



CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

The Beer and Ragged Staff

Issue 76
July — September 2012



Heart of
Warwickshire

Harbury Beer Festival 2012

This Year the Harbury Beer Festival is Ale at Sea but before you start sending for the coast guard, don't worry, it is just the theme for this year. We have been inspired by the anniversary of the Titanic sinking earlier this year and all the beers we will be getting will have some connection with the sea. The names may be of a type of ship, a famous sea



captain or even a well known meteorological phenomenon – try saying that on the Saturday night of the festival!! The date this year conveniently falls on Friday 31st August and Saturday the 1st

of September, but at least the venue hasn't changed – it is still Harbury Village Hall on South Parade. The opening times will again be 5.30-11.30 on the Friday Evening, 11.30-4pm on Saturday lunchtime, and 6pm -11.30pm on the Saturday evening. Once again it will cost £10 to get in at all sessions, which will include the festival glass and programme and an

amount of beer tokens which will vary slightly depending on the session you come to, and also whether or not you are a CAMRA member.

(Continued on [page 2](#))

To contact the Heart of Warwickshire Branch call 07855 644043

www.camrahow.org.uk

(Continued from page 1) Camra members receive more beer tokens due to free entry, so it is worth joining, and if you already are a member do not forget your membership card.

Friday will be the quiet night but the local Hereburgh Morris team will dance at lunchtime on Saturday, and in the evening we have, as last year “Time After Time” a local duo who play a good mix of Irish songs and hits from 60s onwards – they were popular last year so we thought we should give them another go.

This year the kitchen has been fully fitted out, so the Scouts and Village Hall should be able to cope with the demand of all our hungry punters more easily than in previous years, but the mix of popular food will probably remain unchanged.

As for the important bit - the beers and ciders – we will be selecting a wide range from all over the country, literally from Cornwall to Scotland. Woven in with the theme beers will be local representatives from all the Warwickshire breweries, and hopefully a few special for us. We are

also hosting the Champion Strong Bitter of the West Midlands, which will be judged on Friday afternoon, so the winners will be announced in time for you all to try – at least those of you who come early!

As well as sticking to theme names we will weave the usual mix of styles and strengths from milds up to strong barley wine styles with bitters, stouts, porters wheat beers and perhaps even the more unusual ones like ginger beers.

Quality ciders and perries will be featured mixing some local ones with prize winners from the famous cider producing regions.

The village pubs will take part again and we hope to have a different beer in most of the pubs all from the Titanic Brewery from Staffordshire. There should be something for everyone at the 22nd Harbury Beer Festival so catch the local Stagecoach bus(65/66) and stay safe, and you can help us sink a few pints! For more details of the bus service please see the Warwickshire Bus Timetables Website

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/bustimetables.

Heart of Warwickshire Branch Committee

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To contact by phone, call 07855 644043 and leave message stating the contact required.

Press day for next issue (October 2012) is Monday 3rd September.

The Beer and Ragged Staff Issue No. 76 July 2012

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Paid to Spend Time in Pubs

Don't you wish that you could get a job like that? Dr Ignazio Cabras, a lecturer in Economics, Business and Management at the York Management School, has been given a grant to study English country pubs.



Ignazio Cabras © York Management School

The grant for £7,700 is for him to study the role of the rural pub in the economic and social life of the community. He intends to consider some 1,700 drinking establishments around

Britain, and has already visited around 100 in the Lake District.

He regrets that he will not have time to visit them all in person (I am sure that there are some CAMRA members who, if given the job, would have made a valiant effort to do so).

He hopes that his research will encourage national and local government to help keep pubs going in rural locations, something with which CAMRA will be in wholehearted agreement.



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Call in person Warwickshire Trading Standards,
Old Budbrooke Road, Warwick CV35 7DP



Campaign for Real Ale Heart of Warwickshire Branch



CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

Branch Diary Jul-Sept 2012

NOTE: **All events start at 20:30 unless otherwise indicated.**

26/06/2012	Warwick Distribution	Meet Millwright Arms; Finish Wild Boar
03/07/2012	Leamington Distribution	Meet Tiller Pin; Finish Somerville Arms
10/07/2012	Branch Meeting	Wild Boar. Starts 20:00PM
17/07/2012	Country Crawl	Gaydon Inn, Gaydon; Malt Shovel, Gaydon; Antelope Inn, Lighthorne; Cottage Tavern, Ashorne
24/07/2012	Warwick Crawl	Anchor Inn, Leek Wootton; Saxon Mill; Woodloes Tavern; Great Western Arms
31/07/2012	Leamington Crawl	Cask and Bottle; Cross Keys; Fox; Copper Pot
07/08/2012	Country Crawl	Plough Inn, Eathorpe; Red Lion, Hunningham; Bull Inn, Weston under Wetherley; Three Horseshoes, Princethorpe
14/08/2012	Warwick Crawl	New Bowling Green Inn; Zetland Arms; Tilted Wig; Thomas Lloyd
21/08/2012	Country Crawl	The Inn at Farnborough; Wharf Inn, Fenny Compton; Bell Inn, Ladbroke; Great Western, Deppers Bridge
28/08/2012	Harbury Pre Festival	Start at Crown Inn; Finish Old New Inn
04/09/2012	Post festival	(no crawl)
11/09/2012	Country Crawl	Barley Mow, Stockton; Duck on the Pond, Buck & Bell; Harvester Inn, Long Itchington
18/09/2012	Branch Meeting	TBA. Starts 20:00PM
25/09/2012	Warwick Distribution	Meet Punch Bowl; finish The Lazy Cow
02/10/2012	Leamington Distribution	Meet Plough & Harrow, Whitnash; Finish White Horse

For the latest diary news please see our website or Facebook page



Diary page at
<http://www.camrahow.org.uk/index.php?>



CAMRA HOW Facebook Page at
<http://www.facebook.com/camrahow>



CAMRA HOW Beer Scoring at
<http://www.beerscoring.org.uk/>

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LATEST NEWS WILD BOAR VOTED RUNNER UP IN HOW CAMRA PUB OF THE YEAR 2012 COMPETITION




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WWW.LIONSBEERFESTIVAL.CO.UK

Warwickshire Landlord sticks two fingers up to Roger Protz!

On the evening of Thursday 3rd of May, The day before the 5th annual Long Itchington Beer Festival, The Harvester Long Itchington was greatly honoured to host a talk on different beer styles by Roger Protz. This event was kindly sponsored by lager producer Budvar UK, and was well attended by local beer aficionados and CAMRA members.

Roger was on very good form, if slightly edgy as a lifelong West Ham fan due to them playing in the cham-



pionship semi-final play off at Cardiff, He relaxed slightly when informed they had taken a one goal lead.

The talk its self was very entertaining and informative, and soon had the crowd in the palm of his had as they discussed Budvar unpasteurised yeast beer and the Budvar Dark, both of which are stocked full time at the Harvester.

Next on the list was a London style porter from the Aylesbury brew House and their Third Switch, Oscar Wilde from Mighty Oak came next, a traditional *(Continued on [page 15](#))*

Local Pub and Brewery News

Do you have any interesting news about local pubs. If so please send it to our pub news coordinator Dave Shurrock at pubsofficer@camrahow.org.uk

Prince of Wales, Leamington

Appears closed.

Wild Boar, Warwick.

The hop garden is now complete and was opened at the Jubilee weekend.

Oak Inn, Leamington,

The Oak Inn is currently subject to a planning application to convert it into a small Sainburys.

Millwright Arms, Warwick

The Millwright is currently subject to a planning application to build houses on the land at the bottom of the garden. The heart of Warwickshire branch has objected to this application - a pub needs a garden!

Sommerville Arms, Leamington

The Sommerville Arms appeared in local papers at the start of June following it being awarded 'CAM-RA Heart of Warwickshire branch pub of the year' for the second year running.

The Black Dog, Southam

The Black Dog in Southam now reopened by Roger Constable as of 26th May. The pub has been refurbished, and currently offers Banks's Bitter & Mild, and Marston's Pedigree. There are also guest beers from Marstons, Currently Jennings.

The Bull, Southam

The Bull in Southam is currently closed.

The Boat, Birdingbury Wharf

The Boat at Birdingbury Wharf is currently closed

The Two Boats, Long Itchington

The Two Boats in Long Itchington is now being run by Neil, Mark & Nicki who also run the Fusilier in Leamington and the Butchers Arms in Bishop's Itchington

The Holly Bush, Leamington Spa

The Holly Bush pub in Leamington Spa has been refurbished, and the outside area re-landscaped.

The Red House, Leamington Spa

The Red House in Leamington Spa is currently being run by Alan from the Holly Bush although the opening hours are restricted during the day.

The Sozzled Sausage, Leamington

The Sozzled Sausage now has two changing real ales available.

The Vine, Warwick

The Vine in Warwick is now being run by Menna and Richard. We wish them every success in this venture.

The Castles Bar, Warwick

Now offering Slaughterhouse ales.

Ansells Mild is No More

Stop press: Carlsberg has decided to stop production of Ansells Mild, which has been brewed in Birmingham now for over a century. Although it is still brewed in small quantities for keg sales, the mass production of the cask ale version has now been stopped by Marston's, who brewed at the beer of the Carlsberg.



heritage has been allowed to disappear. A slice of history has been destroyed in much the same way as other iconic names like HP Sauce and Rover Cars. I have enjoyed Ansells Mild for 20 years but brewers have ridden roughshod over their customers.

Jeremy Twomey, a real ale buff of Leamington Spa, said "Carlsberg has allowed the product to die and a vital piece of Birmingham's

"It is a travesty that the Second City has lost one of its major and most historic brands without any consultation or appreciation of its heritage."

(Continued on page 9)

Warwick
FOLK FESTIVAL

£4/person
£10/family

28/29th
July
2012

Come and taste a fine range of great Real Ales

Real Ales

Loads of food
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Bring the family
COME ALONG &
JOIN THE FUN!

10am - 6pm Warwick Boys School
www.warwickfolkfestival.co.uk

PHOTO: ANDREW LOCK

(Continued from [page 8](#))

Mr Twomey now hopes that CAMRA will lobby Carlsberg to reintroduce the cask mild.

However there is hope. Joanna Dring of Carlsberg said “The demand from pubs for Ansells Mild has reduced so much that we can’t brew the required volume of beer to ensure its high quality. Although we are not brewing it at the moment, this does not mean we won’t ever brew it. On the contrary, if we could ensure enough pubs wanted to stock the beer and could be certain the volume we brew would guarantee quality, we would certainly consider brewing Ansells Mild again.”

A black rectangular box with a white rounded rectangle in the center. The white area contains text for Weatheroak Brewery. At the top, 'WEATHEROAK' is written in a large, bold, serif font, with 'BREWERY' below it in a slightly smaller, bold, serif font. Below this, in a smaller sans-serif font, it says 'are very proud to announce the opening of their new Tap House in Studley, Warwickshire.' Underneath that, it says 'The Nags Head is to open at the end of May renamed to' followed by 'THE VICTORIA WORKS' in a large, bold, serif font. At the bottom of the white area, it says 'Come and enjoy the full range of WEATHEROAK products, SIBA real ales and cask cider.' and 'Keep an eye on our website www.weatheroakales.co.uk for updates.'

The Anchor Inn
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Come along to The Anchor Inn to experience the warm and friendly atmosphere, real ales, extensive wine list and varied food menu.

The menu offers a wide range of burgers, steaks, light bites, fish, and vegetarian selections.

We have a garden with children's play area, bar, and a comfortable restaurant area.

Call us 01926 853355 to book your meal now.

The Anchor Inn, Warwick Road, Leek Wootton CV35 7QX Tel 01926 853355

Somerville Arms Pub of the Year

The Somerville Arms in Leamington Spa has been named the Heart of Warwickshire Branch Pub of the Year for 2012. This is the second year running that it has won this award.



recognised as the best in the region for the second time.”

“We have very loyal customers and it is all thanks to them that the Somerville Arms is so thriving. They even stuck by us

Landlord Paul Blatchly (seen here with branch vice-chairman Steve Bolton) said “It came as quite a shock! The pub means a lot to me and I am very passionate about it, so it’s fantastic that it has been

whilst the refurbishment was taking place and we were trading from the back room – that meant a lot to us!”

The pub will now go through to the CAMRA County round ‘Pub of the Year’ competition later in the year.

The Old Fourpenny Shop Hotel



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CAMRA Heart of Warwickshire Pub of the Year 2007, 2008 & 2010

FIGHT BACK TO SAVE YOUR PINT

It's time to save your pint and fight back against this year's budget which saw the Government continue its damaging policy of the beer duty escalator.

Every year beer tax increases by 2% above inflation meaning your pint in the pub costs you 5-10p more. This mounting pressure is contributing to the closure of 16 pubs every single week.

CAMRA is calling all beer drinkers and pub goers to sign an online e-petition today by visiting www.camra.org.uk/saveyourpint.



We need 100,000 signatures to trigger a high profile Parliamentary debate and put pressure on the Government ahead of Budget 2013.

To stand a chance of doing this we need your help in reaching as many people as possible. So please sign the petition and then spread the word.

CAMRA also has free material to take down your local and join the campaign. Email claire.cain@camra.org.uk to order free beer mats and posters. With around £1 on every pint going to the Treasury in beer duty and VAT, it's time to save your pint and call time on the beer duty escalator!

*Brian & Sandra
welcome you*



*Farm Street,
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 Saturday and Sunday 12.00am - 9.00pm



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Three Horseshoes, Princethorpe, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV23 9PR
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**Pubfinder
Map**



<http://g.co/maps/uehrx>

**Beer and Ragged Staff
Advertising Rates**

Per single issue (full colour only)

- Oblong (128mm x 41mm) £40.00
- Quarter page (63mm x 94mm) £40.00
- Half page (128mm x 94mm) £75.00
- Full page (128mm x 188mm) £140.00

Discounts will apply for multiple entries
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CAMRA Heart of Warwickshire Pub of the Year 2004

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Great British Beer Festival 2012

The Great British Beer Festival (GBBF) is back at Olympia for 2012 and with the event drawing ever closer, CAMRA is calling on all beer drinkers to put the Festival's dates, August 7th - 11th, in their diaries!

This year, Festival-goers should expect 800+ real ales, ciders, perries and foreign beers from around the world, with CAMRA claiming to have something to suit every drinker's taste buds! To accompany this heady range, the Festival offers a great choice of food from traditional cuisine to classic pub snacks, unforgettable live music, and a wide variety of traditional pub games.

Tickets for the event are now available and can be pre-ordered for a discounted



price from the GBBF website at

www.gbbf.org.uk/tickets

. With such demand expected at the doors of Olympia for tickets on the day, pre-ordering is a great way of ensuring you do not miss out on the Festival fun!

Festival opening times-
Tuesday August 7th - 5pm
- 10:30pm

Wednesday August 8th - Friday August
10th - 12pm - 10:30pm

Saturday August 11th - 11am - 7pm

For further information on the Festival, visit www.gbbf.org.uk

Venue details- Olympia, Hammersmith
Road, London, W14 8UX

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Three Real Ales Always
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Function room available

In Good Beer Guide 2010, 2011 &
2012

Quiz Night at the Sommerville Arms

On Thursday 3rd May, Warwick University Real Ale Society travelled up to Royal Leamington Spa to attend the Grand Beer and Brewing Quiz at the award-winning Sommerville Arms pub.

The quiz had a variety of questions, ranging from straightforward (“What is the beer drunk by Homer Simpson?”) to the fiendish music rounds, where the highest score was three out of ten. Aided by the steady flow of Everard’s ale, the jolly atmosphere in the room meant that the quiz was a great success – most of us didn’t mind scoring under half marks.



Everard’s offered a fantastic first prize, with other prizes being donated by various breweries, off licences and pubs to the top ten positions, with our very own Matt Breeze taking the top spot by storm. Finally, a generous prize was also presented to the lowest score of the

night; a bottle of red wine to wash down the sorrows of defeat. Everybody had a marvellous evening, and we thank the organisers for putting on this enjoyable event.

[From Matt Schrecker the new President of ‘University of Warwick Real Ale Society’]

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In Good Beer Guide 2010/2011 & 2012



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Abound In Hops All Ye Who Enter Here

Cask Marque Accredited

Voted CAMRA Heart of Warwickshire - 'Pub of the Year' 2011.

(Continued from [page 6](#)) dark mild and end of the tasting the telephone rang, former Champion Beer of Britain. it was Roger's wife Diane, excitedly Orange Wheat Beer was next from informing me that West Ham were the Green Jack brewery, and last a 2-0 up, I signalled the news to Roger classic India Pale Ale the 5.9% with 2 fingers, perhaps the only time Thornbridge Jaipur. a publican has stuck 2 fingers up to These beers were part of a stock of an eminent beer writer! over 40 beers ready for the forth- [Roger Mills] coming beer festival. Towards the

© BBC Website

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Warwickshire Pub of the Year 2010

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Protz Chats Hops at the Long Itch Beer Fest

The eve of the 5th Long Itchington Beer festival, featured a very informative, informal talk and tutored tasting session by beer writer, author and editor of the *Good Beer Guide*, Roger Protz at The Harvester Inn.

Mr Protz began by informing us that by the autumn this year there will be over 1,000 breweries in Great Britain (with another about to launch close to Long Itchington itself). Exciting times then, as each brewery experiments with different tastes, brewing techniques and flavours to corner sales in a competitive market. Great time to be a beer writer then eh! Even if each brewery only produced 4 beers it must surely be a dirty, if not near impossible, job tasting them all.

To begin the tasting session attended by approx 24 locals throughout the eve, we started with *Budvar Dark*, recently declared Best Lager in the World & *Budvar Yeast Beer*. The latter brewed the same as the *Budvar Original*. The big difference is that it is unpasteurised with extra yeast cells being added at the last stage of the brewing process and is less fizzy. The beer has a short shelf life and is sold only to a select number of outlets in the Czech Republic and now the Harvester! Chosen specifically by the brewery, when convinced the outlet have sufficient quality of cellar management to look after the beer properly. Well they certainly have that in the hosts at The Harvester, as they have been 25 years in CAMRA's annual *Good Beer Guide*.



Other beers tasted during the evening were:-

Oscar Wilde Mild - Mighty Oak. A wonderful, mellow dark mild, a winner of Supreme Champion Beer of Britain 2011 at CAMRA's Great British Beer Festival and has nothing to do with cockney rhyming slang Mr Protz reports.

Orange Wheat Beer – Green Jack. A very refreshing and morish citrus flavoured clear wheat beer.

Captain Bob – Mighty Oak. A traditional deep amber coloured bitter brewed with Nelson Sauvignon hop from New Zealand.

Jaipur IPA - Thornbridge. A multi award winning beer, which should need absolutely no introduction.

To the uninitiated, If you are new or didn't know very much about Real Ale or how it is made etc, a tutored tasting like this with Mr Protz is very informative, even if humourlessly interrupted on occasion with Championship football play-off scores by the landlord as he raised two fingers. Even the seasoned CAMRA members attending seemed enthralled by his knowledgeable background to the history of Mild & India Pale ale and changing trends of popular beer over the years. I found that that an evening such as this encourages a deeper appreciation of how to savour the tastes in fine quality real ales and enjoy them, of which there were some very good examples consumed this evening.

[Fred Harris]



Leamington's Best Kept Secret

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www.facebook.com/vineinnatwarwick

www.thekisspubcompany.com

KISS
PUB COMPANY




Heart of Warwickshire Local


As we enter 2012, new updated  promotional material is available.

We will be undertaking a review of all existing pubs, to ensure our information is up to date, and hopefully visiting more pubs where the licensee expresses an interest in joining the scheme. So,

Attention All Licensees

Do you have a regular “Local” Real Ale on sale in your pub?

If yes, then contact any of the committee, details on page 2 of “Beer & Ragged Staff”, who will be happy to arrange a visit to discuss the  scheme, or log onto www.camrahow.org.uk and look at the Local tab for more information.

The Heart of Warwickshire  scheme recognises pubs which regularly stock at least one real ale which is brewed by a local brewery, one that is within 25 miles’ driving distance. The geographical shape of the Heart of Warwickshire Branch area, means that some breweries are within 25 miles of parts of the branch area and others not.

EXISTING PUBS AND CLUBS

Pubs and Clubs	Local Beer	Beer Miles
Village Club, Harbury	Warwickshire	8
	Hook Norton	25
Antelope, Warwick	Slaughterhouse	2
The Wharf, Fenny Compton	Hook Norton	18
Fox & Hen, Bascote Heath	Hook Norton	22
Cape of Good Hope, Warwick	Weatheroak	20
	Church End	25
	Hook Norton	24
Woodland Tavern, Leamington Spa	Slaughterhouse	1
The Anchor, Leek Wootton	Purity	16
	Slaughterhouse	3
	Church End	23

Pubs and Clubs	Local Beer	Beer Miles
Harvester, Long Itchington	Hook Norton	24
Avon, Avon Dassett	Hook Norton	13
The Antelope Inn, Lighthorne	Warwickshire	10
	Wood Farm	23.5
Market Tavern, Southam	Warwickshire	6
The Cricketers, Leamington Spa	Slaughterhouse	1
Wild Boar, Warwick	Slaughterhouse	Onsite & 1.5
	Weatheroak	16.5
	Tunnel	21.7
Cross Keys, Leamington	Slaughterhouse	1
	Hook Norton	25
The Rose and Crown, Warwick	Purity	13
The Oak, Warwick	Hook Norton	23

Breweries in Our Area

[Old Pie Factory](#)

Tel:01926 402100

Started brewing in November 2011 on a 5.5 bbl plant at Underwood Wines in Warwick. The brewery is a joint venture between Underwood Wines, the Old Fourpenny Shop Hotel and the Case Is Altered. Head brewer is currently Mark Shepherd who used to brew at Weatheroak Hill brewery and now also at the Rock'n'Roll brewhouse.

Currently one beer is brewed: Case Bitter 3.9% is a classic English bitter using only English ingredients and is only available at the owners' outlets.

[Slaughterhouse](#)

Tel:01926 490986

www.slaughterhousebrewery.com

enquiries@slaughterhousebrewery.com

A five-barrel plant set up in an old building originally used as a slaughterhouse and later as a carpenters & joiners workshop until its conversion as a brewery. The equipment is from the old Church End Brewery at Shustoke. No brewing took place until it was acquired by Steve Ridgway in early 2003. First brew on the plant took place in early July 2003, some test brews for Swillmore took place at the Rainbow Inn, Allsley.

During April 2007 building work was in progress at the brewery to extend the upper floor. This is to provide more storage space for a future bottling operation.



[Warwickshire Beer Company](#)

Tel:01926 450747

www.warwickshirebeer.co.uk

info@warwickshirebeer.co.uk

The Warwickshire Beer Company began brewing just before Christmas 1998. The original brewer, Phil Page, came from the Warwickshire Brewery of Kenilworth which closed earlier that year.

The brewery is situated in the former bakery in the centre of Cubbington and has a capacity of six barrels. Much of the initial brewing kit was second-hand; the hot liquor tanks came from a Scottish and Newcastle brewery, the fermenters old milk tanks from a dairy and the conditioning tanks came from a working mens club in the north of England.

COME AND SEE VILLAGE LIFE IN A VILLAGE PUB

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www.WyeValleyBrewery.co.uk



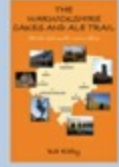
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by Bob Bibby



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Warwickshire Cakes and Ale Trail

My aim was to create a seven-day walking tour of Warwickshire, which would ensure good pubs with Real Ales at lunchtimes and evenings and good cafés for Real Cakes in late afternoons. A winter of planning with maps, plus book and internet research, foreshadowed extensive trips to test out possible routes, pubs and cafés.

The result is The Warwickshire Cakes and Ale Trail, which travels through central and southern parts of the county for just over 100 miles. Beginning in the Bard's birthplace of Stratford-upon-Avon my route journeyed along the Avon to reach The Frog (Hobgoblin) in Bidford-on-Avon and then north along the Arrow to the Roman town of Alcester for cake in Venue Xpresso and ale in the Three Tuns (Hobson's Town Crier). Then it was north to Studley and cross-country via the Winged Spur in Ullenhall (Greene King IPA) to the mile-long street of history that is Henley-in-Arden, with cake in the Henley Ice Cream Parlour and ale in the Black Swan (Bateman's XB). Going partly

along the towpath of the Stratford Canal and partly across verdant country, the route led me next via Baddesley Clinton to the treasure that is The Case is Altered at Fiveways (Sharp's Doom Bar) and on to Kenilworth, where Robert Dudley's Castle awaited with its much-vaunted Elizabethan Garden, before cake in Time for Tea and ale in The Famous Virgins and Castle (Everard's Sunchaser). From Kenilworth the route headed south via Stoneleigh and The Stag at Mercian Offchurch (Mad Goose) to the many-pubbed village of Harbury for ale in The Gamecock (Old Hooky). Passing through Bishop's Itchington my trail climbed over the Burton Dassett hills to reach the Rose and Crown in Ratley (Wells Eagle IPA) and then circled the perimeter of the Battle of Edgehill to come into Kineton for cake at the Coffee Stop and ale at the Carpenters Arms (Everard's Beacon).

A further southern jaunt took me down the Vale of Tysoe via Oxhill and the ancient Royal Oak at Whatcote (Old Hooky) to the lovely
(Continued on page 22)

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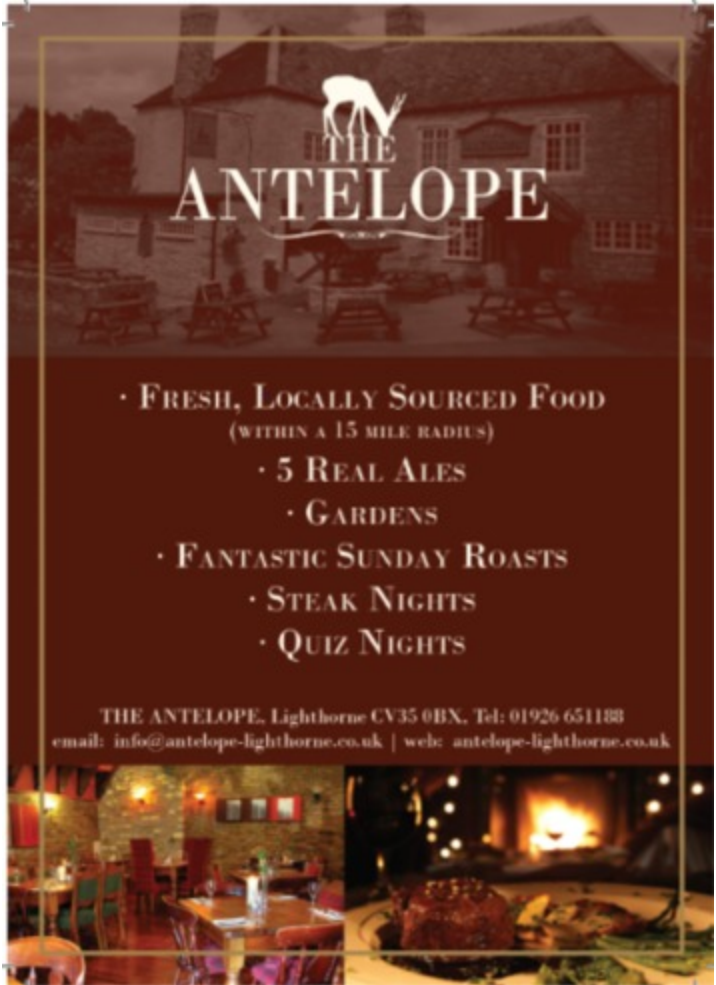
(Continued from page 21)

Cotswold town of Shipston-on-Stour for cake in Mrs Brown's Tearoom and ale in the Black Horse (Everard's Tiger). Then the circle was completed by a return via Ilmington and the Mason's Arms at Long Marston (Old Hooky) to Stratford-upon-Avon for final cake in Hathaway's Tearooms and ale in the Pen & Parchment (Timothy Taylor's Landlord).

I had a great time, the walking was terrific, the cakes scrumptious and the Real Ales varied and memorable. At the Alcester Food and Drink Festival of 2011 I launched my book of The Warwickshire Cakes and Ale Trail. The route of the walk is given in detail, accompanied by diagrams and illustrated information about places passed through. The main features of each town are also described and illustrated, together

with notes on celebrities associated with these places, plus listings for Real Cakes, Real Ales and accommodation. Any Real Ale drinkers who fancy replicating my trip can purchase the



book at £10 per copy (free p&p) from my website www.bobbibby.co.uk. I would be delighted to hear from anyone who attempts the journey. [Bob Bibby]



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01/06

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