SOCIETY for the PRESERVATION of BEERS from the WOOD

(Founded 1963)

The original beer consumer organisation
Promoting beer served from wooden casks

PINT in HAND

Number 179 *August 2026*



The Bridge End Inn, Ruabon, Photograph by David Halliwell.

Founded 1963

PINT in HAND

- Pint in Hand is issued quarterly, in February, May, August and November. It is issued to all subscribing members and affiliated branches of SPBW.

- All members are invited to contribute articles on beer-related subjects for publication. Contributions for the November 2026 issue should reach the Editor by 18th of October.

- The Editor or the National Executive Committee of SPBW does not necessarily share opinions expressed in Pint in Hand.

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Website: http://www.spbw.beer
Online shop: www.spbw.beer/online-shop
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/group.php?gid=110911458926369
Twitter: https://twitter.com/spbw.uk

Anyone reading this who is not already a member of SPBW might like to know that annual membership costs only £10. For information about SPBW and a membership application form, please email or send a stamped addressed envelope to the Membership Secretary as above or visit our website.

Printed by SF Taylor, Stockport.

OPENING TIME

As summer moves towards autumn, we can enjoy dry evenings in the garden or beer garden after the heat of the day has subsided. There's still plenty of warmth in the air so coats can be left at home. I think of the image of the evening sun low on the horizon shining through a glass of ale, and the vibrant colours it produces. Lovely.

We have had a lovely summer so far, although I now long for a downpour or a frosty night. It has been good weather for pub beer gardens and festivals, in addition to a good run by England in the World Cup, with the late opening hours. There are rumours that there might be rate cuts/freezes for the hospitality sector in the coming months. My sincere hope is that these factors will combine to help give some reprieve for the pub and brewing sector in these difficult times.

The heatwaves this summer have exposed an issue that could be quite serious for the real ale sector. The temperature rising so high that our traditional methods of conditioning and storage might not be coping with the prolonged bouts of high temperatures. I have heard stories of conditioning beer bursting out of cask seals and temporary suspension of cask ale sales at a pub due to high cellar temperatures. Sadly, cask conditioned beer being what it is cannot change in method, therefore, mitigations need to be looked at that reduce the effects of the heat without impairing the quality of the beer (overcooling) and can be implemented at a reasonable price for smaller brewers/publicans who are already on tight margins.

Finally, this summer I have adopted a personal policy that 30 degrees C counts as holiday weather therefore requiring a change from trousers to shorts and, whilst continuing to drink ale, the inclusion of lager in my drinking diet. There is a current debate about 'European' lagers being brewed in places as exotic as Manchester and Birmingham including one which I have known to be imported has recently started being brewed here. So, I made a trip to a local supermarket and spent a pleasant half hour reading the label of every lager they had checking for place of brewing or importation (I did buy some). It was a roughly equal split, mainly thanks to the German beer being nearly all imported, but I was quite surprised by how many I thought were imported, weren't. Obviously, it is each to their own and if you enjoy a 'European' lager that is brewed here under licence then by all means enjoy it but be aware of what is available out there. Here in Greater Manchester we are lucky to have a number of brewers, regional and small, who brew their own lagers. I have made my mission this summer to find and taste as many as I can and compile a list. What I have found is there is such a variety with each brewer having their own take on which style of lager they prefer. On a recent trip I found THREE! Cask lagers. They are out there. Who knows, maybe one day from a wooden cask. Happy drinking. Cheers!

[ML]

Articles on beer/pub related issues for Pint in Hand are always welcome! If sending articles by email it would be very helpful if they were in Arial plain 12pt, single spacing with no formatting! Pictures should be in JPEG format. If you are 'borrowing' material that has appeared in other publications, can you please credit the source. Thanks.

SPREAD the WORD

The SPBW publicity leaflet, incorporating a membership form, is available for members to distribute. If you can help, please contact Mike (page 2), with the number of leaflets you require, and a bundle of leaflets will be sent. We're very grateful to members who help us in this way.

WEBSITE

The SPBW website is a key means of keeping members informed of events. Our on-line shop enables members to purchase products and prospective members can find an application form. I do ask that branch representatives have a look at their entries regularly to ensure all is up to date. (ATTENTION! Please can any notification of changes or content for the website please be directed to Peter Chutter, for the time being. Contact details are on page 2).

