

ND Top Up

MAY
2004
ISSUE 61A

THE **FREE** NEWSLETTER OF THE NOTTINGHAM BRANCH OF CAMRA - THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

Harvest Pale is SIBA Champion Bitter of Britain

Castle Rock brewery's Harvest Pale beer has been voted Champion Bitter of Britain at the annual SIBA (Society of Independent Brewers) competition held at Southport. The beer, already holder of the Midlands best bitter title, was one of over sixty regional winners put forward for the final held at the resort's Scarisbrick Hotel. Two other winning beers from the Midlands competition held at Melton Mowbray also won awards. SIBA represents over 300 independent breweries in Britain.

Head brewer, Pete Wooding says the award is a wonderful boost to him and his team in Nottingham. "To have one of our bitters made champion by brewing professionals and others with an interest in our industry, is something that we could only dream of. And being up against award winning ales such as Bitter and Twisted from Harviestoun and Oakham Ales' JHB gave our newcomer some formidable opposition."

Harvest Pale was originally launched at the 2003 Nottingham CAMRA beer festival in celebration

of the city's new tram system and called Trammie Dodger. It is now a regular at Tynemill and Castle Rock pubs and is available in the free trade following it's official launch by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Brent Charlesworth, at the Vat and Fiddle on 29th January.

Castle Rock Brewery, on Nottingham's Queensbridge Road, produces around 7,200

pints of Harvest Pale a week from its new brewing plant. Plans are in place to increase this up to 15,000 pints per week over the next twelve months.



The Castle Rock team with the SIBA award

Don't forget that May is Mild month. Throughout May you have not one but two mild trails to take part in. Full details are in the supplement included with the latest edition of the Nottingham Drinker (61). The Nottingham trail has 31 pubs in around the centre of the city. This year there are no less than 16 pubs within half a mile radius of the Market Square and for the first time there

is the opportunity to visit pubs by tram with 11 pubs only minutes away from a tram stop. All entrants will be entered into a draw for a unique T-shirt from Hardys & Hansons and all qualifying entries receive a free pint of mild at the Nottingham Beer Festival (21st to 24th October 2004).

The Vale of Belvoir trail has eighteen pubs, many of which are serving mild especially for the trail so now is your chance to sample a pint in the Vale.

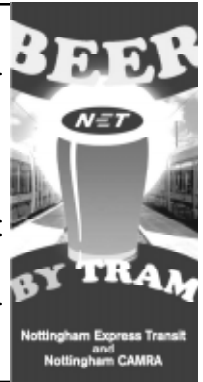
There is also a National Mild Day, Saturday 10th May, when many pubs which won't be stocking mild throughout the month will be promoting the ale.

Mild is usually an ale of low gravity and hop rate, normally slightly sweeter, and distinctly less bitter on the palate and in aroma than more highly hopped bitters. Mild is usually (but not always) darker in colour than bitter, through the use of a higher roast malt or caramel. This traditional style of beer dates back over 400 hundred years, but has unfortunately disappeared from many pubs and is in danger of becoming extinct in certain areas of Britain.

Check out www.nottinghamcamra.org for the latest news



Look out for the Beer by Tram guide published on the 1st May. Pick up a copy from local pubs.



In the mood for another beer festival?

The Bell Inn and Ye Olde Trip To Jerusalem are both well known within Nottingham for their heritage and traditional cask ales. Both belong to Hardy's and Hanson's, a local brewery based in Kimberley, to the north of Nottingham. Having delivered a fine range of their own beers to Nottingham's real ale drinkers for many years, they were recently awarded Regional Brewer of the Year 2004 by The Publican.

The Bell Inn, Market Square, has held two beer festivals to date - the first in September of last year, and more recently at the end of February. Both featured over thirty ales straight from the cask, and were well received by its customers, local breweries & Nottingham's regular drinkers alike. With its large selection of ales and two guest ciders, there was something for even the most discerning drinker. Our own Ray Kirby described the Leap Year Festival in the last edition of The Nottingham Drinker as "an excellent affair". It was another very successful beer festival for both landlord Brian Rigby and the team at The Bell Inn, and saw the launch of Cursed Galleon, a 5.5% ABV Mild and the crowning glory of the festival. It will be returning for the May Mild trail 2004.

Following these and other festival successes, Hardy's and Hanson's have now introduced a new

range of guest ales at both The Bell Inn and Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem. Supplied through Burton Bridge, both pubs will boast beers from many different microbreweries, from an ever changing selection.



Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem will be offering at least two such guest beers at any one time, and The Bell Inn will be benefiting from

four. In addition, both pubs will continue to offer Hardy's and Hanson's full range of cask ales.

The guest ales will come from a number of micro breweries around the country, including Everards, Ossett, Springhead, Castle Rock, Wentworth, Holden's, Wolf, York, Bullmastiff and Crouch Vale to name but a few. Many beers have already been sampled by the pub's customers and, hopefully, there will be something for everyone's tastes.

In addition to regular guest ales, Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem and The Bell Inn will both be holding beer festivals within the next few months.

Ye Olde Trip To Jerusalem will be holding its very first Real Ale festival from Friday 30th July to

The Bell Inn

Market Square, Nottingham

REAL ALE FESTIVAL

Spring Bank Holiday Weekend

Over 30 Real Ales Straight From The Cask, featuring Isle of Man Beers

Thursday 27th May to Monday 31st

INQUIRIES TEL: 0115 9475241

www.thebell-inn.com

bellinn@hardysandhansons.plc.uk

Function Room Available For Hire

Cellar Tours Available On Request

Continued

Sunday 1st August featuring 12 micro beers straight from the cask. It is certain to be well received by its regular drinkers and visitors so "be early" says landlady Karen.

