

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.

BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA I'N HOLL DDARLLENWYR!

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS!

HEADLINES:

Successful AGM and Enjoyable Christmas Meal at the *Corner Piece*, Rudbaxton

MAE CADEIRYDD CAMRA NEWYDD SIR BENFRO YN FERCHED LLEOL SY'N SIARAD CYMRAEG

NEW PEMBROKESHIRE CAMRA CHAIR IS A LOCAL WELSH-SPEAKING LADY

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

THERE WILL BE NO BRANCH MEETING IN JANUARY

February Branch Meeting and Social, *Y Cross*, Haycastle Cross, Saturday 17th February, 2pm

CAMRA Good Beer Guide – It's Pub Survey Time Again

New Pembrokeshire CAMRA Branch Magazine, *Puffin Pints*, planned for next year

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Y CROSS CAS-LAI YMGYRCH FETHU GAN WALLT I ENNILL GWOBR CENEDLAETHOL CAMRA!

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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:

Successful AGM and Enjoyable Christmas Meal at the *Corner Piece*, Rudbaxton

There was a good turnout for Pembrokeshire CAMRA's Annual General Meeting at the Corner Piece on December 16th. The following Branch Officers were elected:

Office	Candidate	Proposed by	Seconded by
Chair	Alwen Thomas	Nigel Skipper	Steve Brady
Vice Chair	Nick Miles	Paul Padget	Steve Brady
Secretary	Steve Brady	Alan Kilbey	Nick Miles
Treasurer	Nick Miles	Steve Brady	Dave Peter
Membership Secretary	John Padget	Nick Miles	Nigel Skipper
Publicity Officer	Jon O'Brien	Steve Brady	Dave Peter
Pubs Officer	Nigel Skipper	Steve Brady	Nick Miles
Pubs Preservation Officer	Alan Kilbey	Steve Brady	Nick Miles
Branch Website Administrator	Jon O'Brien	Steve Brady	Nigel Skipper
Branch Contact	Nigel Skipper	Steve Brady	Dave Peter
Pubs Database Co-ordinator	Paul Padget	Steve Brady	Nick Miles
GBG Co-ordinator	Steve Brady	Nigel Skipper	Steve Harries
Social Secretary	Nick Miles	Steve Brady	Alan Kilbey
Branch Dog	Biggles	Jon O'Brien	Alan Kilbey
Deputy Dog	Beulah	Nigel Skipper	Steve Brady

Once this important business was concluded, members and those they had invited to accompany them enjoyed a delicious Christmas Dinner, washed down by fine ales from Mantle Brewery. Thanks are due to outgoing Branch chair Nigel Skipper for organising this Christmas meal.

MAE CADEIRYDD CAMRA NEWYDD SIR BENFRO YN FERCHED LLEOL SY'N SIARAD CYMRAEG

Yn ein Cyfarfod Cyffredinol Blynnyddol, safodd ein Cadeirydd, Nigel Skipper, i lawr ar ôl rhai blynnyddoedd o wasanaeth diwyd trwy gyfnod anodd. Pasiodd y Gangen bleidlais o ddiolch o galon i Nigel am bopeth a wnaeth yn y rôl honno fel canmoliaeth.

Mae ein Cadeirydd newydd, Mrs Alwen Thomas, yn wraig leol ac yn Gymraes frodorol. Yn aelod gweithgar o'r gangen ers rhai blynnyddoedd, felly hefyd ei gŵr Arwel, mae Alwen yn nodedig am ei chwaeth craff wrth yfed cwrw.

Yn ein rhifyn nesa, byddwn yn eich cyflwyno i gyd ymhellach i'n Cadeirydd newydd.

NEW PEMBROKESHIRE CAMRA CHAIR IS A LOCAL WELSH-SPEAKING LADY

At our AGM our Chair, Nigel Skipper, stood down after some years of stalwart service through difficult times. The Branch carried a heartfelt vote of thanks to Nigel for all he did in that role by acclamation.

Our new Chair, Mrs Alwen Thomas, is a local lady and a native Welsh-speaker. An active branch member for some years, as is her husband Arwel, Alwen is noted for her discerning taste when drinking beer.

In our next issue, we will introduce you all further to our new Chair.

WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT:

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.

Personally I would recommend the bus – if it does not run, the train would be a backup in both directions.

THERE WILL BE NO BRANCH MEETING IN JANUARY

Any urgent matters can be discussed informally at the Branch Social on January 20th.

February Branch Meeting and Social, Y Cross, Haycastle Cross, Saturday 17th February, 2pm

As reported in our earlier Newsletters, the community of Haycastle saved their own pub through a community buyout, which was recognised by the pub being shortlisted for a national CAMRA Pub-Saving award. We are therefore delighted that, refurbishments permitting, they will be hosting our next Branch Meeting. So far the quality and variety of the ale on offer has been outstanding.

This is the only Saturday in February when there are no Six Nations matches.

