

RE: "COLD SMALL BEER"

"Small beer is a weak beer popular in medieval times because so there were so many water-borne diseases. Most of the germs causing these diseases would be killed either by the process of brewing the beer or by the resulting alcohol content. If the alcohol content was too low the protection may not have been there, possibly explaining poor Thomas' violent Fever.

Cold small beer is to be avoided then, an idea embraced by *Strong's of Romsey*, a Hampshire brewer, whose slogan until the 1970s was "*drink Strong or none at all*".

(source: <http://apostcardaday.blogspot.com/2008/12/grave-in-winchester-england.html>)