

# CAMR/ANGLE

The magazine from the Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead branch of The Campaign for Real Ale

Issue 52 - Autumn 2018 | [www.swm.camra.org.uk](http://www.swm.camra.org.uk)

FREE - Please take one



## INSIDE THIS EDITION

**CHEERS! MAIDENHEAD BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL  
A SELL-OUT SUCCESS**

**CRAFTY CROSSWORD  
A LIFE BEHIND BARS**

**WHAT'S ON – BRANCH DIARY  
NEWS, VIEWS AND BREWS**

Supporting Real Ale, Real Cider & Real Pubs in East Berkshire & South Buckinghamshire



# THE BEAR



## JD WETHERSPOON AUTUMN REAL ALE FESTIVAL 10th - 21st October 2018

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*Always featuring a wide range of local brews*

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Sunday: 0800 - Midnight

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**THE BEAR**

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Maidenhead

Berkshire

SL6 1QJ

01628 763030



# FROM THE EDITOR



Thanks for picking up this issue. If you've got as far as this second sentence then you're already on the real cider, real perry and real ale trail. And as trails go, it's a pretty enjoyable one, something that visitors to July's Maidenhead Beer & Cider Festival will no doubt attest to.

With over 100 beers and more than 20 ciders and perries, the festival was just as enjoyable as you'd expect. (A bizarre balance of weathers it has to be said, ranging from blazing hot temperatures approaching 39°C to a somewhat welcome torrential downpour.)

There are plenty more Beer Festivals on the horizon as you'll see in our Branch Diary on pages 6 - 7. In fact, if you only have time to read a couple of pages in this issue then make it the Branch Diary pages. You'll get a true flavour of what the Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead branch of CAMRA is all about – fun, fellowship and an appreciation of real ale.

From beer tastings at Windsor and Eton Brewery to real ale rambles, and from Branch Socials to pub walks and lunches, there are plenty of opportunities to join in the CAMRA camaraderie – all are very welcome. It's a ready-made social network so do join up and join in the fun. (You'll find a membership form on page 30.) And for existing members, why not come along and help shape the future of our branch? We're always looking for members to get involved no matter how little time you can devote; you'll find it very rewarding.

Also in this issue: We take a trip down to Cornwall to visit the iconic St Austell Brewery which won a Queen's Award for Sustainable Development earlier this year, plus we head over the Pond to enjoy some unusual styles and flavours of true brews stateside.

All in all it's amazing just how many miles we've collectively travelled in this issue, which just goes to show that the real ale trail is a long and rewarding one. Enjoy!

**Sean Ferris**  
*Editor*

## SUBSCRIPTION

We now offer the facility of posting the quarterly magazine to your home. Contact the Editor with your address details along with a cheque for £5 (made payable to CAMRA Ltd) to cover the postage and leave the rest to us!

# whatpub.com

## Featuring over 35,000 real ale pubs



## CAMRANGLE

### Editor

Sean Ferris - [editor@swm.camra.org.uk](mailto:editor@swm.camra.org.uk)

### Contributors for this Edition

Paul Beardsley, Alasdair Donaldson, Sean Ferris, Karen Foreman, Alan Molloy, Justin O'Regan, Kevin Phillips, Caroline Scoular, Russ Taylor, Ray Williams, Allan Willoughby & Michele Needleman

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## 2019 Good Beer Guide

Cask Marque, the independent evaluator of beer quality in pubs, is sponsoring CAMRA's Good Beer Guide 2019, due to be published on 13 September.

Fully revised and updated each year to feature the very best pubs across the United Kingdom, the Good Beer Guide is completely independent, with every one of its 4,500 pub listings recommended and evaluated by people who know a thing or two about good beer – CAMRA volunteers.

Cask Marque has supported the Good Beer Guide since 1990. Every single listed pub that has been accredited by Cask Marque will have the unique Cask Marque symbol



next to it in the Guide – a further endorsement for cask ale drinkers.

Paul Nunny, Director of Cask Marque said: "The Good Beer Guide is still the leading publication listing the best pubs in Britain and will be celebrating its 46th year of publication. An entry in the book can have a significant impact on the awareness of a pub, which is why we continue to lend our support to its publication."

The Good Beer Guide App is also available to download. The app is available in both Apple stores and Google Play and can be downloaded at <https://gbgapp.camra.org.uk/>

The cover price of £15 has been reduced to £13 at time of writing.

## CAMRA Wins Fight For Transparency With Pubs Code Adjudicator (PCA)

The Pubs Code, introduced by the government in 2016, was designed to provide pub tenants with greater protection. However, after the Pubs Code Adjudicator (PCA) declined to release information on the performance of the Code, CAMRA lobbied the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) which ruled in CAMRA's favour, calling for a full government review.

CAMRA's National Chairman Jackie Parker said: "We welcome the decision from the ICO, and the release of this information by PCA is an important step in our fight to secure a fair arbitration process for pub tenants, and ultimately save viable pubs from closure."

"Openness and transparency will not only help tenants navigate the market rents only (MRO) process more easily, but will help build confidence in the code which has been subject to criticism since its launch in 2016."

"Now that the PCA has released the requested information following the decision notice, we hope the PCA recognises the benefits of transparency in the MRO process and exerts pressure on pub companies to waive confidentiality over arbitration awards. This is essential to give tenants visibility of vital principles being established through the arbitration process."

## WHITE HEART White Heart's Winning Ways

Steve Goodall, Chairman of the SWM branch, presented the third place award in the CAMRA Pub of The Year competition at the White Hart's Summer Beer Festival.

"An excellent selection of local beers were available, which were enjoyed by all," said Steve.

The White Hart can be found at Moneyrow Green, Holyport . Berkshire, SL6 2ND.

t. 01628 621460

[www.thewhitehartholyport.co.uk](http://www.thewhitehartholyport.co.uk)





## Brewer Plans New Taplow Venue



*Hall and Woodhouse's existing pub estate includes the Black Horse, Iwer Heath*

Hall and Woodhouse is applying for planning permission for a new bar / cafe / restaurant in Taplow.

Owned and run by the seventh generation of the Woodhouse family, the independent regional brewer has a pub estate of 200 pubs in great locations across the South of England.

## Maidenhead Beer & Cider Festival Winners Announced

Visitors to July's Maidenhead Beer & Cider Festival voted local brewer Windsor & Eton Brewery as top brewer of the event, with two of its beers - Conqueror 1075 and Firefly - taking joint 1st place.

The brewer also won the Bronze award at this year's Great British Beer Festival for the Golden Ales category.

At this year's event we were also pleased to host the CAMRA 2019 Champion Beer of Britain heat for Golden Ales. The judges sat centre stage, happily blind tasting six short-listed ales. Maidenhead Advertiser editor James Preston joined the panel to judge London and South East entries for the CAMRA award, with Kent Brewery's Prohibition emerging victorious.

### WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LOCAL PUB OR BREWERY?

Any beer-related stories to tell? Send them to [editor@swm.camra.co.uk](mailto:editor@swm.camra.co.uk). It's your mag!

## Calling All Real Cider Drinkers!



*I know you're out there, as you wonderful people helped drink the Cider Bar dry at July's Maidenhead Beer & Cider Festival. Yes, all 36 20-litre boxes of real ciders, perries and fruit ciders! Don't worry, next year there will be an even greater selection, particularly of the increasingly popular fruit ciders. First to run out this year was a delicious Cloudy*

*Rhubarb from Saxby's in Northamptonshire, followed closely by a very addictive Salted Caramel from Dudda's Tun in Kent.*

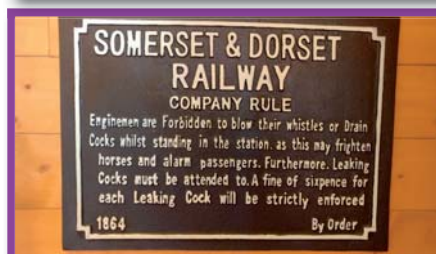
*I need your help in locating pubs and other outlets within our branch area that serve real cider from bag-in-box or bottle conditioned (as opposed to carbonated cider). I am only aware of a small handful of such premises. If you come across such a place, do please share your discovery via email to [cider.rep@swm.camra.org.uk](mailto:cider.rep@swm.camra.org.uk)*

Thank You!

**Michele Needleman**

*Cider Representative, Slough Windsor & Maidenhead CAMRA*

## Out and About Eye-catching episodes



# BRANCH DIARY

## MORE INFORMATION



For more information on CAMRA activities in the area contact Social Secretary Tracey Bottomley

e. [social.sec@swm.camra.org.uk](mailto:social.sec@swm.camra.org.uk)  
t.07917 564194

**Socials and meetings for your diary. Come along for good banter and even better ales! Newbies are very welcome. For full details visit [www.swm.camra.org.uk](http://www.swm.camra.org.uk) or use the QR Code above.**

## SEPTEMBER

### 31 August – 1 September

Windsor Craft Beer Festival 2018, Windsor & Eton Brewery.

1

Branch Social. 1pm – 4pm. The Windsor & Eton Brewery, Windsor. Hosted by Paul and Alan.

9

**Autumn Hedgerley Real Ale Ramble. 10am.** Meet at Hedgerley Pond. Optional lunch at Royal Standard. Hosted by Mark Carter; e. [markgcarter6@gmail.com](mailto:markgcarter6@gmail.com). t. 01753 534777 or 07871 777062.



12

Branch Meeting. 7.30pm. Tower Arms Hotel, Richings Park, Iver.



22

Oxford Pub Walk; Branch Social. Meet at 1pm, Oxford Town Hall. Hosted by Bob and Ann Beauchamp; t.07739 400092.

26 - 29

**St Albans Beer & Cider Festival. 11am-11pm.** Alban Arena, St Albans. (Free to CAMRA members.)  
[www.stalbensbeerfestival.org.uk](http://www.stalbensbeerfestival.org.uk)



## OCTOBER

5

New Members Social. 6pm. Windsor & Eton Brewery Tap Room, Windsor. Current members also invited. Includes beer tasting. Hosted by Bob Beauchamp;

e. [membership.sec@swm.camra.org.uk](mailto:membership.sec@swm.camra.org.uk). t. 07739 400092.



5 - 6

Ascot Beer Festival. 11am-6pm. Ascot Racecourse, Ascot. Raceday. Discounts for CAMRA members.

[www.ascotbeerfest.org.uk](http://www.ascotbeerfest.org.uk)



10

Branch Meeting. 7.30pm. Craufurd Arms, Maidenhead.

10-21

The 12-day Real Ale Festival includes four pubs in the SWM CAMRA branch area – The Bear, Maidenhead, The King & Castle, Windsor, The Moon & Spoon, Slough and the Windlesora, Windsor.



13

Branch Social. 7.30pm at Windsor's the King & Castle, moving on to the Windlesora at 9pm. Hosted by Paul.

13

JD Wetherspoon Autumn Real Ale Festival. Windlesora, Windsor.

13 - 14

Isle of Wight Classic Buses, Beer and Walks Weekend.

Last year around 90 classic buses and coaches plus 80 pubs participated. More details at [www.swm.camra.org.uk/viewnode.php?id=66666](http://www.swm.camra.org.uk/viewnode.php?id=66666)



26-27

Datchet Beer Festival; Branch Social. Festival: 7pm-11pm (26<sup>th</sup>); 12 noon – 5pm; 7pm-11pm (27<sup>th</sup>). Branch Social during afternoon session, hosted by Tracey and Alan. Datchet Village Hall, Datchet. [www.datchetbeerfestival.co.uk](http://www.datchetbeerfestival.co.uk)

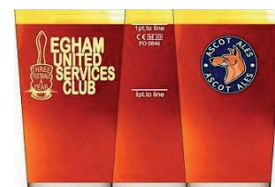
## NOVEMBER

1 - 3

Watford Beer Festival. West Herts Sports Club, Watford.

1 - 4

31st Egham Real Ale & Cider Festival. Branch Social on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Hosted by Paul and Steve. Egham United Services Club, Egham.



Over 60 ales and ciders, mostly from Britain's newest breweries. Discounted entry for CAMRA members. Live music.

8 - 10

Oxford Beer & Cider Festival, Oxford Town Hall. Oxford. Entry: £8 for CAMRA members.

[oxford.camra.org.uk/beer-cider-festival-2018](http://oxford.camra.org.uk/beer-cider-festival-2018)

9

Branch Meeting. 7.30pm. George Inn, Eton.



17

Maidenhead Pub Walk; Branch Social. 1pm. Grenfell Arms, Maidenhead. Hosted by Steve Goodall; t.07881 682017.



24

Kent Rail Micropub Trail Part 2 & Branch Social. 11am. Meet at St Pancras Mainline Station. Hosted by Alan Molloy; t.07864 020570.



## DECEMBER

1

The Annual Windsor Xmas Pub Walk; Branch Social. 1pm. Meet at Windsor & Eton Brewery Tap Room. Hosted by Steve Goodall; t.07881 682017.

4 - 8

35th Pig's Ear Beer & Cider Festival; Branch Social on 7<sup>th</sup> from 2pm. Hosted by Alan Molloy. Round Chapel in Hackney. Over 230 types of beer, cider and perry. t.07864 020570



9

Winter Hedgerley Real Ale Ramble; Branch Social. 10am. Meet at Hedgerley Pond. Hosted by Mark Carter; t. 07871 777062.

e. [markgarter6@gmail.com](mailto:markgarter6@gmail.com)

12

Branch Meeting. 7.30pm. Five Bells, Burnham.



14 - 16

Marlow Royal British Legion Winter Festival; Branch Social on 14<sup>th</sup> from 3pm. Hosted by Tracey. Marlow RBL, Marlow.

