

RACS DIARY 2011

Saturday June 11th Day trip to Great Yarmouth.

A tour of the Blackfriars Brewery, fun on the sands and a visit to The Avenue PH for real ale and food on the way home.

Reserve places on the coach with Jan (meadspanner@aol.com)

Wednesday June 29th at 8.00pm in The Gate **Monthly Meeting**

Tuesday–Saturday July 12th–16th Chelmsford Beer Fest

A much-loved event for beer, food and music

From July 28th Harwich Town Brewery Beer Fest — we have been promised a tour of the brewery — *if interested contact Jan to reserve your place*

Saturday/Sunday August 5th/6th at The White Horse, Ridgewell, a Summer Beer Fest.

Reserve places on the coach with Jan (meadspanner@aol.com) for a Saturday lunchtime and afternoon visit.

Sunday August 28th **Summer Show**

Exhibits staged from noon and judging begins 1.15pm
Schedule of classes on the Noticeboard

September The ever-popular Chappel beer fest—
more details of **RACS** trip later



RACS

*The Magazine
of the*

**Real Ale Club
of Sawbridgeworth**

(established 1995 and based at The Gate, Sawbridgeworth)

MAY 2011



Affiliated to SPBW

YOUR RACS COMMITTEE 2011-2012



JAN MEAD
Chair

meadspanner@ntworld.com



OSHIE
(Old Speckled Hen) &
WAGGLE DANCE
Mascots



SPENCER RICHARDS
Vice-Chair



CAROLINE MACY
Secretary
cj43@harlowmill.co.uk



MARK TURNER
Webmaster
www.racs.org.uk



NICHOLAS MACY
Treasurer



A Millium Convivialium Finimus



JOHN TRIMMER
Merchandising Officers



HANNAH MEAD
Trip Secretary

ANN DODKIN
Committee Member

APPLICATION FORM for MEMBERSHIP of

The Real Ale Club of SAWBRIDGEWORTH to May 2012

If you wish to join or renew Membership of **RACS**, please fill in this form, in **BLOCK CAPITALS**, then send to **JAN MEAD**, 23, Crofters, Sawbridgeworth, Herts **CM21 0DE** or **NICHOLAS MACY**, 26, Riverside Court, Harlow, Essex **CM20 2AD** and **INCLUDE** a subscription of **£5** per person per year

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

.....

.....

.....

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

CONTACT NUMBER, please:

Telephone or mobile:.....

or fax or e-mail:.....

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



The May Day Bank Holiday brought the very first beer festival at The White Lion, Sawbridgeworth. Inside the pub you could find the house Ales (Greene King) and two guests plus the normal lager, cider and spirits. Outside in the barn were at least eight guest real ales — from Orkney down to Wiltshire. These included Naylor's Pinnacle Bitter @ 4%, Cameron's White Rabbit @ 4%, Dark Horse Maypole @ 4.2%, Hop Back's Crop circle @ 4.2% and Summer Lightning 5%, Robinson's Ginger Tom 4.3%, Hyde's Jeckyll's Gold @ 4.3%, O'Hanlon's Dragon Ale, 4.5%, Orkney Golden Amber 4.5%, and Theakstons Old Peculier 5.5%. There was a good range of Greene King Ales in the bar — all ale was perfectly kept. They ran a token system so no money changed hands outside in the barn. The pub also had a very good wine list with wine promotions and "bubbles" for under £10, not forgetting the menu served until 9p.m. There seemed to be something for everybody — even Giant Chess and Jenga on the patio for people to enjoy. Well done to the White Lion for a very successful first beer festival.

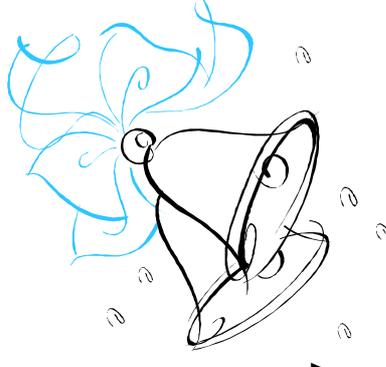
We're looking forward to the next one CHEERS!! **Jan**

On Friday 29th of April, **RACS** had our very own "Royal" wedding.

Our Vice Chair, Spencer, married his partner, Chrissie, at Hertford Town Hall. As she entered the Register Office, which was full of guests, we were

surprised by the fact that **RACS** Mascot Ruff had his part to play, too. Chrissie was followed by her daughter India and Ruff, fully dressed in a new collar and bow tie, and Oliver, Chrissie's son, was Spencer's best man. The service went very well and was followed by photographs in the grounds. The guests went back to Great Hallingbury Village Hall for the reception. Sandwiches and drinks were served in the afternoon followed by a "*This is your life, Spencer and Chrissie*," which brought much amusement. The evening went on with dancing, fun and a hog roast supper. Congratulations to both Spencer and Chrissie from at **RACS**.

Jan Mead Chair



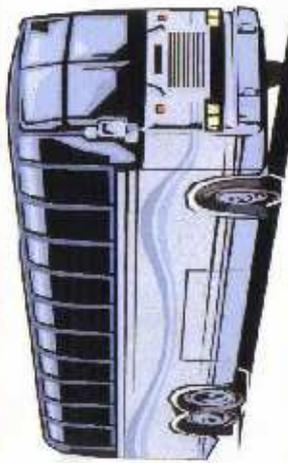
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SPBW EVENT 2011

Monday August 1st - Beer & buffet at

Old Monk Exchange, Victoria Street, London SW1 OHW

Nearest tubes: St James Park/Victoria

7.30pm for 8.00pm start

Tickets in advance £5.00

Tickets from John Rooth by reservation or by post,
please send sae & £5 cheque payable to SPBW

John Rooth Phone 020 7890 9192

john.rooth@gfk.com

Don't forget that on Club Nights ,
Sundays and Wednesdays

after 7.30pm, production of your
RACS card gives a discount on
pints of beer in The Gate.

One very good reason for joining us!



JAN'S ANNUAL ADDRESS from THE CHAIR — 2011

Welcome to **RACS** AGM on Wednesday May 25th – firstly I must thank Tom, Gary and The Gate for letting us run our Club, Socials and Quizzes from the pub.

Once again tonight you will be choosing your Committee and Mascot – choose wisely!

It has been a bit of an up-and-down year, but **RACS** have ploughed on. We welcomed our new Treasurer and many Members have supported us on trips and other events.

Memberships are now due – still £5 a head per year which

entitles you ON PRODUCTION OF YOUR CURRENT

CARD to discounted beer after 7.30pm on Wednesday and

Sunday evenings. Remember your old card is NOT valid tonight. We have some Merchandise, most popular are T-shirts,

polo shirts, sweatshirts, fleeces, aprons and caps. Anything we have not got in stock, can usually be obtained for the following meeting – speak to our Merchandising Officers, Deb and John.

I could not do my job if it wasn't for my Committee,

especially Caroline who beavers away behind the scenes with

RACSO, sorting the Minutes, quizzes and posters for all our events. Thank you to Deb and John, who are always there to help with food, to Nicholas who now cooks the books, to

Miss Trip for organising us to get out and about, to the

Vice-Chair who likes to let the gavel fall, surprisingly without breaking the table, to Mark for his internet webmastering and

Ann for Committee support and thank you to all of you –

without Members there would be no Club – and I hope that

more of you will support us in our events. After all we are out

for a good time and to promote Real Ale. Remember any

profits made are ploughed back into the Club subsidising our trips.

Before I come to a close I just want to say a big Well Done to the Sawbridgeworth Brewery, which goes from strength to strength with a very good range of beers readily available for regulars and being shipped out to beer festivals. Congratulations Tom and Gary.

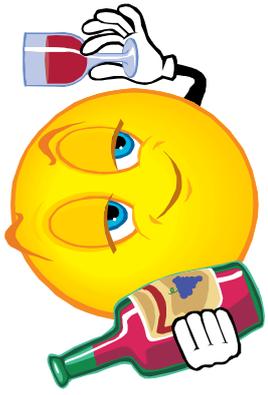
Now please raise your glasses to the coming year with

RACS.

Cheers, Jan



Just a few of the Members who turned out for the RACS AGM 2011 on Wednesday May 25th



RACS

Wine and Cheese Quiz Evening on Sunday May 29th

A well-attended evening with teams competing while enjoying large platters of cheese and sampling the wines on offer. Among the regular teams a New Zealand contingent were welcomed this time.

Jan, as usual, was the incomparable Questioner, coping with disputes (mostly coming from the Quiz compiler's family) in her calm, efficient manner. A couple of the answers weren't correct — but anyone can have an off-day can't they? Questions ranged from a marathon on Cheese and Wine, Sport and Geography to **THAT** wedding last month, which included pictures of the hats worn by celebrities to be identified (*and no, Eleanor, Prince Charles was **not** the answer to hat 5!*).

Anyway everyone seemed to have a good time and "Tarts and Farts" won the top place at the end.

Thanks to Jan and Deb and John for their hard work.

