

We aim to help and promote the best beers and pubs and fully support local cask ale brewers and their products. Thus, our aims are broadly similar to those of CAMRA, but because of our entirely voluntary set-up the emphasis is mainly on social activities within our branches.

At national level we organise an annual 'National Weekend', for which members gather from around the country in a chosen location to visit breweries and drink good beer in the finest pubs. We have also run 'WoodFests' serving a wide range from around the UK, all served from wooden casks.



We have branches in many parts of the UK and members are encouraged to start a branch of their own.

Our quarterly magazine *Pint in Hand*, sent free to our members, keeps them in touch with past and future events, local and national, and includes articles by members of general beery interest.

We sell a range of products branded with our logo.

March 2024

The SPBW was founded on 6 December 1963 when seven disgruntled beer drinkers gathered in the Rising Sun in Epsom. Their concern was the growing decline in both quality and palatability of beer. This, they felt, was due to the increasing use of gas pressure and the introduction of keg beers. They formed the SPBW with the purpose of drawing attention to their plight.

Why SPBW? In 1963, wooden casks were still regarded as being synonymous with traditional beer, in contrast to the metal ones containing a processed and artificially carbonated product. For this reason the name seemed ideal. The SPBW's main concern is the beer in the cask and that it be served as a quality product. Even though the use of metal casks for draught beer had become prevalent by the 1970s the original name has been retained for the sake of tradition. However, in recent years there has been something of a revival in the use of wooden containers for maturing and dispensing beer. We support this trend and the traditional craft of the cooper.

The aims of the SPBW

The following standing orders apply:

- (a) To stimulate the brewing and encourage the drinking of traditional beer, drawn direct from the cask by gravity, or by a hand pump, or by other methods approved by the National Executive (this includes bottle-conditioned beer);
- (b) To lend support to those brewers who, by their policies, assist in the implementation of the Society's aims;
- (c) To discourage the brewing and sale of beer termed 'draught' but served otherwise than described above.

The SOCIETY for the PRESERVATION of BEERS from the WOOD



Founded 1963

BEERS FROM THE WOOD?

Is there still such a thing?

Yes there is, as it happens, and we are now experiencing a growing interest and usage of wood in the brewing process.

When the Society was founded in 1963, traditional beer drawn from wooden casks was under threat from the major brewers. This time the customers decided to fight back! The SPBW was formed to encourage the brewing and drinking of traditional draught beer.

Our website www.spbw.beer contains more information about the SPBW.