*Getting there: Y Cross is at Haycsatle Cross, the eponymous crossroads, itself, postcode **SA62 5PR***

If you want to come by public transport T5 bus from Haverfordwest 12.35, arrives Letterston Square 12.59. 11.50 from Fishguard Letterston 12.04. Buses leave Letterston Square for Haverfordwest at 16.04 and 18.02, for Fishguard at 16.34 and 17.23. Let us know (Secretary: secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk) beforehand and transport will be provided for you from and to Letterston Square.

There is a possibility the pub may be closed for further refurbishment on February 20th. If so we will advise the new venue via an extra newsletter if necessary, or in the February Newsletter – keep an eye on this space.

See you there!

CAMRA Good Beer Guide – It's Pub Survey Time Again

It's that time of year again. We have to submit our entries for the 2025 (!) CAMRA Good Beer Guide by the beginning of March. That means we must have surveyed current and potential entries in time for a final decision to be made oat the Branch Meeting on 20th February. Last year's entries and reserves were:

PUB	TOWN	POSTCODE
Artramont Arms	Croesgoch	SA62 5JP
Brewery Inn	Cosheston	SA72 4UD
Bridge End Inn	Llanychaer	SA65 9TB
Cambrian Inn	Fishguard	SA65 9HL
Carew Inn	Carew	SA70 8SL
Castle	Newport	SA42 0TB
Corner Piece	Rudbaxton	SA62 5PG
Creselly Arms	Cresswell Quay	SA68 0TE
Cross Inn	Clarbeston Road	SA63 4UL
Cross Inn	Penally	SA70 7PU
Dingle Inn	Narberth	SA67 7DP
Farmers Arms	St David's	SA62 6RF

Ffynone Arms	Newchapel	SA37 0EH
First & Last	Pembroke Dock	SA72 6TX
Freemasons Arms	Dinas Cross	SA42 0UW
Hope & Anchor	Tenby	SA70 7AS
Masons Arms	Cilgerran	SA43 2SR
Nag's Head	Abercych	SA37 0HJ
Old Kings Arms	Pembroke	SA71 4JS
Saint Brides Inn	Little Haven	SA62 3UN
Saint Govan's	Bosherston	SA71 5DN
Ship	Solva	SA62 6UU
Swan Lake	Jameston	SA70 8QE
Tafarn Sinc	Rosebush	SA66 7QU
Trewern Arms	Nevern	SA42 0NB
RESERVES:		
Angel	Narberth	SA67 7AS
Bristol Trader	Haverfordwest	SA61 1BE
William Owen	Haverfordwest	SA61 1BG

We are usually allowed 25

entries and 3 reserves, but this is to be confirmed for this year.

All these pubs need to be visited to ensure their beer is still up to GBG standard (and that they are still trading!) Also nominations for new entries to be considered are most welcome. Volunteers to survey (we will probably be running a driving rota) and new entries to the Secretary by the end of January at the latest please. Contact secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

New Pembrokeshire CAMRA Branch Magazine, *Puffin Pints*, planned for next year

At our Branch AGM in December, the go-ahead was given for our project to publish our very own local CAMRA Branch Magazine, working title Puffin Pints. This would be an A5 glossy magazine, probably 20 pages, looking like its Milton Keynes and North Bucks CAMRA counterpart Beer Moos, which our Secretary edited when he lived there. See

<https://mk.camra.org.uk/dl.php?id=178709> for an example copy.

Our secretary has offered to edit our magazine likewise. It would probably be produced and printed by the same people, Paper Red Media of Kettering, Northamptonshire, and transported thence by the Secretary. Production is financed by the sale of advertisements to local pubs, breweries and so on, so the magazine is free to us. It would be made available in stands similar to our leaflet stands in real ale pubs across the county. Initially the plan is to produce one edition a year, appearing in April to catch the tourist season. The aim would be to have Issue 1 out in April 2025, next year.

The company producing the magazine will probably need some help in selling advertising space, given the distances involved. Also volunteers would be needed to distribute the magazine to pubs. Finally articles, news of local pubs and breweries etc would be most welcome!

NEWYDDION TAFARNDAU A BRAGDAI

Y CROSS CAS-LAI YMGYRCH FETHU GAN WALLT I ENNILL GWOBWR CENEDLAETHOL CAMRA!

Fel yr adroddwyd yn ein Cylchlythyr diwetha, enwebodd Swyddog Cadw Tafarnau ein Cangen, Alan Kilbey, Ymgyrch Prynu Cymunedol Y Cross ar gyfer Gwobr Genedlaethol Arbed Tafarndai CAMRA. Fe'i dewiswyd yn un o'r deuddeg uchaf ar y rhestr fer allan o dros ddeugain a enwebwyd o bob rhan o'r DU.

Yn anffodus ni enillodd y dafarn gymunedol leol hon.

Dywedodd Cynghorydd Polisi Cynllunio Cenedlaethol CAMRA, Paul Ainsworth, y canlyniad ar ddechrau Ionawr:

"Nid yw ymgyrch Cross Inn, mae arnaf ofn, wedi ennill y wobwr eleni. Fodd bynnag, o ystyried ansawdd rhyfeddol o uchel y ceisiadau, gall gwneud y rhestr fer gael ei ystyried yn gyflawniad gwirioneddol haeddiannol."

Dyn ni'n cytuno. Mae pawb sy'n ymwneud ag achub y Groes yn haeddu cael eu llongyfarch ni waeth am gyrraedd mor bell mewn cystadleuaeth genedlaethol gwobr CAMRA.

Enillwyd Gwobr Arbed Tafarndai CAMRA 2023 gan bwyllgor Save Our Sun am ei ddegawd o ymgyrchu ymroddedig i achub y *Rising Sun* ym mhentref Woodcroft, Swydd Gaerloyw ac i ddarparu canolbwynt cymunedol ar gyfer ei drigolion lleol.

PUBS AND BREWERIES NEWS

CROSS INN, HAYSCASTLE CAMPAIGN NARROWLY MISS NATIONAL CAMRA AWARD!

As reported in our last Newsletter, our Branch Pubs Preservation Officer, Alan Kilbey, nominated the *Cross Inn* Community Buyout Campaign for the CAMRA National Pub Saving Award. It was chosen one of the top twelve shortlisted out of over forty nominated from all over the UK. Sadly this local community pub did not actually win.

CAMRA's National Planning Policy Adviser Paul Ainsworth advised the result at the beginning of January *"The Cross Inn campaign didn't, I'm afraid, win this year's award. However, given the amazingly high quality of the entries, making the shortlist can be regarded as a real and well-deserved achievement."*

We agree. All involved in saving the *Cross* deserve to be congratulated regardless on getting so far in a national CAMRA award competition.

The 2023 CAMRA Pub Saving Award was won by the *Save Our Sun* committee for its decade of dedicated campaigning to save the *Rising Sun* in the village of Woodcroft, Gloucestershire and to provide a community hub for its locals.

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

MAE CAMRA EISIAU I LYWODRAETH CYMRU AIL-FEDDWL AM DRETHI BUSNES HELPU I ATAL TAFARNDAI RHAG CAU

Wrth ymateb i gyhoeddiad Cyllideb ddrafft 2024/25 Llywodraeth Cymru sy'n gweld gostyngiad mewn cymorth gydag ardrethi busnes ar gyfer tafarndai a busnesau lletygarwch eraill o 75% i lawr i 40% o fis Ebrill 2024, dywedodd Cyfarwyddwr CAMRA Cymru, Chris Charters:

“Bydd tafarnwyr yn siomedig o weld cefnogaeth i filiau ardrethi busnes ar gyfer tafarndai, clybiau cymdeithasol a bragdai yn cael ei dorri – er gwaetha arian gan Lywodraeth y DU i gadw'r gostyngiad ar 75%.

“Mae ein pobl leol wrth galon bywyd cymunedol ledled Cymru, gan ddod â chymunedau at ei gilydd, helpu i fynd i'r afael ag unigrwydd a darparu man cymdeithasol diogel i fwynhau diod gyda ffrindiau a theulu. Maent yn haeddu cymorth fel y gallant oroesi a ffynnu yn y misoedd a'r blyneddau i ddod.

“Dyna pam rydw i'n annog Llywodraeth Cymru i feddwl eto a chadw'r gostyngiad ardrethi busnes ar 75% fel y mae yn Lloegr. Ar adeg pan mae cwsmeriaid yn tynhau eu gwregysau a busnesau yn mynd i'r afael â chostau cynyddol, mae dirfawr angen y cymorth hwn os ydym am osgoi colli mwy o dafarndai, clybiau a bragdai er daioni i gymunedau ledled y wlad.”

NATIONAL NEWS

CAMRA WANTS WELSH GOVERNMENT RE-THINK ON BUSINESS RATES HELP TO PREVENT PUBS FROM CLOSING

Responding to the publication of the Welsh Government's draft 2024/25 Budget which sees a reduction in help with business rates for pubs and other hospitality businesses from 75% down to 40% from April 2024, Director of CAMRA Wales Chris Charters said:

“Pubgoers will be disappointed to see support for business rates bills for pubs, social clubs and breweries being cut – despite money from the UK Government being made available to keep the discount at 75%.

“Our locals are at the heart of community life across Wales, bringing communities together, helping to tackle loneliness and providing a safe social space to enjoy a drink with friends and family. They deserve help so they can survive and thrive in the months and years ahead.

“That's why I am urging the Welsh Government to think again and keep the business rates discount at 75% as it is in England. At a time when customers are tightening their belts and businesses are grappling with rising costs, this help is desperately needed if we are to avoid more pubs, clubs and breweries being lost for good to communities across the country.”

MEET CAMRA MEMBERS NEAR YOU FOR A SOCIAL PINT

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!

Cheers!

Alwen Thomas, Chairman chairman@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

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