



Report looks to European model

## Call for 21 age limit to buy alcohol

A new study has urged that no one under the age of 21 should be allowed to buy alcohol.

At the launch of the Adolescent Health Study in London this week, doctors called for the higher age limit as a way of reducing the number of alcohol-related deaths in young people.

The study said that one in four deaths of people aged between 15 and 29 in the developed world was caused by drink, mainly resulting from accidents such as drowning and car crashes.

Dr Russell Viner of University College, London, said: "I would like to see a European model where most young people drink with their family at a younger age, learning to drink in a social context."

# Fridge gadget could save Greene King £3.5m

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Greene King is set to save £3.5m a year in energy costs by fitting a device to each of its fridges.

The brewer and operator has carried out a successful trial of a small device, known as an eCube, at one of its largest sites – the Railway Tavern at London's Liverpool Street station.

The gadget significantly reduces the amount of energy used by fridges and freezers, estimated to account for 20% of British domestic electricity consumption. The cube mimics the temperature of food and drink and controls the fridge temperature accordingly.

"When you open a fridge door, it lets in warm air; a fridge thermometer recognises that and reacts to keep the temperature low," said eCube Distribution sales and marketing director Spencer Freedman.

"But food or a bottle of drink will not have warmed up within that time. With the cube, the fridge only responds to product temperature."

Freedman believes that the device could save Greene King up to £3.5m and avoid using up to 17,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year if it is installed throughout its estate.

eCube Distribution is offering to give away 100 cubes to 10 pubs. To enter, answer the question: What percentage of the UK's domestic electricity consumption does refrigeration account for?

Simply email your answer to [info@ecubedistribution.com](mailto:info@ecubedistribution.com) or visit [www.ecubedistribution.com](http://www.ecubedistribution.com)



Easy: eCube will reduce energy and save Greene King £3.5m a year

## WIND TURBINE BOOSTS CARBON-NEUTRALITY AND CASH



Norton: fitted a grant-aided wind turbine which can plug into national grid

A licensee has fitted a wind turbine at a village pub in an attempt to make his pub carbon-neutral.

The turbine, outside the White Horse in Edwardstone, Suffolk, plugs into the grid – so pub owner John Norton will eventually be able to sell the electricity to businesses and homes in the local area.

The turbine cost £19,000 and Norton secured a £5,000 grant from the Energy Savings Trust, a Government-backed agency promoting environmentally-friendly energy.

The structure can produce enough electricity to supply between two and three houses.

Norton said he does not know how much money the turbine will save the pub but understands that they usually pay for themselves within eight years.

The adventurous licensee has further plans to build a green microbrewery, made from recycled materials, at the pub.



## Actors help calm pub aggro

Actors have been drafted in to help Cambridge bar staff learn ways of pacifying difficult customers.

Sixty bar workers attended a role-play that demonstrated how not to deal with customers who get aggressive.

Later, they were shown the correct way to cope in such a situation through calming things down rather than by

retaliating with an aggressive stance, which risked provoking customers.

Another scenario during the session held at the Junction pub in Cambridge, showed how to identify possible drug-dealing.

The short plays were devised by Cambridge Pub & Club Watch, the Cambridge Drug & Alcohol Action Team

and MOPA theatre group.

"It showed in great depth what can happen in licensed premises and demonstrated methods for dealing with aggression," said Cambridge Pub & Club Watch chairman Mike Weber.

The first event was provided free. Another session planned for the summer is likely to cost about £650.

## Web help on illegal workers

A new website has been launched to help licensees ensure that they don't employ illegal migrant workers.

The service, launched by the Home Office, gives advice and lists procedures that

businesses should follow to ensure they don't hire illegal workers.

The Home Office said the launch comes amid increasing worries about numbers of illegal workers in Britain.

New stiffer penalties for employing illegal migrant workers have recently been introduced. Licensees knowingly using or exploiting illegal migrant workers could receive up to two years in prison and unlimited fines.

"We must take action to tackle the problem of illegal migrants working and its harmful social and economic consequences," said minister for Immigration, Citizenship & Nationality Liam Byrne.

He added: "Illegal working undermines the national minimum wage and allows unscrupulous employers to gain an unfair competitive advantage over legitimate businesses."

Visit [www.employingmigrantworkers.org.uk/index.html](http://www.employingmigrantworkers.org.uk/index.html) for more information.



Above board: new Home Office website helps licensees comply with the law

## New Braille menus for Wetherspoon

Braille menus have been introduced in all JD Wetherspoon pubs, including the Lloyds No.1 chain.

The menu, which have been produced with assistance from the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) contain details of all meals commonly available through-

out the major pubco's 650-strong estate.

The menus state that individual pubs may offer meals that are not on the list. No prices are given on the menus, but it is made clear that staff will be able to give the cost of each dish, if asked.

Wetherspoon food development manager Jameson Robinson said: "We believe that the new Braille menu will be welcomed by blind and partially-sighted customers."



Accessible: RNIB advised on menus