

.PIPERS.
MADE BY FARMERS
TRADE MARK
CRISPS

**Has your pub
got Pipers?**

Pipers & a Pint
the ultimate partnership

Make sure your pub has them visit piperscrisps.com

Iron Brew
Newsletter of Scunthorpe & District
Campaign for Real Ale

FREE **Spring 2011** **FREE**

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

**PAGE 3: SPRING PUB
OF THE SEASON**

**PAGE 4: ANOTHER
CLASSIC ALBUM
REVIEWED**

**PAGE 8: REAL ALE IN
BARTON & BARROW**

**PAGE 12: PUB PRICES
SURVEY**

**PAGE 14: PUB &
BREWERY NEWS**

Beer Duty and VAT on Beer over £1 on a Pub Pint for First Time!

CAMRA has hit out at the Government's budget decision to impose a damaging 7.2% increase in beer duty. The average duty and VAT on a pub pint will now exceed £1!

The budget provided a mixed day for Britain's beer drinkers, as CAMRA has welcomed plans to halve taxation on beers at or below 2.8% ABV, but has opposed a further tax increase of 25% on beers at 7.5% ABV and above.

With these above inflation increases, it means Britain's drinkers will now be paying well over a pound (pre-Budget CAMRA estimate - 97p), on every pub pint in beer duty and VAT, and CAMRA fears the price of a pint will now be increased by up to 10p at the bar, driving consumers away from pubs, and causing further loss (cont. on Page 2)

IRON BREW

Published quarterly by Scunthorpe
& District Campaign for Real Ale.

Edited by Mark Elsome

29 The Dales, Bottesford DN17 2QF
who would be pleased to receive
comments for publication

E-mail:

mark.elsome@ntlworld.com

Copy date for next issue: **24.06.11**

Web Site:

<http://www.scunthorpecamra.org.uk>

Opinions expressed in this
newsletter are those of the author,
and may not be the views of
CAMRA locally or nationally

Advertising Rates are: -

Full page £50; Half page £30;

Quarter Page £20

Discounts for adverts placed in 4
consecutive issues or more.

Contact the editor for further
details.

Branch Committee

Branch Chairman: Mark Elsome
(Tel: 01724 331056)

Branch Treasurer: Chris Lyon
(Tel: 01724 761217)

Branch Secretary: Bev Branton
(Tel: 01724 357009)

Membership Secretary:
Paul Williams (Tel: 01673 818109)

Social Secretary:
Sarah Wullink
(Tel: 07840155637) (m)

of valued community amenities.
Beer tax has now been increased
since 2008 by two successive
Governments by over a third.
New CAMRA research
conducted before the Budget
found the average price of a pint
of real ale in Britain to be £2.84,
and the average price of a pint of
lager to be £3.02, figures now set
to increase in the wake of budget
announcements.

Mike Benner, CAMRA Chief
Executive, said, "It is incredible to
consider that Britain's beer
drinkers are forced to endure the
second highest rate of beer tax in
Europe, particularly when the
Prime Minister promised a "pub
friendly Government" with the
pub at the heart of the Big
Society. By penalising the vast
majority of responsible pub
goers, the Government is not
getting to the root of the problem,
which remains cheap alcohol
sold in an irresponsible manner
in the off trade It's welcome to
see the Government introducing
measures to recognise the
benefits of beer as a low alcohol
drink, but we hope they will
secure a change in EU rules to
increase the threshold to 3.5%
ABV to benefit UK beer drinkers."

Branch Diary

- Sat 16 April 11 am** Trip by train to Doncaster Beer Festival, the Hub, Doncaster
- Sat 7 May 12 noon** Mini-beer festival, Nelthorpe Arms, South Ferriby
- Sat 21 May 12 noon** 'Mild in May' social at Blue Bell, Scunthorpe
- Tues 7 June 8 pm** Spring Pub of the Season presentation to the George Hogg, Winterton
- Sat 18 June 10am** 'Oz & James' Rail Crawl of Station Buffets. Meet Scunthorpe Station.

TRADING STANDARDS

If you are concerned about short measures or any other aspects of
pub service, contact: -

SCUNTHORPE TRADING STANDARDS

TEL: 01724 297664

PUB & BREWERY NEWS

Highwood Brewery Ltd recently went into liquidation with debts of £2million, but seemingly within a few days, the brewery at Melton Ross was back in business, after a consortium bought the brewing site and equipment. Tom Wood himself was taken on as head brewer, and the intention was to recommence brewing some of the Highwood brands such as Tom Wood's Best Bitter and Bomber County, albeit at lower volumes than at the peak of their production (*see also article on Page 13*).

Steve Smith at the **Ferry House** in Burton-upon-Stather has announced plans to build a microbrewery at the pub. This has been a long-term aim of landlord Steve, and we hope the brewery successfully comes to fruition.

The Royal Oak at Snitterby is holding a beer festival from April 21 to May 2, to include two bank holiday weekends, and is featuring CAMRA award-winning beers.

Pooley's in Messingham High Street is now open in the evenings from Tuesday to Saturday, and sells handpulled Batemans XB and XXXB.

The Brocklesby Ox in Brigg has been demolished to make way for new buildings. The pub had been closed for a considerable time, but in its heyday was the first Scunthorpe & District CAMRA Pub of the Season.

The Jolly Sailor at Gunness has reopened under the management of a former licensee from the Marquis of Granby at Waddingham, and is now offering cask ales.

Gavin Richards, licensee of the **Nelthorpe Arms** at South Ferriby, is organising a mini-beer festival at the pub on Saturday 7 May, starting at 12 noon. There will be three real ales on handpump, one on gravity dispense behind the bar and a real cider. See you there!

[14]

Pub of the Season, Spring 2011

The George Hogg,

Winterton

Our Spring Pub of the Season is the George Hogg at Winterton, located in the centre of town. Formerly known as the George Inn, the pub was opened up again by first-time licensee Dave Hogg and partner Jacqueline Whitfield in November 2010, after being closed and boarded up for some considerable time. Run as a freehouse, it comprises a large lounge, also used for dining, and a separate public bar, built around a central bar serving area. An upstairs restaurant is also available. The pub has been simply, but tastefully redecorated, and offers three handpulled real ales; Tom Wood Best Bitter (3.5% ABV) and York Brewery Guzzler (3.6%) are stock beers, supplemented by a rotating guest ale, which was Batemans Hooker (4.5%) at the time of our visit. The George Hogg opens at 9 am every day except Sunday for breakfast, which is available until noon, after which lunchtime dining takes over until 3 pm, with Sunday Lunch available until 4 pm. Evening meals are served from 6 – 9 pm except on Sunday and Monday. The lunch and evening menus change according to the seasons. The pub hosts a popular quiz night on a Tuesday, and has its own darts and dominoes teams. It's also the meeting place for a number of community groups such as Winterton Irons, Winterton Lions and various local sports teams. We wish Dave and Jacqueline continued success at the pub. The presentation is scheduled for Tuesday 7 June at 8 pm.

Mark Elsome

CLASSIC ALBUMS, No. 35: KING CRIMSON - IN THE COURT OF THE CRIMSON KING (DGM)

In our classic album series to date, we haven't had much in the way of progressive ('prog') rock (as I'm sure you'll have noticed!). Towards the end of the 60's, some UK bands of the day (Jethro Tull, Yes, Barclay James Harvest etc), wanted to move away from the standard blues formats which were popular at the time, and embrace other musical elements such as classical, jazz and folk, to create a different kind of pop music. As it was a new approach, it was termed 'progressive', and although it eventually became bloated, overblown and pretentious, there was still plenty of good music made, particularly in the early phase of the prog rock scene.

One such band who embraced prog rock to produce some stunning music, was King Crimson, a loose amalgamation of musicians formed by guitarist Robert Fripp, and including Greg Lake (who later became a third of supergroup Emerson, Lake & Palmer), on bass and vocals.

The album opens with the raucous *21st Century Schizoid Man*, a blistering comment on modern life, led by Greg Lake's aggressive vocals, and heavy jazz riffing on guitar, saxophone and drums (a very influential song, as shown by its sampling on a recent hit album by Kanye West). It's something of a relief then when the next track, *I Talk To The Wind*, turns out to be a gentle folk song, with Lake's soft vocal accompanied by lilting flute and muted stick work on the drums.

They follow this with *Epitaph*, a grand, if gloomy, reflection on the state of the world – remember the Vietnam War was still going on when the album was first released – incorporating two other sections, a band trademark on



these longer songs. By way of contrast, the next track is the enigmatic *Moonchild*, again a quirky, gentle song, slightly marred by some excessive noodling on guitar and keyboards, making it the longest track on the album. They finish in fine style with *The Court of The Crimson King*, an epic fantasy which imagines life in their own kingdom. A brilliant album, broad and sweeping in scope, and superbly played throughout. Mark Elsome [4]

HIGHWOOD BREWERY CLOSES, THEN OPENS AGAIN!

Highwood Brewery Ltd, our biggest brewer in North Lincolnshire, recently announced that it was to cease trading after accumulating debts of £2million. The company consisted of the brewery at Melton

Ross, near Brigg, a bottling and drinks distribution business in Grimsby, plus interests in a number of pubs throughout Lincolnshire, including the Yarborough Hunt in Brigg and the Butchers Arms at North Kelsey. Brewing started in 1995, when a small brewery was set up on the Wood family farm to utilise their own homegrown barley. Initially they just concentrated on brewing, and after an initial launch at the Thornton Hunt Inn at Thornton Curtis, supplied their tasty, hoppy beers such as Lincolnshire Legend to local pubs. Initially they produced around 5,000 pints per week, but by 2001 this had trebled as the brand was picked up by supermarkets and pub chains. In 2002 they expanded further by acquiring the Conways bottling and distribution business in Cleethorpes. However some consumers felt that this rapid expansion coincided with a reduction in beer quality, with many of the Highwood beers tending towards blandness.

There's a happy ending to this tale though, as a consortium of six businessmen have bought the brewery as a going concern, and appointed Tom Wood as head brewer. Their intention is to start brewing beers from the Highwood range. Let's hope the planned reductions in capacity produce the hoppy, Highwood beers that originally made their name. [13]

**Paul & Carol
would like to
welcome old & young
to one of the oldest
pub sites in England**

***The SUN &
ANCHOR, Scotter***
Tel: 01724 763444

**Two Guest Beers,
Good Cheer
Welcoming
Atmosphere
Beer Garden**

**NO FOOD, JUST A PUB
WITH GREAT
REAL ALES!**

CAMRA PUB PRICES SURVEY 2011

The annual CAMRA pub price survey was conducted over the period 17 January – 28 February by CAMRA members visiting pubs in their branch area, with 930 pubs across the country visited in total. These prices were obtained before the recent beer duty rise in the budget, and hence could now have risen by up to 10p a pint.

The average price of a pint of real ale in the UK pre-budget was found to be £2.84, an increase of 5.7% over the average price in 2010. For standard strength lager the average price per pint was found to be £3.02, an increase of 3.2% from the average price of £2.93 in 2010.

Prices varied markedly across the country with London being the most expensive for a pint of real ale and lager at £3.15 and £3.31 respectively on average. The cheapest region was the North West with an average real ale price of £2.47 and for lager of £2.75 – our area of the East Midlands was between these two extremes at £2.73 for real ale and £2.89 for lager.

From the CAMRA prices surveys of the last 20 years, real ale has risen by 137%, from £1.20 in 1991 to £2.84 currently! Lager prices have also consistently been 20p higher on average than real ale over the same period. The rise in beer prices to around £3 a pint and over, coupled with falling pub trade, is likely to put even more pressure on the industry.

See the table below for full details of the price survey.

Region	Real Ale Prices Feb 2011 (pence/pint)	Lager Prices Feb 2011 (pence/pint)
UK Average	284	302
East Midlands	273	289
London	315	331
North	269	291
North West	247	275
Northern Ireland	286	310
Scotland	296	291
South East	302	320
South West	288	306
Wales	264	277
West Midlands	255	277
Yorkshire	286	274

The Malt Shovel

219 Ashby High Street

Scunthorpe DN16 2JP

Tel: 01724 843318

'The Country Pub in the Town'

Open: 10am – 11pm, Sun – Thurs,

10am – 12pm Fri & Sat



Real Ale, Real Food, Real Atmosphere

Serving in tip-top condition Tom Wood's Best Bitter, John Smith's, Exmoor Gold, rotating Oakham + up to 5 ever changing guest beers from UK microbreweries (tasters available); Erdinger Weiss, Belle Vue Kriek & Aspalls Cider
Always at least 4 Westons ciders served straight from the cellar

Real Fairtrade Italian coffee menu

Over 40 malt whiskies (35 ml measure)

Wine by the glass & bottle

Real home-cooked food served:

12 noon – 2pm & 4.30 – 8pm (Mon – Sat),
12 noon – 7pm Sun (including Sunday lunches)
Teatime Specials available 5 – 8pm Mon – Sat
£3.25 or £5.50 for 2 courses

Quiz nights Tues & Thurs – win beer & loose change

Live music every other Saturday from 8.30pm/check press
& blackboards

In the Good Beer Guide 10 years running

CAMRA BACKS PUB REFORM BILL

CAMRA and the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) have given their full backing to Martin Horwood MP in support of the **Tied Public Houses (Code of Practice) Bill**. The Bill focuses on the continued necessity for reform of the beer tie, improving lease conditions for tied publicans, and increasing consumer choice, quality and value at the bar. The Bill reads:-

Tied Public Houses (Code of Practice) Bill

Bill to require the Secretary of State to introduce a statutory code of practice to require certain pub owning companies to provide their tied lessees with a guest beer option and the option to become free of tie accompanied by an open market rent review and for connected purposes.

Martin Horwood said, "Tied licensees are being strangled by high rent and high beer prices, and small businesses are subsequently going bust and pubs are closing. Such losses have a devastating impact on community life, and it's about time tied licensees were given greater flexibility in this difficult economic climate. Pub companies have been dragging their feet over the beer tie issue, showing that voluntary reform is not working. New voluntary codes of practice are seeking to do as little as possible and do not offer free of tie options or guest beer rights."

NELTHORPE ARMS

SCHOOL LANE
SOUTH FERRIBY
DN18 6HW

(OFF THE A1077)

**AT THE HEART OF THE VILLAGE
GAVIN RICHARDS – LANDLORD**

- REAL ALES
(Tetley as standard plus two guest ales)
- LIVE MUSIC SATURDAYS
FROM 9 PM (Ring for details)
- OPEN MIC 1ST THURSDAY OF
THE MONTH
(half price drinks for those playing)
- TAKEAWAY AVAILABLE
- FUNCTION ROOM AVAILABLE
FOR HIRE (ANY OCCASION)
- OUTSIDE CATERING
AVAILABLE
- OUTSIDE BAR AVAILABLE
- EN SUITE ACCOMMODATION



A Campaign of Two Halves

Fair deal on beer tax

Save Britain's Pubs!



CAMRA
CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE



Join CAMRA Today
Complete the Direct Debit form and you will receive 15 months membership for the price of 12 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/joinus or call 01727 867201. All forms should be addressed to Membership Department, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

Your Details	Direct Debit Non DD
Title _____ Surname _____	Single Membership £20 <input type="checkbox"/> £22 <input type="checkbox"/>
Forename(s) _____	(UK & EU)
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____	Joint Membership £25 <input type="checkbox"/> £27 <input type="checkbox"/>
Address _____	(Partner at the same address)
_____ Postcode _____	For Young Member and concessionary rates please visit www.camra.org.uk or call 01727 867201.
Email address _____	I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association
Tel No(s) _____	I enclose a cheque for _____
Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)	Signed _____ Date _____
Title _____ Surname _____	Applications will be processed within 21 days
Forename(s) _____	
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____	12/10

Campaigning for Pub Goers & Beer Drinkers

Enjoying Real Ale & Pubs

Join CAMRA today – www.camra.org.uk/joinus

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit
 Please fill in the whole form using a ball point pen and send to:
Campaign for Real Ale Ltd, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society Service User Number

To the Manager _____ Bank or Building Society _____ **9 2 6 1 2 9**

Address _____

Postcode _____

Name(s) of Account Holder

Branch Sort Code

Bank or Building Society Account Number

Reference

FOR CAMRA OFFICIAL USE ONLY

This is not part of the instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Membership Number _____

Name _____

Postcode _____

Instructions to your Bank or Building Society
Please pay Campaign For Real Ale Limited 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 Campaign For Real Ale Limited and, if so will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s) _____

Date _____

The Direct Debit Guarantee

This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payor.

- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay by Direct Debits.
- If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit, The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit by The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society.
- If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when The Campaign For Real Ale Ltd asks you to.
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

CAMRA MEMBERS WEEKEND – SHEFFIELD, 15 – 17 APRIL

The CAMRA Members Weekend (MW) and AGM gives members the chance to engage in CAMRA's national campaigns and have their say. It also provides the opportunity to take part in social attractions such as trips to breweries and outlying pubs, and gives you the chance to catch up with fellow members. It takes place from 15-17 April 2011, at the Octagon Centre, University of Sheffield. There are a number of historical pubs in and around the area of Sheffield where members will be able to enjoy locally brewed ale or fine food. Tickets for the Members' Weekend & AGM 2011 trips are now on sale from CAMRA.



The Bird in the Barley

Northfield Road, Messingham: Tel 01724 764744

Email: birdinthebarley.messingham@virgin.net

Traditional Country Pub serving traditional home-cooked food, made from the finest ingredients from local suppliers

30-seat Conservatory Dining Area –

Fully refurbished Bar Area

Bar Hours:

Tues-Sat 1130am-3pm & 530-11pm

Sun 12noon-3pm & 6-11pm

Food Served:

Tues-Sat 12noon-2pm

& 6-9pm

Sun 12noon- 230pm

& 6-8pm

Menu from Snacks to Full Menu:

Lunchtime/Teatime Specials

Tues-Sat £5.45

Cask Pedigree, Jennings Snecklifter plus 2 rotating guest ales

FREE

1/3 pint cask ale with this ad!

MORE BEER JOKES!

A grasshopper walks into a bar, pulls up a stool, and orders a beer. The barman pours him a tall, frothy pint and says "You know... we have a drink named after you", to which the grasshopper replies, "You have a drink named Bob?"

The Devil walks into a crowded bar. When the people see who it is, they all run out except this one old man. So the devil walks up to him and says "Do you know who I am?" The old man sips his beer and answers "Yep". The Devil says, "Well, why aren't you afraid of me?" The old man looks over and says, "I've been married to your sister for 27 years, why the hell should I be scared of you."

Gold Citation

"Taste of Excellence"

**BEST PUB MEAL AWARD
2009/10**

Traditional Homemade Bar Food

Hand Pulled Real Ales

*Children's Menu – Vegetarian
Dishes*

Gift Vouchers Available

Homemade / Real Chips Served

Three Course Sunday Roast Special

Lite – Bite Lunch Menu Mon to Sat

Visit web site for menu & pricing details

THORNTON HUNT INN

Thornton Curtis

Near Ulceby

North Lincolnshire

DN39 6XW

Phone: 01469 531252

thorntonhuntinn@thorntoncurtis.net

www.thorntonhuntinn.co.uk

"Winner" Best Pub Meal Award

2001 & 2007

"Gold Citation" Best Pub Meal

Award

2002/03/04/05/06/08

"Lincolnshire Life Magazine"

En Suite Accommodation

*"4 Star - Inn" Visit Britain Grading.
All rooms are non smoking & include
central heating, tea & coffee facilities &
TV.*

Full English Breakfast is available

REAL ALE IN BARTON AND BARROW

Despite the mixed fortunes of some of the local pubs, the climate for real ale in Barton and Barrow-upon-Humber has been on the up of late.

Barton-upon-Humber

The Wheatsheaf on Holydyke, twice recently Scunthorpe and District CAMRA Pub of the Season, has a range of six real ales. Regular cask ales are Theakston's Bitter, Black Sheep Best Bitter and Wells Bombardier, with the other three being rotating cask ales from the Enterprise Inns' selection. The landlord and landlady have worked very hard on the quality of their cellar recently gaining Cask Marque and have made significant improvements to the fabric of the pub.

The Sloop Inn Another former Pub of the Season, the Sloop is popular with walkers and very conveniently situated for Humber bank attractions such as nature reserves and visitor centres. Tom Wood Shepherd's Delight and Bomber County are regular cask ales plus a guest that boasts a very varied range. The pub serves home-cooked food including their own



range of sausages made with a variety of ales and spices.

The Coach and Horses at the top end of Barton High Street, has now held Cask Marque for around nine months. Its regular handpulls are Wells Bombardier and Tetley Cask. An ever-changing guest beer is also present. From 5th to 7th August of this year, it will hold its 6th Cider Festival, and will be incorporating real ale into the proceedings, with a capacity to serve nine handpulled ales.

The Volunteer Arms on Whitecross Street, has recently changed hands and is much improved inside and out, and very welcoming, offering three well-kept cask ales: Banks Bitter, Marston's Burton Bitter and a changing guest ale. The pub now has two pool teams in the local league and a quiz night on Thursdays, all welcome.



Barrow-upon-Humber The Haven Inn, Barrow Haven, a former CAMRA Pub of the Season, serves three real ales to which its customers are [8]

partial: Timothy Taylor Landlord, Tom Wood Best and Black Sheep Bitters. Built in 1730 and retaining a quaint décor consisting of beamed ceilings and an open fire place, a warm welcome is guaranteed **The Six Bells**, Market Place, Barrow, has recently returned to form and is currently undergoing alterations to both its cellar and interior décor. This is a lovely, quaint village pub with a welcoming open fire on the cooler nights of the year. Wells Bombardier is a permanent fixture, whilst a guest beer is always changing. The landlord is hoping to bring back a food menu later in the year.

Barrow Sports and Fitness Centre, tucked behind the church on Thorngarth Lane, it may seem an unlikely place for real ale, but upstairs is a cosy, modern styled bar that has recently been refurbished. The bar has two handpulls - Tim Taylor Landlord and Black Sheep Best Bitter.

The Wheatsheaf

Twice local CAMRA Pub of the Season and listed in the Good Beer Guide

Traditional pub dating from the 18th century.
6 cask ales always available, all kept in excellent condition.
Excellent value quality home-cooked traditional food



Opening hours

12.00 – 11.30pm
12.00 - 12.30 Friday & Saturday

Food Served

12 to 14.00, 17.30 to 21.00,
Monday to Saturdays
12.00 to 15.00 Sundays

Holydyke

Barton-upon-Humber

DN18 5PS

01652 633292

Booking advisable at weekends