



# Camra Calling



Spring-Summer 2007

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Members Newsletter for the North Devon Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale

## The AGM

On the 10<sup>th</sup> February we held our AGM at the Plymouth Inn, Okehampton. Thanks to all of you who turned up to support it. Voting took place for Branch Officials, who are now as follows;

Chairman	Morris Elsworth
Vice-Chairman	Keith Freak
Secretary	Terry Burrows
Treasurer	Trish Burrows
Membership Sec	Terry Burrows
Press Officer	Chris Franks
Pubs Officer	Mick Gullick
Branch Contact	Terry Burrows

## Chat from the Chair

Hello, let me introduce myself – Morris Elsworth, your new Chairman. I have been a member of CAMRA for about 4 years although my love of real ale has been a lifelong affair!

I would really like to meet more of you, especially at Branch meetings, which are held around the area once a month. There is sure to be one near you at some time.

I appreciate that travelling around the North Devon area is not always easy. I live on the south west border of the branch (almost in Cornwall) – but it is often possible to share transport, once you have made the initial effort.

It is all too easy for us to sit at home complacently telling ourselves that our membership of CAMRA is all that is needed to ensure that real ale has a voice. If this was the case, then CAMRA as a power group would never have existed. We need members, but we also need active members.

Attending Branch meetings is also an enjoyable way to visit pubs that you might never otherwise go to, meet with people who share an interest and feel that your voice counts in a National setting.

So if your local hasn't been on the agenda then please let me know and I will try to arrange a branch meeting there so that you can easily attend. I'm hopeful that, like me, you will then get a 'taste' for actively promoting CAMRA rather than

supporting us passively.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank our retiring chairman, Keith, for all his hard work in the past and wish him well in his new "ventures". Cheers.

**Morris Elsworth, Chairman.**

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## Good Beer Guide 2008

The following pubs have been surveyed for consideration as entries into the 2008 GBG which will be published in or around September 2007.

1. Beaver Inn, Appledore.
2. Village Inn, Ashwater.
3. Panniers, Barnstaple
4. Kings Arms, Bideford
5. Bickford Arms, Brandis Corner.
6. Black Horse, Braunton.
7. Bridge Inn, Bridgerule.
8. Black Venus, Challacombe.
9. Earl of Portsmouth, Chawleigh.
10. Bell Inn, Chittlehampton.
11. Old Court House, Chulmleigh.
12. Castle Inn, Combe Martin.
13. Tally Ho! Hatherleigh.
14. Golden Lion, High Bickington.
15. Rydon Inn, Holsworthy.
16. Duke of York, Idedesleigh.
17. Grove Inn, Kings Nympton.
18. Bearslake Inn, Lake, Sourton.
19. Rising Sun, Lynmouth.
20. Crown Hotel, Lynton.
21. Chichester Arms, Morteohoe.
22. Taw River, Sticklepath, Okehampton.
23. Railway Inn, North Tawton.
24. Plymouth Inn, Okehampton.
25. Bell Inn, Parkham.
26. Devil Stone Inn, Shebbear.
27. Half Moon Inn, Sheepwash.
28. George Hotel, South Molton.
29. Seven Stars, South Tawton.
30. Portsmouth Arms, Umberleigh.
31. Post Inn, Whiddon Down.
32. Kings Arms, Winkleigh.

Not all of these will get into the Guide as we have a limited allocation of 27, but they have all been nominated by members. We hope to announce the final entries in the next newsletter.

## Pub of the Year

The Bell Inn, Chittlehampton has been chosen as the Branch 2007 Pub of the Year (POTY). Congratulations to Mark and Lynne Jones on winning this award and good luck to them in the Regional POTY finals.

It was announced on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February that the Tom Cobley Tavern, Spreyton (Exeter & East Devon Branch POTY 2006) had won **CAMRA's National Pub of the Year**. We have sent congratulations on behalf of the Branch to Roger & Carol Cudlip on winning this most prestigious award. Morris, Mick, Chris, Terry and Trish represented the Branch at the Presentation. If you are ever in the area this pub is a must to visit. Check the GBG for opening times.

## Branch Polo Shirts

The branch has now got its own polo shirts that you can obtain for £12.00. The shirt is maroon with an embroidered logo in gold. If you would like one (or more) please contact Trish.

## Barnstaple Beer Festival

We have arranged (subject to HQ approval) to hold our second Barnstaple Beer Festival on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August at Barnstaple Town Football & Social Club. **PLEASE** keep these dates free in your diary as we need all the help and support you can give.

## Website

We are in the process of setting up our own website. WATCH THIS SPACE!

## Skidders Brewery Tour

Although it was a very long day, especially for those from Combe Martin, everyone had a great time. There were 24 of us on the coach and another 2 met us at the brewery.

We arrived at 3pm. The tour was taking place at 5pm so we had plenty of time to have a pasty and sample the wonderful ales such as Cornish Knocker, Betty Stogs (which was drunk dry) and other Skidders' ales. The tour was interesting and very informative. On the way home we stopped at the Blisland Inn to have something to eat and more liquid refreshments.

## Meetings & Socials

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April, Branch meeting 7.30pm**—The Village Inn, Ashwater.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May, Branch meeting & POTY Presentation, 1pm**—The Bell, Chittlehampton.

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June, Branch meeting 1pm**—North Devon Beer Festival, Barnstaple.

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July, Branch meeting 1pm** — Seven Stars, Winkleigh.

## Beer Festivals

**12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> April**, SIBA-Tuckers Maltings, Newton Abbott-see What's Brewing for opening times.

**23<sup>rd</sup> April-7<sup>th</sup> May**, Panniers, Barnstaple.

**28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> April**, Union Inn, Dolton.

**4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> May**, Landmark, Ilfracombe.

**9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> May**, Plymouth Inn, Okehampton (Ten Tors weekend).

**17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May**, "Ales of Devon" at the Devon County Show. The Beer Tent is open the same times as the show.

**2<sup>nd</sup> June**, Bell Inn, Parkham.

**28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> June**, North Devon Beer Festival (**NOT CAMRA**) North Devon Leisure Centre, Seven Brethren Bank, Barnstaple: times Thurs 11-11, Fri 11-12 & Sat 11-5pm. Help is needed to man the bar so any time you can spare will be welcome.

**7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> July**, Zale Fayre, South Zeal: Times Sat. 12-7, Sun. 12-7

**11<sup>th</sup> August**, Mini beer festival as part of the Weare Gifford fair.

**17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> August, North Devon CAMRA's 2<sup>nd</sup> Barnstaple beer festival, Barnstaple Town FC.** Times: Fri, 5.30-11pm & Sat, 11-11pm. Help is also needed here. Please contact Terry if you can assist. **Most of all we need you to come and drink the beer!!**

## Any Future Events

If you know of any event or Beer Festivals taking place between July and October please inform Trish by phone or e-mail by 1st June and it will be included in the next newsletter. Also, if you would like your favourite watering hole to be considered for the GBG please let us know. If you don't tell us, we may not know about it. There may be another undiscovered "Tom Cobley" out there!