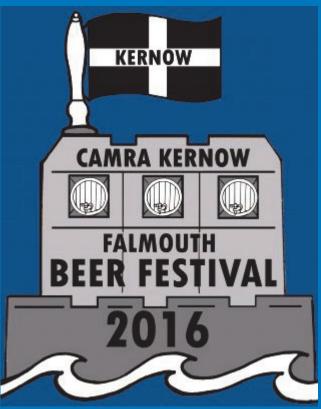


ONTE & AND AUTUMN 2016 Campaign for Real Ale Cornwall Branch Newsletter



20-22 OCTOBER PRINCESS PAVILION

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Opening times Thursday 20.00 – 23.00 Friday & Saturday 11.00-23.00

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SEE PAGE 22 AND JOIN OWER IIOO CAMPLAN

FALMOUTH BEER FESTIVAL 2016

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MEET THE COMMITTEE



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festivalorganiser@cornwall.camra.org.uk



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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



OND & ALD

Let's start off this edition with a little fun, the picture below was taken of our Cider Rep, Lin Dopson at the Cider Pub of the Year presentation in the Red Lion in Newquay. October is CAMRA cider month so keep your eye out for cider events throughout the county, especially 20th-22nd October at Falmouth Beer

festival where the Cider tent is always well stocked. Falmouth is in the top 10 of the counties beer festivals with the opportunity to sample up to 250 ales from Cornwall and across the British Isles. What was Linda saying.... Share your captions

athttps://www.facebook.com/falbeerfest There prizes up for grabs.



Pub of the Year awards have all been presented and we now await the arrival of the 2017 Good Beer Guide, due out on the 25th September. It's a kev publication for CAMRA and we need your help to ensure that the best beer in Cornwall is being represented. If you're having a pint,

open Whatpub.com (or make a note and enter the details later) find the pub and score the quality of that beer you're drinking. All of your scores count towards those pubs selected in the Good Beer Guide. Support your local, Score that beer. If your pub, club or cider pub is best in the county email me to nominate it.

Next year see's the 40th Anniversary of the Kernow Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale and to celebrate we will be holding events throughout the year. A wonderful picture crossed my path which may spark some memories, of days gone by alongside Sarah Hughes Ruby Mild.



(Continued on page 4)

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The views expressed in this magazine are those of the author and not necessarily of CAMRA LTD or of the Cornwall Branch of CAMRA Published by the Cornwall Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale 2016 ©

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South West Region of CAMRA - 50 shades of grey campaigning Day to North Devon

50 shades of grey from South West Region of CAMRA went on a campaigning Day to North Devon. What a great day was had by all. The CAMRA members travelled from far and wide. There were members from Cheltenham, Bristol, North Devon, South Devon, Exeter, Somerset, Plymouth, Swindon, North -West Wiltshire, and of course Cornwall. Who met at Exeter train station on Saturday 4th June where a coach was waiting to take the members on a tour of North Devon.

The first stop on the agenda was Sticklepath which was home to two great pubs. The Devonshire Inn where real ales are served directly from a stillages at the back of the bar which are cooled by the Foundry Leat that runs outside.



The Taw River Inn was the other pub in the village a 17th century manor house opposite Finch Foundry. There is also an arch that leads to Tom Cobley's summerhouse and the

Quaker burial ground.

At around 12.15 another coach joined the party (sorry "Campaigning Day") from Bristol area. This meant that the number of CAMRA dramatically increased to around 85. What a great turnout.

There were two mini buses laid on at Sticklepath to ferry the members around the North Devon small windy roads to the other six pubs on our tour.

The Kings Arms, South Zeal a thatched 14th century village local that was once a cider house. It has a large garden which overlooks farmland and has views over Dart-



moor. The pub also host village events and Dartmoor folk festival.



Oxenham Arms. The South Zeal a beautiful building first listed in the 15th century and has licensed been since 1477. This extraordinary building also houses two standing prehistoric stones; it is said that when some people touch the stones they feel warm.

The Post Inn, Whiddon Down which is a 16^{th}

century inn with a lovely garden. The garden has stunning views of Dartmoor. The pub is situated just off the A30 close to Whiddon Down Travelodge and only a short walk from North Dartmoor.

The Railway Inn, North Tawton which is situated next to the former North Tawton railway station. It is known as 'A proper job pub' around the area as it

is small and simple, yet a unique and characterful Devon country pub. There are lots of old station photos and memorabilia to look at.

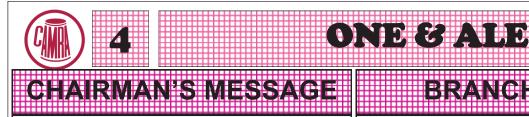
The Red Lion, Exbourne which was accredited Branch Pub of the Year two years running in 2014 and 2015. The pub serves all the ales and ciders on gravity. This is a traditional Devon village local which does not have any hand pumps and the landlord refuses to serve draught lager. The pub is close to St Mary's church which was built from granite in mainly c.1500 in date.

The Tors, Belstone is situated at the edge of Dartmoor village. The village pub is a well-known starting point for walkers of Dartmoor and also a welcoming resting place for walkers of Dartmoor. There are great views of Dartmoor from the pubs beer garden.

The mini buses were running members from pub to pub all day long, which we were all very grateful for. The regional and branch breweries supported our campaign by supplying all the pubs with a barrel of beer and the pubs generously gave us the beer at a very pleasing price. Not dissimilar to the 90's I believe, have to ask the Regional Director about that?

The coaches left Sticklpath around six to head back to Exeter station and Bristol. A great day was had by all and a huge thank you on behalf of Kernow CAMRA has to go out to the pubs for entertaining us, the breweries for their wonderful beer, the coaches, mini buses and drivers for their patience and all the organisers of the fantastic tour.





BRANCH DIARY

Pub of the Year

Hole in the Wall, Bodmin

The presentation of

Town Pub of the Year and

Branch Pub of the Year cer-

tificates took place on Saturday 25th June. This coin-

cided with a branch meeting,

that also coincided with a

mini-beer festival which the

the



Many of the Cornwall Branch members turned out to witness the presentation by Branch Chairman Bob Bunce to landlord of the Hole in the Wall, Steve.

This is the second consecutive year that the Hole in the Wall has won the title.

Cider Pub of the Year



Rural Pub of the Year

On Saturday 9th July the presentation of the Rural Pub of the Year certificate was made by Branch Chairman Bob Bunce to licensees Mark and Rachel Graham of the Star Inn, Vogue, near St Day. This pub won branch Pub of the Year in 2014.



Red Lion, Newquay

On Saturday 2nd July Branch Chairman Bob Bunce assisted by Branch Cider Rep Lin Dopson and a large turnout of branch members presented the first certificate for Branch Cider Pub of the Year to the Red Lion on North Quay Hill, Newquay. 2016 is the first year a cider PoTY has been selected.

Star Inn, Vogue





(Continued from page 2)

If you have any CAMRA Kernow Beer Festival pictures of years gone by could you share them? We can create a hall of fame for the members who have made Cornwall CAMRA what it is today. Please send them to chairman@cornwall.camra.org.uk

On September 3rd we head down to the Star Inn, Market Jew Street, Penzance for our Branch meeting. A listed building rejuvenated under the ownership of Star Pubs and Bars a branch of Heineken, previously a synagogue and a hotel converted to the Star Inn under the Devenish banner. This pub is a tenancy and we always bang on about the freedom of the tenant to be able to buy good local beer. We see coveted Pub of the Year Awards being won by Punch pubs who seem to have that balance right. We also see some of St Austell's tenancy's being allowed to stock other breweries' beer alongside their new small batch brews. The Star Inn tenancy allows them a free of tie pump, not seen in historic tenancy agreements. Something to celebrate, is this the sign of things to come? All CAMRA members are welcome to join us and discuss this point. You can make suggestions for upcoming beery events to attend and also on Liaison Officer this occasion meet our Regional Brewery (BLO) speaking about the role of CAMRA and its BLOs.

CAMRA is going through the change, or should I say is being revitalised. As you may be aware CAMRA is asking all of its 175,000 members if it is supporting their beliefs in the most effective way? Is the job done? Have Real Ales been saved? Should CAMRA be championing apples or should that be separate? What should CAMRA now campaign for? Now is your chance to air your views, on 17th September in the County Arm's Truro you are invited to have your say at either 11:00am or 1:30 pm. The 2017 Members' weekend and National AGM will be held in Bournemouth in April next year, hopefully we will have a view of the results by then. These are interesting times, watch this space.

After June's success at the Royal Cornwall Show, where 20 new members joined us, we make plans already to join the Brewers Alliance next year at the show. It was great to introduce so many show goers and lots of Cornish folk to the brewers and to aims of CAMRA. There are a whole host of events to get involved with over this next few months, we would love to see you there.

See Page 23 or our website www.cornwall.camra.org.uk for details of local events, the Falmouth Beer Festival, local real ale pub guides, whatpub information and much much more....



THREE GO OFF TO BELGIUM

Jerome K Jerome has nothing on us three as Mike, Malcolm and I set off to Belgium. Excitement grew as we waited for the Eurostar to Brussels. Trains are the new way forward! The modern way of crossing continents now is not having your passport stamped but a message on your mobile phone to say you have arrived in a new country. On the Eurostar to Belgium you begin to think you have lots of friends texting you but alas it is only the phone provider informing you of this and that if you use your mobile it will charge you vast amounts of money!

Antwerp

Antwerp was our first stop and we managed to tour a large part of it by tram initially in the wrong direction - but then to our ancient hotel in the centre of Antwerp. The courtyard of Malcolm and Mike's hotel was walled by the cathedral, decorated with masonry statues which fortunately must have fallen off a long time before we arrived!



ONE & ALE

My first beer, in Paters Vaetje was a Gueze Morte Subite, delicious start to our beer tour

of Belgium. We had asked for beer menus but we were told that the menus were in Dutch - surely the name of the beer is the same the

world over? A few of the bars we explored in Antwerp were highly recommended by Sheridan, do ask him for recommendations if you are off on a tour of Belgium. One of the nearby bars t'Elfe Gebod was crammed with statues of the Virgin Mary. This bar was certainly quirky but cosy with good beer and food. We had managed to avoid Malcolm's temptation of the crispy chicken and free wifi in one café even though it

seemed like a winning combination on our first night, the Flemish beef stew won the day!

Visiting the facilities in the Belgian bars was interesting from a female perspective. Most of the toilets are not marked male/female so it is a bit of quesswork but a few contain a 'pissoir' as well as a toilet! The bars in Antwerp are often in very old buildings with very narrow spiral stair treads so if you have had a few - which we did! -It was a concentrated effort to go up and down

stairs!

The second day saw us trek around Antwerp looking for a foot tunnel under the river - we shared the lift, stairs and tunnel with Vespa scooters.

motorbikes and bicycles. The lift side was glass so I could see

Malcolm and Mike trekking up and down the stairs! On our return we found an outside terrace to sit and admire the view of our beer - a refreshing draft

De Koninck, from the local Antwerp Brewery.

The art of serving beer

I love the art of serving Belgian beer in glasses relating to the brewery and type of beer. The enjoyment of drinking a well-served beer from a stem glass is one of the great pleasures of visiting Belgium. Never did I realise when I was doing my degree that in later years in (Continued on page 6)



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Felephone: 0800 7810577 Email: engulrles@clearbrew.co.uk

www.clearbrew.co.uk

2016 Good Beer Guide



(Continued from page 5)

a Belgian bar I would try to apply one of Piaget's theories! The concrete operational stage of children's development at 7+where they reach a point of understanding when water is poured into a different shaped glass, the quantity of liquid remains the same, even though its appearance has changed was baffling me. After a few beers I was with the 5 year old thinking that I had a different amount of beer to Mike and Malcolm because I had it in a different shaped glass to them!

Off to the Zythos Beer Festival Leuven

Our next trip was to Leuven to warm up for the Zythos Beer Festival in an industrial unit outside the city. We immediately found the Oulde Markt – the Old Market Square in the centre of Leuven, pur-

ported to be the 'World's Longest Bar'. This is a series of bars stretched around the old market square with outdoor café culture at its best. The intervening shops are pharmacies....maybe that reflects the unofficial title of the square!



The choice of bars renders one incapable of making a choice but we decided to start at one end and work our way round! It was a good plan because we discovered different selections of beers but also interesting interior designs. The Café Belge included a DJ's equipment situated in a pulpit! A couple of the bars used church artefacts

in the remix of old and modern in their bars, with plywood being the new fashion for tables and seating.

