

InnQuirer

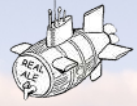
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CAMRA Furness Branch Magazine

Issue 60 - Autumn 2016



CAMPAIGN
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CAMRA
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BRANCH

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and More.....



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The Brown Cow Inn



10 The Green, Dalton-in-Furness,
Cumbria, LA15 8LQ
Tel: 01229 462553

1500AD historic building set in the ancient capital of Furness, run by father and son, Charlie and Paul for over 20 years



Charming 100 cover restaurant upstairs, plus cosy downstairs eating areas in the bar serving food 7 days a week from noon to 9PM. CAMRA recommended traditional inn open 7 days a week from noon to 11:30PM serving 6 ever changing real ales plus a wide range of lagers, wines and soft drinks



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Several times winner of the Dalton Ale Tasters award and Dalton in Bloom. **Accommodation on site - Self contained maisonette and holiday cottage.** Close to local attractions such as the South Lakes Wild Animal Park, Furness Abbey and local walk ways



We pride ourselves on keeping a good cellar and serving traditional home cooked food.

We have a crackling open fire to warm you in winter and an exceptional front located beer garden with canopy and heaters for summer days and nights. (plus car parking)

InnQuirer

CAMRA Furness Branch

Chairman/Branch Contact Press Officer and Public Affairs

Dave Stubbins 07807 836591
stubbins.dr@btinternet.com

Deputy Chairman/Beer Festival Organiser

Steve Lewis 01229 581000
loucaroline@talk21.com

Secretary/Social Secretary

Dave Latham 01229 467238
dave.latham@talktalk.net

Treasurer

Duncan Warren 07741 410614
duncanwarren4779@btinternet.com

Membership Secretary

Malc Armstrong 07896 589159
malkki@excite.com

GBG Co-ordinator

Ken Parr
via innquirer@hotmail.co.uk

Editor

Jack Summers-Glass
01229 462076
innquirer@furness.camra.org.uk

Cover Photograph by
Jack Summers-Glass:
Urswick Tarn



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

Welcome to the InnQuirer

Here we are again, Autumn is upon us and the Ulverston Beer Festival has come and gone. Once again, it was a great success and for those volunteers that gave their time, I hope you have now caught up with your sleep!

For more information on what happened at the Festival, see 'From the Chair' on page 5.

October is Cider and Perry Month so keep your eyes peeled for pubs that are promoting Real Cider and Perry. To start you off, we have an article on page 23 all about The Resurgence of Scottish Cider and you can look online at whatpub.com to see where your nearest local cider pub is.

We have article 6 in the

occasional series from Alastair Kirk (Tarn Hows Brewery), 'HistoricAle' - well worth a read. On top of that, we have more articles and information for you on the following pages.

The other weekend, I wandered around the Broughton Festival of Beer and, apart from the great selection of beers on offer in all of the participating pubs, I was, as always, impressed by how friendly all the pubs and the customers were. What a great day out it was - I almost went back for another day (but I couldn't - sadly).

Jack Summers-Glass
Editor

Pub and Brewery Craic

Pub Craic

The **Biggar Brewery** has now brewed a fourth beer, Agamemnon, which proved popular at the Ulverston Beer Festival

The Sun Inn, Ulverston has won Furness CAMRA Pub of The Season

Brewery Craic

South Lakes Brewing Co.'s **Rakau** won the 'Beer of the Festival' award from the Ulverston Beer Festival

Planning permission has been granted for an extension to the Greenodd Brewery

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From the Chair

by Dave Stubbins - Furness Branch Chairman

Since the last issue of the InnQuirer our main focus of attention has been the **Ulverston Beer Festival**, which took place from 1st to 3rd September in its usual venue, the Coronation Hall. We had 86 different beers available supplemented by a range of ciders and perries. As I reported in the last issue, we took a decision to dispense with music on the Friday evening and our attendance was not significantly different to the previous year. We invite comments from attendees, which we study closely along with our own experiences to assess any changes we need to make for future years' festivals and we had almost equal comments from people who were disappointed that there was no music to those who commented how much better it was without. The first two days of the festival went well with many favourable comments received about the range and quality of the beers. On the Saturday the foul weather meant that only the more hardy of us ventured outdoors and our attendance was consequently down on the previous year. However, almost 1,800 people came to the festival and several of the beers and most of the ciders were completely consumed and hopefully, having been introduced to the excellent quality of the local real ales, many people will seek them out in the hostelrys in Ulverston and the surrounding area.

Two of our fellow Cumbrian branches have beer festivals coming up in November. The Solway branch have theirs in Carlisle at a new venue, called the Venue, just off Botchergate in the city centre, handy for the railway station, from 3rd to 5th November. This is followed on 9th to 12th November by the Westmorland beer festival which takes place in Kendal Town Hall. Both festivals have been a great success over the years and are well recommended.

