



34TH EDITION SUMMER 2011

I have reason to sing the praises of Bays Brewery this week. This is because, in one of my other lives, I am involved with the twinning between Torbay and Hameln in Germany. Next week our guests arrive, and there is frantic activity in several households (especially mine), getting everything ready for our visitors. As our guests depart, we as a twinning club give them a small gift. We had arranged something for the ladies, but a male-oriented gift was more problematical. Until we thought of Bays! They kindly part-sponsored a gift pack of a glass and 2 bottles, which I'm sure will be much more welcome than some of the other ideas we had orginally thought of.

Talking to Peter Salmon at the brewery, I discovered this was just a tiny example of the sponsorship they undertake in a year. Their biggest project is Occombe Farm Beer Festival in June (10th and 11th this year). They are also involved with the Torbay Half Marathon, Brixham's Fishstock, a seafood and music festival (10thSeptember), and last month's Dart Music Festival, to mention a few.

Enjoy all the festivals you get to this summer: ale, music, food or sports! Cheers, Tina Hemmings, Editor

The Ship Inn Kingswear

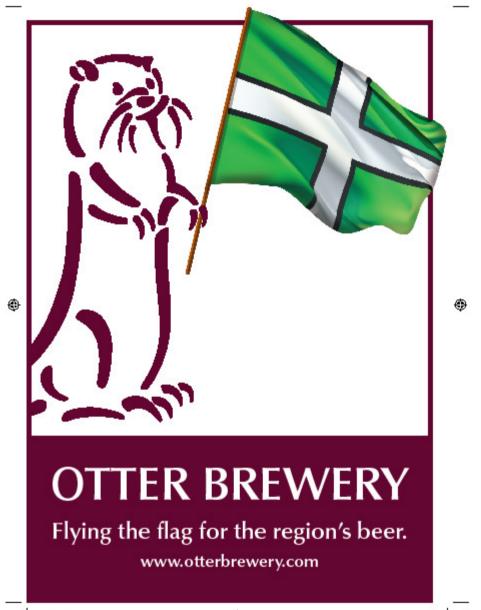
Good Food, Good Beer, Good Company

Colin and Heather welcome you to the Ship Inn. Our traditional Village Pub & Restaurant offers a selection of real ales, good food, together with a wide choice of popular drinks and first-class wines.

A dedicated Otter bar, Adnams Bitter, and a selection of guest beers.

The SHIP INN is a traditional village pub, with a restaurant serving fresh seafood and steaks, using varied, seasonal, local and very fresh produce.

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News & Brews ad.indd 1

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PUB NEWS

Two Mile Oak at Abbotskerswell had **Bass** and **Otter Ale** on gravity recently. Both were most acceptable.

The **Apple and Parrot** in Torquay serves **Bays** beers, a real cider and a selection of fruit wines. Our roving reporter commended the quality of the ales, but did not get round to the cider or wines!

The **Royal Oak** at South Brent is holding a **Casino night 9th September. They** have booked a roulette and black jack table with professional croupiers. This will be a black tie and ticket only event and they are expecting high interest. Food and drink and live musicwill make it an exclusive evening which will have limited places. If you want to book your place please contact <u>info@oakonline.net</u> The **Anchor** at Chudleigh Knighton has reopened again after another refurbishment, but without making any structural changes. The licensee is from the previously GBG listed Thatch in Bovey Tracey which burnt down. He will have two rotating guest beers and one national. When we called the **Teignworthy, Gun Dog** was excellent, but we did not get a chance to try the **Beachcomber**. The pub seems to have a more professional finish and it is good to see that the traditional public bar has been kept.

The **Summer Moon Festival** on 17th to 19 June, will feature **St Austell**'s newest brew **Trelawny**, made with Galaxy hops, and which is being released on 13th June. There will be 70 different beers available.

The Coach House in Chudleigh, is losing its car park as flats are being built.

The Kents at Wellswood is worth a visit. Beers on offer when we called were Sharp's Doombar, St Austell Tribute and John Smith's Bitter.

The **Steam Packet** at Totnes held a beer festival in mid-May with 12 real ales and 3 traditional Devon ciders. The last festival of this type was over 10 years ago, but such was the response from customers, they hope to make this an annual event. A bonus from the festival is that they were able to give their regular customers a chance to try other brews, with a view to expanding the guest range. **East St Cream** from **RCH** is one such beer that will make future guest appearances, as it proved very popular with the festival-goers.



