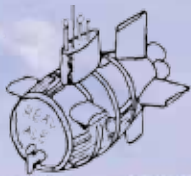


# InnQuirer

CAMRA Furness Branch Magazine

Issue 58 - Spring 2016



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE

## Inside:

Chairman's Report

Revitalisation Project

Branch Awards

CAMRA Discounts

Historic Ale 5

In the Space Before the End of Time

Real Ale & Trains

The Red Rose City

Crossword

Furness CAMRA Diary



## The Brown Cow Inn



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Lake Windermere  
Taken by Gary Thompson



The opinions expressed in  
InnQuirer are not necessarily those  
of the Editor, Furness Branch of  
CAMRA or CAMRA itself

## Welcome to the InnQuirer

### Welcome to the 58th edition of the InnQuirer.

The Beer Festival season is  
upon us once again and there  
is a wonderful choice of events  
to enjoy both near and far. See  
the Branch Diary on Page 33  
for details of some of them.

CAMRA is undergoing a  
Revitalisation project and I  
would recommend everyone  
be involved in helping decide  
the future of what has clearly  
been a tremendously successful  
organisation. See page 7 and  
visit the CAMRA website for  
more details.

This edition is once again  
packed full of members articles  
detailing some of the many  
trips and activities undertaken  
over the preceding months. I

was part of one of the trips but  
would have liked to attend all  
of them! As ever, many thanks  
to all contributors and please  
keep up the good work.

Congratulations to both  
recipients of CAMRA Pub  
and Club of the Year awards.  
(see page 11 for pictures)

This will be my last edition  
of the InnQuirer and I would  
like to thank everybody who I  
have worked with over the last  
few years especially the loyal  
advertisers, without whom  
there would be no magazine.

Finally, as ever, all articles,  
comments, letters and  
photographs most gratefully  
received.

Cheers,  
**Gary Thompson,  
Editor**

## Pub and Brewery Craic

### Pub Craic:

The Crown at High Newton was due to open in April.

The Bay horse in Barrow is to get a makeover and potentially  
serve Real Ales.

### Brewery Craic:

First Cuckoo is a new beer from the Ulverston Brewing Co.

Beer of the Dalton Beer Festival was Rakau from South Lakes  
Brewing.



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# From the Chair

by Dave Stubbins - Furness Branch Chairman

Just after I'd finished my last report Storm Desmond arrived and caused considerable flooding damage to large parts of Cumbria and we are still in a position where some of our major roads are inaccessible. Whilst many properties were damaged, and my thoughts were with them as they struggled to cope with their losses, there were many other businesses that were not flooded but suffered significant loss of business in the run up to and over the Christmas period as people seeing the news reports assumed incorrectly that the whole of Cumbria was closed. They of course receive no compensation for that as they suffered no physical damage. Hopefully they will recover over the coming months once the A591 and the other roads are fully open again.

The floods did not however dampen our active members' enthusiasm and an excellent Christmas social was held at the Engine Inn at Cark. Karen and Chris were presented with our Pub of the Season award for Winter 2015 in recognition of the consistently high standard of their beer.

I'm delighted to report that our members have selected the Prince of Wales, Foxfield as Pub of the Year and Cider Pub of the Year and Millom Rugby Union Club as Club of the Year. Whilst we naturally focus on events and activities in the Furness area in this magazine, we would like to draw your attention to significant achievements in Cumbria generally and in particular to mention that the Drovers Rest, Monkhill, near Carlisle, which was Solway Branch's Pub of the Year last year and then Cumbria's Pub of the Year, went on to be voted Runner Up in the competition to find the National Pub of the Year, which was a tremendous achievement. The owners are to be congratulated for their efforts in turning a run-down village pub into an establishment of which the local community are very proud.

Another national award received by a Cumbrian pub was in the National Pub Design Awards

category run by CAMRA in association with Historic England and the Victorian Society. I've given more details about this in a separate note in this magazine but congratulations are due to the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in Keswick for winning the award for Conversion of a building to pub use.

On the brewing front, we welcome new breweries Biggar Brewing Co-operative and South Lakes Brewing Company to the Furness brewing scene. We now have sixteen breweries in the Furness branch area and the next issue of the InnQuirer will contain a detailed review of their beers and activities.

All CAMRA members have been sent details of what is described as a project "to breathe new life into CAMRA". After 45 years of successful campaigning, the organisation is embarking on a detailed consultation exercise with its members to gain their views on the way forward for the organisation, given the current position of real ale, the alternative products on offer and the changes that have taken place in the brewing industry. The last three major campaigns, to get rid of the Beer Duty Escalator, to get a fair deal for licensees and to protect small cider producers, have not been specifically real ale related, and the current campaign to save pubs benefits all pub users. If you are a member please let your views be known.

Finally, Gary Thompson has indicated to me that he would like to stand down as editor of the InnQuirer following the production of this issue. This will be the fourteenth issue that Gary has produced to a high standard, winning West Pennines Magazine of the Year last year and I would like to offer my thanks to him for his excellent contribution to branch activities. Naturally this means we need to find a successor so if you are interested in taking on the role, either alone or in conjunction with a production team, please get in touch.

Dave Stubbins

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# Is this the end of CAMRA?

CAMRA Website

**After 45 years of being one of the largest single-issue consumer groups in the world, the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) could be coming to an end.**

The organisation is embarking on a consultation of as many as possible of its nearly 180,000 members to ask them who and what it should represent in the future - and it may no longer be focussed on real ale.

