

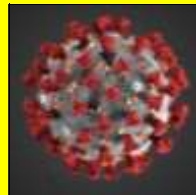
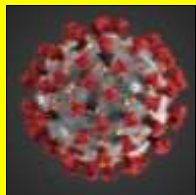
ONE & ALE

Campaign for Real Ale Cornwall Branch Newsletter

Summer 2020

Covid-19

Online Edition



**The Pubs Might be Closed
But CAMRA is Still Here For You**

EDITOR'S COMMENT



Here's me in happier times, with a pint in my hand in one of my favourite pubs.

At the time of going to print for the previous edition of the Cornwall Branch newsletter we were all looking forward to our annual general

meeting. Originally planned for 14 March it was found that St Austell Brewery, the location of our meeting, had been double booked somehow and we had to choose another date. That became 28 March, little knowing what was to lie ahead. We were then advised by H M Government to stay at home and by 24 March we entered Lockdown.

Prior to the AGM various members of the committee had given notice that they would be standing down and positions needed to be filled. The branch would need a chairman, secretary, social secretary and festival organiser, with other positions possibly being deleted.

As the AGM did not take place, and to date there is no indication when one might be possible, the committee is keeping the branch running. Pubs may be allowed to open 4 July, but it is likely to come with restrictions like social distancing. Whether the branch can hold an AGM while keeping everyone 2 metres apart (or will it be 1 metre) is open to question. The number of members that might attend currently exceeds the maximum set by the Government too. Holding a virtual AGM online also has many drawbacks, too many to mention here.

The remainder of the branch committee has continued to keep in touch from time to time by email and eventually something will be sorted out. Please have patience and stick with us in the meantime.

Nationally the Campaign for Real Ale continues to function although only a skeleton staff are running the office in St Albans, with the remainder furloughed.

To help members get benefits from their membership CAMRA has set up some apps that can be downloaded to your various devices, mobiles, tablets, i-pads etc. **These are all part of CAMRA's #Pulling Together campaign.** Find out all you need by visiting www.camra.org.uk/pullingtogether.

As a member you can also help by supplying information as to which breweries are offering takeaway or delivery services, and the WhatPub site has been adapted to cover pubs that are doing the same. **These need to be updated using members' local knowledge.** Your help will be especially needed once pubs begin to reopen, as many may not.

PULLING TOGETHER

The Pulling Together Campaign was launched by CAMRA, in partnership with SIBA and Crowdfunder. Pubs, clubs, breweries and taprooms are fighting for their survival against the Coronavirus. Many are finding different and innovative ways to help their business weather the crisis.

Brew2You

order fresh local beer during lockdown

Order fresh local beer to your door with just the click of a button!

CAMRA have launched a new app to help customers purchase fresh local beer and cider from pubs, breweries and cider producers hoping to stay afloat during the lockdown.

Brew2You provides a shop window for the thousands of local businesses currently offering beer and cider through takeaway or delivery services. Customers can easily search for their favourite drink within their local area and order it to their door with just a click of a button.

Download the app now on the App Store or Google Play – visit brew2you.co.uk to find out more. You can also use it on your web browser – just enter **your postcode to see what's available!**

Cornish Breweries that have signed up to the scheme are:-

Blue Anchor, Helston	Local Delivery
Driftwood Spars	Off Sales & Local Delivery
Dynamite Valley	Off Sales
Firebrand	Free Shipping
Fowey	Free Local Delivery
Harbour	Free Delivery
Padstow	Delivery
Skinner's	Online Sales
St Austell (St Columb Distribution)	Click & Collect
St Austell (Brewery)	Free Delivery
Treen's	Free Local Delivery

And on Isles of Scilly, Ales of Scilly do Local Delivery

Did you know that the Red Lion is the most common name for a pub in England?

The RED (ON) LION

www.theredonlion.co.uk

CAMRA has created a virtual pub for beer drinkers and pub-goers to get together for a beer and tackle the loneliness and social isolation felt during the **Coronavirus lockdown and closure of the nation's** pubs.

The Red (On)Lion is a video platform where anyone can join the public bar for a lively chat over a beer or book a table to set up video conferencing for up to four participants. Pub quizzes, activities and events take place online, bringing all virtual social activities in one place for the pub-seeker.

A TRIBUTE TO ROGER RYMAN

Cornwall CAMRA is very sad to have heard that Roger Ryman, Brewing Director, St Austell Brewery, passed away on 28th May, at the age of 52, after a brave battle with cancer.

Roger Ryman is credited with transforming the fortunes of St Austell Brewery following his appointment as head brewer in 1999.

Chairman of the brewery at the time James Staughton was immediately impressed when interviewing Roger for the position of head brewer by his integrity and enthusiasm, and being honest enough to say that he did not **think much of the Tinner's beer, that was at the time St Austell's flagship beer.**

James Staughton said, "The job of Head Brewer was already effectively his, right there and then - we need not have seen anyone else. He was the breath of fresh air our brewery so **desperately needed at the time.**"

Roger's first original brew was Day-light Robbery, brewed to celebrate the total eclipse of the sun, visible from Cornwall that year (1999). Originally intended as a short term seasonal brew, it was immediately so successful, that it continued to be brewed, until eventually it was later renamed Tribute, and became **St Austell's truly national beer and its long-standing flagship ale.**

There then followed a string of successful ales, including Proper Job, Trelawny, Korev Cornish Lager, Mena Dhu, Admirals Ale (sadly no longer brewed) and Cornish Best, creating an entirely new portfolio for St Austell brewery.

These beers took the brewery from strength to strength, and St Austell became a major national brewery. During his time with St Austell Roger was awarded Brewer of the Year by the British Guild of Beer Writers in 2006 and the All Party Parliamentary Beer Group in 2009. Roger held the IBD Master Brewer qualification, and was elected a Fellow of the Institute in 2014.

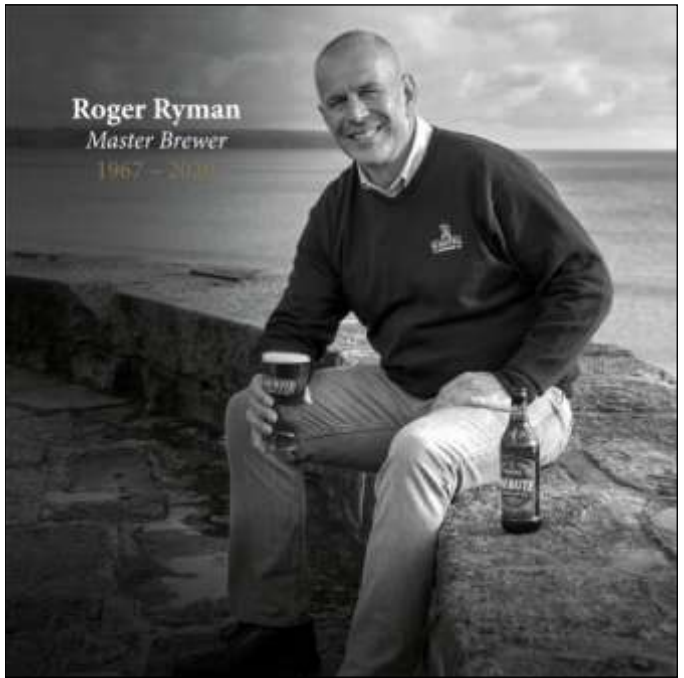
At the brewery he created a unique team of young brewers dedicated to brewing ales of the highest quality.

In many ways the quality he created was his most important, but mainly unsung achievement, no longer "St Awful", a bad pint of St Austell in a pub is now very rare event indeed.

Roger persuaded the brewery to invest in new plant to improve quality and capacity, and also to build a new **Small Batch Plant, with a capacity of 10 brewer's barrels.** This gave his team of brewers the opportunity to **experiment, and to create new beers.** From the Small Batch Plant came the "Small Batch Beer Club", thirty outlets, both free and tied trade who would each take and sell a firkin (9 gallons) of the beers produced. This enabled the drinking public to share the tastes and delights of new and very different ales from the brewery on a regular basis. Many of these beers were launched at the annual Celtic Beer Festival, held in the brewery cellars every November. The first was held in 1999, after Roger had been at the brewery for just six months, providing a showcase not just for St Austell beers, but for beers from all Celtic regions, including, of course, **many local brewers' beers. Roger was a very good friend to CAMRA, supporting our festivals and events, with ales and through his colleagues, with financial help.** He was always ready to help, advise and support other small brewers in Cornwall.

Kevin Georgel, Chief Executive, St Austell Brewery said: "We're devastated to have lost Roger - a much-loved friend, and highly respected colleague. All of our thoughts are with Roger's wife Toni, his father, two sisters and wider family, at this terribly sad time."

Cornwall CAMRA and CAMRA nationally joins many others in expressing sincere condolences.



PRE-COVID BEER FESTIVALS CORNWALL

Just prior to lockdown members of the Cornwall Branch were able to attend two beer festivals held over the same weekend 13-15 March.

Driftwood Spars St Agnes

For some years now the pub and brewery has held a **beer festival around the time of Peter Martin's birthday**. Much to the sadness of Cornwall CAMRA Peter passed away in January this year, but proprietor and licensee of the Driftwood Spars, Louise Treseder, decided to hold the beer festival in his memory and sourced beers from around the country with which Pete had an association.

