

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

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:

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING:

DISTINGUISHED VISITOR AT OUR AUGUST MEETING

***PUFFIN PINTS TWO* – LAST COPIES STILL AVAILABLE!**

WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT:

FIRST CAMRamble, Pembroke Dock, 11.30a.m. Monday September 14th

SEPTEMBER BRANCH MEETING, SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER, 2 pm *Ship*, 15 Main Street, Solva, SA62 6UU

BRANCH SOCIAL, CARMARTHEN BEER FESTIVAL, St Peter's Civic Hall, Nott Square, Carmarthen SA31 1BA Friday 2nd October afternoon.

BRANCH BEER TRIP TO IRELAND – Saturday and Sunday 17th/18th OCTOBER

OCTOBER BRANCH MEETING, SATURDAY 24th OCTOBER, *Tenby Harbwr Brewery*, Sergeants Lane, Tenby, SA70 7BU

BEER SCORING TRIPS UNDER WAY

BRANCH OFFICERS STILL WANTED

NEW RECRUITING LEAFLETS AND BEER MATS NOW AVAILABLE

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

PUBS, BREWERIES AND OTHER LOCAL NEWS

CORNER PIECE, RUDBAXTON STILL CLOSED AFTER FIRE

ROSE & CROWN GOODWICK SHUTS DOWN

BUT THE *HOPE & ANCHOR* IS STILL VERY MUCH OPEN

LOTS OF LOCAL PUBS ON THE MARKET

BRANCH BACKS SAUNDERSFOOT BEER GARDEN PLANNING APPLICATION

WHERE TO GET LOCAL REAL CIDER IN PEMBROKESHIRE

OTHER ITEMS

SCORING BEERS – KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

HOW YOU CAN HELP DISABLED DRINKERS

MEET CAMRA MEMBERS NEAR YOU FOR A SOCIAL PINT

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PEMBROKESHIRE PUB?

WHAT WE'VE BEEN DOING:

DISTINGUISHED VISITOR AT OUR AUGUST MEETING

Our monthly Branch Meeting in August had a distinguished visitor. Dean Barrett, a member of CAMRA's elected governing National Executive, who was in the area, accepted our invitation to join us.

The meeting was due to take place in the *Corner Piece*, Rudbaxton, but a fire forced the pub to close temporarily. Branch member Nicola Morris, manageress of the *William Owen* Wetherspoons in Haverfordwest, kindly offered to host us at the last minute, thus saving the day!

Dean explained his role in CAMRA, having been elected to the National Executive in 2023 for a four-year term. He had served as Commercial Director from April 2023 to July 2026, responsible for marketing books and other CAMRA merchandise, business relationships, notably with Wetherspoons, and marketing. Currently he is working on CAMRA and responsible social drinking and is also keen to improve communication between the National Executive and Branches. Which of course he was doing by coming to our Branch meeting.

He put CAMRA's membership decline since CoVID (in which our Branch, which has grown significantly since then, has not shared!) in perspective: it has been much less proportionately than groups such as the National Trust, and, given there are an estimated 1.25 million regular

real ale and cider drinkers across the country we have actually recruited over 10% of them, which is a notable achievement.

CAMRA is currently trying in particular to recruit more members aged 35-50. People under 35 are less inclined to join any voluntary organisations: they are usually getting established in their careers, trying to buy a home, and starting a family or with young children.

An interesting discussion with members followed, notably about CAMRA's new 2026-29 Strategy. We are confident that we demonstrated to Dean that, while Pembrokeshire may be remote from CAMRA HQ geographically, we are certainly not a backwater but rather a powerhouse for our Campaign.

PUFFIN PINTS TWO – LAST COPIES STILL AVAILABLE!

Most of the 2600 copies printed of the second edition of our Branch magazine, *Puffin Pints*, for now the only CAMRA Branch magazine in the whole of Wales, have now been distributed to pubs across our County and beyond. Of the remainder most are earmarked to be distributed at Carmarthen CAMRA Beer festival. Nevertheless there are still a number left if your local has run out. If you need some, contact the Secretary at the e-mail address below.

WHAT WE'RE DOING NEXT:

FIRST CAMRamble, Pembroke Dock, 11.30a.m. to 4pm. Monday September 14th

Our members Dawn and Matt, who have moved into our Branch from Shropshire, are introducing an idea which has worked well for their old Branch – CAMRambles – walks taking in fine pubs in pleasant surroundings. Essentially a scenic pub crawl on foot.

The first one will be held on Monday 14th September. Dawn and Matt have provided the details:

Pembroke Dock to Pembroke Castle 1st CAMRamble

14th September 2026 11:30am to 16:00pm

Organised by Dawn Southey and Matthew Darby

Contact Dawn's Mobile: 07884232731

Walk is total 3.4miles= 1.5-2hrs depending on stops/fitness

Mild to moderate walk- initially uphill along main roads for 30mins, then follow the ales/Pembrokeshire Coastal Path involving fields/estuary edge for the final 1hr.

No stiles: there are multiple gates to access as we cross fields with sheep present

Route can be muddy (if had recent rain) advise sturdy walking boots/footwear/Hats and Sunscreen

Meet at *The First and Last Inn* (London Road) 11:30 aiming to leave midday and to arrive Pembroke Castle area 14:00, followed by visiting a few pubs to support business and input beer scores.

Pubs we will definitely visit:

The *First and Last Inn* (starting Point)

The *Watermans* (end of walk pub)

The *Old Kings Arms* (must visit)

The *Old Cross Saws* (near to bus/train stops)

Getting there:

Transport options to Pembroke Dock

10:38am Haverfordwest to Pembroke Dock- Bus 349 – alight Llanion Roundabout 11:19am (pub literally 5 mins walk from bus stop)

10:25am Tenby to Pembroke Dock- Bus 349- alight Llanion Roundabout 11:40am

09:36am TFW Train Tenby to Pembroke- alight and walk to Pembroke East End and then catch Bus 356- alight London Road 10:40am (pub opens at 10am)

Transport options from Pembroke

16:15 Pembroke Railway Station to Haverfordwest Bus 349- arrive in Haverfordwest 17:20

16:42 Pembroke East End to Tenby Bus 349- arrive in Tenby 17:29

17:12 TFW Train to Tenby- arrive 17:37

Sounds like a fun day! All welcome!

SEPTEMBER BRANCH MEETING, SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER, 2 pm *Ship*, 15 Main Street, Solva, SA62 6UU

The *Ship*, Solva is a long-standing Good Beer Guide pub in a scenic village with two other decent pubs in walking distance.

Getting there:

T5 bus leaves Fishguard at 12.07, Letterston at 12.27 and arrives Haverfordwest Bus Station at 12.46. T11 leaves Haverfordwest at 13.10 and arrives Solva 13.50..

Buses back leave Solva at 15.55, arriving Haverfordwest at 16.28, connecting with the northward T5 at 17.09 and at 17.55 arriving Haverfordwest at 18.28, connecting with the northward T5 at 19.09.

BRANCH SOCIAL, CARMARTHEN BEER FESTIVAL, St Peter's Civic Hall, Nott Square, Carmarthen SA31 1BA Friday 2nd October afternoon.

This year's Festival, the 30th, 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. There will be over 40 real ales, ciders and perries available

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

We will be holding our usual Branch Social there on the afternoon of Friday 2nd October. This is always a most enjoyable event.

Getting there:

322 bus leaves Haverfordwest at 12 noon, arriving 13.11. Bus back leaves 16.39, arriving 17.52.

There are trains from Pembroke Dock to and from Carmarthen, but no direct buses. There are also trains from and to Haverfordwest.

BRANCH BEER TRIP TO IRELAND – Saturday and Sunday 17th/18th OCTOBER

A number of Pembrokeshire Branch members are planning a trip across the Celtic Sea to Rosslare in Wexford to sample the beer and craic in local pubs nearer to our Branch area than Cardiff.

Travelling out as foot passengers on the 2pm sailing from Fishguard, arriving 5.30 pm at Rosslare, we walk 7 minutes to the rail station to catch the 18.05 boat train, stopping at Wexford O'Hanrahan Station at 18.28.

We will be staying in a town centre hotel, and after dropping off our luggage we hit the town. We have researched a list of promising pubs, including a traditional Irish pub with music to round off the evening in.

Sunday Afternoon: Coastal Transfer & Ferry Check-In • 13:01 – Irish Rail Train Departure: Walk to Wexford Station and board the southbound train. (Alternative backup train departs at 16:28).

• 13:20 – Rosslare Strand Arrival: Disembark for our afternoon coastal pub crawl.
Spend the afternoon exploring Rosslare pubs, again researched in advance.

17:45 – Ferry Terminal Transfer: Walk out to Strand Road and hail a local taxi, or board the Local Link Bus 387 heading to the Europort.

• 18:00 – Ferry Check-In: Arrive at Rosslare Europort terminal for mandatory foot passenger check-in. • 19:00 – Ferry Departure: Stena Line crossing departs back to Fishguard, arriving 11pm.

Costs: Ferry fare £60-70 a head plus one night in a hotel. **Note that due to a rule change you will need a valid passport to travel between Wales and Ireland.**

Note that although a Branch member, our Vice-Chairman Stephen Ley, researched this and Branch members are going on it, it is not being organised by the Branch or any member thereof (i.e. we as a Branch or individually take no legal or insurance responsibility for anyone going). Although we are happy to provide advice, ferry times, suitable hotels etc members are responsible for booking their own travel and accommodation and their travel insurance if required.

This should be a cracking – or *craicing* – trip. Interested? Contact the Secretary on secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk for more information. It's not too late to join us!

OCTOBER BRANCH MEETING, SATURDAY 24th OCTOBER, *Tenby Harbwr Brewery*, Sergeants Lane, Tenby, SA70 7BU

This excellent local brewery has invited us to hold a Branch Meeting at their Brewery Tap in Tenby, which we are pleased to accept. This will also be more convenient for members in that part of our County, who we warmly welcome to come along.

More details in next month's Newsletter, but keep the date free in your diaries!

BEER SCORING TRIPS UNDER WAY

Ongoing reporting on NBSS beer scores submitted for our pubs has shown a real effort is being made by members to do this. This is much appreciated and will make our 2028 Good Beer Guide selection the fairest and most inclusive yet.

The reports also highlight pubs more members need to visit and score, notably the *Wiseman's Bridge* and *New Inn* in and around Amroth, the *Royal Oak* Saundersfoot, the *Globe* Maenclochog, Bar *Becca* at Efailwen and the *Angel* in Llandissilio. The *Dyffryn Arms/Bessie's*, Pontfaen, the *Pump on the Green*, Spittal, the *Salutation*, Felindre Farchog and the *Cottage Inn*, Llangwm, also need scoring.

If you can drop into these pubs and score them it would be much appreciated!

Or join us on one of the beer scoring trips we are running over the coming weeks, in members' cars. Interested in joining us, or taking a carload yourself? Contact Steve on GBGCo-ordinator@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk.

Once we know who's coming, we can sort out dates.

BRANCH OFFICERS STILL WANTED

We still have vacancies for a Branch Publicity Officer, a Website Co-ordinator, and a Social Secretary.

The Publicity Officer will be responsible for keeping the local media and other interested parties informed of what the Branch is doing, issuing Press Statements etc.

The Website Co-ordinator will run and maintain the Branch website and keep it updated.

The Social Secretary will propose and organise Branch Social Activities, e.g. socials, pub crawls, brewery visits etc (see <https://members.camra.org.uk/volunteers-area/branch-resources/branch-social-secretaries-hub/> for more information).

Interested? Contact the Branch Secretary at secretary@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

NEW RECRUITING LEAFLETS AND BEER MATS NOW AVAILABLE

We now have new CAMRA recruiting leaflets in English and CAMRA beer mats. These will be available at Branch meetings. A new Welsh-language leaflet is in preparation.

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, making clear you want the special Pembrokeshire CAMRA items. They can now produce these to order.

PUBS, BREWERIES AND OTHER LOCAL NEWS

CORNER PIECE, RUDBAXTON STILL CLOSED AFTER FIRE

This old favourite of our Branch is still closed following a fire on 29th July. Our sympathies are with landlord Darren and landlady Amanda and we hope to be able to report the pub is back in business soon.

ROSE & CROWN GOODWICK SHUTS DOWN

The managing team has stepped down and closed the venue, and the operating business, Pembrokeshire Pubs Limited, officially entered creditors' voluntary liquidation in August 2026 due to unsustainable liabilities. The building itself was left vacant for the landlord to handle future enquiries.

BUT THE *HOPE & ANCHOR* IS STILL VERY MUCH OPEN

This GBG-Listed Goodwick pub may be next door to the Rose and Crown but is a completely separate family-run business which we are glad to say is very much still a going concern and well worth a visit if you are in the area.

LOTS OF LOCAL PUBS ON THE MARKET

Pembrokeshire pubs currently up for sale include *Bennetts Navy Tavern*, Fishguard, *Bush Tavern* Pembroke Dock, *Cambrian* Fishguard, *Cavalier*, *Duke of Edinburgh*, Newgale, *Harp* Letterston, *Haven Hotel*, Lamphey Hall Hotel, *Lydstep Tavern*, *Nos Da*, *Olde Inn*, Camrose, *Priory*, *Salutation*, Felindre Farchog, *Stackpole Inn*, Temple Bar and the *Trewern Arms*, Nevern.

The *Trewern Arms* has an active local community buyout campaign - see <https://www.trewerncommunity.org/> for the latest.

BRANCH BACKS SAUNDERSFOOT BEER GARDEN PLANNING APPLICATION

Our Pubs Preservation Officer, Alan Kilbey, has written to the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park to support *Sŵn y Mor* Saundersfoot in their application for a Certificate of Lawful Development for the Existing Use of Land as an ancillary beer garden / smoking area to their basement bar.

This certificate if refused would seriously impact the commercial viability of this scenic bar and might cause it to close. Our Branch will always support local pubs and bars trying to keep going in these challenging times.

WHERE TO GET LOCAL REAL CIDER IN PEMBROKESHIRE

Our Branch Cider Officer, Jimmy Whitworth, reports local real ciders are available on draught at the *Griffin*, Dale; *Harbwr Brewery*, Tenby, *Fire and Ice* in Narberth; the *Artrumont*, Croesgoch, T the *Golden Lion*, Newport; *Cresselly Arms*, *Cresswell Quay*, *Y Cross* Hayscastle Cross and the *Bont/Bridge End Inn*, Llanychaer.

CAMRA defines real Cider or Perry as being fermented from the whole juice of fresh pressed apples or pears, without the use of concentrated or chaptalised juices.

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

SCORING BEERS – KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

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.

If you haven't yet started scoring, 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 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>

Many Branch members are already doing this. If you aren't yet, why not give it a go?

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 the old WhatPub and now on the 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

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 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

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

We do need someone to run this site going forward! Contact the Secretary at the address below if interested.

AND OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/pembrokeshire.camra/>

which is run by our Social Media Co-ordinator, Mrs Mona Skipper, e-mail address SocialMediaCoordinator@pembrokeshire.camra.org.uk

Cheers!

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

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