

PUB NEWS 2009:

4th Dec 09:

The Alma Arms, Highland Road, reopens today under new management, following a period of closure.

27th Nov 09:

The Milton Arms, Milton Road, is now undergoing renovation work prior to reopening.

27th Nov 09:

The Connaught Arms, Guildford Road, is reported to have closed as of 25th November. No further information known at present.

10th Nov 09:

The Royal Exchange, Fawcett Road, is reported to be reopening on Friday 13th November under new management.

10th Nov 09:

Monk's Bar, High Street, is due to reopen this week following an extensive refurbishment. A full report shall appear on the Reviews page in due course.

6th Nov 09:

The Cabman's Rest, Plymouth Street, has now reopened following a lengthy period of closure. Real ale is a welcome inclusion.

30th Oct 09:

The Webmaster has received some unconfirmed information regarding an incident at the Milton Arms, during the pub's last night of trading. I am withholding details of this pending a request for clarification from owner Enterprise Inns. The pub is, I am (unofficially) told, due to be reopened. Please watch this space for further details.

29th Oct 09:

Monk's Bar, High Street, is due to reopen in November following extensive refurbishment.

28th Oct 09:

The former licensee of the Milton Arms is due to reopen the Alma Arms, as agreed with owners Enterprise Inns. The future of the Milton Arms is currently still unclear. Watch this space.

23rd Oct 09:

The Tangier, Tangier Road, is available for tenancy or lease from Enterprise Inns.

22nd Oct 09:

The Milton Arms, Milton Road, is reported to be closed and boarded at present. The pub is not being advertised for tenancy or lease on Enterprise Inns' website. It therefore looks unlikely to be reopening as a pub.

10th Oct 09:

The Wheelbarrow, Kent Road, is now reported to be open again. The pub is due to undergo refurbishment in the New Year as a bar and restaurant. Let's hope that the venue will prove more successful than the nearby India Arms' attempt at something similar a couple of years ago.

7th Oct 09:

The Royal Exchange, Fawcett Road, is reported to have closed as of 2nd October. The future of the house is currently uncertain. More information shall be posted when this becomes available.

4th Oct 09:

Further to the entry dated 13th September (see below), there is presently some confusion regarding the future of the Wheelbarrow. The refurbishment and reopening of the pub is now in doubt.

4th Oct 09:

The Sportsmans Rest on Copnor Road currently has scaffolding erected outside and has had its lettering removed.

4th Oct 09:

The former City Arms on Isambard Brunel Road is currently undergoing conversion to another Drift Bar - similar to the premises on Palmerston Road, Southsea. This is good news, as the building has stood closed and boarded for at least two years.

1st Oct 09:

The Alma Arms, Highland Road, is due to close today as no buyer has come forward for the property. The future of the pub is therefore uncertain, though is highly unlikely to reopen.

1st Oct 09:

The Coastguard Tavern, Clarendon Road, is reported to be closing imminently, with the pub being sold for redevelopment. No surprise here really, as the house has been left to run down for years.

13th Sep 09:

Good news to report with regard to the Wheelbarrow, Kent Road. The house has now been taken over by local pub company Treginnis and is due to reopen during September following refurbishment. The recent rumours of the pub's demise have thankfully been unfounded.

2nd Sep 09:

A planning application has now been received by the city council from Reef Estates, on behalf of Co-Operative supermarkets, for alterations to the frontage of the Oakwood on Northern Parade. The plans show the exterior as remaining remarkably faithful to the former pub.

27th Aug 09:

Following on from yesterday's post, the Stamshaw Hotel is due to reopen soon, with the former licensee of the nearby Beresford at the helm.

26th Aug 09:

The window shutters have been removed from the closed Stamshaw Hotel, Twyford Avenue and internal building work has begun on site. The nature of the work is presently unknown. No planning permission for Change Of Use has been submitted to the City Council to date. It's therefore hoped that the pub will continue trading.

