

The Cleveland CAMRA Branch Committee ...

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It's Your Round!!

Bi-Monthly FREE

2700 copies of this magazine are distributed to over 200 real ale pubs and other Campaign supporters. If any real ale licensee does not receive copies of this magazine directly, and wishes to do so, *free of charge*, please contact (01642) 829032

Lucky Horseshoe ...

The Horseshoe Hotel in Egton Bridge, pictured, was recently voted by the Cleveland Branch of CAMRA as Pub of the Year 2004. The excellent choice of cask ales and the high standard to which they were kept won it hands down for this village inn situated deep in North Yorkshire.



Frequented by villagers and ramblers alike, the Horseshoe Hotel has pleased many a customer with its range of well kept cask ales and charming atmosphere. The Cleveland Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale were only too happy to visit in Spring 2004 to present the Spring Pub of the Season award. And the award of Pub of the Year reinforces this establishment as a true real ale lovers destination. A presentation will be made on Saturday 14th May at 1.30pm.

Wolves baying at Jennings Door ...

Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries PLC and Jennings Brothers PLC have admitted that Wolves was considering a 430 pence per share offer for Jennings which values Jennings at about 46 million pounds. Jennings has a brewery in Cockermouth, in the Lake District, which produces beers such as Cumberland Ale, Crag Rat, and others. It also operates 128 pubs in Northern England. Wolves have said it would continue developing Jennings' brewery and try to safeguard as many jobs as possible. I'm beginning to wonder how long it will be before Wolves becomes the new "bad boy on the block".

RT.

We also have intelligence reports that another Lake District brewer - Robinsons, have sold their 25% stake in Jennings to W&D, which could be interpreted as revenge for Jennings's challenge for market share in the Lakes, or possibly suggests a wider arrangement between Robinsons and W&D.

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It's Your Round is published by the Cleveland Branch of CAMRA. Views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of CAMRA or the editor. Articles may be reproduced if source acknowledged. **If you have news or views, suggestions or complaints**, then Andy is our Branch contact on 01642 231351 or Email adbellcamra@f2s.com Please contact him if you want your news circulated.

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New committee for Cleveland CAMRA ..
The Annual General Meeting of the Cleveland Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale was held on Saturday 12th March at Camerons Brewery, kindly hosted by Martin Dutoy, the head brewer .

The main business of the day was the election of several new committee members, including chairman. The outgoing chairman Chris needed to stand down due to work commitments among other things. Many thanks go to Chris for his leadership during his period as chairman. Best wishes to the new chairman Robert who was voted in by popular demand having been chairman once before in 2001. Other changes included a new Editor for this newsletter, a new Membership Secretary, and a new Social Secretary. The Cleveland Branch of The Campaign for Real Ale, which was formed in 1975, has seen many changes over the years and continues to strive, just like all Camra branches, to promote Cask Ale. **DC.**

Diary Dates ...

Committee Meetings commence at 7.30 pm and Branch Meetings/Socials commence at 8.30 pm on the 1st Tuesday (or sometimes Monday) of each month, and are held throughout the Cleveland Branch area.

Saturday 14th May - 1:30pm Pub of the Year presentation, Horseshoe Hotel, Egton Bridge.

Tuesday 17th May - 8:00pm Social gathering at Myton House Farm, Ingleby Barwick.

Thu 2nd - Sat 4th June - Doncaster and District Branch 30th Anniversary Beer Festival

Monday 6th June - Committee meeting Smiths Arms, Carlton (near Stockton) 7.30 followed by branch meeting at 8.30. For those using public transport, the 586/587 Leven Valley bus leaves Stockton @19.17, return, 50 past the hour until 23.50

Saturday 11th June - Visit to Wensleydale Brewery, Cross Keys, Bellerby and Foresters Arms, Carlton (near Leyburn), cost £9 members, £10 non-members, including bus. Pick ups in Skelton, Saltburn, Middlesbrough and Stockton. £5 deposit (non returnable if you cancel – unless you can re-sell your seat, returnable if we cancel) secures place.

More details and times from Denise (social secretary) 01642 654158

denise.camra@ntlworld.com.

Tuesday 5th July - Committee meeting, New Marine, Saltburn, 7.30pm then branch meeting

Camra members can email Denise to be added to branch email list for additional / last minute activities.

Branch website www.clevelandcamra.btinternet.co.uk

For more info, to book local events and transport needs, please contact Denise 01287 622444 or denise.p@ntlworld.com for details of latest social events, or see entry in 'What's Brewing'.

Book Review by Barrie Pepper - Yorkshire's Historic Pubs by Peter Thomas
Most pubs of a century old or more have a tale to tell despite the efforts of many modern day pub owners to ruin them. The public bar may have vanished or been converted into a posh restaurant; worse still, the handpulls may have been ripped out in favour of lager fonts. But that doesn't destroy their history and many unadulterated historic pubs remain, particularly so in Yorkshire. Barrie Pepper reviews a recently published book on this very topic.

Peter Thomas, the author of *Yorkshire's Historic Pubs*, rang me a couple of years ago and we chatted about his idea of his writing such a book. His big problem, I suggested, was finding a suitable and amenable publisher. However, to our benefit, he persevered and on the eve of St Patrick's Day it hit the bookshelves.

Its title is self-evident. It contains details of 78 pubs stretching right across the broad acres; all of which are still in business and, although you are told how to find the places, please note that this is not a guide book, so don't expect details on opening hours, beers sold and the like; just enjoy lots of interesting and fascinating tales.

Yorkshire's Historic Pubs is well produced with, at a guess, 200 photographs, some ancient, others taken specifically for the book by the author; sufficient proof that unlike other compilers of similar books he has visited all the entries which must have been for him an arduous but joyful task.

He makes kind references to Yorkshire's CAMRA branches for their help in producing the book and also to librarians – where would writers be without them? – and fellow authors. All this and much more including small chapters on pubs connected with the woollen industry, pubs that appear in television series and those commemorating significant events, can be found in this fascinating book. ***Yorkshire's Historic Pubs* by Peter Thomas is published by Sutton Publishing and costs £14.99.**

May is Mild Month ...

Each year CAMRA dedicates May to promoting Mild, which is a traditional beer style that has been lightly hopped and is usually of lower alcoholic strength and distinctly less bitter than more highly hopped bitters. It is always welcome to find mild available in the Cleveland area, especially due to its relative scarcity. One notable venue for mild during mild months of recent years has been the Captain Cook in Staithes where several milds have been made available. So watch out for mild during May!

Cleveland Camra Roll of Honour ...

2003 Spring POTS: **Pot & Glass**, Egglescliffe.

2003 Summer POTS: **Dolphin**, Robin Hood's Bay.

2003 Autumn POTS: **Tap & Spile**, Guisbro'.

2003 Winter POTS & POTY: **White Swan**,
Stokesley.

2004 Spring POTS & POTY: **Horseshoe Hotel**,
Egton Bridge.

2004 Summer POTS: **Capt. Cook**, Staithes.

2004 Autumn POTS: **Spread Eagle**, Stokesley.

2004 Winter POTS: **White House**, Hartlepool.

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PC going too far... again!

The times on 11/4/05 had an article named RE is made PC. which said New guidelines for religious education lessons in Norfolk schools state that the phrase Holy Ghost implies a "spooky concept" and urge teachers to refer to the Holy Spirit instead. They also say that the first books of the Bible should not be called the "Old Testament" because it makes them sound out of date. If this is to be believed then some Norfolk council staff have too much time on their hands. Political Correctness has gone from the necessary to the absurd. Does anyone out there know WHO came up with the term "Personhole cover" instead of "Manhole cover" ? More importantly - does anyone know who wrote the guidelines mentioned above ? Now there is a sad being in need of enlightenment - It's time for these anonymous people to come out of the closet. If it's that important a subject matter you should be proud to have your name associated with it - NOT ! **PC.**

Report from the 29th Newcastle Beer Festival ...