- 13 Higher Street Dartmouth Phone 01803 832571 www .the-cherub.co.uk
 - CAMRA recommended

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The Tradesman's Arms Scorriton Nr Buckjastleigh TQ11 0JB 01364 631206

A real ale pub, just rejurbished and welcomed back after 15 months. This very friendly local serves great food and fantastic Sunday lunches. Make this pub your stop as you walk or ride the Moor. (www.beerintheevening.com)

Good Beer Guide Listed

4 Real Ales. Local ciders.. Thursday Quiz night Accommodation Available, Dogs and Well-Behaved Children Welcome.

www.thetradesmansarms.co.uk

Brewery News



The Manor Inn 2 Stoke Gabriel Road Galmpton, Brixham Devon TQ5 0NL

Tel: 01803 661101 www.manorinngalmpton.co.uk

Good Beer Guide Listed.

Discount for card-carrying CAMRA members

Good beers (Otter, Abbot, Sharp's Doom Bar, St. Austell's Dartmoor). Good food, function rooms, accommodation, patio, large car park, good company. Quiz nights Thursday (general knowledge) and Sunday (music). Children and dogs welcomed in a real village pub.

Red Rock are currently building a new shop and bar area in the barn adjacent to the brewery. There will be a 'Grand Opening' day on Friday 1st July at 16:00. to which all local CAMRA members are cordially invited. You will need to contact John at <u>redrockbrewery@gmail.com</u> if you wish to attend, as he will be sending tickets to those people in advance.

Bridgetown Brewery capacity has increased by one third due to a new fermenter, recently installed. The ale brewed for the royal wedding - Royal Romp - was really well received and will continue as the summer guest beer, with a different name (to be decided).

Summerskills Brewery's beer of 2011 is called Blondie after the Cockleshell Hero, Lt. Col. Herbert "Blondie" Hasler R.M. Summerskills are raising money this year for the HASLER Company, Royal Marines, based in HMS Drake, Devonport and which is dedicated to the rehabilitation of Service personnel injured in combat operations, or suffering from long term physical or mental illnesses. Their dry hopped ale, Tamar, and old favourite, Whistlebelly Vengeance, were included in the Wetherspoon Devon Ale festival, and other contracts have seen more Whistlebelly and Ninja heading up country.

Ringmore Craft Brewery in Shaldon intends to concentrate on draught ales, and curtail the production of bottled ales. Their draught ales can be found at the two Shaldon pubs, the Clifford Arms and Shipwright Arms and other outlets in the South Devon area.

Gidley Brewery at Christow has lauched a new beer called Ostler 3.8%. Tasting notes are not yet available.



Bar meals & à la Carte menu in our restaurant

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Pig's Nose. Pub of the Year 2011

Situated in the southernmost part of The South Devon CAMRA area, this is the second time in 6 years that Lesley and Peter Webber's pub has been voted our Pub of the Year, the last time being in 2005. You can see from the cover photograph how delighted Lesley and Peter were to receive the award.

This pub is a gem. The friendliness, the atmosphere, the mix of clientelle (walkers, locals and visitors) are what makes this pub different from the rest of the South Devon pubs. When Peter and Lesley bought the pub around 10 years ago, Peter had only drunk in a pub, so he had to learn fast as to how to run a pub. For a long time the beer available was Fuller's London Pride (4.15 ABV) but now there are two local ales on gravity - Bays Gold (Abv 4.3%) and South Hams Eddystone (Abv 4.6%), plus South Hams Devon Pride (abv 3.8%) on hand pump. There is normally a barrel of Thatchers cider too.

"Free Beer Tomorrow!" is one of the signs you will see when you enter the pub and Parsnip, the Jack Russel dog, may be the first to greet you when you enter the pub - dogs are very welcome.

The pub does not take credit cards and the old fashioned till sometimes has a mind of its own. If you are partial to snuff, there is some at hand on the bar. Also knitting can be found and if you want to use your hands whilst not drinking your beer, knitting may be the answer to your prayers. Most of the knicknacks in the pub will have you amused. It is well worth e checking these out.

Peter, whose job in the 1960's was as Roadie for a well-known band called Dave Dee, Dozy, Beaky, Mick and Tich, now has a recording studio in London and groups (some of them very famous) still peform in the hall attached to the pub.

Please give this pub a visit. The acolade that this branch has given to Peter and Lesley Webber is well worth it. Not only visit in the summer months, as a visit in the winter months, will not disappoint the real ale or cider drinker.

Colin Staines



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The grumpy old man trawls the newspapers and finds little but doom and despair.

Leading up to the Budget all kinds of organisations (including CAMRA) attempt to influence the Chancellor and some apparently 'independent' articles are clearly timed for the very purpose of influencing his decisions. As you probably have already guessed the anti-alcohol brigade were on the 'war path' and what follows is largely taken from the *Guardian*. No doubt had I chosen the *Daily Mail* (and who would) then the tales of mayhem in the streets, domestic violence and health issues would have been considerably more lurid. Be warned, it does not make comfortable reading for any sensible drinker.

According to the World Health Organisation the worldwide average number of litres of alcohol drunk per year per adult was 6.13 whereas in the UK it was over twice that figure at 13.37. 15 countries were above the UK, with Moldavia number one with 18.22, and 171 were below. The implications were clear in that Britain had a drink problem with most of the other high rankers being in the economically deprived regions of Eastern Europe. Shortly afterwards the Lancet was warning that 250,000 more people than expected could die of alcohol related issues over the next 20 years unless ministers took action. It got worse with a blazing headline "Alcohol to blame for 13,000 cancer cases a year in the UK." with nearly a half of all the alcohol related cancers occurring in the mouth and throat according to Cancer Research UK. The British Liver Trust joined in the assault "the results are not a surprise...substansive measures, such as setting minimum pricing at an effective level, have been ignored and we continue to employ a half hearted attempt in protecting the health of society". Advice was just around the corner..."many cancer cases could have been avoided if alcohol consumption is limited to two drinks a day for men and one drink per day for women. Even more cancer cases would be prevented if people reduced their consumption to below recommended guidelines or stopped drinking altogether".

Another article examined the rise in the number of professional women suffering alcohol-related liver disease and there followed an attack on even moderate social drinking. According to Nick Sheron, a clinical hepatologist at Southampton University, a third of all cirrhosis patients were mere social drinkers who got into a pattern where they were just drinking too much. It was not binge drinking doing the damage, but the drip, drip, drip of casual drinking. Shortly after the headline appeared "UK drinking out of control, say public". According to Home Office research 70% of the public believe that the amount of alcohol people drink in Britain is out of control (and probably 100% of Mail readers!) This was all timed as ministers detailed plans for a ban on cut price booze as justification for their actions. The decision likely to be announced in November will ban sales of beer and lager below 38p a can. It will also introduce a minimum price of wine of £2.03 a bottle and a price of £10.71 for spirits. However, health campaigners and the beer and pub industries warned that the minimum price was being set too low to have any impact and that beer, lager and cider would still be available at "pocket money" prices. According to the Guardian the new rules would only hit 1 in 3,667 supermarket deals. ...cont



Calling all Members

All members, especially new ones, are invited to The Crown and Sceptre in St Marychurch on 4th June, at 11:00 am, for a social occasion and the opportunity for you to meet some members of the South Devon branch. There will be a bit of a chat about what we get up to, and how CAMRA works, particularly at the local level.....and of course there will be good ale! A short crawl to The Kents will conclude the day. Do join us.

This newsletter is published by the South Devon Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale. However the views or opinions expressed are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily endorsed by the editor, local branch of CAMRA, or of CAMRA Ltd. © Copyright CAMRA Ltd.

Thanks to all our contributors - including Peter O'Nions, Bob Southwell,

Colin Staines, Anthony Woodwark, and Roger Adams.

Last date for submission for the Autumn magazine- 14th August 2011.

Grumpy Old Man.....cont

The new rules would not have stopped Tesco offering 24 cans of Fosters for £10 or three 15 packs of Strongbow for £20.

The Coalition was now under fire for the failure to act appropriately. As part of the Big Society concept the alcohol industry had been invited to ioin in discussions with health professionals to develop a "responsibility" deal on alcohol issues. What a load of old cobblers! Powerful multi-national companies have their own agendas with profitability and shareholders top of the pile. They also have the resources and the means to implement all kinds of disinformation to influence their cause. No wonder, the health experts walked away from the table angered by the limited concessions offered by the drinks industries with the major issues of the price of a unit of alcohol and marketing not even up for discussion. We now have a classic case of "regulatory capture" whereby powerful vested interests start to influence policy. Critics were quick to point out that the so called responsibility deal will do the bare minimum such as putting information on beer mats! Criticism was also levied at ministers for holding only one meeting with an outside body - the giant drinks company Diageo.

As most of you know I try to inject a sense of humour into proceedings, but with health issues it is difficult without appearing flippant or dismissive. I am not an alcohol denier and the above can, and does, apply to us all. However, it is instructive to note the 'rush' of negative articles about alcohol just before the budget. Indeed, I have not seen any such article since.

I am not a reader of the *Telegraph*, but, for once, it did supply something useful and humorous- "If a pub is selling bangers and mash or fish and chips for more than a tenner it is not a pub – it is a crime scene". I will finish on that note and promise to return with my more usual style of having a good grump about beer related matters. I have set the scene and will cast my grumpy old eye over pub food in the next edition.

Bob Southwell Aka the Grumpy old Man

SIBA Winners at Tucker's Maltings

Forge Brewery at Hartland in Bideford, took a clutch of medals for their ales at the recent Tucker's Maltings SIBA Festival in April. Handsome, 5.1abv, was voted the top strong bitter, and Gold award winner for Champion of the Show. Litehouse, 4.3abv, was the top best bitter and awarded Bronze medal in the Champion of the Show. Litehouse won Gold in the Bottled Gold Beers category and was awarded Bronze medal overall for bottled ale. Other strong contenders were Butcombe who won the Silver award in Champion of the Show with Mendip Spring, and a Silver in its class for Old Vic Porter. Tintagel Brewery Ltd also came away with three awards, all for different beers.

Holidays with a Difference

Beer lovers can now get out and about in Yorkshire without all the usual hassle of planning a break this summer. A new business "Beer n Buses Yorkshire Days Out" has put together information packs for the day tripper, using the most scenic public transport routes in the White Rose county.

CAMRA members Paul Kirby and Brian Thackray came up with the novel idea of combining their two interests. Paul said "Many holiday-makers and day trippers would prefer to leave their car at home so they can enjoy a pint or three. We make it easy for them to do that. There are lots of fantastic rural pubs in the Dales & Moors that can be reached by bus and train."

The info packs include over 100 traditional inns, two-thirds of which are in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide 2011. Examples are the charismatic Fanny's Ale House in Saltaire (where John Peel's wife was born), the small but perfect gem that is the Blue Bell in York, and the perfectly located Station Inn under the Ribblehead viaduct.

Brian admitted that the packs may, at first glance, attract more men than women but he promises there is no need to leave the wives and girlfriends at home. "On the *Beer n Buses* itinerary there are plenty of interesting places for partners who aren't necessarily into pubs and real ale. Included are TV locations in West and North Yorkshire that are known to millions around the world. We couldn't miss out on the charms of 'Last of the Summer Wine' country around Holmfirth, or the beauty of the Dales as seen in 'All Creatures Great and Small' and more recently 'The Dales' programme on ITV. Perhaps the most well-known location is the Moors village of Goathland where 'Heartbeat' was filmed. Not much chance of seeing Greengrass about nowadays but you can buy bottles of beer named after him - 'Old Rogue Ale'. "

Each of the 9 info packs contain a flexible itinerary with commentary of fascinating facts about the places travellers pass through and visit. They also include ticket information, timetables, a route map and street maps with the exact location of bus stops, pubs, cafes and local attractions. Four day trips start from the vibrant city of Leeds and five from the historic city of York. The packs start at £11 each, more details at www.beerandbuses.co.uk. (Ed–lovely photos on their website)



Ipplepen Village Show Ipple Tipple



A Celebration of Beers and Ciders Brewed in South Devon

Inside the Show Marquee on the Playing Field Ipplepen

Saturday 16 July 2011 from 2.00pm to 11.30pm

Admission to the Village Show: £1.50 (2.00pm to 5.00pm) Ipple Tipple: **£2 entry**

LIVE MUSIC

Newton Abbot Ale Tasting

The Court Leet and Court Baron of the ancient borough of Newton Abbot have many ceremonies and many duties. One of these long established duties is to check the ale of all the Hostelries and Inns in the Borough to ensure that the products they are selling are fit to be drunk by the freeholders and other inhabitants and that they are not selling diluted or otherwise inferior beverages.

This ancient ceremony is carried out by an officer of the Court called The Ale Taster.

Now I thought that this sounded like an ideal job for me but I then heard how a previous Ale Taster had got so drunk that he was not seen for several days afterwards and another had been banned from visiting some pubs by his wife, because of amorous bar maids. Also there was a waiting list to become this high ranking officer of the court.

Never mind, the current officer may apreciate some help. This is how it happens:-

We all gather, the Ale Taster, some other officers, any one else who wants to help and usually a few Morris Men(you cannot keep them away from beer), and proceed to Pub number 1.

The Bailiff walks up to the bar and says "Are you the landlord of this Inn?" someone always says Yes but it isn't always the landlord. The Bailiff says "I command you to produce a flagon of your finest ale that our Ale Taster may taste and judge its quality". Sure enough a pint of beer is put before us. I try to influence the choice of ale so we don't get a pint of keg. The Ale Taster then raises the glass to his lips and samples the drink. The glass is passed around to all the other officers and general hangers on - I try to get to the front of the queue. After a bit of a discussion the Ale Taster says "I, the Ale Taster of the Borough of Newton Abbot, have sampled your wares and I declare that the landlord do sell good ale here". When the glass is empty and we are sure there is no more free beer we move on to the next pub where we go through the same procedure. It all works well for a while but soon enough the bailiff or the Ale Taster starts to forget the words and al libs with hilarious consequences. I remember one year prompting the bailiff to ask for Wadworths 6X but the landlord was actually asked for a pint of sex!

The pubs visited in the proceedings in 2010 were

Locomotive	Spitfire and Broadside
White Hart	Betty Stoggs and Yellow Hammer
Wolborough	Hunters Gundog Golden Sands Reel Ale
Ship	Doombar and Tribute
Golden Lion	Doombar and Old Speckled Hen
Market House	Otter Ale
Jolly Farmer	Doombar Otter Ale and Old Speckled Hen
Fox/ Office/Vestry	No real ale in 2010
Richard Hopkins	Lots of Skinners beers
Saracens Head	Tribute and Green King IPA
Cider Bar	Westons Thatchers and Sams ciders
Green Man	Tribute
Dartmouth	Keltek Magic and Jail Ale
Union	O'Hanlans Port Stout and lots of others

The 2011 Ale Tasting is on 16 July. Join us for a laugh

Roger Adams



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TheGlobe JnnCAMRA RecommendedFREE HOUSEat Frogmore, Nr KingsbridgeTQ7 2NR01548 531351Well kept Ales, 8 en-suite roomsDelicious, locally sourcedhome-cooked food, Sunday Roast.Folk Nights every 3rd Thursday of the month.



Shops in Village Pubs

Prince Charles led the way with his The Pub is the Hub campaign, the object is to reinvigorate villages which have lost their Post Office and shop. The Kestor Inn at Manaton is one of them; and now the pub's entrance hall is a small shop selling a wide range of convenience goods which will save a long trip over the moor, especially useful in the winter months. Other pubs to assist their local communities in this way are The Bridford Inn at Bridford and The Wild Goose at Coombeinteignhead. At the latter the mezzanine floor has been converted into "The English Pantry" a quality mixture of delicatessen and shop. The pub also has a rather splendid new pub sign. All these shops save a trip to the nearest town, an important consideration in these days of high fuel costs. And there is a bonus because as they serve good real ale, what better place could there be to spend your saving?

Ad Size	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	Year	Advertise Here
1/4 page	40	55	70	80	We publish quarterly and distribute to all
1/2 page	50	75	100	120	Good Beer Guide Pubs and other outlets .
Full page	70	110	150	190	We have a circulation of over
Back page				250	2,000.



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Contact Us.

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Visit our award-winning Web Site at www.southdevoncamra.com

<u>What's On</u>

Branch Meetings and Social Events

Date	Time	Purpose	Location
Tues 14 June	20:00	Branch AGM	Crown and Sceptre, St Marychurch
Wed 22 June	12:00	Midweek Social & Tou	r Shipwrights Arms, Shaldon (start)
Sun 26 June	TBA	Dartmoor Rover	Our annual trip to moor destinations!
Sat 16 July	12:00	Branch Meeting	George Inn, Blackawton

Beer Festivals

28-30 May	Oak Apple Festival—20 ales and real cider. Royal Oak, South Brent
10 - 11 June	Occombe Farm Beer Festival, Preston Down Rd, Paignton, TQ3 1RN
17-19 June	Kingskerwell Summer Moon Festival, Kingskerwell Parish Meadows
8-10 July	Teigh House Inn Beer Festival, Teign House Inn, Christow
15-16 July	Plymouth CAMRA Beer Festival, Pymouth Pavilions, Plymouth
16 July	Ipple Tipple Beer Festival, Ipplepen Playing Field
2-6 August	Great British Beer Festival, Earl's Court, London
26-29 Aug	Rails & Ales Beer & Cider Festival Diesel Society, Staverton Railway
21-22 Oct	CAMRA Kernow Beer Festival, Princess Pavilion, Falmouth (TBC)

Hole in the Wall



6 Park Lane, Torquay TQ1 2AU 01803 200755

Tucked away in the centre of Torquay, only a few yards from the harbour is Torquay's oldest inn.
For hundreds of years, smugglers, men of the sea, businessmen, locals and visitors alike have enjoyed drinking in this authentic establishment with its listed cobbled floors, beamed ceilings and warm atmosphere.
Bays, Otter, Butcombe, 6X, Doombar, Spitfire and Guest Ales

Fine food, our chef having worked on the QE2

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South Devon CAMRA Beer Festival

Unfortunately, we have struggled to find a venue and are now running out of time to get things organised for 2011.

We left the Racecourse in 2009 and decided to downsize as we struggled to cope with numbers, especially on Friday nights, whereas Saturday evening was relatively quiet. You can't please everybody and some moaned about the distance from the station or the food or the soulless nature of the venue when it was relatively quiet. However, it did have the superb view from the grandstand and thefacilities were modern.

We returned to the Ambulance Hall for 2010 which was in fact the venue for many a previous year and though the facilities were basic it was more in the town centre and had a relatively cosy atmosphere. Apart from the lack of modernisation and an outside area, any return to this venue for 2011 would have been ruled out as it was up for sale and its future uncertain.

We now needed a new venue. Initially, we placed high hopes of acquiring the Church Hall in Devon Square with its modern facilities and where we could have done our own catering. Eventually, and after several months, they turned us down rather late in the day. I then asked the Racecourse, but they were fully booked and they now hold three race meetings in September. For a while Teignmouth Rugby Club was a strong possibility with excellent outside facilities, but only the August Bank Holiday was available which would have given us staffing problems as many of us would be away for the 'last fling of summer'.

Firstly, this is a plea for anybody out there who thinks they know of a suitable venue to let us know. Secondly, WE WILL BE BACK for 2012 and look forward to seeing you all then. Bob Southwell Beer Festival Organiser



Jazz Café every Monday night for the best in live jazz. Special menu

Mid-week bus and Train Socials

As many of us are economically non active, (a technical term to describe those of working age who chose not to work) or retired, or not always working on given days. I thought it might an idea to organise a once a month bus social during the day. The object was to get around a few pubs which we would not normally get access other pubs where public transport to or to was not available in the evening. I gave these outings the acronym of ENARAC or Economically Non Active Real Ale Club, although I realise that there are other names in circulation including that of the Old Gits. Our inaugural meeting saw a good dozen attendees setting off from Newton Abbot Bus Station for Ashburton, Buckfast and Totnes. This was followed by a trip to the East of the branch on what turned out to be a glorious day. Newton Abbot Bus Station was again the starting point, but this time on bus 39 and our first port of call was the Cromwell Arms in Bovey Tracey just after it opened at 11. The previous week I had been in the St. Austell brewery, but the quality of the Proper Job at the Cromwell exceeded that of the brewery.

The pub has an excellent garden and refreshing pint of Proper Job on a warm day really hit the spot. However, there was no time to sunbathe and we needed to catch the next 39 to **Chudleigh Knighton** and a visit to the **Claycutter's Arms** which is an attractive thatched pub which has expanded over the years into nearby cottages. (Incidentally, my mother was born in one of those cottages which is now the pub) Testimony to its history can be seen in the changes in levels via steps as you went from one cottage to the next. Only Otter beers were available, but one was the Hoppy Otter which had featured in the Wetherspoons beer festival and was in reasonable condition. The range was a little disappointing as on a previous visit there had been three guest ales including Wickwar's Bob. Nevertheless, a very enjoyable experience sitting in the front stepped garden.