Zythos Beer Festival is a (free) bus trip away from the city – a kamikaze ride there on a bendy bus had the festival goers laughing and chatting to each other before the festival started. Fortunately the return journey was more sedate which was much better after all the beer we had drunk! The festival token system enables you to have a taster of 10ml for €1, and given the number of beers to taste and the strength of some of the brews this was a good idea. Each brewery had their own bar and glass washing facilities and were keen to chat about their brewery and beers.

It was interesting to see that some breweries offered multiple beers – Brouwerij Van Eecke had 32 beers on offer, one of which I enjoyed was Hommelbier Dry Hopping 2016 at 7.5%. In complete contrast



ONE & ALE

THREE GO OFF TO BELGIUM

the Brasserie Lion, initially set up by two students as a university project was only selling their one beer. Their enjoyment of making beer had turned into a business and their beer Brasserie Lion 8 is made using champagne yeast. This strong blond beer -8.0% - has exotic fruit flavours with a special

sparkle from the champagne yeast giving it a long lasting mild bitterness. We tried a beer from stand 47 De Dochter Van De Korenaar brewery – this bar had a constant queue of at least 20+ people, and on tasting their La Renaissance 1.5 year's barrel aged IPA at 7%

(Continued on page 8)

The Driftwood Spars St Agnes







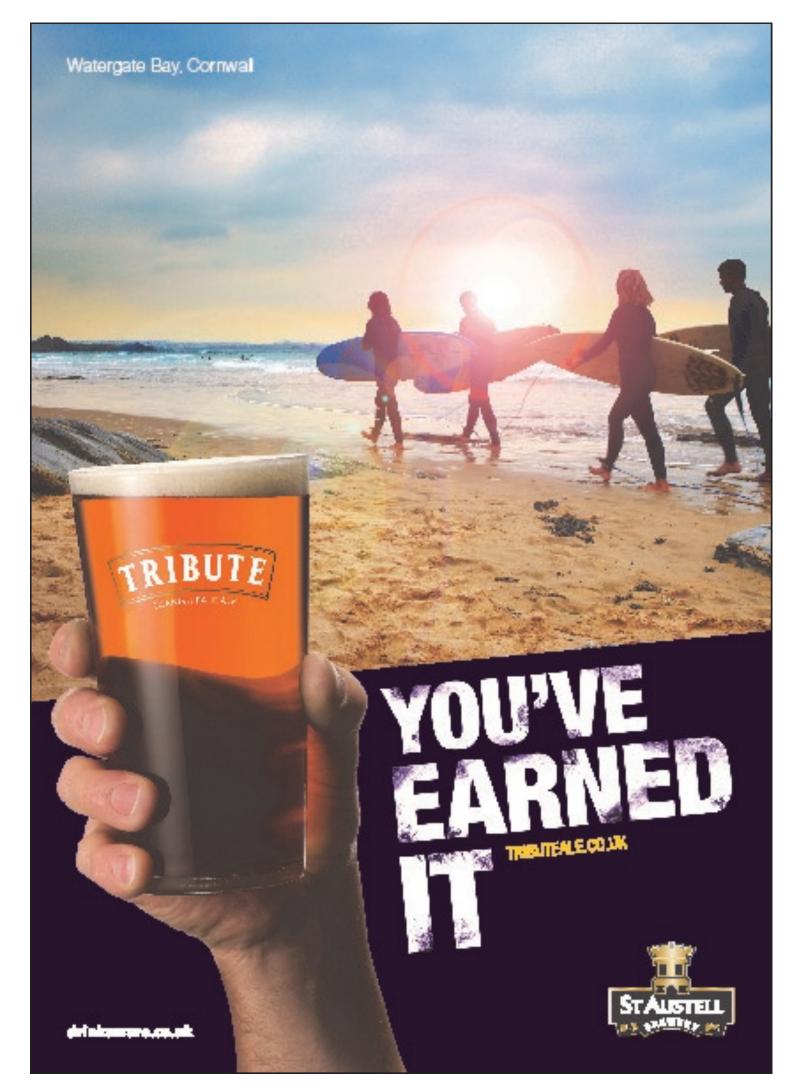
The Eating Place at Trevaunance Cove www.driftwoodspars.com

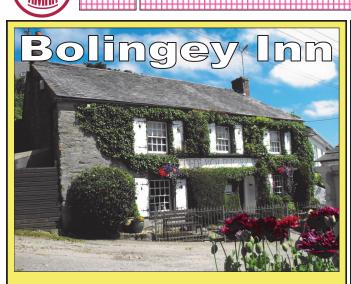
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The Bolingey Inn is a delightful 17th century traditional Cornish Pub situated in the picturesque hamlet of Bolingey a ten minute walk from Perranporth. Mike & Carol offer a home cooked lunch and dinner menu, including fresh local fish and meat specials. All food is cooked on the premises with the majority of ingredients sourced locally.

The bar has 4 real ales, two of which will be local. Also a selection of lagers and ciders. Booking for meals essential. Open daily from 11:00 Food served 12:00-14:00 and 18:00 to 21:30

Email michaelsanders@bolingeyinn.co.uk Telephone 01872 571626

Web page www.pubtrail.co.uk/cornwall

Bolingey Inn, Penwartha Road, Bolingey, Cornwall, TR6 0DH

PUB NEWS

A new 'micro-pub' has opened in St Ives, Cornwall's first. Called the **Pilchard Press Alehouse**, it is up an alleyway in Wharfe Road (near the Lifeboat Inn) and is poorly signed at present (look for a banner or a blackboard). It's a tiny bar in an old stone-walled cellar, with a wood-topped bar, a few bar stools to sit on, and two tables with chairs; total capacity would be around 20-25 people at any one time. It offers up to 6 real ales from micro-breweries, of which half would normally be from Cornwall and half from outside the county, as well as one or two ciders. It closes on Mondays at present; for actual hours, see the WhatPub? website. No food is on offer.

Not far from there, the **White Hart in Ludgvan** has reopened under new management after a few weeksclosure and refurbishment by owners Punch Taverns. First reports say it has changed substantially inside, we shall go and inspect it soon and rewrite the WhatPub? description as necessary.

Always good to hear of a closed pub reopening, and another three seem to have rejoined the lists recently. **The Brea Inn near Camborne** was closed for several months; it seems its owner died and the relative inheriting the property lives in South Africa and has no intention of returning to the UK to run a pub! Last heard, they were seeking a manager to run it. Anyway, it is now up and running again and serves up to 3 real ales, two of them Cornish. Also, judging by a roadside sign on the A38 it looks as though the **London Inn in St Neot** might have reopened in recent weeks – any reports or confirmations from there would be gratefully received. Finally, due to the licensee running into financial problems a few months ago, **Harvey's Bar in Launceston** had closed down. Seemingly it reopened in June, although no reports have been received yet concerning what it has to offer.

Closures - Another village pub has closed and its future is now rather uncertain: the village pub in Linkinhorne, not far from Callington. Called the **Church House Inn**, it is another victim of licensee financial problems, and would seem to be a perfect candidate for ACV listing before anything else happens to it. Any local members out there who care? Please let us know.

THREE GO OFF TO BELGIUM

(Continued from page 6)

OND & AND



I wondered why people were desperate to queue for their beer when I had tasted other beer from other bars I preferred.

We all tried the Vliegende Paard Brouwers beer Peraris Lapsang Souchong Quadrupel barley wine at 10.0% but decided it wasn't our cup of tea! One beer which was definitely in my top 3 was Inglorious Brew Stars Cum Laude – hop infused

IPA with a taste of the exotic, passion fruit, mango and grapefruit. A close runner was also Vleesmeester Brewery Hoogheid IPA at 9.0%, a fruity bitter beer. Moving on to stouts, this beer was definitely one of my favourites - Amai

Brewery Ne Stoute Loemleaer, whisky infused Russian Imperial stout at 9.0%. We managed an evening trying further bars in the Olde Markt in Leuven following the festival and then returned to the Sunday morning session to finish tasting more beers.

I would highly recommend the Zythos festival, it was fun to taste the great selection of beers, meet people from all over the world with a common interest in good beer and chat to brewers. Ann Burnett



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CAMRA Kernow Goes to Liverpool - Yeah, Yeah, Yeah

Eight members of CAMRA Kernow sallied north to the CAMRA National AGM and Members' Weekend at the beginning of April. Rod and Maddie Davies, Jan and Gerry Wills, Lin and Pete Dopson, Rosemary and me. We met up with Chris Riley, who recently moved from Cornwall back to his home town of Liverpool, but is still a member of Cornwall Tasting Panel.

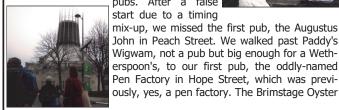


I won't bore you with the business of the AGM and Conference, but focus on the social side of the weekend. For a start, Rosemary and I arrived at the historic Lime Street Station looking for a dinner and found the Wetherspoon pub in the station, the North Western, ideal with predictable cheap prices. On to our abode, the palatial Adelphi Hotel.

OND & AND

Due to our train arrival time and the need to get dinner, book in the hotel, get to the AGM venue, the Liverpool Guild of Students, we were too late to go for one of the coach trips to breweries in the area. So Rosemary and I picked a guided walking tour of Locale pubs. After a false





start due to a timing mix-up, we missed the first pub, the Augustus John in Peach Street. We walked past Paddy's Wigwam, not a pub but big enough for a Wetherspoon's, to our first pub, the oddly-named Pen Factory in Hope Street, which was previ-



Catcher Stout was excellent (I like dark beers!). On to Mackenzie's in Rodney Street for a very excellent pint of Kitty Wilkinson from Liverpool Organic. This was a vanilla chocolate beer - a veritable liquid Easter egg. We didn't see Father Mackenzie himself either writing sermons or darning his socks. Then the Grapes in Roscoe Street, not to be confused with the other Grapes in Mathew Street. I had Rock the Boat Bootle Bull (where do they get these names - a

load of bull?), a malty 3.8% at only £3.20 in the city centre. The Bridewell in Liverpool 1 has to be seen to be believed (it was a bit too dark for decent photos). Up north, a bridewell is a prison or police lock-up. The cells where we drank are furnished somewhat better than when it was a bridewell but that is the only concession. My beer was Neptune Riptide, an unfined beer with toffee and caramel flavours, so slightly hazy but OK apart from the sparkler.

That was it for Friday night apart from a quick final pint of mild in the Members' Bar. Lovely smoky flavour - Hophurst Campfire.

Saturday morning saw us striding up the long slope to the Guild again for the first tranche of AGM business. Sorry, no photos in the hall. We bumped into friends old and new, including for Steve meeting Richard Sanders, who was one of the other 11 members to undertake the 8day expedition that was the Round England Beer Tasting Trip 1975. Beery holiday is a gross understatement!

In the evening, Chris Riley gave us a private conducted tour of his chosen Liverpool city centre pubs, and was also able to act as Scouse -English translator for us. His first choice was the Doctor Duncan in St (Continued on page 11)





Legendary Cornish Ales



www.keltekbrewery.co.uk The Keltek Cornish Brewery, Cardrew Way, REDRUTH, Cornwall TR15 1SS 01209 313 620

CAMRA Kernow Goes to Liverpool - Yeah, Yeah, Yeah



-Dr Duncan

Johns Lane. For some unknown reason, our party turned round and came out without a drink. Shame, because it had Jennings beers, one of my favourite breweries. So, on to the Ship & Mitre in Dale Street, somewhat obscured by the Scaffold (ing). No Aintree

ONE & ALE

Iron here but Facer's Mountain Mild was an excellent start to a hard day's night.



name again. We then went to the

Ship & Mitre → Next down Dale Street was the Latham Lounge in the ←Vernon Arms

where I had a pint of regular beer Boggart Hole Clough Rum Porter (bluddy 'ell) which was very good but I couldn't drink a second because I couldn't pronounce the

Lion Tavern →

in Moorfields, which is a stunning national heritage pub. The beer was good but I was so overwhelmed by the pub that I forgot to record what it was (umm...). The official group photo was in here. I remember passing the further down Dale Street





but can't remember whether we went in or if so what I had. I wondered if Thomas was related to Eleanor, a lonely person. Next was the White Star in Iceberg Street, no, Rainford Gardens, a cracking heritage pub with a good range of beers. I chose the Moorhouse's White Witch but I would have preferred a Pendle Witches

have had Titanic and got that sinking feeling but can't resist Moorhouse's beers.

Excellent beer again and we bumped into the South Herts Branch contingent so a long exchange of news and memories ensued for Steve. Lastly, we ended up at the Bridewell again where I had Rock the Boat Mussel Wrack. I didn't attempt to utter the name but reverted to pointing at the pump. Much safer at that

stage. I am not quite sure how we got round, but on the way Chris pointed out the mouth of the Queensway Tunnel where the motorbike chase was filmed in Harry Potter (look for the tyre marks on the roof). We also saw the Cavern Club, which involved negotiating the 'interesting' quarter of Mathew Street. Nudge, nudge, wink, wink, say no more.

Sunday saw the rest of the business and Rosemary and I joined an interesting workshop session on champion beer competitions. After a second visit to the North Western, we made the long train journey home. I can't see Bournemouth matching Liverpool for pubs somehow. Postscript: What a tragedy - I recently found out that seven days after our second visit the Bridewell closed! A stark reminder that pubs continue to close in Britain left, right and centre. By chance we were some of the last people to experience this unique pub.

Steve Barber

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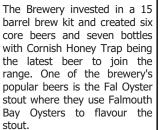
Dartmoor Brewery Ltd, Station Road, Princetown, Devon PL20 6QX Telephone: 01822 890789 Fax: 01822 890798 www.dartmoorbrewery.co.uk

Brewery tour for the Rabble at Rebel Brewery Penryn

Members from CAMRA Kernow branch got together at Rebel Brewery, Penryn on Saturday 6th of August and were treated to a great tour of the brewery. The Rebel Brewery has recently had a refit creating the Tap Room where the members met with Rob Lowe the founder of the brewery. Rob who graduated as a mining engineer spent three months travelling from Cornwall to King Stone brewery in Wales where he learnt how to brew. In 2011 Rebel moved into the first unit with a 2 barrel brew kit and brewed a 4% bitter then called Rebel gold. One year later the brewery moved into the unit at Penryn and started to focus on weird and wonderful beers.



One of the CAMRA members asked where the name brewery name Rebel came from. Rob gave the members a short local history lesson about a rebellion that happened years ago near Falmouth. As Rebel like to do things different from other breweries 'Rebel' seemed an apt name for the Brewery Rob said. After a few samples and a hot pasty





(Continued on page 13)



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one 8 ald

REBEL TOUR

(Continued from page 12)



in the Tap Room the CAMRA members went on a very formative tour of the brewery. We were shown around the brewery and everything that is done from the production of the beer to the bottling which is done by hand, as is the labelling of the bottles. Rob was very well prepared for a CAMRA

visit and had a pit stop on the tour route of a barrel of Penryn Pale Ale which went down well.

On returning to the Tap Room the Chairman Bob Bunce presented Rob with two awards. The first award was the Pat Skinner trophy and this was for the Supreme Champion Cornish Real Ale. The second award was for Bill Fishleigh Cup for Supreme Champion Real Ale of the Festival. Both awards were presented to Rob Lowe for Rebel 80/-Porter and the rewards were in recognition of their achievement at the Falmouth beer festival 2015.

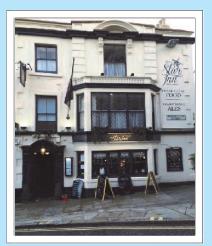
After the presentation the members were given some more samples and a good taster of the new Rebel Belgium Stout 8.5%, what a great beer to end the day on 'literally '.

I would like to thank Rob and Rebel Brewery on behalf of Kernow CAMRA for such a great dav and а very formative tour of the brewery. Sonia Bunce





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52

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CHAMPION BEER OF BRITAIN HOW DO THEY GET TO WIN?

OND & AND

Rod Davis, SW Region CBoB Coordinator

"It's all fixed...." "You've got to be in with the right people..." "Waste of time..." "Doesn't mean anything anyway....." "It's all kept secret, there's no transparency..."

These are just a few of the many (and often ruder) remarks I've heard over the years from the assembled throng during announcements of the Champion Beer of Britain (CBoB) winners at the Great British Beer Festival in London's Olym-While it's understandable that brewers are disappia. pointed that they aren't among the chosen few for another year, the hard truth is that there are so many good beers out there now - around 6000 by some estimates, from about 1200 breweries - that only the very finest rise to the top of the heap and gain the highest award that CAMRA can bestow. Of course, it's not fair simply to compare all beers with each other regardless of category, or style - a stout is a very different beast from a best bitter for instance - so CAMRA divides draught real ales into 10 different types and judges the beers against their rivals of the same type to find the very best of each group. So on the day of the big race we find out the Champion Golden Ale of Britain, the Champion Porter of Britain, and so on through the 10 types. Only then are these top dogs set against each other to find the supreme champion beer of the nation.

But I am jumping ahead. The quotations with which I started this piece are all very wide of the mark, as the process has in fact been made as open as possible without compromising the final judging in August. Some people still won't believe me of course (prejudice usually trumps evidence, after all!), but the only 'secrecy' comes in the final stages to make sure the top judges are tasting the finalists truly 'blind'. All the rest is pretty transparent to all CAMRA members who wish to see. Let me explain how it works.

The first stage comes in September and October, when all CAMRA members are presented with a list of all draught beers which are eligible to go into the competition. This runs to several thousand brews, so to avoid too much mind-boggling, we just get a list appropriate to our region, in the south-west case around 900 beers. The list is sub-divided into the 10 style groups (plus a separate category for real ale in bottles), and we are invited to vote for our favourite beers in each group, in order of preference. So we can tick the boxes for our top 5 session bitters, top 5 milds, top 5 stouts.... etc. Few will have tried all 50 they could potentially tick, so we don't have to go for them all, just the ones we know.

Next, the regional coordinators count the votes for each beer, and quickly we see certain brews coming out with high votes, and a lot of 'also-rans' with only a handful of votes each. We then cream off the top half-dozen or so for going on to the second stage. First though, the regional tasting panel chairs will have fed in their recommendations as well, decided by actual tasting of beers throughout the year by trained tasters in their own CAMRA branches, who score various characteristics shown by each beer they try. Their scores are averaged and the top scorers are added into the mix.

Stage 2 is when we get beer drinkers actually tasting and drinking the top 6 or 8 beers in each category. We do this by inviting the various CAMRA beer festivals that happen around the country to host such a judging panel. At this stage a degree of secrecy kicks in because we want to enact this stage in 'blind' tastings where the judges don't know what they are getting beforehand. Our volunteer judges sit round a table and drink samples of each beer in turn, scoring each out of 10 on a simple score card with four criteria: appearance, aroma, taste and aftertaste. The only skill required is that you have to like real beer and be willing to try something different from time to time with an open mind – you might be a bitter drinker but find yourself judging milds, for example, although you would be warned of that beforehand. We don't keep that secret!

You might in effect call this a choice of best brews as decided by a group of average beer drinkers, not necessarily CAMRA members – the 'punters' pint', if you will. Anyway, by now the top three scorers in each category are recog-



nised as Regional Champion Beers of Britain, and presented with CAMRA certificates to display in their breweries. Then at last we get to the third and final stage, when each category's top winner goes forward to the actual final race at Olympia and is judged there in exactly the same way as in stage 2.

And that's it, really. The only 'secrecy' involved is in keeping quiet about final entries into the national CBoB championship, because if it got into a rather excitable press and publicised, the beers so mentioned would have to be 'pulled' from the competition at a late stage because the judges might then know what they were judging. Big embarrassment all round, and especially galling for the poor brewer who suffers this indignity. And it has happened, with a Cornish brewer narrowly missing such a fate a couple of years ago having spoken unwisely to the press. Luckily the story got watered down after a lot of Sunday morning phone calls. I don't think they'll be doing that again!

This year's Champion Beer of Britain was a brew from Berkshire, Bingham Brewery's Vanilla Stout. Both the brewery and the beer – a 'speciality' brew because of the added vanilla – would be thought highly unlikely to have been 'fixed' by anybody. It won fair and square in open competition, so congratulations to them, a small microbrewery of a modest 10-barrel capacity. Last year's unexpected champion beer was from Tiny Rebel in Newport, S. Wales. They are rather bigger now but started brewing only 4 years ago, in a garage, so there's hope for everyone. Now it all starts again, with a new Members' Vote starting in September and a new list of eligible beers (i.e. which must be available in most cases for most of the year). Hopefully, you can see that the process begins with you, as an ordinary beer-loving CAMRA member casting your votes during the next two months. So – please spend a few minutes to vote this year; every vote counts, and it can make all the difference.



CORNWALL CAMRA FALMOUTH BEER FESTIVAL 20th - 22nd OCTOBER 2016

STAFFING FORM



Dear Volunteer

Cornwall CAMRA festival committee would like your support during the festival and thank you in advance for any assistance you are able to provide, through the opening hours or take down there is a vast amount of work required. If you are able to help, please fill in this form and return by email to <u>gerryandjanwills@btinternet.com</u> or post. Once we receive this form we will send out your acceptance, staff no and accommodation details along with the health and safety booklet and festival guidelines.

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Emergency Tel No			
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Polo Shirt Upgrade	COST £5.00	YES	NO

Day	Date	10:00 -	14:00 -	18:00 -	Accommodation	Area of
		14.30	18:30	23:30	Required	Work
Monday	17 th Oct	9.30 -		·		Set up
Tuesday	18 th Oct	9.30 -				Set up
Wednesday	19 th Oct	9.30 - 1800				Set up
Thursday	20 th Oct	N/A				
Friday	21 st Oct					
Saturday	22 nd Oct					
Sunday	23 nd Oct		N/A	N/A	N/A	Take Down

Please specify your preferred area of Work.

Entrance, Bar, Membership, Catering, Clothing, Games, Tokens, General.

Please be aware you may be asked to work in another area, if necessary.

Please note: accommodation is available but limited, please return this form ASAP to ensure accommodation availability.

Accommodation fees are as follows: you must work shifts 14:00 -18:30 and 18:00 - 23:30 to qualify for free accommodation, if you work 14:00 -18:30 or 18:00 - 23:30 the fees are £15 per person per night, 10:00 - 14:30 doesn't qualify for any accommodation, you must give 3 weeks' notice to cancel accommodation.

Jan Wills 19 Polstain Crescent, Threemilestone, Truro. TR3 6DZ Tel: 01872 278754 / Mob: 07774169659 Email: <u>gerryandjanwills@btinternet.com</u>

ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE

OND & AND

Pubs, in common with other things such as shops, sports fields, churches, graveyards and so on, which are considered of value to their local community in providing a service and add to the general well-being of the area, can now be registered with the responsible local authority (in our case, Cornwall Council) as Assets of Community Value (ACV). This was introduced under the new localism law introduced in 2012 (in England only), and makes life more difficult for owners to close down and sell off that asset for development. In the case of the local pub, this often means trying to turn it into a dwelling, or supermarket, or simply pull it down to release the land. ACV listing means that owners have to give the community (including local 'unincorporated bodies' such as parish councils) first refusal on buying the pub as a pub, in the first instance, or if they don't want to, selling it (still as a pub) to others within a 6 month time window. After that they can try to sell for other purposes, but ACV status will make it harder to get planning permission for their dastardly plans.

A London court case in January 2015 ruled that CAMRA was an 'unincorporated body' (not-for-profit) and as such, could apply to register local pubs as ACVs. Since then there has been a national campaign to get branches to list their pubs especially where there seems to be a threat to their existence, actual or potential. This has been very successful, and so far over 1200 pubs across England have been listed with local councils, including 160 in the southwest.

Which is why CAMRA Kernow has been very disappointed to run up against resistance from Cornwall Council, who do not accept that we are a refuse to believe we can put a legitimate case for preserving a local pub unless members do it as part of the community that lives local to, and uses, the pub concerned. This misses the point that the membership are an adventurous lot, and we travel all over Cornwall to support our local pubs. Indeed, quite a few members are well-known by many licensees even though they may live at the other end of the county and make only occasional forays – and those members know full well how important those pubs are not only to themselves, but the locals. The current situation is that we have a list of 7 local pubs formally nominated by local Branch members (who all live near the pubs concerned, by the way). They are: Landrake – Buller's Arms

Liskeard – Old Stag (currently closed) Mawnan Smith – Red Lion Newquay – The Tavern St Neot – London Inn (currently closed) Tregadillett – Eliot Arms Tywardreath – New Inn

plus an initial enquiry about the White Hart in Ludgvan. We are not taking this lying down, of course, and are seeking ways to persuade the Council that we certainly are not about putting in spurious applications on a whim, but being properly concerned that the loss of ACV pubs would be seriously detrimental to their communities not just locally, but also further afield. The branch Pubs Officer has had a meeting with one of Cornwall's MPs, who proved to be very sympathetic and has promised to try to help. This saga is ongoing: watch this space for further developments.

Meanwhile, 13 pubs have so far been listed successfully by their own locals without CAMRA help:

Cargreen, Crooked Spaniards (currently closed) St John, St John Inn (currently closed)

Grampound, Dolphin Inn Frogpool, Cornish Arms Marhamchurch, Bullers Arms Porthallow, Five Pilchards Arms Lewannick, Archers Arms Pool, Railway Inn Comford, Fox & Hounds Manaccan, New Inn Cadgwith Cove Inn Godolphin Cross, Godolphin

Mabe Burnthouse, New Inn

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Rod Davis Pubs Officer

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TASTING PANEL DOES DRIFTWOOD

Cornwall Tasting Panel met at the Driftwood Spars, Trevaunance Cove on Saturday 13 August as guests of Driftwood Brewer Pete Martin. Guest tasters Kevin Travers (Hampshire Tasting Panel Chair and Regional TP Coordinator for London & SE England) and Val Helliwell (Hampshire TP member) joined the panel. We tasted a range of Driftwood cask and bottled beers, giving CAMRA information for tasting notes for the Good Beer Guide and for nominations for the Champion Beer of Britain and Winter Beer of Britain competitions. We worked our way through malty session bitters to the powerful Alfie's Revenge at 6.5%ABV. Pete's new best bitter, Sundrift was a challenge for the panel as we had no preconceived ideas about the beer. It has flavours of malts, grassy hops, a range of fruits and spicy notes - very yummy! Finally, we tasted Pete's speciality gluten-free bottled beer Unexpected, which is a light and refreshing hoppy brew with no barley-malt flavour, but with bitter hops and spicy citrus fruits.

Photo shows us enjoying the lunch break courtesy of Driftwood Spars, and some lovely beer of course! Clockwise in the photo are Lin Dopson, Pete Dopson (both Cornwall TP members), Val, Kevin, and Pete Martin (Brewer) at the back. Then Vince Curtis, Jan Barrett, Bob Bunce, Sonia Bunce, Rosemary Barber and Euan McPhee (all Corn-



wall TP members). Behind the camera was Steve Barber , Cornwall TP Chair and Regional TP Coordinator forSW England (South).

The panel meets several times a year for tastings and also takes advantage of other Cornwall Branch events to taste the wonderful beers from Cornish breweries. We are very active and currently have the most beers with tasting notes in the Good Beer Guide. The 2017 Good Beer Guide will be available from 15th September in all good book shops or can be ordered on line from www.camra.org.uk.

GOOD BEER GUIDE

PUB SELECTION

The hunt for suitable candidates to go into the Good Beer Guide is a constant one. Of course, it's always a difficult job as we are only allowed 62 entries each year out of some 600 pubs across Cornwall and the Islands, and so many pubs serve top-rate real ale and cider these days. Only the very best, who sell consistently good real ale throughout the year, get selected. Contrary to popular belief, nobody gets 'dropped' out of the Guide - it is effec-tively scrapped each year and the CAMRA membership has to sit down and argue its way through a new set of candidates and do a re-write. To help us in our selection, we collect beer quality information through CAMRA's National Beer Scoring System (NBSS) in which members are asked to contribute scores for beers that they have tasted in pubs throughout the year.

The easiest way to score beers is by using the online pub guide WhatPub (http://whatpub.com) using your membership number and the same password that you use to enter the CAMRA national website (usually your post code unless you have previously changed to your own choice). Search for the pub on the data base using pub name, town or follow the drop down menus that are there to help. Submit your beer score from 0-5 and all these will be forwarded to the branch coordinator.

A version of WhatPub optimised for use on a smart phone and a downloadable app are now available, so that you can now score your beer in the pub while you drink it!

If you don't have online access at all (and we appreciate that not all members have this means of reporting beer scores) you can ask your NBSS Coordinator which in Cornwall CAMRA's case is Steve Barber. He will normally be at any branch meeting with paper forms that he will then be able to enter your scores for you. To make this selection system work at its optimum we need many more members from Cornwall CAMRA to submit their scores.

We value the opinions of all members whether active or not and we need as many opinions as possible for as many pubs as possible. This is so we can have confidence in the statistics. We ask members to score the pubs continually not just once or twice. Please spend a small amount of time beer scoring and be an active member.

The Merrymoo

by the beach at Mawgan Porth



GOOD BEER GUIDE 2017...COMING SOON!

one e auc

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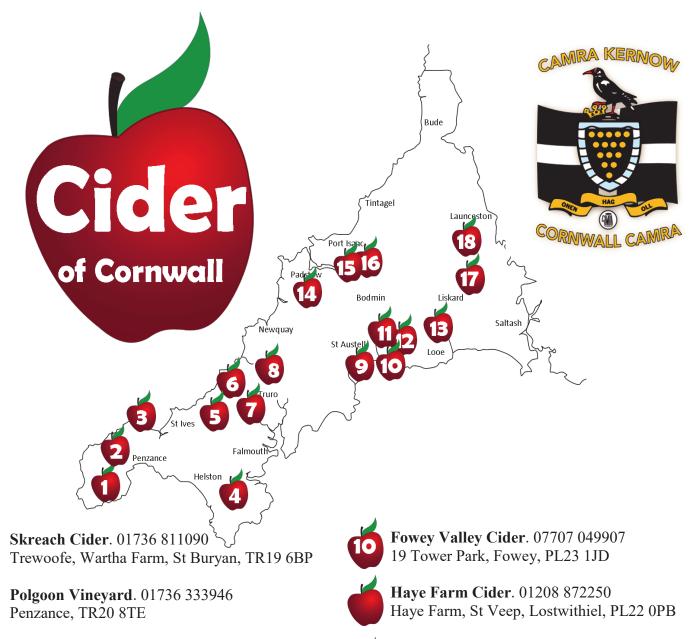
Buying the book directly from CAMRA helps us campaign to support and protect real ale, real cider & real perry, and pubs & pub-goers.

The new Guide will be published in September 2016, you can order a copy now (details below).

