

Pembrokeshire Branch's monthly E-newsletter to keep you informed on what CAMRA is doing in our County.

Feel free to contact us (e-mail addresses below) if you have any questions or suggestions.

Better still, why not come along to a Branch Meeting or Social? You will find us a friendly, welcoming bunch of fellow real ale and cider lovers who will be glad to see you.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING:

FINE PUB FOR, AND CRACKING PUB CRAWL AFTER< OCTOBER BRANCH MEETING

There was again an excellent turnout for our October Branch meeting in Penally. Branch activist Paul Padget reports:

On 22 October our branch meeting was held at the Cross Inn, Penally, in the deep south of Pembs. The pub has plenty of character and three ales on offer, including two from Purple Moose. We were also able to confirm that WhatPub is quite correct in saying that a set of darts plus signed photo from Phil "The Power" Taylor adorn the wall, although the staff seemed uncertain whether or not he actually visited the pub in person!

After the meeting, five of us piled into a car and proceeded westwards towards Pembroke with our sights set on a few other watering holes along the way. We drew a blank at Lydstep because the Lydstep Tavern was closed. Undeterred, we tried our luck in the village of Jameston, which boasts the 16th century Swanlake Inn. It certainly had some good old features, like the wattle & daub bread oven next to the hearth with its roaring log burner. Our pint here was Hobgoblin Gold. Next port of call was the Dial Inn at Lamphey. Again the beer was very good, a Bluestone brew, if I remember rightly. The open plan bar/restaurant area looked slightly on the gastro side, but still a very nice place. Landlady said they do themed food nights (Burger Monday, Curry Wednesday, Fish Friday).

Last but not least was the First and Last, on the outskirts of Pembroke Dock. The busiest pub by far of the four we visited and elicited a comment from John Slattery along the lines of "Blimey, this is a real pub". Again loads of character, but not too exciting beers, with a choice of Rev James and Doom Bar (I think – if so ych a fil: Ed.). Duly refreshed, it was time to hit the Cleddau Bridge and return to Fishguard via Haverfordwest Bus Station and Alan's rather impressive, not to say mountainous, driveway next to Nant y Coy Mill, Wolfscastle. I suspect that we all felt that each of the pubs is worth a visit and were not disappointed by the beer at any of them.

We have a fine crawl on foot planned for our next Branch meeting in November (see below). Why not join us!

WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT:

November Branch Meeting: Saturday 19th November, 14.00, The Swan Inn, Little Haven.

Followed by a crawl of the splendid alehouses of this little seaside village, the *St Brides* and the *Castle*. No public transport unfortunately – contact the Branch Chairman Nigel (e-mail address below) and we'll sort you out a lift.

There was also going to be a **November Branch Social**, travelling by rail to two splendid brewpubs, *The Coach* in Bridgend (<https://en-gb.facebook.com/thecoachbridgend>) and the *Cross Inn* Maesteg, home

of Cerddin Brewery (<https://www.cerddinbrewery.co.uk/home.html>). However, the uncertainty attendant on industrial disputes on the railways has meant that this needs to be postponed until the New Year, probably **February**. It is set fair to be a superb day out, whenever. Watch this space, or come along to a Branch Meeting and help us decide.

December AGM and Christmas Dinner: Saturday 17th December, 13.00, The Corner Piece, Rudbaxton.

Always a highlight of our year. Enjoy a sumptuous Festive Feast and enjoy fine local ales whilst electing your Branch Officers for the coming year. You are welcome to attend the AGM regardless of whether you are partaking of the Dinner, but if you wish to enjoy the sumptuous Festive viands laid before us contact the Secretary or Chairman (e-mail addresses at the end of this Newsletter) and we will send you a Menu to choose from (deposits of £10 payable in advance). Remember to bring your CAMRA Membership Card to vote at the AGM.

T5 bus from Fishguard leaves 11.50, calls Letterston 12.04, arrives 12.15. From Haverfordwest the T5 leaves 12.40, arriving about 12.50. There are T5's to Letterston and Fishguard at 16.20, 17.09 and 18.39, arriving Letterston 16.34, 17.23 and 18.53, and at 16.55, 17.43 and 19.10, Fishguard, and to Haverfordwest at 16.07 and 18.07 arriving at 16.26 and 18.26. The T5 stops outside, or opposite, the *Corner Piece* if you ask the driver.

January Branch Meeting and Branch Social: one is on Saturday January 14th and the other on Saturday January 21st

This depends on whether and if there is a rail strike on either of the Saturdays (it is very unlikely there will be one on both!). If there is a rail strike on either Saturday, the **Branch Meeting** will be on the **strike Saturday** and the **Social** will be on the **non-strike** Saturday. Keep both dates free and watch this space for further announcements!

January Branch Meeting at 14.00, at The Bristol Trader, Quay Street, Haverfordwest SA61 1BE.

January Branch Social at 14.00 at The Station House, next door to the train station, **Whitland**, Carmarthenshire, jointly with Carmarthenshire Branch of CAMRA. This is one of the best pubs in West Wales, on the border between Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire. The landlord has promised to get in some special beers for us.

Train leaves Haverfordwest at 13.15 arriving Whitland at 13.37. Train back leaves Whitland at 17.48, arrives Haverfordwest 18.11 (in time for the last T5 bus northbound at 18.30). Train leaves Pembroke Dock at 13.09, calling Pembroke at 13.17 and Tenby 13.38, arriving at Whitland 14.13. Train back leaves Whitland at 17.16, arriving Tenby 17.45, Pembroke at 18.07 and Pembroke Dock 18.20.

OTHER NEWS

Siaradwyr Cymraeg dal eisiau!

Hoffen ni estyn allan at y gymuned Gymraeg yn ein hardal. Mae Ysgrifennydd y Gangen, Steve, yn dysgu Cymraeg (wel, mae e'n newydd wedi basio ei arholiad Myndediad!) ond hoffen ni gynnwys siaradwyr Cymraeg rhugl wrth ysgrifennu erthyglau hon a chylchgrawn Cangen posibl yn y dyfodol. Gallwch chi helpu? Cysylltwch ag Ysgrifennydd y Gangen yn secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

CHECK OUT OUR BRANCH WEBSITE:

www.pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

Keep up to date with the latest goings on in the Real Ale Scene in Pembrokeshire. Articles and information always welcome to WebsiteCo-ordinator@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

Cheers!

Nigel Skipper Chairman chairman@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

Steve Brady Secretary secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk