

FREE !



*Christmas Greetings
and Good Wishes for the
New Year*

NEWS of the BOOZE

No. 18

Dec '82/Jan '83

SIGN the PETITION for FLEXIBLE OPENING HOURS

Flexible opening hours for public houses is the subject of a major new CAMRA campaign. The debate has resulted in the agreement of CAMRA, the NULV, the NALHM, the English Tourist Board and other fringe organisations that our outdated laws require change, not only for the sake of the customer, but in order that pubs can compete more successfully with clubs, off-licences and supermarkets. Unfortunately, this agreement has not extended to Parliament who, despite the favourable but shelved Erroll Commission Report, have thrown out the Clarke and Bonsor Private Member's Bills for licensing reform. In Scotland the Clayson Committee made similar recommendations to those of Erroll, but these were implemented in 1976, with the result that drinking in Scotland is now a civilized pleasure. CAMRA's aim is to collect a million signatures in favour of a more flexible approach (the campaign is not for longer hours - most publicans work very hard as it is - but for pubs to be allowed to open more in line with public demand). Petition forms will be in as many pubs as possible, but readers of this newsletter are asked to help by

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Newsletter of the Surrey/Hants Borders Branch of



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M. Andrew, 13, St. George's Road, Farnham, Surrey GU9 8NA.



SIGN the PETITION

Continued from pl.

taking a petition form to their "locals", and to as many other pubs as possible. A copy of the form is enclosed with this newsletter, and further copies can be obtained from the Branch Secretary (address on p7). If someone has already supplied a form to your local, and you really can't force yourself into any other pub, it should be easy to fill your form at your place of work. As your forms become filled, please forward them to the secretary, who will send replacements (postage will be refunded if requested). The petition will be presented to the Home Office in the spring, and is the major plank of CAMRA's "Flexibility Campaign". Home Office Minister Timothy Raison recently declared that the Government wanted to know the strength of feeling in favour of change - and the CAMRA Pub-goers Petition is designed to show this.

PLEASE GIVE THIS CAMPAIGN AS MUCH SUPPORT AS YOU CAN - IT IS SURELY HIGH TIME THAT EMERGENCY LAWS INTRODUCED DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR WERE CONSIGNED TO THE HISTORY BOOKS.

Get it posted...

News of the Booze is available at local CAMRA meetings, but if you wish to make sure of your copy send this form to:

M. Andrew, 13 St George's Road, Farnham, Surrey GU9 8NA.

Name.....Address.....
.....

I enclose.....stamps (1 first or second class stamp for each edition of News of the Booze).

I am/am not* a member of CAMRA. (*please delete as appropriate)

Gales lose the Anchor & Duke

Courage's Tenanted Sales Director, Mr. R. J. Burrells, has confirmed that at the end of their current leases both the Anchor at Normandy and the Duke of Cambridge at Tilford are to revert to Courage tenancies, having been leased to Gale & Co. Ltd. for several years. Courages would not give a more definite date for the changeovers than "sometime in 1983", but regulars at the Anchor say that the pub is to be handed back during January. Although the larger range of Gales beers provides the real ale drinker with more choice, all is not gloom, for Mr. Burrells confirms that "in both instances the Courage cask-conditioned beers Directors Bitter and Best Bitter will be made available and it is proposed that the new licensees will stock these lines".

The Branch have written to Gales in the hope that they can give dates of changeover, but a reply had not been received at the time of going to press. Gales have also been asked if they are looking for replacement houses in the area. Whilst their beers are now available in free trade outlets, it is not just the beer itself which is an attraction, but the realistic prices in Gales tied houses which make the replacement of the Anchor and Duke important to local drinkers - a rare example of the brewery tie work -ing to the customers' advantage.

HEN & CHICKEN TAKEN OVER

The Hen and Chicken on the A31 at Froyle has recently been sold, but is still reported to be selling a wide range of well-kept beers. The current line-up consists of handpumped Brakspear Special Bitter, Hall & Woodhouse Tanglefoot and Badger Best Bitter, Gales H.S.B. and Whitbread Strong Country Bitter.

MORE PUB NEWS ON PAGE 4.



"OF COURSE THERE WERE
'BITS' IN YOUR BEER...
YOU'VE JUST DRUNK THE ASHTRAY!"

So you think you know your beers?

The Hop Blossom, Farnham, has a "Guess the Mystery Beer" contest each Sunday lunchtime. If your taste buds don't let you down, and your name is first out of the hat, your prize is a gallon of ale. Continued falling sales are to result in Marstons mild being replaced by Sam Smiths bitter at the Hop Blossom.