This major Real Ale event took place from Wed 6th to Sat 9th April 2005 and two intrepid beer lovers from the Cleveland branch of CAMRA went up there for the evening on Wed 6th.

We arrived at the venue, The University Student Union in the Haymarket area, at 7pm and the place was already well crowded, and more eager drinkers were constantly streaming in from the street. The queue for glasses, which we were stood close to, never seemed to go down all night. It caught our attention that for the second year running the beer delivery arrangement was almost all by handpull rather than gravity fed from the cask. The range of beers concentrated on three themes - local breweries, Scotland and East Anglia, as well as a big showing from the two London brewers Fullers and Youngs. Sampling the beers was obviously the main reason for our visit and we took much pleasure in trying a wide variety from across the board. Among the highlights were the Fullers London Porter, which was notable for its full old-fashioned flavour. Hexamshire Brewery beers were tried and had definite strawberry jam notes. The recently started Font Valley Brewery of Stanton, Northumberland provided two decent beers, Milk of Amnesia and SB ale. There was a range of regular Student Union food available as usual for those who felt peckish. Congratulations should go to the Tyneside & Northumberland Branch of CAMRA for producing such a big event so well. **DC.**

Campaign for an honest pint law ...

Dear Tony, Eight years ago you promised a pint would be a pint. Last month you were promising the industry that a pint could be 95% of a pint. Trust you - never again.

Dear Ashok, Why should being a PPS in the government stop you from signing EDM331 which requests Full Pint Legislation? What about the people who elected you?

CAMRA believes if you pay for a pint of beer you should get a pint of liquid if that's what you want - ask the Labour party to keep its 1997 Election promise.

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Easy Peasy, as always. Simply fill in the first part of the name of these pubs that end in Arms.

1. Arms - Sounds Irish in Longnewton.
2. Arms - Metal Worker in Carlton Village.
3. Arms - West Hartlepool's founder in Tower Street.
4. Arms - Relax in a meadow near Yarm - see Brickys Bits!
5. Arms - Sounds like Surrey, but really it's Elton.

All entries to the address below, or email to jo.powell2@ntlworld.com by 31st March 2005.
Current Cleveland Camra committee may not enter!

Send to: **Competition 86, 10 Faidene Avenue, Stockton-on-Tees, TS19 7NH.**
Congratulations to our winners of Competition 85, Arthur Barkley of Eaglescliffe and Martin Macaulay of Guisborough.

Entries can also be made on the website www.clevelandcamra.btinternet.co.uk.

Thanking Black Sheep Brewery for sponsoring our competition for another year. Why not use the competition as part of your local's quiz night - after all, someone always wins - and it might as well be you !!!

Pint Pots on Cue ...

Are you a keen snooker player who likes decent beer? If, so, try the Darlington Snooker Club, 1 Corporation Road. This enterprising club has won 3 top beer awards since it introduced real-ale in 2000. Camra members even get discounts on membership and expositions, such as the great Dennis Taylor [July 9th.]. Good Beer Guide 2005/ N.East Club of the Year 2004/First ever snooker club in the GBG.

Durham Brewery newsletter ...

Beer drinkers are invited by the Durham Brewery to subscribe to their newsletter by clicking on www.durham-brewery.co.uk

The latest issue describes the recent investment in a new custom-built mash tun that is twice the size of the original. The old mash tun could make only 5 barrels of Temptation at 10% abv. Now the brewery has the capability to make 10 barrels and hence be more efficient.

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Good Beer
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Pub Grub 12-2 Monday to Saturday
(No Sunday lunches)

Happy Hours 3-5 Monday to Friday

Folk Club - Sundays
Acoustic Guitar & Vocals - Tuesdays
Jazz - Wednesdays
Blues Club - Thursdays
Guitar & Vocals - Saturdays
- all music is 8.30 for 9.00 -

"Pest side" West side ??