20th Aug 09:

Further to the below report, the City Council's planning office has now received an application to CONVERT the Oakwood pub to a convenience store. It would appear therefore that no demolition work shall be undertaken.

11th Aug 09:

The Oakwood, Northern Parade, is now being stripped out prior to demolition. Co-Operative supermarkets are to build a convenience store on the site. Not very convenient for the pub's regulars.

2nd Aug 09:

The New Clarendon, Clarendon Road, reported to have its lease for sale.

2nd Aug 09:

The Wheelbarrow, Kent Road, has now been sold and will not be reopening as a public house. One of the city's most historic pubs has therefore been lost.

2nd Aug 09:

The Dragon, St George's Road, is reported to have been closed for three weeks due to electrical problems.

2nd Aug 09:

The Wig and Pen, Landport Terrace, has its lease for sale for £23,000 through pub brokers McCoys.

2nd Aug 09:

The Rutland Arms, Francis Avenue, has its lease for sale for £60,000 through pub brokers McCoys.

2nd Aug 09:

The Alexandra, Wingfield Street, has its lease for sale for £35,000 through pub brokers McCoys.

26th Jul 09:

The Portland Arms, Stamshaw Road, is available on a 5 year short tenancy from Punch Taverns.

26th Jul 09:

The Coastguard Tavern, Clarendon Road, is available on a 5 year short tenancy from Punch Taverns.

23rd Jul 09:

On a happier note, it is reported that the Swan, Copnor Road, is due to reopen on 24th July under new management.

23rd Jul 09:

More bad news comes in the form of supermarket chain The Co-Operative acquiring the site of the Oakwood on Northern Parade. It would appear that the pub is to be demolished to make way for a so-called convenience store. The inn sign has already been removed.

22nd Jul 09:

The Stamshaw Hotel, Twyford Avenue, is presently closed and boarded. Future uncertain.

19th Jul 09:

Previously unreported, the Cider House on Elm Grove has reverted to its previous name of the Duck. It is unknown as to whether the cider range has been reduced.

12th Jul 09:

The Jolly Sailor, Clarence Parade, is due to reopen shortly as the Stranded Bar. The pub will feature a downstairs restaurant, first floor bar and accommodation on upper levels.

7th Jul 09:

J D Wetherspoon has now opened its latest house in Portsmouth, the White Swan, Guildhall Walk. A full report shall appear on the Pub Reviews page soon.

7th Jul 09:

The Alma Arms, Highland Road, is reported to be under threat of imminent closure by Enterprise Inns unless a new licensee can be found to run the house.

7th Jul 09:

The India Arms is due to reopen within the next few weeks with the new name "The Italian Bar Bistro".

30th Jun 09:

The India Arms, Great Southsea Street, closed its doors on 27th June following trading difficulties. The premises is rumoured to be reopening (date unknown) as an Italian American restaurant in due course.

11th Jun 09:

Work has finally started on the refurbishment of the closed White Swan on Guildhall Walk. The pub is due to reopen as a J D Wetherspoon house.

6th Jun 09:

The licensee of the New Inn, Drayton and the Avenue Hotel, Stamshaw, is currently in negotiations to take over the licence at the presently-closed Swan on Copnor Road.

6th Jun 09:

The New Clarendon on Clarendon Road is reported to be currently closed. The licensee of the Clarendon has been linked with the planned reopening of Monk's Bar in Old Portsmouth.

4th Jun 09:

The closed Monk's Bar, High Street, Old Portsmouth, is set to reopen once again. No time scale is known at present.

4th Jun 09:

A new planning application has been received by the City Council, to convert the closed Spotted Cow on North End Avenue into eight flats. This follows the rejection of an earlier plan to demolish the pub.

11th May 09:

The Sallyport Inn, High Street, Old Portsmouth, is presently closed for refurbishment. The house should reopen in about six weeks.

11th Apr 09:

The Swan, Copnor Road, is currently closed for business.

10th Apr 09:

The Rudmore Cellars, Rudmore Road, has now been demolished.

