

Isle of Wight branch of the Campaign for Real Ale

Pub of the Year Results

1/ The Solent Inn; 2/ The Traveller's Joy; 3/ The Volunteer:
4/ The Yarbridge Inn; 5/ The Fat Cat

Beer of the Year Results

1/ Ventnor Golden Bitter; 2/ Goddards Special Bitter:
3/ Goddards Inspiration; 4/ Yates' Undercliff Experience.

Dates for Your Diary

Sunday 3rd July - Ventnor Day

13th July - Business Meeting - Bonchurch Inn - 8.30

15th - 17th July Summer Beer Festival - Sun Hulverstone

8th - 14th August Volunteer Beer Festival - Ventnor

26th August Branch Social - Havenstreet Steam Up

2nd September John Spiers and Jon Boden at Quay Art Centre, Newport

14th September - Business Meeting Chine Inn - Shanklin - 8.30

To contact *Wightwash*
phone 721557 or email
editor@wightwash.org.uk



The Sun Inn

Hulverstone, Isle of Wight
Tel: 741124



Open All Day, Every Day

Times: 11 - 11 Mon - Sat

12 - 10.30 Sun

Food from 12 to 9 every day

Special menus to cater
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Summer Barbecues

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www.sun-hulverstone.com

The Cider Man

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Somerset apple based

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Plus a range of High Quality

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Great Prices!
quality cider
@
quality prices

Perks of Ventnor

Fine bottled beers (11 local)
International Wines and Spirits

Wightwash

Volume 2, Number 24

Newsletter of the Isle of Wight branch of CAMRA

Summer 2005 Issue



The Oakleaf Brewing Co Ltd

The Pourfect Pint!

www.oakleafbrewing.co.uk



www.ventnorbrewery.co.uk

Announcing... **BeerPoint**

The Isle of Wight branch of the Campaign for Real Ale is proud to announce the launch of **BeerPoint** and the awarding of our first 7 plaques. In the months to come we hope that many more pubs will become eligible and join the scheme. Read more about **BeerPoint** inside.

Also in this FREE ISSUE:-

LANDMARKS OF THE ISLE OF WIGHT; **TECH TALK:**

Vaguely Sunny: Prize Quiz: News and Gossip
and much, much more...



"Spreading a little hoppiness"
www.goddards-brewery.co.uk

Yates' Brewery
at the

Inn at St Lawrence

the "Real" local brewery

www.yates-brewery.co.uk

I was in half a mind to change Wightwash's name to the "Thunderer" for this issue.

Further down this page, former Membership Secretary, Nick Ward has a pop at pubco's and on page 14 Chairman John Nicholson asks some pertinent (if not impertinent) questions about local transport. Brian Jacobs reveals the results of Pub/Beer of the Year (always guaranteed to spark off some lively debate) and as a branch we roll out our new initiative (I've always wanted to say that) to reward and encourage the dispensing of Real Ale at the point of sale - BeerPoint . Even Mild Mannered Paul Mattick calls into question the ubiquitous use of the "python".

Read on...

Oh, but before you do, please remember that any opinions expressed in Wightwash may not necessarily be shared by the editor or the Campaign for Real Ale either locally or nationally - so there!

PUBCOS - Don't you just hate 'em?

We used to think that the Big Six National brewers were the epitome of evil, screwing the customer, grinding down their tenants and producing rubbish beer. Now we realise they were quite benign compared with the new oligarchy of pub companies. It's a bit like the comparison between the old communist regime in Russia - oppressive, inefficient, but at least there were public services - and the new free-wheeling gangsterism of capitalism, oppressive, inefficient and the

trains don't even run on time. The pubcos have taken over the estates of failed companies like Whitbread, who literally couldn't run a piss-up in a brewery. They recruit managers with great promises of benign employment conditions and opportunities. The willing managers build up the business, while the pubco skims off all the profits. Then they hike up the rent to an unsupportable level, or sell the whole lot

Advertisement for King Harry's Bar, the old village Shanklin, featuring a drawing of a man in a coat and hat. Text includes: 'Come and try our wide variety of Real Ales open 11am - 11pm Tel: 863119 thekingharrybar@aol.com SEPARATE RESTAURANT open in the evenings'

Win a Case of Ventnor Beer or a £20 Chequers Inn Meal Voucher Just answer these questions

- 1/ Which Scottish author created Long John Silver?
2/ In what year did Margaret Thatcher become leader of the Conservative Party?
3/ What is the first name of the Agatha Christie character Miss Marple?
4/ In which government department is the Meteorology Office?
5/ Who was the lead singer in the Sex pistols?
6/ Who did Steve Ross replace as MP for the Isle of Wight?
7/ By what name was the actor Richard Jenkins better known as?
8/ What became a hit for the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards in 1972?
9/ What was the sequel to the film "The Empire Strikes Back"?
10/ To whom are the speeches addressed in the House of Commons?

Quiz by Kris Kwizzer

Send your answers by 1st August to The Editor, Wightwash, Oakdene, Rookley, Ventnor, Isle of Wight, PO38 3NH or email editor@wightwash.org.uk

Answers to the Spring Quiz

- 1. R L Stevenson
2. Marylebone Cricket Club
3. CJ
4. Mouton Rothschild
5. Haw
6. Madeira
7. Saffron Walden
8. Blue
9. B&Q
10. 1888
11. Glenfiddich
12. Andromeda
Jenny Mew wins a £20 meal voucher and Brian Snellgrove wins a case of Ventnor beer.

Advertisement for The Volunteer pub, featuring a drawing of a man with a trumpet. Text includes: 'Victoria Street, Ventnor Tel: 852537 Mike and Heather Janvrin invite you to partake in one of 8 Real Ales (all in tip top condition) in the Island's smallest pub www.volunteer-inn.co.uk'

Advertisement for CAMRA, featuring two circular logos with the word 'CAMRA' inside. Text includes: 'Join CAMRA Today'

Just fill in the form below and send , with a cheque (payable to CAMRA Ltd) to Membership Secretary, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St. Albans, Herts, AL1 4 LW Rates are Single £18 Joint £21 OAP's £9 (Joint £12) Under 26 £10 (Joint £13)

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Post code.....

I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and I agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Signed.....Date.....

St. Catherine's Lighthouse

Situated on the southernmost tip of the Island the lighthouse is no longer as important to seafarers as it was when it was first erected 1838. At this time navigational aids were vital and wrecks on the south coast of the Island were a regular occurrence. It was one particular tragedy which gave the impetus to the siting of the new lighthouse here. A ship named the **Clarendon** was bound from the West Indies to Portsmouth when it ran aground in Chale bay. All but 3 on board were lost and the tragedy shocked the nation as the captain's wife and daughter were among those who perished.

Timbers salvaged from the wreck were used in the construction of some notable local buildings including the Clarendon in Shanklin and several cottages in the Chale area.

The first tower proved unsatisfactory and was altered in 1875 to avoid a prevalent sea mist. Many Islanders will remember the penetrating sound of the fog horn which blasted throughout the day and night when fog obscured visibility.



The operation of the light has now been fully automated and it now has no resident keepers. The use of the foghorn was discontinued in 1987.

A tragic incident took place at the station during the second world war when a marauding German bomber destroyed the engine house killing the three keepers who were working there. A memorial plaque is displayed on the site.

Rob Marshall

The
YARBRIDGE INN
The Railway Themed Pub
 Yarbridge Cross, Brading, Isle of Wight
Tel: (01983) 406212
 Extensive Menu of Hot and Cold Food
Beer Garden
Families Welcome
www.yarbridgeinn.co.uk

Advertisement for Solent Inn

on to some other flybynight outfit. Some pubs have changed companies 3 or 4 times since the brewers lost their grip. So what is to be done about it? Well the Government set up an enquiry, Trade and Industry Select Committee no less. Lots of us put in reasoned submissions about why the present set up was bad for the customer, bad for the managers and bad for the small brewers. The enquiry made lots of recommendations and what did the Government do? What it usually does when faced with some difficult decisions that might upset some of its business friends, it bottled out and did nothing. So pubs will continue to close, small brewers will continue to struggle and the managers and customers will continue to suffer. There are honourable exceptions of course - Wetherspoons continue to provide a good selection of reasonably priced beers in generally pleasant surroundings and don't appear to exploit their staff. Why can't the rest of them follow that successful example?

Nick Ward



Garden play area and pet animals



Traveller's Joy
Families Welcome
 Pallance Road, Northwood, Isle of Wight
 Tel: (01983) 298024
www.tjoy.co.uk



Runner-Up

Funtion room for private parties

From *Paul Mattick*

First of all Congratulations to **The Solent Inn** and **Ventnor Brewery** for winning the Pub of the Year and Beer of the Year respectively in our local competition. This has been most convenient as we can still use last years photo. And here it is...



From left to right: Andy and Margaret Taylor, John Hannam and Xavier Baker

The Isle of Wight Traction Engine Club had a very successful mini steam rally/ploughing competition on Easter Monday at Compton farm. A licensed bar was set up on the back of a horse drawn pantechnicon and between 11am and 6 pm managed to

shift 2 barrels of Undercliff Experience, 1 barrel of Yates Special Draught and 48 bottles of specially brewed Traction Ale. **Hampshire brewery** are now selling mini casks and bottles of their beer at Newport's Farmers Market held every other Friday.

The Cedars, Wootton recently won the Quay Radio/Gales pub Quiz competition. Licensee **Dave Burley** told me that the station rang them up and asked shed loads of questions that got them through to the final round even though they didn't realise it. The quiz lasted for a couple of hours culminating in a spectacular win for the Cedars. The Cedars also played host to Quay Radio for their coverage of the **Isle of Wight Rock Festival**.



Following the trend set in Holland and France, Shalfleet has had its own referendum. This time it has been the turn of the regulars of **The New Inn**, to vote on smoking. And once again, the result was another resounding "Non!". Consequently the New Inn has become (to the best of our

Advertisement for Anchor Inn

WHEN IS COLD TOO COLD?

Does your bottle-conditioned ale have a haze on it when you pour it into the glass? Have you just taken it out of the fridge? Has the haze cleared as the ale warms up?

If the answer to the above is yes you have encountered chill haze. This occurs in a beer that contains soluble proteins but is only visible at lower temperatures below around 4 degrees c. This is not a problem in beers that are due to be consumed at 11-13 degrees, the normal serving temperature for most bottle conditioned and cask beers.

The Village Inn

Shanklin Old Village
Open lunchtimes and evenings
 for lunches, snacks, evening meals and REAL ALE
 Good Food, Fine Wine and Fine Ale. Tel: 862514

Check
 our
 Specials Board

Live
 Entertainment
 Every Night

For beers and lagers that are to be served very cold the problem of chill haze is overcome by chilling the beer and filtering it at temperatures down to -3 deg c.

The low temperature forces the soluble proteins present in the beer to clump together and become large enough to be visible as you may have seen in your hazy beer when you removed it from the fridge.

The visible protein is then removed by passing the beer through a filter leaving the clumps behind allowing the beer to remain bright and clear at teeth shatteringly low temperatures. Some bottle-conditioned ales are low temperature filtered to remove both yeast and protein. These are re-seeded with new yeast for conditioning and can be consumed at lower temperatures with no haze problems.

Reproduced from 'Brewing Beers Like Mother Used To Brew' with kind permission of

The Broadway Inn

Totland

Phone: (01983) 755333

Traditional Home-Cooked

Pub Food

Excellent Sunday Roasts

Quiz Nights

Live Music

Pool

Games Nights

3 Island Ales on Tap

Yates' Broadway Blitz
 (5.5% alc/vol)!
 plus one from both
Ventnor and Goddards

In this thinly disguised version of a well know tv programme we invite you to identify the real meaning of unusual words in

Bluffy the Word Slayer

Brought to you by *Kris Kwizzer*

1/Tatting

- A/ Talk about the unknown
- B/ An intricate type of lace
- C/ The mashing of potatoes

2/Peruke

- A/ South American bowler hat
- B/ An infant ant eater
- C/ A wig for men

3/Raddle

- A/ The central cog of a water wheel
- B/ Face painting in a redish colour
- C/ The grinding of mineral deposits

4/Gnomon

- A/ Small in stature
- B/ Crystal found in lime stone
- C/ The shadow cast on a sundial

5/Spondee

- A/ A spade used for cutting peat (for burning)
- B/ A pouch of animal fur worn by women (Gaelic)
- C/ A metric foot.

THE RICHMOND ARMS

Ventnor Esplanade
Isle of Wight
(01983) 855674

- FREE HOUSE -

OPEN ALL DAY

11am - 11pm Mon - Sat
12 - 10.30 Sun

Varied Menu

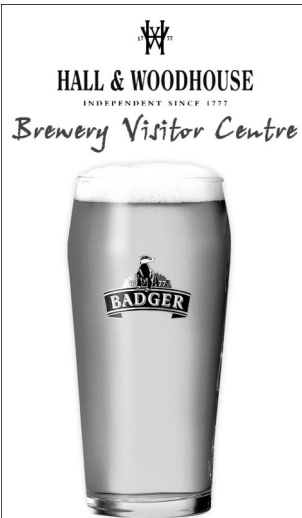
& Extensive Specials Board

Non-Smoking Dining Room

At least three REAL ALES!

Your Hosts:-

Mike and Dawn Bothwell



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INDEPENDENT SINCE 1777
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Soak up the atmosphere of a working brewery on our guided tours
View our collection of brewing artefacts
Sample our ales & enjoy traditional pub fare in our unique restaurant

Our Brewery Visitor Centre is open:
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Brewery Tours run at set times so please call to reserve your place
Adults £4.50 Concessions £3.50 Children £2.50 (Price includes one free pint or soft drink)

Evening tours & group bookings by arrangement
Conference & Meeting Room Facilities also available

Call 01258 452141

Members

Have you got email?
Please let Ken Matthews know at camraiw@aol.com so that we can keep you bang up to date!

Answers

1-B: 2-C: 3-B: 4-C: 5-C

knowledge) the Island's first No Smoking pub.

The highlight of my recent visit to the **Railway** in Ryde was **Brian 'Crazy Frog' Poulter** singing his very own rendition of Spandau Ballet's 'Gold' on Karaoke night (it's a definite must!) The Railway also has a varied selection of Cask Ales - six of them when I was there.

The Cricketers Rest, which is situated inside the grounds of Ventnor Cricket Club, has been recommended by 'Yard' of the yard. At his time of visiting **Directors Bitter** was sampled and passed

The Inn at St Lawrence

Tel: 853938

Delicious Food and Great Beer
from Yates' Brewery
Live music every Friday with Kelly Burke

with flying colours. It's open to the public and has the largest pub car park on the Island (Ventnor Botanical gardens next door!)

"Yard" also tells me that the **Ponda Rosa** is no longer a Real Ale outlet. If you know different, let us know.




Freshwater member **Kelvin Currie** has had the distinction of having a letter read out by (Sir) **Terry Wogan**. This has dispelled my suspicions that the mighty Tog-Meister makes them up himself.

Our Editor has been getting his mugshot in the local media again. This time in a follow up to the "Tale of the Tankard" as featured in the last issue of Wightwash. If you missed the story; a 19th century tankard made for the landlord of the now demolished **Osborne Arms**, was discovered in a charity shop in Buckinghamshire. The owner of the tankard has kindly lent it to the East Cowes Heritage Society. In the photograph overleaf, reproduced with the kind

A true locals pub where visitors are always made welcome

THE CHEQUERS INN

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NOTED BY 1999 UK FAMILY PUB OF THE YEAR THE GOOD PUB GUIDE

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An award winning pub set in the heart of the Island's countryside, surrounded by glorious views and wonderful walks. With a comprehensive menu including children's and vegetarian dishes, a carvery every weekday lunchtime and traditional Sunday roasts.

Food served all day everyday • Large garden and car park • Extensive children's adventure playground

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permission of the County Press, we see our editor Mr Marshall in the Ship and Castle making sure that it still works.



outside. This, in theory should ensure nice cold lager and an appropriately cooled pint of real ale. Sadly, in practice, what comes out the spout in many cases is all at the same teeth chattering temperature. Happily CAMRA has been at hand to identify the problems and in at least 2 pubs the whole shooting match has been ripped out and a more sensible system installed. If you've been "pythoned" let us know.

Ventnor Brewery are once again going to be a part of the Bestival which takes place on the 9th 10th and 11th September at Robin Hill. The brewery will be selling the fittingly named '**Best of Ale**' on site which will come with a free straw and a paracetamol! With an ABV of 4 %, Xav told me if it were any stronger he would have to re-name it '**Fistivale**'. Before I forget, **Best of Ale** may well soon be on offer at J D Wetherspoons. The new Brewery off license is now open to the public and you can now purchase a very large array of Ventnor beers for your Barbecues, Weddings, Birthdays,



Have your timbers been shivered by a boa constrictor? Drinkers in several Island pubs have noticed that they needed to put their mittens on in order to pick up their pints. The problem in a significant number of cases has been the dreaded "Python". This piece of ingenious apparatus puts all the beer lines in one basket (aka python). The principle is that all the lines surround one cooling line with the lagers nearest to it on the inside and the real ales on the



They there Shipmates!

If you have to get wrecked, there's no finer place to do it than at one of our Waterside Taverns!

- Esplanade, Shanklin
- THE STEAMER INN**
- Little London, Newport
- The Bargeman's Rest**
- Esplanade, Ventnor
- The Spyglass Inn**

Up to seven real ales on offer!

Each offers its own individual style, and the "nummit" features the freshest of local produce, including the famous Ventnor Bay Lobster and Crabs.



actually get about quicker than by motor. The recent cycle tracks are, indeed, one of the only positive and proper improvements. But what about the buses?

With the return fare for a family of four going shopping in Newport, travelling from and to Northwood, or the far end of Fairlee Road, or some other equivalent short distance, costing over £10, who wants to take the bus. Even if the fare was more affordable,

the re-arranged routes and timetables are far from convenient for too many people, especially around Northwood. If I meet my friend at the Traveller's Joy, he has to leave by 9.30pm in order to catch the bus from Fourcross in time to get a connection to the other side of Newport. Hardly encouraging to use public transport!



There are many other stories of frustration and complaint on the impracticalities of using the bus service to travel about the Island. So, what about the taxis?

We rank somewhere in the top third in the country in league table of most expensive taxi fares. It can cost £20 to travel between Newport and Cowes, £30 Newport and Freshwater, in excess of £5, Cowes and Northwood. A source of constant

complaint from visitors who get caught unsuspecting such rates. There is such nonsense supporting these high charges such as taxi drivers are not even permitted to pick up a fare on a return journey outside of the licence town or area. And we are paying for all this. Even if you don't use these facilities, these costs have a knock on effect, subtle as it may be. The taxi drivers, of course, have to make a living, and, rightly, deserve a good one, but there has to be another way of doing this?

In short, the transport system is not working; its too congested, too polluting, too expensive, too restrictive, too frustrating, and resolving it has been too neglected!

On top of that, I think I've just been flashed for a speeding ticket – buggar!

John Nicholson

RINGWOOD BREWERY

Thumping GOOD BEER

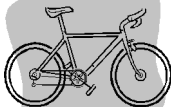
(01425) 471177

The Impact of Transport

For anyone who lives on the Island, getting around can be a frustrating business. Passing through Newport, mid-morning, the other week, to get to Ryde by car, it took me 55 minutes, then nearly 20 minutes to find a parking space. To get to Shanklin one Saturday morning before Christmas, again, passing through Newport, it took me an hour and a quarter. With more housing, more families, and more cars, the best that our Council seem to be able to offer is to remove bus lay-bys, erect yet more traffic lights, paint colours on the roads and tinker with the flow of traffic through Newport town centre.

The effects and costs of the time that it takes to travel about the Island bears its toll. The reticence to address the problems of Island roads and traffic management properly and spend the appropriate money in order to do so, not only costs businesses, who have to cater for the lost and non-productive time, thereby adding costs, but what about the toll on the environment? The extra volume of traffic is bad enough, but then we all want to get about; it's the extra time spent on the roads that is so inexcusable.

When people like Prescott bang on about using public transport, then use two Jags for their own personal transport, even for distances that you could walk by the time a glass of weissbeir has settled, it just says it all about how serious the governments (not just this one) are about solving our transport problems, and speaks volumes about the hypocrisy involved. We are the laughing stock of Europe with our broken and congested roads and our ancient, slow and unreliable train service. Nowadays, it is too risky to trust the trains when you have an appointment to keep.



If you are brave enough to risk your life cycling on our roads, from fumes as well as from the chance of getting knocked, you may

<p>The Dairyman's Daughter <i>Free House</i> 01983 539361 Food served all day Up to 8 Real Ales including Scarecrow Bitter brewed on the premises</p>	<p>The Scarecrow Brewery Brewing Traditional English Bitter with Bramling Cross Hops <i>"Outstanding in our field"</i> Visit our Brewery Shop for an amazing assortment of bottled beers and brewery memorabilia</p>
<p>Arreton Barns Craft Village</p>	

Christenings and Funerals etc.

This year **Ventnor Day** will be held on Sunday 3rd July. There will be countless stalls along the seafront and you can enjoy a nice pint of beer in the **Richmond**, the **Millbay** and the **Spyglass Inn**. A little Dicky Bird tells me that Island Group **The Bees** may possibly be present on the day.

Goddard's head brewer **Chris Coleman** has had a very busy winter and with thanks to binge drinking, sales have once again hit an all time high. Chris told me that the brewery now trade with the **Beer Seller**. As I was speaking to him a very large order for new casks was being delivered and he was up to his eyeballs in it. I didn't want to interrupt him so I made my excuses and left! Anthony Goddard has hung up his Sheriff's badge following a year of frivolities and is now appearing in the Panto 'Robin Hood'.

David Yates has added another bespoke beer to his ever-expanding portfolio. The **Steamer Inn**, Shanklin now has **Yates' Full Steamer Head** on offer at 4.5% alc/vol. This brings the number of pubs with a **Yates'** own brand up to 5. Many hotels are also getting David to brew a beer for them but in bottles. This includes the **George Hotel** in Yarmouth. The wholesale side of the business is doing very well to such an extent that David Jnr has had to take on another full-time driver.

The **Beer Seller** is from henceforth to be known as **Waverley TBS** (The Beer Seller). Steve Taylor was proud to point out that last year they had on offer over 3,000 real ales, that they are the only drinks wholesaler that is a member of Cask Marque and that despite doom and gloom in some areas, they increased their real ale sales by 8% last year.

Mac & Paulette
 Welcome YOU
 to the
Vine Inn
 Freshwater
 Ales from George Gale
HSB GB Guest Ales
 Gales Country Wines
 Well supported **Pub Quiz** on Monday evenings
 (with excellent Quiz Master!)
 Snowball and £25 First Prize
Live Music Good Food
 01983 752959

At their first national sales conference, where the speaker was our very own Roger Protz, all 260 members of the sales team were made a member of CAMRA. Waverley were responsible for the very nicely presented tasting notes (pictured here) at the recent Yarbridge Inn Beer Festival.



Cider News
 Plenty more pubs on the Island have joined the Cider Revolution, **The Buddle**, **Sandpipers (Fat Cat Bar)**, **The Volunteer**, **Traveller's Joy** and **The Castle** Newport all now have draught cider regularly. Look out for **Boxing Dog** from Whiteheads of Alton and **Perry's** and **Winkleigh** of Devon. Scan the bottle shelves to see if any other pubs have **Dunkerton's** of Hereford, **Black Fox** Organic Cider or Sheppy's **Dabinett** single apple cider. A new line from the Ciderman is **Luscombe Organic Cider** from

Buckfastleigh in Devon - only available at Godshill Organics at present.

The Ciderman is opening a discount cider warehouse at the Cave on Ventnor Industrial Estate on July 2nd between 10 and 12 am. You are invited to the opening, (look out for the signs).

The Wightwash website came in for some plaudits recently in a survey by the National Website Workgroup. Here are some of the comments.

The pub pages are excellent - I particularly liked the provision for impaired vision.

Downloadable pdf's for the Wightwash magazine is a good use of the technology.

The site was up to date with lots of information.. The local brewery pages were particularly good with lots of information on the beers.

Why not check it out for yourself at www.wightwash.org.uk

The bureaucrats in Brussels are at it again. This time their target is good old British

light ale. They claim drinkers could be misled into thinking that the beer is a low-calorie or low-alcohol "lite" drink.

Licensees are reminded that they only have a few weeks to convert their licenses to the new "premises" and "personal" licenses. Although the 2nd "Appointed Date" (the date when the new bill becomes law) is 24th November, the deadline for conversion is 6th August. At the time of writing, barely 10% of Island licensees have lodged applications. BE WARNED – TO APPLY FOR FRESH NEW LICENSES REQUIRES MUCH JUMPING THROUGH HOOPS!

The wife came down stairs the other day from cleaning my son's room. Under his bed she found a selection of S & M magazines that contained everything from leather underwear to whips and chains. "What do we do?" she said, to which I replied, for heavens sake don't spank him!!

Paul

SO IT IS "ROCKET SCIENCE"!

As a post script to Tim Hamson's article in CAMRA's monthly magazine **What's Brewing** (a fantastic read and worth the subscriptions fee alone!) we received the following letter from member John Farthing...

Dear Sir,

The June issue of What's Brewing carries an article called Mighty Micros wherein I was pleased to see an Isle of Wight connection.

*Credit for "Starting the Rush" for micro breweries has been given to **Paul Leyton** when he set up a brewery in the **Miners Arms** at Priddy in the Mendips.*

Paul had been Chief Rocket Development Engineer for Saunders Roe in the 50's and 60's and had headed up the very successful Black Knight programme .

He eventually came back to the Island; living first alongside the Military Road his dwelling identified by the mini wind generators and other green devices in his garden, and later at Bonchurch where he was wont to take a pint, or two, in the wonderful ambience of the Bonchurch Inn.

Yours sincerely,

John Farthing

PS I don't think the Miner's Arms is any longer in business; when I tried to find it a couple of years ago, it seemed to have been converted into a house; but was I looking in the right place: can anyone confirm this or otherwise?

hear.

As a result, they spent three weeks at the Clarendon in April 1971 and played night after night in the ballroom. Herbie taped these sessions on a reel to reel recorder but unfortunately they were not of broadcast quality and were never released.

Fairfield Parlour were managed by DJ David Symonds. He also looked after another band at that time – The Purple Gang. They too came down in 1971 and Herbie put a sign outside saying

"Spanning the years – The Purple Gang play all the music for you from 1920's to today". As they entered the Clarendon, the band were greeted by a massive thirteen stone St Bernard dog called "Fred" slobbering all over them. Like Fairfield Parlour, The Purple Gang stayed for a while and wrote some songs at the Clarendon. David Symonds came down from London to groove with them as they say. You can find more of these recollections at www.thepurplegang.co.uk. If you have a Clarendon music story email it to iowrock@iowrock.demon.co.uk

The Clarendon Hotel

Partially built from the timbers of the West Indian the *Clarendon* wrecked off Blackgang on the morning of 11th October 1836. (see p.18) Planning permission applied for 6th December 2002
Granted 17th February 2003
Demolished June 2005



Vaguely Sunny present: John Spiers and Jon Boden
Quay Art Centre, Newport

Friday September 2nd at 8.00pm Tickets £10/£9 Box Office 01983 528825

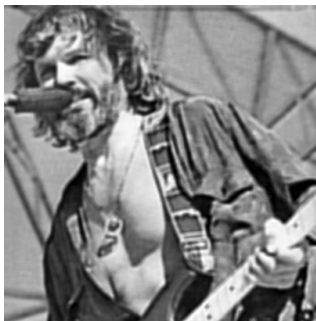
"Squeezebox player John Spiers and fiddle singer Jon Boden have been showered with accolades and awards ever since they took the English folk music scene by storm with their 2001 debut album "Through and Through". Fresh (and almost abrasive), their take to updating traditional English tunes reflects a determination not to be too heavily influenced by those who have gone before"

The Island's best Gig Guide is www.iowrock.net





Island music fans will be saddened by another great old much-loved venue – The Clarendon – being demolished for redevelopment. The heyday of The Clarendon was in the early seventies when it was run by a real character called Herbie Snowball.



Kris Kristofferson stayed there when he came to play the 1970 Isle of Wight Festival at Freshwater. After his Festival appearance, Kristofferson also performed an impromptu midnight gig in the Clarendon with a band that included former Lovin' Spoonful member Zal Yanovsky. Island country band Union Pacific also played earlier that night and Brian Munro remembers Kristofferson sitting on a stool and saying "I maybe too drunk to stand up, but I'm not too drunk to play". The Kristofferson set that night included favourites like "Me and Bobby McGee", "Help Me Make It Through the Night" and "For the Good Times".

Another seventies band with very fond memories of the Clarendon were Fairfield Parlour, the first band to appear on the Friday at the 1970 Festival. They too stayed at the Clarendon until the Tuesday after the Festival. Singer Peter Daltrey described Herbie Snowball as "a friendly gregarious character". The band got on so well with Herbie that they were invited to return to the Clarendon to play and re-

BeerPoint

After months of consultation The Isle of Wight branch of CAMRA has launched **BeerPoint** a scheme to reward, encourage and promote the delivery of Real Ale in good condition at the point of sale. Here are a few facts about **BeerPoint**...

- **BeerPoint** status is awarded to any pub that wishes to join the scheme and meets certain criteria; the most important of which is the quality of the beer at the point of sale. However, we also take into consideration good service and the active promotion of real ale.
- Membership of **BeerPoint** is through nomination by CAMRA members accompanied by request of the landlord. The nominations are followed up by several visits and consultations. Successful pubs are awarded a plaque and certificates to display inside and outside the pub.
- **BeerPoint** is not just an award scheme, it is association. Members are encouraged to contribute to the running of the scheme and to help to promote good practice.

On the next pages, we list the first recipients of **BeerPoint** status.

If you would like to learn more about **BeerPoint** call 721557 or email jnl@johnnicholson.co.uk and we will send you a booklet.

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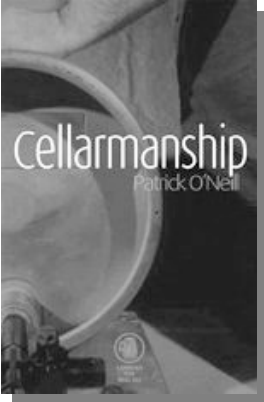



Cellarmanship by Pat O'Neill

CELLARMANSHIP is a must-have book if you are in the drinks trade, a beer festival organiser or simply a keen amateur wishing to serve a perfect pint.

- Step by step instructions of how to store, keep and serve real ale.
- Clear and concise technical advice with over 30 informative drawings
- Useful glossary of terms

Price £8.99 (CAMRA Member price just £6.99) £1 P&P
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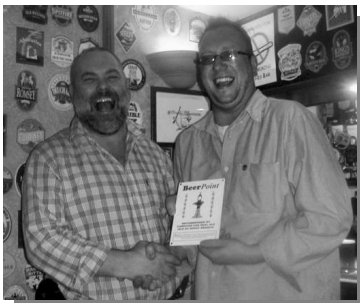


Here are the first 7 pubs to be awarded **BeerPoint** status and as such will become our benchmark.

All 7 pubs went through the inspection and consultations phases and were found to come up to standard. And so...


Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome our first members - the magnificent seven!

(In alphabetical order!)




The Fat Cat Bar, Freshwater
Landlord: Jay Chapman

Anyone who has met Jay quickly realises that here we have a Real Ale evangelist and entrepreneur. He is already actively using BeerPoint material in his staff training. The enthusiasm and congeniality of Jay is reflected in his staff and in the customers of the Fat Cat bar. A great promoter and innovator never frightened to take a risk in what he believes in!




The Prince of Wales, Freshwater
Landlord: Chris Plucknet

31 years as landlord of the same pub, is contested as a record for the Island. 31 years of experience and perfecting the delivery of Real Ale in one of the only few truly traditional and unspoilt pubs remaining on the Island, is the true record, now harnessed and valued in BeerPoint. Chris is a keen supporter of the ideals of BeerPoint and is a grand resource




The Solent Inn, Ryde
Landlords: Andy and Margaret Taylor

Andy 'Windows' Taylor has become a byword for quality and excellent cellarmanship. Current repeat holder of Island CAMRA Pub of the Year, Andy's transformation of the near derelict Solent is remarkable, all the more so when you consider that it is a tied pub as well. A proper community pub, the beers and customers are nursed and cared for alike – its like dying and going to heaven!




The Sun, Calbourne
Landlord: Geoff Bowyer

Geoff is an old hand and a real professional, with a wealth of experience under his belt. He was the last landlord at the much remembered Starks Inn, a haven and pilgrimage for Real Drinkers in those distant days. Sound management and strategy are reflected in the Real Ale at the Sun, Calbourne in the two different worlds of the lounge and public bars. With excellent food, too – just what a country village pub should be!



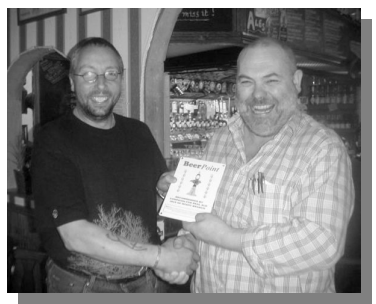
The Traveller's Joy, Northwood
Landlords: Derek and Ruth Smith

A leader and a beacon since the days when the Island was a sea of bland beer served up by uninterested big brewers, Derek is proud to have led and inspired many of the other now successful and award winning pubs and landlords. In BeerPoint, Derek and the Traveller's Joy are set to yet influence more pubs and landlords, raising standards higher still!



The Volunteer, Ventnor
Landlord: Mike and Heather Janvrin

Mike and Heather have brought security and delight to all those Volly fans who had feared that the sudden departure of Tim Saul 2 years ago spelled the end of an institution. Their devotion and verve to the pub and Real Ale, has taken the Volly to new heights in a tough and competitive market. You could not make better use, or get a better range of Real Ales in Dr Who's Tardis!



The Yarbridge Inn, Brading
Landlord: Paul and Sharon Jenner

Paul's achievements are only matched by his commitment and enthusiasm. Ever on the look out for new beers to try, he rivals the widest selection sampled on the Island. Good beer, good food and good conversation, just what the British pub should be all about!