

MerseyAle

CAMRA Liverpool & Districts Magazine

Winter 2021

FREE

Welcome Back!



Inside:

LIVERPOOL BEER FESTIVAL DATES

LION TAVERN - Pub of the Year

ROSCOE HEAD winner of a prestigious
CAMRA Golden Award



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MerseyAle

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Cover montage by Dennis Jones

Welcome to the Winter edition of MerseyAle

and our first physical publication since lockdown



The last eighteen months have been very challenging for us all, and it could be sometime before trade returns to pre lockdown levels. But we can all do our part by visiting the pub as often as we can. Why not use the pub walk in this edition (pages 14-15) to explore somewhere new or follow the trail of our last social pub walk (pages 22-23) along and around Dale Street.

As a branch, our social events locally have started to resume, so, if you can, please join us at a get together or on a pub walk, which offer the perfect opportunity to visit different pubs. We have also managed to hold a few presentations over the last couple of months, celebrating some of the best pubs and clubs in Liverpool, details of which can be found within this magazine. Please visit our award winners, and our advertisers, without whom this edition of MerseyAle would not be possible.

Though this year's beer festival

was cancelled, I am happy to report that we have the go-ahead to run one next year (see opposite page for further details). However, the festival will not be without it's challenges, and we can't run one without our volunteers. If you are a CAMRA member and are interested in lending a helping hand, please read the volunteering article on page 16.

Talking of volunteers, we have a new cider officer, Steven Mulholland. You can learn more about Steven and find all the latest cider news on page 29. If you are going anywhere to escape our cold winter, don't forget to take a copy of MerseyAle with you and send us a photo. Your letters are also welcome. Email merseyale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition of MerseyAle.

Mel James-Henry
MerseyAle Editor

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Liverpool & Districts CAMRA Branch PUB NEWS



Since lockdown there have been many changes to pubs and breweries and some have not even settled down as yet, with pubs changing their opening hours to suit demand and staff needs, supply issues, changes of ownership and licensing.

One change many will have noticed is the pavement licences granted to pubs in Liverpool by the council to help with social distancing. These are valid until



Roscoe Head

Sept 30th but can be extended for a year free of charge if the pub applies and is granted as having a suitable pavement. **The Roscoe Head** has taken full advantage of this and had Roscoe St closed off so they can put chairs and tables in the street, as has the nearby **Coach**



Coach House

House at the Angus (the new name for Dickins & King) who have set up some decking in the street.

Carol, the licensee, was able to purchase the Roscoe from Hawthorn Leisure over lockdown and now can serve beer from any brewer as a 'free' house, just in time to be one of 32 pubs nationwide to be awarded a CAMRA Golden award to celebrate 50 years of CAMRA.

Nearby on Hope Street, **the Keystone** opened in April. This was previously the Clove Hitch & no23 club (and then Bread & Butter). Charlie the new owner is very keen on all things beer, craft and cask, so we can expect to see some unusual and specialist beers on the cask hand-pumps from the likes of **Chapter, Carnival, Black Lodge, Handyman and Neptune**. Real cider from Seacider is also on tap. **The Keystone takes the members 50p vouchers (which used to be Wetherspoons vouchers but are now valid in many outlets) until 6pm.** They also plan to re-open the no23 club.

Over the road the **Liverpool Arts school** (old Mason's Hall) has given up on real ale and the nearby **Mackenzies** on Rodney St has not reopened since lockdown.

On Bold Street, the **Crafty Chandler**, a Stonegate pub has



closed, with lease handed back for other uses. And in Old Swan, the **Old Tavern** which changed hands recently has stopped serving real ale.

The Ship and Mitre, kitchen has been taken over by 'the one pan band'. The name emphasises what the new chef wants to bring in, items that can be cooked in one pan but are also



delicious. The new chefs name is Joe and they are now offering pub classics such as fish and chips and scouse along with new concepts such as risotto, mussels and loaded fries. The menu is ever changing. They also have got all of their beers on and back to mostly full capacity on the cask ales (8 on everyday) along with all other local, German and Belgium beers! Claire says its 'Great to have some normality back again with all the beer on and the customers are loving it.'

LARK LANE

On Lark Lane three new cask outlets have opened, the **Ink in the Well, Old School House and Bookbinder** but be prepared to take the credit card to pay for the pint as they are expensive. On credit cards several pubs have moved to card payment only, this is not just about covid, but that managing cash is costly, staff time and includes some danger, so can expect more to stop taking cash.

Jaxon's on Longmoor Lane now have a beer brewed in collaboration with **Twisted Wheel Brewery** from Warrington,



called **Jaxon's Pale** made using Citra and Ekuanot hops, 5.5%. They have also upgraded their outside seating area.

BOOTLE

The North Park Tavern, situated on Stanly Road in Bootle, has now opened. Currently only keg on tap but with plans to sell cask ale in the new year.

BREWERY NEWS LOVE LANE BREWERY TAP

have launched a crowd funding webpage to pay for a function room which can be used by social groups. Love Lane have been brewing experimental beers on their pilot kit such as a recent 8.3% beer. Cask beers normally just on at weekends/Fridays.

All over the country brewers have taking advantage of drinkers visiting them for take-aways to set up their own tap rooms and both **Liverpool Brewing** and **Top Rope** now open their breweries on certain weekends as taps (see their webpages for details). Top Rope moved to Bootle from Wales in 2020.



LIVERPOOL BREWING COMPANY

are now back to full brewing capacity. The Core Range is now up to 5 beers with **Little IPA 3.6%** the latest addition and a new **NEIPA** to follow shortly. **Team Toxic Core Range** is also back to full availability, with 6 beers including the new **Eton Trifles Sour**, as well as 3 new Limited Release



beers being launched each month. Overall, 30 options are available at any one time. Their monthly taproom events will continue on the first Sat of every month and have moved from outdoor beer garden events to indoor Beer, Music and Food events. Looking ahead their new brew vessels allow them to begin canning of their **Craft Range, Specials, and TT Limited beers**. They also aiming to have 2 new venues open. The first of which will be a classic City centre pub, and the second an out of town craft micro pub site. Beyond the first 2 openings they're hopeful 2022 will allow for further venues, so watch this space!



NEPTUNE

Neptune have reopened their brewery tap in Maghull on Saturdays, plus

Friday for takeout's.

ROCK THE BOAT

Over the summer Rock the Boat released another batch of their seasonal beer, **Here Comes the Sun (lil' darlin')**, a 4.5% ABV Golden Ale, described as a three hop



IPA, it contains New Zealand Rakau, Slovenian Celeia, and British Golding hops. It

was seen in the **Grapes**, Roscoe Street, **Cask**, and, astonishingly, the **Crow's Nest** in Crosby.

Dave Barker has again produced a beer for the new hop picking season. Appropriately called **Green Hops**, it is brewed using is Pilgrim hops from Stocks Farm



Worcestershire. It is a 3.7% Golden Ale. Dave reports that he has not gained any new outlets for his beers recently, but that plenty have closed or are not taking many guest beers until trade improves.

Contributors: Claire Agar, Steve Downing, Steven Mulholland, Tony Morgan, Liam Riley

BREWERY NEWS extra



Our very own Neptune Brewery has launched the Trident Collaboration Project, a three-way venture that aims to celebrate three distinct, yet entwined, aspects of the craft beer industry:

1. The people behind the brewery, the lasting professional and personal friendships that endure, and the new ones forged.
2. British brewing ingredients and the producers behind them, particularly in light of recent shared struggles, with an emphasis on shining a light on the majesty of English hops.
3. The dedication and talents of women in beer.

To launch this collaboration project, they have partnered with East London's The **Five Points Brewing Company** and **White-**



lock's Ale House in Leeds to brew an English IPA.

Collaboration: The Story

The invitation for the collaboration came from the shared brewing ethos of Neptune and Five Points, which extends to the style of beers that both breweries enjoy making. With a Neptune event already in the making with Five Points' sister venue White-



lock's as part of the Leeds International Beer Festival 2021 celebrations, it was only natural to incorporate a collaboration into the mix and brew a three-way special beer together.

The project was spearheaded by the newest addition to the Neptune Brewery team, **Chess Slattery**. A Beer Sommelier with six years experience in the industry, Chess joined as Neptune's Sales & Beer Experience Manager ear-

lier this year. Having begun her full-time beer career at Five Points back in 2016, Chess was keen to partner with her old colleagues on the project.

"You hear the trope being peddled time and time again about how supportive and cooperative the folks in the beer industry are, but in my experience, it really is true. It's something we're committed to at Neptune and I knew my old pals at Five Points would be enthused about this project and its aims. Add to that Whitelock's passion to champion women in beer, which



very much mirrors our own commitment as a female owned brewery, and we had the perfect team for the Trident Collaboration."

The Beer: Atlanna

In early August 2021, **Greg Hobbs** (Co-founder and Head



Brewer at Five Points), **Alana Lim** (Brewer) from Five Points and **Beth Templeton**, the Assistant General Manager from Whitelock's brewed an English IPA at the Neptune brewery in North Liverpool.

Both committed to reaffirming their support of British malt and hop producers, an enthusiastic email exchange ensued between Greg and **Neptune Head Brewer Les**



O' Grady about which English hops to use. There could only be one beer style for the Trident Collaboration.

Greg says: "Being invited to brew an English IPA with Neptune Brewery was the perfect opportunity to celebrate the best of our industry: seeing old friends and making new ones, paying homage to our brewing heritage and in-



redients, and championing women in beer."

The beer was brewed with **British Golden Promise and Crystal malts**, alongside **Admiral, Endeavour and Bramling Cross hops** and is a 5% modern take on the traditional style. It boasts a delicious sweet pie-crust base, balanced by quintessentially earthy and spicy English hop notes, with invigorating citrus character and a pleasing bitter finish.

Called Atlanna, named after the warrior queen of Atlantis who proudly wielded the five-pointed trident, this perfectly represents the coming

together of two brewing spirits. Atlanna's strength and leadership mirrors the unyielding dedication and talents of women in beer, championed in this collaboration.

Beth speaks on her involvement in the project: *"We were honoured to be invited along as part of the Trident Collaboration with Neptune, alongside our Five Points family. It felt extra special to be brewing in celebration of women in*

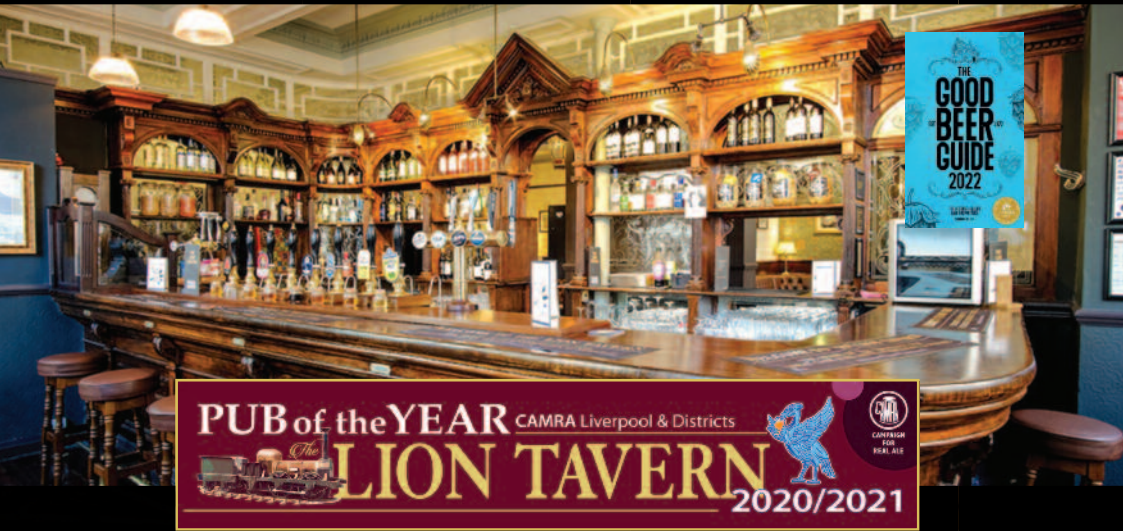


beer and especially after the difficult times we've all had recently, it was great to get stuck in with a group of lovely like-minded folk, to come together to create a new and delicious beer, showcasing the best of British ingredients."

Atlanna will be on general sale and available in cask, keg and can from mid-September, 2021.

Chess Slattery
Sales and Beer Experience Manager
Neptune Brewery

The LION TAVERN



8 Hand Pumps, 4 regular ales:



Liverpool Brewing Company POTYSIPA and Moorfields Mild
Peerless Pale Wily Fox Crafty Fox

2018 LocALE POTY 2019 Pub Of Excellence 2020 POTY 2021 POTY

Award winning locally sourced pies.'

67 MOORFIELDS, LIVERPOOL L2 2BP



Outstanding Pub Conversions and Restorations

CAMRA is dedicated to supporting pubs, as well as promoting best-quality beers and ciders. In particular, we are widely regarded for our work on identifying and helping to protect the UK's most important heritage pubs through the compilation of our "Inventories of Pubs with Historic Interiors" – the most precious survivors.

CAMRA defines heritage pubs as those that are wholly or mostly unchanged or retain important historic rooms or features from before 1970. Since then, huge numbers of pubs have been expertly refurbished, and many have been established in buildings previously used for other purposes. Contrary to popular belief, a lot of new pubs in both urban and rural locations are really good and deserve to be recognised and applauded. CAMRA have, therefore, begun a project to identify, preserve and protect pubs that are Outstanding Conversions and Restorations (OCR). These include: -

- a) The best examples of pub owners taking care to present a pub for modern times whilst respecting the origins of the building in which it is located.
- b) The best examples of pub owners who have taken care to re-fashion a pub so that it

has a genuinely historical feel and/or has a design to admire. All pubs included have that essential quality of, well, pub-biness.

Why is CAMRA doing this?

1. To raise awareness of examples of outstanding pub conversions and restorations, thus stimulating interest in visiting and enjoying them.
2. To inspire pub owners and others to pursue excellence when converting or restoring buildings for pub use.
3. To establish yardsticks against which future pub conversions and restorations can be judged.
4. To help protect identified pubs from unsympathetic changes.
5. To contribute to CAMRA's wider objective of generating enthusiasm for pub-going.

CAMRA runs a competition, the Pub Design Awards, to recognise the best in new and refurbished pub design each year.

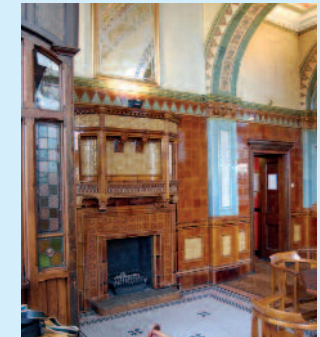
In the Liverpool & Districts Branch area 3 pubs have so far been identified as worthy of listing

Doctor Duncan's

The Grade II-listed former Pearl Insurance Regional Office has a stunning ceramic



tiled entrance and an impressive Victorian interior with four distinct drinking areas. The entrance and the green tiled room are the main attrac-



tions. The tiled room is front right and is particularly handsome. Outstanding tilework



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and medical memorabilia are throughout, commemorating the first chief medical officer of Liverpool.

North Western

This was originally the luxurious North Western Hotel with 330 rooms, opened in 1871 and built to serve Lime Street station. Its impressive archi-



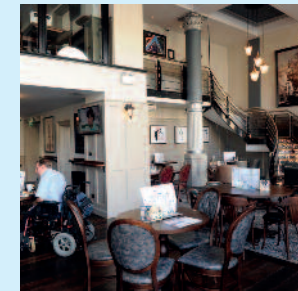
ecture is now Grade II listed. It closed in the 1930s and remained empty until 1996, when upper floors became halls of residence and the



ground floor a pub. Wetherspoon's reopened in 2015 after a major refurbishment which retains the grandeur of the original building, includ-



ing much wood panelling. The high-quality work is complemented with plaques, posters, old photographs, and railway memorabilia.

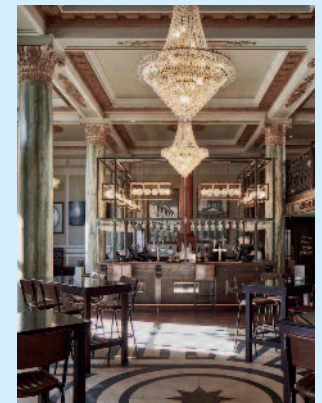


Old Bank (Unfortunately no longer selling real ale)

A spectacular building from around 1920 that was a branch of the National Bank. it was



relaunched in 2018 as a stylish bar making enterprising use of a fine space. There is an island bar, tiled dance floor and



sectioned ceiling held up by marble columns with decorative capitals. The seating is in the former banking hall and on a mezzanine, with some drinking booths.

There are four categories of OCR pubs to denote the type or previous use of the building: Conversion; Restoration; New Build; Museum.

You can find out more about the project and see the full National Listing by visiting: ocrpubs.camra.org.uk/

Visit and enjoy as many as you can. This is a live project so if you know of any other pubs that you think should be included as outstanding conversions or restorations, please contact: preservation@liverpoolcamra.org.uk

Graham Murray
Pubs Preservation Officer



Scan the QR and type in name and address of the pub

12 WIRRAL

th BEER FESTIVAL

HULME HALL PORT SUNLIGHT

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REAL ALES & CIDERS	SPIRITS	CONTINENTAL BEERS	MUSIC
GIN BAR	FOOD CRAFT		

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ROSCOE HEAD

50th Anniversary Golden Award



Liverpool has an abundance of great pubs. Since the formation of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) fifty years ago, many pubs have come and gone, some have been altered beyond recognition, others only served real ale sporadically. To have survived all those years and still be serving high quality beer, in a magnificent building unchanged over the years, is an incredible achievement. The sheer number of drinking establishments within the branch makes appearing in even one edition of the Good Beer Guide an accolade for which publicans and licenses are duly proud. The Roscoe Head has not only survived the past 50 years with its magnificent exterior and interior intact, but it has done so whilst serving top quality beer and appearing in

every edition of the Good Beer Guide. It has been a constant presence in an ever-evolving city. Drinkers' tastes may have changed over the years, beer styles drop in and out of favour, and there is the demand for more choice leading to many pubs adding hand pulls to increase their beer choice. At the Roscoe the emphasis is on



Carol and a delighted member of staff



quality not quantity, with a well-kept cellar and the right beer choice there is no need for a seemingly endless array of hand pulls. The welcoming sight of a beer board greets you as you walk through the door enabling you to peruse the delights on offer, something sadly lacking in many pubs today.

Stepping into the Roscoe is like stepping back in time, it is a joy to see a pub so untouched



by time, elegant, perfectly preserved, and well maintained, with no noisy distractions, it is a place for quiet contemplation or lively discussion with locals over a well-kept pint. The perfect place to escape from the stresses and strains of the world outside, surely this is the very definition of what a pub should be, comfortable welcoming surroundings, good company, and a great beer.

The Roscoe was under threat from developers for many years, yet it not only maintained its place in the Good Beer Guide but was also regularly be named as one of the top pubs in the branch in our Pub of the Year competition. This is down to the tenacity and hard work of Carol Ross and her team. Without Carol's fighting spirit the pub may have been lost to redevelopment. Several times members of the branch and the Campaign have rallied round to support Carol in her attempts to save this historic, well loved pub.

There was much relief when, earlier this year, Carol announced she had finally taken control of her pub. Perhaps this was not at the best time as the pub was closed due to lockdown,



but it has since reopened. With the side road outside the pub being closed Carol has been able to offer an outdoor drinking area. If you are planning a visit to Liverpool in the coming months, we urge you to pay a visit to the Roscoe. We guarantee you will not be disappointed.

Sonia James-Henry
Liverpool CAMRA
Branch Chair



WOOLTON VILLAGE PUB WALK



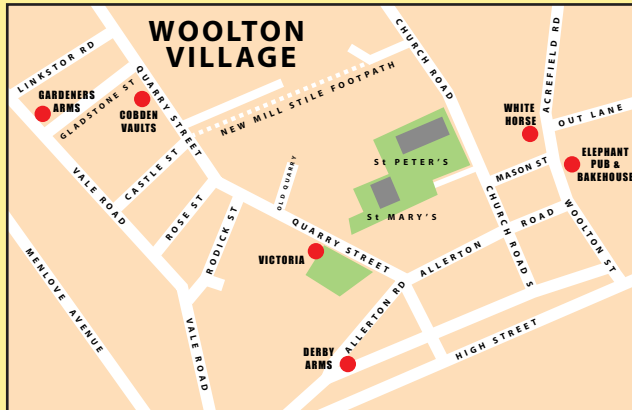
Originally a standalone village, Woolton was only incorporated into Liverpool in 1913.

It is now a bustling village with a variety of restaurants, coffee shops, takeaway's, speciality outlets (The Liverpool Cheese Shop for example) and of course some pubs selling Real Ale.

You can start the crawl either from the centre of the village or from one of the pubs on Vale Road. Buses which are believed to pass through Woolton in some way or other are 75, 76, 78, 81, 81A, 89, 166, 174, 188, 787, 881.

You can find further details about each pub, including directions, by visiting whatpub.com. There is also an interactive map on the Liverpool CAMRA website: <https://www.liverpoolcamra.org.uk>

Let's start at the Listed **Elephant Pub and Bakehouse** at 1 Woolton Street,



which is now run by the TV chef Simon Rimmer. The pub used to be a traditional Higsons pub, but it is now a trendy (and some may say pricey) venue. The good bit is that they sell a good selection of real ales and has a large outdoor garden (and obviously food).

Over the road at 2 Acrefield Road is **The White Horse**



which is mentioned on the CAMRA Historic Pub Interiors website as being an historic pub interior "of some regional importance" and

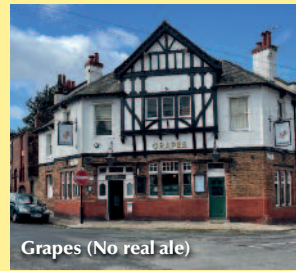
has a very appealing inter-war interior.

There are a couple of routes to continue this crawl. The first way is to turn right as you come out of the White Horse and continue southwards down Woolton Street, You can then either



a) take a left turn up Mason Street and take a look at the Listed Woolton Picture House then turn left down Church Road to get back on route or

b) continue down Woolton Street and turn right just past the duck pond (which



Grapes (No real ale)

is now a car park) into Allerton Road.

Continue up Allerton road until you reach the junction with the Grapes Inn. A very old pub but unfortunately it has no real ale. You will see the Listed Victorian Baths on



the opposite corner. Turn right into Quarry Street.

The next pub is **The Victoria** at 13 Quarry Street on the left. Lots of live music and karaoke events. It has re-



cently had a change of licensee who was slow in reintroducing real ale after lockdown so just check if it's available.

Turn left out of the Vic and on up to the **Cobden Vaults** on the left-hand side at 89 Quarry Street. On the way you will pass Woolton Quarry where some of the stone used in the construction of the Liverpool



Take a left out of the Cobden and left again down Gladstone Street will bring you to the **Gardeners Arms** on the



corner with Vale Road. The Gardeners is currently a Good Beer Guide entry with plenty of real ale to choose from.

Anglican Cathedral was excavated. You will also pass the old village school and police station now converted for residential use. The Cobden has numerous live music events, footy and the best Timothy Taylor this side of the Pennines.

I mentioned a different route before and if you follow directions to go past the Woolton Picture House then turn right at the top into Church Road and passed St Peters Church you will come to a cul-de-sac named New Mill Stile, entre and keep to the left. You will then find a footpath which links to Quarry Street. It will take you over Woolton Hill and over the top of Woolton Quarry. At the end you can turn left down to the Victoria or right up to the Cobden.

I know this sounds more like fell walking instruction but please bear with me.

Take a left out of the Gardeners and follow Vale Road for about 500m (546.8 yards) you will see the **Derby Arms** on your left. Large corner



pub with nice food and real ale. Finally stagger back to the village for bus or taxi.

When visiting these pubs please remember to submit your beer scores via CAMRA's online pub guide, www.whatpub.com. These scores will help us choose pubs for inclusion in the Good Beer Guide.

Graham Murray September 2021.

YOUR FESTIVAL NEEDS YOU!

41st

BEER FESTIVAL 2021

The Liverpool & Districts

Metropolitan Cathedral Crypt, Brownlow Hill February



It is with much relief that, after this year's beer festival was cancelled, we can look forward to our return to the magnificent Crypt in February. As ever, we could not do it without the help of our volunteers, thank you to everyone who has already contacted me to say they are willing to work next year's festival.

However, we are always in need of extra help to work behind our bars and, to act as Stewards who are vital to the smooth running of the festival. Stewards work in pairs (you can specifically request who you wish to team up with) and follow a rota which takes them from greeting people at the front door, to ensuring the concert and beer hall are kept clean, answering queries from attendees, and wishing them farewell at the back door. Contrary to popular belief working as a steward does not mean you are unable to sample the beers, providing you do not carry your glass around with you. We have a Head Steward who will be at hand each session to go through your rota and answer any questions you may have.

Bar work does not just involve serving our beers, we will also be looking for volunteers to work on the cider bar and the prosecco bar. No experience is necessary, you don't have to have an in-depth knowledge of the beverage you are serving, just a willingness to share your love of real ale and cider.

Currently, we are hoping that next year's festival will be 'business as usual', but there is a

possibility that restrictions could return or that some of our staff may not be able to work due to self-isolation etc. This may result in us needing to call on additional volunteers at short notice. It also means we will need to ensure we are fully staffed for each session something we have struggled with in the past, particularly when it comes to stewards.

We can cope behind the bar if we have reduced bar staff (just) but it is difficult to run a session without our quota of Stewards, it often results in our Head Steward attempting to fill the gaps himself which is far from ideal.

This year we are asking not only for CAMRA members to volunteer to help at the festival, but we are specifically appealing for stewards. This is a fun role where you and a friend can work as a team, taking advantage of the frequent breaks to sample the beers and food available, and chat to likeminded festival goers.

Sonia James-Henry



Staffing forms will be available soon on the website, should you wish to receive one via email please contact:

Staffing@liverpoolbeerfestival.org
or scan the staffing QR code

In Memory of Bob Thurlow- the original Chair of Merseyside CAMRA

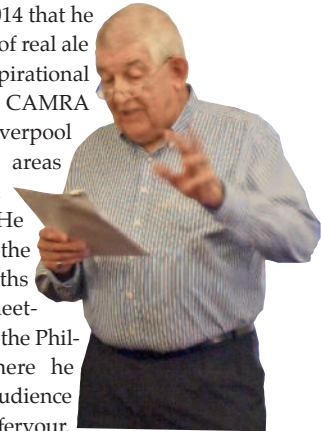
Bob Thurlow had been fascinated by pubs from an early age, recognising their importance to our heritage even before he was old enough to drink in them! Then in the early 1960s, as a student of Hispanic Studies at Liverpool University, he frequented the now demolished Lorne on Brownlow Hill, where he was elected as Chair of the Snug Society and was obviously enjoying the beer by then! Later in the decade, in Ye Hole in Ye Wall, he started an organisation called the Days of Shame, which refers to the six 'expeditions' (aka pub crawls!) members made each year, in many parts of Liverpool and surrounding towns and cities!