The Dark, the Light and the Saison 2020 had the following beers:-

Baldhu Stout—Driftwood Brewery 6.5%

This rich, dark and complex beer was a collaboration **by Pete with Italian brewer friends from 'Antico Contea Birrifico', Gorizia, North Italy**. Coronavirus had already hit Northern Italy quite hard so no one was able to attend.

Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby Mild 6.0%

Pete used to drink this award-winning festival favourite with his friend Phil Preen who was once landlord of the Seven Stars Stithians where Pete started his brewing career with Bath Tub brewery.

Norwegian Wood—Atlantic Brewery 5.5%

This beer represented Pete's other successful career as a wood carver.

Infinity—Bristol Beer Factory 3.5%

The Aussie hop Galaxy used in this brew reminded Louise of their trip there to try Aussie beers.

Cascade—Saltaire Brewery 4.8%

A single-hopped beer like the above, using Cascade hops. Pete loved to experiment with single hop varieties and indeed had brewed with some new varieties prior to them being named and more widely available.

Jaipur IPA—Thornbridge Brewery 5.9%

With over 100 world-wide awards, this American style IPA reflects all the awards Pete won.

Dizzy Blonde—Robinson's Brewery 3.8%

Pete was inspired to create a blonde beer after his trip with Louise to Belgium.

Empire IPA—Moor Beer Company 5.7%

Pete loved all beers, particularly those using New World hops and hefty IPAs.

Toujours—Gyle 59 4.0%

Pete developed a great working relationship with this brewery and swapped beers regularly.

Sayzon—St Austell Brewery 5.9%

Pete and Lou met at the Celtic Beer Festival annually held in the cellars of the brewery so a beer festival **to celebrate Pete's birthday would not be complete** without this beer specially casked by St Austell for the Driftwood festival.

The Dark, the Light and the Saison also had 5 ciders

Black Forest—Snailsbank Cider 4.0%

Medium cider blended with sour black cherry, sweet vanilla and subtle hints of chocolate

Strawberry and Lime—Snailsbank Cider 4.0%

Sweet juicy strawberries with a dash of tangy lime

Spisa Mor—**Skinner's Brewery 4.0%**

Pineapple, ginger and chilli cider

Lyonesse—**Skinner's Brewery 4.5%**

Traditional hazy cider

Tin and Gold—Secret Orchards 6.0%

Cider apples from the 2016 harvest blended to give a balanced flavour of gentle acidity and smooth sweetness.



The majority of the Cornwall Branch attended on the Friday although another reasonable number were treated to a meet the new brewer session on the Saturday.

Mike Mason had recently been appointed to be the brewer to take over from Pete Martin.

Although a difficult act to follow Mike had ambitions to **emulate Pete's**



reputation for brewing interesting and innovative beers. And then Coronavirus struck!

The virus had already disrupted the 6 Nations Rugby and Wales v Scotland was not on the pub telly on Saturday. The Driftwood Brewery has continued ticking over by doing takeaway beers, but we all look forward to better times once full production commences when circumstances allow.

Your Editor went to the festival on Friday and Sunday afternoons, so was not able to meet Mike. But did take advantage of a reduction to £3/pint from £3.80 on the Sunday.

LOSTWITHIEL BEER FESTIVAL

13-14 March (the same weekend as Driftwood Spars) also saw the 16th Lostwithiel Charity Beer Festival take place (pre-Covid lockdown) at the Lostwithiel Community Centre.

Each year the Rotary Club of Lostwithiel rack up some 24 different real ales from near and far and several members of the Cornwall Branch turned out to support the event.

Your Editor managed Harbour Brewery Gull Rock 4.7% and Hawkes Point 5% from Cornwall, while Black Tor Resolution 4.4%, Butcombe Haka 4.5% and Exmoor Wicked Wolf 4.2% were from Devon and Somerset.

The Six Nations Rugby was scheduled to be shown on the big projector screen, but Coronavirus had forced cancellation of all remaining matches. Shown instead while your Editor was there was the 1966 World Cup Final. England v Germany in black & white, we all knew the score. "They think it's all over, it is now!"

EDITOR'S TRAVELS UP NORTH

The week after Driftwood Spars and Lostwithiel festivals your Editor managed to squeeze in two more festivals before Coronavirus lockdown put an end to beer festivals for the foreseeable future.

Wednesday 19 February saw me travelling by train, albeit with many delays, to Huddersfield. There I met up with some mates from my Salford University days and stayed two nights with one who now lives in Slaithwaite. Paul was to accompany me to the



Bradford Beer Festival that was being held in the atmospheric Victoria Hall, Saltaire on the Thursday.