One of its four founders, Michael Hardman, has returned to lead the Revitalisation Project - a wholesale review into the purpose and strategy of CAMRA. Members of the organisation will be invited to share their views about the future of CAMRA by completing surveys and attending around 50 consultation meetings across the UK this summer.

They'll be asked whether CAMRA should move away from promoting and protecting traditional real ale and become more inclusive, or shed subsidiary issues which have become attached to the organisation over the years - such as cider - in order to narrow its focus exclusively on cask-conditioned beer.

The Revitalisation Project is CAMRA's response to a beer and pub industry which has changed hugely since the organisation was founded in 1971. The rise of craft beer and a resurgence of interest in beer in recent years, plus renewed threats to pubs, has challenged CAMRA to review if it is best positioned to represent its members in the future.

Options include becoming a consumer organisation for all beer drinkers, all pub goers regardless of what they drink, or even all alcohol drinkers, regardless of where they drink it.

Revitalisation Project Chairman Michael Hardman said:

*“This could mark a fundamental turning point for the Campaign for Real Ale. So fundamental it may no longer continue as the Campaign for Real Ale and instead become a campaign for pubs, or a campaign for all drinkers.”*

*“It's not up to us though. It's up to our members to tell us what they want the Campaign to do in the future. CAMRA has sometimes been criticised for failing to react to the times, being old-fashioned and reactionary, and failing to embrace developments in the pub and beer industry such as craft beer. This is the chance for our members to tell us who we should represent in the future and for what we should be campaigning.”*

*“Who do we represent now, and who should we represent in the future to help secure the best outcome for the brewing and pub industry? If we want to play a key part in driving the beer market back into growth and helping to create a thriving pub sector, do we continue with our narrow focus, or do we become more inclusive? I've always been immensely proud to be a founder member of CAMRA. I'm just as proud to be able to return to head up the Revitalisation Project to ensure the organisation we launched in 1971 is relevant and effective for the next 45 years.”*

*“When we founded the Campaign the most important thing was choice and combatting poor quality beer. Now our members need to tell us what is important to them. We need to hear from as many CAMRA members as possible to tell us what they think the organisation should look like in the future.”*

# Visit to Heck's Cider

Dave Stubbins - Branch Chairman

In the last issue of the InnQuirer we reported that we had decided to have a Cider of the Festival for the first time this year and that the winner was Heck's Port Wine of Glastonbury. We duly obtained a certificate to present to them but then I realised they were in deepest Somerset and not easy to get to and, being unsure whether to simply post their certificate I did what all volunteers tend to do- that is I completely forgot about it.

This year, however, I have decided to make use of my retirement to renew acquaintances with friends and relations I haven't seen for many years and last week I met up with my cousin who I only meet at family funerals, of which the last was over ten years ago, and as it happens he lives in Somerset so I spent a few happy days with him and his wife during which I was able to visit the town of Street, near Glastonbury, where brothers Chris and Andrew Heck run

their business.

The two brothers are the sixth generation of Hecks who have been making cider in Street. The



business is in the middle of a housing estate and quite difficult to find. The reason is that the housing estate was built round them! Having been used to brewery visits where we are told about the varying stages of production it was quite a shock to be shown the apple press and be told that the juice from the apples is collected in large fermentation vessels and that's the whole process. Amongst their regular customers are some from America and Russia where the cider is pumped into 3500 gallon tankers for delivery.

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CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2009-2015

## Branch awards....

### Pub of the Year

### Club of the Year



### Prince of Wales



### Millom Rugby Union

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**Furness CAMRA Pub of the Year 2015**

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## Design awards....

In mid April I was notified of an event taking place at the Dun Cow in Sunderland which was the presentation of the National Design Awards. The Dun Cow won two awards in the Conservation and Refurbishment categories whilst the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in Keswick won the award for Best Conversion to Pub Use.

The author of the Judges' Report, Stephen Parissien commented on the excellent work done by Wetherspoons in sensitively converting the former Magistrates Court and Police Station, which had lain empty for several years, into a multi-room pub.

I was asked at the end of the awards to take the award and present it to the pub manager. I have to say that I was absolutely overwhelmed by the treatment carried out. The dock, cells and magistrates bench have been retained and superbly renovated. It is a worthy winner of the award and well worth a visit.

Dave Stubbins

# BEER WITH ALTITUDE

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# CAMRA Discounts

by Dave Stubbins - Furness Branch Chairman

Those of you who are CAMRA members will already be aware of the extensive range of benefits available on membership. Of these, probably the most widely used are the 50p off a pint vouchers issued by Wetherspoons.

However, we are aware that a number of pubs in our area offer discounts on beer and accommodation so have put together a list of such establishments. Details will also be on our web site - [www.furness.camra.org.uk](http://www.furness.camra.org.uk).

Discounts are available to CAMRA members on production of their membership card.

Please accept our apologies if we have missed you off our list and let us have the details which we will publish in the next issue and record on our WhatPub database.

In order for this list to be as complete as possible we are asking all pubs that offer discounts to get in touch and let us know the discount offered, whether or not you think we already know.