Besides these fun times, Bob's interest in photography and local history was enhanced by his visits to public houses where in quieter moments he would take photos and make notes. He became a member of the Victorian Society as he was increasingly fascinated by the splendour of Victorian architecture and the wonderful features to be found in many pubs. But he was also increasingly aware of the threat to them by the 'sledgehammer of the property developer'.

So, Bob's credentials as a passionate supporter of both beer and pubs, and their preservation, were well established when he attended the meeting at the Globe in Cases Street on 18th January 1974, at which Merseyside Branch of CAMRA was formed – and was elected as its Chair. Bob knew there was a real battle to be had in those dark days against the Big Six breweries intent on flooding the market with keg beers, and he was instrumental in quickly mobilising an active committee and branch of local members to fight the cause of real ale. Within months, the Mersey Drinker newsletter (forerunner of MerseyAle) had been launched and in September the first 'Liverpool Real Ale Beer Exhibition' took place at the Everyman Theatre – a remarkable achievement in just eight months!

For many years subsequently, for family and work reasons, Bob took a back seat from CAMRA as an organisation. However, it was very apparent when he re-emerged and spoke at the Branch's

40th birthday celebration at the Globe in January 2014 that he hadn't lost his love of real ale and pubs or the inspirational touch that had got CAMRA off the ground in Liverpool and surrounding areas of Merseyside all those years ago. He was invited to be the guest three months later at a branch meeting held upstairs at the Philharmonic pub where he spoke to a packed audience with all his original fervour.



He urged everyone in CAMRA to do all in their power to defeat that of the 'powers-that be' and to stop the closure and/or conversion to other use of our precious pubs. He spoke of the history of beer and brewing, including the vital early role that women played in the latter, and highlighted the social and economic changes that have impacted on pubs and led to the plethora of closures. His salutary talk was aptly illustrated with a series of slides of Liverpool pubs over the years, many of which were no longer there. These wonderful images can now be found in Bob's splendid book, produced in conjunction with photographer David Wrightson, 'Inn Liverpool'. This book was originally written over 40 years ago and somehow shelved but, thank goodness, Bob and David decided to unearth their remarkable work and it was finally published in 2017. A well-attended launch was held at the Philharmonic in February 2018 and I don't think anyone left without buying a copy!

Bob sadly died just a few weeks ago, on August 27th. He was a lovely man with a great sense of humour, and a true campaigner. We owe him a lot. Our condolences to his lovely wife, Linda, and their family.

Jean Pownceby

More details at www.liverpoolbeerfestival.org.uk

Lockdown HEROES

Lockdown has been tough for everyone, for pubs and breweries who have seen their very livelihoods threatened and for their customers, some of whom have not been able to leave their homes for many months. Of course, in these times everyone who has kept providing a service, be it by continuing to deliver beer to pubs, or by ensuring customers can still enjoy their much-treasured pints, can be classed as heroes.

But, at the beginning of August we asked branch members to nominate their own 'Lockdown Heroes', either a licensee or a brewer who you felt had gone above and beyond the call of duty to help their community.

Below are the pub licensee's you felt were worthy of the title 'Lockdown Hero'. Thank you to all the nominators and congratulations to the worthy winners.

Sam Mercer, Volunteer Canteen, Waterloo, nominated by Ian Holden

The pub is often the hub of the community, and lock



down led to a feeling of isolation for many people, to try and counteract this, Sam set up a group messaging system which allowed regular customers to keep in touch with each other. The pub's charity funds were diverted to providing face shields for the NHS and then for local shop workers and hairdressers. When the pub reopened it was initially for off sales, once the appropriate social distancing measures were in place, customers were welcomed back, once again. Sam ensured that all the necessary rules were adhered to in order to keep his customers safe and keep the beers flowing.

John Murphy, Maghull Cask, nominated by Damian Warburton

Maghull Cask was the first pub in the area to re-open and provide a takeout service. In recognition of the

fact that customers weren't getting the full pub experience John also dropped his prices. There was a clear beer ordering system, and social media was used to update customers on which beers were available. John even gave his regulars



a heads up on which beers were in stock to make sure they didn't miss out, for many of them, their Thursday beer pick up was the high light of their week during. The pub has now reopened and continues to be a safe and welcoming place for drinkers.



Fiona and Dominic Hornsby, and Ian Forster, The Denbigh Castle

nominated by Jennifer Mallon
Trying to keep one pub operating in these difficult times is a challenge, keeping one running whilst opening a new one seems an almost impossible task. But that is what Fiona and Dominic Hornby, and Ian Foster have done during lockdown, opening the much-anticipated Denbigh Castle whilst also running the award winning **Bridewell**. The Denbigh Castle was due to open in

the first week of March, then, of course, the country went into lockdown and the opening was delayed until July. During this time, the trio worked tirelessly to ensure their employees across both pubs kept their jobs and it is a credit to their dedication that the Denbigh Castle is now open in these difficult times for the industry.

Patrick and Eric Mills, Cask, nominated by Ian Dickman

A former Liverpool CAMRA pub of the year, Cask sadly closed its doors in October



2019, and it wasn't until February that the pub reopened, only to be forced to closed again in March. When the pub re-opened again Patrick and Eric ran a takeaway service with a difference, delivering beer directly to Cask's most vulnerable customers. This was greatly appreciated by one customer in particular who was shielding and could not leave the house, beer was delivered directly to his doorstep, despite living less than 5 minutes away from the pub.



Jay accepting the Lockdown Heroes Award for Cask on behalf of Patrick and Eric. Cask was nominated by some of our members for their sterling efforts in delivering beer when the first lockdowns hit, and beyond.

Article by
Sonia James-Henry
Liverpool CAMRA
Branch Chair





On 28th July, we in Liverpool and Districts branch were finally, and belated, able to present our Pub Of The Year award to the Lion Tavern, on the corner of Moorfields and Tithebarn Street.

Of course, the various lockdowns that we have had to deal with in the previous 18 months or so had prevented us from making the presentation any earlier. Likewise, we were unable to hold a competition for Pub Of The Year this year, so the award applied to both 2020 and 2021, as the banner now proudly adorning the Lion testifies to.

The manager of the Lion, Dave Hardman, has always run a tight ship, as far as Real Ale is concerned. The pub has, for a long time now,

continually had a wide selection of well-kept ales, including local brews, and the award of Pub Of The Year is testament to the dedication of both Dave and his team in providing drinkers with a good experience of Real Ale.

The presentation of the award was made in front of a selected audience, with branch chair Sonia James-Henry handing over the certificate to Dave, to rapturous applause from the assembled throng. Dave made a gracious acceptance speech, and gave all due credit to his dedicated team. The evening also saw the world premieres



Dave Hardman



**Sonia James-Henry
Liverpool CAMRA Branch Chair and Dave
behind the bar**

of two new local beers from Liverpool Brewing Company- Moorfields Mild and Potysipa- both of which were very well-received by those present- we even drank out way through a cask of the Mild and a fresh one had to be put on to replace the original a mere couple of hours after it had first been put on tap! Both of these beers are now full-time regulars on the bar.

As for the pub itself- it is a 19th century building, situated opposite the old Exchange Street Station, which was the terminus for services to/from Pre-



**Matt and Sonia
present the award to Dave**

ston, the North, and Scotland until its' closure, and partial demolition (the facade still remains), in the 1960s. The Lion is named after the original steam locomotive that plied its' trade on the Liverpool-Manchester Railway in the very early days of rail travel, and our Pub Of The Year banner features a picture of the engine accordingly. Inside, the pub features intricate tilework, lots of wood panelling, etched glass, and a cupola in the

ceiling, a very ornate Victorian interior (indeed, the Lion is Grade II listed, and also features on CAMRA's National Inventory of Historic Pub Interiors).



NB- if, as mooted, Exchange Street Station is to become the Liverpool terminus for the new HS2 scheme, then it can only bode well for the future of the pub, as it will be one of the first things that passengers see when they exit the station.



Again, congratulations to all involved on a well-deserved award, and our thanks to Dave and the team for their hospitality on the evening of the presentation.



**Matt Valentine
Pub Of The Year
Co-Ordinator**



Liverpool CAMRA Dale Street Social

The past eighteen months or so have been hard for most of us, not least because we have had to curtail our socialising activities during the various lockdowns. As soon as restrictions were lifted, it was a relief to be able to hold face-to-face events again- therefore, our first social gathering of the new era was a Pub Wander along Dale Street on Saturday 14th August.

The start time was put back to 2pm, as it was also the start of the Premier League season, and the later start meant that we avoided most of the crowds, as a result. We began in the **Ship and Mitre**, at the



museum end of Dale Street, and a well-known pub locally. About a dozen of us



Chewing the fat at the Ship & Mitre

gathered for an afternoon of good beer and good company, and the first chance to chew the fat in person for the first time in a long while.



After a couple of good beers in the

Ship to give everyone time to assemble, we made the short hop to the **Excelsior** - like its' near-neighbour, it has now been freed from being overshadowed by the hideous concrete flyover that was Churchill Way. There was a good selection of beers on offer, including a couple of LocAles.

Next up, was the **Angus Tap And Grind**, as the name sug-

gests a bar and coffee shop. A relatively new establishment, it looks rather trendy, but



Real Ale enthusiasts need not worry, as the Angus serves a good selection, usually



around four on a weekend, at prices usual for the city centre. It is a welcome addition to the Real Ale scene in town. Next, from a new bar, we visited an old favourite- the



Vernon Arms. As always, the



Vernon

beers here were spot on (personally, I had a delicious **Ossett White Rat**, a beer that was, until not too long ago, a rare sight in these parts, but which now seems to be a much more common offering locally- no bad thing!).

From here, next in line was one of the two Okell's pubs on Dale Street- **Thomas Rigby's**. A fine old coaching



inn, with a back room reputedly patronised by Lord Nelson when he visited the city, the beers again were on top form. Next stop for a pint was **Ye Hole In Ye Wall**, an old

pub with the cellars upstairs (it's built on a burial ground) and which only added a ladies' loo in the 1970s! The place was lively, and the beer



was in good nick. As the gathering was starting to disperse as people had to head home, our next port of call



was only a few doors up- another relatively-new pub (albeit a revival of a former pub of the same name), the **Denbigh Castle**. Given that it is run by the same people behind the Bridewell, the beer choice was good, and a few

of us enjoyed our pints while watching the end of the Liverpool game.

The last few stragglers doubled-back slightly to visit our current **Pub Of The Year, the Lion Tavern** on Moorfields. As befits the holder of our POTY award, the ales were in



excellent condition, and a warm welcome was accorded, as always.

I would like to thank everyone who attended, it was good to see people in the flesh again after so long. I am drawing up a list of future social events, which I hope to finalise in the near future.

Matt Valentine
Social Secretary

DALE STREET REAL ALE PUB CRAWL

PUBS

Not all the pubs listed here were visited on the social

1 ANGUS TAP AND GRIND	6 PIG & WHISTLE
2 DENBIGH CASTLE	8 RAILWAY TAVERN
2 EXCELSIOR	9 SHIP & MITRE
3 LADY OF MANN	10 THOS RIGBY'S
4 LION TAVERN	11 VERNON ARMS
5 MA BOYLE'S	12 YE HOLE IN YE WALL



Hello, everyone, Matt, your Pub Of The Year co-ordinator here. Nobody could have predicted, 2 years ago, what would unfold on a global scale, nor the impact events would have on things like our annual Pub Of The Year competition. As has already been well-publicised, we could not hold the competition last year, so it was decided to carry over the winner for 2020, The Lion Tavern on Moorfields, as the winner for 2021 also.

I thought this latest edition of MerseyAle (our first physical, rather than online-only, copy for a while) would be an ideal opportunity to remind you of the procedure for deciding upon our branch **Pub Of The Year for 2022** - will Dave and the team in the Lion retain the title they won in 2020, or will it be someone else's turn, this time around?

As some of you may remember, the current system was agreed at an EGM which was held in October 2018, and is as follows:

- ◆ Pub scores will be based upon ratings given through

WhatPub. This will be used to produce a list of 10 pubs (WhatPub scoring is also used to determine the pubs that we put forward for the annual Good Beer Guide, therefore whatever pub is crowned POTY is guaranteed to also be an entry in the GBG. However, for POTY purposes, unlike entries in the Good Beer Guide, only WhatPub scores submitted by members of Liverpool & Districts branch itself will be considered). Members have until **Friday 17th December 2021** to submit their beer scores.

- ◆ Scores will then be collated to produce a list of the 10 top-scoring pubs, which will then go forward to the nomination process, this list will be published on **Tuesday 28th December 2021**.

- ◆ **Between Friday 31st December 2021 and Friday 28th January 2022**, members can nominate up to 3 of the 10 top-listed pubs to go forward to the judging process. This can be done online, or by emailing me direct with your nominations at social@liverpoolcamra.org.uk (**Liverpool & District branch members ONLY**)

- ◆ The initial list of 10 pubs will be whittled down to 5, which will then progress to the judging process. Any Liverpool & Districts member can put their name forward to be a POTY judge via email (chair@liverpoolcamra.org.uk), or in person at any of our social events etc. However,

judges cannot work for any of the shortlisted pubs. The deadline for offering to be a judge will be **Tuesday 28th December 2021**

- ◆ **Friday 14th January 2022**- 11 judges will be selected at random from the names submitted. This will be ratified by our **CAMRA Regional Co-ordinator, Doug MacAdam**.

- ◆ **Saturday 29th January 2022**- the names of the top 5 pubs will be announced.

- ◆ **Sunday 30th January 2022 to Friday 18th March 2022**- judging to take place in line with national guidelines. Each judge must visit each nominated pub twice. Any judge that is obviously not scoring fairly will have their scores disregarded. Judges' scores for each pub will be published anonymously, to ensure transparency.

Sunday 20th March 2022- our Pub Of The Year 2022 will be announced

Thanks, and I hope you will all submit your beer scores to help with the process- and put yourselves forward to be judges when the time comes.

Matt Valentine
POTY Co-ordinator



Club of the Year 2021

We are pleased to announce that Club of the Year for 2021 is the Northern Club in Crosby.

It is not the first time that the Northern has won this award, but the club has continued to show a great commitment to providing quality cask beer to members and visitors. Although the club is supplied by Carlsberg Marston's, the club still sources many of its guest beers from small, local breweries, for example, Rock the



Boat and Brimstage. Hawkhead Bitter is still a firm favourite with many club members and is usually available during visits. CAMRA members can visit on Thursdays and any time on the weekend when there is a cricket match taking place, and CAMRA members get club members rates on all cask beers on production of their CAMRA membership card.

All fixtures can be found on the Play-Cricket website **Northern CC (play-cricket.com)**

Like the Pub of The Year (POTY) award, it is not just

about the beer but how the club fits into the everyday life of the local community that matters to the COTY award. The Northern has a great community spirit and promotes a range of sports (Cricket, Hockey, Squash, Bowls, and Snooker) to people of all ages and abilities. In 2021 Northern Cricket Club First XI became the Liverpool & District Cricket Competition Premier League champions, this competition is sponsored by Love Lane brewing, and gained England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Disability Club status. In

once remarked to me

"It is not just a sports club, it is more like a family".

If you know of any private members clubs in our branch area serving real ale, please let us know and it can be added to WhatPub. If you are a member of such a club, have a word with the Club Steward or Committee and see if they will allow CAMRA members in. The more clubs we know about, the better the COTY competition will be. Clubs need support as much as pubs



Tony Morgan, Graham Kerr (Club President) & John Watts

2021 the club ran a very successful six-week disability sport programme which was very well attended and worked close with Academy North, an organisation which provides school holiday coaching camps to young people of all abilities, and regularly has 90 children aged 4-11 involved in Friday night sports. As one member of the Northern, who has been associated with the club for over 50 years,

do. If we publicise good clubs other CAMRA members can find them, and maybe some of us might find a new hobby or sport to take up.



Tony Morgan
Liverpool & Districts
CAMRA
Branch

Public Affairs Officer
publicaffairs@liverpoolcamra.org.uk

PUB COMPANIES - WHO THEY ARE AND WHAT THEY DO

Pub and Club Campaigns Committee feels that many members would find it helpful to have more information about the companies that control many of our pubs. This is the first in a series of articles that will provide the facts on pub company practices and operations, explaining in particular how their business models work and what this means for both licensees and, ultimately, us as customers. The aim is to let the facts speak for themselves so that members can make up their own minds about the positive or negative effects of these practices on our pubs and the folk who run them.



1. A POTTED HISTORY OF THE PUBCO

Fifty years ago, when CAMRA was formed, the pub landscape looked very different. For a start, there were many more of them – some 75000 against around 47500 now. The majority of pubs (52000 or so) were owned by breweries. The 89 small and regional breweries had 13800 of them and the rest were in the hands of the ‘Big Six’ – Bass Charrington, Allied, Whitbread, Scottish & Newcastle, Watney/Grand Metropolitan and Courage/Imperial.

Most of the other 23000 pubs were free houses (in name anyway – many tied their beer supplies to a big brewer in return for loans and discounts). Companies that just owned pubs were few and far between – the

likes of Sir John Fitzgerald in the north-east and Heavitree in the south west (though they tied themselves to Bass). Just about every pub-owning brewery rigorously imposed a supply tie on its own products. As late as the mid-1980s, I remember a Greene King Director recoiling in horror at my suggestion that they allow a few guest beers in their pubs. As a result, new breweries found outlets hard to come by and we customers were hardly spoilt for choice, as a glance at a Good Beer Guide of that era will reveal.

Then, in 1989, along came the Beer Orders. The story of this epochal legislation (for better or worse) is superbly told in Laura Hadland’s recent Fifty Years of CAMRA book but, in essence, the government acknowledged the stranglehold on the industry exercised by the Big Six and, among other things, capped their pub ownership at 2000.



By now, because of closures and sell-offs, the Big Six owned fewer pubs between them but the Orders still meant around 11000 pubs coming onto the market. We, of course, dreamed of a new golden age of multi-hand-pumped free houses galore, but the reality was sadly different. Companies were quickly established, usually with close links



to the Big Six, to Hoover up these pubs in big batches then negotiate supply deals, invariably with the company who previously owned the place. Enterprise Inns, for instance, started off with the purchase of 368 pubs from Bass, and that’s where they bought the beer from.

In the years that followed, wheeling and dealing saw companies variously grow, collapse, merge, acquire, dispose – it was very difficult to keep up with who owned what. Some companies concentrated on managed pubs, some on tenancies, a few on a mixed model. Behemoths emerged – by 2004, Punch Taverns and Enterprise each owned more than 8000 pubs, though both had accumulated so much debt that they ran into trouble come the financial crash and subsequently retrenched. We’ll have a closer look at the current pub company scene in the next article.

A brief history of Punch Taverns illustrates the volatility surrounding pubcos from the



1990s onwards. Punch formed in 1997, purchasing a tranche of pubs from Bass. Two years later, they bought Inn Business (mostly former Whitbread pubs) and then the rump of the Allied estate. The managed pubs were spun off into a separate division called Spirit. In 2003, they acquired their 3100-strong rival Pubmaster plus a couple of smaller companies. Next, Scottish & Newcastle’s managed pubs were snapped up and added to Spirit. By 2011 the impact of the crash was being felt, calling for a ‘strategic review’. Spirit was demerged and, in 2015, sold to Greene King. Come 2016, a takeover bid totalling £403m (plus the taking on of a billion pounds of debt) was accepted; 1900

pubs went to Heineken with the remaining 1300 residing with Patron Capital, though the Punch brand has been retained. In the meantime, the treatment of their tenants by many of the Pubcos had become a



GREENE KING
BURY ST EDMUNDS

major issue and, after years of campaigning, the Government was persuaded, in 2014, to announce a statutory Pubs Code aimed at regulating their practices and ensuring fair treatment for tenants. We’ll return to the Code in a future article. In this context, though, it needs mentioning that the currently accepted definition of a pub company



embraces breweries that own pubs – and nowadays most such companies have separate management structures for their pub and brewing operations.

Final comments.

Pub companies are here to stay. There is nothing wrong with the basic model and, indeed, there are some excellent companies (mostly smaller ones) who treat their licensees well and clearly see their pubs as more than just property assets. It would, though, be difficult to argue that the ways in which some companies operate raise many issues around their custodianship of what aren’t just piles of bricks-and-mortar but, in most cases, precious and valued community assets. We’ll examine those issues in due course.

Paul Ainsworth
Pub & Club
Campaigns Committee



CIDER and PERRY news



New Cider Officer

Earlier this year I put out a call to members, asking if anyone would take on the role of cider officer.

Fortunately one of our members rallied to the call and stepped forward to take on the role of our branch Cider Officer, Steven Mulholland.

Stephen has been a regular contributor to MerseyAle for several years. I put some questions to Steven so he could introduce himself.



Steven Mulholland

Q) How long have you been a member of CAMRA?

A) I have been a member of CAMRA for over five years now and some of you have probably already know me.

Q) What has been your involvement with CAMRA?

A) During the last five years, I have gained many benefits as a member of CAMRA. Meeting so many great people, attending real ale and cider festivals, coach trips and meet ups before going to events.

Q) Why have you taken on the role of Cider Officer?

A) During the last couple of years, I have gotten more interested in real cider as well as continuing to enjoy real ale.

Q) What's your favourite Cider or Perry?

A) My favourite cider is Gwynt Y Ddraig Black Dragon, Thistly Cross Whisky Cask Cider and Lilley's because they provided an excellent delivery service during lockdown.

Q) What's your favourite interest/hobby outside of CAMRA?

A) My other interests are going to rock gigs and discovering new bands. I enjoy foreign travel especially the Caribbean but haven't been outside the U.K since 2019.

Q) What do you hope to achieve in the next 3 months?

A) During the next three months I want to continue to promote real cider and support CAMRA in its fair pricing for real cider campaign.

Steven was talking to MerseyAle editor Mel James-Henry

Cider and Perry Month

October is Cider and Perry Month and CAMRA will be celebrating in style. CAMRA are partnering with Gabe Cook, author of Modern British Cider, to launch a campaign calling for the Government to support cider and perry makers with vital reforms to Cider Duty, as well as offering a month-long timeline of new and exclusive online content, amongst other cider celebrations. Keep an eye out on social media and our website for a guide to cider styles, the story of perry, our pick of the best cider and perry events, and two October podcasts from Pubs, Pints. People. – as well as an opportunity to get involved and contact your MP.

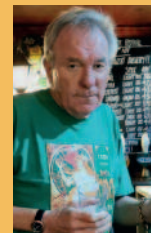
The Chancellor will deliver the Budget on 27 October, and as economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic begins, it's crucial that pubs, clubs, beer and cider aren't forgotten. CAMRA will be lobbying to make sure the trade gets the support it needs, and we'll give campaigners all the tools they need to get involved



over the next month. Further details can be found in the Cider section on our website.

**Steven Mulholland
Cider Officer**

Sandy Gavin (Cider Sandy)



As you will already be aware one of St Helen's members, Sandy Gavin passed away recently. Sandy was known to all as Cider Sandy. Sandy wasn't just known in St Helens, but an active member throughout the region and beyond.

Let raise a glass to Cider Sandy. Wassail! **St Helens CAMRA**

CIDER and PERRY Pub of the Year Augustus John



Steven Mulholland (centre) presents the award to Jim and Tony

Our new cider officer, Steven Mulholland was on hand to present the Augustus John (aka the AJ) with this year's branch Cider Pub of the Year award. Steven said "It was a great honour to present the **Real Cider Pub of the Year** award to the AJ, and a good night was had by all who attended the event. A well-deserved winner, this is the tenth time the AJ has won this award since 2001, only missing out in

2016 to Cask and in 2017 to the Ship & Mitre". There was an opportunity for those in the pub (mainly students) to sample a cider, and there was a great range to choose from including **Celtic Marches 'Lilly the Pink'** and **'Thundering Molly'**, Lilley's **'Mango Cider'**, **'Cockeye'd Cider'** from Mad Jack and Gwynt Y Ddraig's **'Black Dragon'**.

**Steven Mulholland
Cider Officer**

WANTED Local News Reporters

Although Liverpool CAMRA branch does cover a wide area of Merseyside, we are aware that some areas don't get the news coverage they deserve.

This includes the areas of Aigburth, Allerton, Garston, Gateacre, Huyton, Maghull, Woolton and Wavertree.

We would love more articles on pubs in these areas, these can vary from snippets for pub news to full page pieces.

If any of our readers are interested please **email merseyale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk**



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*Price for paying by Direct Debit and correct at 1 July 2021. Concessionary rates available. Please visit camra.org.uk/membership-rates
†Joint members receive £40 worth of vouchers.



Campaign for Real Ale

Member's Weekend

A warm welcome awaits you on the East Sussex coast!



CAMRA's Members' Weekend, AGM & Conference will be hosted by our Sussex branches at the Winter Garden in Eastbourne 8-10 April 2022. After two years without a physical event, hundreds of members have already registered to attend – to see what Sussex has to offer by way of great beer, cider and perry. The weekend is

a chance to meet friends, make new ones, go on organised brewery trips and take part in activities.

It's free to attend and open to all CAMRA members.

The weekend is staffed by volunteers – with a range of opportunities to help on offer. All the information is on the event page – where you can register to attend / sign up to help - go to

Find out more and register
camra.org.uk/members-weekend-agm-conference
email: membersweekend@camra.org.uk

The Good Beer Guide 2022



In The Good Beer Guide, you'll find over 4500 listings across the UK's best pubs, bars and breweries, chosen by local CAMRA volunteers as having the best cask beers available – or you can check out the special brewery section to discover new breweries setting the scene alight with interesting, exciting new brews.

With reviews on all of these establishments, The Good Beer Guide is your passport to discovering where and what you should be drinking right now.

In today's world of homogenised and bland, where one beer tastes just like another, it can be hard to find a great pub that serves interesting and well-kept real ale.

The Good Beer Guide (GBG) is the UK's best-selling guide to pubs, bars and clubs where you can enjoy a great pint of traditional British beer. It highlights pubs selected by CAMRA members as places to savour good beers from small breweries as well as cask-conditioned lagers and world beers and some pubs are highlighted for serving real ciders too.

The book will be released November 12, 2021.
£12 pre-order price for CAMRA members

rrp **£15.99**

Welcome to the

Vernon Arms

Cheers from Jimmy and Barbara Monaghan
The Vernon Arms, Dale Street, Liverpool

7 Handpumps (4 ever-changing, 1 cider)

Regulars: White Rat, The Rev. James, Rum Porter, Mallinsons

- Gitane Zarah's Rum Porter (exclusive to The Vernon Arms)
- Food served Mon-Thur 12-7pm, Fri-Sun 12-4pm
- Belgian speciality bottled beers
- Large screen sports in HD
- Private function room available (The Latham Lounge)

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LocAle @VernonArmsL2 www.vernonarms.net 69 Dale Street, L2 2HJ, 0151 236 6132





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Temperance Can harm your local pub

This article is being written a few days before the start of October, or Sober October, one of the months when charity groups ask us to knock off the drink for a bit. Cutting down can have benefits including sleeping better, having more energy, and losing weight. Sober October raises money for Macmillan Cancer Support, a cause I am sure many of us think is worthwhile. Hot on the heels of Christmas and the New Year comes Dry January, brought to you by Alcohol Change UK, a charity which aims for a society that is free from the harm caused by alcohol. Alcohol Change says that it is not anti-alcohol, it just a society where people don't need to turn to alcohol to overcome society's ills such as poverty and homelessness. As responsible cask ale drinkers I am sure none of us are unaware of these problems and would support these aims.

But how does this affect your local? Both groups raise money for charity. Since 2014, Sober October has raised over £33 million for Macmillan Cancer Support. Alcohol Change say that in 2021, 6.5 million people took part in Dry January, but don't appear to publish figures on moneys raised. The UK beer & alcohol trade contributes millions to charity annually, some figures show 96% of pubs run charitable events through the year, raising more than £100 Million, with the average pub contributing £2742 per year. Anyone who has submitted Asset of Community Value (ACV) application will know that evidence of a pubs charitable work

can often get an ACV approved, as it shows the pub has a community role. Throughout the UK, more than 2000 charities benefit from the fundraising centred around pubs.

Events such as Dry January and Go Sober for October have an effect as some people will avoid the pub during the charity month. Pubs are struggling to survive, not just from the effects of Covid lockdowns and the slow return of customers, but also from changes in drinking habits due to home drinking using cheap supermarket alcohol. You may be thinking of doing one of these charity abstinence things, that's down to you, but if you do think pub. You don't have to abandon the pub and its community. There are plenty of low- and no-alcohol alternatives available, there are even some which taste like beer these days. Keep going out and spending money in your local and support the local hospitality trade. If you want to go Sober October or Dry January, do it. Do what's right for you, but please keep the hospitality industry and your local pubs in mind. Remember their charity work, we don't want to be saying goodbye to that as well as losing pubs. Macmillan is good charity to contribute to and provides support to those that are really in need. You can donate direct by heading to their website on the following link

<https://www.gosober.org.uk/beneficiaries/macmillan/donations/new>

Tony Morgan
Public Affairs Officer

Did you know?
Research commissioned by CAMRA found that people who have a 'local' felt significantly more connected to their communities.



Did you know?
Single drinking fell by 30% between 2007 and 2017, and 78% of adults do not exceed the recommended lower-risk guideline of 14 units per week.



Did you know?
Brits were keen to stock up on no- and low-alcohol options before lockdowns, with sales rising 32.5%.



Did you know?
An analysis of 34 scientific studies found that moderate drinkers lived longer than other groups.



Did you know?
Pubs raise over £300 million a year for charity.



Did you know?
Pubs collect an average of £20,000 a year for their local communities.



Did you know?
Research commissioned by CAMRA found that people who have a 'local' felt they had more close friends they could call on for help and support.



LocAle Where to Find LocAle in Liverpool

(Correct as of March 2021)

As venues recover following the coronavirus lockdown period they need your support more than ever. Due to reduction in footfall, pubs may not be able to stock the same range of beers as they did pre lockdown. We do prefer pubs to have a smaller selection of well kept beers rather than try and maintain a wide range of beers when turn over is slow. This might affect the availability of a LocAle.

City Centre

Augustus John,

Peach Street, L3 5TX

Baltic Fleet,

33 Wapping, L1 8DQ

Belvedere,

8 Sugnall Street, L7 7EB

Blackburne Pub & Eatery,

24 Catharine Street, L8 7NL

Black Lodge Brewery Tap Room,

Kings Dock Street, L1 8JU

Bridewell,

1 Campbell Square, L1 5FB

Bundobust Restaurant,

17-19 Bold Street, L1 4DN

Caledonia,

22 Caledonia Street, L7 7DX

Carnival Brewery Tap,

Unit 3 King Edward Rise Industrial Estate, Gibraltar Row, L3 7HJ

Central,

31 Ranelagh Street, L1 1JP

Coach House,

2B Maryland St. L1 9DE

Courtyard Bar & Kitchen,

89 Roe Street, L1 1EP

Crown,

43 Lime Street, L1 1JQ

Dr Duncan's,

St Johns Lane, L1 1HF

Dispensary,

87 Renshaw Street, L1 2SP

Fall Well,

Roe Street, L1 1LS

Flute,

35 Hardman Street, L1 9AS

Gibberish Brewpub,

15 Caryl Street, L8 5AA

Grapes,

60 Roscoe Street, L1 9DW

Head of Steam,

85-89 Hanover Street, L1 3DZ

Keystone,

23 Hope Street, L1 9BQ

Lime Kiln,

Fleet Street, L1 4NR

Lion Tavern,

Moorfields, L2 2BP

Love Lane Bar & Kitchen,

62-64 Bridgewater Street, L1 0AY

North Western,

7 Lime Street, L1 1RJ

Philharmonic Dining Rooms,

36 Hope Street, L1 9BX

Pumphouse,

The Colonnades, Albert Dock, L3 4AN

Richard John Blackler,

1-2, Charlotte Row, L1 1HU

Roscoe Head,

24 Roscoe Street, L1 2SX

Sanctuary Tap,

72 Lime Street, L1 1JN

Ship & Mitre,

133 Dale Street, L2 2JH

Sphinx,

160 Mount Pleasant, University, L3 5TR

Vernon Arms,

69 Dale Street, L2 2HJ

Victoria Cross,

1-3 Sir Thomas Street, L1 6BW

Welkin,

7 Whitechapel, L1 6DS

Ye Hole in Ye Wall,

4 Hackins Hey, L2 2AW

Outside City Centre

Barkers Brewery,

Archway Road, Huyton, L36 9UJ

Barbacoa,

47-51 Mersey View, L22 6QA

Big Bog Brewery Tap,

74 Venture Point West, Evans Road, Speke, L24 9PB

Butchers,

Booker Avenue, L18 4QZ

Childwall Fiveways,

79 Queens Drive, L15 6XS

Cobden,

89 Qua1rry Street, Woolton, L25 6HA

Corner Post,

25 Bridge Road, Crosby, L23 6SA

Edinburgh,

119 College Road, L23 3AS

Four Ashes,

23 Crosby Road, North, Waterloo, L22 0LD

Frank Hornby,

38 Eastway, Maghull, L31 6BR

Handyman Supermarket,

46 Smithdown Road, L15 3JL

Liver,

137 South Road, Waterloo, L22 0LT

Neptune Brewery Tap Room,

Unit 1 Sefton Lane, Maghull, L31 8BX

Old Bank,

301 Aigburth Road, Aigburth, L17 0BJ

Punchbowl,

Lunt Road, Sefton Village, L29 7VA

Queen's Picturehouse,

47 South Road, Waterloo, L22 5PE

Que Pasa Cantina,

94 Lark Lane, L17 8UX

Raven,

72-74 Walton Vale, Walton, L9 2BU

Royal Hotel,

Marine Terrace, L22 5PR

Stamps Bar,

5 Crown Buildings Crosby, L23 5SR

Thomas Frost,

77-187 Walton Road, Kirkdale, L4 4AJ

Volunteer Canteen,

45 East Street, Waterloo, L22 8QR

Liverpool Pigeon, 14 Endbutt Lane, Crosby, L23 0TR

Masonic, 35 Gladstone Road, Garston, L19 1RR

Navigator, 694 Queens Drive, Old Swan, L13 5UH

Neptune Brewery Tap Room, Unit 1 Sefton Lane, Maghull, L31 8BX

Old Bank, 301 Aigburth Road, Aigburth, L17 0BJ

Punchbowl, Lunt Road, Sefton Village, L29 7VA

Queen's Picturehouse, 47 South Road, Waterloo, L22 5PE

Que Pasa Cantina, 94 Lark Lane, L17 8UX

Raven, 72-74 Walton Vale, Walton, L9 2BU

Royal Hotel, Marine Terrace, L22 5PR

Stamps Bar, 5 Crown Buildings Crosby, L23 5SR

Thomas Frost, 77-187 Walton Road, Kirkdale, L4 4AJ

Volunteer Canteen, 45 East Street, Waterloo, L22 8QR

Waterpudlian, (previously Stamps Too), 99 South Road, Waterloo, L22 0LR

Willow Bank Tavern, 329 Smithdown Road, Wavertree, L15 3JA

TOTAL 63
New additions are highlighted in RED

CAMRA LocAle is an initiative that promotes pubs stocking locally brewed real ale. The scheme builds on a growing consumer demand for quality local produce and an increased awareness of 'green' issues.

A MESSAGE TO PUBS:
If you think your pub should be included in this list, please email:
locale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk
giving details.
A Locale beer is a REAL ALE

BREWED WITHIN 30 miles of the pub by road. NB: Other terms and conditions apply

Free point of Sale (POS) materials are available including window stickers, leaflets and pump clip toppers. Email locale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk



You can find all these pubs on www.whatpub.com or scan the QR Code.



Getting around Merseyside

Below are some useful contact details for transport operators in Merseyside.

Merseytravel: For Journey Planner and Timetables
Tel: 0151 330 1000
www.merseytravel.gov.uk

Merseyrail: Operators of trains across Merseyside
Tel: 0151 555 1111
www.merseyrail.org

Whatpub: Lists which buses or trains stop near the pub
www.whatpub.com

National Rail Enquiries
ojp.nationalrail.co.uk





Liverpool Pubs CAMRA Discount



Discounts available on production of a valid CAMRA Card

- **Angus Tap & Grind**, 83-85 Dale Street, City Centre: 10% Sun – Thur.
- **Arkles**, 77 Anfield Road: 10%
- **Baltic Fleet**, 33a Wapping, City Centre: 20p off a pint, 10p off a half.
- **Bear & Staff**, 24-26 Gateacre Brow, Gateacre: 10%.
- **Birkey**, 35 Crooks Road: 10%
- **Black Bull**, Gateacre Brow, Gateacre: 20p off a pint (pints only) except Mon & Thur when all cask is £2.79/pint.*
- **Black Horse**, 641 Prescot Road, Old Swan: 10%.
- **Cambridge**, Mulberry St, University Campus, City Centre: £2.30 a pint Sat and Sun.
- **Central & Commercial**, 31 Ranelagh St, City Centre: 20p off a pint (pints only).
- **Courtyard Bar & Kitchen**, 89 Roe St, City Centre: 10% (pints only).
- **The Crown**, 43 Lime St, City Centre: 20p off a pint, 10p off a half.
- **Endbutt**, 63-65 Endbutt Lane, Crosby: 10%.
- **Hare & Hounds**, 53 Liverpool Rd North, Maghull: 20p off a pint (pints only) except Mon & Thur when all cask is £2.79/pint.*
- **Head of Steam**, 85-89 Hanover St, City Centre: 20p off a pint.
- **Jolly Miller**, 176 Mill Lane, West Derby: 10%.
- **Keystone**, 23 Hope Street, City Centre: 50p off a pint.
- **The Liver**, 137 South Rd, Waterloo: 20%.
- **Love Lane Brewery, Bar and Kitchen**, 62-64 Bridgewater Street, Baltic Triangle: 25% Mon - Thur 5pm - 7pm.
- **Ma Egerton's**, 9 Pudsey Street, City Centre: 10%.
- **Meadows Hotel, Liverpool Road South**: 10%
- **Netherton Hotel**, Church Road, Litherland: 10%.
- **Northern Club**, Elm Avenue, Moor Park, Crosby: 10%

- **Pumphouse**, The Colonnades, Royal Albert Dock: 25p off a pint (pints only).
 - **The Little Taproom**, 278 Aigburth Road, Aigburth: Loyalty card, buy 8 get 1 free.
 - **The Punchbowl**, Lunt Rd, Sefton Village: 20p off a pint, 10p off a half.
 - **Richmond Tavern**, Church Rd, Wavertree: 20p off a pint (pints only) except Mon & Thurs. when all cask is £2.79/pint.*
 - **Royal Standard**, Deysbrook Lane, West Derby: 10%.
 - **Sefton Arms**, 1 Mill Lane, West Derby: 10%.
 - **Victoria Cross**, 1-3 Sir Thomas St, City Centre: 20p off a pint (pints only) except Sat.
 - **Willow Bank Tavern**, 329 Smithdown Rd, Wavertree: 10% except Tues after 6pm.
- Discount available all day, every day unless stated otherwise**

Discount Days (available to anyone)

- **Black Bull**, Gateacre Brow, Gateacre: Mon & Thurs. ONLY £2.79/pint.
- **Flute**, 35 Hardman Street, City Centre: Tues ONLY £2.10/pint.
- **The George**, 1 Moor Lane, Crosby Village: Tues ONLY £1.95/pint.
- **Hare & Hounds**, 53 Liverpool Rd North, Maghull: Mon & Thurs. ONLY £2.79/pint.
- **The John Brodie**, Unit 1 Allerton Road,

- Allerton: Tues ONLY £1.95/pint.**
- **Love Lane Brewery, Bar and Kitchen**, 62-64 Bridgewater Street, Baltic Triangle: Mon-Thurs 5pm - 7pm 25%.
- **Richmond Tavern**, Church Rd, Wavertree: Mon & Thurs. ONLY £2.79/pint.
- **White Star**, Rainford Gardens, City Centre: Mon-Thurs selected beer £2.50.
- **Willow Bank Tavern**, 329 Smithdown Rd, Wavertree: Tues ONLY from 6pm £2.25/pint.

Lists correct as of September 2021

merseyale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk

Discounts available on production of New CAMRA Voucher

CAMRA have replaced the old JD Wetherspoon Voucher scheme with a new 'CAMRA Voucher Scheme'. The new vouchers are valid in JD Wetherspoon, Stonegate, Brains, Castle Rock and Amber Taverns managed pubs.

The New CAMRA Voucher Scheme entitles members to a discount of 50p off a pint of Real Ale, Cider or Perry. See www.camra.org.uk/vouchers for full terms and conditions

Pubs accepting New CAMRA Voucher Scheme

- Albert**, 66-68 Lark Lane, Aigburth. (Stonegate)
- Barkers Brewery**, Archway Road, Huyton. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Captain Alexander**, 15 James Street, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Childwall Fiveways**, 179 Queens Drive, Childwall. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Crafty Chandler**, 48-50 Bold Street, City Centre. (Stonegate)
- Fall Well**, Roe Street, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Flute**, 35 Hardman Street, City Centre. (Stonegate)
- Frank Hornby**, 38 Eastway, Maghull. (JD Wetherspoon)
- George**, 1 Moor Lane, Crosby Village. (Stonegate)
- John Brodie**, Unit 1 Allerton Road, Allerton. (Stonegate)
- Lime Kiln**, Fleet Street, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)

- Navigator**, 694 Queens Drive, Old Swan. (JD Wetherspoon)
- North Western**, 7 Lime Street, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Old Bank**, 34 South Road, Waterloo. (Stonegate)
- Queens Picture House**, 47-49 South Road, Waterloo. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Raven**, 72-74 Walton Vale, Walton. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Richard John Blackler**, Units 1 & 2 Charlotte Row, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Thomas Frost**, 177-187 Walton Road, Kirkdale. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Welkin**, 7 Whitechapel, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Wild Rose**, 2a & 1b Triad Centre, Bootle. (JD Wetherspoon)
- William Gladstone**, 18-20 North John Street, City Centre. (Stonegate)

Any new discount offers since the last issue are highlighted in RED.

All discounts are at the discretion of the pub or club and can be as little or as large as the pub feels suits their business needs and maybe withdrawn at any time.

Please remember discounts should never be expected.

Message to licensees / real ale drinkers

This list is not exhaustive, so if we have left anyone off, OR if the discount no longer applies, please let me know by emailing:

graham.murray@liverpoolcamra.org.uk with details.

If you are a licensee/pub owner and are interested in joining the scheme then please email: contact@liverpoolcamra.org.uk.

This list is correct as of September 2021





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www.ltprintgroup.co.uk

Branch Diary

20th October, 7.30pm start- Branch get-together at Denbigh Castle

10th November, 8pm start- Branch AGM at Ship and Mitre

17th November, 7.30pm start- Pub Games Night (venue to be confirmed)

11th December, 7pm start- Liverpool CAMRA Xmas Party (venue to be confirmed)

8th January, noon start- Georgian Quarter pub walk - Meet at Dispensary

NO SOCIAL IN FEBRUARY DUE TO BEER FESTIVAL

12th March, Waterloo/Crosby pub walk.

Meet 12:10 Waterloo Station (11.53 train from Liverpool Central to Waterloo)

16th April, Wigan pub walk. Meet 11.25 Lime Street Station (11.36 train from Lime Street to Wigan North Western)

14th May, Merseyrail trip to West Kirkby and working back to Liverpool via various stops on the train. Meet 11.20 Lime Street Station (11.28 train from Lime Street)

Further details of all Branch events can be found on the website www.liverpoolcamra.org.uk



Follow us

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Apologies if we have left anyone anyone out.

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PLEASE NOTE WE DO NOT TAKE CASH FOR MERSEYALE ADS LICENSEES AND STAFF - BEWARE OF PEOPLE ASKING FOR CASH PAYMENT FOR ADS



Trading Standards Departments

The Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline responds to calls from Merseyside Residents on behalf of all local authority Trading Standards departments. Tel: 0345 404 0506 or visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Further details of all trading standards departments www.tradingstandards.uk

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For further information please contact our Sales Team on 01924 261333 or email sales@ossett-brewery.co.uk

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