[www.rblmarlow.co.uk/bigweekends.html](http://www.rblmarlow.co.uk/bigweekends.html)

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Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead CAMRA  
Maidenhead Beer & Cider Festival



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Maidenheadbeerandcider

## KEEP FIT & ENJOY BEER AT THE SAME TIME!

The Hedgerley Real Ale Ramble has been held on a quarterly basis for more than 10 years and is a great way to keep fit and enjoy some excellent beers and good company at the same time. The walk covers about eight miles and takes in three of the area's best real ale pubs - The Blackwood Arms, The Royal Standard at Wooburn Common and The White Horse in Hedgerley (in that order).

We meet at Hedgerley Pond, which is very near the White Horse, at 10.00am and then take a scenic route which varies from walk to walk to keep things interesting for regular participants. Lunch is optional and is taken at the Royal Standard before returning to the White Horse around 4.30pm.

Between them these pubs have around 25 different real ales for our thirsty walkers to savour, more than enough to keep anyone happy!

The next Hedgerley Real Ale Ramble will take place on **September 9 and December 1.**

All are welcome, please call Mark the walk leader on 01753-534777 if you have any queries and to reserve a dining place, as the Standard does get very busy on Sunday lunchtimes. Come and join us!

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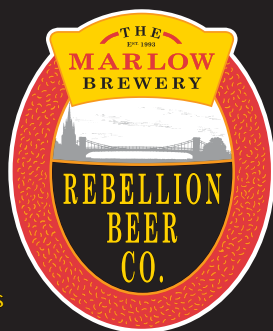


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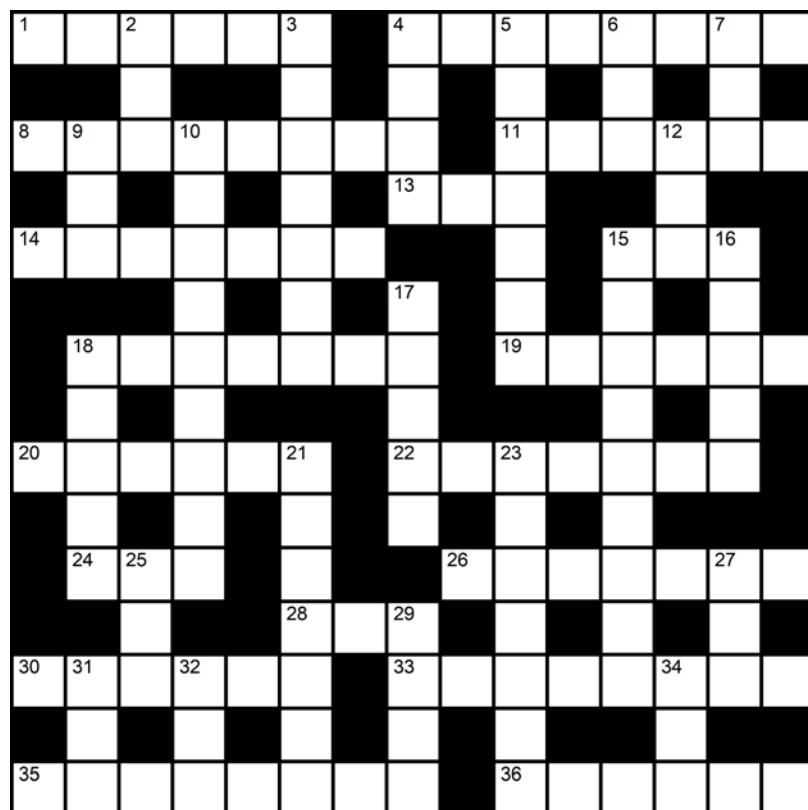


# QUIZ CORNER

Welcome to Quiz Corner.  
Test out your beer  
prowess on our new  
beer-themed cryptic  
crossword



You'll find the answers  
on page 15



## ACROSS

- 1 Keg to fire down? (6)
- 4 Tip parts into mix for cistercian beer? (8)
- 8 Gland which earns cap unfairly? (8)
- 11 Cheaters, at one remove, give pre-drinks speech. (6)
- 13 Hot work from a duo. (3)
- 14 Lathe, on turning, can intoxicate! (7)
- 15 At the end of the line, go by air. (3)
- 18 Ace sank into confusion - sideways. (7)
- 19 Rail at badly made cowboy gear. (6)
- 20 Paper bag - could not be made into strong stuff! (6)
- 22 Sweetbriar - with no Tai connection - to produce yeast. (7)
- 24 Over there, in the canyon... (3)
- 26 Familiar sleep, with viewer closed down. (4-3)
- 28 Renovation reveals eggs. (3)
- 30 Made by real ale's second ingredient? (6)
- 33 Wrap club round this trip! (3-5)
- 35 Warble on in crazy fashion - tasty though! (5,3)
- 36 Inn where the vet ran amok? (6)

## DOWN

- 2 Managed to have sprinted. (3)
- 3 Now idle, could have some rest. (3-4)
- 4 Fate strangely has its own trial. (4)
- 5 Ooh! Call round with a bit of beer... (7)
- 6 Party leader - that is to say, tart! (3)
- 7 Knight of Osiris? (3)
- 9 Do a bit of a drama. (3)
- 10 Peck corn? A strange thing to do to a bottle! (5,4)
- 12 Old length with a hell of an ending! (3)
- 15 Ferret men mistook as a brewer! (9)
- 16 Lengthy periods out of easy ear-shot. (5)
- 17 City with Joan's club? (5)

- 18 Hairspray off ship made into display. (5)
- 21 Curly-grained wood (from a mob, anyway.) (7)
- 23 Hit Ibex mercilessly, just for show. (7)
- 25 Propeller -sounds optional! (3)
- 27 Goodbye Wandsworth, including the tree! (3)
- 29 Perhaps expecting to reveal the East End, ecclesiastically speaking. (4)
- 31 Earth layer providing music. (3)
- 32 Statute of Murphy (and Sod!) (3)
- 34 You exist, according to the last letter, say. (3)

## ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE (ACV) PUBS IN OUR BRANCH

### SOUTH BUCKS COUNCIL

- The Bull, Iver - currently boarded-up
- Rose & Crown, Stoke Poges

### WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD

- Golden Harp, Maidenhead - now a Tesco Express
- Fifield Inn, Fifield
- Crown, Burchetts Green
- Craufurd Arms, Maidenhead
- Dew Drop Inn, Hurley
- Boundary Arms, Pinkneys Green
- Jolly Farmer, Cookham Dean
- Ye Olde Red Lion, Oakley Green
- Old Swan Uppers, Cookham
- Uncle Toms Cabin, Cookham Dean
- North Star, Maidenhead



# GO WITH THE FLOW...

Taking its name from an island on the Thames, two miles away from our famous Chiswick brewery, Oliver's Island is a smooth cask ale with a crisp and refreshing citrus flavour.

**Aroma** – Citrus and floral

**Taste** – Biscuity grapefruit, crisp and refreshing

Cask: 3.8% ABV Bottle: 4.5% ABV

[drinkaware.co.uk](http://drinkaware.co.uk) for the facts

**#OliversIsland**



# SELL OUT IN THE SUN @ 6TH MAIDENHEAD BEER & CIDER FESTIVAL

It was the hottest day of the year, and with a temperature of 30C at 8.30 in the morning, keeping 105 casks of ale and 35 boxes of cider cool was more than a challenge on the opening day.



At 12 noon, Paul Lion, Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead dutifully pulled the first pint, speedily followed by Chris Brown, Town Crier, reading out the Festival Proclamation on the stage in his inimitable style.



Three days later all the cider and 98% of the ale had been supped, leaving a number of carry-outs, evenly divided between the Volunteers on the take down day. Not a drop was thrown away - not bad in the busy beer festival calendar nowadays.

With over 2,000 visitors, our chosen charity, Maidenhead Care, had no problem selling out of raffle tickets well before the Saturday draw. Several local breweries gave generously to the prize line-up enabling the charity to benefit, as well as pinpoint some potential helpers to get involved with their Good Neighbour Scheme. (Have a look at the kind letter we have since received.)

At this year's event we were pleased to host the CAMRA 2019 Champion Beer of Britain heat for Golden Ales. The judges sat centre stage, happily blind tasting six short-listed ales. At the festival, Maidenhead Advertiser Editor James Preston joined the panel to judge London and South East entries for the CAMRA award, with Kent Brewery's Prohibition emerging victorious.

During the festival punters had the opportunity to vote for their Beer of the Festival - quite a challenge with more than a 100 to choose from. Our very own Windsor & Eton

Brewery topped the listing with a joint 1st place accolade. Tying for the top spot was its Conqueror 1075, a blend of five malts with Summit and Cascade hops, laid down in store since 2016 with a punchy strength of 7.3% together with Firefly, a summer ale brewed predominantly with lager malt for a light and very hoppy beer. In addition, a big pat on the back goes to the brewery for picking up the Bronze award at the Great British Beer Festival for the Golden Ales category final of the same award for this year.



After two days of intense heat the heavens opened on Friday evening. With plenty of room inside this didn't deter any plans, with the Bottle Kids kicking off the entertainment as only they can do.

The weather forecast was not good for the Saturday family day, however, with the bouncy castle cancelling due to the forecast of high winds. The kids' attractions were moved into the gym so the show went ahead.



Finally, a big thank you go to our Sponsors without whom we would find it difficult to provide the entertainment which we know goes down so well and, just as important, another big thank you to the CAMRA volunteers who served the beer, kept the site clean, secure and safe. Without them the festival would not exist.

Hope to see you next year!



**Allan Willoughby**  
Festival Organiser





## THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD

Thank you for inviting me and Laura to the Beer and Cider Festival in Maidenhead. We enjoyed the occasion very much and were pleased to see so many people in attendance. I am sure that the rest of the weekend will have been successful for you and your colleagues.



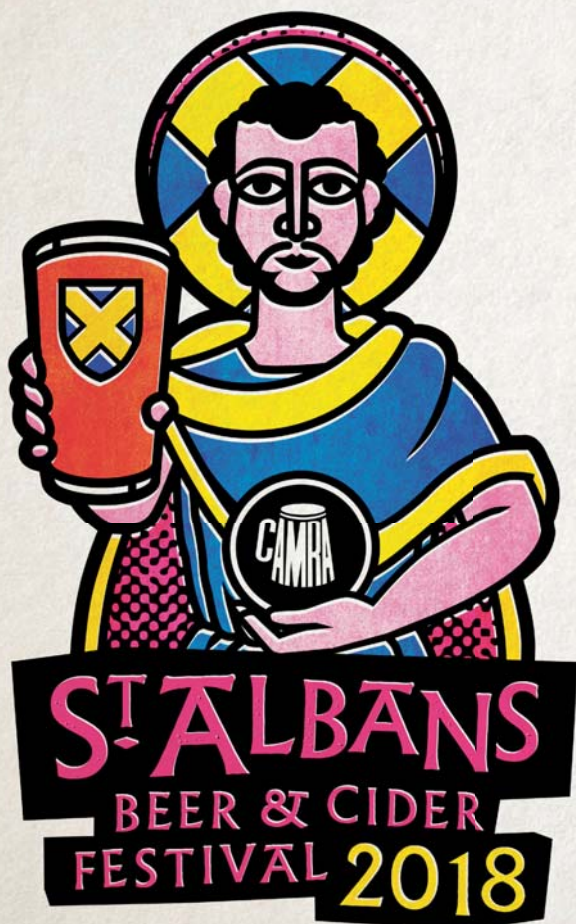
Thank you for your kind hospitality and for making us so welcome.

Yours sincerely

**Paul Lion,**  
Mayor

### STOP PRESS

Post the event, Festival Organiser Allan Willoughby announced the hosting of volunteers and committee members at The Rose in Maidenhead as an appreciation for this year's Festival as well as a platform for discussions on how 2019 can be an even more exciting event.



## REACH OUT AND SUP FAITH

WEDS 26<sup>TH</sup> - SAT 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER  
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A BEER TOKENS SYSTEM WILL OPERATE ON THE BARS.  
TOKENS FOR SALE AT THE FESTIVAL. TRADERS STANDS WILL ACCEPT CASH.

NO ADVANCE TICKETS FOR ANY SESSION. NO ONE UNDER THE AGE OF 18  
ALLOWED IN THE BAR AREAS AT ANY TIME OR ANYWHERE ON THE PREMISES  
AFTER 5PM. DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE. USE THE TRAIN OR BUS.





## CAMRA LocAle 2018 Pub Listings

- Acre - Windsor
- Barleycorn - Cippenham
- Barley Mow - Cox Green
- Bear - Maidenhead
- Bexley Arms - Windsor
- Boatman - Windsor
- Bounty - Cookham
- Boundary Arms - Pinkneys Green
- Conservative Club - Maidenhead
- Corner House - Windsor
- Craufurd Arms - Maidenhead
- Dew Drop - Hurley
- Duke of Connaught - Windsor
- Fox & Castle - Old Windsor
- George Inn - Eton
- George on the Green - Holyport
- Green Man - Denham
- Grenfell Arms - Maidenhead
- Greyhound - Eton Wick
- Horse & Groom - Windsor
- Hurley House Hotel - Hurley
- Jolly Farmer - Cookham Dean
- Jolly Woodman - Littleworth Common
- Kings Arms - Cookham
- Maiden's Head - Maidenhead
- Moon & Spoon - Slough
- Norden Farm Cafe & Bar - Maidenhead
- Novello - Littlewick Green
- Oak & Saw - Taplow
- Old Windsor Club - Old Windsor
- Pinkneys Arms - Pinkneys Green
- Prince Albert - Windsor
- Prince Harry - Windsor
- Queen Charlotte - Windsor
- Rising Sun - Hurley
- Rising Sun - Slough
- Rose - Maidenhead
- Royal Stag - Datchet
- Shire Horse - Littlewick Green
- Stag & Hounds - Farnham Common
- Uncle Toms Cabin - Cookham Dean
- Union Inn - Old Windsor
- Vansittart Arms - Windsor
- Watermans Arms - Eton
- White Hart - Moneyrow Green
- White Horse - Hedgerley
- Windlesora - Windsor
- Windsor & Eton Brewery Tap Room - Windsor

