

The Firkin



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**

**Newsletter of CAMRA North Bedfordshire Branch
Autumn 2006 Vol 31 No 3 FREE!**



**Bedford Beer &
Cider Festival**
Wed 4th to Sat 7th
October

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The Campaign for Real Ale is a consumer organisation founded in 1971



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2nd Globe Beer Festival

40 Real Ales, Cider & Perry

Thursday 19th to Sunday 22nd October

12 - 11.30 Thurs to Sat

12 - 10.30 Sun

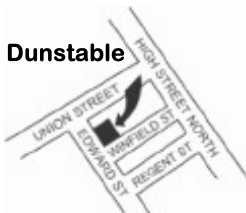
Festival glasses, T shirts and snacks available

**Traditional pub with 13 permanent handpumps – 11 real ales
Two ciders/perries and large selection of Belgian bottled beers**

South Beds CAMRA "Most Improved Pub of the Year 2006"



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www.banksandtaylor.com

Bedford Beer & Cider Festival

BEDFORD's own "Oktoberfest" will soon be with us again. The 29th annual celebration of real ales, cider, perry and foreign beers will be held at the Corn Exchange in St Paul's Square, from Wednesday 4th to Saturday 7th October.

The festival was founded by the local CAMRA branch in 1978 and has been held in the town every autumn since – all except one at the Corn Exchange. In 1988 the event had to move to Queen's Park while its usual home was extensively refurbished.

100 real ales and 30 ciders

This year's festival will be about the same size as last year, with about 100 different real ales, 30 different brands of real cider and perry, and a range of draught and bottled beers from Belgium and other European countries. Although a few handpumps may be used, most real ales will be dispensed by gravity, direct from the cask.

Although only a few Bedfordshire pubs sell real cider or its stable mate perry, made from pears, the popularity of these fermented fruit drinks has earned "Cider" its regular place in the festival's title. As with draught beers, there is a world of difference between real cider or perry and the processed keg ciders usually offered.

Check the website

Although it is too early to name the beers and ciders as we go to press, the final list will be posted on www.northbedscamra.org.uk as soon as the final order is confirmed in September. Details will also be printed in the free souvenir



Real cider and perry are always popular



programme given to visitors. The beer range will be wider than in the past two years, with fewer from East Anglia, although locally brewed ales from Charles Wells, B&T and Potton will be included.

The festival will sell no keg beers or processed ciders, nor will any of the products on sale be dispensed under gas pressure.

Real ale is cool

Every indoor beer festival has trouble keeping real ales in good condition. In an evening session packed with over 800 people, the air heats up and warm temperatures do real ale no favours.

We believe festival visitors deserve high quality beers. Power chillers and cooling jackets around real ale casks will ensure that the pint delivered to your glass remains in good condition throughout the week.

(Continued page 4)

**See back page for further details
on Bedford Beer & Cider Festival**

Bedford Beer & Cider Festival (continued)

Foreign beers and food

As well as British real ales, cider and perry in the main hall, the foreign beer bar in the Howard Room upstairs will offer a wide range of speciality draught and bottled beers from Belgium, Germany and other countries. The range is not yet known, but will certainly include rare beers.

The Howard Room and the adjacent balcony also provide a quiet area for sitting out and enjoying hot and cold meals and snacks from the Corn Exchange's own catering service. Catering chief Sunil Kalyan and his team will provide food during all sessions, with a varied menu during the week.

Bring the family before 5 pm

Children *under adult supervision* will be admitted to the balcony and part of the Howard Room until 5 pm, at the organisers' discretion. Unfortunately, the festival cannot accommodate families in the evening, nor provide a crèche to supervise young children.

Children and young people under age 18 may not remain in the main hall, except during transit to and from the Howard Room or balcony.

Access for wheels

The hall lift will be available for those with baby buggies or using wheelchairs. Visitors with restricted mobility should ask festival staff at the door to arrange lift access direct from a side door at street level.



East Beds CAMRA members run the shop



Dr Busker and friends entertain on Wednesday

Lined glasses mean full pints

Souvenir glasses with the festival logo and sponsored by the new Wells & Young's Brewing Company, will be issued to visitors for a £2 deposit. You can either return your glass at the end of the visit and obtain a full refund, or take it home as a souvenir. All glasses will be oversized and lined for pint and half-pint measures, supporting CAMRA's campaign for full measure.

Buy your beer guides here

Side stalls will include a CAMRA shop operated once again by our friends from CAMRA East Beds Branch. You can buy a wide range of CAMRA and brewery products here, including the brand new *Good Beer Guide 2007*, almost straight off the press. The regular tombola and *Shut the Box* pub game will offer a host of attractive prizes.

A glass engraver will gladly personalise your glass for you, while our visiting bookseller, **Beer Inn Print**, offers a range of publications on beer, pubs and brewing.

Entertainment

Live music will be played in the main hall on Wednesday and Saturday evenings, with only modest amplification.

On Wednesday evening, popular local entertainer **Dr Busker** will get us off to a good start with his infamous musical wit. CAMRA and the festival itself are certainly not immune!

On Saturday evening, blues from **Paul Roberts & The Swingers** will play the festival to a close.

The **Bedford Morris Men**, almost certainly with visiting teams, will perform in the hall on Saturday lunchtime, as part of their Bedford Day of Dance.

Help local charity

The cloakroom service in the basement will again be operated by **Bedford Lions** to raise funds for local charities. Please give generously.

Join CAMRA – get in free

CAMRA members carrying a current membership card are admitted free every evening, but it will not entitle them to jump any queue at the door. If you plan to come several times, why not join CAMRA on day one and get in free for the rest of the week?

See our back page for festival opening hours and admission charges. Arrive before 5 pm to get in free, and remember that there is usually a queue at the door by mid-evening on Friday.

Try our festival teaser!

Send the answers to these 9 questions on the Bedford Beer & Cider Festival with your name and address to:

Peter Argyle, 65 Wingfield Road, Bromham, Bedford MK43 8JY, or email to firkin@northbedscamra.org.uk

A free festival glass and free evening admission to collect it go to the first four correct entries drawn on 28th September.

- 1 Where will the festival be held?
- 2 Which organisation runs the festival?
- 3 Which band will perform on Saturday?
- 4 Which new brewing company will sponsor the glasses?
- 5 Which beer supplier will sponsor free soft drinks?
- 6 Which train operator is helping promote the festival?
- 7 Which organisation runs the cloak-room?
- 8 What benefit do CAMRA members get on entry to the festival?
- 9 How much do people under age 26 pay to join CAMRA?

Don't drink and drive

Please don't risk your own and others' lives by drinking and driving home. If you are driving, take advantage of the free soft drinks kindly sponsored by **Waverley TBS** and make sure someone else drives the next day.

Even better, take a bus, train or taxi home. Train operator **First Capital Connect** is helping promote the festival this year.

Help required!

Volunteers are needed to help behind the bar and glasses counter, to set up and dismantle the festival, or to work behind the scenes. If you are a local CAMRA member or a friend of real ale, why not give it a try? Although there is no pay, it's great fun, you get a fair ration of free beer and cheap food, and have the pleasure of helping run one of the most popular regular events in Bedford.

To volunteer, call organiser **Peter Argyle** on 01234 822698 or email festival@northbedscamra.org.uk

The 11th Henlow Beer Festival

Weds 18th Oct - Weds 25th Oct

Snacks Available Daily.
Bar-b-Que Thursday Friday & Saturday

Free Coffee or Orange Juice for Designated Drivers

Over 100 Real Ales from Independents & Micro's across the country.
Ciders & Perrys. Belgium Beers
Open All Day every day from 12pm

Nearest Station:- Arlesey (Peterboro - Kings Cross)
Buses:- Stagecoach MARS Route M3
For further details Phone Kevin or Claire 01462 812284
or visit www.engineersarms.co.uk

Other autumn festivals

Booze on the Ouse Beer Festival

Thu 14 to Sat 16 September at Burgess Hall, St Ivo Recreation Centre, Westwood Road, St Ives. Open Thu 6-10.45, Fri 12-3, 5-10.45, Sat 12-10.45. Admission Sat lunch £1, Thu, Fri & Sat eves £2 after 7, CAMRA members free. Happy Hour (admission £1) Thu 6-7 and Fri 5-7pm. More than 50 real ales plus real cider, perry and foreign beers. Food available all sessions. Free soft drinks for drivers. Call 01480 355893 or 07802 485449 or email_festival@huntscamra.org.uk

Letchworth Beer & Cider Festival

Thu 21 to Sat 23 September at Plinston hall, Broadway(near rail station). Open Thu 5-11, Fri/Sat 12-11. Admission £1 before 4, £2 after 4, CAMRA members free. About 50 real ales including local brews, good range of cider and perry, foreign draught and bottled beers. No live music. Disabled access and toilet facilities, souvenir glasses, hot and cold food all sessions. For beer list etc, visit www.nherts-camra.org.uk

Booze on the Ouse BEER FESTIVAL

Thu 14 to Sat 18 Sept
St Ivo Centre
St Ives



50+ REAL ALES
CIDERS AND BOTTLED FOREIGN
BEERS

Thu 6-10.45, Fri 12-3, 5-10.45
Sat 12-10.30

Entry £1 including programme
CAMRA members and Fri lunch free
Happy Hour Thu 6-7 and Fri 5-7
Further details above

www.huntscamra.org.uk

St Albans Beer Festival

Wed 27 to Sat 30 September at Alban Arena, Civic Centre. Open: Wed 5-10.30, Thu-Sat 11-10.30. Admission £3 max, CAMRA members free. More than 300 real ales available during festival, ciders, perries and foreign beers, hot and cold food. Regular breweriana auctions, range of entertainment from classical to rock and team quiz Sat afternoon. For advance tickets, call 01727 844488. For further details, see display opposite. For beer list etc, visit www.stalbinsbeerfestival.com

National Apple Day at Bromham

Sun 15 October at Bromham Mill, near Bedford. A family fun day celebrating our national apple heritage. Features a range of real cider and perry from CAMRA East Beds, as well as many other attractions. Admission adults £4, children and car parking free. No concessions for CAMRA members. (See display page 11).

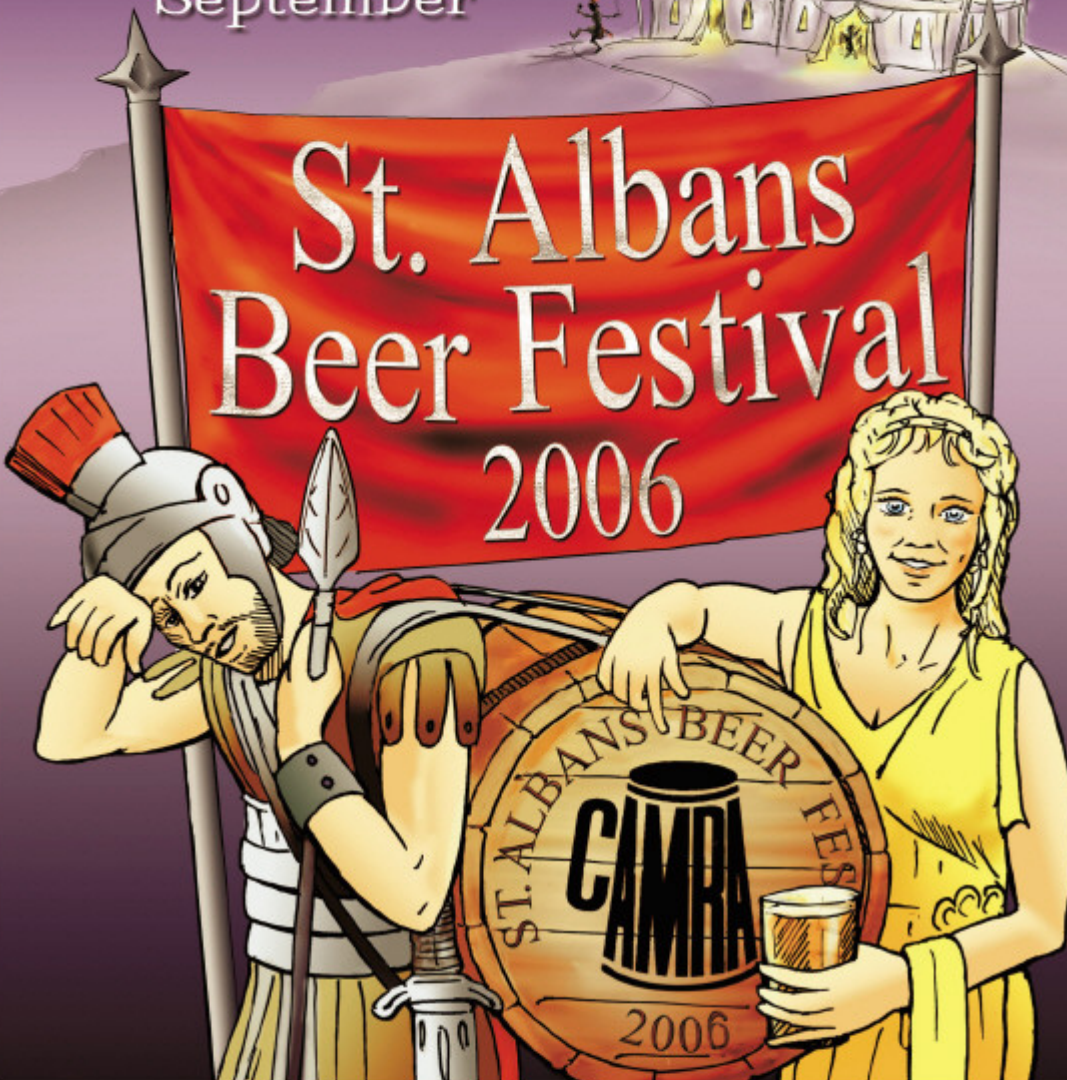
Nottingham CAMRA Beer & Cider Festival

Thu 19 to Sun 22 October at Victoria Leisure Centre, Sneinton (10-15 min walk bus and train stns). More than 400 real ales + ciders and country wines – 300 beers available at start, plus 100 new added Sat. Open Thu/Fri 11-11, Sat 10-11, Sun 12-3. Admission: £2 Thu/Fri before 5 and all day Sat, £4 Thu/Fri after 5, Sun free, CAMRA members free all sessions. Non-smoking venue. Regular Midland Mainline trains from Bedford.

29th Norwich Beer Festival

Mon 23 to Sat 28 October in St Andrew's and Blackfriar's Halls, St Andrew's St. Open Mon 5.30-11, Tue-Thu 11.30-2.30, 5.30-11, Fri 11.30-3.30, 5.30-11, Sat 11.30-3, 6.30-11. Admission £1 lunchtimes, Mon/Tue eves £3, Wed/Thu eves £4, Fri/Sat eves £5, CAMRA members free. Advance tickets available for groups of six from Festival Ticket Office, 5 Hill Street, Norwich, NR2 2DT, by 29 September. More than 200 real ales plus over 25 ciders/perries from East Anglia and the West Country, and draught and bottled foreign beers. Food and soft drinks available all sessions, live music daily. Over 18s only – sorry no children admitted. For beer list etc, visit www.norwichcamra.org.uk

Wed 27th - Sat 30th
September



St. Albans
Beer Festival
2006

The illustration shows a Roman soldier on the left, wearing a helmet with a red plume and a sword at his waist, leaning against a large wooden barrel. On the right, a woman in a yellow dress holds a glass of beer. The barrel is the central focus, featuring the festival's logo. In the background, a large white tent is illuminated at night, with a small figure running towards it.

ALBAN ARENA  ST ALBANS

OVER 300 REAL ALES plus FOREIGN BEERS, CIDERS & PERRIES

Wed 27th Sep 5.00 pm - 10.30 pm Thu 28th, Fri 29th, Sat 30th Sep, 11.00 am - 10.30 pm

Admission prices: Wed £2.50 Thu-Sat before 4.00 £2.00, after 4.00 £2.50 (Fri & Sat £3.00)

CAMRA MEMBERS FREE EVERY DAY, ANY TIME. NO ONE UNDER THE AGE OF 18 CAN BE ADMITTED
www.stalbansbeerfestival.com Box office 01727 844488 Contact: realales@yahoo.com



Dr FEELGOOD - Our Saturday night entertainment
Late trains from St Albans Abbey to stations to Watford



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St Albans
City and District

Brewers Gold is Champion again

BREWERS GOLD, the golden brew from Crouch Vale of Essex, has claimed the Champion Beer of Britain award for the second consecutive year.

Every August, CAMRA's Great British Beer Festival in London hosts the Champion Beer of Britain awards. Winners are chosen from a final shortlist of more than 50 in eight categories by a panel of brewers, beer writers, journalists and a smattering of celebrity beer drinkers. All tasting is done blind, in so far as the judges know which class of beer they are judging but do not know the identity of the beers.

Brewers Gold is described in CAMRA's *Good Beer Guide 2006* as a: "honey-toned golden ale, with grapefruit sharpness offset by suggestions of melon and pineapple."

Colin Bocking, Managing Director of Crouch Vale brewery said, "I am speechless. It was enough of a surprise to have won Champion Beer of Britain in 2005, but to have been voted

Britain's best beer for a second year in a row is truly unbelievable.

"Thanks to all the people who have supported the brewery over the years, especially those that have enjoyed this remarkable beer. This great news could not have come at a better time for us as we are in the middle of expanding the brewery."

The Silver award went to Harveys Sussex Best Bitter and the Bronze to Triple fff Moondance from Hampshire.

Champion beers

<i>Supreme</i>	Crouch Vale Brewers Gold
<i>Silver</i>	Harveys Sussex Best Bitter
<i>Bronze</i>	Triple fff Moondance

Milds

<i>Gold</i>	Mighty Oak Oscar Wilde Mild
<i>Silver</i>	Elgood's Black Dog
<i>Bronze</i>	Grainstore Rutland Panther

Bitters

<i>Gold</i>	Elgood's Cambridge Bitter
<i>Silver</i>	Acorn Barnsley Bitter
<i>Joint Bronze</i>	Sharp's Doombar Bitter Woodforde's Wherry

Best Bitters

<i>Gold</i>	Harveys Sussex Best Bitter
<i>Silver</i>	Triple fff Moon Dance
<i>Joint Bronze</i>	Kelburn Red Smiddy Surrey Hills Shere Drop

Strong Bitters

<i>Gold</i>	York Centurions Ghost Ale
<i>Silver</i>	Thornbridge Jaipur IPA
<i>Bronze</i>	Weetwood Oasthouse Gold

Speciality Beers

<i>Gold</i>	Cairngorm Trade Winds
<i>Silver</i>	Wolf Straw Dog
<i>Bronze</i>	William Fraoch Heather Ale

Golden Ales

<i>Gold</i>	Crouch Vale Brewers Gold
<i>Silver</i>	Hop Back Summer Lightning
<i>Bronze</i>	Holden's Golden Glow



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- ☆ LIVE MUSIC 3 TIMES A WEEK
- ☆ 3 BARS AND LARGE HEATED PATIO
- ☆ ONE OF THE FEW TRADITIONAL PUBS LEFT IN BEDFORD. OVER 450 YEARS OLD

Pub news

Old Mill, Newton Blossomville

After being shut for over a year, the former Old Mill Burnt Down just across our western border has re-opened as a pub restaurant serving three real ales and a range of snacks, lunches and evening meals. Wells Eagle IPA, Bombardier and Adnams Broadside were available on our recent visit. The building has been nicely refurbished, with luxury accommodation upstairs, and there is a smart garden behind. New landlord Clifford Elbourne ran the Royal George in Stagsden for several years.

Anchor, Cardington Road, Bedford

A belated welcome to new landlord Pat Wilkins, who arrived here several months ago. The pub has been thoroughly refurbished and offers Flowers Original on handpump.

Five Bells, Cople

Welcome to new landlord Thomas Kilroy, who took over in April. The pub specialises in Nepalese cuisine and serves Greene King IPA and Abbot on handpump. Food is available all day.

White Horse, Keysoe

Welcome to new landlord Tom Cross, who took over in the spring when the pub reopened after redecoration. As Tom has worked at the pub previously, he is not really a “new” arrival. Real Wells Eagle IPA, Batemans XB, Fullers London Pride and St. Austell Tribute were available when we last visited.

Smoking goes early

Smoking inside public places, including pubs and licensed clubs, will become illegal in summer next year. JD Wetherspoon has already stollen a march on the law by making many of its pubs smoke-free ahead of the ban. Other local pubs are following suit, especially those concentrating on their food trade. The **Hare & Hounds** at Old Warden, a noted eatery, received press coverage when it became all non-smoking a few months ago. The **Black Horse** at Ireland, another fine food venue, has also been totally non-smoking since 1st June.

Stone Jug is Beds POTY

Following its award as CAMRA North Beds Branch Pub of the Year, the **Stone Jug, Clophill**, has gone on to win the Bedfordshire county title as well. In an objective survey, the Stone Jug won on points over the **Engineers Arms, Henlow**, and the **English Rose, Luton**, respectively East and South Beds branch winners.

The Stone Jug has been Bedfordshire’s candidate for the East Anglian title during the summer, although the result has not yet been declared. The regional winner is shortlisted for the National Pub of the Year 2006, to be announced during National Pubs Week next February. The Engineers Arms and the Wellington Arms in Bedford have both won the regional award, but no Bedfordshire pub has yet won the national title.

An engraved plaque will be presented to the Stone Jug at a joint social at the pub on Thursday 28th September – see *Branch Diary* page 11.



New guide has lots of bottle

CAMRA's new *Good Bottled Beer Guide* is the only book with details of every bottle-conditioned ale in the UK, making it an indispensable resource for the beer shopper.

The new sixth edition, published in August, has been revamped to include a new, easy-to-follow rosette system to acknowledge outstanding breweries and a star system for excellent bottle-conditioned beers.

Rosettes and stars

Editor Jeff Evans said: "The guide has truly evolved from its predecessors to reflect that beer is being drunk more commonly with food, there is an increasing interest in local produce, and that consumer demand is increasing for bottle-conditioned products brewed by local breweries.

"The new rosette and star system makes it easier than ever before to find the best bottle conditioned beers available in the UK today."



Sound advice

The new edition includes:

- Traditional bitters, real lagers, stouts, fruit beers, wheat beers and organic beers.
- Every bottle-conditioned beer in the UK – nearly 800!
- CAMRA's *Real Ale in a Bottle Accreditation Scheme*.
- Extensive listing of international bottled beers.
- The best shops to buy real ale in a bottle.
- Sound advice on how to store, serve and taste real ale in a bottle.

Beers awarded stars include:

- Hop Back Entire Stout
- Young's Special London Ale
- Ridgeway IPA
- Coniston Bluebird

Jeff Evans added: "The star rating system demonstrates the best real ales in a bottle, which have diverse and wonderful flavours to offer. The breweries of these particular beers have also been awarded a rosette within the guide as brewers of outstanding bottle-conditioned beers."

Pocket-size for convenience

The *Good Bottled Beer Guide* is a pocket-sized hardback with 320 pages. It is now on sale at £10.99 from all good bookshops, or by mail order from CAMRA – call 01272 867201 or visit www.camra.org.uk/books. Copies will be available from the CAMRA shop at Bedford Beer & Cider Festival in October.



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Branch diary



BRANCH business meetings are normally held in the third week of uneven months, e.g. September and November. Social and campaigning events are usually held in the second week of each month.

Guests are welcome at all social events, but members have priority on brewery visits. For current information, see the members' monthly newspaper, *What's Brewing*, or visit the branch website at www.northbedscamra.org.uk

Thursday 14 September

Evening pub crawl in St. Albans, visiting the Farmers Boy, Garibaldi, White Hart Tap and White Lion. Meet at Bedford station for the 6.50 pm train. To book £5 buffet supper at the White Hart, email socials@northbedscamra.org.uk by Tuesday 12th. Further details on branch website.

Thursday 21 September

Branch meeting, 8 for 8.15 pm at the Phoenix, St John's Street, Bedford. All CAMRA members welcome.

Thursday 28 September

Joint social with East and South Beds branches to present CAMRA's Bedfordshire Pub of the Year award to the Stone Jug, Clophill. Saturn S1 bus leaves Bedford bus station at 7.30 pm. Free buffet provided. For further details, email socials@northbedscamra.org.uk or visit branch website.

Sponsor a cask of beer!

Promote your business by sponsoring a cask of real ale at Bedford Beer & Cider Festival. For just £60, your name can appear on the cask end throughout the festival.

Call 01234 822698 or email publicity@northbedscamra.org.uk

For details, visit branch website at www.northbedscamra.org.uk

Wednesday 4 to Saturday 7 October

Bedford Beer & Cider Festival. Volunteer workers are always needed – call 01234 822698 or email festival@northbedscamra.org.uk.

Thursday 19 October

Bedford Beer & Cider Festival staff visit to Chiltern Brewery. Any spare seats available to branch members and friends – check website for details.

Thursday 9 November

Pub crawl in Bedford – check *What's Brewing* or branch website for details.

Thursday 16 November

Branch meeting, 8 for 8.15 pm at the Phoenix, St John's Street, Bedford. All CAMRA members welcome.

Thursday 14 December

Branch Christmas celebration, still being planned as we go to press. Check the December *What's Brewing* or branch website for details.

National Apple Day
Bedfordshire county council

Bromham Mill

SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER
11.00am–4.30pm

Join us for our annual celebration of the humble apple

- Apple pressing, bobbing and peeling
 - Big Food Fayre
 - Morris Dancing
- Real cider with CAMRA
 - Storytelling
- Art activities for children
 - Apple identification

Adults £4, CHILDREN FREE
Concessions £2.50
FREE PARKING

3 miles west of Bedford – signposted off the A428 Bedford to Northampton Road. Follow parking signs.
Telephone 011 2341 824330

© National Apple Day was originally Copyright © owned as part of the Beer Our Outlook Campaign

Help us win the CAMRA challenge

YOU probably already enjoy a pint or two of real ale in a decent pub. But are you a member of CAMRA?

CAMRA is a not-for-profit organisation led by volunteers. It is the biggest single-issue consumer group in Britain today and actively campaigns to protect local pubs and breweries, as well as fighting for pub-goers' rights. You can help the Campaign reach its membership challenge target of 100,000.

CAMRA members come from all walks of life and all adult age groups. Members get a range of benefits, including:

- A lively and informative monthly newspaper, *What's Brewing*
- Free or cheap entry to more than 140 CAMRA festivals throughout the UK
- Discounts on CAMRA products and books, including the best-selling annual *Good Beer Guide*.

Many issues we campaign on matter to you. We lobby for fairer and more flexible pub opening hours. We campaign for new laws on full pints to ensure you are not ripped off by unscrupulous pub operators. We press for more choice and competition to keep the pubs you like open and the beers you like on the bar.

Full membership costs only £18 a year – well under the price of a pint a month. If you are under 26, are over 60 and retired, or registered unemployed or disabled, you pay only £10. If you have a keen partner living at the same address, you can join together for just £3 more.

To join, clip and complete the form opposite, call 01727 867201, or visit our national website at www.camra.org.uk

If you pay by direct debit, there is an extra benefit – your first three months' membership comes free. And if you decide to cancel it within this period, you owe the Campaign nothing. Not a bad bargain!



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Bedford's Premier Homebrew Centre

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- wide selection of lagers
- excellent prices
- free advice

and a happy smiling face

HELPLINE

01234 353856

15 Union Street, Bedford MK40 2SF

Opening Hours:
Tuesday to Saturday 9.30am to 5.30pm

Get Firkin by post

If you can't find the *Firkin* at your local pub or club, subscribe by post. Send a cheque for £1 payable to *CAMRA North Beds* to *Tony Burke, 3 Bracken Place, Bedford MK41 0TG*. You will receive the next five issues by post.

CAMRA members in the North Beds branch area are entitled to copies by post free of charge. Call Tony Burke on 01234 273676, by post as above, or email membership@northbedscamra.org.uk

Trading standards

If you complain to the licensee about short measure, lack of a visible price list or misleading promotion of products, and do not get a satisfactory response, contact *Bedfordshire Trading Standards Service* at County Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AP. Tel. 01234 228280.

It takes all sorts to campaign for real ale



Join CAMRA Today...

Just fill in the form below and send, with a cheque (payable to CAMRA Ltd) or for Three Months Free membership (for those renewing or joining by Direct Debit) complete the Direct Debit Form. All forms should be addressed to membership secretary, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 4LW. Alternatively you can join online at www.camra.org.uk. Rates for single membership are £18 and joint £21. Concession rates are available on request.

.....
 Title Surname Forename(s) Date of Birth

.....
 P'tner Surname Forename(s) Date of Birth

.....
 Address Postcode

.....
 Tel. no.(s)

I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

I enclose a cheque for..... Signed..... Date.....
 Applications will be processed within 21 days BEN Firkin



Instruction to your Bank or 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, AL1 4LW
 Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society

To: The Payee Bank or Building Society

Address

Postcode

Name (s) of Account Holder (s)

Bank or Building Society account number

Branch Sort Code

Reference Number

Originator's Identification Number
 9 2 6 1 2 9

FOR CAMRA OFFICIAL USE ONLY
 This is not part of the instruction to your Bank or Building Society

Membership Number

Name

Postcode

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society
 Please pay CAMRA Direct Debit 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 Ltd, if so, will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s)

Date

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account

This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payee.

The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all Banks and Building Societies that take part in the Direct Debit Scheme. The efficiency and security of the Scheme is monitored and protected by your own Bank or Building Society.
- If the amounts to be paid or the payment dates change CAMRA will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed.
- 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.
- 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.

Attached and retained by the payee

Campaign for Real Ale

North Bedfordshire Branch

Chairman

John Martin – 01234 768294
chairman@northbedscamra.org.uk

Secretary

Bill Roffe – 01234 342287
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Treasurer

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The Firkin

Published every three months by the North Bedfordshire Branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale.

The Firkin is produced by volunteers in their own time and is distributed to most pubs and clubs in Bedfordshire north of a line joining the M1, Clophill, Shefford and Tempsford.

We welcome correspondence and any decent items of interest for publication. Views expressed may not be those of the Editor, the Campaign for Real Ale, or its North Bedfordshire Branch.

Items for publication should reach the Editor by the date at the foot of this page.

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Printed by Lodge Printers Ltd, Hamerton Road, Upton, Huntingdon, PE28 5YA

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- Circulation 3,000 copies every quarter, delivered to almost every pub and real ale club in north Bedfordshire.
- Simple artwork created at no extra cost, or supply your own.
- Space in the next issue must be reserved by the date at the foot of this page.

For details of our rates or to place an advert, call:

Neil Richards on 01536 358670 or 07710 281381
or email n.richards@btinternet.com



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Email. oakhamales@aol.com

Jeffrey Hudson Bitter
3.8% A.B.V.



A golden beer whose aroma is dominated by hops that give characteristic citrus notes. Hops and fruit on the palate are balanced by malt and a bitter base. Dry hoppy finish with soft fruit flavours.



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4.6% A.B.V.



A strong premium beer of structured quality dominated by elaborate fruity hop notes, with a grainy background and dry finish.

SEASONAL ALES

SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY



Bedford Beer and Cider Festival

Corn Exchange,
St Paul's Square
Bedford MK40 1SL



4th to 7th October 2006

Savour the opportunity of tasting 100 different beers — and 30 ciders

- ▶ Traditional Ciders and Perries and Foreign Speciality Beers
- ▶ Live music and entertainment (Wednesday & Saturday)
- ▶ Tasty hot and cold food
- ▶ Clothing, gifts and books for sale, plus Tombola & Shut the Box game!
- ▶ Souvenir 2006 festival glass (limited edition)

This year we are offering the opportunity of sponsoring a cask of beer!

Opening times:

Wed 4.00-11.00pm Thurs, Fri & Sat 11.30am-11.00pm

Admission charges:

Admission is **FREE** to CAMRA members at all times

(please show your CAMRA membership card)

also **FREE** admission to all on all days before 5.00pm

After 5.00pm on Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday - admission is £2

After 5.00pm on Friday - admission is £3

We always need festival volunteers to help staff the event

For further information please contact festival organiser

Peter Argyle on 01234 822698 or

email festival@northbedscamra.org.uk

www.northbedscamra.org.uk (check regularly for updates)

