



# SOLIHULL & DISTRICT AREA



## "BORO BANTER"

No 2.

Welcome to the Red Lion for another informal 'get-to-know-you' social evening for drinkas and talks about real ale, the pub situation in our area and most important...our prospects of becoming a real branch of CAMRA, as opposed to just being somebody's sub branch. We also extend our thanks to the 'gaffer' for the use of part of his pub this evening and hope he managed to get the Tetley's bitter through in time.

### August "WHAT'S BREWING" (Branch diary).

Regular CAMRA readers will have noticed that the advert for this meeting was a disaster. This was not our deliberate mistake as the full details (Including name of pub, address; etc) were sent in early last month TWICE by myself! Once when I renewed my membership and a second time (because I do not trust them) a week later by first class post.

It is incredible that they can actually print half the thing and not even notice but unfortunately have plenty of experience as they have been doing it for many years to my knowledge! A great pity really because it is a set-back to us as we need to be in contact with as many members in this area as possible and need MORE support.

### SHIRLEY AREA:-

If anybody knows of one we need a real ale pub/club in this area with a spare room where we can have a meeting. Ideas please?

### PUB TOPIC:-...White Lion(M&B)-Hampton-in-Arden.

The landlord has recently taken on Draught Bass(H) widening the choice of beer in one direction yet narrowing it in another of this has now replaced the mild. However, local member Nigel Pettman who campaigned for the Bass for a few years informs me that the sales of mild had dropped down to one barrel a week. Unfortunately it is an unfashionable drink and in decline becoming either withdrawn, as in this case, or becoming kegged as in other pubs.

### LAST MONTHS MEETING:-SADLERS ARMS/TOWN PUB CRAWL.

Encouraging improvement in attendance this time, the count being; SIXTEEN. Comprising...II Local CAMRA members...4 'Casuals'...plus ONE distinguished GUEST (Mike Fox of B'ham branch, thanks for continual support mate)...plus 4 APOLOGIES.

All much better than the first Solihull meeting when there were 3-4 local members amongst all the guests. Nice to meet...Brian & David Queenborough...A.D. Bevan (Knowle, sorry; forgot your first name)...Geoff Adkins...Johnny Knibb and his small 'team' (nice one Johnny!)...Stewart and his girl, etc. Nice that through CAMRA people from all 'walks of life' can unite in a common cause-the more the merrier!

### SEVERN VALLEY REAL ALE/STEAM TRAIN DAY OUT. Saturday Sept 4th.

We hope to take names tonight for this magnificent day out.

DUPLICATION; -Help wanted soon to keep these copies flowing as facilities at work might cease shortly.

NEWSLETTER; -Any local pub information of interest is in demand.

"BORO BANTER."(Ct'd).

NEXT MEETING:-Thursday,16th,September.Golden Lion,Warwick Rd.SOLIHULL.

A good attendance is VITAL for this meeting as this will be our time to 'stand up-and-be-counted' as it is anticipated that our R.O(Regional Organiser) Andy Beaton from Wolverhampton will be in attendance to judge the size of this turn-out and in particularly LOCAL members which could decide if we warrant full branch status.

If this is granted committee members could be elected at either this meeting,or the October one and then we would have"lift off".So we need a full attendance for this one.Incidentally,members living outside our area are free to participate(if they don't mind the travelling!),as are locals.

Incidentally,when I booked the room Malcolm(Gaffer) informed me that the Courage brewery have been turning out quite a lot of "duff" barrels of Directors bitter lately and he has had to send a lot back.That is wht sometimes he does not have the beer on always-which he points out loses him custom.So perhaps this brewery might think again before closing down many more regional breweries of theirs and shipping this beer up and down the motorways.As Malcolm said,"if they can't get this one right consistently you've got no chance of best bitter in traditional form!"

Anyway,hope you enjoy this evening and we see you again(plus some friends).

Contact addresses:-

Malcolm Glass,65,Rowlands Crescent,Solihull.(705-8613).

Clive Deacon;8,The Grange,Elmdon Park,Solihull.

STOP PRESS:- 'HARVESTER' P.H:Tanhouse Farm Road,Hatchford Brook.

My 'spy' in this all fizz Courage pub informs me that the cellar has recently been fitted out with a new cooling system and allowance has been made for the "missing" Directors bitter.(A seperate pipeline laid ready for a handpump if required).

However,the handpump(s) cannot be released to the pub(or the beer) until the 'almighty' area manager gives his blessing which up to yet he refuses to,although some customers are actually asking for the beer.HE insists it will not sell-even without trying it!

So,I fancy this could/should be our first major campaigning issue with the help of the CAMRA Courage B.L.O.

*Claude*