Whilst on an Easter break to Budapest we happened to stumble on Mosselen; Belgian Beer Café, District 13, Pannonia u. 14. Tel: 01452 0535, a stone's throw from the Danube on the Pest side. Advertised as a pub but there are some fine examples of Hungarian & Belgian cuisine with names such as "The Temptation of the Herdsman" "Stewart Little" and an "Afternoon in Salzburg". These can all be washed down with a selection of eight draught beers, all of which can be served in the 2.5l Giraffe! There is also a selection of twenty-three bottled beers. Service is great, atmosphere friendly but can be a bit smoky, very common in Budapest. Expect it to be busy.

Bricky's Bits ...

Keeping Station

A warm welcome (and that's what Bricky received) to the Station, Picton and its licensee Andy on the Southern fringe of our branch area. Oh, and a fine pint of Magnet as well!

The Future's Black

Sorry to see that the Black Swan at Trenholme Bar on the A19 is still closed and boarded up- anyone know what the future might hold for this pub?

Fatal Attraction

Is there no end to the puns about Magnet?

Bricky was pleased to try more of it at a bargain price at Yarm's Layfield Arms last week. Prices are poles apart from some pubs!

On the Up!

New licensee Brian Wiley at the Centenary, Norton is the latest to seek to widen the range of real ales at his pub, so come on, M & B, play ball ! *Little Bricky.*

Rare Beer sightings - here are a few of the more unusual ales spotted in our area recently:

Copper Dragon Black Gold - Birch Hall Inn, Beck Hole.
Banks & Taylors Dragon Slayer - Whinstone View, Great Ayton.
Timothy Taylors Golden Best - Tap & Spile, Guisbrough.
Copper Dragon IPA - Horseshoe Hotel, Egton Bridge.

If you want to report any unusual ales spotted in our area recently send an email to the editor.

History of Brewing; Part 1. Ninkasi, Goddess of beer.

A light-hearted look at brewing, through the ages, to cut out and keep.

Imagine the scene, it's 1,800 BC Mrs Lord-Niddimud, otherwise known as Ninti, Queen of the lake (Sumerian serious nobility, I hasten to add) asking the horde of slaves and servants, who do the menial household tasks for her, to rouse young Ninkasi – her daughter, so that she may brew some more beer – which she may well have invented. Little wonder Ninkasi was viewed by all and sundry as a goddess and adopted by Camra as a figurehead. Ninkasi would begin by making the bread - bappir, some of this would go into the brew and it was such a critical part of the operation, it couldn't be trusted to a mere slave or servant. She was so good at brewing and so revered by the Sumerians that a hymn was written about her, which also explained the brewing process (very practical). Mrs L-N would then continue with her daily tasks; after Lord Niddimud had gone off to help rule the city; to trade, engage in minor (but very profitable) banking activities and to ensure her property was being well maintained. Ninkasi continued the process of brewing, possibly pausing during the noon heat of the Mesopotamian day for a refreshing pint of ale and an hour to put her feet up. Perhaps she pondered on the possibility of contributing to the already established code to ensure landladies didn't serve criminals and the pubs didn't overcharge their customers, something along the lines of serving a full pint for the price of a pint? (Now there's a campaign for the present government!) She knew just how important beer and taverns were. Everyone knew that one lady pub owner had risen to the dizzy heights of becoming head of a ruling family that she had established. She, Ninkasi, like other goddesses would continue living the good life; being worshipped by the peasants and nobles alike, having sacrifices made to her and laying down the foundations for future civilisations. She'd probably get married, have children – all that sort of thing. Oh yes, Ninkasi knew how. *Cerridwen.*

Beer Note ...

Pitchfork Rebellious Bitter -

- RCH Brewery.

RCH started in 1983 in Burnham-on-Sea but demand soon forced a move to West Hewish where a wider variety of beers could be produced. Commemorating the local Pitchfork rebellion in 1685, this is a single malt beer made only with pale malt. It is a light golden beer with a fresh hoppy aftertaste. *Beer Taster.*

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Spring 2003*