

# RACS DIARY

2010

**Wednesday May 26<sup>th</sup> ACS AGM –**  
buffet provided  
*START of celebrations for 15 years of **RACS***

**other things in the pipeline:**

Brewery trip to Nethergate's; **Raclings** Treasure Hunt; Day trip to Brighton; Celebration Evening for **RACS** 15 years; and much more...

**SPBW BEERY BUFFET**

We are holding a beery buffet on Monday August 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the Old Mitre, Ely Place/Hatton Garden –near Holborn. This commences at 7.00pm, the food will be served about 8.30.

Tickets are £5 from John Rooth (john.rooth@gfk.com).

This is an excellent Fullers GBG pub, the guest beers that week are going to be Yorkshire beers, including a mild. We shall have

Don't forget that on Club Nights after 7.30pm, production of your **RACS** card gives a discount on all full pints of beer.



*Nullam Cerwisiam Timemus*

# **RACS**

**The Magazine of the  
Real Ale Club of Sawbridgeworth**

**MARCH/APRIL/MAY 2010**

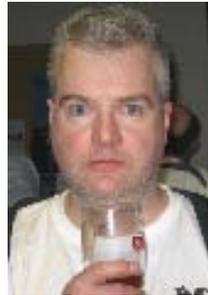


**Affiliated to SPBW**

# YOUR RACS COMMITTEE 2009-2010



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HANNAH MEAD  
Trip Secretary



DEB EATON



JOHN TRIMMER  
Merchandising Officers



## APPLICATION FORM for MEMBERSHIP of

### The Real Ale Club of SAWBRIDGEWORTH

to May 2011

If you wish to join or renew Membership of **RACS**, please fill in this form, in **BLOCK CAPITALS**, then hand it behind the bar of The Gate in an envelope marked for

GARY BARNETT

or send to

JAN MEAD, 23, Crofters, Sawbridgeworth, Herts CM21 0DE and **INCLUDE** a subscription of £5 per person per year\*.

*\*This year (2010-2011) T-shirts celebrating **RACS** first 15 years are available - £5 each or only £3 with a subscription*

NAME:.....

ADDRESS.....

.....  
.....

COUNTY:..... POST CODE:.....

CONTACT NUMBER, please:

Telephone or mobile.....

or fax or e-mail.....

SIGNATURE:..... Date.....

Size of T-shirt required (if applicable).....

## Olá de Amazonia

Lynn and myself compiled a hit list in 1998 of all the places in the world we wanted to see, by 2009 we had managed to cross off every destination bar one - The Amazon!! That year we put matters right, we felt it would be best to book a cruise to take care of this.

Mary & John Crowhurst decided to come with us as they also, had always wanted to see the mighty Amazon. We booked up with Fred Olsen Cruises – wise choice.

The cruise started out from Barbados and after three days at sea we entered the mouth of The Amazon. Nothing of what you read or learn before you start can prepare you for the most amazing site of seeing that river, it is simply awesome.

Just a few interesting facts we learned from on board ship lectures by an Amazon expert:-

*River is 4,000 miles long*

*Starts in the Andes at altitude 17,220 feet, after only 600 miles it is down to 840 feet*

*Ocean-going ships can navigate 2,600 miles up river from the estuary*

*It discharges 27 million gallons of fresh water per second into the Atlantic*

*It contributes one fifth of the fresh water entering the oceans in the world*

*It is 10 times greater than the Mississippi in volume*



Mary & John

*The Atlantic is fresh water for approx 100 miles from the delta of the Amazon*

*Over 1,000 tributaries, of which 17 are over 1,000 miles in length*

*This truly is a MONSTER.!*

We all enjoyed lovely relaxation plus some great food and sights. Local beers were quite good the Battuta in Manaus (see picture below) was really to John's and my liking,



served in 3.5 litre jugs with your own tap on the side – absolutely wonderful.

We left Barbados in brilliantly warm sunshine got back to Gatwick with the car windscreen frozen (welcome home to Blighty!!)

Anyone ever thinking of doing the trip – don't give it a second thought, just do it you will never regret it.

**Terry Sullivan**



**RACS** celebrated  
**St George's Day** on  
Sunday April 25th 2010  
with

**Morris dancing** by  
**Hertfordshire Hollies**

**Supper:**

**Jellied eels,**  
**Prawns.**

**Steak & Ale Pie**

with **trimmings**  
and a **free Beer** for

**RACS Members**  
**all this for £4 pp**  
**at 7.00pm**



Chair Jan Mead &  
**RACS** Member  
Peter Dodkin  
show their  
allegiances!



Then the bystanders joined in ...



The crowd was there!

The band was there!



The Hertfordshire Hollies were ready ...



... and away they went!



Great fun was had by all —  
followed by a meal of Prawns,  
Jellied Eels, Steak & Ale Pie  
washed  
down with  
good  
English  
Beer.



## **The Elephant Man**

written by Bernard Pomerance, directed by Peter Dodkin,  
at the Victoria Hall Theatre, Bury Road, Old Harlow, CM17 0ED  
from Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> May to Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2010 inclusive  
(doors open 7.15pm, curtain up 8pm).

Tickets are £8.00 (and £7.00 for concessions) available  
via our Box Office phone number 07752 161802  
also from the Tuck Shop and the Café of the Angels,  
both in Bell Street, Sawbridgeworth.

The following **RACS** members are involved in the production:

**Peter Dodkin:** Director

**Ann Dodkin:** Production Manager, Programme, Publicity

**Lee Gosden:** playing the role of the surgeon, Dr Frederick Treves

**Helen Hollingsworth:** Publicity Tel.: 01279 658564

**Steve Perry:** Stage Build

**Spencer Richards:** Lighting Design, Sound, Stage Design

## **RACS' 10th SUMMER COMPETITION**

**Sunday August 29th 2010**

**Entries at Midday – Judging at 1.15pm**

### **CATEGORIES**

1. Heaviest onion - *from supplied sets – available from Jan*
2. Set of three tomatoes
3. Bunch of radishes
4. Pickled shallots/onions
5. Pickled eggs
6. Jar of green bean chutney
7. Loaf of brown or white bread
8. Speciality loaf
9. Fruit cake own recipe – *any fruit*

### **JUNIOR**

10. Edible necklace or jewellery
11. Picture of a scarecrow



*Presentation of the Tony Littler  
Shield; (below) the successful  
Central London team*



## **The 2010 SPBW Tony Littler Trophy Evening on Monday April 26th in The Shooting Star, London, E1 at 7.15pm**

**RACSO** having won the competition last year, we were the hosts this time round. A beery quiz (Caroline's compilation) was held, testing knowledge of Welsh and Scottish beers among many other things! Seven teams competed and the scores were neck and neck until the three Marathon rounds produced the winners — Central London branch who were six points ahead of the next team. Congratulations to them.



*Jan, Madam Chair & the evening's Questioner,  
calling out the  
raffle numbers.*



## A HEN NIGHT IN STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

Not quite a regular **RACS** outing — but five female Members were all together to celebrate Chair Jan's son (Mark)'s bride-to-be (Jo)'s Hen Night. We started off with a really splendid selection of beers (Bombardier, Shakespeare's County, Tunnel Dragon's Den, Wye Valley St George's bitter, Morgan's Dragon Slayer and Warwick King Maker) in The Bear, watching football on the TV or the people sporting on the river - the previous day had been St George's Day and the anniversary of Shakespeare's birth and death, so Stratford was humming with activity and the following day a marathon was to be run around the town. The weather was sunny — but not too warm. We spent the afternoon being pampered: back massages, facials, sauna, swimming, wine, cupcakes and fruit - a relaxing experience.



Later, we had a gourmet meal with a little silliness - balloons, a banner, handmade crowns and saucy presents. Saturday was rounded off for some of us with double Camparis at a quite price, before we went to bed. Sunday, after breakfast, we set off for a walkabout, mingling with the marathon runners, their

supporters and the tourists. Ice creams were obligatory before returning to the hotel for a farewell drink, then we went our separate ways (in our case in circles at first — thanks to the SATNAV who had too many positive ideas of her own!).

*A morning-after-the-night-before  
walk by the river*



Thanks to Kiwi **RACS** Member Jenny Mollard for this article

## NEW ZEALAND'S OLDEST PUB

### The Moutere Inn

Situated in Tasman District near Nelson, at the top of South Island, the Moutere Inn is the oldest pub building in New Zealand. Erected by Cordt Bensemman in 1850, it has managed to survive fire, earthquake and development to be a shrine to great beer. Since October 2008, they have served more than 100 different beers, keg and cask, from 29 different breweries, mostly from the South Island; they also serve ciders, specialise in single malt whiskies and stock six tequilas. The pub is without TV, fruit machines or jukebox because Kieron Lattimer, the landlord, believed that “they were detrimental to conversation — which along with good beer are the lifeblood of any pub.” The Moutere Inn offers good food, good local wines and, to round things



*The inn sign for The Moutere Inn*



off, hotel accommodation. The last Thursday of the month is Curry Night and there are also regular live entertainments should the beer and conversation not be enough to fully satisfy your needs!.