearebeer

Newsletter of Shakespeare branch of CAMRA - Real ale in Shakespeare Country and The Vale



FREE  
Please  
take one

## Popular pub Ploughs back into big furrow success

First time licensees Steve and Mandy Aubrey, have taken on this former Warwickshire Pub of the Year after a six year search - and they have big boots to fill, the former owners had a great reputation for food and ale. But worry ye not - the branch likes to take a keen interest in all our pubs and when changes happen we take an even keener interest.

This pub, with a once potentially rocky future, we are pleased to report is beginning to blossom again under their guidance and return to being the heart of the village and it oozes charm and character. It looks like it's in the blood - Steve's father ran the **THE GREAT WESTERN ARMS** in Blockley and also growing up in the village, Steve is a local through and through and the thirst for being a landlord has rubbed off. They have brought with them a new head chef Christophe Le Saint, who has a pedigree of turning out top food in a number of prestigious Cotswold pubs and restaurants offering a range of superb homemade dishes using local ingredients where possible. The pub has received a new kitchen and a face lift and a lovely new white washing on the outside. Serving four beers you'll be sure of a good choice - and when we visited we were not disappointed. On offer was *Marstons EPA*,

*Timothy Taylor Landlord, Wye Valley Butty Bach and Wickwar BOB*. So pleased are we as a CAMRA branch with the progress of Steve and Mandy and how they have improved the pub, we felt them worthy of our 'Pub of the Season' Award of Winter

2014/15 and having only taken less than a year to achieve this award is some feat! It only leaves me to wish them on behalf of the branch all the very the best and hope that long may their success continue.



• Dave Page, Treasurer (left), Mandy and Steve Aubrey



Use your mobile phone's QR reader to scan

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



OUR WATER, OUR HOPS, OUR FINE CRAFT ALES



# STRATFORD UPON AVON'S NEWEST AND ONLY BREWERY...

In fact, we're more than Stratford Upon Avon's only brewery. **We're also one of the UK's most eco-friendly too.** And luckily for our customers, being ecologically sound goes nicely hand-in-hand with producing great tasting beer, with no additives or chemicals...

**Water from our own well, six varieties of hops grown on our land and our solar powered brewery** are just part of what makes the Stratford Upon Avon Brewery unique. Even **our left-over malts and hops get recycled** with the help of our hungry pigs.



**Contact** Rich Williams  
07866 495 232  
[rich@sua-brewery.co.uk](mailto:rich@sua-brewery.co.uk)  
[www.sua-brewery.co.uk](http://www.sua-brewery.co.uk)  
@suabrewery  
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# Chairman's Letter

*For those of you who normally receive **Shakesbeer** in the post you will be used to a word from our Chairman, Lloyd Evans. We have decided to include this in the magazine so that those who might be thinking about coming and joining the branch in a more active way can see a small summary of what we get up to that previously may not have made it in here.*

## Hello Branch Members,

Since the last edition of the magazine I am pleased to report that we have reached quite a milestone in the history of the branch regarding membership numbers. We heard recently that the four hundredth member had come forward to join CAMRA in the Shakespeare area and I would like to offer a personal welcome to all of you who continue to support our work by joining the branch.

Opportunities for social events are also then increasing thanks to the work of our Social Secretary, John Bloomfield and at this point I would like to thank Guy and Tim who together with their respective teams made the branch members more than welcome during our visits to *North Cotswolds* and *Patriot* breweries (Norman Knight).

The positive news continues and after the concerns that I mentioned in my previous letter regarding two of our more historically well known pubs in Alcester, I am pleased to say that both have successfully re-opened with a good choice of well-kept real ales.

The first to do so was the **HOLLY BUSH** which was bought by Everards and as of this week it is now under the guidance and direction of Nigel Smith from **THE FLEECE** in Bretforton ably assisted by Tom behind the bar. With up to four Everards beers supplemented by up to four others freely chosen by Nigel it is now well placed again to maintain the high standards it previously achieved in the community.

Whilst mentioning high standards, it was also a real pleasure to hear of developments at **THE THREE TUNS** which officially opened on the 6th March with the licensee being Mandy Downes from **THE CROSS KEYS**. With nine hand pumps on the bar, three of which are currently selling cider or perry, the overall choice of beers in Alcester is now once again quite impressive and well worth an evening out and about town to find out for yourselves.

**Finally can I please remind you that the beer festival is being held over the weekend of the 12th / 13th June this year and we are looking for members to help us in a variety of different ways in order to make this a success.** Even if you can only offer a few hours of support it would be greatly appreciated and it is quite a straight forward process to register your interest through the festival web site on – [www.stratfordbeerfestival.org.uk](http://www.stratfordbeerfestival.org.uk)

**Next Branch Meeting:**  
**Branch AGM - THE FLEECE, Bretforton WR11 7JE**  
**April 22nd 8pm**

Best wishes as always,

Lloyd








# The best things in life are three

Visitor Centre open Mon - Sat 9.30am - 4.30pm all year round  
[www.hooky.co.uk](http://www.hooky.co.uk) e: [vc@hooky.co.uk](mailto:vc@hooky.co.uk)

 [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**

HANDCRAFTED BEERS FROM THE  
COTSWOLD HILLS SINCE 1849



# Pub News & Reports...

## Alcester THE HOLLY BUSH

Well, in the last Shakesbeer we were painting a very sad story. It had closed without warning and the future was looking very bleak! To our great surprise we need not have been glum. The pub was sold to Everards who reopened it before Christmas with a temporary manger in place and then set about a small "clear out" and light refurbishment. In the meantime they also set about looking for a permanent tenant. Fast forward to March 2nd and much to our delight this pub is now under the stewardship of Nigel Smith who has put in place manager Tom Walker from one of his other pubs, **THE FLEECE INN**, multi award winning pub. Nigel now has a small empire forming including in **THE CARDINALS HAT** in Worcester. At **THE HOLLY BUSH** you will find a 50/50 tie between Everards and free pumps. A few more works are to take place to bring the old building back ship shape. The hunt is also on for a quality chef to allow the kitchen to fire on all cylinders. You will also find WiFi throughout. In its early days under new guidance, the beer range has not disappointed and a cask of *Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby Mild* and *Bathams Best Bitter* was available. Myself, I visited here a week ago to find an exceptional pint of



Beer Drinker, Reader or CAMRA Member - the reports and short stories below all come from people like yourself, so if you find yourself in one of our wonderful pubs, feel free to drop us a note about anything you think should be in this section! [shakesbeer@shakespearecamra.org.uk](mailto:shakesbeer@shakespearecamra.org.uk)

*North Cotswold Best Bitter*. So what can we say - it looks like the Fleecy magic has rubbed off on this former CAMRA award winning pub. We wish Nigel, Tom and The Holly Bush team all the best and long may it continue.

