

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:

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW BRANCH MEMBERS!

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING:

CONVIVIAL BRANCH MEETING AND SOCIAL AT CARMARTHEN BEER FESTIVAL

BRANCH WELL REPRESENTED AT CAMRA WALES REGIONAL MEETING IN OCTOBER

WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT:

NOVEMBER BRANCH MEETING & SOCIAL Saturday 16th November at 2pm at the *Cambrian*, Hamilton Street, Fishguard, SA65 9HL

BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Saturday 14th December, 1pm *Hope and Anchor*, Goodwick Square, Goodwick, SA64 0BP

CARMARTHENSHIRE CAMRA HAVE INVITED US TO A BIRTHDAY PARTY – Saturday 4th January, 2pm at the *New Coracle Tavern* 1 Cambrian Place, Carmarthen, SA31 1QG

SELLING ADVERTISING TO FUND OUR NEW BRANCH MAGAZINE, *Puffin Pints*, UNDER WAY

TEWKESBURY BEER FESTIVAL VISIT 5th to 8th FEBRUARY 2025 – NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

SIBA BEERX, LIVERPOOL, 19th and 20th MARCH

PUBS AND BREWERIES NEWS

REAL ALE PUB REOPENS, ANOTHER NEVER SHUT, BUT OTHERS CLOSE

COMMUNITY BUYOUT PUB NEWS

NATIONAL NEWS

NEW CAMRA NATIONAL VICE-CHAIR ELECTED

THE BUDGET: CAMRA WELCOMES CHANCELLOR'S TAX CUT ON PINTS SERVED IN PUBS

OTHER ITEMS

CAMRA PUBLICITY MATERIAL FOR OUR PUBS STILL AVAILABLE!!

WHATPUB, CAMRA's PUBS AND CLUBS DATABASE, NEEDS YOU!

MEET CAMRA MEMBERS NEAR YOU FOR A SOCIAL PINT

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PEMBROKESHIRE PUB?

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 continues to be 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 tipple at one of our meetings and socials – see below.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING:

CONVIVIAL BRANCH MEETING AND SOCIAL AT CARMARTHEN BEER FESTIVAL

There was a good turnout for the Branch's annual visit to the Carmarthen CAMRA Beer festival on October 4th. Branch business was dealt with in record time, after which members set to enjoying the excellent range of real ales and ciders at our Carmarthenshire colleagues, Festival. As always, some Branch members also volunteered to work at the Festival, and thoroughly enjoyed doing so. We are glad to report that the Festival was a great success, with almost half the beers sold out before the close and a healthy profit made to boost our Campaign. We look forward to next year's Festival, where hopefully some of our new members and ones we haven't seen for a while will join us.

BRANCH WELL REPRESENTED AT CAMRA WALES REGIONAL MEETING IN OCTOBER

Pembrokeshire was well represented by Branch Chair Mrs Alwen Thomas and Secretary Steve Brady at the all-Wales Regional Meeting on October 19th. The best place for Branch representatives from across Wales to meet was found to be Shrewsbury, which has not been part of our country for a while. As our Branch representatives found the evenings before and after the meeting, the town does have a wealth of excellent real ale pubs.

The meeting discussed a range of matters of importance to our Campaign and, just as importantly, allowed Branch officers from all over Wales to meet and get to know each other, reinforcing the bonds of conviviality and common purpose which sustain our Campaign.

WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT:

NOVEMBER BRANCH MEETING & SOCIAL Saturday 16th November at 2pm at the *Cambrian*, Hamilton Street, Fishguard, SA65 9HL

Getting there:

T5 bus from Haverfordwest Bus Station at 12.40, calls Letterston 12.59 and arrives Fishguard at 13.13.

T5's back leave Fishguard at 16.00 and 18.00, arriving Letterston approximately 15, and Haverfordwest Bus Station about 30, minutes afterwards..

After the Branch Meeting it is not unlikely that a crawl of Fishguard's real ale pubs will ensue!

BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Saturday 14th December, 1pm *Hope and Anchor*, Goodwick Square, Goodwick, SA64 0BP

This is the most important Branch Meeting of the year, when we elect our Branch Officers for the coming year. It also features our annual Christmas Meal, organised this year for us by John Padget, to whom our thanks are due.

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 who are 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

The menu is:

Starters:

- *Hot smoked salmon pate, prawns, pickled cucumber*
- *Leek & Potato Soup, chive oil, potato nest, bread*
- *BBQ Beef brisket burnt ends*
- *Goat's cheese & red onion tartlet, dressed salad*

Main course:

- *Butter roast turkey, apricot stuffing*
- *Slow roast beef brisket, red onion gravy*
- *Homemade nut roast, spiced cranberry sauce*
- *Herb crusted salmon fillet, dill crème fraiche*

All served with roast potatoes, honey glazed carrots and parsnips, Brussels sprouts with Chestnuts, pigs in blankets, broccoli, cheese, gravy

Desserts:

- *Christmas pudding, brandy cream*
- *Winter berry cheesecake*
- *Sticky toffee pudding, vanilla ice cream*
- *Warm chocolate fudge cake*

Coffee & mince pies

The price is: 1 course £20.95, 2 courses £25.95, 3 courses £30.95

Please send your menu selections to our Secretary, Steve, at secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk by the date of, or give them to him or John at, the November Branch meeting, Saturday 16th November. John will then contact you directly to arrange payment.

CARMARTHENSHIRE CAMRA HAVE INVITED US TO A BIRTHDAY PARTY – Saturday 4th January, 2pm at the *New Coracle Tavern* 1 Cambrian Place, Carmarthen, SA31 1QG

We have just received this invitation from Dai Lewis, Secretary of Carmarthenshire CAMRA:

“One of our members is having his 70th birthday on Saturday 4th January 2025. We are giving him a surprise birthday party in the New Coracle Tavern from 2pm onwards. There will be some food and some free beer. This is an invite to Pembrokeshire Branch members to join us for this celebration, and for a New Year get together.”

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 a few 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 20 minutes’ walk from the pub. 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.

We also hope to have our annual get-together with Carmarthenshire at the Station House in Whitland, run by the brother of the landlord of the *Cresselly Arms*, Branch and Wales Pub of the Year, at some point in the New Year – watch this space.

SELLING ADVERTISING TO FUND OUR NEW BRANCH MAGAZINE, *Puffin Pints*, UNDER WAY

The branch has now supplied Paper Red Media, who will be producing our Branch magazine, with a list of possible advertisers. Matt and Neil Richards of PRM are now selling the advertising that will fund our magazine. This is earlier than we had expected but all to the good as it will get the magazine funded earlier.

All members are welcome to let local pubs and breweries know that they may be contacted to see if they are interested in advertising in our Branch magazine, which will be distributed free to pubs, clubs and other suitable establishments across the County at the start of the tourist season, so maximising the effectiveness of such advertisements.

Branch members themselves 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 so he can put them in touch with PRM.

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

In the New Year we will be looking for articles, in English or Cymraeg, and items of news about local pubs and breweries. 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

TEWKESBURY BEER FESTIVAL VISIT 5th to 8th FEBRUARY 2025 – NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

The date has been changed by the organisers, but Branch members will still be attending this top CAMRA Beer Festival.

SIBA BEERX, LIVERPOOL, 19th and 20th MARCH

Branch members will also be attending this top Beer Festival organised by the Society of Independent Brewers and Associates.

Interested in attending either, or both, of these events? More members welcome – but you will need to book your own accommodation and transport.

Contact the Secretary on secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk for more details.

PUBS AND BREWERIES NEWS

REAL ALE PUB REOPENS, ANOTHER NEVER SHUT, BUT OTHERS CLOSE

The *Red Rose Inn* in Pembroke Dock, which had been closed, reopened in mid-October.

We are glad to confirm that reports that the *Corner Piece* in Rudbaxton had closed are without foundation. This fine pub, on the A40 north of Haverfordwest, continues to offer real ale and food.

The unique *Core of the Poodle* in Haverfordwest is closing for a fortnight in November as the landlord is on holiday.

Sadly another interesting local hostelry, the *Ranch* in Llanychaer, has closed for the foreseeable future.

COMMUNITY BUYOUT PUB NEWS

The *White Hart* at St Dogmael's is looking for a new manager after Caroline resigned to take on, with husband Justin, the *Cardiff Arms* in Cilgerran. The pub plans shortly to issue new shares, giving local CAMRA members a chance to own a share of a local at the heart of its community.

Y Cross at Hayscastle Cross has unfortunately failed to appoint a bar manager after the successful applicant turned the job down on personal grounds. Going forward the overall running of the pub will be by an operations team working with the staff. This has been successfully in place already whilst the pub sought a bar manager. A cook has been appointed and will commence on the 6th of November forming part of this working group. A new menu to include Sunday lunches will soon be published. A full programme of events in the pub, including TV coverage of the Autumn Rugby Internationals, Welsh language lessons, a Quiz on the first Wednesday evening of each month, and darts League matches every Friday at 8pm is now under way.

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?

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 VICE- CHAIR ELECTED

Now former Vice-Chairman Ash Corbett-Collins has been elected as the new National Chairman of CAMRA, Gillian Hough has been elected as the new CAMRA Vice-Chair.

Gillian joined CAMRA at the [Pig's Ear Beer Festival](#) in 1984, when she was still a student. Hailing from Northern Ireland, she was inspired by the wide variety and quality on offer at beer and cider festivals in London.

She has served for more than 10 years on CAMRA's National Executive, first from 2003 to 2007 and again since 2018. A previous chair of CAMRA's Books Committee, she was also part of CAMRA's most recent Governance and Beer Styles Review.

Pembrokeshire CAMRA wishes our new Vice-Chair every success and looks forward to working with her to fight for real ale, cider, and pubs.

THE BUDGET: CAMRA WELCOMES CHANCELLOR'S TAX CUT ON PINTS SERVED IN PUBS

Responding to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Budget statement our National Chairman, Ash Corbett-Collins, said:

On beer and cider duty:

"Despite general rises in alcohol duty next year, CAMRA is pleased to see the Chancellor's decision to cut the rate of tax specifically on beer and cider served in pubs, clubs and taprooms. This will help

pub goers as well as independent breweries and cider producers who sell more of their products into pubs, and recognises the principle that drinking in the community setting of the local pub is far preferable to the likes of cheap supermarket alcohol.”

On a Government review on access to market for independent breweries:

“Consumers are looking forward to hearing more about the previously announced policy on helping independent breweries get better access to the pub market. If done right, that should mean a better choice of locally-brewed beers at the bar in pubs up and down the country.”

OTHER ITEMS

CAMRA PUBLICITY MATERIAL FOR OUR PUBS STILL AVAILABLE!!

We 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