

## **Barnsley CAMRA Pub Survey of Pontefract Rd, Doncaster Rd and Sheffield Rd**

**Date 6/6/07** - Pubs Surveyed: Mount Inn, Dove Inn, Manx Arms, Outpost, Sun Inn, Coach and Horses, Victoria Inn.

On Wednesday the 6th of June members of Barnsley CAMRA ventured on a pub survey of the above areas. Below is a brief resume of each pub including our thought and findings.

### **The Mount Inn**

Situated on Pontefract Road, The Mount Inn is a popular pub situated close to the football ground. The pub is of traditional stone construction with a rear courtyard and possible listed outbuildings? The pub has 2 rooms with a wealth of football memorabilia on display throughout. At the time of our visit the only cask ale available was John Smith's Magnet. Varying comments were received from members most were impressed with the overall appearance of the pub and the service. One member remarked how his pint was topped up without asking. The beer quality was generally good however the beer was far too cold. One member commented that 'It's the coldest pint in Barnsley!' With the ideal temperature for cask ale being 56°F this is something the licensee may wish to look at.

### **The Dove Inn**

Situated on Doncaster Road, The Dove Inn has recently been purchased and subsequently refurbished by The Old Mill Brewery. The pub is again of traditional stone construction with a rear courtyard that has been altered to form a beer garden. The pub has three rooms but with an open plan feel. At the time of our visit two cask ales were on offer Old Mill Best Bitter and Old Mill Bullion. The board displaying the cask ales was at the time of our visit found to be incorrect. The comments from members were very good. Members liked the 'Quality interior.' The beer quality and choice was found to be 'very good.'

### **The Manx Arms**

Situated on Sheffield Rd, The Manx Arms once offered the real ale drinker a choice of real ales. Sadly this is no longer the case. The pub interior still has its old traditional feel interior but sadly the pub is keg only. Indeed the only natural product on offer was the exotic tobacco being smoked by the clientele. The smell of which was so overpowering we had half (of beer) and left!

### **The Outpost**

Situated on Sheffield Rd, The Outpost was once a Kimberley brewery pub which then changed to Hardy and Hanson's. With the recent takeover of Hardy and Hanson's by Greene King the pub has had the cask ales (which it was well known for) removed. The Pumps and clips are still present but sadly the cask ale has gone. Members were furious with the way the pub has been treated. Although the pub was busy the interior was described as being 'tired.'

### **The Rising Sun**

Situated on Sheffield Rd, The Sun Inn is another traditional stone built pub that again has been recently re-furbished. The members were quite surprised with the pub. The John Smith's Cask on offer was found to be in good order. The pub refurbishment was described as 'excellent' Members were impressed with the good value food, nice ambience and good quality cask ale.

### **The Coach & Horses**

Situated at the junction of Sheffield Rd and Cemetery Rd, The Coach and Horses is quite unique. The pub from the outside looks old however it only dates back to the 1920's. On entering the pub we were very surprised. The pub is virtually unspoilt from its original state with a wealth of wood panelling and original tiled floors. Since our visit we have made enquiries with regards to getting the pub listed into the national inventory. We were also surprised that the pub has Marston's pedigree on offer and in 'very good' quality. Members were very impressed overall with pub describing it as a 'real find.' The only negative thing members found with the pub was the 'infuriating game's machine.'

### **The Victoria Inn**

Opposite The Coach & Horses is the Victoria Inn has long been classed as a triumph for Barnsley CAMRA, since the branch successfully opposed the demolition of the pub and subsequently got the exterior of the pub grade two listed. The pub was summed up by one member as 'a lovely pub but sadly keg only.' During discussions with the landlady why the pub was keg only see remarked that the regulars won't drink it. With four out of seven pubs in our survey successfully selling cask ale, and being generally busier than the keg only pubs. This is something she may wish to consider?

Overall members were impressed with the evening and the outlook for this once deprived area of town, pub wise looks very promising.

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