## THE THREE TUNS

March 7th saw the long awaited reopening of this once popular pub, it is now under the guidance of Mandy Downes who readers may know from the **THE CROSS KEYS** just around the corner. It has opened with nine hand pulls serving cider and perry and up to six ales. They too have had the much coveted *Bathams Best Bitter* and on my recent visit I was very pleased with a pint of *Hobsons Shropshire Stout*.



## THE SWAN HOTEL

After a somewhat shaky existence this pub-cum-hotel has finally closed its doors on February 28th with a small party for local followers. At the time of writing the establishment is up for lease noted as having "flexible terms" and we think this place should be a gold mine as there is a real lack of hotel rooms in the area. We understand the landlord here has departed to care take **THE TRUMPET** in Evesham.

## THE WHITE LION

After a good stint of 10 years here, Dave and Sharon Lloyd are moving on at the end of June to northern pastures to take on a new pub venture. They were awarded 'Branch Pub of the Season' Summer 2011 after being recognised for introducing real ale to the pub and then actually increasing the real ale sale to require more hand pumps. Partaking in the national festivals



that happen - National Pie Week, Sausage festivals and more, backed up by local brewery tap take overs, they will be sorely missed. We understand that the lease has been taken on by an unknown that has around a dozen others who will put in a "manager" - we wait to see if they can keep up the standards in this great pub!

## Broadway BROADWAY HOTEL

Our reporter visited here around Christmas time and let us know that there are two regular *Wickwar* beers, normally *BOB* and *Cotswold Way* with guests of *Hooky Bitter* and others rotating.

## HORSE AND HOUND

This high street pub continues to offer four ales consisting of *Sharps Doornbar*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



# Pub News & Reports...

and *Purity Mad Goose* as regulars and two other rotating guests from the Enterprise ales list.

## LYGON ARMS HOTEL

Sadly here we still see no hand pull, maybe one day...

## THE SWAN HOTEL

A popular food pub, they are maintaining three hand pulls with staple regulars - *Doom Bar* and *Purity Ubu* along with interesting guests such as *Harvistoun Bitter* and *Twisted* or *Betty Stogs*.

## THE CROWN AND TRUMPET

This regular award winning Cotswold pub needs no introduction and you will always find three ales, two ciders and a perry here. Andrew Scott, Landlord has returned to one of his favourites *Timothy Taylor Landlord*. Also here are two local ale contenders *Stanway Artists Ale* and *Stroud Tom Long*. This is worth a walk around the corner from the high street.

## Childswickham CHILDSWICKHAM INN

This less reported pub is easily found on the Evesham Rd to Broadway. A smart looking inn and brasserie, you will find good food here and likely two ales - normally *Doom Bar* and *Hook Norton Old Hooky*. As the weather warms up you'll find a pleasant garden with seating on decking. Worth straying off the beaten track.

## Evesham THE TRUMPET

We have learnt the fate of this Hook Norton town centre pub is looking shaky once more, having only been reopened for just under a year. There is a Waitrose development next door and rumours are that the developers are in talks with Hooky to buy it and encompass in to the shop development. In the mean time we say farewell to Charles and Kate Stewart

who have headed north to Liverpool to set up a new venture. In the meantime it is rumoured the landlord from **THE SWAN**, Alcester will take over a short termination notice lease until its fate is decided.

## ANGEL VAULTS

Two handpumps are available here with *Doom Bar* being the regular which is joined by *Tribute* at the weekends and in the summer. Currently going through Cask marque status where stage one has been completed.

## AMBER CAFE

Sadly here we report there is no longer real ale available and the pumps have been removed.

## BEAR

Two handpumps are available here with *Hooky Lion* on one and a real cider *Old Rosie* on the other. Hooky is a rotating guest.

## BBC/ECGWINS CLUB

The regular beer here is now *Doom Bar* with two rotating guests where the policy is a "house guest" below 4% and another "guest" above 4%.

## OLD RED HORSE, 17 VINE ST

Beers here are found to be sourced from the SIBA independent list with a *Purity Ubu* often found here.

## NORTHWICK HOTEL

Now has two handpumps with the regular beer being *Wadworth 6X*. The second handpump is said to be in operation during summer months with *London Pride*.

## THE ORCHARD, TWYFORD ROUNABOUT

Two Real ales usually now available on the three hand pumps taken from a range of nine *Marstons* group beers. For Christmas, as a one off, *Ringwood Reinbeer* was on along with *Jennings Cumberland Bitter* from their "usual" range.

## RUBY JACKS, BEWDLEY ST

Remains as no Real Ale available.

## STRAWBERRY FIELDS, CHARITY CRESCENT

Three real ales as per our current web site but *Doom Bar* is now regular.

## RED LION

If you were looking for any more reasons to visit Evesham's newest pub, you can now get involved in the bi-weekly pub quiz recently started or the monthly music night. A range of *Cannon Royall* beers are always available here with at least one dark one! The new *Comfortably Stout* seems to be going down well, get it while you still can!

## North Littleton THE IVY

We learned just before Christmas this village local had shut its doors, but we understand this has been taken on by local pub extraordinaire Graham who has a number of local pubs under his belt - to name a few **THE BEAR**, Evesham and **THE ROUND OF GRAS** Badsey.

## Offenham BRIDGE INN

The beers here are reduced to two beers in the winter, over the Christmas period *Bass and Wells* / *Young Good Stuffing* were available to be replaced by other *Wells* seasonals.

## FISH AND ANCHOR

Our roving reporter tells us two beers are regularly available here - *Doom Bar* and *UBU*

## Barton THE COTTAGE OF CONTENT

This popular village local has now reopened after a refurbishment including improved and covered access to the toilet





● Cottage of Content

facilities and the introduction of an extra room. Sporting three beers - *Hooky Best*, *Black Sheep Best* and *Shepard Neame Spitfire*, it also seems to have attracted the attention of the local MP! Noted on the blackboard that it is open all day every day from noon subject to licensee's discretion (10.30pm closing Mon/Tue/Sun, 11pm Wed, midnight Thur/Fri/Sat).

## Snitterfield SNITTERFIELD ARMS

Our reporter ventured out on a cold and misty December lunchtime to find the car park full and had to park in the road. Inside they were welcomed by an open log fire and a choice of three cask beers on handpump. *Greene King IPA* is the regular and there can be three further cask beers which change from time to time. A pint of *Otter Ale* was first rate and *Brakspear Bitter* was also available with *Black Sheep Bitter* just finished.

## Wootton Wawen BULL'S HEAD

Here, our reporter was welcomed by an open fire and found two cask beers on handpump. One was the regular *Anderson's Ale*, badged for the chef / landlord, and at 4.9% was tasted and soon identified as the excellent *Ringwood Fortyniner*. The other beer changes from time to time and is chosen from the

Marstons list (*New World Pedigree* on their visit).

## NAVIGATION

There is a lovely canalside garden here which on a summer's day is an attractive place to sup a beer and watch the narrow boats coming and going from the boat hire base. Inside the pub our reporter found *Ruddles County* (the regular beer) and a second cask ale called "*A Good Stuffing*" from *Wells*. This guest ale continually changes.

