

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.

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A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW BRANCH MEMBERS!

Thanks to everyone's hard work and support from local brewers and publicans displaying our publicity material, Pembrokeshire CAMRA is now one of the fastest growing Branches in the country!

A hearty welcome to those of you who have just joined our campaign! We hope to make you welcome in person over a flagon of your favourite tippie at one of our meetings and socials – see below.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING:

ENJOYABLE SEPTEMBER SOCIAL AT OUR BRANCH – AND WALES - PUB OF THE YEAR

Members gathered at our Branch Pub of the Year, now Wales Pub of the Year, the *Cresselly Arms*, Cresswell Quay, on Saturday 7th September to enjoy their splendid beer and cider festival. A fine range of real ales and ciders were on offer, as well as food, and a good time was had by all.

Special thanks are due to our genial host, the pub's landlord Steve Adams, not only for making us welcome but for laying on transport for us from and to the nearest bus route.

Enjoying real ales and ciders in excellent condition in a friendly community pub is what CAMRA is all about. Come and enjoy for yourselves at our Meetings and Socials.

ANOTHER GOOD BRANCH MEETING IN SEPTEMBER

Branch members gathered in the William Owen, Haverfordwest's Wetherspoons, on Saturday 21st for well-attended and productive Branch meeting. As ever, our local 'Spoons had some good ales and ciders as well as excellent value food to sustain our deliberations.

WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT:

OCTOBER BRANCH MEETING & SOCIAL Friday 4th at 2pm at Carmarthen CAMRA Beer Festival, St. Peters Civic Hall, Nott Square, Carmarthen, SA31 1BA

There will be a short Branch meeting then we can sit back and enjoy the real ales and ciders on offer at the only CAMRA beer festival in West Wales. Come and join us!

For what's on offer this year see

<https://carmarthenshire.camra.org.uk/index.php/carmarthenshire-beer-festival/>

Getting there:

T5 bus from Fishguard at 10.50, calls Letterston 11.04 and arrives Haverfordwest Bus Station at 11.21. 322 bus for Carmarthen leaves Haverfordwest Bus Station at 12.10 arriving Carmarthen Bus Station 13.15. The venue is 2 minutes' walk from there.

322 back leaves Carmarthen Bus Station at 16.32 arriving Haverfordwest Bus Station at 17.45. T5 north leaves 18.49.

Train from Haverfordwest leaves 13.18 arriving 13.56, if it is not cancelled. The rail station is 15 minutes' walk from the Festival venue. Trains back leave at 17.58 arriving 18.37. connecting with the T5 north from the station at 18.45. There is a 19.41 arriving 2019.

If you can't make our event, or want to sample more beer and cider, the full Festival hours are:

Thursday 3rd October 2024 5pm – 11pm

Friday 4th October 2024 12pm – 11pm

Saturday 5th October 2024 12pm – 11pm

£10 entry fee includes access to the festival across three days, 3 half pint tokens, festival glass, and a festival programme

CAMRA members get an extra token (bring your card!) Entry is pay on door – no advance tickets

Live music on Friday night

BRANCH TO PUBLISH OUR OWN MAGAZINE, *Puffin Pints*, NEXT SPRING

At our September meeting, Branch members gave the final go-ahead to start the production of our very own Branch magazine, promoting not only CAMRA and our Branch but good beer, cider and places to drink it across our county.

Puffin Pints will be an A5 size magazine similar to many other CAMRA Branch magazines (though it will be only the second such currently produced by CAMRA in Wales). It will be distributed free to sympathetic pubs and other establishments across Pembrokeshire, in special bar/table top holders produced by CAMRA. The first issue is planned to appear at the end of April 2025, in time for the summer tourist season. At least initially we intend to produce one issue at the same time every year. Branch Secretary Steve Brady has agreed to edit our magazine. For several years before retiring to West Wales Steve edited a similar Branch magazine, *Beer Moos*, for Milton Keynes CAMRA.

The magazine will be produced, as are many such Branch magazines around the country, by Paper Red Media. It will be funded by them selling advertising space in the magazine, so it will be free to the Branch and to readers. In January, Matt and Neil Richards of Paper Red Media will start contacting pubs, clubs, breweries and anyone else interested to sell the advertisements needed to fund our magazine. Branch members interested in advertising in *Puffin Pints*, or who know people who are, are asked to contact the Magazine Editor, Steve, at secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

Advertising rates will be :

¼ page of A5 full colour

£90

½ page ditto	£145
1 full page	£260
Full page, inside front or back cover	£280
Full back page	£300

Thanks are already due from the Editor to our member Rob Warren for designing and producing the *Puffin Pints* logo for the magazine's masthead. Hopefully many other Branch members will play their part in creating the magazine as a really fine showcase for our Branch – all help most welcome.

In particular, articles, in English or Cymraeg, and items of news about local pubs and breweries will be most welcome. News of what they are doing and planning from local publicans and brewers will be especially welcome for the Pub and Brewery News sections of the magazine. Indeed, contributions from all local members will be much appreciated – this is our, and so your, magazine. Deadline for your contributions is the **end of February**.

The final copy deadline for the Editor – who will be contacting local pubs and breweries himself as required to their get up to date news – is the end of March.

Contributions to the editor on secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

Producing our own Magazine is the next step forward for our Branch and our Campaign in Pembrokeshire. With your support, it will succeed in further raising the profile of CAMRA locally, and, more importantly, in promoting and supporting real ale and cider and places to enjoy it across our County.

BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Saturday 14th December, *Hope and Anchor*, Goodwick

Keep the date of the most important meeting in the Branch's year free in your diaries. We are making a change from our usual venue, the Corner Piece, Rudbaxton. There will be our usual Christmas meal. More details nearer the time.

TEWKESBURY BEER FESTIVAL VISIT JANUARY 29th – 1st FEBRUARY 2025

Branch members will be attending this top CAMRA Beer Festival. More welcome – you will need to book your own accommodation and transport.

PUBS AND BREWERIES NEWS

NEW REAL ALE PUB OPENS IN TENBY

A new pub, *The Town Crier*, has opened on Upper Frog Street in Tenby. The pub is named in honour of John Thomas, Yobbler to his friends, who was Tenby's town crier for over 30 years and one of the longest-serving in Wales. It offers one changing real ale – when our reporter visited Gower Gold in good condition – plus one craft keg ale and a cider on tap.

With so many pubs closing, the opening of a new one is excellent news. Pembrokeshire CAMRA wishes this new pub every success.

COMMUNITY BUYOUT PUBS PROGRESS CONTINUES

Y Cross at Hayscastle Cross, owned by the local community, including several Branch members, held a successful Shareholders General Meeting on 5th September, at which the Board of Directors reported the pub is turning an operating profit, a healthy sign. The kitchen has been renovated cooked food is now available. Interviews have been held to appoint a full time Bar Manager, and it is hoped to announce the name of the new appointee soon.

The pub is open 5-11 pm every day except Wednesdays when it opens at 3. Local Branch members are now visiting this pub between 3 and 6 pm every Wednesday. Why not join this weekly Branch social and get to know other Real Ale and Cider enthusiasts?

Meanwhile three Directors have been appointed to the community buyout team hoping to save the *Pembroke Yeoman*, a much loved Haverfordwest institution.

Other news?

Any local brewers, or publicans, doing anything likely to be of interest to local CAMRA members, and indeed local members with any news of developments on their local pub scene, 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.

NATIONAL NEWS

NEW CAMRA NATIONAL CHAIRMAN ELECTED

Ash Corbett-Collins was elected as the new National Chairman of CAMRA at a meeting of the National Executive in Cumbria over the 21st/22nd September weekend. He replaces our former Chairman Nik Antona, who has sadly had to step down after a five-and-a-half-year tenure for health reasons.

Vice Chairman since last November, Ash Corbett-Collins is a long-standing Director who was first elected to the National Executive in 2018. He has held key positions on national committees, including People, Digital Futures and Commercial.

On being elected, Ash had this message for CAMRA members across the country:

"This is an exciting time to be taking on the role as your Chairman.

"Holding the Vice Chairman position for the last ten months – along with other roles over the last six years – has given me the experience and knowledge to lead the organisation.

"Effective leadership and collaboration for change is vital to safeguard our future. We are still as vital and relevant for consumers across the UK today as we were half a century ago.

"Our valued and loyal membership means we can work across all nations, whether this is campaigning for change, supporting our events and festivals, or protecting our cherished pubs and access to cask beer. I want to work together to continue to bring about change at a time where pubs, clubs, taprooms and breweries are facing uncertain times."

