

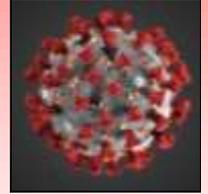
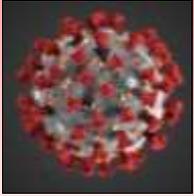
ONE & ALE

Campaign for Real Ale Cornwall Branch Newsletter

Winter 2020

Covid-19

Online Edition



Merry

Christmas?

and a Prosperous

New Year?

Cornwall CAMRA will be with you
all the way

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR



Hello and welcome to the winter issue of One and Ale. I hope this edition finds you **well and you've been able to** take advantage of the fact that Cornwall was placed in Tier 1 by getting out and about to some of our fantastic pubs. Please do remember when visiting pubs to register

your beer scores via the WhatPub app. The National Beer Scoring System which is used on WhatPub is one of the main tools we use to determine which pubs get into our flagship publication, the Good Beer Guide.

Whilst on the subject of beer guides, the branch does have a few 2021 Good Beer Guides available at the bargain price of just £11, a great saving on the recommended retail price of £15.99. To secure your copy, get in touch with Rod Davis via email pubsofficer@cornwall.camra.org.uk

After Christmas, our thoughts will be turning to selecting entries for the 2022 Good Beer Guide, we would like to invite all branch members to submit **pub nominations for entry although we can't guarantee** they will all get in, they will be all considered by the committee. Please send your nominations to Rod Davis pubsofficer@cornwall.camra.org.uk

A brilliant idea that has come from CAMRA HQ is the introduction of a Lockdown Heroes Certificate. This has been created to recognise the pubs and breweries that have gone that extra mile during this very challenging year. It could be something like offering deliveries of food and drink to the local population or setting up a village store within the pub. Please send in your suggestions of any pub or brewery you think qualify to Rod Davis

pubsofficer@cornwall.camra.org.uk or Vince Curtis chairman@cornwall.camra.org.uk for consideration by the committee.

Finally, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Stay safe and please keep supporting your local pubs and breweries,

Vince Curtis



EDITOR'S COMMENT

I think of myself as a 'Glass half full' rather than 'Glass half empty' sort of guy. So to use another **metaphor I can 'See the light at the end of the tunnel'**.

As Cornwall came out of lockdown-2 in Tier One,

unlike ninety-nine per cent of the rest of the country, I believe the pubs and breweries in our county will soon bounce back to some kind of normality.

They are in a better position than the rest of the country to benefit from the run-up to Christmas rather than just the five days over that period that **the Government has decided it can risk the nation's health by relaxing the rules. When restrictions commence again in the New Year there shouldn't be too**

long to wait for the mass vaccination programme to start to have an effect on the severity of the crisis.

That is the light at the end of the tunnel. Unfortunately there is always a down-side and obviously the economic crisis caused by Covid-19 will be with us for many years to come as all the money borrowed will have to be repaid. That, however, remains to be

worried about. Try and enjoy the 'Season to be jolly' and make the most of what we've got while we've still got it. Get out and support your local pubs and

breweries. I'm sure they'll be pleased to see you, as when lockdown-1 restrictions were relaxed, the county was immediately inundated with holiday-makers and there was money to be made while the shortened season lasted. Now our presence should be more appreciated and the pub-going experience will improve.

One 'downside' to the national crisis I've noticed is that pubs often do not keep the range of guest beers like they used to. Whether this is due to a shortage of beers available on the open market, or pubs are afraid to keep a stock of casks in their cellars in case of forced closure at short notice I have not worked out. Either way you will not be able to form an opinion if you do not go to the pub in the first place. As changes in Covid restrictions happen at a fast pace these days we had better take advantage of our pubs being able to open under the new restrictions while possible. If we in Cornwall are placed in a Tier 2 situation we had better get a liking for Scotch eggs!

I hope you have stocked up on your polypins from our local breweries to tide you over the Christmas and New Year period. Have an early night on **New Year's Eve, as I understand it's been cancelled this year!**

Steve Willmott, Editor



BREWERY'S TRIBUTE TO ROGER RYMAN

St Austell Brewery created a limited-edition beer in honour of former Head Brewer Roger Ryman who died in May this year. Roger was hailed as one of the greats of British brewing.

