

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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WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING:

STAR SHINES ON OUR JANUARY BRANCH MEETING

A new micro-pub, the *Star* in Narberth, hosted a well-attended January Branch meeting. Members enjoyed two real ales on gravity dispense laid on by landlady Donna. The *Star* bids fair to be a focus of real ale drinking in Narberth.

ENJOYABLE BRANCH SOCIAL AT TEMPLETON'S DISTRIBUTION WAREHOUSE

A distribution warehouse might not seem the most promising venue for a Branch social but our host Lyndon Belt, Business Development Manager at our local beer, wines and spirits distributor pulled out all the stops for our visit on January 25th.

A dozen members, including a new member attending his first CAMRA event, were hosted royally, with unlimited free beer, including two casks on gravity dispense and a lavish sandwich buffet, as well as a most interesting tour of the distribution centre.

Templeton's is Pembrokeshire's main local distributor of beer, cider, wines and spirits to our pubs. The alternative is the Molson Coors global megakegery. A really excellent time was had by all. Our thanks to Lyndon.

Pembrokeshire Branch Socials are clearly worth coming along to – see you next time!

WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT:

DEADLINES FOR OUR BRANCH:

2026 Good Beer Guide List, 20th February, Branch Pub of the Year 9th March

This means that the February Branch meeting, where these are highlighted for survey and then chosen, are especially important. Come along and back your favourite pub!

FEBRUARY BRANCH MEETING, Saturday 15th February, 1pm (NOTE TIME!) William Owen ('Spoons), 6 Quay Street, Haverfordwest SA61 1BG

Getting there:

T5 bus from Fishguard Bus Station at 11.55, calls Letterston 12.09 and arrives Haverfordwest at 12.22.

T5's back leave Haverfordwest at 16.10. 17.15 and 18.45, arriving Letterston approximately 15, and Fishguard Bus Station about 30, minutes later.

This is a very important meeting as we shall decide our Good Beer Guide 2026 entries and if possible Branch Pub, Cider Pub, and Club of the Year.

Note that those with a connection to a pub whose inclusion is being considered, as owner, management or staff, must declare that interest at the outset of the discussion but are then as free as any other member to argue and vote for any pub, including the one or ones top which they have a connection.

Please bring your membership cards. New members who have not yet received their membership card should note and bring along the membership number they received when they joined, if they joined online.

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

Neil Richards of Paper Red Media, who will be producing our Branch magazine, and his colleague Matt have now started contacting our local pubs, breweries etc. to see if they are interested in advertising in our Branch magazine. Some have already bought advertising space in the magazine,

and have our thanks. These advertisements will fund the production of the magazine, so it will be free to us and will be then distributed, also 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. Also everyone should let any publicans and brewers know that they may soon be contacted by PRM to offer them advertising in our magazine.

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

We are now 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 get their up to date news – is **the end of March.**

BRANCH SWEAT, POLO AND T- SHIRTS AVAILABLE SOON, HOPEFULLY

We hope shortly to have available a range of attire bearing our Branch logo. More details, notably prices, soon, and we shall then take orders.

TEWKESBURY BEER FESTIVAL VISIT 5th to 8th FEBRUARY 2025

Branch members will be attending this noted CAMRA Beer Festival.

SIBA BEEREX, 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

LOCAL PUBS REOPENING, BEING REPAIRED, AND BEING SAVED

The *Red House* has reopened as has the *Ranch* at Llanychaer. Repair works are ongoing at the *Duke of Edinburgh* at Newgale, and refurbishment is actively in progress at the *Royal George* Solva and the *Farmers' Arms* Fishguard. Fundraising to save the *Pembroke Yeoman* in Fishguard is under way.

WEEKLY CAMRA SOCIAL AT VILLAGE COMMUNITY PUB

Local Branch members visit *Y Cross*, Hayscastle Cross, a pub saved by its local community, between 3 and 6 pm every Wednesday. The pub is open 5-11 pm every day except Wednesdays when it opens at 3. 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

CAMRA's NEW LOOK

A brand-new look for the Campaign for Real Ale has been revealed, encouraging more people with a passion for pubs and pints to become part of the 147,000 strong CAMRA family. As part of this we have a new logo – see the top of this e-mail.

At the very heart of CAMRA's ethos is that the pub is more than just a place to enjoy a drink; it's an experience to enjoy and to savour with friends.

CAMRA is now urging people who see the pub as a place to spend quality time with friends to join up and enjoy the experience with like-minded people.

Whether that is visiting festivals, loving your local or being passionate about pubs, CAMRA wants to welcome you.

The brand-new look follows 18-months of in-depth research and development, revealing an untapped group of people who want to explore different beer styles.

Our campaigning organisation wants to welcome new people who can help to protect pubs at the heart of the community, while importantly enjoying quality beer and a rich social experience, with like-minded people.

As one of Europe's biggest and most successful consumer organisations, current and new members can work side-by-side. Helping to protect our wonderful pubs, clubs and taprooms for generations to come and making sure they are front and centre in all our communities.

Welcoming the change, Dean Barrett, CAMRA's Commercial Director, said:

"Our members are the beating heart of our organisation and by growing our membership we can achieve more together."

"With a rich history spanning more than half a century, we want to celebrate CAMRA's successful campaigning which changed the beer and pub landscape phenomenally, while looking forward to another successful 50 years."

"This change is all about bringing like-minded people together, with a social setting being front and centre. Whether that is visiting pubs, scoring beer, taking part in a campaign or visiting a CAMRA festival, these all bring people together as one."

OTHER ITEMS

CAMRA PUBLICITY MATERIAL FOR OUR PUBS STILL AVAILABLE!!

We have lots of the 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 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