Ash also thanked the outgoing Chairman Nik for his hard work and dedication.

The process to elect a new Vice Chair is now underway, with the result expected in the autumn.

Pembrokeshire CAMRA wishes our new Chairman every success and looks forward to working with him to fight for real ale, cider, and pubs.

UPCOMING BUDGET: CAMRA CALLS ON CHANCELLOR TO REFORM UNFAIR BUSINESS RATES AND CUT TAX ON PINTS

Ahead of the upcoming Budget next month, around 145,000 CAMRA members are being mobilised to call on the new Government to take action to support for pubs, social clubs, brewers, cider makers, and to stand up for consumers rights.

Joining forces with industry leaders, the Society of Independent Brewers, the Campaign has sent groundbreaking new economic modelling directly to the Treasury showing the transformation a UK wide cut in duty charged on beer and cider served in pubs could bring.

Their proposed 20% discount for tax on pints in pubs would create thousands of new jobs and put millions of pounds back into the economy, as consumers are encouraged to move from supermarket alcohol back to being able to support their local pubs and social clubs.

The Chancellor has also been urged to stick by the Labour manifesto promise on reforming Business Rates in England. The current system unfairly penalises pubs and makes it harder for all bricks-and-mortar businesses to compete with online shopping. CAMRA's own figures show the shocking extent of churn in the pub trade, with over a thousand businesses closing their doors so far this year.

UPCOMING BUDGET: HOW YOU AS A CAMRA MEMBER CAN HELP

The Campaign is calling on all beer lovers and pub-goers to get involved and use their simple online tool to contact their MPs ahead of the Budget. The quick and easy to use e-lobby tool can be found on CAMRA's website and here: <https://action.camra.org.uk/page/156994/action/1>

Commenting, CAMRA Chair Ash Corbett-Collins said:

"Pubs are the beating heart of communities, but they're being crushed by an unfair system that favours online giants and multinational brewing conglomerates. We want the Chancellor to understand that the range of measures we're calling for aren't just about supporting the long-term future of the industry – this is also about local jobs, encouraging investment, and ensuring that communities have a space to come together.

"Cutting the rate of tax on pints across the UK, and meaningful reform of the Business Rates system in England will make all the difference to both consumers and the trade.

"I'd urge anyone who values their local pubs and independent breweries and cider producers to get involved and let the new Government know just how much we need support in the Budget. Our online e-lobby tool only takes two minutes, you don't have to be a CAMRA member to use it, and every email makes a difference."

OTHER ITEMS

NEW CAMRA PUBLICITY MATERIAL FOR OUR PUBS NOW AVAILABLE!!

We now have lots of the new CAMRA Recruitment Leaflet – “Join the CAMRA Story” in English and Welsh, plus stands and posters. They need to be got out to our pubs.

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.

WHATPUB, CAMRA’S PUBS AND CLUBS DATABASE, NEEDS YOU!

Every establishment selling alcohol to the general public to drink on the premises is meant to be on the CAMRA WhatPub database, maintained in Pembrokeshire by our Pubs database Co-Ordinator, Paul Padget, and his team. See

<https://whatpub.com/>

Given the large area we cover with a relatively small number of active members, we often struggle to keep the information on WhatPub up to date. If you see something wrong or out of date on a pub’s entry, please go the bit at the bottom of the entry where it says

“Seen some incorrect or missing details?”

[Send an email to the CAMRA branch](#) with your updates.”

Click on the link (which is pub-specific - the one above is an example for the *Royal Oak* in Fishguard) and e-mail us with your corrections. Visiting CAMRA members and indeed members of the public do this, which the Branch appreciates, but we could do with more updates from local members who are more likely to know the pub and so be able to provide accurate information.

Also please feel free to score the beer you drink – see “*Submit Beer Scores*” link on the right hand side at the top of the WhatPub entry for each pub. You’ll need to log on with your CAMRA Membership Number and password to do this, but it greatly helps us to choose the best pubs to go in the Good Beer Guide each year. Ideally we would like to base the whole GBG selection process on these scores, as many other Branches do, but that needs all of us to get out there submitting scores!

MEET CAMRA MEMBERS NEAR YOU FOR A SOCIAL PINT

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!

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!

Alwen Thomas, Chair chair@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

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