Paul is a new convert to CAMRA beer festivals so it was fortunate that I

have visited this beer festival before as it is on two floors (three if you count the basement toilets) and three rooms with real ales on both gravity dispense stillage and handpumps. Two more rooms are fitted out with tables and seating which is convenient as seating within the rooms with beer bars is limited. With this prior knowledge and the fact we pitched up for opening time of 4pm Thursday afternoon

EDITOR'S TRAVELS UP NORTH

meant we easily found a seat.

The cask ale was laid out in alphabetical order starting with Bar 1 (Evans Room); Bar 2 (York Room) sponsored by Kirkstall Brewery, finishing with Bar 3 (Main Hall) sponsored by Timothy Taylor. The cask ale included many from the local and wider Yorkshire area and featured some new breweries and beers, while the remainder were from North-East England and Kent with the odd one or two from elsewhere. Drinking halves in a pint glass we each **managed 6 different ales and by tasting each other's** got through 12 of the possible 123.

The Wurlitzer organ originally from the Gaumont Cinema in Oldham provided entertainment in the early evening before we left at 9pm.

Most definitely one for the diary another visit is required to do this festival justice, but

I had to move on as Friday 21 February I had a ticket for 40th Liverpool Beer Festival.



This iconic festival is held in the unique atmospheric surroundings of the Metropolitan Cathedral Crypt. An all-ticket event I managed to get a ticket online for Friday 12 noon to 4pm.

Former Cornwall branch member Chris Riley now works for Big Bog Brewery who were sponsoring a bar arranged to meet me off the train and we managed



a couple of pints before the festival. While in the festival I sampled 9 different real ales from a total of **211. That's hardly doing it justice I know!**

As well as the sponsors bars the general theme this year was a War of the Roses, Lancashire v Yorkshire, but there were plenty more representing the rest of the UK too. Compare the picture of me on the right with that on Page 2—**there's little difference is there**



CORNISH PUBS OFFERING TAKEAWAYS

It has been suggested that we give a shout for those Cornish pubs that are offering takeaway services, and in some cases even local home deliveries. Some offer food only, others drinks only (including real ale), many do both.

They are all different in the way they do things, and the offer does tend to change from week to week.

The best way to find out what they offer is to visit the WhatPub website and use that to get the details, **usually via the pubs' Facebook pages.** The list is obviously nowhere near complete with approaching 600 pubs in the county, but the following are the ones notified to the Branch so far:

Blisland Inn, Blisland
White Hart, Chilsworthy
Jacob's Ladder, Falmouth
Moth Licence, Falmouth
Oddfellows Arms, Falmouth
Seaview Inn, Falmouth
Bell Inn, Launceston
Golden Lion, Menherion
Tregilly Wartha, Nancenoy
North Inn, Pendeen
Trewellard Arms, Trewellard
Crown, Penzance
Norway Inn, Perranarworthal
Royal Oak, Perranwell
Bucket of Blood, Phillack
Ship Inn, Polmear (Par)
St Aubyn Arms, Prazze
Victoria Inn, Roche
Driftwood Spars, Trevaunance Cove
Pilchard Press Alehouse, St Ives

If anyone knows any other Cornish pubs offering additional services such as takeaway drinks or food please let us know via the Branch Pubs Officer and we will add them to the WhatPub listings.

Equally important, when pubs are allowed to open again, it is looking likely that all 600 or so pubs in our county will not do so. Please keep the rest of the CAMRA members informed by making alterations to the WhatPub website or contacting the Branch Pubs Officer Rod Davis.

GIVE THE GIFT OF CAMRA MEMBERSHIP

The pubs may be closed, but the gift of a CAMRA membership can go a long way to supporting the industry we all know and love.

Missing the pub? Longing for a pint with family and friends? As we adapt to the new normal, CAMRA is supporting pubs and breweries during these unprecedented times. From lobbying Government to **making it easier for consumers to buy locally, we're** campaigning with added urgency to help pubs and breweries weather the storm and open their doors at the end of lockdown.

Help us keep the great British pub alive by giving the gift of CAMRA membership for Father's Day, or a birthday or special anniversary this year.

Gift Membership starts from just £28.50 for a single membership and £33.50 for a joint one. In addition to supporting our campaigns, membership includes:

- Our award-winning **BEER** magazine (quarterly) and **What's Brewing** news (monthly)
- Online resources to help you discover more about beer and brewing as part of our Learn & Discover offering
- Discounts at various partners including Ad-nams, Exmoor Ales, BierNuts, Fullers, Cotswold Outdoors and more
- Our recently launched Pubs. Pints. People. podcast and access to hundreds of pubs and breweries offering takeaway and delivery services through our Pulling Together campaign and Brew2You app
- Tasty Tuesday events and more in our virtual pub the Red (On)Lion – as a member you can pull up a seat at the open bar or book a table for a video chat with friends and family
- Discounts on CAMRA books including our best-selling **Good Beer Guide**

Join online using the CAMRA website
www.camra.org.uk