9th Apr 09:

The Artillery Arms, Hestor Road, Milton, has recently been taken over by new licensees who are keen to continue the high standards at this regular Good Beer Guide entry.

1st Apr 09:

Whilst not within the city boundary, the Webmaster is pleased to report the following: A brand new venture, The Havant Brewery, has just begun test brewing prior to an official launch and shall be looking to offer its product to Portsmouth licencees in the near future. The Hole In The Wall, Gt Southsea Street, is the first city pub to receive initial gyles of Havant ales.

18th Mar 09:

The Beresford, Stamshaw, has now reopened following a lengthy period of closure.

11th Mar 09:

The Meon Valley, Meon Road, is presently undergoing an external 'facelift' which has seen its ornate, historic tiled fascia obliterated. The Webmaster has placed a formal objection with the City Council, in the hope that owners Admiral Taverns shall be made to make good their disregard for our city's heritage. Why do such Philistines insist on owning buildings that they obviously have no respect for?

10th Mar 09:

The Wheelbarrow, Kent Road, has its freehold for sale at £400,000 through agents Gully Howard. www.gullyhoward.com/propertylist.asp?cat=5

22nd Feb 09:

The Rose In June, Milton Road, shall be hosting a winter ales festival on 27th-28th February.

22nd Feb 09:

The Winchester Arms, Winchester Road, is to hold a beer festival from 22nd-24th May.

21st Feb 09:

Fuller Smith and Turner has been refused permission to extend opening hours at the Wine Vaults, Albert Road.

14th Feb 09:

The latest news regarding the Wheelbarrow, Kent Road, is that the house has reopened this weekend for a six month stay-of-execution, after which it is to be sold for redevelopment.

5th Feb 09:

The debacle over the site of the former Three Crowns on St James's Street, Portsea, goes on: The latest application to build university halls of residence on the site has been withdrawn. Local drinkers could therefore still be enjoying a pint in this old pub, had it not been for ignorant, overzealous property developers. The city planners must also shoulder some of the blame here.

3rd Feb 09:

The White Swan, Guildhall Walk has been taken over by national pubco J D Wetherspoon. This is a surprising, though welcome, development, which should safeguard the future of this historic, ornate property.

3rd Feb 09:

Monk's, High Street, Old Portsmouth, is presently closed, with most of its furniture removed.

2nd Feb 09:

The previous announcement regarding the Wheelbarrow (see below) is presently the subject of conjecture. An alternative rumour is that planning permission may well be sought for Change Of Use for the premises. Let's hope that this is unfounded.

2nd Feb 09:

Confirmation has been published on the Portsmouth Ferry Port website that the Rudmore Cellars shall be demolished in early 2009.

26th Jan 09:

Florence Arms licensee Greg Clark informs the Webmaster that progress is steadily being made at the Golden Lion, Southwick village, with a view to having the pub open in time for June 2009. Major structural improvements are being undertaken at the pub in order to rectify a series of significant faults with the property.

26th Jan 09:

The Jolly Sailor, Clarence Parade, is reported to be reopening soon, though it is likely to be marketed as a restaurant rather than a public house. It is presently uncertain as to whether its traditional name shall be retained.

26th Jan 09:

The Wheelbarrow, Kent Road, is due to reopen soon, under the management of the licensee who presently runs the Royal Albert on Albert Road. Let's hope this secures the future of the pub - one of the oldest in the city.

10th Jan 09:

Today sees a change in management at the Old House At Home, Locksway Road. The new team are ale fans Paul and Paul from the Rose In June, Milton Road - this should help secure a bright future for the pub.

10th Jan 09:

The Wheelbarrow, Kent Road, is reported to be the latest Portsmouth pub to close. A rumour is apparently circulating, claiming that the house is to be converted to student accommodation. However, no planning application for such has yet been received by the city council. Let's hope it remains that way.

7th Jan 09:

The Webmaster has been informed that the Rudmore Cellars, Rudmore Road, has been closed and boarded. Another pub lost?