## Tysoe THE PEACOCK

Has won the top prize for cellar management and beer quality amongst all Punch Taverns nationwide. Landlady Jan who cleans the pipes after every firkin and thereby guarantees a superb pint with a fine head and good cling, tells an amusing story of how her technique was discovered.

Like most Punch Taverns, each beer line is monitored by telemetering so Punch has an up to date record of throughput. This led to a visit from Punch who suspected Jan was "buying in" and avoiding the tie. How else was the meter reading so high? It was easy to explain - the regular cleaning was causing the high reading. The pub opens at 5pm Mon-Fri and all day Saturday and Sunday. On a recent visit the telemetered beers were *Adnams Broadside*, *Exmoor Gold* and *Brains Bread of Heaven*.

## Wixford THE THREE HORSESHOES

After a period of closure, this quaint historic village local is open once again under the guidance of Lucy Lewis who is a local lass born and bred. Food will return shortly and events will begin to fill the calendar. From the off there are four beers

available - currently *Wye Valley HPA* and *Butty Bach*, *Wells Bombardier* and *Sharps Doom Bar*.

## Bearley RUSTIC KITCHEN AT THE GOLDEN CROSS

Has recently reopened and with a new name which reflects the dedication to good food. Our reporter found a fine pint of *Purity Mad Goose* on handpump on a recent visit. The pub closes on Mondays but is open all day for food and drinks for the remainder of the week.

## Edghill THE CASTLE

This Hook Norton historic house has recently been awarded two AA rosettes after only being open 10 months after a major refurbishment. Quite an accolade as there are only 10% of establishments get one!

## Harvington THE GOLDEN CROSS

Once again this village pub is closed, after just about a year Derek and Lesley Cook have closed the doors on February 22nd with a small party to thank locals. Running costs versus income are blamed for the venture closing.

## Great Alne MOTHER HUFF CAP

We can report that along with a number of recent reopenings in this area of the branch the Huff Cap is back open again under the stewardship of the Steak and Cider chain who some will know as they run the The Four Alls in Welford, where you are likely to find on offer *Old Rosie Cider*, *Doom Bar*, *Wye Valley HPA* and *Purity Gold* on handpull along with a competitive priced menu.



# LocAle

**CAMRA LocAle - promoting pubs that sell locally-brewed real ale, reducing the number of 'beer miles', and supporting local breweries. CAMRA LocAle is an initiative that promotes pubs stocking locally-brewed real ale. The scheme builds on a growing consumer demand for quality local produce and an increased awareness of 'green' issues.**

The CAMRA LocAle scheme was created in 2007 by CAMRA's Nottingham branch which wanted to help support the tradition of brewing within Nottinghamshire, following the demise of local brewer Hardys and Hansons. Following on from our Locale feature in Shakesbeer Spring 2013 we will be keeping you up to date on the most recent Locale accredited pubs. Below are our most recent locale conscriptors and so you should be able to track down a pint of beer produced with 30 miles of that pub.

## **Everyone benefits from local pubs stocking locally-brewed real ale...**

- Public houses as stocking local real ales can increase pub visits
- Consumers who enjoy greater beer choice and diversity
- Local brewers who gain from increased sales
- The local economy because more money is spent and retained locally
- The environment due to fewer 'beer miles' resulting in less road congestion and pollution
- Tourism due to an increased sense of local identity and pride - let's celebrate what makes our locality different

Accreditation is at the sole discretion of the local CAMRA branch and subject to the licensee agreeing to the following...

- That they will endeavour to ensure at least one locally brewed real ale, as defined by the local branch, is on sale at all times
- Only real ale, as defined by CAMRA, can be promoted as a CAMRA LocAle
- Where the standard of real ale sold falls below an acceptable quality, accreditation will be withdrawn
- That accreditation can be withdrawn at any time at the discretion of the local branch
- That should accreditation be withdrawn, or should the licensee withdraw from the scheme, all LocAle publicity material must be removed from the pub and the licensee cease using the CAMRA LocAle logo.



## **Definition of Local**

The Sustainable Communities Act, which CAMRA strongly supports, provides a definition of local as up to 30 miles from the point of sale. CAMRA recommends that the distance is calculated from the pub to the brewery and should be based on the shortest driving distance. Real ales from regional and national breweries as well as from microbreweries can be

regarded as "local" if they are brewed within what the branch has decided as being the local area.

## **How do I find a LocAle Pub?**

Pubs which have been given LocAle status by their local CAMRA branch can display the LocAle sticker on their windows/doors. The stickers have the

year for which they have been accredited as LocAle pubs by their branch. They may also have posters up in the pub and on the pumps that are serving locally brewed beers there will be LocAle pump clip crowners.

To find a locale accredited pub in this area see the branch website and look for the <http://www.shakespearecamra.org.uk/rainshc/>

**Stratford Ale House** Stratford :: **Fox & Hounds** Great Wolford :: **Howard Arms** Ilmington :: **Red Lion** Little Compton :: **Red Lion** Long Compton :: **George Hotel** Lower Brailles :: **White Hart** Newbold-on-Stour :: **Peacock** Oxhill :: **White Bear** Shipston-on-Stour :: **Plough** Stretton-on-Fosse :: **Gate Inn** Upper Brailles :: **Bell Inn** Welford-on-Avon :: **The Fleece** Bretforton :: **Crown & Trumpet** Broadway Castle Edgehill :: **Boars Head** Hampton Lucy :: **Queens Head** Sedgberrow :: **Coach & Horses** Shipston :: **The Black Horse Inn** Shipston **The Falcon** Stratford :: **New Bulls Head** (formerly **The West End**) Stratford :: **The Bear** Stratford :: **Norman Knight** Whichford **Bidford Legion** Bidford :: **The Golden Bee** Stratford :: **The White Lion** Alcester



# Manifesto for Pubs and Real Ale

On 7th May the UK will go to the polls for the General Election. Now is the perfect time to tell candidates in your area that pubs matter and deserve to be protected.



CAMRA has produced a **MANIFESTO FOR PUBS AND REAL ALE** setting out our campaign priorities ahead of the General Election.

We are asking election candidates to commit to the following pledges:

- **Support well-run community pubs**
- **Promote Britain's 1,300 breweries**
- **Represent pub goers and beer drinkers**

Already over 500 candidates have pledged their support. Find out if your local

candidate has here <http://ge2015.camra.org.uk/>

There are a few key ways you can help ensure pubs are a priority in this election.

