

# GREAT GLEN REVISITED

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**Saturday 3rd of August was a particularly fine day and consequently a good day for a pub perambulation. For some time I'd had it in mind to visit the four pubs in Great Glen as it was some years since I had done so.**

The first establishment I visited was The Horse & Hounds which is some way out of the village centre along what used to be the main A6 road towards Oadby before the by-pass was constructed and, despite views to the contrary, The Horse & Hounds is without doubt situated in Great Glen and not Oadby. A large single storey and comparatively modern looking building; families seeking competitively priced dining would seem to be its target clientele. On entering the premises the bar facing me had one hand pump with no pump clip. It didn't look good but I noticed another bar around the corner in the same large room where I found a hand pump adorned with a pump clip for Wells Bombardier. Investigations revealed that one Real Ale is

always available and it rotates on a three monthly basis between Bombardier and Sharp's Doom Bar.

The Royal Oak was my next destination. Walking back towards the village centre I

was looking out for the impressive gateway to the Sycamores on my right, as I knew that directly opposite this on my left was a footpath running between fields and gardens. This footpath comes out on the unlikely named High Street, almost directly opposite The Royal Oak, which is a mid-terrace property nestling between houses on either side. This pub has the atmosphere of a village local with the emphasis on drink rather than food. Out the back there is a long alley skittles building and a garden overlooking the River Sence. I was told that three Real Ales are always available; two regulars, Greene King IPA and Fuller's London Pride and a guest ale which on this occasion was Langton Inclined Plane

Turning left and downhill when leaving The Royal Oak I was now on my way to The Yews. At the bottom of High Street I turned right and then immediately left into Sence Crescent and at the top end of the Crescent where the road bears to the right I went through a handgate and turned left into a field keeping the hedge closely on my left. I followed a short footpath that brought me out on the road immediately next to The Yews, an impressive looking building with a welcoming ambience. The Yews was a Victorian hotel and is now a spacious pub/restaurant. The interior consists of a large room off which there are several smaller rooms and out the back there is a huge garden. Whilst the emphasis seems to be on food, drinkers are still more than welcome. Sharp's Doom Bar is the



*The Horse and Hounds*



*The Yews*



*The Royal Oak*

house regular Real Ale supplemented by three guest ales, which, on the day of my visit, were Adnams Broadside, Thwaites Wainwright and St Austell Tribute.

Leaving The Yews and turning left, a short walk along the former A6 main road soon brought me to The Old Greyhound on the right hand side opposite the village green. A former coaching inn which initially appears to consist of two rooms with bars joined together to form an L shape, further exploration revealed nooks and crannies ideal for dining. Three regular Greene King Real Ales (IPA, Old Speckled Hen and Old Golden Hen) are complemented by a guest beer often sourced from The Langton Brewery, this time being Caudle.

So there we have it. Who would have thought that on one day in Great Glen eleven different Real Ales were obtainable? I'm sorry if some



*The Old Greyhound*

of you found my detail directions between the pubs tedious but I've described the most interesting routes for those who may want to follow in my footsteps, something that I can highly recommend.

Cheers  
*Jim Reay*

## CONTINENTAL OKTOBERFEST

11<sup>TH</sup> OCT TO SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> 2013

GERMAN SPECIALITY BOTTLED BEERS  
BELGIAN BEERS  
FRANKFURTERS AND SAUERKRAUT  
KGB - KABANOS, GHERKINS AND BREAD

ALL MUSIC EVENTS BELOW ARE FREE ENTRY

9PM SAT 12<sup>TH</sup> OCT **WARLOCK** - rock n' roll trio  
9PM SAT 2<sup>ND</sup> NOV **MOONSHINE** - rock n' blues n' Indie  
9PM SAT 16<sup>TH</sup> NOV **MICK RIDGEWAY'S MOJO BAND** - rock n' blues  
9PM SAT 7<sup>TH</sup> DEC **THE RUBY DOOS** - glamorous rock n' roll ladies

## CHAMPION BEERS OF BRITAIN FESTIVAL

FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> to SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>

and for inexpensive eating **SUPERCHEF SHAM'S SELECTION OF HOMEMADE CURRIES**

9PM SAT DEC 21<sup>ST</sup> **NOTORIOUS DAWSON BROS - CHRISTMAS BASH**  
**Rock, bluegrass, Americana Classics**

- 9+ real ales
- 90 continental & world beers
- Stone-baked pizza & home-cooked food (Monday to Friday)
- Cheese boards
- Carefully selected wines
- General knowledge quiz every Thursday (9pm)
- Families Welcome
- Traditional, friendly, safe pub environment
- Bar billiards & Darts
- Other Games
- Smoking Area



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swanandrushes.co.uk +44 (0)116 233 9167

