

# NATIONAL PUB WEEK 2004

## City Pub Crawl Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February

One of the main aims of National Pub Week is to highlight the wide diversity of different Pub styles available – there really is a pub to suit everyone, and its probably right on your doorstep! The Peterborough & District Branch of CAMRA kicks off the weeks events with a two-part central crawl of the city. 9 venues that have all appeared in a recent edition of the Good Beer Guide will be visited, with another 5 handily on route for serious crawl specialists! The first section starts at noon and requires the purchase of a Stagecoach Day Rider ticket (£3.00). The second stage is all on foot, being based around the heart of the city. Participants can take part in both sections or mix & match, just meet up at the times shown in bold at any of the core pubs, or you can check on our progress by calling Bram on 07903-651583. Cheers!

### **12:00–13:15 PALMERSTON ARMS**, 82 Oundle Road

They say the simple things in life are always the best! Recently purchased by Batemans, this is a 400-year old stone built, two roomed corner local. An ever changing range of up to 12 beers and two ciders are dispensed straight from the cask, not a keg font or sparkler in sight! Completely devoid of all the noisy distractions to be found in most lager bars, you can join in the friendly conversation or admire the plethora of breweriana that adorns the walls. A good range of malt whiskies and continental bottled beers are also available. Local Pub of the Year 1997 & 1999.

12:30-12:50 Try also: **CHERRY TREE**, 9 Oundle Road.

A popular community pub serving Draught Bass, Marstons Pedigree, Tetley Bitter, Taylor's Landlord, Hopback Summer Lightning and occasional guests. Good food is available and live music features at week-ends.

13:00-13:20 Try also: **PEACOCK**, 26 London Road.

Opposite the football ground, Caledonian Deuchars IPA available plus occasional guest beers. A Beer Festival is also being planned for Easter.

### **13:25-14:05 COAL HEAVERS ARMS**, 5 Park Street.

Recently refurbished, this hard to find gem is our Local Pub of the Year 2004. Milton beers plus guest ales and draught cider are served from 9 hand-pumps into oversize glasses. The Coalie offers the best range of continental bottled beers in the city and a modest selection of malt whiskies. Another feature of this quiet pub is its delightful garden, where beer festivals are held twice a year. Freshly made rolls & baguettes are also available.

### **14:40-15:05 FAYRE SPOT & GOODLEY**, Bretton Centre.

Spacious and well lit bar adjoining the Cresset, so very handy for theatre goers. Tetley Bitter & 3 ever changing guest beers are served. A good range of food available at all times.

### **15:30-16:10 ROYAL OAK**, 1099 Lincoln Road.

This former Watneys pub is back in safe hands. Ignore the exterior (which is scheduled for a lick of paint) to discover a warm, friendly welcome within. Taylor's Landlord & 2 guest beers are on offer at competitive prices. A strong community spirit focused around the pubs football teams, has raised thousands of pounds for charity. Football, Pool and the Juke box feature strongly, the back room is available for functions unless live football is being screened.

### **16:30-17:15 HAND & HEART**, 12 Highbury Street.

Tucked away in a side street just off Lincoln Road, this small but well maintained two-roomed pub is the only one in our area to be listed on the CAMRA National Inventory of Pub Interiors of Historic Interest. John Smiths Bitter & 4 rapidly changing guest ales flow from the pumps. The true centre of the community – more than £5000 raised for local charities in less than two years – the Hand is popular with all age groups and never a hint of bother. Darts, Dominoes & Cribbage are enjoyed here, while the recently refurbished garden features a petanque court. Local Pub of the Year 1998, you will receive a personal welcome from Meg, the pub dog (when she's not asleep!). NB. The Hand's Annual Charity Night takes place tonight from 20:30 onward – why not come and join in the fun?

### **17:30-18:30 BREWERY TAP**, 80 Westgate. SCHEDULED FOOD STOP

Handy for both Bus and Rail stations, this is the largest brew-pub in Europe and the home of Oakham Ales whose awards cover the walls (the brewery can be viewed through a large glass window). Wonderful conversion from the former labour exchange but under threat of demolition due to redevelopment! Relax in plush leather upholstery, or make observations from the upstairs gallery while enjoying the excellent Thai cuisine served here. Beers on offer are from Oakham Ales plus a selection of guests. Continental bottled beers have also been recently introduced. A late night licence is in operation on Fridays & Saturdays when musical entertainment is provided. An Annual Beer Festival is held each March, this year from 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. NB. On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February there will be 30 pence per pint discount off any Oakham Ales product all day to celebrate National Pub Week.

18:10-18:30 Try also: **WORTLEY ALMSHOUSES**, Westgate.

The Samuel Smiths Old Brewery Bitter served here is probably the cheapest real ale in the city. Good food is also served in this recently refurbished pub.

**18:35-19:00 BOGARTS**, North Street.

Formerly the Ostrich, this horseshoe shaped bar offers Oakham JHB and up to 6 guest beers and a real cider. Very popular with students, especially in the evenings. Food has recently been reintroduced.

18:50-19:10 Try also: **COLLEGE ARMS**, 40 Broadway.

Typical Wetherspoons pub. A variety of ales and a real cider are served at very competitive prices. Food is also available, but the pub gets very busy and getting served can be tiresome!

19:10-19:30 Try also: **SOLSTICE**, Northminster.

Another late night music venue where real ale may be enjoyed. At least 3 beers on offer, often Adnams Broadside, Boddingtons Bitter & Flowers Original. Very popular with younger drinkers.

**19:15-20:00 GOODBARN YARD**, 64 St. John Street.

Large modern two-roomed pub (with a non-smoking area in a conservatory extension) tucked away behind the Cathedral. 3 or 4 ales are always available via gravity dispense with Adnams Broadside & Black Sheep Best Bitter regularly on offer. Well behaved children are welcome during the day. A bar football table provides some amusement, while hot snacks are served lunchtimes and evenings, when live music features at week-ends. Pub of the Year 2001, the licensee is a keen speedway fan and sponsors the local Panthers team.

**20:15-End CHARTERS**, Town Bridge.

This former Dutch grain barge moored on the South bank won Pub of the Year in 1994 and again in 2002. Charters rival the Palmerston Arms for best beer selection with 12 ales always available. Sister pub to the Brewery Tap, Oakham Ales feature strongly with Draught Bass, Hopback Summer Lightning & Taylor's Landlord also permanently on offer, alongside 6 regularly changing guests from micro breweries. A mini beer fest held once a month showcases beers from a specific area or brewery. Live blues music is promoted on Fridays & Saturdays when a small door charge is levied after 21:30 (this charge increases after 22:30). Delicious Oriental food can be enjoyed on the upper deck restaurant East, while the large garden is popular in the summer. NB. On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February there will be 30 pence per pint discount off any Oakham Ales product all day to celebrate National Pub Week.

So what to do now? Why not stay and enjoy live music at Charters from James O'Hara's Detonators, or do you return to a pub you enjoyed earlier in the day? You could nip off back to your usual haunt for last orders or call it a day and head for home to watch the footie? The choice is yours – it always has been, and CAMRA will continue its campaign to protect that choice. If you want to get involved with your local branch and join in on other social events, please read our bi-monthly magazine *Beer Around 'Ere* or check out our website at [www.real-ale.org.uk](http://www.real-ale.org.uk)

National Pub Week runs through to Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February. Below is a summary of other events planned for the week.

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>

Historic & Haunted: A walking tour of some Peterborough Pubs.

Meeting at the Blue Bell, Dogsthorpe 19:15 and calling at the Hand & Heart, Millfield 20:20; Eight Bells, Lincoln Road 20:55 and Wortley Almshouses 21:50. Your tour guides are Steve Williams & Mick Slaughter. Further information from Steve on 07802-896641 or at [www.pubhistory.freeserve.co.uk/show.htm](http://www.pubhistory.freeserve.co.uk/show.htm)

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>

Haunted and Historic Pubs of Peterborough: A slide show.

An armchair tour of some of the area's historic and haunted pubs. This takes place in the function room of the Cherry Tree, Oundle Road commencing at 20:15. Further details from Steve as above.

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>

Pub of the Year 2004: Presentation of the Award to the Coal Heavers Arms, Park Street 20:30.

A wonderful opportunity to meet other CAMRA members at one of most important events of the year.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>

Rural Pub Crawl using Public Transport.

The Public Transport Task Group (PTTG) is an important arm of the campaign. Rural and backstreet pubs are in heavy decline, with at least one pub somewhere closing its doors for the last time every day of the week. Using Day Rider tickets from local bus companies, today's tour will visit a number of pubs in the Peterborough area that are difficult to reach without a car or by catching a bus. Hence the PTTG, who campaign to protect against the withdrawal of rural bus services. Meet by the kiosk at Queensgate bus station 10:00 or contact Bram on 07903-651583 for further details.