The Bell Inn will be holding its next Beer Festival over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend, from Thursday 27th to Monday 31st May. With over 30 varied and unusual ales served straight from the cask, all hand picked by Brian and featuring beers from the Isle of Man, it's guaranteed to be another huge success. Brian says "Hopefully it lasts longer than two days this time!"

For further information please contact the pubs direct, Ye Olde Trip To Jerusalem (0115) 9473171, the Bell Inn (0115) 9475241. Site and Cellar tours can be arranged in both venues on request.



Beers from the cask at the Bell

The Stag on Nottingham Road Kimberly is holding a beer festival over the Bank Holiday Weekend. 20 beers will be available from Friday 28th May through to Sunday 31st May.

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Web Site

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Disclaimer

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Useful Addresses

For complaints about short measure pints etc contact: Nottingham Trading Standards Department, Consumer Protection, NCC Advice Centre, 15 Middle Pavement, Nottingham Tel: 0115 950 7910.

For comments, complaints or objections about pub alterations etc, or if you wish to inspect plans for proposed pub developments contact the local authority planning departments. Nottingham City's is at Exchange Buildings, Smithy Row, Nottingham.

If you wish to complain about deceptive advertising e.g. passing nitro-keg smooth flow beer off as real ale, or pubs displaying signs suggesting real ales are on sale or guest beers are available, when in fact they are not, contact the: Advertising Standards Authority, Brook House, 2-16 Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HN

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YE OLDE TRIP TO JERUSALEM

THE OLDEST INN IN ENGLAND

CELEBRATES IT'S

1st REAL ALE FESTIVAL

12 MICRO BEERS STRAIGHT FROM THE CASK

FRI 30TH JULY TO SUN 1ST AUGUST

FOOD SERVED ALL DAY

INQUIRIES TEL: 01159473171

WWW.TRIPTOJERUSALEM.COM

YEOLDETRIP@HARDYSANDHANSONS.PLC.UK

STORY TELLING LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Nottingham Branch Events Trips and Socials

May

Wed 19: **Wysall area**, free minibus trip from Cast (formerly the Playhouse Bar) - 7pm

Tue 25: **Hardy's and Hanson's**, Kimberley, Brewery trip, meet at the Brewery 6.45pm

June

Mon 7: **Watnall area**, Free minibus trip from Cast (formerly the Playhouse Bar) - 7pm

Book with Ray Kirby on 0115 929 7896 or by email to raykirby@nottinghamcamra.org CAMRA cards must be shown for the £2 discount offered on some trips.

Branch Meetings

All meetings begin at 8pm Everyone is welcome to come along

May

Thur 27: **Victoria**, Dovecote Lane, Beeston, near rail station or No 33 bus, Nottingham Drinker available

June

Thur 24: **Bunkers Hill**, Hockley, near Ice Arena. ND TopUp available

All details on www.nottinghamcamra.org

The Black Lion

in Radcliffe - on - Trent, a recent recipient of a 'Pub of Excellence' award, is holding its annual beer festival over the



May Bank holiday weekend. Around 20 beers and ciders will be available from Saturday 29th May through to Monday 31st May. There is live music from 2 till 6 every afternoon and a barbecue from noon till 9pm. A marquee will be erected in the garden - well it is a British Bank holiday!

The pub, on Main Road, is easily reached by public transport. Trains run to Radcliffe from Nottingham. Trent Barton's Rushcliffe Lines 2 and 3 run to the village from Friar Lane via the Broadmarsh.



The Black Lion receives a Pub of Excellence award

Local Beer Festivals

Mon 26 April until the beer runs out: **Johnson Arms 4th Anniversary Beer Festival**, Abbey St, Dunkirk

Fri 30 April - Mon 3 May: Globe Beer Festival, London Road, Around 30 beers on stillage including some new and unusual brews, open all day, hot food available every day till 7pm.

Fri 30 April - Mon 3 May: Clock Inn Mayfest Beer Festival, Market Street, South Normanton www.theclockinn.co.uk

Fri 21 May - Sun 23: Rail Ale Festival at Barrow Hill Roundhouse, Campbell Drive, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield. Free bus from Chesterfield railway station, 70 beers, ciders & fruit wines, live music Fri & Sat evening. Train rides 12-4 Fri & Sat Open 12-10 Fri & Sat, 12-3 Sun. www.barrowhill.org.uk

Thur 27 May - Mon 31: Bell Inn Beer Festival, Market Square, Nottingham. 30 beers straight from the cask, open all day.

Fri 28 May - Sun 30: Newark Beer Festival, Riverside Park, (2 mins Castle station), 120 beers, ciders, perries & country wines, live music except Fri lunch. Open 11-10 Fri & Sat, 12-10 Sun.

Fri 28 May - Sun 31: Stag Beer Festival, Nottingham Road, Kimberley. 20 beers.

Sat 29 May - Mon 31: Black Lion Beer Festival, Main Road, Radcliffe on Trent. 20 beers and ciders, live music, bbq, open all day.

Fri 30 July - Mon 1 August: Trip to Jerusalem Beer Festival, Castle Road, Nottingham. 12 beers straight from the cask, open all day.

Holding a beer festival? Organising an event? Let Nottingham Drinker know about it
drinker@nottinghamcamra.org
or 0115 9673047

JOIN CAMRA TODAY!

I/We wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale and agree to abide by the Rules.

Name(s)

Address

..... Postcode

Signature Date

I/We enclose the membership subscription for:

Single £16 Joint £19 (same address)

OAP £9 OAP joint £12 (same address)

Under age 26 £9 (date of birth

Unemployed/disabled £9

For Life and Overseas rates, or payment by direct debit, contact CAMRA HQ (01727 867201).

Send your remittance to: The Membership Secretary, CAMRA,
230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.



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or join online at www.camra.org.uk