*Please consider:*

- Urging your Parliamentary Candidates to sign our pledges: Lobby your candidate now
- Ask your Candidate to support CAMRA's Manifesto via our General Election website: <http://ge2015.camra.org.uk/>
- Organise a meeting with your local

Candidate or the current MP to discuss how they can support CAMRA's key campaigns

- Attend Hustings events in your local area and ask questions about beer and pubs
- Use social media to promote the campaign by tweeting @CAMRA\_Official
- **Share this campaign: Tell your friends and family all about how they can also get involved**

## The Broom Tavern



BEAUTIFUL 16TH CENTURY PUBLIC HOUSE

TRADITIONAL BAR SERVING LOCAL AWARD WINNING REAL ALES, CIDERS AND FINE WINES AND SITUATED IN ONE OF SHAKESPEARE'S DRINKING HAUNTS

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GREAT QUALITY, FRESH LOCAL INGREDIENTS BROUGHT TOGETHER TO CREATE FANTASTIC SEASONAL MENUS FROM TWO WELL ESTABLISHED CHEFS IN THE MIDLANDS

REFURBISHED AND RESTORED BOTH INSIDE AND OUT, OFFERING FREE WI-FI AND DAILY NEWSPAPERS

LOVELY SUNDAY LUNCHES WITH FRITZ'S FAMOUS YORKSHIRE PUDDINGS SERVED EVERY WEEK FROM 12PM

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SATURDAY AND SUNDAY  
OPEN ALL DAY FROM 12.00PM

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Email us at [enquiries@thebroomtavern.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thebroomtavern.co.uk) or call us on 01789 778199

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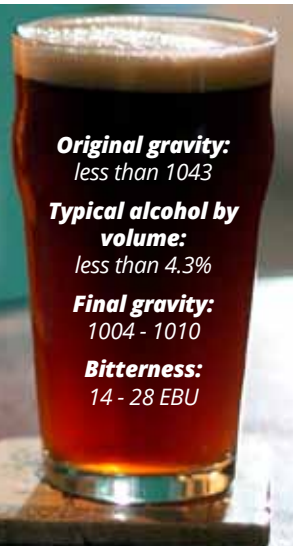
# May is Mild!

CAMRA says **May is Mild**, where hopefully you will find an offering in at least one of your local pubs. You ask what is Mild? An old man's drink, perhaps of a post war Britain?

Far from it these days, we also have a few of breweries local and within the branch producing some lovely milds: *Church End Gravediggers Ale* and *North Cotswold Mayfair Mild*; to find out others that you can expect to see, checkout the CAMRA mild site...

**[www.camra.org.uk/milds-in-your-region](http://www.camra.org.uk/milds-in-your-region)**

Milds are black to dark brown to pale amber in colour and come in a variety of styles from warming roasty ales to light refreshing lunchtime thirst quenchers. Malty and possibly sweet tones dominate the flavour profile but there may be a light hop flavour or aroma. Slight diacetyl (toffee/butterscotch) flavours are not inappropriate. Alcohol levels are typically low. Pale milds tend to have a lighter, fruitier aroma with gentle hoppiness. Dark milds may have a light roast malt or caramel character in aroma and taste. Scottish cask beers may have mild characteristics with a dominance of sweetness, smooth body and light bitterness.



**Original gravity:**  
less than 1043

**Typical alcohol by volume:**  
less than 4.3%

**Final gravity:**  
1004 - 1010

**Bitterness:**  
14 - 28 EBU

THE AREA'S  
ONLY MICROPUB

**THE STRATFORD**  
*Alehouse*  
Cask Ales, Ciders  
& Wines

We are a family-run business with a pledge to support smaller, local breweries as well as casting our net further afield to the four corners of the British Isles in our quest to maintain an unusual and varied selection of beers.

**Opening hours:**  
Monday-Friday 1.00-8.00pm (or later)  
Saturday 12.00-8.00pm (or later)  
Sunday 12.00-4.00pm  
Last admission 30 mins prior to closing

**Real Ale**  
Served as it's meant to be....  
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# Brewery News...

## STRATFORD-UPON-AVON BREWERY

Well it might be easier to start this with what Richard Williams has NOT been up to with the brewery and the beers.

Since we last reported on his activities, Rich has seen the demand for his beer increase to levels that well surpass his expectations. So far the beer has been seen in a large number of local pubs ...

**THE FLEECE, STRATFORD ALE HOUSE, THE BEAR FREE HOUSE, THE NORMAN KNIGHT, THE BELL**

Alderminster, **STRATFORD ARTS HOUSE, THE FUZZY DUCK, ROSE AND CROWN** Ratley, **WILMCOTE SPORTS AND SOCIAL, THE BOARS HEAD** Hampton Lucy, **THE HARVESTER** Long Itchington, **CHURCH ST TOWN HOUSE, THE WILD BOARD** Warwick, **THE OLD POST OFFICE** Warwick, **THE GOLDEN BEE, THE TURKS HEAD** and **THE WHIPPET INN** Lichfield... to name just a few!



Beer was also accepted in to two winter ale festivals –Tewkesbury Winter Ales run by Gloucestershire CAMRA and the CAMRA National Winter Ales held at the wonderful Roundhouse Derby, where all four beers were present achieving a sell out with the *Malty Pig* on the Friday night. A full range of beers will also be available at this year's Shakespeare branch festival at the racecourse.

Since the first time I went to meet Rich, this unprecedented demand has necessitated the need to buy bigger brewing kit, trebling capacity. So impressed were **THE BELL**, Alderminster, that they have

commissioned the brewery for the own house brew, *Alscot Ale*.

I hope I have captured everything here, I am unsure how three months can see so much activity!

A charity which is very dear to the Williams family will have a beer named for them which will be sold at their events to raise money for 353.org.uk to help the military community. This trust commemorates Private Conrad Lewis' life and is setup and run by his parents after he lost his life fighting in Afghanistan – do check out their good work.

## NORTH COTSWOLD BREWERY

We have previously reported how busy things have been for NCB and things don't seem to show signs of slowing down yet! The brewery has been utilising the doubling of their capacity since August to great effect. In the run up to Christmas they were working at almost 100% to enable extra stocks to be generated and were only limited by manpower. The increase, plus the use of the new cask washer at ten times the speed, has made for far easier production runs and at increased efficiency rates. They also now have sufficient stocks of casks for their customers. The brewery intends to release a mild in March using English hops at 3.8% called Moreton Mild which is a classic dark mild with a nutty palate. The brewery has also seen visits from several local CAMRA branches including the Shakespeare branch in mid-January. As such is their current popularity in the much improved and consistent beers which are now being produced, they are very pleased with their award for "winner for the festival" for *Hung Drawn 'n' Portered* at the North Cotswold CAMRA Summer festival 2014.



## HOOK NORTON BREWERY

Well it seems it's all

systems go for all breweries and Hooky is no exception. Having recently installed a new smaller brew kit for producing crafted beer, they took *R B Imperial Stout* 10%, *Rye IPA* 4.5% and *Yard Arm* 7% along to Craft Beer Rising in London this February and at the international brewing awards, *Hooky* and *Old Hooky* won Gold and Silver respectively in the bottled ale competition - for two very established beers, this is a great accolade. The new Hook Norton *Greedy Goose* which is a seasonal winter brew, had doubled in expected volumes and due to the popularity, a limited bottle run will also be produced.

They have also been privileged to run the brewery bar in the House of Commons recently for an event which is an unfamiliar location. This event was for members of the British Beer and Pub Association (BBPA) and members of the Houses of Parliament.



• Brigid Simmonds, Chief Executive of the BBPA behind the bar at the reception getting to grips with the Hook Norton Beer.

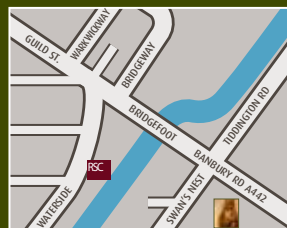


# The Bear

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Shakespeare  
Branch  
**Warwickshire  
Pub of the  
Year  
2015**



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## AWARD WINNING BEERS CRAFTED WITH A CONSCIENCE...

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We hold beer and food events throughout the year and specialise in designing specialist premium beer menus for our customers. Please contact the team for more information.



### RECYCLE WHENEVER AND WHATEVER WE CAN

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### WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT COMMUNITY

The purity team are huge music fans and enjoy sponsoring events like Moseley folk festival and mostly jazz, funk and soul festival.





# North Cotswolds comes to the Vale for a rematch!

It had been two years in the making, having been a reasonably regular event with North Cotswold. Always a good spirited skittles event at the **COACH & HORSES**, Harvington, North Cotswold CAMRA returned to Shakespeare county in an attempt to retain the crown. Some say they only came for the good beer – which was *Abbot Ale*, *Wye Valley HPA* and *Wychwood Pile Driver*, all on handpull.

With a packed alley at The Coach, (one of our very few pubs with an alley) the scene was set. A slow start ensued as people got the feel of the alley and then the pace picked up. Ably assisted by the regular alley assistant Celwyn, play was smooth. A short break was taken whilst large amounts of hearty beef stew and crusty bread were consumed, provided by our hosts - Steve and Di Salter, Landlord and Lady and fuelled and raring to go, there was one leg left. I can't say that it was a romping victory but Shakespeare were victorious. Prizes were awarded for top score

Male and Female, although we did not have a wooden spoon prize, our branch secretary seems very proud of her lowest overall score accolade – sorry Gwen! Top overall score goes to Garry Hayward of North Cotswold - 30 over four legs and rather embarrassingly two other top prizes went to the landlord and lady however they were quick to donate this to the Air Ambulance charity. We were also pleased to welcome two of the branches newest members on their first social with us. A big welcome to Andrew & Elizabeth Gorsuch.

● The visitors...



● Roger Price, North Cotswold Chairman, with Jason Norledge

- Four Real Ales
- Real Cider
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FRIDAY 12TH & SATURDAY 13TH JUNE 2015

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Check out the website for forthcoming events

Shakespeare  
 CAMRA  
 Worcestershire  
**Pub of  
 the Year  
 2013**





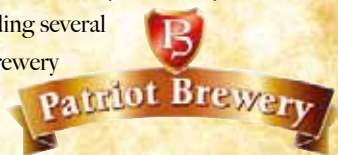


CAMRA  
WARWICKSHIRE  
COUNTY  
PUB OF THE YEAR  
2012

# THE NORMAN KNIGHT



The Norman Knight is open seven evenings per week and Tuesday to Sunday lunchtimes serving a choice of up to seven real ales including several brewed on the premises at our award winning Patriot Brewery plus two real ciders and Perry.



With real log fires in both bars during winter months The Norman Knight is a perfect place to unwind and relax, with its enviable position overlooking Whichford village green in the rural Cotswolds district and an in area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



Popular with walkers and cyclists throughout the year and with our Caravan Club approved CL site at the rear of the pub why not make a weekend of it.



Not only do we serve well kept ales and ciders we also have an eclectic and regularly changing wine list overseen by our qualified wine and beer sommelier Richard which of course leads us on to our fantastic restaurant overseen by our well loved French Chef Jean-Michel.



Jean-Michel has pulled together a well balanced menu combining pub classics interlaced with traditional French and more modern dishes. Regularly changing menus and specials all cooked fresh using locally sourced and seasonal ingredients with plenty of choice means that you will be spoilt for choice either at lunch or for dinner.



Live music features throughout the year covering all musical tastes – check out our website for all the up to date menus, opening times and music, or follow us on Facebook or Twitter @thenormanknight.

THE NORMAN KNIGHT WHICHFORD NEAR SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR WARWICKSHIRE  
TELEPHONE 01608 684621 WWW.THENORMANKNIGHT.CO.UK

# The Brewery Double!

The end of January saw Branch members gathering together for what was going to be a memorable day visiting two of the breweries within our Branch. Both Guy Holiday from the **North Cotswold Brewery**, at Ditchford Farm (close to Stretton-on-Fosse), and Tim Young from the **Patriot Brewery**, at the **NORMAN KNIGHT** at Whichford, had both very kindly offered brewery tours and who were we to say no.

Our Branch Social Secretary, John Bloomfield, had made meticulous plans to pick up members from around the Branch by bus and we all were eagerly awaiting our first visit of the day as we bounced down the track leading to the North Cotswold Brewery.

We were warmly greeted by head brewer Guy and his wife Sandra. First things first he said and we marched off to the recently expanded conditioning room for the liquid delights on offer straight from the cask. What a duo and both award winners – the pale hoppy bitter brewed with a blend of three New Zealand hops, *Shagweaver* 4.5% ABV, and the deliciously moorish strong, dark treacle coloured porter, with Bramling Cross hops *Hung, Drawn 'n' Portered* 5.0% ABV.

Whilst the beer eagerly flowed Guy gave us a detailed history of the brewery from its initial start-up in the ex-dairy shed to

how the business has grown over the years and with more investments is still growing stronger every day. With the assistance of DEFRA, brewers, friends and family the brewery was able to undergo a major transformation and increase in capacity in the middle of 2014. Working with DEFRA

---

*The brewery will be releasing a Mild brewed with English hops... brewing starts at the end of February with a launch on 9th March. Keep a look out for Moreton Mild*

---

Guy was able to calculate the improvements in efficiency too. Previously the brewery had been using about four pints of water used to produce about one pint of beer, but Guy had been able to reduce this to around three pints for each pint produced. Part of

this change saw the installation of a new 26 barrel fermenting vessel which proved a tight squeeze with millimetres to spare through the old dairy stone entrance door. We were shown around the recently refurbished brewing room as Guy explained how cleanliness and consistency were the answer to quality and of course customer satisfaction with the drinker in the pub. The new fermenting vessel benefits from a self-cleaning action, plus the introduction of the cask washer has seen a laborious cask cleaning procedure of 80 casks in a whole day's hard work reduced to 50 casks per hour with a semi-automated washer – what a time and labour saver!