On the subject of beer festivals, the annual **Broughton Festival of Beer** has just taken place. The event is a collaboration between several pubs in the area and involved the Prince of Wales at Foxfield, the Newfield Inn at Seathwaite, the Bear on the Square in Millom and in Broughton itself the Black Cock, Manor Arms, Old Kings Head and High Cross. The Manor Arms had, in addition to its excellent range of real ales in the pub itself, a pop up pub in the Square in the centre of Broughton. The High Cross had the best range of beers from the newer Furness breweries that I've seen. The event has attracted coach loads of visitors from Blackpool, Liverpool and Manchester and this year was no different. Minibus services are organised to run between the pubs and the event organisers are to be congratulated on another superb festival.

We continue to hold our monthly branch meetings and are attempting to get around as many of our branch pubs as we can in order to give our members a chance to see pubs that they might not normally visit. If you have a pub in our area and would like to host a branch meeting, please get in touch. We usually meet on a Monday evening or occasionally on Saturday lunch time. Our only proviso is that you can allocate an area to us that can accommodate up to 30 people and that it will be quiet enough for us to hold a meeting without causing inconvenience to other pub users. Please also bear in mind that we have almost 150 real ale outlets in our area and we only hold meetings once a month so if we have been to you already we may not be back for a year or two. I look forward to hearing from anyone interested.

Dave Stubbins

THE SHIP INN & GREENODD BREWERY

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ALWAYS A VARIETY OF REAL ALES BREWED ON SITE

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Furness CAMRA Presentations

Pub of the Season - Summer 2016

Another summer has come and gone and it is once again time for Furness CAMRA to recognise one of the many excellent pubs in their area for their outstanding contribution to the promotion of real ale.



The award for Furness CAMRA Pub of the Summer Season goes to **The Sun in Ulverston.**

Refurbished at the beginning of the year, The Sun is a tribute to the hard work put in by Scott and Kirsty to make this pub one of the delights of this vibrant town.

The picture shows Furness CAMRA Chairman Dave Stubbins presenting the award to Scott at an informal meeting held at The Sun in September.



It's all about the Beer

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Beer Club

4 to choose from

Tasting Days

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Brewery Shop

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Flying Fox Bar

3 - 5pm on tour days



Keswick Brewing Co, The Old Brewery, Brewery Lane, Keswick. CA125BY.

017687 80700

www.keswickbrewery.co.uk

Beer of the Ulverston Beer Festival - 2016

With 86 Beers available, choosing a 'Beer of the Festival' is never an easy task. There are so many factors to review to determine which beer was the most popular with everyone who attended the festival, including the volunteers who managed time out from working to buy some beer.

Only a proportion of those who attended voted and, of course, no-one can taste all 86 of the beers (even at 1/3rd pint servings, that is 29 pints and even if you attended for all three days, that is around 10 pints per night! That is not a challenge, by the way).

After much deliberation, this year's Beer of the Festival was South Lakes Rakau.

Unfortunately, deadlines prevented us from including pictures of the presentation but maybe we will do that next issue so in the meantime, here is a picture of the pump clip:



“brews & views”

The Sun (above) Coniston - Designed for beer drinkers



As well as the brews, views and atmosphere, CAMRA members can enjoy a 15% discount (membership card required)

THE SUN
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Prince of Wales, Foxfield

“A Proper Pub” - Cumbria Pub of the Year 2005 and 2007
Joint National Cider Pub of the Year 2010; Furness Pub of the Year 2014

Home of the Foxfield Brewery and owners of Tigertops Brewery

!!!Constantly changing beer range, always a mild!!

Real Cider & Perry; Draught Belgian fruit beer & over 80 whiskies

October	17th to 19th	All Day	Apple Pressing Pub Walk	Regular events Over 55's Luncheon Club 2nd and 3rd Thursday of every month
November	13th	10:30-12 noon	Winter Breakfast	
	19th		GinFest	
December	2nd-4th		Champagne by the glass	Musician's Night 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month
	9th-11th		Bottled beer and cider	
	11th	10:30-12 noon	Winter Breakfast	

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Opening Times: **Wed & Thurs 2.45pm - 11pm**

Fri & Sat Noon - 11pm

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On 511 and X7 Bus Routes; Car Park
Opposite Foxfield Railway Station
Telephone 01229 716238

e-mail: drink2010@princeofwalesfoxfield.co.uk



Cask Marque

By Ron Smith - Furness Branch Member



I am sure that most people reading this are aware of the Cask Marque signs that are found in some pubs. You may even be reading this in a Cask Marque pub now, but what is it and what does it do?

The scheme is operated by an independent, non profit making body, the Cask Marque Trust, which was set up by four breweries, including Fullers and Marston's who were becoming concerned that their products were losing quality.

They knew their beers were good when they left the brewery but had deteriorated by the time they were poured into the customer's glass. This was extremely bad for business as most drinkers, after a couple of 'off' pints, would change pubs or, even worse, change brands. This obviously affected sales and profits. The purpose was to find out what was going wrong and, if possible, correct it before the ale's reputation was damaged.

Currently Cask Marque employs 49 Ale Inspectors who carry out around 55,000 tests a year amongst the almost 10,000 pubs in the scheme. Nice work if you can get it!

In order to encourage the public to support this campaign, Cask Marque devised the “World's Biggest Ale Trail”

which can be accessed through an App on a smart phone. This makes it handy to take with you on a night out. The App is free and can be accessed through the normal App download function on the phone. Once downloaded, it looks like the pictures below.



Information on beers, breweries and festivals can be obtained now and there are plans to supply stickers with QR Codes, which can be attached to hand-pump clips, which will give information and tasting notes on the ale which, once scanned, can be read on your phone.

The most useful function is the map which contains all the Cask Marque pubs and the important information on each such as address, pub features, types of beer tested and a link to the pub website. This is handy for getting opening hours, menus, etc.

Once the App is downloaded there is the chance to join 21,500 other scanners who have done this and start “collecting pubs”. Prizes are awarded once a certain numbers of scans are reached. This has proved so popular that the reward system has had to

....continued on page 11

The Stan Laurel Inn



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www.thestanlaurel.co.uk

email:www.thestanlaurel@aol.com

Traditional Pub with Home Cooked Menu, 6 Cask Ales, Bed & Breakfast, Daily Offers, Specials Board. A Grumpy Landlord but Great Staff. Well Worth a Visit

Food Service Times: Tuesday - Saturday 12-2pm & 6-9pm
Sunday 12-8pm

CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2009 - 2017

MANOR ARMS

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JUST GOOD
CONVERSATION

Free House since
1768



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SERVED TO 10PM

**Friendly, family run traditional pub with 2 real fires,
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West Pennines Regional Pub of the Year 2008 - Good Beer Guide 2016

Furness CAMRA Pub of the Year 2015

Regular beers are: Yates Bitter, Hawkeshead Windermere Pale and Great Corby Blonde with up to 5 Guest Ales including 1 Dark Ale plus Still Ciders and Perries

OPEN ALL DAY - EVERY DAY

The Square, Broughton in Furness Tel: 01229 716286

Cask Marque - continued

By Ron Smith - Furness Branch Member

be updated, with a Cask Marque t-shirt for 100 scans, 250 scans for a branded beer glass and, the favourite, 500 scans entitles you to attend an Ale Ambassadors Course. These are usually held at Marstons Brewery in Burton on Trent or Fullers Brewery in London.

Every pub that has been inspected and passed by Cask Marque is given an A4 Certificate which is displayed within the pub and looks like the picture below.



I recently scanned sufficient and was invited to one of these courses at Marston's Brewery in Burton upon Trent along with 14 other persons from around the country.

The day started off with the usual getting to know your colleagues session and a short presentation on what Cask Marque hopes to achieve. This was followed by a very good brewery tour and then back to the class room where we learned how to taste beer, how it is brewed and how beer

is looked after in the pub. There then followed a very interesting session on matching beer & food.

After lunch, where we matched lots of beer with some very nice food, we had a beer tasting session where we learned what it was that a Cask Marque Inspector looked for in a beer and what the common off-flavours were as well as what are the causes of these off-flavours. We then tested 10 different beer samples which had been doctored to replicate real issues experienced in pubs.

Once the course was finished in the afternoon several of us set off to continue sampling the Burton upon Trent ales and, hopefully, remembering to scan the certificates in each pub we visited.

The scheme is free to the customer to use and, like the Good Beer Guide, can be useful in identifying pubs with good quality ales when visiting towns and villages for the first time. Not all good pubs can be included in the Good Beer Guide and WhatPub doesn't comment on quality.

Currently there are almost 10,000 pubs to choose from in the UK and I doubt very much that anybody will be able to scan them all, although I know some will have a very merry time trying.

Ron Smith



Black Dog Inn

Mark welcomes you to
The Black Dog,
Holmes Green, Dalton.



2 Real Fires

4 Local Beers on including Cumbrian Legendary Ales plus Guest
Burger Night Friday
Live music every Saturday night.

Open from: 4.00pm Tues to Friday
3.00pm Sat, 12.00pm Sun

Memories of that First Pint

Dave Latham - Branch Secretary & Social Secretary

I was driving along Abbey Road in Barrow the other day and had to stop at The White House traffic lights, it was then that I looked across at a sea of cars where once the Iconic Hotel stood.

Our family moved up to Barrow in 1965 (Dad got a job in the Yard).



Now my Dad loved a pint or two, his favourite tippie was Everards Tiger, it didn't take him long to discover that the nearby White House served Truman's Best Bitter.

I recall one Sunday afternoon and my Mum was getting anxious as dinner was all but ready and Father had not returned from one of his regular tours of the local Pubs with his pal Mike.

So I was told to go and find him, I rode down to The White House and there sure enough was Dad with a pint of his beloved

Trumans I tried to drag him home but he was having none of it, instead he ordered me to sit down and introduced me to his pals

He then ordered me a half, after a couple of mouthfuls I agreed that indeed I might get to like this beer-drinking.

We eventually got home and Dad got a proper telling off, not just because we were late for dinner but she could smell beer on my breath (I was only 16)

Wind forward two years and there we are in the smoke filled snug when Dad says to the Landlord, Doug Jones, are you going to buy my boy a pint? Bill, he says, why the heck should I, to which Dad replies it's his 18th Birthday today. Doug shouts 18, he's been coming in here for at least 2 years! With a shake of his head he motioned to Martha to pull me a pint.

Happy days!

Dave Latham

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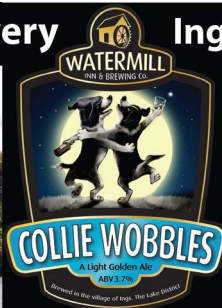
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HistoricAle Part 6 - Outsiders and Insiders

Alastair Kirk - Furness Branch Member

A Brief History of Pubs, Alehouses, Inns & taverns.

Pubs are unique to Britain and some of its former colonies providing places for refreshment, gathering and drinking since Roman times.

Romans built roads that allowed traders, officials and others to travel throughout the country.

To provide refreshment lords of the land (land lords) established places of refreshment for the thirsty travellers. In the absence reliable water, ale was the preferred safe drink having being boiled then preserved by its alcohol content.

The modern Pub has its roots in medieval times (5th -15th centuries) when there was much growth in private houses selling homemade Ale (Alehouses). Public houses were identifiable by decorated poles and later picture signs as the population were largely illiterate.



Early licensing acts appeared in 1552 requiring all alehouses and inns to be licensed.

Inns were often large purpose built places to accommodate travellers or pilgrims, having many bedrooms and stables, many of the early ones being built by Monasteries.

Taverns were for wealthy patrons, offering wine which was far more expensive than ale, they were usually found in more cosmopolitan cities or towns.

In 1577 there were 17000 alehouses,

2100 Inns and 400 taverns, providing for 1 public house per 200 persons of population. In 2014 the proportions were around 1 pub per 1200 persons.



Pubs also developed into Gin palaces 1720 to 1750 due to the availability of cheap liquor, this being partly curtailed by the Gin Acts of 1720 and 1751.

The 18th Century saw the development of the Coaching services and coaching inns were built on major highways. Class systems operated in many pubs and inns, the wealthy travelled inside the coaches and were called "Insiders" whereas the poor who hung on to the outside of the coaches were outsiders. The insiders drank in the Saloons and the outsiders drank in the bars.

Most pubs had several rooms to cater for the different types or classes of people. Such rooms are now less apparent with the modernisation of many public houses since 1916 along the lines favoured by the State Management (board of liquor control) that wanted to reduce alcohol consumption and make it easy for publicans to keep an eye on all his customers by removing partitions and creating large clear spaces.

Personally I prefer the old fashioned pubs with cosy rooms.

Alastair Kirk

In the space before the end of time

By GA Purcell - Furness Branch President

Part 3 - "I remember it well... I think"

It was quite late on when I joined the usual gang. The other three were apparently in a huddle, but as I seated myself amongst them I quickly realised it wasn't a huddle at all but more of a loose association.

I'm sure most of you know the sort of thing I'm referring to, as a break in the flow of chatter occurs and one or two people start to look around for a moment and become aware of what else might be going on in the room.

I saw this amazing, drop-dead gorgeous young lassie stepping out of a big, posh-looking silver Jag parked outside next door's and I thought, 'Aye, aye, what's going on here then', as you do, 'and her away to her mother's for the weekend.'

I turned to Dick, sitting next to Tom, and asked, "What the heck's he on about then?"

"Don't ask me, Al, I only caught part of it myself as I came back from the toilet, and the two of them were already in full flow."

"Have you seen him in here before?" I asked.

"Nope, don't recognise him," came the wholly unsatisfactory reply, as I looked to Harry, sitting next to where I'd plonked myself down, and sought for his input.

It quickly became clear that his mind had been elsewhere, and that he hadn't a clue as to what it was all about.

What I didn't realise at the time was that this sort of disjointed and fragmented conversation would set the tone of the remaining time between my late arrival and the bell that signalled the imminence of 'Tap Stop'.

"I only just got in about twenty minutes or so ago myself, Al," Harry then turned to me and said.

"He's been gallivanting round Lancaster again, haven't you, Harry?"

This from Dick, who had been doing a bit a attention-wandering himself.

"Sample any interesting beers while you were there, Harry?" I felt compelled to ask.

"Spent most of the day with my sister-in-law and the two nieces so I only had time for one before I caught the train back."

"Anything special, Harry?"

"Oh, crikey I should say."

Once again that unsatisfactory response.

"And?" I prompted, and Harry looked momentarily thrown.

"What ale was it that seems to be still adding your brain, Harry, lad"

This from Dick.

"Oh, d'you know, I can't for the life of me remember, but it wasn't half good."

I can't recall how often I get this response from people, but I'm sure it's not just me.

There followed another lapse into what passed for a reflective silence, and then:

"It was a Scotch, I'm sure of that," from Harry.

"What was?" asked Dick at his side.

"The beer I had in Lancaster."

"Oh, well that narrows it down a bit," Tom, suddenly back with us, snickered from the far end.

"What d'you mean....a Scotch-style ale or a beer from Scotland, Harry?"

Ignoring Tom's jibe, Harry pressed on. "It was darkish and fairly strong," and then, following a slight pause, he added, "From some brewery in Yorkshire."

"Ah, a Yorkshire Scotch," Tom couldn't resist saying with a chuckle.

- A trio of last orders recollections

After another, much longer pause this time:

"Tom here's been in Broughton for a couple this afternoon, haven't you, mate?"

Dick turned to his left and said.

"Anything interesting in that little bit of beer heaven then, Tom?" I asked.

The latter appeared to have been doing a bit of idle staring into his near-empty pint himself, having now completely disengaged from the quite un-beer related chat he'd been having with the stranger when I belatedly arrived on the scene.

Again the clear invitation to elaborate on the subject was left hanging in the air.

I could feel the frustration mounting, but it was left to Dick to prompt him.

"I'm sure I wrote some of them down on a piece of paper somewhere," Tom replied, as he began to feel about in various pockets.

It immediately became apparent to the rest of us that this fumbling was not going to yield any kind of satisfactory result.

Eventually Harry spoke up to ask, "Lost it, have we?"

"Seems so," was the same, unsatisfactory reply.

"So, just from memory, Tom, was there anything outstanding amongst them?" Dick eventually asked.

"Well, there was one from Ulverston that grabbed my attention, Dick, that I can tell you," Tom began, and then, true to the night's form, the answer dwindled to a halt.

"What, from Ulverston Brewery d'you mean?" I asked, although even as I did so, I instinctively guessed that the answer wouldn't be a very conclusive one.

Tom drained his glass and looked pointedly over at Harry.

Dick was having none of this and seemed about to say so when Tom looked towards the bar and called over to him.

"I'll have the one I've been on since I came in, when you're up there, Harry."

"You were in before me and Al arrived so which one are you on, matey?"

"That one on the end pump," Tom replied without looking at the bar.

"Which end, Tommy?"

"Green label, black writing."

"There's nothing on either end that fits that description, Tom," Dick quickly said, as he peered at the bar.

This completely threw Tom.

"Damn, they must have changed it," grumbled Tom.

I turned to the woman sitting on my right who had been witness to the interchange.

"Honestly, you couldn't write the script and expect to be taken seriously by the editor, could you?" I shook my head and said.

"As my old dad would have said, 'It's a right Fred Carno's'", she chuckled.

Fortunately we all seem to have remembered where we lived, and who with, because we've all met up since that night's perplexing exchange, and so far with our brain's properly engaged.

To this day the rest of the tale concerning the lady stepping out of the 'Big, posh-looking silver Jag' next door to Tom remains a mystery, but at least the fragment I overheard seemed to match the mood of the evening.

Cheers, G.A. Purcell.



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Saturday 12:00 to 12:00
Sunday 12:00 to 10:30

Multiple Screens with both Sky and BT
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Ulverston's First Sustainably Powered Pub

6 Real ales from Stringers, Abbeydale, Saltaire and Bank Top
plus regular guest ales

At least one dark beer always available

3 Real Ciders

Close to Railway Station, near Bridge

Covered Smoking Area, Off-road Parking



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/beerscoring

Log in to 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.

For more information on the National Beer Scoring System, please email:

brett.laniosh@camra.org.uk

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.



THE KINGS ARMS

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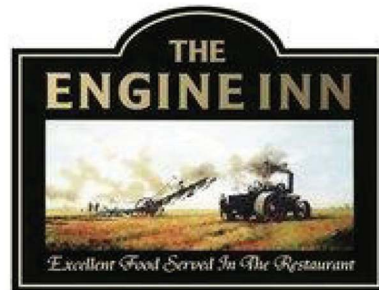
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Furness CAMRA Pub of the Season Winter 2011

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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.

Discounts are available to CAMPA 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 Tower Bank Arms, Near Sawrey
The Sun Hotel, Ulverston

These are, of course, in addition to the **Furness Railway** in Barrow-in-Furness which, being a **Wetherspoons** pub, offers the voucher 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.dl@btinternet.com or to the

Furness web site at:

furnesscamra@btinternet.com

Many thanks



The Resurgence of Scottish Cider

By Bill Wilkinson

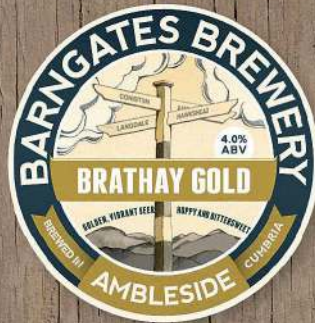
BEER WITH ALTITUDE

OVERLOOKING AMBLESIDE AND THE LAKE DISTRICT FELS BEYOND, BARGATES BREWERY SITS ON HIGH ALONGSIDE THE DRUNKEN DUCK INN.

BREWING AT BARGATES STARTED IN 1997, A SINGLE BARREL OUTFIT LOCATED IN THE CELLARS OF THE INN.

TODAY, HEAD BREWER JOHN LLOYD STILL USES BARGATES' OWN SUPPLY OF WATER FROM THE SURROUNDING FELS AS THE FOUNDATION OF EVERY BREW.

AWARD WINNING BEERS FROM THE LAKE DISTRICT'S HIGHEST BREWERY.



The term “craft” has crept into the drinks sector vocabulary as a cover all description to describe the products brought about by the massive growth in the field of new, small scale brewers. Over the past decade the explosion in numbers of new “craft” breweries starting up in business has captured the imagination of a new generation of drinkers looking for something exciting and different.

Something similar is happening in the world of cider, albeit on a smaller scale and somewhat more scattered geographically. While the number of new cider makers is but a fraction of those setting up a new brewery, they are more likely to be producing cider for the love of it first and foremost. The term “craft” hardly does them justice. I prefer to think of them as “artisans”.

Traditional cider areas such as Herefordshire, Somerset and Devon; even the more diverse areas famed for using eating and cooking apples to produce cider such as Kent, East Anglia and Scotland are all benefiting from this resurgence in cider making, usually carried out by keen individuals with more than a passing interest in the heritage of the drink. Much of this new wave are producing very small quantities only for local consumption, the sort of thing you'd purchase at the local farmers' market rather than find in your local pub. By now you've probably caught up with me and wondering how Scotland has crept into the list?

What a lot of people aren't aware of is

Scotland's rich cider past. Historically, there are several areas of Scotland which were once home to apple and pear orchards. Eight hundred years ago the estates and monasteries of the Scottish border region were awash with large orchards. These stretched as far as Glasgow and the Clyde valley. Some parts of modern day Glasgow, such as the Gorbals, Govan and the Merchant City were once home to vast orchards. In fact, the Merchant City is largely built on the site of a huge, old pear orchard. It is some of these old estates that present day cider makers turn to for their apple crops. Some old orchards have been left to nature and the apples they produce simply fall to the ground to rot. Not any more as enterprising cider makers are busily seeking out these old orchards and their rare fruit trees and either buying up the surplus fruit or taking on the maintenance of the trees.

Probably the longest established (founded 2008) and certainly the largest of the new wave of Scottish cider makers is Thistly Cross Cider, now based at their new cider barn in West Barns near Dunbar in East Lothian. They source local apples for their Jaggy Thistle, the only real cider they produce. Their output of fruit added ciders is so large, even exporting to the USA, they can't source enough home grown apples and resort to using imported apple juice concentrate for most of their range.

Another borders cider maker but based



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BARGATES BREWERY & THE DRUNKEN DUCK INN
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....continued on page 25



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.

Promoting pubs that sell locally brewed real ale, reducing the number of 'beer miles', and supporting local breweries.

CAMRA Local 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 Local scheme which have accredited hundreds of pubs as Local 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 Local pubs serve beers which are brewed very close to home - especially from our own 15 branch breweries!

The following pubs are listed in WhatPub as serving local ale on a regular basis:

Alithwaite - Pheasant	Hawkshead - Red Lion
Askam - Railway	Hawkshead - Sun
Askam - London House	High Newton - The Crown
Bardsea - Ship	Holmes Green - Black Dog
Barnegates - Drunken Duck	Kirkby - Burlington
Barrow - Ambrose Hotel	Kirksanton - King William
Barrow - Duke of	Lindal - The Railway
Edinburgh	Loppergarth - Wellington
Barrow - Furness Railway	Lowick Bridge - Red Lion
Barrow - Kings Arms,	Millom - Devonshire
Hawcoat	Millom - Bear in the
Barrow -Ship, Piel Island	Square
Bouth - White Hart	Near Sawrey - Tower Bank
Broughton - Black Cock	Newby Bridge - Lakeside
Broughton - High Cross	Newton - Village Inn
Broughton - Manor Arms	Penny Bridge - Britannia
Broughton - Old Kings	Piel Island - The Ship
Head	Rusland - Rusland Pool
Cark - Engine	Seathwaite - Newfield Inn
Cartmel - Kings Arms	Silecroft - Miners Arms
Cartmel - Royal Oak	Stainton - Stagger Inn
Cartmel - Uplands Hotel	Strawberry Bank - Masons
Cartmel - Unsworth's Yard	The Green - Punchbowl
Coniston - Black Bull	Torver - Church House
Coniston - Sun	Torver - Wilson Arms
Coniston - Yewdale	Ulverston - Devonshire
Dalton - Brown Cow	Ulverston - Farmers Arms
Dalton - Chequers	Ulverston - King's Head
Dalton - Red Lion	Ulverston - Mill
Far Sawrey - Cuckoo Brow	Ulverston - Old Farmhouse
Foxfield - Prince of Wales	Ulverston - Old Friends
Greenodd - Ship	Ulverston - Stan Laurel
Grizebeck - Greyhound	Ulverston - Sun
Haverthwaite - Anglers	Ulverston - Swan
Hawkshead - Kings Arms	Walney - Queens, Biggar

The above list was compiled September 2016. If you think something needs changing, please let the Editor know.

The Resurgence of Scottish Cider

By Bill Wilkinson - Continued

near Langholm in Dumfries and Galloway is Waulkmill Cider.

Owner Chris Harrison also scours the region for his supplies of apples and pears and in 2013 he produced the first Scottish perry in over a century. He is also planting new trees with an eye to the future.

Meanwhile in Glasgow, John Hancox set up Clyde Cider in 2015 and has produced the first urban west of Scotland cider since medieval times. One of John's main interests is the promotion of fruit tree planting

(www.scottishfruittrees.com). Again, John seeks out windfall crops of apples for his cider making. He casts his net some distance as he has been able to obtain enough apples from the Edinburgh area to produce a special edition MorningCider, named after the capital city suburb of Morningside.

Cider making in Scotland doesn't stop at Glasgow either. The Cairse of Gowrie area of Perthshire was famous in Victorian times for its apples, pears and plums. Today it is one of the UK's biggest soft fruit growing regions. The village of Errol sits not too far from the banks of the River Tay and has been the home of the Cairn O'Mohr Winery since 1987.

A recent addition to their range of fruit juices and wines has been cider. They don't have far to go for their apples although one of their special, single varietal ciders (King Jimmy's) involves using a rowing boat to gather the apples from a clutch of trees from an island in the middle of a lake on the local golf course!

Finally, we head north. Mention Loch Ness and the first thing that enters most people's minds is the monster. However, by the shores of the loch the village of Drumnadrochit is home to Loch Ness Cider. Set up in 2014 by Karen Wotherspoon, a keen cider drinker who grew up in Devon using a blend of Highland apples from the Black Isle (even further north than Loch Ness) there are plans here to plant new cider apple tress using varieties that are known to produce fruit in the Highland climate.

You might have to search high and low for a sample of Loch Ness Cider (try out Scottish Aldi stores) but it just goes to show that cider making is alive and well in even the unlikely of places. There are at least another four of five Scottish cider makers I could have mentioned. All have the same enthusiasm to reinstate Scotland on the cider map in however small a way.

One bright spot on the future horizon comes from the Scottish Government's own statistics. In 2014 Scottish National Heritage commissioned a National Orchard Inventory. It found that there were orchards in 31 out of Scotland's 32 local authority areas with the greatest concentration in the Clyde Valley and Kingdom of Fife areas.

Bill Wilkinson

July 2016

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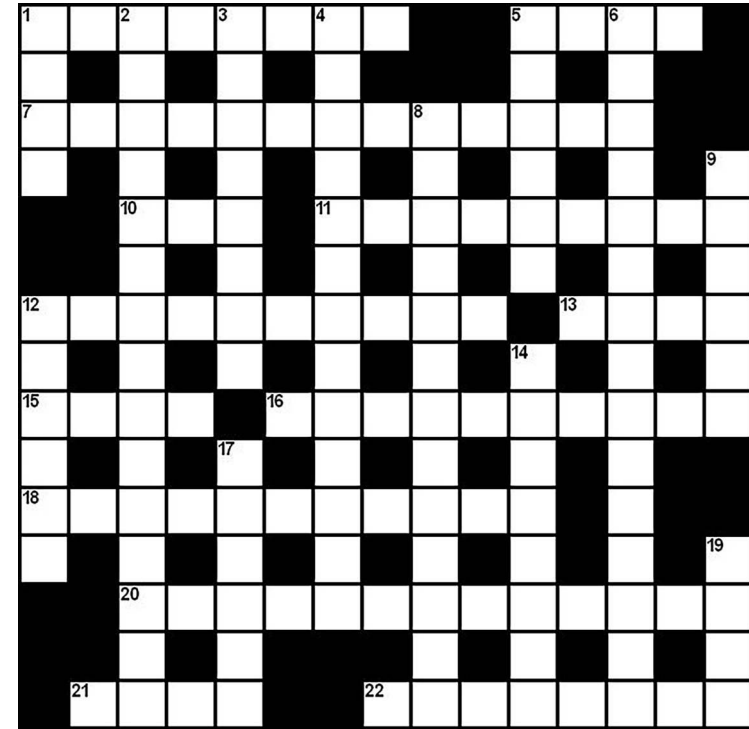
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Crossword No. 18