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St Ives Cider. 01736 795267 The old mushroom farm, Halestown, TR26 3LZ

Helford Creek Cider. 01326 231341 Mudgeon Vean Farm, St Martin, Helston, TR12 6DB

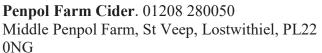
Wheal Maiden Brewery. 07721 050555 Crofthandy, St Day, TR16 5JE

Touchwood Cider. 07773 192727 Mithian, St Agnes, Cornwall, TR5 0PZ

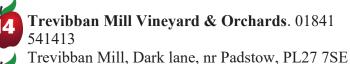
The Cornwall Cider Company. 01872 271885 Riverside, Newham, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 2DP

Healey's Cornish Cyder Farm. 01872 573356 Callestock Cider Farm, Penhallow, Truro, TR4 9LW

Wasted Apple. 01726 71879 Portpean Beach Road, St Austell, PL26 6AU



Cornish Orchard's. 01208 812722 Westnorth Manor farm, Dunloe, Liskard, PL14 4PW



Trevibban Mill Vineyard & Orchards. 01841 541413



Spotty Dog Cider. 01208 812722



Egloshayle, Wadebridge, PL27 6EL



Haywood's Farm Cider. 01208 840140 St Mabyn, PL30 3BU



Sutton Barn Cider. 01579 363258 Sutton House, Sutton, Upton Cross, PL14 5BA

Davard's Cider. 07816 577952 Trevilla, Linkinhorne, Callington, PL17 8QP



St Austell and Mevagissey Guide is the latest edition to the CAMRA Kernow Cornish Real Ale Pub Guide series. The launch was held at St Austell Brewery's Visitor Centre & Hick's Bar on Saturday 23rd July. The guide was officially launched by the Mayor of St Austell, Jackie Bull, who shares our passion

ONE & ALE

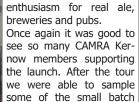
tour through the story of brewing which is centred around the brand new small batch brewery. The small batch brewery distributes one off and seasonal brews throughout selected Cornish venues. Roger Ryman, head brewer was present tending to the 6 developing brews, 2 of



which were being readied for the Great British Beer Festival. The Mayor was passionate about acknowledging the success of St Austell's brewery with St Austell Tribute being one of the most recognisable Cornish Exports. Jackie was also very interested to hear



bottled beers, Big Job which was recently named SIBA Supreme National Champion Bottled Beer went down well to name just one. soring the St Austell and Mevagissey Guide Launch.



about CAMRA members'

brews and traditional pasties. The tasting panel were also out in force tasting the many St Austell

Thank you to St Austell Mayor Jackie Bull for attending the launch and a massive thank you to St Austell Brewery for hosting and spon-



This is now the eighth edition to the CAMRA Kernow Cornish Real Ale Pub Guide Series which are distributed throughout Cornwall and available for download from the branch website Ker-

now.camra.org.uk. The guides produced so far are Bodmin and Lostwithiel, Falmouth, Fowey, Looe and Polperro, Newquay, Padstow and Wadebridge, St Ives, Truro and cover both town centres and rural pubs in the vicinity. The launch was held at the recently refurbished St Austell's Brewery visitor's centre. The home of Hick's

for Real ale.



Bar and the Small Batch Brewery. The business Walter Hicks founded has been called St Austell Brewery since 1934, the walls of the centre telling the story from Walter's first brew in 1851 and the 165 Years in the development of this family business. The visitor centre hosts a variety of equipment used over the years, and we were all given a



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one s ale

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Deadline for Next Issue: WINTER is

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BEER FESTIVALS

3-4 September	Union Inn, Saltash Rotary Club Charity Beer Festival
3 September	Travellers Rest Trevarrian beer festival
9-11 September	Little Orchard Cider & Music Festival Healeys Cider Farm, Penhallow
9-11 September	Steam & Ale Gala Bodmin & Wenford Steam Railway
23-25 September	Newquay Beer Festival Hendra Holiday Park, Newquay
23-24 September	Plymouth CAMRA Beer Festival The Brickfields, Plymouth Albion RFC
1 October	Eden Beer Festival The Eden Project, Bodelva, St Austell
7-8 October	Oktoberfest Cornwall Lemon Quay, Truro
7-10 October 1st beer festi	Oktoberfest @ St Ives Holiday Village val with local ales, ciders and entertainment
14-16 October	Bolingey Inn Beer & Bangers Festival
20-22 October 8pm-11pm & 11-11	Falmouth Beer Festival Princess Pavilion, Melvill Road
27-30 October 12 noon til close	Star Inn, Penzance 12 ales & ciders from Cornish micros
11-12 November Fri 5-11:30; Sat 12-11:	Watermill, Lelant 30 15 cask ales & cider
25-27 November	Newquay Music & Ale Festival Fore Street Car Park

CAMRA MEMBERS DISCOUNTS

The J D Wetherspoon voucher system is available to CAMRA members in Cornwall, where there are now 11 Wetherspoon pubs; Penzance, St Ives, Camborne, Helston, Falmouth, Truro, Perranporth, Newquay (2), St Austell and Bodmin. In addition the following pubs also offer a discount on real ale,

real cider and/or food upon production of your CAMRA membership card.

Falmouth	-	Quayside
Falmouth	-	Chainlocker
Marazion	-	Fire Engine
Newquay	-	Red Lion
Truro	-	Old Ale House
Goonhavern	-	New Inn
	1 11	

Go ew Inn CAMRA Kernow believe there are more pubs than listed here. Please contact pubsofficer@cornwall.camra.org.uk

BRANCH DIARY

Saturday 3 September	Branch Meeting			
Saturday 17 September 11:00-13:00 or 13:30-15:30	CAMRA Revitalisation Event County Arms, Truro			
Saturday 1 October Details available fro	Lizard Brewery visit			
Saturday 8 October 12 noon	South West Regional Meeting New Inn Tywardreath			
Saturday 19 November Branch Meeting 12 for 12:30 until 14:30 The Bell, Launceston Coach pick-up from St Austell Railway Station 10:30 with stops on return at Caradon Inn, Upton Cross and The Manor, Rilla Mill. Booking £5 with oublictransport@cornwall.camra.org.uk Roger				
BOOKING 23 WILL PUDICTIONSPORT	ornwall.camra.org.uk Roger			

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