

## Vectis East Draymen

My birthday just happens to be on VE day. This year, after a very pleasant walk to Ryde, my wife and I had some excellent fish & chips from Chipmunks (just round the corner from the Simeon Arms). Next we caught the bus to Brading and walked over to Yarbridge where we sampled several of Paul's excellent beers. On our walk home at the end of a very enjoyable birthday I had what I hoped was a good idea.

I've bounced the idea off the east Wight Camra members who'd joined me on the "Ryde Product Survey" and hence have established a common theme for some of our meetings. The very simple idea is that we could all have our own "VE day", thus each member of the group nominates a pub to meet at on or around their birthday.

Building on this basic idea has also provided the group with a suitable name hence "Vectis East Draymen" was born.

The second meeting of the Vectis East Draymen was at Yarbridge Inn on the Saturday of Paul's beer festival. I arrived first with my wife & some friends from the mainland who've been to previous beer festivals at Yarbridge Inn.. Soon we were joined by the other founder members of the Vectis East Draymen. We then proceeded to sample (extensively :- ) Paul's excellent selection of beers for his 6<sup>th</sup> beer festival. As the afternoon wore on the very corny jokes and banter flowed free and easily. We finally called it a very successful day late in the afternoon when we all went our separate ways.



Currently the Vectis East Draymen consists of very few Camra members and hence we have quite a few gaps to fill in our "VE day" meetings. Thus we're in need of other Camra members to join us to fill these gaps. If you are interested in joining us for our up coming meetings or having your own "VE day" please contact me.

The next meeting will be a mini "product survey" round 4 pubs in Shanklin on 26<sup>th</sup> July. The intended program (but this may change as the afternoon progresses :- ) is:-

- Meet at the Steamer Inn around 12:00
- Next Fishermans Cottage around 14:00

- Followed by Chine Inn around 15:00
- And finishing in King Harry's Bar around 16:00

This will be followed by Geoff's "VE day" which will be at the Havenstreet steam festival on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August meeting around 12:00 (but I intend to be there on the first steam train of the day). We've decided to meet at Saturday lunch time as transport (both bus & train) will be more readily available than on the Friday evening. If any other Camra members would like to join Geoff for his "VE day" please contact me via [editor@wightwash.org.uk](mailto:editor@wightwash.org.uk)