## Local Brewery Listings

BREWERY	MILES
Abbey Ford Brewery, Chertsey	18
Ascot Ales, Camberley	17
Bell Street Brewery, Henley-on-Thames	12
Big Smoke Brew Co, Surbiton	24
Binghams Brewery, Ruscombe	8
Bonds Brew, Wokingham	14
Bootlegger Brewery, High Wycombe	10
Brightwater Brewery, Esher	25
Chiltern Brewery, Terrick	22
Dragonfly Brewery, Acton	25
Elusive Brewing, Wokingham	16
Fisher's Brewing Co, High Wycombe	10
Fuller, Smith & Turner, Chiswick	25
Haresfoot Craft Beer, Berkhamstead	23
Harvest Brewery, Camberley	18
Hedgedog Brewery, Virginia Water	15
Hen House Brewery, Whitchurch-on-Thames	19
Hogs Back Brewery, Tongham	25
Kew Brewery, Richmond	24
Little Beer Corporation, Guildford	25
Loddon Brewery, Dunsden	12
Long Arm Brewing Co, Ealing	23
Lovibond's Brewery, Henley-on-Thames	11
Malt The Brewery, Great Missenden	16
Mix Brewery, Hemel Hempstead	25
Moogbrew, Taplow	3
New Wharf Brewing Co, Maidenhead	3
Old Luxters Farm Brewery, Henley-on-Thames	13
Paradigm Brewery, Sarrett	19
Park Brewery, Kingston-upon-Thames	24
Philsters Ales, Little Haseley	25
Popes Yard Brewery, Watford	23
Rebellion Beer Co, Marlow Bottom	7
Reunion Ales, Feltham	19
Mad Squirrel Brewery, Potten End	25
Savour Beer, Windsor	6
Sherfield Village Brewery, Sherfield on Loddon	25
Siren Craft Brew, Finchampstead	18
Stardust Brewery, White Waltham	5
Thame Brewery, Thame	25
Thames Side Brewery, Staines-upon-Thames	13
Thurston Brewery, Horsell	19
Twickenham Fine Ales, Twickenham	22
Weird Beard Brew Co, Hanwell	23
Wild Weather Brewery, Silchester	23
Windsor & Eton Brewery, Windsor	7

To qualify as a LocAle brewery for the Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead Branch brewers must be within a radius of 25 miles from Maidenhead train station as measured by Google maps.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LOCAL PUB OR BREWERY?

Any beer related stories to tell? Send them to [editor@swm.camra.co.uk](mailto:editor@swm.camra.co.uk). It's your mag!

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# A TRIBUTE TO ST. AUSTELL BREWERY



A couple of months ago I went to St, Austell, Cornwall and took the opportunity to visit the Walter Hicks brewery which he founded in 1851, the forerunner of St. Austell Brewery (and hence the beer HSD, Hicks Special Draught). The brewery has a very impressive visitors centre which occupies the old brewery building and is well worth a visit.

By the time Walter died in 1916 at the ripe old age of 87 the brewery had gone through a prolonged period of expansion. He had built a state

of the art brewery in 1893, doubling the capacity, to supply his ever growing estate of pubs and hotels - nearly 60 by the time he died. Sadly, his son was killed in a motorcycle accident in 1911 so it fell to his elder daughter, Hester, to run the brewery.

By 1914 they had doubled the capacity again to 100 barrels, although it was not until after the war that the capacity was fully utilised. In 1927 the brewery bought its first Crown Corking machine, second-hand from Friary Brewery, Guildford, for £40. This American invention revolutionised the production of bottled beers in speed of bottling and efficiency of the seal. Prior to this, bottles were sealed with corks, screws or 'cods'.



During the 30s the company acquired the Ellis Brewery, adding 30 more licensed premises before changing its name to St. Austell Brewery.

Hester died in 1939 and the brewery made it through the war and grew steadily on into the mid-70s when it reached its peak in terms of barrelage. After that beer sales declined as more people moved to wine and lager. The estate was grown to 150 plus premises and they bought Carlsberg-

Tetley's wholesale business in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, which allowed the brewery to offer their customers all their liquid requirement in one delivery. However, by 2000 the brewery was only brewing approximately 30 firkins a week - and all in wooden casks!

To increase brew production, Roger Ryman was appointed Head Brewer in 1999. Roger had a degree in Agricultural Science and a Master's degree in Brewing and Distilling from Heriot-Watt University and had undertaken professional qualifications to become a Master Brewer. His first job was to introduce a new portfolio of beers and Tribute was the first.

