

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. PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU CANNOT REPLY TO THIS E-MAIL ADDRESS – please reply to the Branch Secretary on [secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk](mailto:secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk)

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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***BRANCH AFLOAT AT SHIP AGROUND IN MAY***

***BRANCH MEMBERSHIP – TARGET TWO HUNDRED!***

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***LLWYNGWAIR BEER FESTIVAL, SATURDAY 13th JUNE, NOON ONWARDS – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED***

***BRAINS BREWERY TRIP – TUESDAY JULY 14th, CARDIFF***

***CARMARTHEN BEER FESTIVAL, 1st, 2nd and 3rd October, St Peter's Civic Hall, Nott Square, Carmarthen SA31 1BA – VOLUNTEERS WELCOME***

***NEW RECRUITING LEAFLETS AND BEER MATS NOW AVAILABLE***

***BRANCH SWEAT, POLO AND T- SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE DIRECT FROM THE SUPPLIER***

***WEEKLY BRANCH SOCIAL – Y CROSS, HAYSCASTLE CROSS – WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS.***

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**VICTORIA BREWPUB ROCH 10th ANNIVERSARY BEER FESTIVAL, SATURDAY & SUNDAY 17th & 18th JULY**

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## **WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING:**

### ***PUFFIN PINTS TWO NOW OUT!***

The second edition of our Branch magazine, now the only CAMRA Branch magazine in the whole of Wales, is now out. *Puffin Pints Two* is bigger than our first edition, 32 pages rather than 24, and we have more of them – 2600 copies rather than 2000.

Thanks are due to all who contributed to and proof-read our magazine. Also to our advertisers, Templeton's, the *Angel Narberth*, the *Royal Oak Newport*, and the *Cresselly Arms*, Cresswell Quay, whose support financed the issue. They deserve our support in return!

Copies have gone out, and are going out, to real ale and cider pubs across our county and beyond (far beyond in the case of four pubs in Lithuania!), but more distributors to get copies into pubs and keep stocks replenished are most welcome. Interested?

Contact [secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk](mailto:secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk)

## **SUCCESSFUL STATION HOUSE SOCIAL WITH CARMARTHENSHIRE CAMRA**

Members from our Branch joined our friends from Carmarthenshire on the County border in Whitland at the *Station House* on 18th May for a most convivial joint social.

Landlord Mike laid on some excellent ales and a fine buffet to welcome us. Carmarthenshire presented him with a well-earned County Pub of the Year Certificate during the Social.

## **BRANCH AFLOAT AT SHIP AGROUND IN MAY**

As usual, there was a good turnout for our May Branch meeting, held in the *Ship Aground* in Dinas Cross. Our hosts Alan and Sharon laid on some fine ales and Welsh cakes, and generally made us welcome.

## **BRANCH MEMBERSHIP – TARGET TWO HUNDRED!**

Branch membership has passed 160. At the May meeting, we committed ourselves to **a target of 200 Branch Members by the end of next year.**

Achieving this depends on all of us. If you know anyone who enjoys real ale and cider, or simply values the pubs that we enjoy it in, try and persuade them to help preserve them, and share in our convivial Branch activities, by joining up. Just click on [www.camra.org/join](http://www.camra.org/join)

## **WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT:**

### **JUNE BRANCH MEETING - SATURDAY 20th June, 1 pm *Angel* 43 High Street, Narberth, SA67 7AS**

The *Angel* is a long-standing supporter of CAMRA in this pleasant town, and offers a discount on its excellent ales to CAMRA members.

#### *Getting there:*

*T5 bus leaves Fishguard at 11.07, Letterston at 11.27 arriving Haverfordwest at 11.46 and Haverfordwest Rail station a few minutes later. The 381 bus leaves Haverfordwest Bus Station at 11.55, arriving at 12.23 and the 322 bus leaves Haverfordwest Bus Station at noon, arriving Narberth at 12.28.*

*The 381 bus leaves Narberth at 29 minutes past the hour arriving Haverfordwest Bus Station at 50 minutes past the hour. T5's back leave Haverfordwest bus station at 9 minutes past the hour until 19.09, arriving Letterston at 28 minutes past and Fishguard at 55 minutes past.*

We may very well explore the other pubs of Narberth after the meeting, so it should be a good day!

**LLWYNGWAIR BEER FESTIVAL, Llwyngwair Manor, Newport, SA42 0LX. SATURDAY 13th JUNE, NOON ONWARDS – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Featuring eight Welsh real ales, including ones from all the Pembrokeshire breweries. A great day out for all the family, complete with entertainments such as live music and a bouncy castle for the young and young at heart, with a full bar menu and a barbecue.

See [www.pembrokeshireholidaypark.co.uk](http://www.pembrokeshireholidaypark.co.uk)

As on previous occasions, our Branch is helping them out with this. **We are looking for volunteers** to help serve beer etc. for an hour or two (or longer if you wish!). Interested: contact [secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk](mailto:secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk).or just turn up on the day.

*Getting there:*

*The T5 bus from Haverfordwest and Fishguard stops on request outside Llwyngwair Manor ( about a mile beyond Newport toward Cardigan). Buses leave Haverfordwest at 9 minutes past the hour and Fishguard at 56 minutes past, arriving in about 20 minutes. Buses back leave about half past the hour from across the road from the Manor entrance.*

**BRAINS BREWERY TRIP – TUESDAY JULY 14th, CARDIFF**

We have been invited to tour Brains Brewery near Cardiff. The tour itself takes about half an hour, followed by a free beer tasting. Most members plan to make it a day trip by rail.

*There is a train from Haverfordwest at 9.15 a.m. arriving at Cardiff Central at 11.50. The last train back that connects with the last T5 northward (departs 20.24 from Haverfordwest Railway Station) leaves Cardiff Central at 17.44, arriving at 20.13. The one before leaves Cardiff at 16.06, arriving 17.09. We can share a cab to get from Cardiff station to the brewery and back.*

Some members may stay overnight in Cardiff, and if so we will try and link up with Cardiff members for an evening drink in the city. The brewery need to know numbers beforehand so if you want to come let the Branch know on [secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk](mailto:secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk). If you want to stay over let us know that too as we are going to book accommodation.

**CARMARTHEN BEER FESTIVAL, 1st, 2nd and 3rd October, St Peter's Civic Hall, Nott Square, Carmarthen SA31 1BA – VOLUNTEERS WELCOME**

This year's Festival will be on Thursday 1st October 5pm – 11pm, Friday 2nd October 12pm – 11pm and Saturday 3rd October 2025 12pm – 11pm in the usual venue, St. Peter's Hall in the town centre.

Carmarthenshire Branch need volunteers to help with set up (on Wednesday 30th September), manning the Festival, and take down on Sunday 5th October in the morning. Interested? – contact Dave Hume, [daveflyball@icloud.com](mailto:daveflyball@icloud.com)

No doubt we shall hold our usual Branch Social there, probably on the afternoon of Friday 2nd October.

See

<https://carmarthenshire.camra.org.uk/index.php/carmarthenshire-beer-festival/> nearer the time for more details.

## **NEW RECRUITING LEAFLETS AND BEER MATS NOW AVAILABLE**

We now have new CAMRA recruiting leaflets in English (we still have many in Welsh) and CAMRA beer mats. These will be available at Branch meetings.

## **BRANCH SWEAT, POLO AND T- SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE DIRECT FROM THE SUPPLIER**

You can now order your branded Branch attire direct from the supplier

### *Prices:*

*Sweatshirts* £20.50

*Polo shirts* £17

*T-shirts* £14.50

*Hoodies* £29

All in Pembrokeshire royal blue.

Order direct from, and pay, the supplier, Castle Printwear, 9, Brunel Quay, Neyland, Milford Haven SA73 1PY. Tel: 01646 450880 E-Mail: [hello@castleprintwear.co.uk](mailto:hello@castleprintwear.co.uk), making clear you want the special Pembrokeshire CAMRA items. They can now produce these to order.

## **WEEKLY BRANCH SOCIAL – Y CROSS, HAYSCASTLE CROSS – WEDNESDAYS 3 – 6 p.m.**

Local Branch members often gather in our Branch Pub of the Year, Y Cross, Haycastle Cross, about 5pm on a 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?

There is also a free cider tasting session in this pub on Thursday 11th June at 7pm - see below!

## **PUBS, BREWERIES AND OTHER LOCAL NEWS**

## **OUR COUNTY PUB OF THE YEAR WINS WEST WALES PUB OF THE YEAR!**

*Y Cross*, Hayscastle Cross, the village local pub saved by village locals which features on the front cover of the latest *Puffin Pints* for having won our Branch Pub of the Year, has now beaten off stiff competition from the *Bottle and Barrels* in Aberystwyth and the *Station House* in Whitland to win West Wales CAMRA Pub of the Year.

This competition is judged by West Wales members visiting and scoring the other branches' pubs (members can't score their own branch's pub) in line with CAMRA Pub of the Year Judging Criteria. Well done to all at *Y Cross*!

This is the second time in recent years that our Pub of the Year has won West Wales Pub of the Year. The *Cresswell Arms*, Cresswell Quay, did it in 2024. They went on to win Wales CAMRA Pub of the Year. Let's hope our pub can do as well this year!

## **NEVERN COMMUNITY RALLIES TO SAVE THEIR LOCAL**

The *Trewern Arms* in Nevern has for many years been a fine pub in a pleasant location in a lovely village. Pembrokeshire CAMRA has held many Branch Meetings there, and their Beer Festival was a fixture on our calendar.

Sadly, like many other pubs across our county and our country, in recent years it has increasingly struggled under an ever-heavier burden of rising costs, and eventually the couple running it despaired and have put the pub on the market. Permanent closure and conversion into a hotel or residential accommodation loomed.

But the community of Nevern are not going to let their village local go without a fight. On Wednesday 13th May around a hundred of them packed into their Village Hall to launch their fight to save their pub.

Pembrokeshire CAMRA Branch members joined them. Branch Secretary Steve Brady addressed the meeting, pledging CAMRA's support and offering experience learned by ourselves and the local community in the successful fight to save another local village pub, *Y Cross* in Hayscastle Cross. *Y Cross* directors have also offered advice to the Nevern community as they move toward setting up a community vehicle to buy and thus save their local pub. Also present was local activist Cris Tomos, a veteran of many successful community buyouts.

We wish the community of Nevern every success in saving their pub and will keep CAMRA members posted on how they are getting on and what we can do to help.

Our Campaign isn't just about enjoying good beer – one of our main purposes is to defend pubs like the *Trewern Arms* where good beer is drunk. The way things are going, most of them need defending – without CAMRA there would probably be no cask beer today and without CAMRA there is a good chance there will be no, or very few, pubs tomorrow.

**COMMUNITY PUB/CAMRA REAL ALE TASTING SOCIETY – Y CROSS, HAYCASTLE CROSS, Thursday June 11th 7pm onwards – LOCAL CIDER!**

Members joined Y Cross regulars on Thursday 14th May for the latest meeting of this joint activity between the Branch and our Pub of the Year. Six more beers brewed by Tenby Harbwr Brewery were laid before our discerning palates, and a good time was had by all.

In June we shall have a Cider Tasting, featuring a selection of local ciders!

These meetings are now held regularly on the SECOND THURSDAY of the month starting at 7pm. Come along and try some interesting – and FREE – beers and, now, ciders.

### **VICTORIA BREWPUB ROCH 10th ANNIVERSARY BEER FESTIVAL, SATURDAY & SUNDAY 17th & 18th JULY**

Live music under the canopy in the beer garden overlooking St Brides Bay, on the A487 between Haverfordwest and Solva, just up the hill from Newgale Beach.

[www.thevictoriainnroch.com](http://www.thevictoriainnroch.com)

### **150th ANNIVERSARY OF TAFARN SINC – EVENTS IN JULY AND AUGUST**

Several events are being held to mark the 150th Anniversary of the *Tafarn Sinc* Rosemarket, SA66 7QU.

*Saturday 11th July – Morris Dancers*

*Sunday 12th July – Folk Music*

*Monday 13th July – Heritage Talk*

*Tuesday 14th July – Folk Session with Choir*

*Wednesday 15th July – Car Treasure Hunt*

*Thursday 16th July – Quiz*

*Friday 17th July – Group Honey Fungus*

*Saturday 18th July – Pembrokeshire Welsh Learners' Party*

*31st July to 8th August – sundry functions for National Eisteddfod Week.*

See their Facebook for times and details <https://www.facebook.com/tafarnsinc/>

### **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.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### **WE ALL NEED TO KEEP ON SCORING BEERS!**

Our Branch now bases Good Beer Guide inclusion on National Beer Scoring System scores. Which means we all need to score our pints, as many members are already doing.

It's really very easy to do so and you can do it on your smartphone whilst in the pub, or on your PC when you get home.

To score a beer, go to <https://camra.org.uk/pubs>. Type in the pub name or location. Or, if you put nothing in and press enter you will get an option to display pubs and clubs near your current location, or just GBG pubs near you.

Click on the pub whose beer you want to score. You will get the pub entry on the CAMRA database, e.g. for our new PotY <https://camra.org.uk/pubs/y-cross-hayscastle-cross-160040>

On the same line as the pub name, at the top, you will see "Beer Score". Click it. A box opens in which you can find your beer, score it (the score drop down tells you what the scores mean), add any comments you want, then submit your score.

More information about Beer Scoring and how it is used by many Branches, and will be used by ours, to choose our GBG pubs, here <https://camra.org.uk/beer-scoring>

We also heartily recommend the Taste Match feature, accessible, if you have signed in as a member, free at <https://camra.org.uk/profile/taste-match>

This enables you to create a tool which tells you which pubs serve the sort of beer you personally are likely to enjoy.

You can put Beer scoring on your smartphone home screen as an icon you just click on.

For Android phones (using Chrome browser), you just go onto the CAMRA website <https://camra.org.uk/pubs>, click the 3 dots at the top of the page and select "Add to home screen"

For iPhones you have to do it via your Safari bookmarks - see Apple guide here:-

<https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/iphone/iph42ab2f3a7/ios#:~:text=Add%20a%20website%20icon%20to%20your%20Home%20Screen>

The Secretary is going to produce an illustrated guide to how to score beers on NBSS. If you would like one, e-mail him here: [secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk](mailto:secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk)

A number of Branch members have taken the plunge and started scoring, so come and join us. It's quick, it's easy, and we all really need to do this! And it has just got easier!

## BEER SCORING SYSTEM MADE EVEN EASIER TO USE

From 1st June, the beer scoring system will be made simpler and easier to use, with words replacing numbers. Half points will be abolished and “no cask ale available” will be indicated separately from beer scores.

The new system is explained here <https://www1-camra.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/14090621/New-ratings-for-cask-beer-scoring-summary.pdf> (you will need to log on to your CAMRA member account to see it).

But basically numbers are being replaced by descriptions so that:

5 = “*Excellent*”

4 = “*Very Good*”

3 = “*Good*”

2 – “*Acceptable*”

1 = “*Poor*”

0 = “*Undrinkable*”

To be worthy of the Good Beer Guide, a pub would be expected consistently normally to score the old 3, new “*Good*”, or better.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP DISABLED DRINKERS

Disabled drinkers often face extra challenges in visiting pubs. CAMRA has long flagged up whether pubs have Disabled Access or not on WhatPub and now on the new main CAMRA website that replaces it.

CAMRA now wants to go further, and provide more detailed information for those of us who are less mobile.

Accordingly, we are asking those visiting local pubs to give us updates on how accessible our pubs are for disabled visitors.

Whether, for example, someone in a wheelchair could get in and out of the pub, up to the bar to order a pint, and use the toilets. If you are not disabled, we’re asking you to give thought to how you would fare in the pubs you visit if you were.

Please report your observations to our Pub Database Co-ordinator, Paul Padget, on [PubDatabaseCo-ordinator@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk](mailto:PubDatabaseCo-ordinator@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk)

An example of what we’re looking for might be this report on the *Royal Oak* in Fishguard:  
"Dedicated side door for wheelchairs. Accessible toilet but no grab rails. Front bar accessible via front entrance, but from there toilet access is via steps."

Remember, however fit and active we may be now, any of us may one day be disabled ourselves, when we would no doubt appreciate this sort of information before choosing to go to a pub. So let's help our disabled drinkers today – they could include us tomorrow!

### **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](mailto: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. Let's hear from you!

### **CHECK OUT OUR BRANCH WEBSITE:**

[www.pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk](http://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](mailto:WebsiteCo-ordinator@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk)

Cheers!

Alwen Thomas, Chair [chair@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk](mailto:chair@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk)

Steve Brady, Secretary [secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk](mailto:secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk)