

CAMRA LIVERPOOL & DISTRICTS

NEWSLETTER - August 2016

EDITORIAL

Not too much news this month. Remember that you can submit news by clicking the updates tab for the pub on whatpub.com. or emailing news@liverpoolcamra.org.uk .

This is the basic version, suitable for emailing to our members using the CAMRA Comms tool. A fuller version will appear in due course on the branch's website. Go to www.liverpoolcamra.org.uk and click on the Newsletter tab.

MERSEYALE

People should be aware that the committee of the Liverpool & Districts branch have been carrying out a review of MerseyAle. A meeting was held and MerseyAle readers were invited to take part in a survey. The number of people partaking in the survey was good, with the percentage of members responding higher than most public surveys. The results are on the branch's website.

As a result of the survey it has been decided that MerseyAle will revert to an A5 size magazine. The Wirral and St Helens branches will contribute and ManxAle will continue to be part of MerseyAle. The magazine will continue to be quarterly. We hope an Autumn edition will be published by the beginning of September.

Our editor for many years, John Armstrong, did not agree with the changes and has decided to step down. The branch thanks John for all his work over many years.

Dave MacBryde is the new editor.

We hope people, previous contributors and new, will submit articles. They can be sent to merseyale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk

Distribution

Here is a message from Andre Fu, the Distribution Manager for MerseyAle

Did you know that every time an edition of Merseyale is produced, 11,000 copies are printed? It is now up to me to try and make sure that copies are spread widely, fairly and frequently to pubs and other venues within our branch area.

Whilst some copies are sent to Wirral, the Isle of Man and now St Helens, the others are distributed in a number of ways. Firstly, certain city centre pubs act as Distribution Points (DP) and undertake to make copies available to anyone who wants to take Merseyale to other pubs whilst on their travels. Current DP pubs are the Roscoe Head, Dispensary and Ship & Mitre, but

others will be added. Secondly, some branch members have boxes delivered directly to their home/workplace and others collect from the printer for onward distribution. This network works pretty well in the main, but relies on only a handful of dedicated people to maintain it and sometimes it can be a struggle. We do not always get around to all the pubs as often as we like and consequently copies can go to waste, which is not what we want.

This is where YOU could be able to help by offering to drop of a few copies to pubs that we struggle to visit regularly, due to where they are they are. Some are in and around the city centre, but the vast majority are in the suburbs, particularly to the south and east.

So, if you could offer to take some copies to pubs where you know they would be appreciated, please contact me on the email address below with details. Of course, if you visit somewhere regularly where you NEVER see Merseyale, have a word with the staff first to make sure they have somewhere where Merseyale can displayed prominently and are willing to take them, then we can provide you with an initial allocation and a CAMRA branded magazine holder.

Any offer of help will be much appreciated.

Email andre.fu@liverpoolcamra.org.uk

HEADLINE NEWS – BREWERY TAP STOCKS SCOTTISH BELGIUM BEER

Tony Williams reports.

The Brewery Tap is now selling beers from the Six Degrees North Brewery at Laurencekirk in Aberdeenshire. This brewery specialises in Belgium type beers and is named because it is six degrees north of Brussels. A cask beer, Belgium Pale Ale is on handpump, and there are also four keg beers. Chopper Stout is available in bottles.

There continues to be up to three other cask ales available, with Titanic Plum Porter being available on my last visit.



The pub is benefiting from passing trade from people visiting the Biennial exhibition at the old Cains Brewery. I recommend people visit both the exhibition and the Tap.

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/MER/36/brewery-tap-liverpool>

OTHER PUB NEWS

Liverpool now has another brew pub. **Love & Rockets** on Lark Lane have set up a small craft brewery on the premises producing keg beers. On my visit two beers were on tap, Carmen American IPA, 4.3%, and Satch, a 4.0% Export Pilsner. Two other brews are in their range, Gil Craft, 4.1%, and Doralis 4.3%.

The pub continues to sell cask beer, with Big Bog beers from Speke on the hand pumps on my last visit.

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/MER/352/love-rockets-liverpool>

Perhaps sister pub, The Esperanza on Hope Street, which calls itself a brew pub, may also start brewing.

The **Lord Warden** on London Road has stopped selling Rock the Boat beers. Unfortunately sales never took off and some beer was being regularly poured away. Why can such a pub not be able to support real ale?

Two city centre pubs have closed for refurbishment. First is **the Grapes** Roscoe / Knight Streets, which is receiving its long planned improvements.

The second is the **Yates's** at Queens Square. The new image is as **Yates**, perhaps to further distance the modern eating pub from the earlier wine lodges. The pub is due to reopen mid-August.

Another pub being refurbished is the **Horse & Jockey** on Waddicar Lane in Melling. New publican here, Adam, has been in touch and informs us that real ale will be available when it reopens towards the end of August. Hopefully Adam's deal with Enterprise Inns will allow him to offer some interesting beers.

A new outlet for real ale in Maghull is **Bar du Fay**, at 96 Liverpool Road South, which is on the 300 bus route from Liverpool to Southport. There is one beer engine that normally dispenses a beer from the Stamps Brewery. However, when correspondent Sean visited the beer was not on. Perhaps the beer is only available on busier days. People calling in here can afterwards catch the 300 bus up to Lydiate and visit the Scotch Piper.