by PeeGee - Furness Branch Member



Across

- 1 Sayings in favour of action words (8)
- 5 Frodo of Bag End returns to hide his victuals (6)
- 7 Tribesman told to cook nuts (6,7)
- 10 In a way, I substitute for a lucky number (3)
- 11 Back-facing, more unusual housing for heart of hospital doctor (9)
- 12 This tilter at windmills was quoted on, reformed, about nine (3,7)
- 13 The Church withdraws from this person's tittle (4)
- 15 Loiter without hesitation to adjust for hard work (4)
- 16 Suspension, so Mother accepts speaker, and I am included (10)
- 18 Old man, after, is dumped in inexpensive garden waste (7,4)
- 20 Relentlessly rely on Dexter creation without (13)
- 21 Parody written in Kursk Italian (4)
- 22 Present fashionable for each child (2,6)

Down

- 1 After leaving the parking space, the bus moves around the hostelries (4)
- 2 Broadcast on TV too, the battleship stood for German creator (4,3,8)
- 3 Use timer reset for retired professor (8)
- 4 Given time, a Brexit toper can mix a cocktail for a National character (7,6)
- 5 Special event welcomes the popular, the best (6)
- 6 Blockers destroy cubist's tin torso (15)
- 8 Missed opportunity for failed wanna-be? (5-4-4)
- 9 For the time being, it sounds as if someone put pen to paper in the afternoon (3,3)
- 12 Discover what it was in seismic activity that made tectonic plates (6)
- 14 Left in to take part and finished (8)
- 17 Carry out celestial body, some would say (6)
- 19 Song of praise sung for that man (4)

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Furness CAMRA Diary

Branch Meetings

Saturday 19th November 1:00pm Swan Hotel, Newby Bridge

Socials and Festivals

November 3rd - 5th	Carlisle Beer Fest	Portland Place
November 9th - 12th	Westmorland Fest	Town Hall, Kendal
November 18th - 19th	Snug Beer Festival	Carnforth Railway Station

Branch Christmas Social

Saturday 10th December (time to be confirmed) Prince of Wales, Foxfield

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Crossword Answers

Across

- 1 **Pro + verbs**
 5 **Food** - Hidden word (*to hide*) of Frodo of backwards (*returns*)
 7 **Bitter almonds** - Anag (*to cook*) of Tribesman told
 10 **VII** - lucky number. In via, letter *i* takes the place of letter *a* (*substitute*)
 11 **Registrar** - Rarer (*more unusual*) reversed (*back-facing*) holding (*housing*) gist (*heart*)
 12 **Don Quixote** - Anag (*reformed*) of quoted on holding (*about*) ix
 13 **Scot** - Scotch with ch removed
 15 **Toil** - Anag (*adjust*) of Loiter with *er* removed (*without*)
 16 **Moratorium** - Mum contains (*accepts*) orator + i
 18 **Compost heap** - om + post (*after*) held by cheap
 20 **Remorselessly** - Rely surrounding (*on*) Morse + less (*without*)
 21 **Skit** - Hidden word (*written in*)
 22 **In** (*fashionable*) + per (*for each*) + son

Down

- 1 **Pubs** - Anag (*moves around*) of bus after P
 2 **Otto von Bismarck** - Anag (*broadcast*) of on TV too + the Bismarck - the battleship and the founder of modern Germany
 3 **Emeritus** - Anag (*reset*) of Use timer
 4 **Beatrix Potter** - Anag (*mix a cocktail*) of a Brexit toper with t
 5 **Finest** - Fest holds (*welcomes*) in (*popular*)
 6 **Obstructionists** - Anag (*destroy*) of cubist's tin torso
 8 **Might-have-been**
 9 **Pro tem** - Homophone of wrote (*put pen to paper*) in pm
 12 **Detect** - Hidden word (*what it was in*) in made tectonic
 14 **Complete** - Compete (*take part*) includes l(*eff*)
 17 **Commit** - Imperfect (*some*) homophone (*would say*) of comet
 19 **Hymn** - Homophone (*sung*) of him (*that man*)

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