newsletter of the Surrey & Hampshire Borders Branch of CAMRA.

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 1980 EDITION

EDITORIAL.

Phil Harries is still unable to return to the editorial chair, so once again the newsletter has been put together in great haste - my excuse for any inaccuracies and the probable late arrival of "News of the Booze" through your letter box. My apologies are due to a few members who did not receive a September newsletter - drop me a line if you require a back copy.

This edition, with its emphasis on business meetings may turn out to be rather heavy reading by usual standards, so let's have some amusing drinking stories or cartoons from readers for the next edition (due out in mid-December)...news and views are also most welcome!

-Mike Andrew, 13 St. George's Road, Farnham. (tel. 723116)

The area's newest brewery, Ballards of Rogate produce an excellent bitter, which will soon be available at The Sandrock, probably replacing 'Festive' or 6X.

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SPECIALIST BEER EXHIBITIONS

Early next year a Woking Beerex is planned by the branch at which many of the special winter brews will be available. The possibility of an Alton Beerex, featuring beers of the West Country is also being considered.

NOW...LOCAL CIDER:

Geoff Dye of Alton has formed the Hampshire Cider Company. His first batch of traditional cider, to be known as "Selborne Gold" will be available in selected local pubs next summer.

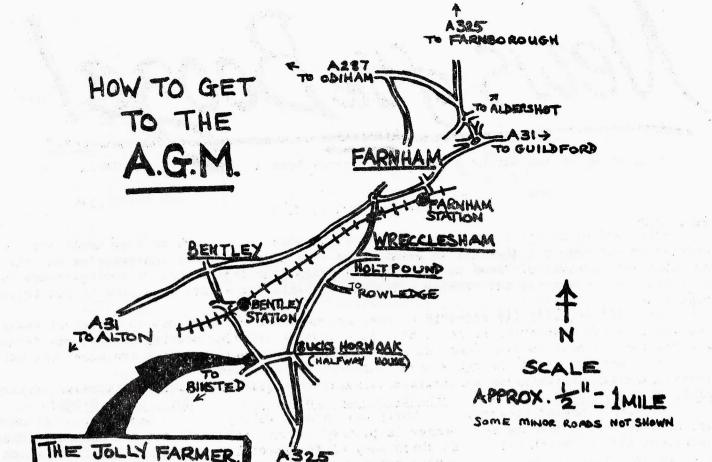
EGM

The Extraordinary General Meeting of the branch announced in last month's edition and in a letter from the Chairman took place as planned on September 11th. It was felt by the committee that the branch, because of its size, was not as effective as it could be. Since the Blackwater Valley sub-branch had been set up, this area had gone from strength to strength; more members were attending the meetings, and real ale outlets were opening by the dozen. The success of this devolution show -ed that a more localised branch set-up could enable a stronger campaign in the remaining areas; the problem was how to go about it. After a brief history of how the branch became so unwieldy, by Paul Critchley, the area organiser, four proposals were put

This year's Annual General Meeting is to be held on SUNDAY, 30th NOVEMBER, at the Jolly Farmer, Blacknest, near Bentley. The choice of a Sunday evening will, it is hoped, enable many more members to attend, as there will not be the need for most of us to rush home from work then go straight out - in fact it will also give us the chance to have a chat between opening time and the start of business at 8.30pm. Although a country pub, the Jolly Farmer is easy to get to from most of the branch area, even without a car, as it is only a 20 minute walk from Bentley Station on the Alton - London line. Elsewhere in this newsletter is a map and a list of train and bus timings; if you are still unable to reach the pub, contact "News of the Booze" at the editor's address (tel. Farnham 723116) and we will try to organise a lift for you.

For those of you who have not yet visited the Jolly Farmer, it is a Free House, serving Eldridge Pope Royal Oak, Hall & Woodhouse Badger Best Bitter, Courage Best Bitter and Archer's Crusader by handpump. If you get hungry during the evening try a bar snack or meal - they are very good, and yes, they are available on Sunday nights! The A. G. M. will take place in the Skittle Alley, adjacent to the pub.

(continued on page 3)



By TRAIN to Bentley Station:

By BUS (Alder Valley 268):

BORDON

depart	WOKING1911	(
	Brookwood1916	
	Ash Vale1923	
	ALDERSHOT1928	
	Farnham1933	
arrive	BENTLEY1939	
depart	ALTON1955	West of the second
	BENTLEY2001	
3	CHTI DEOUD 1006	-

arravo	DENTED TO TO T	
depart	GUILDFORD1826	7
	Wanborough1833	+
	Ash1837	+
10.		

arrive BENTLEY....1939

/ change trains at Aldershot.
(passengers from Guildford
may travel on the 1853 to
North Camp and walk to mile
to Ash Vale station.)

depart Fleet.....1842 / FARNBOROUGH.1846 / arrive BENTLEY....1939 / change trains at Brookwood.

ALL THE ABOVE SERVICES RUN HOURLY

THE LAST RETURNING TRAIN TO ALL THE ABOVE STATIONS DEPARTS FROM BENTLEY STATION AT 2301. (passengers for Ash, Wanborough and Guildford must travel via Ash Vale and North Camp.)

depart	HINDHEAD (Huts Hotel)1945	+
•	Grayshott (Fox & Pelican)1948	+
, W.	Headley (Hollybush)1958	+
	will felling of water)	+
	DOTITORILLITE DIGITALIA	+
arrive	BUCKS HORN OAK (HALFWAY HOUSE)2020	

From Bucks Horn Oak the Jolly Farmer is just a 10 minute walk down the lane opposite the Halfway House. The return bus to the above places departs from the Halfway House at 2312 / (service no. 225)

Alder Valley have a reputation for running early on Sundays, so be at the stop at least 10 minutes before the bus is due.

From a recent Daily Mirror ...

"Drivers could soon be putting beer in their petrol tanks. A brewery experiment has produced a process that turns beer into pure alcohol which can be added to petrol. Allied Breweries were trying to produce a new strong beer, but it was a failure. Now they plan to market the process.

YET ANOTHER NEW BEER?

Possibly the first local outlet for Chidham bitter is the Mariners Inn at Millbridge, Frensham (on the Farnham - Hindhead road). The landlord has been told that a winter brew, to be known as "Chidham Heavy" is planned.

E.G.M. (from page 1)

to the meeting as possible solutions. One proposal was that the branch should be split into two separate branches, covering the east and west of the present area; another was that we continue as one branch, but with three area sub-committees. The other proposals suggested ways of hiving off outlying areas to neighbouring branch -es. It was generally felt that any 'hiving off' or splitting of the branch would at worst be unworkable, and at best be damaging to the campaign in certain areas: the committee therefore recommended that the proposal for three area sub-committees be carried: this was accepted without dissention, although there were some worries about boundaries. It was stressed that defined boundaries should not be necessary, and that members from all areas would still be welcome at any meeting. The new sub-branches will be based on Guildford & Woking /Blackwater Valley (Aldershot & Farnborough) / Alton.

Farnham, although not in the Blackwater Valley, has for some time been serviced by that sub-branch, and will con -tinue to be so, but it is hoped that a stronger link will develop between the Blackwater Valley and Alton sub-branches, in order that the villages on Farnham's western outskirts are adequately covered. A greater problem exists in the Hindhead and Haslemere area, where there are only a few members. Until someone from the area gets the ball roll -ing by organising a meeting, and encouraging his neighbours and the regulars at the local to join the Campaign, it seems the south-west corner of Surrey will remain sadly neglected.

The constitution of the branch and sub-branches will be DECEMBER 5th. (FRIDAY) 7.30 onwards. formalised at the A.G.M. on November 30th, and the committee elected.

BRANCH CONTACTS

NEWS OF THE BOOZE (all contributions welcome): Mike Andrew address on page 1. Tel. Farnham 723116

CHAIRMAN: Alan Mason, 9, Falstone, St. Johns, WOKING. Tel. Woking 20671 (home), 01-242 0982 (work)

SECRETARY: David Brittain, tel. Woking 71680(home) Guildford 33811 (work)

TREASURER: Colin Severn, 57, Agraria Road, Guildford. Tel. Guildford 68121 (work)

BLACKWATER VALLEY ENQUIRIES: Mike Roberts, 18, Churchill Avenue, ALDERSHOT. Tel. 01-215 5470/5463 (work)

ALTON AREA ENQUIRIES: Roland Edwards, 3, Wren Close, Alton. Tel. Alton 82778 (home)

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 30th (Thurs.) 8.30pm.

BLUE BOY, Station Hill, FARNHAM. A social at this 1981 Good Beer Guide entry.

NOVEMBER 2nd (SATURDAY) 6pm.

ROBIN HOOD, Knaphill, near Woking. An extravaganza in celebration of that great hero, Mr G. Fawkes. The evening begins about six o'clock with a firework display, followed by a barbecue and bonfire. It is hoped that a morris side will perform, and the evening will be rounded off with folk singing in the bar.

NOVEMBER 6th. (Thurs.) 2.30pm.

YOUNG'S BREWERY, Wandsworth. Only a few tickets left. Contact Alan Mason for details.

NOVEMBER 11th. (Tues.) 8-30pm.

ROYAL DEER, East Street, FARNHAM. Social meeting at Farnham's latest 'real' pub, recently refurbished and now serving handpumped Charrington I.P.A. and Bass.

NOVEMBER 18th. (Tues) 8pm.

THE BLACK HORSE, GOMSHALL. A pub games evening. The Black Horse is near Gomshall station from where there is a train at 2259 to the Guildford, Ash and Farnborough areas.

NOVEMBER 27th. (Thurs.) 8.30pm.

THE SQUIRREL, Farmborough. A social at this Friary Meux pub in (I think!) Park Road - it is off Lynchford Road, not far from North Camp station.

NOVEMBER 30th. (SUNDAY) - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JOLLY FARMER, Blacknest near Bentley. 7.30pm. for 8.30 start of business. Further details on pages 1 and 2.

DECEMBER 3rd. (Weds.) 8.30pm.

WHEATSHEAF, Aldershot. A special Courage promotion night - actual details to be confirmed.

JOLLY DROVER, Hillbrow, near Liss. A special joint social, featuring pub games versus the Portsmouth and Reading branches. (continued on page 4

COMING EVENTS (continued)

DEC 5th (FRIDAY). 8pm. Guildford & Woking section Christmas party at the STAR, Quarry Street, Guildford. DEC. 13th. (SATURDAY)

COACH OUTING TO OXFORD for drinking and/or Christmas shopping. Further details elsewhere on this page.

DEC. 15th. (MONDAY) 8pm. Social at the Barley Mow, Alton.

DEC. 16th. (TUES.) 8pm. Social at the RED LION, Milford - an excellent Gale's pub.

DEC. 17th. (WEDS.) 8pm. Blackwater Valley section Christmas party at the ROYAL STAFF, Staff Road, Aldershot (from High Street up Redan Hill, turn right into Holly Road, then right again.) Pub theatre and other attractions are

CHARABANC EXCURSION TO OXFORD!

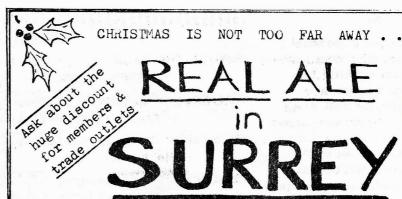
Go Christmas shopping ... AND have a drink!

planned.

On Saturday, December 13th we will be running a coach from Farnham, Aldershot and Farnborough to Oxford. It will depart from Farnham (Castle Street) at 9.30, Aldershot (The Grove, opposite the bus station) at 9.45 and Farnborough (Ham & Blackbird, near the railway station) at 10.00am. We will arrive in Oxford in plenty of time for a few lunchtime pints, followed by shopping or signtseeing and Burton Ale until closing time! another 'beer break' on the way home. The fare will be £2 return, and bookings can be made with Dave Jones, 19, Southlands Close, Ash ('phone Aldershot 312350). ******************************

RAIL ALE RAMBLING

On December 6th, Crookham Travel are running another 'Rail Ale Ramble' excursion. This one runs from London to Macclesfield, Stockport and Manchester for £7.25 return. For those of you who do not know Crookham Travel, they specialise in tours of interest to beer drinkers, and are run by two CAMRA members. Phone G. Daniels (Fleet 28647)



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available from "News of the Booze" or Committee members.

THE RETURN OF FRIARY MEUX

October 1st saw the official launch of Friary Meux bitter at the Star, Guildford. Thanks are due to the Friary Meux management, who not only provided an interesting speaker. Mr. Seymour, but also free ale for CAMRA members all evening!

Although it could not be ensured that the beer's taste would be exactly that of the original Friary bitter (the recipe was lost during the demolition of the brewery). everyone thought the beer a great improvement on Ind Coope bitter, and those who could remember the original felt that the flavour had been well captured, probably due to the advice of Friary's former head brewer (brought out of retirement to help create the new beer). The beer was so well received that night, that it sold out during the evening and we found ourselves drinking

Some pubs used up their stocks of Ind Coope prior to the launch date: one of them was the Royal Staff, Aldershot, where the Friary bitter went on sale the night of a committee meeting, enabling an early sampling at reduced prices! Thanks to the Landlord there, and also to the Fir Tree, Farnborough for another reduced price CAMRA meeting.

Many pubs which previously sold Ind Coope under pressure have now had handpumps installed - if you know any please let "News of the Booze" know.

"YOUR LOCAL ALE"

The Blackwater Valley section are preparing a list of real ale outlets for use as a free local guide. It will be based on the survey done earlier this year with updated information wherever possible. The guide is intended as a campaigning medium and will contain a membership application form: it will be a simple list of all known outlets and their beers, without comments or recommendations. Consideration was given to the inclusion of facilities, but it was felt that readers who required this information should be encouraged to buy the county guides.

The guide's provisional title is "Your Local Ale - a free guide to real ale in the Blackwater Valley and Farnham areas" Help is needed from all members who know of recent changes in the area.

The guide is expected to be published in late December and will be available from local

099999999999999999999 HAMPSHIRE GUIDE

A new edition of the excellent "Real Ale in Hampshire" is anticipated early in the new year.

9999999999999999999999 News of the Booze is published by the Surrey & Hampshire Borders branch of The Campaign for Real Ale; opinions expressed are those of the contributor, not necessarily reflecting CAMRA or branch views!