I noticed that the Laburnum on Litherland Road Bootle is being offered for lease by Admiral Taverns. This pub has hand pumps and I seem to remember Deuchars IPA being sold here in the past, but there has been no real ale recently. Perhaps a new publican might try selling cask beer here again. The Jawbone along the road makes it work.

It is outside our area, but I decided to mention a new micro pub, as it is so easy to get to. The **Beer Station** at **Freshfield** is right next to the station. It is open each day, from 3.00pm on weekdays and midday at weekends.



There are three hand pumps, two of which dispense beers from the local Red Star Brewery. The other will normally be a beer from another local brewery. There are also three keg taps that currently serve products from the Freedom Brewery, including their version of a Kolsch.



Real cider is planned, but meanwhile there are bottles from Rosies and Aspinalls. A selection of wines and spirits mean there is something for all people to drink.

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/SOU/330/beer-station-freshfield>

BREWERY NEWS

Neptune Brewery has produced a new beer. Mermaid's Purse is a 4.0% Blonde Hoppy Summer Ale. I enjoyed the beer at the Corner Post during July.

The latest **Liverpool Craft** beer was being served at Constellations at the end of July. Archer's Paradox is described as a session red ale, dry hopped with Archers, a British hop.

DIARY

Here is a list of branch events and other real ale events known to the branch. Should you know of any real ale events that should be included in a future newsletter please email details to news@liverpoolcamra.org.uk

Members can attend committee meetings. Please email contact@liverpoolcamra.org.uk for details.

For information regarding coach trips please email social@liverpoolcamra.org.uk or phone Ian on 07521 741 586.

Saturday 6th August – Coach trip to Worcester.

Saturday 6th August – CAMRA Revitalisation meeting. 2pm The Augustus John, Peach Street, Liverpool University.

Sunday 7th August – First Sunday lunch. Railway, Tithebarn Street, 1.00pm.

Wednesday 17th August – Branch Get Together. Walk to pubs in Gateacre & Woolton. Meet 6.00pm Childwall Fiveways (earlier if you want to eat).

Saturday 13th August – Crosby Walk. Meet Sue at 11.00am at the Queens Picturehouse, South Road, Waterloo, for breakfast and a drink, before a scenic walk visiting pubs in the area.

Thursday 25th August – Wetherspoon Meet the Brewer. Barker Brewery, Huyton.

Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th August – Pie & Cider Festival. The Merchant Slater Street.

Saturday 3rd September – Coach trip to Derby.

Tuesday 6th September – Committee meeting.

Sunday 11th September – Sunday Lunch Meet Up will be the second Sunday this month. Meet in

the Jawbone Tavern, Litherland Road, Bootle from 1.00pm. After eating we will tour other pubs in the area as detailed in last month's Pub Walk.

Sunday 18th September – Ferry Across the Mersey and our annual walk from Seacombe to New Brighton via a few pubs. Meet at the Pier Head Ferry Terminal in time for the 12 noon ferry.

Thursday 22nd September – Monthly meeting on a Thursday for a change. Meet the Brewer event. Augustus John, Peach Street, Liverpool University. 7.30pm for 8.00pm start.

Credits for other news: Tony Morgan, Sean Murphy

Copy date for the next Newsletter 26th August.

Send pub news via whatpub@liverpoolcamra.org.uk or news@liverpoolcamra.org.uk

Send diary items or articles via merseyale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk

PUB WALK number 4 - University area

One reason to become a student at Liverpool University is that there are good pubs nearby. Be advised that opening times and choice can be reduced during holiday periods. To get to the University area walk up Mount Pleasant from by the Adelphi Hotel.

For those who need sustenance for the walk they may wish to stop at **Rileys**, on the right at the bottom of Mount Pleasant, The one beer on offer here was often a locale in the past, but recently it has been Thwaites Wainwright.

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/MER/264/rileys-liverpool>

Walk up the hill past Hope Street (See Pub Walk number 2) and you will find on the right **the Font**, under student accommodation on Arrad Street. Two beers are usually available here from smaller breweries, often locales, but Purple Moose and Salopian are also regularly on tap here. This is also a good place to eat. There are plenty of games to play here.

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/MER/60/font-liverpool>



Turn right onto Oxford Street and right again onto Mulberry Street. On the left, halfway down the street, is **the Cambridge**. This traditional pub has up to three ales from the Marstons group on tap. Lunchtime food is available.

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/MER/30/cambridge-liverpool>



Backtrack along Mulberry Street, turn left on Oxford Street and then right onto Mount Pleasant.

Stay on the right hand side around the curve in the road and you will come to the Guild of Students. Here is **the Sphinx**, named due to the University's strong links with Egypt. Two ales are normally available, one of which could be the house beer brewed by Melwood Brewery. Good value food is available here also.

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/MER/396/sphinx-liverpool>



Turn right out of the Sphinx and right again and you will see **the Augustus John**. This is a must to visit if you like cider, having been the branch's Cider Pub of the Year several times. There are also up to five beers, a couple of which are normally locales. Note that this pub is usually closed at weekends, unless there is a big event on in the area. On weekdays this is a great place to conclude the walk.

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/MER/9/augustus-john-liverpool>

From here you can walk down Brownlow Hill, or catch a bus outside the Metropolitan Cathedral Crypt Hall, the venue for the annual Liverpool Beer Festival.