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The SPBW NEC holds its regular meetings on the second Monday of each month at Ye Olde Mitre, Ely Court, London EC1N 6SJ (off High Holborn between Hatton Garden and Ely Place). Meetings start at 7pm in the upstairs room. All members are welcome to attend, especially branch representatives. There is always a good selection of beers (usually including one from the wood) and there is a discount for card-carrying SPBW members.
Recent meetings have been part 'live' and part Microsoft Teams for those unable or unwilling to attend in person. This arrangement has just about worked!

DIARY DATES

The following are forthcoming SPBW events to which all members are invited to attend.

Saturday 12th September: Tony Littler Trophy Quiz
The Magnet, Stockport, 2pm start. Maximum 5 people per team. There will also be a presentation for 3rd place WBOB for the Phoenix Brewery and their beer Wobbly Bob. Contact Peter Mitchell – peter.mitchell31@gmail.com

Saturday 26th September: WBOB presentation to Tigertops Brewery.
Venue and time TBC, possibly York or Wakefield. Contact Marcus Hodgson – yorkspbw@gmail.com

9th – 11th October: National Weekend, London.
Meet-Up Friday in the Sir John Oldcastle, opposite Farringdon tube station. Contact Peter Chutter - Chutterpbws@gmail.com

10th or 11th November: Campden Hill Branch St Martinmas Goose Dinner.
Bohemia House Restaurant & Bar, 74 West End Lane, West Hampstead, NW6 2LX – Meal 8 PM. For more information check SPBW website or contact Peter Chutter. Chutterpbws@gmail.com

Late November (possible Monday 23rd): Campden Hill Branch 'Not The Xmas Meal' (NTXM)
OshPaz (Uzbekistan Restaurant), 7 Regent St, SW1Y 4LR. For more information check SPBW website or contact Peter Chutter. Chutterpbws@gmail.com

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MEET THE BRANCHES

There are more than 20 affiliated SPBW branches and their details are listed below. Our members are encouraged to join a local branch and get involved with its social activities. If you don't have local branch, why not start one? Peter Campbell, Branch Liaison Officer (details, page 2), will be pleased to tell you what you need to know.

BMAD: Meetings held first Thursday of each month at the Burnt Mill Snooker & Social Club (CIU affiliated) in Harlow, Essex. Contact Tony Syrett on 07920 760553 or email tony.syrett@outlook.com.

CAMPDEN HILL: Meetings held first Monday of each month at Ye Olde Mitre (see NEC, page 4). Contact Peter Chutter on 07517 201121; email chutterpbws@gmail.com.

CASKTORES of REAL ALE (CRA): Meet on the first Monday of the month at Notre Dame Bar, Lujan, Buenos Aires. Contact Alberto Eyherabide, info@notredamelujan.com

CENTRAL LONDON: Meetings mostly take the form of pub evaluation walks, usually on the 18th of each month. Contact Linda West, 70 Chalfont Road, Seer Green, Bucks HP9 2QP.

CHESAPEAKE BAY: Based around Baltimore, Maryland USA. Contact Patrick McDougall, patmcdoug@comcast.net. Website: www.spbw.org.

CHESHIRE REAL ALE PEOPLE: Based in the Crewe/Nantwich area, Members meet regularly in Hops, Prince Albert Street, and other pubs in Crewe and the surrounding area. Anyone is welcome to join us. Contact Colin Donald 01270 623376 or email colinsdonald@sky.com.

COBRA-COW: Meet last Monday of the month at the Blythe Hill Tavern, 319 Stanstead Road, London SE23 1JB. Contact Richard Martin email richardmartin121@yahoo.co.uk.

COMMON & ALDBRICKHAM: Meetings usually at the Hop Leaf, Reading, on an ad hoc basis. Contact John Dearing 0118 958 0377, email john@jbdearing.co.uk.

CROYDON REAL ALE PRESERVATION SOCIETY: Meet first Tuesday each month in the Green Dragon, High Street, Croydon CR0 1NA. Contact Pete McGill 07831 561296 or John Smith 020 7188 4844.

