## NEWS AND BREWS

SUMMED 2009

FDFF

Free Magazine of The South Devon Branch of THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

ADVANCE INFORMATION

## 27TH BEER

## **FESTIVAL**



Newton Abbot Racecourse. Newton Road, Newton Abbot

Thursday 17th September 2009 5pm - 11pm Friday 18th September 2009 11am - 11pm Saturday 19th September 2009 11am - 11pm

PŘÍDAY AND SATÚŘDAY details to pollow

100+ Real Ales and Ciders

Watch for further details nearer the time - tell your friends about it and come along

Admission: Non-Members

£3.00 Members £2.00

Admission includes Commemorative Glass

Subject to Licence



FOR REAL ALE

## Welcome to NEWS AND BREWS

#### 26TH EDITION SUMMER 2009

I learnt a new meaning to an old adjective recently. The Chairman of SIBA (Society of Independent Brewers), when welcoming us to the SIBA Beer Festival at Tucker's Maltings, explained that if he called anyone 'darling' by mistake, it was not a term of endearment, but to indicate someone who wasn't listening. Since then, the scandal of a 2% rise on beer duty in the budget has been eclipsed by worse scandals, but the one that entertains me, is that the First Treasury Minister in the land, needs to employ an accountant to fill out his tax return....at a cost to you and me.

The SIBA festival was a great success as always, and RCH won Supreme Champion with their East Street Cream. The revelation for me was beers from Moors brewery, not one of my favourites in the past. However, the new brewer has breathed new life into the beers, and I found them fresh tasting and delicious. I hope they will be appearing at our Beer Festival in September.

You will see details on the front page, and I hope you will be able to make it over there to the Newton Abbot Racecourse to join us.

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.

Otter Ale, Adnams Bitter, Timothy Taylor Landlord, Green King IPA 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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## OTTER BREWERY

Flying the flag for the region's beer.
www.otterbrewery.com

## PUB NEWS

**Dartmoor Brewery** is brewing **Gold** for the Devon County Show. The beer will be available at selected outlets for a short time afterwards. Dartmoor also soon plan to release a new beer called **Summer Ale** 3.6% abv.

The owners of **The Rugglestone Inn** in Widecombe have bought **Blackawton Brewery**, and are planning to move the brewery back into the South Hams in early 2010.

The **Plough Inn** Ipplepen failed to sell at auction recently. The pubco Enterprise is continuing to market it as a pub.

Big celebrations occurred at **The Golden Lion**, Brixham last Bank Holiday, as Lynn and Dave, the licencees, got married. The festivities continued the whole weekend as their annual Beer and Music festival coincided with the happy event.

Heavitree Brewery has sold **The Old Rydon Inn** in Kingsteignton to Charlie and Amy Tinnyunt, who worked there in 1998 as chef and waitress. The pub is a listed building and was a farmhouse in the 11C.

The **Exeter Inn** at Ashburton is now serving Dartmoor IPA as their regular beer, with a changing selection of guest beers.

Watch out for **LocAle** stickers in your favourite pubs. They denote that the beer has only travelled 30 miles or less.

The **Pig and Whistle Inn** at Littlehempston held a celebration on 17th April, with live band, to mark the end of their refurbishments. These include a decking area outside for summer dining, altering the décor to make it more like a pub and less like a road-house, and laying a lovely slate floor in the bar.

I hear that the beer was in excellent condition at **The Vigilence**, J D Wetherspoon's Brixham outlet, during their recent festival.

**Otter Brewery** has launched a new beer called **Amber** 4.0% abv, which is available in around 24 pubs in Devon. The beer is spicy with a traditional bitter aftertaste, and is definitely worth trying.

South Devon Camra recently had a meeting at the **Trademan's Arms**, Scorriton. Doombar and Tribute were on draught, and the Tribute was just magnificent.

### The Cherub Inn



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

#### CAMRA recommended

Real Ales and Cider
Selected Red and White wines
Lunchtime and evening meals a la carte meals in the evening.

### AND MORE PUB NEWS....

The **South Devon Diesel Society** has its 'Rails and Ales' weekend festival over August Bank Holiday weekend. As their festivals are always great fun, and what is more always sunny, see you there!

**The Ship** in Kingswear has increased its range of beers to include Tribute, O'Hanlon's beers and some guest beers, following a welcome relaxation by Heavitree.

The **Maltsters Arms**, Tuckenhay are holding a beer festival from 18-21June on the theme of Creature Comforts – beers include **Cotleigh** birds, **Exmoor Beast**, and other critters. There is a canoe regatta on Sunday-proceeds to RNLI. Contact the pub for details of mooring, accommodation etc. 10% discount for card-carrying CAMRA members.

The **Cherub Inn** at Dartmouth is putting in another pump, making 5 in all. The latest will be a dedicated Otter pump, featuring the full range of **Otter** beers, and joins the 3 house beers, **St Austell's Proper Job, Sharpe's Doombar**, and **Dartmoor IPA**. The fourth pump has a changing guest beer from anywhere and everywhere. Recent beers have been from Orkney Brewery and Wooden Hand in Cornwall.

The **George Inn** at Blackawton plans another Beer Festival to coincide with Dartmouth Regatta week. It is likely to be a great success, if the Worm Charming festival on May Day weekend was anything to go by.

### Bays Chosen

Bays Brewery is having a busy time of late. This award-winning brewery has recently brewed a new beer, which J D Wetherspoons has chosen as its house beer for outlets in Torbay. The 4.2 abv beer will be called Warmer Wether, is a classic bitter, an amber beer with a fresh hoppiness. and which will be followed by seasonal beers throughout the year. In addition, they hope to launch another new beer, named Devon Dumpling, 5.1 abv, a strong golden ale with spicy hops and a sweet finish, which may make its first appearance at the Occombe Farm Festival on 6<sup>th</sup> June.

In August, Bays Breaker bottled beer will be supplied to 450 Sainsbury outlets nationwide in Sainsbury's 2009 national beer competition. They are competing for a contract to supply Sainsbury's for a minimum of 6 months, and are up against 14 other bottled beers. They will be the supplying 40,000 bottles of Breaker in the next four months, and the winner will be the first beer to sell out. So go and get your Breaker from Sainsbury's and support this local brewer.

Trading Standards Office Devon 01392 382818 Torbay 01803 208080

Contact them if you are dissatisfied with service or quantities and are unable to resolve this with the service provider.

#### **PUBLICANS FROM HELL**

Now let us make this very clear. The overwhelming majority of pub landlords are polite, friendly, welcoming and often witty or entertaining. However, this article covers the tiny minority who range from the eccentric to the downright insulting.

The first group rule their fiefdom of a pub with an iron fist and woe betides anybody who steps out of line. Often they are run by elderly women with their pubs in pristine condition with immaculately polished and neatly arranged furniture and often with floral displays. What is wrong with that you may ask? Your every move and action is carefully scrutinised and good 'tongue lashing' rebuke is never far way. The problems arise when you first walk in as you are eyed up and down for any signs of dirty clothing/shoes or social deviance and subsequent minor misdemeanours become elevated into international incidents and the inevitable threats of ejection. If you try to rearrange the furniture to cope with larger groups you are reminded that the table only seats four and that you should put the chair back. Never attempt to move the flowers (even slightly) so as to see the person on the other side of the table. Loud conversations are generally prohibited and spilt beer, or not using a beer mat, a capital offence. Signs warn against playing cards or darts or gambling and more generally having a good time. In the end you just feel uncomfortable and forced to leave of your own accord before committing yet another 'sin' and being asked to leave.

The second group see themselves as the social elite, encourage customers of the 'right background', and would rather have customers drinking champagne or Pimms, than downmarket beer. I remember surveying a pub for a local CAMRA guide, and trying to get information out of this publican was like extracting blood from a stone. He finally enquired as to what sort of person

#### Contact Us.

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

#### More Beer at the Union

The Union Inn at Moretonhampstead have reported an upturn in trade since the smoking ban as the pub used to get very smoky however much they tried to ventilate it. Their recent beer festival (10 beers + usual ones) was very successful. Exmoor Beast was the first to sell out. They are currently serving Union IPA 3.9% supplied by Red Rock and it is proving very popular. Red Rock brewery has not named it themselves, which allows the publican to choose an appropriate name. According to our tester, it is an excellent beer, and I have heard that it will be making an appearance at the Kingskerswell Summer Moon Festival next month as Summer Moon IPA on 19-21 June. See www.kksummermoon.co.uk for beer list



### The Manor Inn

2 Stoke Gabriel Road Galmpton, Brixham Devon TQ5 0NL

Tel: 01803 661101

www.manorinngalmpton.co.uk

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.

Cont.....would use this guide. Before I could answer, he said, "I hope this won't encourage the riff-raff from Portsmouth or Aldershot to pay a visit". Neither was he sympathetic towards CAMRA members, nor myself, especially since I was asking such impertinent questions. He was fond of playing classical musical to raise the tone, and no doubt to discourage the riff-raff, and on my next social visit, Sibelius' Finladia was in full flow. He obviously recognised me from the previous visit and I thought I would engage in polite conciliatory conversation whilst ordering the beer. I casually remarked, "How pleasant it was to hear Sibelius in a pub". He then replied if I didn't like it then I should get out. My money was promptly refunded and I was shown the door! No doubt, in his eyes, that was one less piece of riff-raff.

The third type are just plain rude or insulting. Many years ago I visited a pub with a friend of mine who, given the fashion of the day, had long hair. He was looked up and down and asked whether he was a man or woman and he should be careful as to which toilets he used. Having taken this broadside we then attempted to hang up our coats only to be told that they should go on the floor, as they were only suitable for the dog to lie on. We persevered and ordered two bitters only to be asked whether we wanted cherries and an umbrella with them. No doubt, jokes about homosexuals would have followed. Was this meant to be humorous or was it straightforward social prejudice? As we did not wish to drink with bigots and English 'rednecks' we left and went somewhere more welcoming.

I know that the above represent very much the exceptions, but they can still occasionally be found plying their trade. Has anybody out there got any similar experiences?

Bob Southwell, AKA The Grumpy Old Man.

Next edition - Pub Customers from Hell

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Well kept Ales, 8 en-suite rooms
Delicious, locally sourced
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month



#### 27TH SOUTH DEVON BEED FESTIVAL



Our 27th South Devon Beer Festival is to be held once more at Newton Abbot Racecourse on 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September, and as in previous years we are laying on a good spread for ale and cider enthusiasts alike. There will be around 100 Real Ales. with a cross spread of old favourites, local choices and new and unusual beers from further afield. whatever your So preference, there will be the beer for you! As the Cider Bar was such a success last year too, we will be sourcing up to 25 ciders and perries, from Devon. Somerset and all points west.

For Rocks Sake will supply the music on Friday, and we hope to be able to present the popular Morris Brothers on Saturday night.

So come along and enjoy the craic!

The Wild Goose at Coombeinteignhead always has May and December Beer Festivals. This May, the landlord used it as an opportunity to celebrate his coming a close second in the annual survey of South Devon Good Beer Guide pubs to find the South Devon Pub of the Year.

#### It takes all sorts to campaign for real ale Join CAMRA today... Complete the Direct Debit form below and you will receive three months membership free and a fantastic discount on your membership subscription. Alternatively you can send a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd with your completed form, visit www.camra.org.uk or call 01727 867201. All forms should be addressed to Membership Secretary, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, ALI 4LW. Your Details Title .....\_ Surname ..... Forename(s) Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) Please state which CAMRA newsletter you found this form in?..... Direct Debit Non DD Single Membership £22 ...... Postcode ..... (UK & EU) Joint Membership £25 £27 (Partner at the same address) Tel No (s)..... For concessionary rates please visit www.camra.org.uk or call 01727 867201. Partner's Details (if Joint Membership) I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Title .....\_ Surname ..... I enclose a cheque for ..... Applications will be processed within 21 days Instruction to your Bank or DIRECT Building Society to pay by Direct Debit Please fill in the form and send to: Campaign for Real Ale Ltd. 230 Hatfield Road, St. Albans, Herts ALI 4LW This Guarantee should be detached Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society Originators Identification Number The Direct Debit To the Manager Bank or Building Society 9 2 6 1 2 9 Guarantee Address FOR CAMRA OFFICIAL USE ONLY and Building Societies that take part in the Direct Debit Scheme. The efficiency and security of the Scheme is Name(s) of Account Holder (s) If the amounts to be paid or the payment dates change CAMRA will notify you 10 working days in advan of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. Instructions to your Bank or Building Society Please pay CAMRA Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with CAMRA and, if so will be passed electronically to my Bank or Building Society Account Number If an error is made by CAMRA or your Bank or Building Society, you are guaranteed a full and immediate refund from your branch of the amount paid. Branch Sort Code Bank/Building Society. Signature(s) You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by writing to your Bank or Building Society. Please also send a copy of your letter to us. Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of account.



Dartmoor Brewery Station Road Princetown Dartmoor PL20 6QX

Tel: 01822 890789 Fax: 01822 890798 Email: ale@dartmoorbrewery.co.uk

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### Beer in a Great Settling

Easter is when the Devon Diesel Society holds one of its twice-yearly Beer Festivals at the Staverton Railway Station. Indeed so idyllic is the venue that the South Devon Branch of CAMRA gave it an award for the most attractive place in its area to hold a Festival. Considering Devon is one of the loveliest places in England this is some achievement.

My wife, daughter, her Lakeland terrier and I went there on the Sunday; the beautiful weather ensured we were guaranteed to have a lovely day.

On arrival, we sat out in the sun on the platform while I bought the drinks; there were 16 real ales on offer and a draught cider, all in tiptop condition. Time passed in an agreeable and relaxed manner as the ales were sampled in the warm sunshine; there is something very satisfying enjoying a drink watching steam trains come and go. There were two railway carriages on the platform for seating, plus outside tables, which were well used. Most customers had bought snacks and this was just as well as the caterers had run out of pasties, and further supplies were not expected - a pity as we had been looking forward to one each.

We went for a walk alongside the river, the dog having a great time, then back to the station for further refreshment before home for a very late lunch. If you want good beer in a lovely setting, I think this venue takes some beating, so go along to the next one in August.

Tony Woodwark

### Royal Oak, Pub of the Year 2009



South Devon CAMRA is pleased to announce that the Royal Oak in South Brent is our branch Pub of the Year for 2009 Andrew and Carol were thrilled receive the award (having again previously won it in 2007) and said that they could not have done it without the

the support and hard work of all their staff.

The photo above shows them with many of their team, and several South Devon CAMRA branch members. After the presentation, which was held on the 26th March, we all tucked into the excellent buffet on the left of the picture. The theme of the buffet was beer, and virtually all the food was prepared with beer. It included butter beer soup; black stout BBQ rib; chicken liver parfait with tomato and real ale chutney; sweet chilli, garlic and ale battered mushrooms; mussels cooked in ale and Everard's black stout and dark chocolate brownies.

The Royal Oak will now go forward to the regional competition, where they will be judged against the other Regional winners from Cornwall, North Devon, Exeter, Somerset, Avon and Gloucester. We wish them the very best of luck.

Ant Veal



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## What's On

## **Branch Meetings and Social Events**

Dat	te Time	Purpos	se Location	
Tues 9 June 2009	20.00	Branch AGM	Crown & Sceptre, St Marychurch	
Sat 13 June 2009	12.30	Regional Meetin	ng Dartmoor Lodge Ashburton	
Tues 14 July 2009	20.00	Branch Meeting	Pigs Nose, East Prawle	
Sat 26 July 2009	TBA	Dartmoor Rover Trip around East Devon Bus/Train from Newton Abbot		
August Meeting	TBA	On a Saturday afternoon. Still to be arranged		
Sat 15 Aug 2009	12.00	CAMRA Interclub Social, Dartmoor Lodge, Ashburton		
Sat 17 Oct 2009	12.00	Return trip from Surrey & Hants. CAMRA.  Tucker's Maltings and visit Teignworthy Brewery		

## **Beer Festivals**

5-6 June 2009	Occombe Beer Festival	Occombe Farm, Paignton	
19-21 June 2009	2nd Summer Moon Festival	Parish Centre, Kingskerswell	
26-27 June 2009	Exeter CAMRA-Beer at the Cast	le Rougemont Castle, Exeter	
27-28 June 2009	Axminster Beer Festival	Axminster Showground	
18 July 2009	Ipple Tipple	Playing Field, lipplepen	
24-25 July 2009	Plymouth CAMRA Beer Festival	Plymouth Pavillions	
29-31 Aug 2009	Rails and Ales Weekend Bu	uckfastleigh & Staverton Stations	

17-19 Sep 2009	27th South Devon CAMRA Beer Festival	Newton Abbot Racecourse	

25-27 Sept 2009 Abbfest Beer & Food Festival Totnes Road near Fermoy's

## Everyday's a Bays day

From our family run brewery in Torbay we are dedicated to hand brewing a selection of premium ales. We invite you to sit back, relax and enjoy the fruits of our labour.





#### BAYS BEST

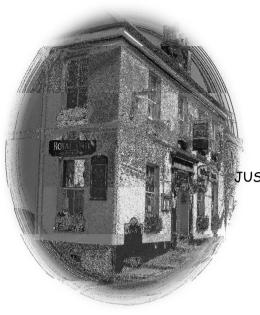
Access Bean Bed Billion, paleumber in colon. Our selection of matern hope produce a well be unced clean and drisp costing her world dry and hoppy finish. ARV 3.0%.



#### BAAZ COTO

An easy or mkins half go den so miner beer. The unique them or condish and Coldman a hops cresses femor cities overlones which lands be a soft refresh the politic ABV 4.3%.





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PUB OF THE YEAR

2009 and 2007

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## **Crown & Sceptre**

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JAZZ - SUNDAY & TUESDAY

FOLK CLUB - 1st Thursday in every month 8.30pm

**SATURDAY - LIVE GROUPS** 

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## Triple fff Trip



fff Brewer Graham Trott - cooking up a mean chilli!

On Saturday 9th May, ten S. Devon Camra members left Newton Abbot by minibus at 8.30 a.m. for the long trip to Alton, in Hampshire - home of the brewer of the current Champion Beer of Britain. We arrived at the brewery at midday, where our Chairman/driver rather disconcertingly started to look for his glasses.

Thankfully, he found them in time to meet our hosts for the day, Surrey and Hants. Borders

#### CAMRA branch.

The original Triple fff brew house, which housed the old 5-barrel plant, has now been developed into a shop, as well as supplying off sales. The brewery was to have moved to a not-too-distant barn, but then a much larger unit became available opposite the old brew house, and this now houses £3/4 million worth of investment in a new 50-barrel plant. Back at the old brew house, the barrels used for dispensing off sales were waiting for our on-consumption. On offer were: the C.B.O.B- Alton's Pride (3.8%); the brewery's mild - Pressed Rat and Warthog (3.8); Moondance (4.2); Dazed and Confused (4.6); Stairway to Heaven (4.6); and the occasional brew, Apache Rose Peacock (4.2) - my personal favourite.

Some time later, we were treated to what at first appeared to be a barbecue, with a fire being lit beneath a raised metal frame. Then a large (4' diameter) metallic circular tray some 5" deep was placed on top and half-filled with water. In this, rice was cooked in a seemingly industrial quantity, and then transferred to a nearby heated hop-back vessel. The huge pan was then charged with the onions, kidney beans, peppers, tomatoes and chopped chillies that constituted the vegetarian chilli that was for lunch. What it lacked in meat it made up for in heat - and possibly a few too many chillies!

We all left the brewery at about 4 o'clock, and drove into Alton, and our hosts' Pub of the Year, the Eight Bells, which dates back to 1640. They were serving Bowman's Swift One; Ballard's Best; Stonehenge Spire Ale; the malty Goddard's Fuggle-De-Dum; and also from our end of the country, Sharp's Doom Bar. However, all good things must end, and at 6 p.m., we bade our hosts farewell, to start the long journey home.

Many thanks to Triple fff for their generous hospitality and we look forward to seeing Surrey-Hants Borders branch when they pay us a return visit in October.

Peter O'nions



Totnes' only entry in the Good Beer Guide 2008





## PUB OF THE YEAR 2008

REAL ALE ★ REAL FOOD ★ REAL PUB

Quiz The first and third Wednesday of the month

Winter opening times (AS FROM 1st OCTOBER)

Monday - Thursday

Friday and Saturday
Noon to 2.30 and 6 to 11.30
Sunday

Noon to 3 pm and 7 pm to 10.30 pm

Jazz the last Sunday of the month

For details and information about any of our events

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or why not call in and see us

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www.bayhorsetotnes.com



### On Tour in the North East

In March we took ourselves off to the North East, for no other reason than, we had not been there before. We stayed in Alnwick and found it an excellent centre for travelling round, visiting places of interest and sampling the local beers. In Alnwick itself are 2 GBG pubs, the John Bull Inn, a strangely out of the way pub in the middle of a Victorian estate of back-to-back terraced houses. Despite that, there were 3 or 4 ales for sale at each visit, including some well-travelled brews. Exmoor Hound Dog being one of them. Leyden's Black Pudding Mild 3.8% abv was particularly acceptable. The Tanner's Arms, within striking distance of our B & B, was the other GBG pub and served a nice variety of local microbrews from breweries such as Wylam, Hadrian and Borders, and Farne Islands breweries. This beautiful old pub had foot thick stonewalls, a flagstone floor in its one room bar, and a step into the bar which was 2 inches at one end and 12 at the other! Wylam Gold Tankard 4% abv was my favourite here. Another good ale pub that we found two doors from home, The Fleece, also providing a variety of well-kept ales, and Mordue's Workie Ticket 4.5% abv, was my first taste of this local brewer's wares, in its local surroundings. I was not disappointed.

A beer that became available in The Fleece while we were there was Skinner's Cornish Spring Tide 3.6%, and this surprised me so much I took a photo of the pump clip (which was unmistakably from Skinner's and in the same style as their others). The beer was full of flavour for a low abv, and was reminiscent of Cornish Blonde.

The Sunday we were there, we headed to Lindisfarne, and were able to cross onto the island at 9.00 a.m., before the rest of the tourists descended. The weather was kind, and the island as beautiful as I imagined, calm and peaceful. From there we drove round the coast between the Holy Island and our digs. We stopped at Low Newton on Sea, and lunched in The Ship, on Craster kippers and The Ship's own ale brewed on the premises, Dolly Daydream 4.3% abv and Sandcastles at Dawn 2.8% abv, both worth making a visit for.

The setting of The Ship was quite delightful, with a small quadrangle of fisherman's cottages facing out to sea and the pub in the corner. Further delights that day were a short stop at Craster, where we investigated opening times for buying the famous kippers; Bamburg with its magnificent castle and a swift half pint of Radgie Gadgie 4.8% abv; a trip to The Red Lion at Alnmouth, a pub with a lovely wood-panelled interior. This pub is featured in the local CAMRA historic inventory, and Northumberland Pit Pony 3.8% abv saw us finish the day's activities.

A trip to Newcastle by train, later in the week, allowed us to have a city pub-crawl around some of the great pubs there. We visited three, all owned by the local Sir John Fitzgerald chain of pubs, and all delightful. At the Bodega, with its striking stained glass ceiling domes, there were 8 ales but we restricted ourselves to 2 each. The Crown Posada, nicknamed 'The Coffin' due to its long thin shape, had an ornate plaster ceiling, handsome stained glass windows, and a 1930's gramophone, which played while we drank Jarrow Bitter 3.8% abv and Hadrian and Borders Gladiator 3.8% abv. Our final call was at the Bacchus, decorated as if an ocean liner, with 8 beers. We were told that they had recently been told that they had won the Pub of the Year for the region, and deservedly so. Jarrow Rivet Catcher 4% abv was stunning, and probably my Beer of the Week, but the St Peter's Honey Porter was close behind.

The local beers we found throughout the region were well brewed, with more hoppiness than we are used to in the South West, and in every pub we called at, were well kept. I would be more than happy to go back as the people were friendly, the scenery attractive, and the hospitality splendid.



## Ipplepen Village Show Ipple Tipple



A celebration of beers and cider from South Devon
Saturday 18 July 2009
2.00pm to 11.30pm
Inside the Show Marquee, Playing Field, Ipplepen

Ipple Tipple: £2 entry (includes commemorative glass). Plus £1.50 entry to Village Show from 2.00pm to 5.00pm.

Music from 7.00pm: "Total Recall" and "The Dambuskers"

Over 30 beers. More details at www.ipplepen.net

## 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.

**Abbot Ale, Adnams, Bombardier and Guest Ales**Fine food, our chef having worked on the OE2

### Letters Page

**Dear Madam Editor** - Having acquired a copy of your magazine in my local hostelry, I read with avid interest the article on Real Ale and Tantric Sex, and although tantric sex is something I had not previously heard of, the lady wife and I have always been eager to embrace new ideas and situations.

We do unfortunately not have a bathroom, but a tin bath in front of the fire has served 3 generations of my family adequately. The said bath was carried into the kitchen and placed in front of our wood-burning Aga. This immediately gave rise to a problem – the tin bath does not have a lip wide enough to support candles, but luckily, I had a number of Watney's and Courage beer crates in the barn. I put these around the bath to support the aromatic candles. I then came to my second problem. Mrs Penhallow at the village post office was unable to supply the essential aromatic oils although her husband was very helpful in the provision of bottles of real ale. In absence of aromatic oils, I used a mix of rubbing alcohol, liquid paraffin and the lady wife's rose water.

I then proceeded to anoint the lady wife with the recommended aromatic concoction, which left an oil slick on the top of the bath water. Hastily, I stripped to my long johns and stepped into the bath to accompany the lady wife, with a copy of your magazine in one hand and a bottle of Bays Gold in the other. That is when the hot water hit my nether regions, whereupon I let out a loud cry and rapidly stood upright, causing the oil slicked bathwater to flow across the top of the beer crates supporting the candles. The rubbing alcohol immediate ignited, singeing the fur from the cat, and setting fire to the curtains. On seeing this my wife leapt to her feet, and realising she was naked, grabbed a towel to cover herself, knocking over the bottle of rubbing alcohol, which spilled across the kitchen floor and was set alight by the flaming curtains.

The resultant conflagration has completely gutted our kitchen and caused both the lady wife and myself extreme embarrassment, as all our volunteer fire brigade reside in the village, causing me to be the target of ribald comments in my local inn. I wish therefore to contact the author of the article with a view to taking legal proceedings. Yours faithfully Amos Plinge

**Madam** - Reading your recent article several thoughts struck me. Are you printing a newsletter about real ale or a lads' mag? This all sounds more like a medieval banquet. Is one night enough time to eat and drink your way through this lot? (And just remember to take all the empty bottles to the bottle bank in the morning.)

Whatever next? Belgian Strong Beers Aid Scuba Diving? Parachute Jumping and Drinking Mild Go Hand-in-Hand?

My final thought, how does the author's wife keep up with him? Name and address supplied

The offending article can be found on our website, in the Spring edition of News & Brews, at www.southdevoncamra.com. *Ed* 

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### Lots going on at the Avon Inn



Dennis and Debbie took over the Avon Inn in November 2008 and have become very active in creating a family friendly, welcoming atmosphere in the bar, restaurant and garden. Dogs are also encouraged to enjoy the benefits of the large space, which leads down to the river Avon.

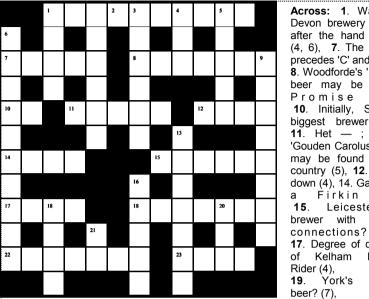
There are BBQs every weekend (weather permitting) and children eat free! Children's games are available, and there is usually live music as well. Restaurant service is also available, including a Sunday roast. A selection of Devon real ales are always on tap and the food is sourced locally too wherever possible.

Monday is a music night where everybody gets together for ad hoc sessions (in the garden during the summer). The Avonwick CPL poker is now running on Tuesdays from 7.30pm with Wednesdays offering specials in the bar. Thursday continues to stage themed nights with Jazz on 18th June and a Greek night on 25<sup>th</sup> June being just two examples. Friday is party time in the bar with dining in the restaurant as usual.

The first Avon Inn Devon Real Ale & Music Festival is planned for Saturday July 18th and will feature local bands alongside brews from OTTER, TEIGNWORTHY, HUNTER and others. Check website for up to date information.

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The Avon Inn has something for everyone - especially if you would like to request it in advance. This is possible by phoning Dennis or Debbie on 01364 73475 or by leaving a message on the website www.avoninn.co.uk



Across: 1. Was this Devon brewery named after the hand pump? (4, 6), **7**. The 'R' that precedes 'C' and 'H' (5). 8. Woodforde's ' Great ' beer may be full of Promise (7), 10. Initially, Suffolk's biggest brewer (1,1), **11**. Het — ; whose 'Gouden Carolus' beers may be found in this country (5), 12. See 5 down (4), 14. Gallons in Firkin (4). Leicestershire brewer with Church

> 17. Degree of difficulty Kelham Island's Rider (4). York's 'doggy'

(6).

22. London — beer festival; named after one of its punters? (7), 23. The 'O' in Hog's Back's A. O. T. found in covert operation (4) Down: 1. Devon brewery sounds like sports cloth (4). 2. Yorkshire Brewery to end all? (6), 3. The former Topsham and Exminster Brewery (6), 4. Last gasp taken to pressure beer to the bar (3), 5. and 12 across: Goose Eye beer sounds clueless (2-3; 4), 6. Mythical Orkney stout? (10), 9. — Brewer; hop variety from up-country? (8). 13.Battling Exeter brewer? (7). 16. There's one brewing in Cheshire (5), 18. Is Stonehenge brewer Andersen also of the dump? (4), 20. Skinners' Blonde

is Titanic's Black (3), 21. McMullen's light bitter found in cake (1,1). Answers on next page Peter O'Nions

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Warrior, 16. Storm, 18. Stig, 20. Ice, 21 A. K.

Easy, 19. Terrier, 22. Drinker, 23. Over. DOWN. 1. Bays, 2. Elland, 3. Exeter, 4. Gas, 5. No-Eye, 6. Dragonhead, 9. Northern, 13. Crossword Answers. ACROSS. 1. Beer Engine, 7. Royal, 8. Eastern, 10. G.K., 11. Anker, 12. Deer, 14. Vine, 15. Parish, 17.

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