

Pembrokeshire Branch is delighted to send you our monthly E-newsletter to keep you informed about 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.

HEADLINES:

Splendid Social at the *Station House*, Whitland

Useful Branch Meeting and Interesting Brewery Tour at Mantle Brewery

Branch Annual General Meeting at 1pm, and Christmas Dinner, 2pm, Saturday 16th December at the *Corner Piece*, Rudbaxton.

Annual Joint Social with Carmarthenshire CAMRA, Saturday 20th January, 2pm, at the *Station House*, Whitland

Y CROSS, CAS-LAI – AR AGOR NAWR!

YMGYRCH Y CROSS CAS-LAI WEDI'I ENWEBU AR GYFER GWOBR CAMRA CENEDLAETHOL!

CROSS INN, HAYSCASTLE – NOW OPEN!

CROSS INN CAMPAIGN UP FOR NATIONAL CAMRA AWARD!

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Chancellor's Autumn Statement – CAMRA says the Chancellor should have cut tax specifically on pints in pubs to boost pub-going

MEET CAMRA MEMBERS NEAR YOU FOR A SOCIAL PINT

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PEMBROKESHIRE PUB?

Recruitment Drive – Get CAMRA Publicity Material into our Pubs!!

Siaradwyr Cymraeg dal eisiau!

OLAF OND DDIM O LEIA – NADOLIG LLAWEN A BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA I'N HOLL DDARLLENWYR!

LAST BUT NOT LEAST – A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS!

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING:

Splendid Social at the *Station House*, Whitland

On very short notice, a good turnout of local members joined our fellow CAMRA members from Carmarthenshire at this fine hostelry on Saturday 4th November for their Beer Festival.

Landlord Mike laid on seven real ales on tap for us, as well as providing a tasty buffet. Everyone attending had an excellent time in convivial company. We shall be visiting the *Station House* again next month – see below.

We shall be holding other socials in the coming year – watch this space.

Useful Branch Meeting and Interesting Brewery Tour at Mantle Brewery

Branch members gathered at the Mantle Brewery on an industrial estate on the South Bank of the Tivy in Cardigan on Saturday 25th November for a Branch meeting and Brewery Tour. Plus, of course, a chance to sample the fine brews of this noted local brewery.

After a short Branch Meeting Mantle brewer Ian Kimber gave us a fascinating tour of his brewery, explaining the brewing process to those Branch members who did not already know about it. Perhaps the highlight of the visit was a chance to sample Mantle's limited edition Tenth Anniversary Ale, a 10% belter conditioned in wooden casks, giving it notes of port, madeira and Laphroig whisky. Delicious.

WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT:

Branch Annual General Meeting at 1pm, and Christmas Dinner, 2pm, Saturday 16th December at the *Corner Piece*, Rudbaxton.

The most important Branch Meeting of the year and one of the most enjoyable social events in our calendar.

Anyone willing to stand for Branch Office most welcome. You must be a paid up member of Pembrokeshire CAMRA and have a Proposer and Seconder likewise (but these can be found for suitable candidates at the AGM if needed).

You do not have to partake of the Christmas Dinner to take part in the AGM, but please bring your current CAMRA Membership Card to vote.

If you do want to enjoy the Dinner, **please advise our Chair, Nigel, of your choices from the list below by Sunday 3rd December**, by email to chairman@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

Cost £20 for 2 courses, £25 for 3. Add homemade mince pies for an extra £2. Payment to Nigel by 3rd December at the latest – you will have to email Nigel to arrange payment on the above address.

Your menu choices - select from one in each category, and 2 or 3 courses:

STARTERS:

Homemade Winter soup served with crusty roll & butter (V)

Home-made Ham & Mushroom Pate with toast & chutney

Classic Prawn Cocktail

Falafel Bites with sweet chilli sauce. (Vegan)

MAINS:

Roast Cuckoo Mill Turkey with Stuffing & Piggies

Roast Silverside of Beef with Yorkshire Pudding & Piggies

Pan-fried Salmon with a Creamy Cucumber Sauce

Quorn “chicken” fillet with stuffing (Vegan)

All served with a selection of fresh vegetables, roast potatoes and delicious home-made gravies.

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DESSERTS:

Home-made Christmas Pudding

Home-made Baileys Creme Brulee with Shortbread

Home-made Vanilla Cheesecake with Mulled Berries

Homemade Chocolate and Black Cherry Yule Log

Sticky Toffee pudding (Vegan)

Annual Joint Social with Carmarthenshire CAMRA, Saturday 20th January, 2pm, at the *Station House*, Whitland

As we did last January, we are meeting our friends from Carmarthenshire at one of the best real ale pubs in West Wales, the *Station House* beside Whitland rail station. Landlord Mike will be laying on a splendid selection of ales for us as always. This was a most enjoyable event last time, as was our visit to this pub in early November for their Beer festival (see above).

The pub will be selling its ale cards again. These are excellent value at 11 pints for £30 or 11 1/2 pints for £15 (£2.73 a pint!). They remain valid until the cards are used up, so any you have with value remaining on them from their beer festival will be valid this time, and indeed any time you visit the pub in the future.

Getting there: There is a train from Haverfordwest leaving at 13.20, arriving 13.42. The 17.48 back arrives 18.11. The 11.50 T5 bus from Fishguard, calling at Letterston at 12.04, connects. The last T5 bus back from Haverfordwest Rail Station now leaves at 18.45, dropping off at Letterston at 19.08 and Fishguard at 19.18.

Alternatively, or if there is an issue with the trains – worth checking

<https://tfw.wales/places/stations/haverfordwest>

on the day - the 12.10 322 bus from Haverfordwest Bus station arrives Whitland 12.48, and the 17.00 bus back arrives 17.45. The T5 at 10.50 from Fishguard and 11.04 from Letterston connects, as does the return bus at 18.45.

NEWYDDION TAFARNDAU A BRAGDAI

Y CROSS, CAS-LAI – AR AGOR NAWR!

Yn dilyn ei bryniant llwyddiannus gan y gymuned leol, y cyfrannodd sawl aelod o'r Gangen (ac o leiaf un aelod CAMRA o Loegr) ati, agorodd Y Cross ei drysau ar gyfer Agoriad Mawr ar ddydd Gwener 17 Tachwedd. Cafwyd araith fer gan yr AS lleol Stephen Crabb a chafwyd penwythnos o gerddoriaeth gan gerddorion lleol a llawenydd cyffredinol, gyda nifer o aelodau'r Gangen yn cymryd rhan.

Roedd tri chwrw go iawn lleol mewn cyflwr da ar dap, a llawer mwy mewn poteli, a chafodd pawb amser da.

Mae'r dafarn bellach ar agor o ddydd Llun i ddydd Sadwrn o hanner dydd tan 11pm, a chanol dydd tan 10pm ddydd Sul. Mae aelodau CAMRA wedi canfu fod y Rheolwr Shawn Smith yn adnabod ei

gwrw a sut i'w gadw, a'i fod yn amlwg yn frwd dros ddarparu canolbwynt i yfwyr cwrw go iawn yn ogystal ag i'r gymuned leol. Mae e'n bwriadu parhau i gynnig detholiad diddorol o gwrw, lleol yn bennaf ond gydag ambell syndod diddorol o ymhellach i ffwrdd.

Mae aelodau gangen sy'n byw ger y dafarn, yn ardal Cas-lai a Threletert, yn bwriadu cyfarfod yno'n rheolaidd ar brynhawn dydd Mercher o hyn ymlaen, tua 2pm, am ddiod cymdeithasol. Beth am ymuno â ni? Mae gwasanaeth Bws Fflecsi, sydd wedi'i achub yn ein sir am y tro o leiaf, yn darparu ffordd hawdd o gyrraedd yno o'r safle bws T5 agosaf yn Sgwâr Treletert. Gweler

<https://www.fflecsi.wales/locations/pembrokeshire/>

Bydd y dafarn yn cau dros dro, yn rhannol neu'n gyfan gwbl, yn y Flwyddyn Newydd ar gyfer gwaith adnewyddu, yn arbennig ar y ceginau, ac wedi hynny bydd hefyd yn cynnig prydau bwyd. Bwriedir ychwanegu amrywiaeth o wasanaethau eraill, megis siop cynnyrch lleol ac is-Swyddfa Bost, sydd wedi bod ar goll o'r pentref ers peth amser.

Y nod yw darparu canolbwynt cymdeithasol a gwasanaethau wrth galon y gymuned wledig Gymraeg hon, sy'n eiddo i'r gymuned honno. Mae CAMRA, yn lleol ac yn genedlaethol, yn llwyr gefnogi pentrefwyr Cas-lai yn y nod hwnnw ac yn dymuno pob llwyddiant iddynt. Diau y byddwn yn cynnal Cyfarfodydd Cangen neu Gyfarfod Cymdeithasol yno yn y dyfodol.

YMGYRCH Y CROSS CAS-LAI WEDI'I ENWEBU AR GYFER GWOBR CAMRA CENEDLAETHOL!

Enwebodd Swyddog Cadwraeth Tafariandai ein Cangen, Alan Kilbey, Ymgyrch Prynu Cymunedol Y Cross ar gyfer Gwobr Genedlaethol Cadwraeth Tafariandai CAMRA.

'Dyn ni'n bellach wedi cael gwybod bod ein hymgyrch achub tafarndai leol yn un o'r deuddeg uchaf ar y rhestr fer allan o dros ddeugain a enwebwyd o bob rhan o'r DU. Bydd y canlyniad yn cael ei gyhoeddi ganol mis Rhagfyr.

'Dyn ni'n meddwl y byddai'r Groes yn enillydd cenedlaethol teilwng - gwyliwch y gofod hwn!

PUBS AND BREWERIES NEWS

CROSS INN, HAYSCASTLE – NOW OPEN!

Following its successful buyout by the local community, to which several Branch members (and at least one CAMRA member from England) contributed, the *Cross Inn* threw its doors open for a Grand Opening on Friday 17th November. Local MP Stephen Crabb gave a short speech and a weekend of music from local musicians and general revelry ensued, in which a number of Branch members took part.

Three local real ales in fine condition were on tap, and lots more in bottles, and a good time was had by all.

The pub is now open Monday to Saturday from noon to 11pm, and noon to 10pm on Sunday.

CAMRA members have found that Manager Shawn Smith knows his ale and how to keep it, and is clearly enthusiastic about providing a hub for real ale drinkers as well as for the local community. He plans to continue offering an interesting selection of ales, mostly local but with a few interesting surprises from further afield.

Branch members living near the pub in the Hayscastle and Letterston area plan to meet there regularly on Wednesday afternoons from now on, about 2pm, for a social drink. Why not join us? The Fflecsi Bus service, which has been saved in our county for now at least, provides an easy way to get there from the nearest T5 bus stop at Letterston Square. See

<https://www.fflecsi.wales/locations/pembrokeshire/>

The pub will be closing temporarily, partially or completely, in the New Year for refurbishment work, notably on the kitchens, after which it will also be offering meals. It is planned to add a variety of other services, such as a local produce shop and a sub-Post Office, which have been missing from the village for some time.

The aim is to provide a social and services hub at the heart of this rural Welsh community, owned by that community. CAMRA, locally and nationally, fully supports the villagers of Hayscastle in that aim and wishes them every success. We shall no doubt hold Branch Meetings and Socials there in the future.

CROSS INN CAMPAIGN UP FOR NATIONAL CAMRA AWARD!

Our Branch Pubs Preservation Officer, Alan Kilbey, nominated the *Cross Inn* Community Buyout Campaign for the CAMRA National Pub Saving Award. We have now been informed that our local Pub Saving Campaign is one of the top twelve shortlisted out of over forty nominated from all over the UK. The result will be announced in mid-December. We think the *Cross* would be a worthy national winner - watch this space!

Other news?

Any local brewers, or publicans, doing anything likely to be of interest to local CAMRA members please feel free to contact our Secretary and Newsletter editor, Steve, at the e-mail address below and we shall be delighted to share the tidings.

NEWYDDION CENEDLAETHOL

Datganiad yr Hydref y Canghellor – mae CAMRA yn dweud y dylai'r Canghellor fod wedi torri treth yn benodol ar beintiau mewn tafarndai er mwyn rhoi hwb i'r defnydd o dafarndai.

Wrth wneud sylwadau ar yr hyn y mae Datganiad yr Hydref ddydd Mercher 22 Tachwedd yn ei olygu i bobl sy'n mynd i dafarndai, tafarndai a bragdai, dywedodd Cadeirydd Cenedlaethol CAMRA, Nik Antona:

“Mae ymestyn y gostyngiad o 75% ar filiau ardrethi busnes i dafarndai yn Lloegr am flwyddyn arall y tu hwnt i fis Ebrill nesaf i'w groesawu'n fawr – ac mae ei angen yn fawr ar dafarndai sy'n wynebu prisiau cynyddol ac yr effaith o'r argyfwng o costau byw.

“Cyfaddefodd y Canghellor na allai mesurau dros dro fel hyn fynd ymlaen am byth, felly mae'n hollbwysig bod y Llywodraeth yn diwygio ar fyrder y system ardrethi busnes hynod annheg sy'n cosbi tafarndai ac yn peryglu eu dyfodol.

“Mae CAMRA yn galw ar Lywodraethau Cymru a’r Alban i ymrwymo, nawr, i gynnig cymorth tebyg i dafarndai sydd â baich ardrethi busnes. Hoffem hefyd weld Llywodraeth y DU yn dod o hyd i ffordd i helpu gydag ardrethi busnes ar gyfer y sector cwrw a thafarndai yng Ngogledd Iwerddon os does dim weinidogion Gweithredol eto.

“Mae rhewi’r holl dreth alcohol tan fis Awst 2024 yn sicr i’w groesawu. Fodd bynnag, mae hwn yn gyfle a gollwyd i roi cymorth wedi’i dargedu i ddiogelu tafarndai, clybiau cymdeithasol ac ystafelloedd tap y genedl drwy dorri treth ar gwrw drafft a seidr a weinir mewn tafarndai yn lle rhewi’r holl dreth ar alcohol yn gyffredinol.

“Rhaid ymestyn y gwaith o leihau’r baich treth sy’n benodol ar beintiau mewn tafarndai yn y dyfodol er mwyn cadw tafarnau’n fforddiadwy ac i helpu i gadw tafarndai ar agor ac wrth galon bywyd cymunedol ac economïau lleol drwy roi’r siawns o gystadlu yn erbyn rhad alcohol yn archfarchnadoedd”

Diolch i’r holl aelodau lleol a gwrandawodd ar ein galwad yn ein rhifyn diwethaf i lobïo eu AS lleol ar y mater hwn.

NATIONAL NEWS

Chancellor’s Autumn Statement – CAMRA says the Chancellor should have cut tax specifically on pints in pubs to boost pub-going

Commenting on what the Autumn Statement on Wednesday 22nd November means for pub-goers, pubs and breweries CAMRA National Chairman Nik Antona said:

“Extending the 75% discount on business rates bills for pubs in England for another year beyond next April is very much welcome – and much needed for pubs facing rising prices and the impact of the cost-of-living crisis.

“The Chancellor admitted that temporary measures like this couldn’t go on forever, so it is vital that the Government urgently reforms the grossly unfair business rates system which penalises pubs and puts their future at risk.

“CAMRA is calling on the Scottish and Welsh Governments to commit, now, to offering similar help for pubs with the burden of business rates. We’d also like to see the UK Government find a way to help with business rates for the beer and pub sector in Northern Ireland if there continues to be no Executive ministers in post to do so.

“Freezing all alcohol duty until August 2024 is certainly to be welcomed. However, this is a missed opportunity to give targeted help to protect the nation’s pubs, social clubs and taprooms by cutting tax on draught beer and cider served in pubs instead of an across-the-board freeze in all alcohol duty.

“Reducing the tax burden specifically on pints in pubs must be extended in the future to keep pub-going affordable and to help keep pubs open and at the heart of both community life and local economies by giving them a fighting chance of competing against cheap supermarket alcohol.”

Our thanks to all local members who heeded our call in our last issue to lobby their local MP on this matter.

MEET CAMRA MEMBERS NEAR YOU FOR A SOCIAL PINT

As reported above, Branch members in the Hayscastle and Letterston areas have arranged to meet up regularly on Wednesday afternoons at the *Cross*, Hayscastle, to enjoy a friendly pint together and support their local real ale pub..

Why don't other Branch members in our spread-out, thinly-peopled County do likewise? If you are interested in meeting like-minded ale and cider drinkers near you, drop us a line on

secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

with the contact details you'd like us to share and what sort of area you would be willing to meet up in and we'll put you in touch with other members near you who have done the same.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PEMBROKESHIRE PUB?

We invite members to tell us which is their favourite pub in Pembrokeshire, and why. E-mail the Secretary at the e-mail address below. No submissions this month, so let's hear from you!

RECRUITMENT DRIVE – GET CAMRA PUBLICITY MATERIAL INTO OUR PUBS!!

We are starting to get results from our drive to get our excellent "*Ten Great Reasons to Join CAMRA*" recruitment leaflet, and the Welsh-language version, "*Deg rheswm gwyh i ymuno â CAMRA*", into our local pubs, but we still need to get more out.

Why not pick up some leaflets and stands for YOUR local at our next Branch meeting? Our Secretary has ample supplies and will also demonstrate the origami needed to erect the stands for them ready to go on the bar, with the landlord/lady's permission of course.

Can you help? Let our Secretary know at a Branch meeting when he will be able to give you the leaflets and stands or contact him by email on secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk. In the latter case we can drop the leaflets and stands round to you or if that's not feasible post them.

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 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

OLAF OND DDIM O LEIA – NADOLIG LLAWEN A BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA I'N HOLL DDARLLENWYR!

Mae Swyddogion CAMRA Sir Benfro yn dymuno Nadolig Llawen i holl aelodau lleol CAMRA, tafarndai a bragwyr, gyda chwrw a seidr go iawn gobeithio, a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda a llwyddiannus.

Cefnogwch y tafarndai a'r bragwyr lleol hynny yn y cyfnod anodd hwn trwy weiddi "Fie on Dry!", yn enwedig "Ionawr Sych" a pharhau i fwynhau yfed cymdeithasol cyfrifol trwy gydol y Flwyddyn Newydd!

Adduned Blwyddyn Newydd well i'r mwyafrif ohonoch sy'n darllen hwn, pwy 'dyn ni ddim yn weld yn aml iawn mewn digwyddiadau CAMRA lleol, fyddai ceisio dod i Gangen neu Gyfarfod Cymdeithasol yn y Flwyddyn Newydd. 'Dyn ni'n meddwl y byddwch chi'n mwynhau eich hunain, unwaith y byddwch chi'n darganfod beth rydych chi wedi bod ar goll. Ond beth bynnag, o leia daliwch ati i gefnogi ein tafarndai, cwrw a seidr lleol - maen nhw eich angen chi!

LAST BUT NOT LEAST – A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS!

The Officers of Pembrokeshire CAMRA wish a Merry Christmas, hopefully fuelled by fine real ales and ciders, and a convivial and successful New Year to all local CAMRA members, publicans, and brewers.

Support those local publicans and brewers in these difficult times by crying "*Fie upon Dry!*", notably "*Dry January*" and continuing to enjoy responsible social drinking throughout the New Year!

A better New Year's Resolution for the majority of you reading this, whom we rarely if ever see at local CAMRA events, would be to try turning up for a Branch Meeting or Social in the New Year. We think you will enjoy yourselves, once you find out what you have been missing. But in any event, at least keep on supporting our local pubs, beers and ciders – they need you!

Cheers!

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

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