GLAMORGAN & GWENT: Meetings held at the Flute & Tankard, 44 Windsor Place, Cardiff CF10 3BX. Contact John Lamb 0797 965 7091; email john@jlambandco.co.uk.

GREATER MANCHESTER: Branch meetings held quarterly on a Sunday at 13.00 in the Lower Turk's Head, Shudehill, Manchester. Branch socials are held every month in an alphabetical round robin of all Greater Manchester boroughs. Twitter - @MancSpbw. Whatsapp – Chat for social notifications. To be added please send a request email to the branch.

IGHTHAM COMMON: Based at the Old House pub, Ightham Common, Kent TN15 9EE. Contact Nicholas Boulter 01732 462111 or Mike Thomas, mikethomas987@gmail.com.

KINGSTON: Meetings alternate months in the Willoughby Arms, 47 Willoughby Road KT2 6LN. The other month we visit another selected pub. Contact Mike Lapworth, email mike.lapworth@talk21.com.

NORFOLKSOAKS: Meetings first Thursday each month at 12.30 in the Fat Cat, 49 West End Street, Norwich. There is often beer from the wood. More details at www.spbw.com/norfolk/about.html.

NORTHERN IRELAND: Are now meeting at the Crown Liquor Saloon, 46 Great Victoria Street, Belfast, BT2 7BA, every Friday, at 2pm. Contact Michael Steven 02890 237124; email spbwni@yahoo.com.

NORTH EAST: Meetings held Saturdays at various locations across the northeast, to be decided at the previous meeting. Contact Peter Hair email peter.hair16@gmail.com

NORTH IRISH SEA: Based on the Isle of Man but also covers coastal areas of traditional Lancashire. Meets Saturday evenings, usually in the Douglas area. Contact David Halliwell 07972 807934, email david.halliwell@manx.net. Twitter: SPBW NorthIrishsea@NorthIrishsea.

RACS: The Real Ale Club of Sawbridgeworth meets last Wednesday each month in various pubs in Sawbridgeworth, Herts. Contact John Trimmer, email debejohnt@gmail.com 07845 466337, or visit the website www.racs.org.

SOUTH PRESERVATION SOCIETY – (East & West Sussex) No fixed location or times for events. Contact: Graham Eaton – graham_eaton1@yahoo.co.uk or Steve Leyfield – sleyfield@ironmountain.co.uk

ST FORBADIL: Meetings to be held ad hoc basis in Lichfield and other pubs in Staffordshire and the Black Country. Contact Peter Evans, 07835 932798, email 256peterevans@gmail.com

SPECIAL BRANCH: Meets annually for a week on the inland waterways network and in the Lake District and gathers informally at other times.

TYNE & WEAR: An offshoot of North East branch. Branch meets every third Friday of the month at the Seven Stars, North Shields NE30 2RJ from 7pm. Contact Rob Shacklock robinshacklock@yahoo.co.uk

VECTIS (Isle of Wight): Meetings held first Wednesday each month at 2.00pm at Harry's Bar, Royal Esplanade Hotel, 16 Esplanade, Ryde, IOW, PO33 2ED. Contact Nigel Firth: spbwvectis@yahoo.com

WANTZ: Meetings usually on third Monday each month at the Chesham Arms, Homerton. Contact Roger Jacobson; phone 07854387069
email rogerjacobson06@aol.com

WEST RIDING: Usually meets 12.15 first Sunday each month at various venues throughout the West Riding. Contact Janet Dyson, email spbw63@gmail.com.

YORK: Meet last Thursday each month at the Three-Legged Mare, High Petergate, York. Contact Marcus Hodgson 07552185778; email yorkspbw@yahoo.com. Twitter @YorkSPBW.

BRANCHES IN ACTION

*** Central London -** On Friday 17th July the branch visited pubs in the Bermondsey area.

We started in the excellent, revamped Hand & Marigold 244 Bermondsey Street. This had four ales and a CAMRA discount. Some of the group would have been happy to remain here all night.

We turned left and headed down Bermondsey Street. We passed 'The Watch House' for St Mary Magdalen Church (17th century) graveyard. This was policed to deter grave robbing in earlier centuries. As there is not much of that nowadays, it now houses a coffee shop. Further on, we passed another coffee house with a 'highly offensive' obscene name which hit headlines in 2015 when it was ordered to remove its signage. A decade later the coffee shop and that signage are still in place.
We then arrived at The Woolpack 88 Bermondsey Street. This had three ales - Youngs Ordinary, Taylors Landlord & Five Points Best. It was crowded though. So the advance party headed to the next pub - The Leather Exchange in Leather Market. This had no ales having run out of Pride and another ale. It was empty. So we headed back to join up with the rest of the group. We found a table downstairs and settled in. Up the spiral staircase, the other bar did actually have plenty of room. This part of Bermondsey was extremely busy.
When we left we headed past the Leather Exchange to The Rose in Snowfields. It had one ale, Dark Star, and was not busy. We then headed to The Horseshoe in Mellior Street a couple of minutes away. This was another very good one. It offered a couple of Brakspear beers and Oakham Citra. It was quite busy but we found a big table with a couple of other customers and settled in for the last pub of the crawl. London Bridge station was a few minutes away. [PC]

*** Glamorgan & Gwent -** Glamorgan and Gwent branch and friends enjoyed Grey Trees Afghan IPA from the wooden cask at the National Tap Aberdare and the next outing for the cask will be at the Twt Lol brewery, Treforest at the Lol Fest on Saturday 8th August. A trip to Newport is planned for 12th September where Sam Smiths beer can be drunk from the wood at the Murrenger House, please contact John Lamb for details john@jlambandco.co.uk. [JL]



Central London Branch Members at the Woolpack, photograph by Peter Chutter.

***Greater Manchester -** May the branch visited the Swinton Hop House where we were treated to Marble Manchester Bitter available in both wood and steel cask, the Hop House had done quite a bit of promotion via their social media and it was lovely to see so many of the regulars and other customers enjoying the beer and discussing beer from the wood.

In June our branch members headed to the Indie-Baum beer festival in Rochdale at the fabulous St Marys church.

June also included a trip to the Stockport beer festival where Joseph holts mild, Theakstons Old Peculiar and Wakey Wakey Counting Mucky Ducks were available from the wood.

At the end of June we had 2 presentations to make to The Snug and Silly country in Droylsden for promoting and supplying its regulars with beers from the wood, unfortunately we had to postpone the presentation to The Snug due to issues with the beer, which was successfully rearranged for August. After our quarterly branch meeting at The Lower Turks head we crossed over the city to head for The Spinners rest (Joseph Holts' latest acquisition) after a 2 million refurb to this Pub formerly the Shamrock it was a great place to visit as it is Holts second pub to have beers from the wood which was on excellent form.

Finally, we had a very successful trip at the end of July to Wigan where there five beers from the wood available. The Swan and Railway served three; Bass, Phoenix/PHX Arizona Gold and Wobbly Bob. Over the road the Wigan Central served Wakey Wakey Neopolitan Slumber, and at the Wigan Brew House brewery tap they were serving their Porteresque. All the beers were on tip top form and everyone enjoyed the day.[SM]

*** North East –** As mentioned in our last communication the branch duly set out by mini-bus to Haltwhistle Comrades Social Club near Hexham after picking up in North Shields and Newcastle upon Tyne. Secret Kingdom and Grainger ales were

the pick of the beers on offer, with a topical Farmers World Cup ale alongside. This jaunt has become a popular annual event, and this one was no different. We had two presentations at the Club the first was an award to Coxhoe SPBW Festival of the Year which was collected on the Club's behalf by Nick Young. The second was the presentation of the Shield and personal trophy to Ged Ferguson who had won the Egg Jarping Competition previously at Station East. Gateshead. Once again, the local fish and chip shop proved a popular destination for lunch time refreshment. In the afternoon members continued their enjoyment by visiting the Manor House and Black Bull hostelries.

On August 1st a Social event will take place at the Colpitts Hotel in Durham for their Pub of the Year presentation, followed by a wander organised by Durham Camra member Peter Lawson. Later on in the month (August 22nd) it is hoped to visit Darlington Snooker Club to present them with their Club of the Year trophy, followed by another wander organised this time by SPBW National Chairman, Rob Shacklock. [PH]



North East Branch Egg Jarping trophy presentation at the Haltwhistle Comrades Social Club, photograph supplied by Gordon Heal.

*** North Irish Sea -** A busy summer quarter for the group saw many visits to the U.K. the first of which was to the Stockport area, where a highlight was the grade 2 listed Swan with Two Necks, run by local brewer Robinsons. Built in the 1920's it retains a pre- war layout.

There was an extensive visit to the Minehead area, calling in for an overnight stop in the Shrewsbury area on the way down. Here we called in to two nationally recognised pubs of excellence, The Bridge at Ruabon and The Bailey Head at Oswestry, both with a substantial range of cask ales, with The Bailey Head also focusing on cider, situated on a back bar.

In Somerset there was a return visit to Bishop's Lydeard and The Quantock brewery, which had a good beer range available, with ample indoor and outdoor seating areas, close to the historic West Somerset railway. We subsequently caught a train to Watchet, visiting a well-known micropub, The

Pebbles, crammed, with beer related memorabilia, along with local ciders and cask ales. In addition, there were visits to Blackpool, a return trip to Chesterfield, with further visits to the Derbyshire Dales and Rugby, being planned.

In May, numerous members of The North Irish Sea branch attended the National Woodfest event in the musical museum in Brentford. On offer were over 40 ales, all in wooden casks. A superb range of beers were available, including a good number of dark, and stronger beers, very rarely seen elsewhere. It was fantastic to see the involvement of brewers from all over the country, including the South, North West and North East, as well as the Isle of Man, with Martin from Bushy's brewery attending. The event attracted a number of prominent figures from the sector, including beer writer Tim Webb. Notably, the museum staff were extremely helpful, courteous and welcoming throughout, with the famous Wurlitzer being played at intervals throughout the day of our visit. [DH]

*** Special Branch -** This year's annual canal week in May took us back to the Black Country and beyond. We enjoyed a week of very warm weather with some of our favourite canals and pubs. These included classics like the Bull & Bladder at Brierley Hill, the Olde Swan, Netherton and the Great Western at Wolverhampton. Excellent beers at very favourable prices. We also visited some pubs in the Black Country Brewery chain, which all offer a good selection of ales. These included the marvellously named Starving Rascal at Amblecote and the Lych Gate Tavern in Wolverhampton and the Holly Bush in Stourport – our final pub of the week – are also worthy of mention. Just about every pub we visited was pretty good, to be honest.
A few weeks later, a larger group of us ventured to the Lake District, another annual pilgrimage. We were based in Keswick as usual, where the Dog & Gun and Wainwright are stand out pubs. However, the Fox Tap, home of Keswick Brewery, seems to have become our favourite venue. Out of town, Tweedie's in Grasmere and the Badger Bar in Rydal were as good as ever. A few of us visited a couple of places new to us. Jennings Brewery Tap opened about a year ago after the brewery – closed by Marstons – was acquired and reopened by a local couple. The Tap has 6 Jennings beers on handpump and is a spacious and pleasant venue. I also liked the Lakes Brew Co Tap at Ambleside which has only been open for a few months but seems to be popular. Friendly people, two cask beers and several kegs and I'm told the food is very good as well. Perhaps our oddest drinking place was Borrowdale YHA which offers 3 cask beers. Another thoroughly enjoyable week. [RJ]

*** West Riding -** We started our monthly trips in April to Nantwich and Crewe. May saw a visit to Lancaster and Horwich. June was New Brighton and Liverpool.

July was Lichfield and Belper. We have a break in August as it's the branch's BBQ which will be held at the Beehive in Shipley on 9 August combining with our monthly meeting. September is a visit to Sunderland with our final trip in October to Milestone Brewery, Newark and Doncaster. All trips can be booked via our email address and commence in Leeds at 10 am returning at 9 pm. [JD]

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Woodfest 6 Beer Festival
14th-16th May

Once again, the Society scoured the country to find beer in wood casks with a good mixture of light and dark beers with low and higher ABVs and get them to the West London 'Musical Museum'. We increased the amount of beer by over 25% so that we wouldn't run out as we did with Woodfest 5 on the Saturday at 6 PM. In the end numbers attending were down slightly, and maybe because of the FA football cup final on the Saturday numbers were rather low. This meant that of the 49 different beers 20 were still available at the end of the festival.
There was the usual WBOB (Woodfest Beer of Britain') blind tasting before the festival opened to the public on the Thursday. Expertly, as ever, organised by Angela. A lot more judges were brought in with a good knowledge of beers (Publicans etc). Amazingly the winner was the same as last year (Tigertops's Edwardian Porter). Harrogate 'Best Bitter' came 2nd and Phoenix's 'Wobbly Bob' (Manchester) came 3rd. The Wurlitzer organ was once again a great attraction, with this year playing in shorter sessions with longer pauses between the sessions.
This was the first festival with special dated SPBW/Musical Museum glasses. The usual on off unique festival lapel/hat badges also sold well. As last year there was the 'Patrick Deller' (past SPBW Chair) cask for a free pint for anyone who joins the Society for a minimum of 2 years. The museum staff, as usual, were very supportive from the management through to the catering which was considerably expanded from the previous year. The VOTY (Volunteer Of The Year) was Wanda who ran the glasses and refunds desk. Planning is already underway for 'Woodfest 7' at the same location. Efforts have been made to try and have an additional festival up north again, as the first two festivals in 2017 and 2018 were. However, finding a suitable venue has been found difficult.

The festival planning committee and all the volunteers (almost 30 of them) worked hard to make the festival a success. (PDC)



Bar and stillage at Woodfest 6 at the Musical Museum, photograph from the SPBW website.

6th Bill English (DFEB) Memorial Event July 3rd-6th

In previous years, since Bill's passing in 2018, we have visited a number of cities (Derby, Sheffield and Chester) and Alton in Hampshire a couple of times when the 'Pub & Bus Running Day' event was still on in July. This year we decided to be a bit more adventurous and go to Amsterdam, which was another favourite city for Bill as he used to go the 'Bock Beer Festival'.

Having ascertained that we could get into double figures with people willing to come it was a 'Goer' as a joint SPBW & CAMAL event. A few people got to Amsterdam a day or two before. Those who came via Eurostar on the Friday had severe disruption due to a fire in the Rotterdam train control centre, and instead of taking just 4 hours it took 8 hours with switching to local trains from Brussels, via Breda and Utrecht. The start meet-up point was 'In De Wildeman', one of Bill's favourite bars, at 5 PM on Friday. Some of the party went off to eat and visit other bars. A few stayed on till after 8 PM waiting for one person who got a later Eurostar. He never turned up so the rest of the party went onto the 'De Prael' bar for more drink and food. The party then proceeded to the 'Arendsnest' where the early leavers from 'In De Wildeman' had gone.

Saturday, was spent in Haarlem (Several of the party were in accommodation there).

First port of call was the Uiltje brewery tap. While waiting for it to open at ! PM a number of us purchased cans of beer (some quite high ABVs) from a nearby bottle shop with a great range. After several hours in the tap we proceeded to the next brewery tap (Jopen Brewery). Then onto 'Bar Locaal' and then another etc.

On Sunday we assembled for lunch at the ‘Sampurna’ Indonesian restaurant, near the flower market, for a traditional rijsttafel meal. Then onto a series of bars ‘De Brabante’, ‘Cafe Hoppe’, ‘Het Lagerhuys’, ‘Engelbewaarders’ (A discrete little bar in a house, up some steps by the side of a canal) was a little gem, and finally onto ‘Bar Fabrik’.
Some of the party had already departed for Germany on the Sunday, but the majority of us returned on the Monday by Eurostar, still disrupted due to re-routing, but no need to change to local trains, but only after a lunchtime session at the ‘In De Wildeman’ again. All in all SPBW & CAMAL did Bill proud: So much so that Angela said we must do it all again next year!
(PS: There is a set of photos on a separate page in the ‘Photo Gallery’ on the website)

(PDC)



Members attending the DFEB memorial event Jopen Brewery Tap, Haarlem, photograph from SPBW website.

TONY LITTLER

The competition for the Tony Littler Trophy has been a regular part of the SPBW calendar for some 40 years. As most members probably know, it was established to commemorate Tony, a true SPBW stalwart, who was murdered on 1 May 1984. The case remained unsolved for more than 40 years until the police were able to identify and arrest two brothers for the crime; they have recently been given life sentences. Lancashire-born Tony was 45 at the time of his death and worked for HM Customs & Excise. He was already involved with Camra before discovering SPBW as a regular in Ye Olde Watling (then our nominal HQ). Tony joined as a national member and went on to join Woolwich, Campden Hill, Central London branches. He also became a founder member of Ponds branch, based in Carshalton and it was on the way home from one of their meetings that he met

his fate. According to his obituary in PiH10, Tony had visited more than 100 breweries and had a vast collection of ties. Although he declined committee posts, he was a keen (and highly efficient) organiser and participant in events. Tony was quiet-spoken and impeccable mannered, though often outspoken, a ready wit who would liven up any conversation. [RJ]

1966 and All That
John Dearing

So once again the dream is over and England came so near and yet so far from regaining the World Cup. It has at any rate been good to see at least some of our pubs overflowing with customers on match nights, even if the lager machinery was more active than the hand-pulls.

Those of us of a certain age inevitably cast our minds back to that amazing day in July 1966 when England, the host nation, lifted the cup for the one and only time. I almost missed seeing the game. At the time I was spending my first long vacation from York University working for the Bournemouth Beach Catering Services, six days a week including Saturday and Sunday. My supposed job was selling ice-cream on the beach but it had been a pretty lousy summer and more often than not I was detailed to work indoors, clearing tables in the café. However, on Saturday 30th July, the sun put in a very strong appearance and I found myself strutting over the sands with my little collection of choc ices and lollies for sales of which I was paid something like two shillings (10p) in the pound commission. Then about 10.30 a.m. the heavens opened and I was rained off – and laid off for the day. Yippee! I would be able to watch the Final after all.
No need to record the outcome – England's victory over Germany after extra time and the famous words 'They think it's all over' – which might never have been heard had not a BBC executive authorised the rescheduling of programmes to allow for the extra 30 minutes' play to be shown.

Great was the rejoicing in the Dolphin, Bournemouth, that night, with many a pint of Strong's of Romsey bitter drunk in celebration. The Dolphin was a singing pub, it was 'Welsh week' and the Taffs all wanted to sing 'Men of Harlech' and 'Land of my Fathers.' But for once the natives weren't having any – they all desired to be in that number when Bobby Moore and his saints came marching in!
Alas! the following morning it was down to earth with a vengeance. Reporting for duty at the café, I found that the Scottish kitchen porter, Jock, had failed to appear, having no doubt sunk too many Scotches the night before - and guess who found himself detailed to undertake his favourite task of mucking out the loos…[JD]

SPBW PRODUCTS

SPBW PRODUCTS
Unfortunately, along with increased postage costs, for the first time in 3 years we have had a
very small price increase on some stock items from our supplier. The new prices are:-
Polos: XS - XXL £23 Sweatshirts S - XXL £27, 3XL - 7XL price on application
Both these items can be ordered in black, burgundy, royal blue, white, yellow, sky blue, solid
grey, red, purple, orange, bottle green, charcoal and navy.
(We have 1 x L royal blue and 1 x XL black polo in stock for immediate dispatch).
Fleeces XS - XXL £36, XXXL £38 can be ordered in black, charcoal and navy only.
Knitted beanies £15.00 can be ordered in black and navy, orange and yellow.
(Black and Navy in stock).
Fleece scarves £15.75 can order in black and french navy. (both kept in stock).
Buy a beanie and scarf together £27.50
Baseball caps £15.00, available in red, black, french navy, bottle green, burgundy, white, yellow,
sky blue, purple and orange.
(Black, french navy, red, burgundy and bottle green in stock).
PRICE REDUCTION. We still have quite a few Woodfest 3 and 4 badges at £4.50 each or one
of each for £7.00. Woodfest 5 badges are £5, or all 3 for £10, Woodfest 6 badge £8.00
please email products@spbw.beer if you are unable to order online.
All prices include P&P. To be able to offer such an extensive range we have some items listed
above in stock, other items could take up to 4 weeks from order to delivery.

Purchase via our online shop www.spbw.beer/online-shop/ or by emailing products@spbw.beer

Beanies, scarf and baseball caps pictured below. These and other products can be seen in the online shop.