The brewery released Tribute XXTRA, a 6.8% version of Tribute pale ale in bottle in time for everybody to raise a glass to Roger in November, when the St Austell Brewery Beer Festival would have taken place. It sold out immediately, raising £425 for the St Austell Brewery Charitable Trust.

Anybody lucky enough to get hold of a bottle (I haven't met anybody yet) was encouraged to say "Cheers to Roger" at 6pm on Saturday November 28 which would have been the date of the company's 22nd Celtic Beer Festival, normally held in the cellars of the brewery.

Anybody who has attended one of these festivals in previous years will understand that it could not happen this year as they are always packed to capacity, often uncomfortably so.

Roger was instrumental in helping establish the first festival

BRANCH RELIES ON WHATPUB SCORES

In these difficult times the Cornwall Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale relies on reports submitted to the National Beer Scoring System (NBSS) for drawing up a list of pubs that might be suitable for inclusion in the Good Beer Guide published annually by CAMRA.

So please score the beers you drink 0-5 in each pub you visit using the online pub guide whatpub.com. Log in to WhatPub on your phone or computer as a CAMRA member with your membership number and chosen password. Search for the pub using pub name and location and when you are happy that you have got the right pub, enter your score from 1 to 5 (0 if there is no real ale), with 1 indicating very poor quality that is undrinkable up to 5 that is perfect and cannot be improved in any way. Enter the date that you drank the beer, the name of the brewery and the beer and tap "Submit Beer Score". It's as simple as that.

An analysis of scores submitted this year (2020) will then form the basis for selection by the committee of the Good Beer Guide 2022. With far less beer scores submitted this year time is running out. Please help by scoring and being an active member of the branch.

Branch Clothing

We have a selection of Cornwall Branch T-shirts, polo shirts, body warmers, fleeces, rugby shirts and ladies V-necks. Also baseball caps and beanie hats.



All garments are embroidered (not printed) with our bilingual logo. Check out the clothing catalogue on the Branch Website for the full range with colours and sizes
www.cornwall.camra.org.uk

BIRTHDAY/WEDDING ANNIVERSARY PRESENT FROM MY WIFE

BY BRIAN SPURLING

For my birthday my wife booked us a 5 day Steam Railway break in North Yorkshire which she extended herself to 8 days. But because this tour was not available on the dates for my birthday she booked it for the last dates the tour ran which turned out to include our wedding anniversary.

The tour started on the 26th October 2020 by us travelling up to Harrogate (where the tour was based) by train from Liskeard to London on a GWR IEP, not the most comfortable of trains for a 4 hour journey with refreshments only served when they thought you needed them. On arrival in London we travelled by tube from Paddington to Kings Cross with only a hand full of other passengers. This was the quietest tube journey I have ever made (10.30am), it was eerie!

We then travelled from Kings Cross to York on a LNER Azuma (the same as an IEP) still not comfortable but at least there was a buffet so you could go and fetch refreshments when you wanted them. We then travelled from York to Harrogate on a comfortable local service.



On arrival in Harrogate we located our hotel and checked in. As there was still plenty of time before dinner we had a wander around Harrogate to find our bearings (pubs really).

We soon found the Winter Gardens (Wetherspoons) which was quite handy as it was only a minute or two from our hotel. This was a large building with plenty of seating even with Covid restrictions and well adhered to. On this visit I had a Shepherd Neame Spitfire. We carried on looking around ending up on the far side of the town. We came across the Alexandra. On arrival we were shown to a seat by friendly staff. On this occasion I had a pint of Black Sheep Best Bitter. This pub also had good Covid practices in place. We then returned to the hotel for dinner and a pint of keg Caffrey's, it was either that or Guinness.



Tuesday 27th was a coach trip to York. We had a guided walking tour around the city passing a good few decent pubs but unfortunately we just had to

walk by. In the afternoon we visited the Railway Museum, then had a look around York by ourselves.

We came across the Golden Fleece located opposite one end of the Shambles and were lucky to get a table as afterwards people were being turned away due to none being available. I had a



pint of Theakston's Old Peculier. As with previous pubs visited good Covid practices were in place. On returning to Harrogate by train we headed to the **Cattleman's Grill for dinner, there I had two bottles of Black Sheep Black Sheep Ale.**

Wednesday 28th was a trip to Whitby via Pickering and the North Yorkshire Moors Railway.

We travelled by coach to Pickering where we joined the first train of the day to Whitby. The train was made up of BR mk1 open coaches and hauled as far



Grosmont by a BR 9F steam loco 92134.

From Grosmont ex Southern Railway S15 steam loco 825 took



over to Whitby.

We took in the sights of Whitby walking up to the Abbey via the Market place and Old Town.



Then walked along Pier Road taking in Fish and Chips and the Amusements. We ended up in the Angel Hotel (Wetherspoons) where I had a pint of Thornbridge Jaipur, it was rather cold, in fact colder than lagers. The Covid

measures in place were poor and it seemed overcrowded as if you were on top of each other. We then headed back to the station to return to Pickering again behind 825 all the way. On



arrival back in Pickering we rejoined the coach to travel back to Harrogate via Sutton Bank and the White Horse and Thirk.

BIRTHDAY/WEDDING ANNIVERSARY PRESENT FROM MY WIFE

CONTINUED

After dinner in the hotel, again with a pint of Caffrey's we crossed the road to the Old Bell. This was a nice **contemporary drinkers' pub** where I had a pint of Ilkley Mary Jane. This was an excellent pint as was borne out by nearly everyone who was in there were drinking it. The Covid measures here were as good as any.



Thursday 29th the coach took us to Oxenhope to join the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway. On arrival we had a tour around their museum which included several old locos including one that was used to promote the original

film of the Railway Children. Then we took the train from Oxenhope to Keighley and return. The train was formed of four Mk1 Suburban coaches and hauled by the one hundred year old ex LMS 4F 43924. From Oxenhope we then took the coach to Ingrow to look around the **railway's coach museum which housed several early examples of luxury coaches.** Then back on our coach to Haworth for lunch and free time.

Myself and my wife decided to have lunch in the Old Hall Inn a Jennings **Pub which didn't have any Jennings beers on!** The only beers were Wychwood Hobgoblin Ruby & Gold, Thwaites

Wainwright and Marstons Pedigree. Jennings is part of the Marstons Group these days, as are the other breweries mentioned above. The welcome here was very friendly and good Covid measures and you felt at home in front of the open fire, which was needed to dry out as good Yorkshire Bronte Country rain was pouring down outside. We returned to the coach for the return to Harrogate which took via Skipton. After dinner I ventured across the road to the Fat Badger. This pub was a noisy trendy contemporary place with acceptable Covid measures. I **had a pint of Rooster's Salted Caramel Stout.**

Friday 30th became time for ourselves for the next 3 days, starting by travelling to nearby Knaresborough by train where we had a walk by the River Nidd and looked around the castle and town ending up in Blind Jacks, this is a quaint pub that reminded me in

ways of the Seven Stars in Falmouth with its bench seats and wooden panelling. I had **a pint of Brass Castle's Misfit.** Covid measures were as good as any. We carried on looking around and found the Crown Inn (Wetherspoons) which turned out to be the Knaresborough creche for mothers and infants. I had a pint of Daleside Blonde which seemed **to be Yorkshire's Doom Bar or Tribute** as it was everywhere. Covid measures were minimal. We headed back to Harrogate and spent the evening in **Christie's Bar where I had two pints of Rooster's Yankee** and a pint of Black Sheep Best Bitter. **This seemed a locals' bar as there was plenty of banter** going on between everyone. Good Covid measures in place.

Saturday 31st we decided to travel to the seaside and visit Scarborough, this was a bit of a mistake as the weather was horrendous, it was blowing a gale and chucking down with rain. We attempted to walk along the seafront but gave up and went into a cafe for a coffee and tea. On leaving we went next door to the amusements for a while. On leaving we took a look around the town centre before having lunch.

Where the wife decided to go and do a bit of shopping whilst I visited the Scarborough Flyer for a pint. I had a pint of Thwaites Wainwright whilst watching the Rugby on the TV. The Covid measures were some of the best over the week only being let in where you were watched carrying out the Track and Trace on the app, then taken to your table. We travelled back to Harrogate where we spent the evening drying out in the hotel room.

