



# SOLIHULL & DISTRICT AREA



## "BORO BANTER"

Welcome to another of our informal gatherings which is a night for socialising; a drink and a chat about the real ale and pubs situation in the area.

Regarding our future plans, we now have a list of over fifty CAMRA members in our close vicinity supplied by H.Q and are in the process of working through them on a door-to-door basis by canvassing these people to try and establish what sort of support we can expect. If we can recruit half of these members to attend future meetings we can then seriously think about forming our own branch (Elect a committee, raise funds, organise social events, brewery visits, etc).

### RECRUITING:-

This is a PRIORITY as we need MORE support-the more people involved the better the branch-it gives it strength. So for future meetings try to bring along a friend...the girlfriend...even the wife (she might drive!).

### BREAKDOWN OF MEMBERS IN AREA:-

Solihull (24)...Shirley (13)...Knowle (6)...Olton (4)...Bentley Heath (3)...  
Dorridge (2)...Earlwood (1)...Elmdon (1)...Hampton-In-Arden (1)...  
Henley-In-Arden (1)...Hockley Heath (1).

### COVENTRY & MID WARWICKS BRANCH:-

Technically, at this stage of our short history (couple of months, or so) we are supposed to be a sub branch to these people who do not exactly live a million miles away. However, up to date they have made no real contact with us or shown any interest in our welfare, or activities as have other surrounding branches (especially Birmingham). Where are you hiding Ken Flint & Co?

### SHIRLEY AREA:-

Does anybody know of a likely venue in this area where we could possibly hold a meeting in about three months time as we would like to 'circulate' into all our areas. Real ale pubs are unfortunately scarce around the district, especially one with some reasonable sort of room for holding a meeting.

However, if the Stratford branch can hold a meeting (and a Xmas party) at Wellesbourne's Nat. Vegetable Research Station, plus a more recent meeting at Stratford Hospital social club, I'm sure there must be a prospect somewhere.

So, if there is not a suitable pub in the area perhaps somebody can unearth a club which sells real ale. Or, one with a kind steward/committee who might tolerate a special barrel of real ale for the evening, plus some sort of room that is not in use. Any ideas?

### LOCAL PUB NEWS:-

Recently visited by Malcolm, Andrew and myself.

GEORGE & DRAGON (ANSELLS) - Stratford Rd, SHIRLEY; - No real ale and no chance of having any in the near future either, according to barman!

PLUME OF FEATHERS (M&B) - Stratford Rd, SHIRLEY; - Real ale. but not exciting.

LOCAL PUB NEWS(CT'd).

THE HARVESTER(COURAGE)-Tanhouse Farm Rd.HATCHFORD BROOK.

I called in there on Sunday(4th,June),it is all CO2 and I had a brief discussion with the landlord and he has been trying to have DIRECTORS BITTER installed for SEVEN MONTHS now but his area manager WILL NOT allow him to have it claiming that he would not be able to sell it,although a few people have asked for it.

How can they judge a product as being unmarketable when it is not given the chance to put it to the test? A definite case for campaigning I suggest(perhaps through the CAMRA B.L.O for this brewery).I can find out the name of the offending area manager if needs be.

SEPTEMBER MEETING:-

Malcolm has suggested a pub somewhere which might have a garden and if the weather holds perhaps we could drink,talk and sunbathe-or have our beer watered down-any ideas anybody?

"BORO. BANTER".

Any local pub news,etc required for future editions;PLEASE!

REAL ALE IN SOLIHULL:-

SADLERS ARMS,Warwick Road...Brew XI(E)...MILD(E). I-room lounge bar.  
GOLDEN LION, Warwick Road...Courage Directors(H).Partly revamped but bar & snug in tact.

RED HOUSE,Hermitage Road...Brew XI(E)...Mild(E). I-room lounge bar.  
SNOOTY FOX,High Street...Ansells bitter(H)...Tetley Bitter(H).

Trendy disco pub;expensive,+restaurant.  
MASONS ARMS,High Street...Bass(E)...Brew XI(E)...I-room lounge bar.

GEORGE HOTEL,High Street...Burton Bitter(H)...Plush hotel.

THE STABLES,Hillfields Road...Bass(E)...Converted barn,part of Hillfield Hall.

NEXT MEETING:-

Tuesday, August 10th,RED LION,Warwick Road,KNOWLE.

This fine pub was taken over recently by a new landlord(from the Northern part of the country) and is very pro-CAMRA.He welcomes us and will probably offer us the use of his upstairs club room, although we will probably have to carry the real ale upstairs as the bar up there is a keg one.

In addition to his usual Burton Ale(Handpump in lounge),the good man will now be serving Tetley Bitter(Leeds) we anticipate on the evening(which we helped to suggest incidently!).So,we hope for a good turn out on the night.

YOUR CONTACT ADRESSES IN THE AREA(So far).

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

Clive Deacon;8,The Grange,Elmdon Park,Solihull.(742-5420).

Claude.





# Campaign for Real Ale

FROM: COLIN SMART -BLACK COUNTRY A.O.

TO: MIDLANDS BRANCHES. *Solihull*

## SEE THE MAGNIFICENT SEVERN BY STEAM TRAIN

The West Midlands branches are chartering a special evening steam train to explore the picturesque 12½ miles of the Severn Valley Railway. Departure from the riverside resort of Bewdley is at 7.30 pm with a special mystery beer on board, with arrival at the ancient market town of Bridgnorth at 8.30 pm. This leaves a very pleasant couple of hours to brouse the steam train nostalgia or explore the town, or regain an equilibrium position sampling the superb range of beers in the Railwaymans Arms.

The return journey starts at about 10.30 and arrival back at Bewdley is about 11.15. Tickets are now available at £3 each with generous discounts for party bookings, eg 20 at £2.75 each or 40 at £2.50 each. Please send your order now with £0.50p deposit on each ticket. Don't delay, reserve your places now and enjoy the superb combination of Real Ale and Real Steam Railway.

### BOOKING FORM

BRANCH .....

Please reserve ..... places on the Severn Valley Railway Trip on September 4th.

We enclose a deposit of .....

Any proceeds to be shared between participating branches.

Return to; Colin Smart.

66 Kipling House,

Stevens Rd,

Halesowen,

West Midlands.

Make cheques etc payable to;

CAMRA- Black Country Newsletters.

Cradley Heath 634728.