The information we are seeking is-

- The discount on a pint of real ale, whether % or in pence
- The period during which this discount is available (if not at all times)

## Current Discounts

The Kings Arms, Cartmel

The Royal Oak, Cartmel

Unsworth's Yard Brewery, Cartmel

The Engine Inn, Cark

The Yewdale Hotel, Coniston

The Crown, High Newton

The Tower Bank Arms, Near Sawrey

The Sun Hotel, Ulverston

This is of course in addition to the Furness Railway in Barrow-in-Furness which, being a Wetherspoons pub, offers the discount of 50 pence off a pint available in all Wetherspoons outlets.

The Prince of Wales at Foxfield offers discounted accommodation to CAMRA members.

Please respond to us at:

[stubbins.dr@btinternet.com](mailto:stubbins.dr@btinternet.com) or to the Furness web site at

[furnesscamra@btinternet.com](mailto:furnesscamra@btinternet.com)

Many thanks



# Origins of Beer, Ale & Their Ancient Gods

by Alastair Kirk (Historic Ale 5)

**Ale existed before beer, the latter being a hopped version of Ale appearing in the last 2000 years.**

Ale is thought to have originated in the Middle East at around the time cereal crops were first cultivated around 12000 years ago. Wine also developed in a similar period and was used in flavouring ale. The wild yeast from grape skin (the white haze) was used to ferment the beer.

People of the Sumerian Civilisation literally enjoyed a “Few Jars “ with their ale being served in large fired clay jars which groups drank from through straws. Their word for ale was “Kas” translated to “What the Mouth Desires”. By 3000 BC they had developed malt kilns and were able to make coloured beers including reds to black. They even had a beer called “eb-la” meaning “Lessening the Waist”. Women made the Ale and the Sumerian deity or goddess of Ale was called Ninkasi. A Sumerian clay tablet bears a “Hymn to Ninkasi”, which includes an ancient recipe for beer.

Babylonians were also great Beer lovers making cakes out of malt to use in brewing which was on an industrial level in Egypt during the times of Pharaohs. Egyptian mythology tells how a lion headed goddess called Sekhmet was sent to punish mankind. Sekhmet, daughter of



Ninkasi

fell asleep and mankind was saved. During an annual festival held at the beginning of the year, a festival of intoxication, the Egyptians danced and played music to soothe the wildness of the goddess and drank great quantities of beer ritually to imitate the extreme drunkenness that stopped the Goddess’s wrath.

In modern day Egypt and Sudan southern groups with ancient traditions still brew with



malt cakes. The primitive brew is strangely known as “Bouza”. Is this the origin of Boozer?

The Ancient Greeks preferred Wine to Beer and borrowed the Phrygians god of Barley and Beer, Sabazius, who by the 5th century BC was closely related to Dionysus the Greek God of wine. The Phrygian king “Midas” must have loved his beer (Probably Golden Ale!) as archaeologists discovered within the contents of his tomb, vessels that had once contained barley based drinks which he took into his afterlife.

Bronze age Burials have revealed evidence of Barley based drinks flavoured with Meadowsweet, Sweet Gale (bog myrtle) and honey which was still produced until the 15th Century in Europe. Scandinavian legends record the creation of Ale by a Goddess brewster called Osmotar using a birch barrel, boar spit fetched by birds and pine cones brought by squirrels and honey.



Sekhmet

Ra the principle God, liked to drink blood so started culling humans to quench her thirst. The Egyptians brewed blood red beer flavoured with mandrake root to give Sekhmet, who drank so much that she

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# National Beer Scoring System

## National Beer Scoring System

Have you ever wondered how CAMRA members select pubs for the CAMRA Good Beer Guide?

The National Beer Scoring System (NBSS) is a 0-5 (0 = No cask ale available) point scale for judging beer quality in pubs. It is an easy to use system that has been designed to assist CAMRA branches in selecting pubs for the Good Beer Guide and also monitor beer quality by encouraging CAMRA members from any part of the world to report beer quality on any pub in the UK.

If you are a CAMRA member, we want you to tell us about the quality of beer in the pubs you visit.

If you are not a member, why not join Europe's most successful consumer organisation?

## How do I take part?

To submit your scores please visit [whatpub.com](http://whatpub.com).

Log into the site using your CAMRA membership number and password. Once you have agreed to the terms and conditions and found a pub on the site, you can start scoring.

You can find out more at [whatpub.com/beerscoring](http://whatpub.com/beerscoring)



## What do I need to record?

- Your name & Membership No.
- The date you visited the pub
- The Name of the Pub
- Where the pub is located
- A score out of 5
- The name of the beer

## What do the scores mean?

0. No cask ale available.

1. Poor. Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.

2. Average. Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing.

3. Good. Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again.

4. Very Good. Excellent beer in excellent condition.

5. Perfect. Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.

[www.data.beerscoring.org.uk](http://www.data.beerscoring.org.uk).

For more information on the National Beer Scoring System, please email [brett.laniosh@camra.org.uk](mailto:brett.laniosh@camra.org.uk).

# In the space before the end of time - A trio of last orders recollections

By GA Purcell - Furness Branch President

## Part One - "The 'Rollo' Run"

It came in on a wave of publicity, largely media-driven, and very often with a whole covey of somewhat negative overtones riding on the crest of it. Oh, what's he banging on about this time? I can hear many of you asking.

### Closing time, that's what.

Remember all of that kafuffle about the approaching state of pre-Armageddon chaos that was set to erupt into society once the flood gates of licensing laws liberation were flung wide open? Well, guess what....most places away from the big city centres still call time on us somewhere between 11 and 11.30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and I personally haven't noticed any more disruptive behaviour than that which I've been experiencing since... well, a long time back, let's just say. In fact, truth to tell, pubs seemed to have been a lot more threatening and often dangerous places to be in back in the late fifties and throughout the sixties, especially so, once the approach of 'Tap Stop' was nigh.

Even to this day the imminent arrival of cut off time takes on a frenetic character quite apart from whatever the prevailing of atmosphere of the pub might have been up until that point, and an over-arching sense of urgency can be observed spreading like an incoming tidal surge amongst the punters.

Re-fills in and set up on the table beside already quite full drinks from the previous round, the subject that will be the topic of chat for the next 20 minutes to half an hour is dropped into the midst of our foursome. "I've just heard a bunch of lasses over at the bar talking about the old 'Rollo Run'" The rest of us turn in the direction of the group in question, and one of our gaggle says something like, "They don't look old enough to remember it."

A bit of rumination follows, centred around how old you might have to be to remember doing what for many Barrovian drinkers was one of the more challenging 'Must Do' stunts you could get up to, even if only once in your drinking career. "I think that one of them was bemoaning the fact that several of the pubs on the route have shut up shop, and that it's no longer the challenge that it once was," came the response, once the original subject had been returned to. This starts a general moan about how many of the town's pubs have been lost to us in recent times.

I am keen to keep the conversation centred round the subject of the legendary Barrow tradition, and go on to ask for memories and anecdotes.

The upshot of this is that the infamous 'Rollo Run' turns out to have been done in a very wide variety of ways. Fancy dress, roller skates, three-legged and even piggy back crop up in people's recollections, but by far the most treacherous and liable to catch the participants out was when it was treated as some form of race or competition.

One of our group recalled how he and his pals at the time did it as a piggy back race and somehow managed to get as far as the penultimate pub before someone clocked that because there were seven pubs in the run, one of them did an extra stint of the carrying and a lucky one was the passenger. I'll bet that lots were insisted upon for future sessions, or as some participants apparently did, carry on to the, also now closed, 'Rifleman's' on Salthouse Road.

My own recollections are of starting out at the 'Duke' and 'pinting it', as they used to say, all the way down to the 'Queens', but being the lightweight that I ever was when it came to drinking sessions, I was well out of it by the time I reached the last stop.

If the end game was the 'Queens' then I'd invest in a taxi home, though I do recall one of the drivers being very reluctant to take the 'damaged goods' on board. It was far from rare to find the well-practiced drinkers (another description includes the word 'Artists') doing the run both ways, a truly formidable enterprise, and although people like me could get away with it if we stuck to halves, such unmanly behaviour was definitely frowned upon or mocked by the serious drinkers back then.

I also remember talking to a chap of similar advancing years to myself who actually had the guts to admit that his girl friend of the time beat him back to the 'Duke' from a 'Queens' start on one occasion. I don't know how their relationship went from then onwards, but when I pressed him to reveal the name of the lass in question a cluster of many years dormant brain cells suddenly sprang back to life in a long-neglected corner of my head, bringing her to my mind's eye in a quite vivid recollection, albeit over forty years out of date. I last remembered meeting her as she was working her way round the pubs in central Lancaster while a student at the university, and still up for a challenge, it seemed.

For those who like to know these things, I recall that when I first got to hear about the 'Rollo Run' the breweries who owned the pubs in the late fifties were as follows. Duke of Edinburgh (Catterall & Swarbrick of Blackpool); Peacock Inn (Thompson's of Barrow); The Imperial, better known as the 'Little Imp', and even better known as the 'Blue Lamp' (Case's of Barrow); the Waterloo (Workington Brewery); Ram's Head (Case's of Barrow); Wellington, almost universally referred to as 'Dominic's' (C&S of Blackpool) and finally the Queen's (Thompson's of Barrow).

The present day situation leaves us with just four of them remaining, and the three that have

been lost to the run are the 'Queens', closed for some while now, although at the time of writing the property has been sold. Dominic's shut its doors to the public a considerable number of years ago and the property appears to be in use as apartments now.

At the time of writing the 'Peacock Inn', I'm told, is in the process of being converted into flats, and certainly outward observation seems to bear this out. This particular pub has a special significance for me as it was the only place that myself, my father, and my grandfather were ever together in the one pub, for a Thompson League darts match as I remember.

I guess we all have our special memories of pubs on the 'Rollo Run', and although a four-pub run is still do-able, much of the magic has gone, and Rawlinson Street will probably never reclaim its fame...or should that be infamy...in the future, as the world moves on and a generation comes into legal drinking age without direct experience of it.

Of note to CAMRA members, I'm told that cask ale is available in just two of the four remaining pubs, but I must confess that I haven't personally checked this out.

Other drinking stunts I recall getting involved in included 'The Walney Run', a marathon in respect of the distance involved as well as the drink. Incredibly, this was sometimes extended to include Barrow Island's three pubs, and there was also the Dalton and Ulverston circuits...the latter two not on the one night I hasten to add, although I know of one marathon drinker who did Ulverston in a day! Not to be recommended or emulated. I'm not at all sure what became of him, by the way.

More anecdotes from the time leading up to 'Last Orders' in future, I'd like to think. Watch this space.