Sunday 1st November we spent the day having a good look around Harrogate having lunch in **Betty's Tea Rooms** and evening meal at the Inn at Cheltenham Place. Here I had two pints of Timothy Taylor's Landlord Dark and **a pint of Timothy Taylor's Spring Knowle.** The Covid measures were very good even though we were two of only four people in there.

ways of the Seven Stars in Falmouth with its bench seats and wooden panelling. I had **a pint of Brass Castle's Misfit.** Covid measures were as good as any. We carried on looking around and found the Crown

Inn (Wetherspoons) which turned out to be the Knaresborough creche for mothers and infants. I had a pint of Daleside Blonde which seemed **to be Yorkshire's Doom Bar or Tribute** as it was everywhere. Covid measures were minimal. We headed back to Harrogate and spent the evening in

Christie's Bar where I had two pints of Rooster's Yankee and a pint of Black Sheep Best Bitter. **This seemed a locals' bar as there was plenty of banter** going on between everyone. Good Covid measures in place.

Saturday 31st we decided to travel to the seaside and visit Scarborough, this was a bit of a mistake as the weather was horrendous, it was blowing a gale and chucking down with rain. We attempted to walk along the seafront but gave up and went into a cafe for a coffee and tea. On leaving we went next door to the amusements for a while. On leaving we took a look around the town centre before having lunch.

Where the wife decided to go and do a bit of shopping whilst I visited the Scarborough Flyer for a pint. I had a pint of Thwaites Wainwright whilst watching the Rugby on the TV. The Covid measures were some of the

best over the week only being let in where you were watched carrying out the Track and Trace on the app, then taken to your table. We travelled back to Harrogate where we spent the evening drying out in the hotel room.

Sunday 1st November we spent the day having a good look around Harrogate having lunch in **Betty's Tea Rooms** and evening meal at the Inn at Cheltenham Place. Here I had two pints of Timothy Taylor's Landlord Dark and **a pint of Timothy Taylor's**

Spring Knowle. The Covid measures were very good even though we were two of only four people in there.



EIGHT DAYS IN YORKSHIRE

Monday 2nd saw our departure from Harrogate following an excellent 8 days away. We intend revisiting Harrogate in the future for a more detailed visit of the town. We left on an LNER Azuma direct to London Kings Cross this time travelling via Leeds and Wakefield, then across London to Paddington by Tube, this time slightly busier than the outward journey; then to Liskeard on a GWR IEP arriving on time.

Here endeth our week away of Trains and Ale.

Brian Spurling

Editor's Note

I know you will have missed my ramblings around Britain, telling the tales of all the beer festivals I have been visiting; and visiting the odd pub or two along the way. So when Brian kindly offered this article for publication I was pleased to oblige.

If you have been fortunate enough to get out and about this year, why not submit your own article like this and include photos as well if you can. You never know, you could also see your ramblings in print.

GOOD BEER GUIDE 2021



The forward to the Campaign for Real Ale Good Beer Guide 2021 was written by Tom Kerridge. He writes — **"The Great British pub is recognised around the world. It is something that cannot be replicated in any**

other country.

The one thing about the British pub that separates us, is real ale. Our brewing heritage varies from region to region. The passion and the heart and soul that goes into brewing is equal to the top wine makers, distillers, cheese makers, bakers, artisan chocolatiers or any other craft led hospitality producer. **It is something we should be very proud of."**

Copies of the guide are available at a discount rate of £11 (cover price £15.99) from Cornwall Branch Pubs Officer Rod Davis.

Pubsofficer@cornwall.camra.org.uk

GIVE THE GIFT OF CAMRA MEMBERSHIP

As we adapt to the new normal, CAMRA is supporting pubs and breweries during these unprecedented times. From lobbying Government to keep the small brewers duty relief to making it easier for consumers **to buy locally, we're campaigning with added urgency** to help pubs and breweries recover from lockdown and subsequent Tier restrictions.

Help us keep the great British pub alive by giving the gift of CAMRA membership for 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 Adnams, 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





Campaign
for
Real Ale

SAVE
PUBS
JOIN
CAMRA

JOIN.CAMRA.ORG.UK
or call 01727 798440

Pulling together to save your local
Keep pubs alive and thriving in every community
CAMRA membership counts, join now