The brewery has been concentrating on the core range of four beers and will be releasing a Mild brewed with English hops. Brewing starts at the end of February with a launch on 9th March. Keep a look out for *Moreton Mild* at 3.8% ABV. A big thank-you





to Guy and the whole family for a great visit but it was soon time to be on our way...

## ...and then on to the second brewery, the Patriot at Whichford

**Patriot** is a classic five barrel micro-brewery, neatly tucked away behind the **NORMAN KNIGHT** brewery tap, overlooking the village green in Whichford.

After a quiet spell the owner, Tim Young, has enlisted the help of brewer Ian from Somerset (where he is a renowned cider maker) to ramp up the brewing volumes back to 2012 levels. Ian describes himself as a traditionalist brewer, balancing Tim's interest in New World hops and new techniques. We can be assured Ian and Tim will be continuing the Patriot tradition of interesting, quality beers in the future. Patriot currently supplies four local pubs and two more in Somerset, where Tim and Ian now produce organic cider. The increase in beer production will see the



welcome return of 'Nelson', a 4.0% ABV session bitter brewed with a blend of US and English hops.

After Tim showed us around the brewery, we called in to the **NORMAN KNIGHT** where everyone had a pint of freshly brewed *Morris*. Originally a seasonal beer brewed to celebrate May day (Morris dancing), *Morris* is a 3.8% ABV light bitter/pale ale brewed with Maris Otter malt and a single hop - Citra, giving a delicate dry and fruity finish.

We thought it couldn't get any better - great beer and a plate of squid rings around an open wood fire, and then Pete Godfrey found a didgeridoo hanging in the inglenook and gave an enchanting recital, which we think was Mozart's 'Die Furzen Kuh'. Yes, a memorable visit enjoyed by all involved.

---

*We can be assured Ian and Tim will be continuing the Patriot tradition of interesting, quality beers in the future.*

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4.00pm - 11.00pm

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# John's Story

Sunny Shakespeare Branch

Brewery Liaison Officer and  
Social Secretary



## CAMRA volunteer

After a long association with homebrew and real ale, my wife brought me a CAMRA membership as a birthday present approximately 3 years ago.

I read the branch magazine, looked at our website and eventually attended a meeting or two.

A key moment though was volunteering at our beer festival. I knew then that after enjoying myself so much and making so many new friends, that this was something I wanted to be a part of and to this end I took on the roles of BLO (Brewery Liaison Officer) for Whale Ale Brewery and more recently branch social secretary.

But ultimately I love ale and all the better in the company of like-minded people. Cheers!

Now what will your story be...



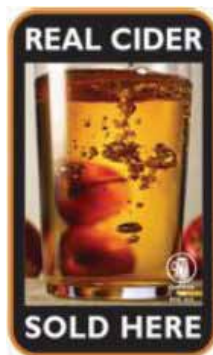
# The Cider Press

## May is Cider Month!

As part of our campaign to encourage more people to try a range of real ales, cider and perries, CAMRA is encouraging members to try a real cider or perry in May and to help support British orchards.

May is a time when the apple and pear trees in our orchards are in blossom and without the orchards and tree blossom, we wouldn't have the fruit to make the ciders and perries that are on offer throughout the year. Unfortunately, many of the old traditional orchards have disappeared over the years but thankfully, in recent years producers have started to plant new trees to keep the tradition of cider and perry production alive.

May is also the time when the juice that was pressed the previous year has fermented through and is ready to drink. Real ciders and perries let you taste the fruit used in their production in the final product, straight from the tree to the glass. We'll be listing events happening throughout the month on the CAMRA website so why not let us know what is going on near you now?



### In Shakespeare the following pubs can normally be found selling real cider:

**CASTLE INN, Edgehill, OX15 6DJ**

**CROWN AND TRUMPET, Church Street, Broadway, WR12 7AE**

**OLD RED HORSE, 17 Vine Street, Evesham, WR11 4RE**

**ROUND OF GRAS, 47 Bretforton Road, Badsey, WR11 7XQ**

**WHITE LION, Evesham Street, Alcester, B49 5DS**

**COACH & HORSES, Station Road, Harvington, WR11 8NJ**

**FLEECE INN, The Cross, Bretforton, WR11 7JE**

**LORD NELSON, 69 Priory Rd, Alcester, B49 5EA**

**STRATFORD ALEHOUSE, 12b Greenhill Street, Stratford-on-Avon, CV37 9QB**

**WHITE BEAR, High Street, Shipston-on-Stour, CV36 4AJ**

**GEORGE HOTEL, Lower Brailles: Hogan's Panking Pole. CV36 4AJ**

**GATE INN, Upper Brailles: Old Rosie. OX15 5AX**

**BLACK HORSE, Shipston: Hogan's Panking Pole. CV36 4BT**

**HORSESHOE, Shipston: CV36 4AP**

**NORMAN KNIGHT, Whichford: Two plus a perry. CV35 5PE**



Find out  
more here...

# Other news...

## Branch Membership tops 400!

Shakespeare branch membership has reached an all-time record high. It is great to see the continued interest in CAMRA and real ale and that our membership here in the branch is on the up. Every month there are more and more. When the current Chair took over, the numbers were in the low 200's and over the last four or so years this has risen to over 400 plus. Lloyd Evans, Shakespeare chairman says "this is a momentous milestone in the branches history and long may it continue".

## BEER DUTY HAT-TRICK!

For the third budget in a row the chancellor has announced a one penny a pint duty reduction on ale and a 2% cut on cider.

This is another monumental success and testament to the thousands of CAMRA members who have supported this Campaign. Working together, CAMRA campaigners like you secured the support of 114 local MPs, which mounted huge pressure on the Chancellor to deliver

another Budget for beer drinkers. As CAMRA members we should be incredibly proud that our efforts are having such a positive effect on the industry as a whole. Independent research by the Centre for Economic and Business Research (Cebr) estimates that the price of a pint will now

be more than 20p cheaper than it would have been had the Beer Duty Escalator remained in place. We will now be urging brewers and pub companies to pass on these savings to consumers.

## Your branch needs you!

As the branch membership continues to grow we are also making moves to increase the social opportunities, if you've never been to meet us at a meeting or a social event please do come and join us. You don't have to be involved at a committee level to enjoy time with your fellow CAMRA conscripts. And contrary to popular belief sandals and beards are not mandatory, everyone is welcome. You will get to hear about the up and coming branch activities by email if your signed up to

receive communications by CAMRA and from this magazine you will see the things we get up to, Brewery tours, festival visits, skittles and thank you trips for our beer festival helpers to name a few. We are always open to ideas for future trips and can help make it happen. It is also very encouraging when new members come back again, you will also have seen in previous magazines about how some of our volunteers got involved at a more in depth level which is possible if you want to.

Look forward to seeing you at a meeting or festival sometime soon. And finally we are looking for volunteers to help staff this year's Stratford festival and the form is online for you to fill out, anything from setup to serving is welcome. [www.shakespearecamra.org.uk/ml/](http://www.shakespearecamra.org.uk/ml/) will take you to the staffing form.



## Tewkesbury Winter Ale Festival

On February 5th, with what had become a branch annual pilgrimage, this year, had amassed to 35 keen ale drinkers - with our largest contingent being the Harvington massive making up 50% of the party. Enough to form a sub-branch? When we arrived it was already busy - being CAMRA members night, it's always popular. Greeted by a list of 80 lovely beers the choice was excellent as always. Beers of the festival were chosen as *Dark Star Crème Brûlée*, *Costal Kernow's Imperial Stout* and *Tewkesbury's Severn Solstice*. A great night was had with a resounding "do we know the 2016



dates yet?!" So in the words of Arnie or almost - we will be back!

**Thank you, Tewkesbury CAMRA**



Situated in the heart of the famous Vale of Evesham...



Open 11.00am til 11.00pm everyday for traditional cask ales, real ciders and fine food

## The Round of Gras

Bretforton Road, Badsey, Evesham

Tel: 01386 830206

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



**CARVERY SPECIAL**  
Midweek £5.50  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday lunch and Wednesday evening  
**Sunday £7.50**  
12.00pm - 8.00pm

## THE CROWN AND TRUMPET INN

CHURCH STREET - BROADWAY - WORCESTERSHIRE - WR12 7AE



Situated just behind the village green of Broadway a traditional 17th century Cotswold Inn. We have four seasonally brewed beers from the local Stanway Brewery. Including a selection of other guest local ales.

Just off the Cotswolds Way providing accommodation for weekend and midweek breaks with monthly Thursday Jazz and Blues Evenings.

Serving Lunch and Dinners all through the week using locally produced ingredients to make seasonally cooked home made dishes



### Shakespeare's CAMRA Pub of the year 2012

For Spring the Crown and Trumpet Inn is proud to present our four featured beers shown below as well as other welcome guest local ales.



**Timothy Taylor's**

Landlord - 4.2%

<http://timothytaylor.co.uk>



**Stanway Brewery**

Artists Ale - 4.0%

<http://www.stanwaybrewery.co.uk>



**Moles Brewery**

Black Rat Cider - 4.7%

<http://www.molesbrewery.com>



**Celtic Marshes**

Lily The Pink - 4.5%

<http://www.celticmarshes.com>



**Stroud Brewery**

Tom Long - 3.8%

<http://www.stroudbrewery.co.uk>



**Moles Brewery**

Black Rat Perry - 7.5%

<http://www.molesbrewery.com>

01386 853202 - [info@cotswoldholidays.co.uk](mailto:info@cotswoldholidays.co.uk) - <http://www.cotswoldholidays.co.uk>

# 2015

— The Fifteenth —

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**North  
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Branch**



# 100+ BEERS CIDER & PERRY

**plus WINES** including Fruit Wines

## OPENING TIMES

Thursday: 5–11pm • Friday: Noon–Midnight  
Saturday: 11am–11pm (last entry 9pm)



**For up to date information: visit  
[www.banburybeerfest.camra.org.uk](http://www.banburybeerfest.camra.org.uk)**

**Thursday 7th to  
Saturday 9th May  
at the Volunteer Reserve  
(T.A.) Centre, Oxford Rd,  
Banbury OX16 9AN**

## ADMISSION

**CAMRA MEMBERS** – free at all times

**Non-members:** Thurs £1.00  
Fri until 5pm £2.00; Fri after 5pm £4.00  
Sat until 5pm £3.00; Sat after £1.00

*Please note that under 21s require I.D.*

# The Black Swan

with Alan Whitbread, Folk Singer & Concertina Player,  
Alcester Court Leet Ale Taster [www.alanwhitbread.co.uk](http://www.alanwhitbread.co.uk)



Does anyone remember Jake Thackray from the late 1960s and 1970s? Well, if you can't you're not as old as me then! He was a folk singer, songwriter and poet whose surreal and lugubrious songs made him a firm favourite on such television programmes as *The Frost Report*, *Frost Over America*, *The Braden Beat* and *That's Life*. His work ranged from satirical to bawdy to sentimental, with a strong emphasis on storytelling. He died in 2002, aged 63.

His witty lyrics and clipped delivery, combined with distinctive Yorkshire tones, gravelly voice and handdog expression were delivered with a mixture of classical and jazz chords. These were played on a nylon string guitar (which often needed re-tuning in large venues such as the London Palladium and the Royal Albert Hall).

His strong Yorkshire accent and the northern setting of many of his songs, led to him being described as the "North Country Noël Coward". Others compared him with Flanders and Swann, "who are wordy, funny writers". However, his style was derived from the French *chansonnier* tradition: he said that Georges Brassens was his greatest inspiration and that he was also influenced by Jacques Brel and Charles Trenet. He was admired by, and influenced, many well-known performers, including Jarvis Cocker, Mike Harding, Ralph McTell, Morrissey and Jasper Carrott.

One of his best known numbers, the satirical

love song "Lah-Di-Dah", concerned a new fiancé's declaration to his love, repeating the refrain "lah-di-dah" as he assured her that he would put up with all her boring relations: "I'll be polite to your daddy! Frightfully lah-di-dah/ Although he always bores me to my boots/ I love you very much".

In "Sister Josephine" he describes the police arriving at a convent chasing after a wanted criminal masquerading as a nun: "Oh Sister Josephine/ Founder of the convent pontoon team/ They're looking through your bundles of rare magazines/ After Sister Josephine". Other numbers had a reassuring feel, even when they dealt with risqué subjects. "The Castleford Ladies' Magic Circle" recounted how its members liked to indulge in satanic orgies, then "pop off home for cocoa and The Epilogue". Another concerned a young woman with the unusual ambition of making love on all the



● Black Swan, York

monuments in the National Trust Guide: "Isabel makes love upon national monuments/ With style and enthusiasm and anyone at all/ She's done Stonehenge and the Houses of Parliament/ But so far little Isabel's never played the Albert Hall".

In his song "The Last Will and Testament of Jake Thackray", he left instructions as to what he expected from those whom

he left behind: "No tearing of hair,

no wringing of hands/ No sighs, no lack-a-days/ No woe-is-mes and none of your sad adieus/ Go go go and get the priest/ And then go get the booze, boys". Well, let's have a toast to Jake, then: Cheers!

The Black Swan is his saddest song and was the first ever song

Jake sang on the television, on the Beryl Reed Show in 1967. The pub itself is the Black Swan in York, which has a regionally important historic interior and is where he used to drink when he lived in the city. It's still there now and still hosts the regular folk club where Jake used to perform.





# The Black Swan

Words & music by Jake Thackray



Down at the Black Swan  
We'll go sing our love song  
We'll sit, we'll booze  
We've got nothing to lose  
We've lost it all, lost it all

Go to bed early, girl  
Go with a book  
Go alone, go easy  
Your life is your own  
Don't lose it all, lose it all

Down at the Black Swan  
We'll drink hard, we'll drink strong  
Drink deep, drink long  
Drink our heads off, drink on  
Now that she's gone, now she's gone.

Think on me kindly  
But don't come and find me  
I'm lost, I've lost, heart  
And eyes are both crossed  
Now that she's gone, now she's gone

Give us another pint, one more pint  
Landlord of your very, very, best bitter  
beer  
We'll be here all night

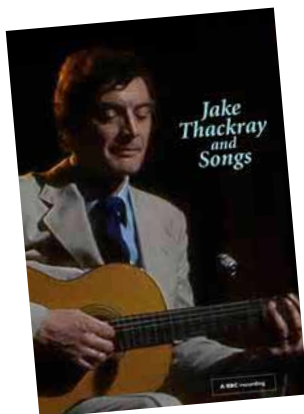
Give us another pint, one more pint  
Landlord, of your very very best bitter beer  
We'll be here all night

We're on a bender we're tanking up  
We don't care  
We don't go home tonight  
There's nobody there.

We've had a skinful, we've supped some stuff  
We don't care  
We don't go home tonight  
There's nobody there

Now she's gone  
Now she's gone  
Now she's gone

Now she's gone  
Now she's gone  
Now she's gone



**IF YOU WANT TO HEAR AND JOIN IN WITH THE CHORUSES OF TRADITIONAL SONGS IN THE SHAKESPEARE CAMRA AREA, TRY THE FOLLOWING PLACES:-**

- Second Tue at **THE COTTAGE OF CONTENT** at Barton (over the river from Bidford) B50 4NP
- Every Thu at **THE FLEECE** at Bretforton (a NT property in the GBG) WR11 7JE
- First Fri at **THE NORMAN KNIGHT** at Whichford (GBG) CV36 5PE
- First Sun at **THE GATE** at Upper Brailles OX15 5AX
- Second Sun at **THE BLUE BOAR** at Temple Grafton (near Binton) B49 6NR
- Third Sun at **THE MARY ARDEN** at Wilmcote CV37 9XJ
- Fourth Sun at **THE BLACK HORSE** at Shipston on Stour CV36 4BT

# Shakespeare Branch Diary and Beer Festival Round up



## MARCH

**31st** Warwickshire Branch Pub of the Year presentation - **THE BEAR**, Swans Nest, Stratford-upon-Avon. 8pm

## APRIL

**8th** Beer festival planning meeting, **STRATFORD ALE HOUSE**, Greenhill St, Stratford-upon-Avon. 8pm

**15th** Worcestershire Branch Pub of the Year presentation - **THE COACH & HORSES**, Harvington 8pm

**15th to 18th** Stourbridge Beer Festival, Stourbridge and Halesowen CAMRA - [www.stourbridgebeerfest.org.uk](http://www.stourbridgebeerfest.org.uk)

**22nd** Branch AGM - **THE FLEECE**, Bretforton. 8pm

**23rd & 24th** Gloucester Beer Festival, Glos CAMRA [www.gloucesterbeerfestival.org.uk](http://www.gloucesterbeerfestival.org.uk)

**24th & 25th** Coventry CAMRA Beer Festival, [coventry.camra.org.uk](http://coventry.camra.org.uk)

## MAY

**7th to 9th** Banbury Beer Festival, North Oxon CAMRA - [banburybeerfest.camra.org.uk](http://banburybeerfest.camra.org.uk)

**13th** Beer festival final planning meeting, **COACH & HORSES**, Harvington. 8pm

**16th & 17th** Spring Steam & Ale weekend, Glos & Warks Railway / North Cotswold CAMRA [www.northcotswoldcamra.org.uk](http://www.northcotswoldcamra.org.uk)

**19th** Branch meeting - **ROSE & CROWN**, Ratley. 8pm

## JUNE

**12th & 13th** **STRATFORD BEER FESTIVAL**, Shakespeare CAMRA, [stratfordbeerfestival.org.uk](http://stratfordbeerfestival.org.uk)

**26th & 27th** Bromsgrove Beer Festival – Redditch & Bromsgrove CAMRA [www.bromsgrovebeerfestival.org.uk](http://www.bromsgrovebeerfestival.org.uk)

See Shakespeare CAMRA web site for the latest news and updates on meetings: [www.shakespearecamra.org.uk](http://www.shakespearecamra.org.uk)

## CAMRA Branch Contacts

• <b>Chairman:</b> LLOYD EVANS	<a href="mailto:chair@shakespearecamra.org.uk">chair@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Secretary:</b> GWEN GODFREY	<a href="mailto:secretary@shakespearecamra.org.uk">secretary@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Treasurer:</b> DAVE PAGE	<a href="mailto:treasurer@shakespearecamra.org.uk">treasurer@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Membership:</b> JOHN ROSS	<a href="mailto:membership@shakespearecamra.org.uk">membership@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Pubs Officer:</b> KEITH BARKER	<a href="mailto:pubs@shakespearecamra.org.uk">pubs@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>APPLE Contact:</b> JOHN ROSS	<a href="mailto:cider@shakespearecamra.org.uk">cider@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Branch Contact:</b> KEITH BARKER	<a href="mailto:contact@shakespearecamra.org.uk">contact@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Branch Young Members Contact:</b> TOM COYTE	<a href="mailto:bymc@shakespearecamra.org.uk">bymc@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Campaigns Officer:</b> JASON NORLEDGE	<a href="mailto:campaigns@shakespearecamra.org.uk">campaigns@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Editor - Shakesbeer Newsletter:</b> JASON NORLEDGE	<a href="mailto:shakesbeer@shakespearecamra.org.uk">shakesbeer@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>GBG Selection Officer:</b> PETE GODFREY	<a href="mailto:gbg@shakespearecamra.org.uk">gbg@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Public Affairs Officer:</b> JASON NORLEDGE	<a href="mailto:publicaffairs@shakespearecamra.org.uk">publicaffairs@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Social Secretary:</b> JOHN BLOOMFIELD	<a href="mailto:socials@shakespearecamra.org.uk">socials@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>
• <b>Website:</b> KEITH BARKER	<a href="mailto:websupport@shakespearecamra.org.uk">websupport@shakespearecamra.org.uk</a>

## Are you interested in joining your local Shakespeare CAMRA committee?

We would like to hear from you if you could help us to help our local members.

Do you have a few spare moments during the week you could help our local committee with organising social events - if so we would like to hear from you. Or could you assist in gathering news or assist publishing this magazine by being part of our editorial team. What about liaising with the local landlords and pubs within our branch? If so we would like to hear from you however much time you can spare in any capacity.

Please contact us if you have any questions or would like to join: [chair@shakespearecamra.org.uk](mailto:chair@shakespearecamra.org.uk)





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- The opportunity to campaign to save pubs and breweries under threat of closure.
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01/15

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