We now attempted to visit the previously GBG listed **Anchor** in the same village. Our luck now ran out as it had changed hands yet again and was undergoing some refurbishment. (Fortunately, and on a subsequent visit, it was found to be excellent with Teignworthy Beachcomber and Gun Dog and the traditional public bar retained). There was now no choice but to get the next bus up to **Chudleigh**, which was late, and a meeting with the ever ebullient Wendy at the **Bishop Lacy**. Despite the number of times I have been there I never knew of an outside drinking area and more sunbathing took place whilst enjoying beers from the Exeter and Quercus breweries. The experience was enhanced by Wendy providing us with chips which was very much appreciated. Finally, it was time to return to Newton Abbot and the Union Inn where my notes disappeared and I have no idea of what the beers were, although I know they were good.

By the time you will be reading this we would have done the third trip from Shaldon to St. Marychurch, Babbacombe and Torquay in mid May. In June it will be the turn of Kingsbridge and Totnes to receive the ENARAC visitors and all are welcome. I normally send an e mail circular of exact details and if you would like to be included my address is <u>ecosochistoryman@hotmail.co.uk</u>

Bob Southwell

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Out and About With The Enermas

Wednesday March 16th saw the first outing of the S. Devon Camra ENERMAS (Essentially Non-Earning, Retired, Midweek Ale Searchers). Despite not being in their age bracket, I tagged along as Wednesday is my day off work. We left Newton Abbot by bus late morning, and some half hour later we were ensconsed in our first stop of the day,the Exeter Inn in Ashburton. Over well-kept Cheddar Potholer and Dartmoor I.P.A. I informed them of how they were to be known. The organiser of the day's trip took particular umbrage, and demanded something with a less contentious acronym, so in future reports of our trips we may go by another name. On leaving the Exeter, the rest of Ashburton did not prove too kind to us - the Silent Whistle did not open until 4.00pm (it was now lunchrtime) and the 3 of our number who went into the Royal Oak re-emerged pronto complaining of loud music.

A short bus ride out of town then took us to Pear Tree Cross, and the Dartmoor Lodge, where we took our assorted beer outside:Jail Ale; Hereford Owd Bull; Butcombe Bitter; and Teignworthy Spring Tide - we had been blessed with glorious sunshine for our inaugural trip. All the beers rated highly, save for the Owd Bull, which was slightly astringent.

Next stop was the Abbey Inn at Buckfast, a St. Austell Brewery pub where we took lunch on the rear terrace, overlooking the river. Our food was washed down with the ever - popular Proper Job and Tribute. Once replete, it was on to our final stop of the day, the Albert Inn in Totnes. The Bridgetown Brewery beers brewed on the premises here seem to be getting better - in this case the AA (Albert Ale). Also drinking well were Dartmoor Legend and South Hams Golden Harvest.

The 'business' part of the day thus completed, some of the party headed to the Railway Station for a train to Teignmouth, and the rest of us to the bus stop for our various buses home, giving our trip co-ordinator a few weeks to figure out where we're going next month.

Peter O'Nions

More Pub News...

The Yacht on Torquay harbour has been acquired by Marston's. The Bull and Bush in Torquay is also a Marston's pub and our spies tell us the beer is good, and the pub is friendly. Serving Wychwood's Elderwych when they last called, and Bank's Ruby Mild on the previous visit.

Beer is reported to be good at The Victoria at Salcombe, a St Austell house.

The Bell at Kingsteignton has reopened. We have not had any reports of beer or ambience as yet.

The Grosvenor Hotel in Belgrave Rd, Torquay is serving real ales.

A rumour has reached us that Teignmouth's old Woolworth premises may become a **Wetherspoon**'s.

The **Saracen's Head** in Newton Abbot had a very pleasant couple of beers last time we visited. The choice was **St Austell's Tribute** and **Abbot Ale**.

The Church House Inn at Rattery was, last week, serving **Tribute** and **Fuller's Seafarers**, both in very good condition.

Jean-Philippe Bidart, who is head chef at the **Millbrook Inn** at South Pool, has been awarded the coveted title of Pub Chef of the Year 2011 at the recent Great British Pub Food Awards. He also won the team title with his colleague, commis chef Georgia Johnson.



2011

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