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# Real Ale and Trains

Ken Parr - Branch Member

## A Great Combination!

If you are a real ale fan then the chances are you are a fan of trains. The perfect scenario being sitting on a train travelling through scenic landscapes drinking some excellent draught real ale. The problem is buying draught beer on a train journey is virtually impossible so the next best option - incorporate train journeys with train station pubs.

So it was a small group of us went on a day trip which incorporated 5 train stations and 6 pubs. Our journey set off from Barrow picking up our chairman on the way, who was also our train Guru, passing on various train facts, including how to tell whether the first class carriage is at the front or the back when your Transpennine train enters the station. Major plus when you are stuck on a busy station at rush hour and not sure whether your reserved seat is in the carriage at the front or the rear.

Our outward journey was alcohol free and involved changing at Manchester to catch the Liverpool to Scarborough train arriving in York about 12:40 for our first stop before making our way home via the waterholes of Dewsbury, Huddersfield, Stalybridge and Carnforth. There is something nice about stepping off a train and straight in a pub and boy was this a good pub.

## The York Tap

Leased by the same people as the superb Sheffield Tap, you just knew this was going to be a great starting point. Formerly a 1906 Edwardian Art Nouveau tea room it ceased selling tea decades ago and was previously home to York Model Railway until it got a new lease of life selling beer in



in 2011 after a superb restoration. The ceiling features stained

glass domes, one of which is original and the other a reproduction.

Our schedule for the day allowed us about an hour at each destination and with the prospect of so much ale to choose from it was unanimously decided it would be a day for drinking halves. There are 18 real ales on at any one time in the York Tap and prices ranged on the day from £3.20 (3.5%) to £4.40 (7%). There were beers for everyone including a Milk Stout at 4.5% from the Bristol Beer Factory. Some of our choices were Little Valley Brewery's Withens Pale Ale, at 3.9% an organic pale session beer, Exit 33 Brewery Mosaic which was an easy drinking pale beer at 4.1% and Glastonbury's Hedge Monkey a craft bitter coming in at 4.6%. All the beers were in excellent condition but unfortunately it was soon time to move on to our next port of call 40 minutes down the track. So it was out the door turn right and the train was just about to pull into the station.

## West Riding Refreshment Rooms Dewsbury

Transpennine's station number allocation was working well - straight off the train and through the pub doors. This was to be our food stop. We had pre ordered food and compliments to the chef because it was excellent. Couple of us had a lovely

classic burger that came with thick cut chips, homemade coleslaw and onion rings, beautifully presented on a wooden board and at £6.95 a steal. The all-day breakfast also got a big thumbs up.



It was opened in 1994 when real ale enthusiast Mike Field converted the old waiting rooms and it was to become an instant success. There is railway memorabilia including signal box signs,

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# Real Ale and Trains

Cont.

a local BR timetable for 1956 and a headboard for The West Riding train. The pub has a cosy feel with 3 rooms and eight hand-pumps on the central bar which has a bias towards beers from the North and Lincolnshire. When time allows for calculations they have a notice behind the bar announcing the number of pints consumed by the thirsty customers the previous week. Our choices for the day included the award winning Rudgate's Ruby Mild and Timothy Taylor's Landlord. Also tried were Elland's Chinook 3.9% (pale and hoppy) and Sonnet43 Brewery's American Pale Ale. All beers were again in excellent condition. After a lovely stopover it was through the pub door straight onto the train for our 10 minute journey to our 3rd stop.

## Head of Steam and King's Head Huddersfield

Widely regarded as one of Britain's finest classical buildings Huddersfield station is Grade 1 listed, boasting a classical-style facade with a portico consisting of six columns in width and two in depth, which dominates St George's Square, where there is a sculpture of ex British Prime Minister Harold Wilson who was born in Huddersfield. The sculpture omitted his most famous trademark - his pipe - at the request of his wife, Lady Wilson.

Boasting two historical pubs **The Head of Steam**, situated in the former Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway's west wing of the imposing frontage, was set up and refurbished after years of neglect as a free House by Tony Brookes in 1996. It can be entered by the front or from the station and consists of five rooms each different in theme and character around a central bar. A five inch scale live steam model of a GWR 14 class tank engine and autococh have pride of place behind one of the bars as well as numerous train memorabilia all around. With 12 hand-pumps my choice was my first and only bad beer of the day but it turned out to be the end of the barrel and the barman was more than happy to replace it with a beer called Secret from the

Small World brewery which was excellent. The beer policy is to serve ales from independent North Country breweries.

Occupying the east wing of the station **The King's Head** was first licensed in the 1890's when it served as the first class refreshment rooms for the Huddersfield and Manchester Railway. With a mosaic tiled floor and marble fireplaces the pub is dominated by the large room with bar at one end. A blackboard details ales on offer from the ten hand-pumps. Beers we sampled included Ringmaster from the Magic Rock Brewery, a lovely light session beer at 3.6% and Topaz Session Pale from the Geeves Brewery in Barnsley. Again, which was to become



the norm, all beers were in excellent condition. After our customary hour and with a 40 minute journey ahead it was onto our

next destination where lo and behold we had to cross platforms to get to the pub!!! Not used to that.

## Station Buffet Bar Stalybridge

Very popular with people following the Trans-Pennine Real Ale Trail the interior of the building boasts a place on CAMRA's Regional Inventory of historic pub interiors. It is believed to have had a licensed bar of some kind on the station since 1860. Now leased to the licensee of the West Riding Refreshment Rooms after the death of John Hesketh in 2011, the man who was responsible for saving the pub from closure, filling it with railway memorabilia and single-handedly creating a pub that any real ale drinker should make sure they visit at some point. The Pork and Black Pudding plus Steak and Ale pies were top drawer.

Continued on P27

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## WITH 10 NEW BEERS

# The Red Rose City

Libby Norton

## I love Lancaster and I visit regularly.

Forty-five minutes on a train from Ulverston and you are transported to another world; Sandstone to Limestone; small town to small city. Lancaster oozes the inevitable influence of students yet retains an air of tradition in several of its numerous pubs.

I experience Lancaster from an almost Jekyll and Hyde perspective depending on the company. Whether it is a cocktail-fuelled 'Ladies' trip or a more laid back real ale expedition, Lancaster always delivers and really does have a watering hole for everybody. We spent a couple of days of a chilly February half term in Lancaster and a lovely time we had too.

A walk from the station the Three Mariners, declaring itself as 'Lancaster's original inn', is a great starting point to plan your day. Be warned the 'Chilli Death Burger' does exactly what it says on the tin; thankfully a pint of Guzzler (3.6%) eased the impact. The Dawkins Revolution IPA was superb but at 5.3% perhaps not the most sensible choice to kick off a planned afternoon of beer tasting. We were offered a choice of receptacle for our beer. I chose a handled glass, reminiscent of old Christmas gifts of beer shampoo for my Dad, but actually lovely to drink from. It soon became clear dimpled glasses with handles are the trendy option of this city's real ale pubs.

Onwards, and downwards, in my opinion, to the Green Ayre. The name evoked in me images of a traditional bar with a snug and a lounge, instead it was a modern, barn like Weatherspoons!!! I accept the chain have a place and are popular but personally I prefer tradition where possible. The Ruddles Best scored an "OK at best" but I was impressed with the great selection of bottle beer including the rather marvellous Punk IPA for a mere £2.49!

Onwards, and definitely upwards this time, to one of my favourite Lancaster pubs, The

Borough. The delicious, unmistakable aroma of brewing Borough Bitter greeted us as we checked into our room for the night. Our accommodation was in the adjacent building and was brilliant; clean, comfortable and modern. A quick freshen up and it was out on the town again.

First stop, over the road to the Tap House for a lovely pint of draught Punk IPA. Yes "Here she goes again," with her craft beer nonsense. I understand CAMRA's stand against beer that does not fit their criteria of what is 'real' but I really do see a place for it alongside real ale. Pubs are struggling and whether those of us who appreciate cask ale like it or not, traditional beer is not attractive to many younger people. For what it is worth, I think CAMRA should investigate 'craft ale', define it and adopt it, as currently it is a minefield of quality. Before the marketing men take over, embrace what can be really great beer and support passionate brewers trying to add to what is already good. The CAMRA kudos could support the upcoming brewers and ensure a ready supply of quality products to suit all tastes.

Anyway, rant over and back to Lancaster. Off to the Sun where the Marmoset and house brew Lancaster Red are great. Served in the now obviously trendy handle glasses. So where to dine? My partner in crime had arranged a surprise dinner and beautiful it was. Delicious fresh food at Miyabi. This Japanese gem is well worth a visit for the sushi or Teppenyaki, a little expensive but lovely for a treat. We accompanied our meal with the obligatory warm Saki and left, replete, for the short walk back to the Borough.

We settled at the bar for a nightcap of Borough Pale, brewed on site and complementary for guests staying overnight. The Borough ales are very good and incredibly good value when bought at the point of brewing.

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# The Red Rose City

Cont.

we set off on our mission of visiting some of the other hostelrys of Lancaster. With thanks to Lunesdale CAMRA for its production, we followed the Lancaster Ale Trail map we'd collected during our previous visit to Lancaster for the Beer Festival Worker's Trip.

Unfortunately our first port of call, The Ring 'o' Bells, was closed. Thankfully the pubs are close enough for this not to matter so it was off to the Robert Gillow. I love this pub, although from the outside it does look more like a Betty's Tea Room, and they always have an interesting choice of ale on offer. This is a real music pub too, and always has an extensive menu of local artists booked to play. We savoured the delights of Hawkshead's Dry Stone Stout, at 4.5% a good awakener!

It was time to move on and meet the girls for a

drink at the John o' Gaunt. Inevitably they were late so during our extended visit we enjoyed several pints of a very well kept Lancaster Blonde (4 %). The girls went in search of cocktails and shots as we continued our languid session on the ale. Finishing with a lovely Belhaven Grand Slam (4 %) on a return visit to the Robert Gillow we went in search of dinner and discovered a bargain at The Merchants, two main courses and a bottle of wine for £28! The delicious steak was a great way to soak up some booze en route to the station. The train journey home gave a chance to reflect on a relaxing mid week break, close enough to home for the journey not to matter but far enough to get a sense of getting away.

Visit Lancaster its great!

## Real Ale and Trains

Cont. from P23

There are 8 hand-pumps to choose from and my tipples were Brass Castle Brewery's Toffee Coffee Cream, 4.2% being very moreish then Thornbridge's Melba, a peach IPA coming in at 5.2% and before we knew it was time for catching the 17:50 train, changing at Manchester for our final destination.

### The Snug Carnforth

Opened in 2012 by Gregg Beaman and his wife Julie this Micro-pub goes from strength to strength. It may be small (300 square feet) but can pack a great atmosphere when entering. Crossing the platform we had a guess at how many people would be in 6, 8, 9, 10 came the guesses. We were all wrong, we walked in just after 19:30 and it was packed out with between 20 and 30 people all having a good time. We had time for a couple of halves and

the Chadwicks IPA from Kendal (5.6%) was on excellent form and the Cherry Chocolate Stout at 6% from Bridgehouse Brewery in Hebden Bridge was superb.

Sadly we had to leave to catch our train home and we all agreed it had been an excellent day out. Beer and Food were great, pubs were superb where we could have easily stayed longer in each one. All the pubs were different but excellent in all ways. Transpennine Express was kind to us with all the trains being on time and I'm sure we will repeat the experience in the future.

So how can you tell if the First Class coach is entering the station first? Look at the buffers of the train and if there is a yellow stripe across it's First Class.

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CAMRA LocAle is an initiative that promotes pubs stocking locally brewed real ale. The scheme builds on a growing consumer demand for quality local produce and an increased awareness of 'green' issues. There are currently over 125 CAMRA branches participating in the LocAle scheme which have accredited

hundreds of pubs as LocAle pubs which regularly sell at least one locally brewed real ale.

#### Definition of Local

The Sustainable Communities Act, which CAMRA strongly supports, provides a definition of local as up to 30 miles from the point of sale. CAMRA recommends that the distance is calculated from the pub to the brewery and should be based on the shortest driving distance. Real ales from regional and national breweries as well as from microbreweries can be regarded as "local" if they

are brewed within what the branch has decided as being the local area.

The Furness Branch definition is as follows:

*"All beers brewed within Cumbria, plus those in North Lancashire as far south as Lancaster and Morecambe"*

This definition more accurately reflects our low density population. In reality, the vast majority of our LocAle pubs serve beers which are brewed very close to home – especially from our own 12 branch breweries!

**Do you know of any other pubs or clubs in Furness Branch area which always sell LocAle?**

If so, please let us know so that we can sign them up and give them a mention.

Thank you, Gary

Allithwaite - Pheasant  
 Askam - Railway  
 Bardsea - Ship  
 Bargates - Drunken Duck  
 Barrow - Ambrose Hotel  
 Barrow - Duke of Edinburgh  
 Barrow - Furness Railway  
 Barrow - Kings Arms, Hawcoat  
 Bouth - White Hart  
 Broughton - Black Cock  
 Broughton - High Cross  
 Broughton - Manor Arms  
 Broughton - Old Kings Head  
 Cark - Engine  
 Cartmel - Kings Arms  
 Cartmel - Royal Oak  
 Cartmel - Unsworth's Yard  
 Coniston - Black Bull  
 Coniston - Sun  
 Coniston - Sailing Club  
 Coniston - Yewdale

Dalton - Brown Cow  
 Dalton - Red Lion  
 Far Sawrey - Cuckoo Brow  
 Foxfield - Prince of Wales  
 Grange - Commodore  
 Greenodd - Ship  
 Grizebeck - Greyhound  
 Hawkshead - Kings Arms  
 Hawkshead - Red Lion  
 Hawkshead - Sun  
 High Newton - The Crown  
 Holmes Green - Black Dog  
 Kirkby - Burlington  
 Kirksanton - King William  
 Lindal - Railway  
 Loppergarth - Wellington  
 Lowick Bridge - Red Lion  
 Millom - Devonshire  
 Millom - Bear in the Square  
 Millom - Harknott on Track  
 Near Sawrey - Tower Bank Arms

Newton - Village Inn  
 Penny Bridge - Britannia  
 Piel Island - The Ship  
 Rusland - Rusland Pool  
 Seathwaite - Newfield Inn  
 Silecroft - Miners Arms  
 Stainton - Stagger Inn  
 Strawberry Bank - Masons  
 The Green - Punchbowl  
 Torver - Church House  
 Torver - Wilson Arms  
 Ulverston - Devonshire  
 Ulverston - Farmers Arms  
 Ulverston - King's Head  
 Ulverston - Lancastrian  
 Ulverston - Mill  
 Ulverston - Old Farmhouse  
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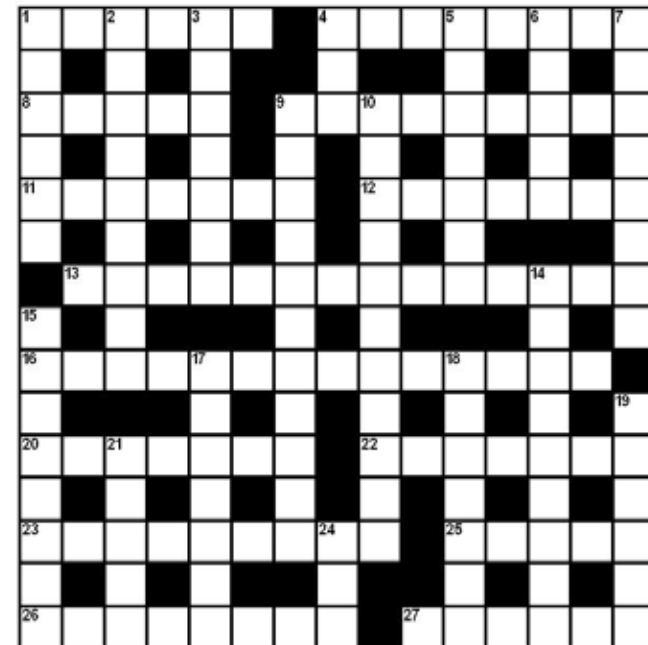
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# Crossword No. 16

by PeeGee - Furness Branch Member



### Across

- 1 Still irritated? Return to find Appleby brewery (6)
- 4 Confused rôle in chic surroundings makes one billious (8)
- 8 Chrysalises inside make a puppy turn round (5)
- 9 Fierce competition for razor (3-6)
- 11 Recover from religious education assertion (7)
- 12 After short notice face protector reveals mentor (7)
- 13 New teachers remark on study of consumer preferences (6,8)
- 16 The Lord Speaker's seat. PS, substitute followed by hostelry in Eskdale (3,8,3)
- 20 Phone about final tearing (7)
- 22 Noble over there, near the beginning (5,2)
- 23 Ah, dots try to remake moister measurer (9)
- 25 To be seriously overweight exposes the answer (5)
- 26 ET is a rapper; with hindsight, revealing a leech (8)
- 27 Influence café mixed with Financial Times (6)

### Down

- 1 Habitually blotto persons indicate hard drinkers (6)

- 2 Wrap anew oriental parcel in anger (9)
- 3 Pick ace shuffled in bag for reducing swelling (3,4)
- 4 "Behold vegetable," you heard, as computer brain (1,1,1)
- 5 Leave loads her extremities in Normandy port (2,5)
- 6 Swindles castles (5)
- 7 Colds sound not unlike moggy bottom (8)
- 9 Turn up celestial wanderer round lamp (4,2,5)
- 10 You may wish to consult this person when planning a trip to or through 5 (6,5)
- 14 Liquid honey drink, we hear, was site of 1215 signing (9)
- 15 Actor's upper leg joint shown, for instance, in Enterprise? (8)
- 17 Round, I'm back with common sense. Sinister (7)
- 18 Boris as peg-necked monster (7)
- 19 Use money for financial gain wearing undergarment (6)
- 21 Managed to include identity returning to lowest point (5)
- 24 Initially all like English beer (3)





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Applications will be processed within 21 days

#### Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)

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 Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_  
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01/15

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Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of account.

# Furness CAMRA Diary

## Branch Meetings

Monday 13th June, Church House, Torver, 7PM  
 (Transport provided)

Saturday 9th July, Queens Arms, Biggar Village, 1:30PM

Monday 15th August, Stagger Inn, Stainton, 7PM

Monday 5th September, Ship, Greenodd, 7PM

## Socials

Saturday 18th June, Cumbrian Legendary Ales  
 (£10 charge for transport)

8th October, Train to Algames Brewery, Wigan  
 (To be confirmed)

## Keswick Rugby Club Beer Festival

3rd/4th June

## Boot Beer Festival

9th to 12th June

## Dent Music and Beer Festival

24th to 26th June

## CAMRA Fleetwood Beer and Cider Festival

11th to 13th February, Marine Hall, Fleetwood

## Hawkshead Brewery Northern Craft Beer Festival

21st to 23rd July, Beer Hall, Hawkshead Brewery, Staveley  
 (See ad on back page)

## Great British Beer Festival

9th to 13th August, Olympia, London  
 (See ad on page 28)

## Westmoreland Beer Festival

9th to 12th November

## Advertising in the InnQuirer

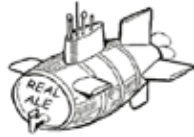
If you wish to place an advertisement you should contact Dave Stubbins or the editor by email at [furnesscamra@me.com](mailto:furnesscamra@me.com).

You can send in your advert design and copy by attachment.

Please ensure any graphics or pictures are high resolution and in JPEG, TIFF or PDF format.

Cost is £110 full page, £60 half page and £30 quarter page.

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## Crossword Answers

1 Topers - Hidden word (indicate) in blotto persons  
 2 Repackage - e (oriental) + pack (parcel) in rage  
 3 Ice pack - Anag (shuffled) of Pick ace  
 4 CPU - Homophones of See + pea + you  
 5 Le Havre - h & r (ends/extremities of her)  
 loaded on board leave  
 6 Rooks  
 7 Catarrhs - cat + semi-homophone arths  
 9 Come to light - Turn up. Comet + o + lamp  
 10 Travel agent  
 14 Runnymede - Runny (liquid) + homophone (we hear) of mead  
 22 Early on - Earl + you  
 20 Rending - ring about end  
 16 The Woolpack Inn - Woolpack, substitute p for s remark  
 13 Market research - Anag (New) of teachers  
 12 Ad + visor  
 11 Reclaim - Religious Education + claim  
 9 Cut-throat  
 backwards (turn round)  
 8 Pupa - Hidden word (inside) in make a puppy  
 4 Choleric - Anag (Confused) of role in chib  
 bakwards (Return)  
 1 Tirnil - Hidden word (to find) in Still irritated

Down

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 20 Rending - ring about end  
 22 Early on - Earl + you  
 23 Hydrotast - Anag (to remake) of Ah dots try  
 25 Obese - Hidden word (exposes)  
 26 Parasite - Hidden word (revealing) in To be seriously backwards (with hindsight)  
 27 Affect - Anag (mixed) of cafe + FT

Across

# THE SUN INN

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