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MEDIA RELEASE

Sell-out book about Winchester's drinking past re-launched

We worry about modern drinking habits, but it seems we're not a patch on our alcoholic grandparents!

In 1902, Winchester boasted a staggering 132 pubs, 10 breweries and 10 hotels. Today, we are down to 38 pubs, 4 micro-breweries and 7 hotels.

These and many other fascinating facts about the Winchester's past drinking habits are to be found in ***Time Gentlemen, Please!***, which tells the story of the City's pubs, breweries and hotels past and present. The book also contains many rare old photographs of both pubs and breweries.

Researched and written by local historian and author, Phil Yates, (86), the third edition of this sell-out book goes on sale on 11 October 2013. It's published by the City of Winchester Trust, a local charity founded in 1957 to protect and conserve Winchester's unique buildings and their setting.

Phil, who is registered as partially sighted, says:

"I couldn't have completed this book without the help of David Williams, a retired brewery architect, David Marklew, former Winchester City Engineer, and Nick Billington, a graduate from the University of Winchester. I should also thank my dear wife Joan!"

Time Gentlemen, Please will be of interest both to local people, and to tourists visiting the ancient and beautiful city of Winchester.

ENDS

Notes for editors

1. ***Time Gentlemen, Please***, priced at £9.95, will be on sale from Friday, 11th October at Waterstones, Winchester High Street and The Brooks Shopping Arcade branches, the Tourist Information Office on the Broadway and The Baker's Arms pub, High Street. Author Phil Yates will be book signing at Waterstones in The Brooks Shopping Arcade on Saturday, 19th October from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

2. Phil used to work in the legal profession, and is Winchester Theatre Royal's Historian and Archivist. In 2010 was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the University of Winchester 'for his achievements as a writer, archivist and historian'. In his past life, he was also one of the 'forgotten conscripts' of World War Two, working down the Yorkshire coalfields – one of the group of 48,000 christened the Bevin Boys. He is available for interview on **01962 859770**.
3. The City of Winchester Trust is a local charity founded in 1957 in response to the destruction of many old houses in the Brooks area of the city. Today, it works to protect and conserve Winchester's unique buildings and their setting, by influencing local planning decisions and encouraging local people of all ages to understand and enjoy their city's heritage. An equally important aspect of the Trust's work is to ensure **that** good design is incorporated in new construction.

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