CHANGE AT FRENTHAM

The Mariners, Millbridge, Frentham, which has been selling Chidham and Ballards beers, is reported to have "gone keg", and is to be temporarily closed by its new owners for another "refurbishment".

FARNHAM PUBS TO BE ALTERED

The Marlborough Head, East Street, Farnham is currently closed for alterations - probably gaining real ale and losing the public bar.

The Coach & Horses in Castle Street, the town's only pub offering regular rock music, is also to suffer the lounge bar treatment.

CLUB NEWS

Hale Working Men's Club (CIU), Hale, Farnham now serves real ale from Ushers and Wethereds.

Farnham Liberal Club are reported to have tried Sam Smiths bitter with little success, and are no longer serving any real ale.



Surrey/Hampshire Borders Branch Meetings

December

WEDNESDAY 1st - Social at the ROBIN HOOD, Sydenham Road, Guildford (behind the parish church).

WEDNESDAY 8th - Joint meeting with North Surrey branch at the OLD WHEATSHEAF, Frimley Green: a Morlands pub, recently converted from top-pressure to handpumps.

WEDNESDAY 15th - "Farewell to Gales night" at the ANCHOR, Normandy (on Guildford - Aldershot road). This pub reverts to Courages in January.

TUESDAY 21st - Branch Christmas party at the ALBION, Waterloo Road, Aldershot. Entertainment, food and Gales Ales.

January

WEDNESDAY 5th - Social at THE PRINCE ALBERT, Stoke Road, Guildford. An entry in the Good Beer Guide every year since 1976 - good fish and chips next door, too!

SATURDAY 15th - Lunchtime pub crawl of Winchester (no, not EVERY pub!) starting at the Railway Inn, St Pauls Hill (just west of the station) at 11.30am.

TUESDAY 18th - Social at the WHITE HART, Pirbright. A picturesque pub by the village green, as seen on the Ind Coope - Friary Meux calendar.

WEDNESDAY 26th - Club social at Rushmoor Labour Club, Cove Road, Farnborough (King & Barnes beers). 30p temporary membership fee payable. (No, CAMRA is not politically biased, but the Conservative Club hasn't invited us yet!)

A Festival for Farnboro'

Saturday and Sunday the 19th and 20th of February are the opening days of the Rushmoor Beer Festival, organised by the Rushmoor Labour Club at their Cove Road, Farnborough premises. Tickets, price £1, include admission and souvenir glass, and can be obtained from Trevor Willatts, 25 Highfield Path, Farnborough (please enclose S.A.E.).

Alternatively, you can buy your tickets at one of the clubs' "mini-festival" nights. The first was due to take place on Wednesday, 24th November, with Brakspear Mild (50p), P.A. (52p), S.B.A. (54p) and XXXX (54p) available. Subsequently a Morrells night is scheduled for Wednesday 22nd December, and a King & Barnes night for Wednesday 26th January. Each of these evenings the club is open to the public for just a 30p fee. Take-home jugs will be available for your "nightcap".

OFF LICENCE CLOSURES


Decanters, the Farnham Real Ale off - licence has unfortunately closed down. Decanters had been selling Bourne Valley beers at just 50p a pint.

UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE, MEETINGS BEGIN AT 8.30pm.

A Pub with a Pedigree

Few pubs can have been owned by so many breweries during this century as the Woolpack in Godalming High Street. Apparently the Woolpack was once a William Smith of Bramley house. Smiths Brewery was taken over in August 1901 by Bruford & Co. Ltd. of Cranleigh - the Woolpack was one of eight pubs included in the deal. Bruford & Co, itself formed in 1888 by the merger of Bruford's and Bamford's businesses, was taken over in 1912 by Savill & Co. Ltd, who were brewing at the former Webb and Sons brewery in Shalford. Just a year later Savills merged with Ashby's Cobham Brewery Co. Ltd. to form Cobham United Brweries Ltd. The final episode of this saga took place in December 1922 when Cobham United were taken over by Watney, Combe, Reid & Co. Ltd. The Woolpack had seen a sizeable chunk of Surrey brewing history pass by in a period of little more than 21 years.

(thanks to John Lucas for unearthing this information)



THOSE WERE THE DAYS!

From the July 1978 newsletter:
"Courage mild on gravity at the William Cobbett at 32p a pint."
Beers at the Bat & Ball ranged from 32p for a pint of Brakspear P.A. to 40p for Fullers E.S.B.

GLUTTONS FOR PUNISHMENT?

Despite receiving only 7 applications for tickets for their excursion to the Great British Beer Festival, Alder Valley intend to advertise an excursion to the 1983 festival in the hope of a better response.

REAL CIDER

The Blackmoor Apple Shop, just off the A325 near Whitehill, are still selling Weston's Herefordshire draught cider and perry by the 1 gallon glass jar at prices which could tempt you to give up beer (if only occasionally). Their 'Farm Brand' rough cider sells for just £2.95 plus £1 jar deposit. Medium-sweet perry is just 1p dearer, and a strong vintage cider is also available.

MEMBERS - pass on your news-letters and What's Brewing to non-members, pointing out the membership form!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1982

A Brief Summary of the Surrey/Hants Borders Branch A.G.M., held on Thursday 18th November at Woking Railway Athletic Club.

Approximately 35 members were present. No progress had been made regarding the 1981 resolution to take steps toward holding the national CAMRA A.G.M. in our area. It was agreed to drop the proposal due to a lack of active members.

Reports: Nick Spindler (treasurer) circulated the balance sheet for 1981-2. The accounts were accepted subject to audit. Mike Andrew (Chairman) noted a continuing decline in attendance at meetings, and the cancellation of two excursions due to lack of support from members. He thanked the committee of the Railway Club for their hospitality both on the evening of the A.G.M. and on previous occasions. Alan Davies (Secretary) felt that there had been a lack of campaigning, and that the branch should be prepared to undertake a lot of work in distributing and collecting Flexible Hours Petition forms. Someone was required to co-ordinate this.

Election of Committee: This was to consist of seven members, according to branch constitution, but additional members could be co-opted for particular tasks. M. Andrew declined to stand for re-election as chairman. The following committee was elected on a block vote (nominated: A. Mason; seconded: D. Brittain), there being no other candidates: Chairman- Colin Severn; Secretary- Alan Davies; Treasurer- Nick Spindler; Membership secretary- Roland Edwards; Sub-branch reps (Alton)- Steve Cook; (Guildford/Woking)- Martin Cave; (Blackwater Valley)- Dave Jones.

Election of Auditors: R. Henbest & P. Wallace

Election of Surrey Liason rep: M. Andrew

Clubs reps: It was agreed that Club liason reps should be appointed. Ray Henbest and John Lucas volunteered.

Motion: A motion calling for branch production of a West Surrey real ale guide, should further delay in a county guide become apparent, was passed.

Preston Pot: Mike Andrew presented the Cyril Preston Pot to Ray Henbest to hold during 1982-3 for his work in converting the Railway Club to real ale (the club now boasts 3 handpumps).

BRANCH CONTACT: A. Davies (secretary), 68 Bishops Wood, Woking, Surrey. Telephone Woking 20579.

SPECIAL OFFER!

FREE GOOD BEER GUIDE

When you join CAMRA

Yes, a free copy of the 1982 Good Beer Guide, worth £3.95 will be sent to you if you join by sending this form to: GBG offer, 13 St Georges Road, Farnham, Surrey GU9 8NA.*

I/We wish to become a member/members of the Campaign for Real Ale Limited. I/We agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Campaign.

- I enclose £7 (£10 Overseas) for full membership for a year ☐
We enclose £7 for husband and wife membership ☐
or I/We enclose completed standing order authority ☐
(Any additional amount will be welcomed as a donation)

FULL NAME(S) (Block capitals)

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS (Block capitals)

SIGNATURE DATE

Cheques should be made payable to Campaign for Real Ale Limited.

STANDING ORDER FORM

To (your Bank)
Please forward to Barclays Bank Ltd., 3 High Street, St Albans (20--74-09) for the credit of CAMRA Limited subscription account; A/c No. 50187887; now the sum of £7 and continue to pay this sum on the
annually until further notice.

SIGNATURE DATE

NAME (Block capitals)

BANK A. C NO. AND ADDRESS



* whilst stocks last.



We urge the Government to change the law so that landlords can choose opening hours to satisfy their customers.

NAME	NAME	NAME

Please return this form to: CAMRA LTD., 34 ALMA ROAD,
ST. ALBANS, HERTS. AL1 3BW or contact:
Alan Davies, 68 Bishops Wood, St Johns, Woking, Surrey.
(telephone WOKING 20579)