It was so successful that the cooper could not keep up making wooden barrels, so he retired and the brewery switched to stainless steel.



The old copper was finally replaced with a 150 barrel stainless steel version to keep up with demand. Roger then went on to launch Trelawny, a traditional bitter at 3.8%, Proper Job, a hoppy IPA at 4.5% and Korev, a 'Cornish lager'. (It's worth noting, by the way, that all St. Austell beers are clarified by filtration and therefore are suitable for vegetarians and vegans.)

## Crossword Answers

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## A TRIBUTE TO ST. AUSTELL BREWERY

In 2011 the brewery had a 'heart transplant' with £2m being invested into new brewing equipment, which included a small batch plant of 10 barrels to do trial brews. By now the estate of pubs and hotels had grown to 170. In 2014 an automated canning line was installed for Korev to keep up with off trade sales.



Cask Ale Range

In 2015 St. Austell launched Mena Dhu stout (Cornish for 'Black Hill'), named after the original Hicks family homestead in Luxulyan. In 2016 St. Austell acquired Bath Ales and their 11-strong pub estate to consolidate their position in the South West of England. Since then they have invested in new equipment for Bath Ales.

Since Roger Ryman's appointment back in 1999 – and the creation of Tribute – it is no exaggeration to say that Roger Ryman and his brewing team have transformed the Brewery's fortunes. Put simply, 15 years ago beer was being brewed three times a week; now it's three times a day!

I will leave you with a parting thought. The Brewery predicts that in 2018 Korev will overtake Tribute as its most successful product!

**Alan Molloy**

*P.S. Did you know that in old English pubs, ale was ordered in pints and quarts. When customers got unruly, the bartender used to yell at them to mind their pints and quarts and settle down. This gave way to the saying, 'mind your Ps & Qs'.*

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**Details of the local CAMRA Branch Officers.**  
Please make contact to discuss pubs, breweries and anything relevant, you have a listening ear!

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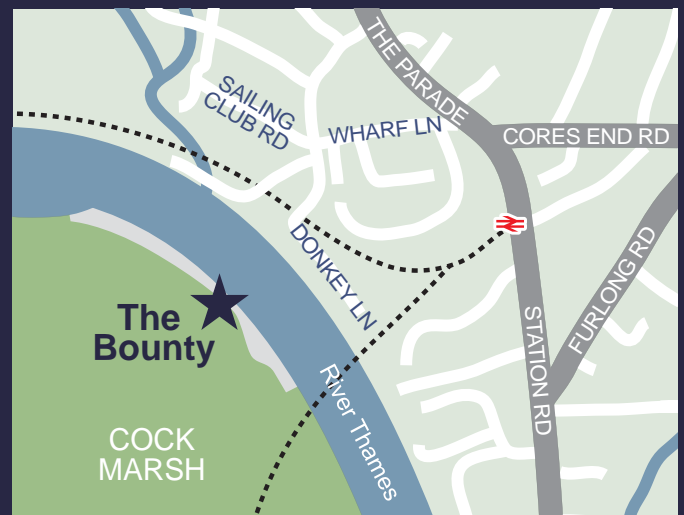
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# THE ST. PETERSBURG BEER SCENE - PART 2

If you managed to read the last CAMRA Angle, you may remember from my previous episode, I raved about Leonard Croon's Oatmeal Stout from Dunedin Brewery, the oldest microbrewery in Florida, established 1995. So, it was time to visit Dunedin, which is about 25 miles north of St. Petersburg, on the Gulf coast.

Three years ago there were only two breweries in Dunedin, but now there are six, all within five minutes' walk of each other. Because an American pint is only 16 fl.oz (ours is 20), and beer is sold in 4, 8 and 16 fl.oz. measures, 4 fl.oz. equates to only 1/5th of a UK pint. Very useful for tasting lots of different beers!



The first stop had to be Dunedin Brewery, not only for the beer, but because the food is delicious. There, my friends and I lined our stomachs accompanied by a couple of beers; I had the Oatmeal Stout and the American Classic IPA at 7.2% (an excellent example and doesn't drink like a 7.2% - dangerous!).



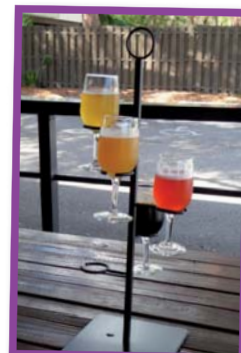
Our next stop was 7venth Sun Brewery which was the other brewery we visited three years ago, established in 2012. Both breweries had not expanded, remaining happy to serve their local community. This tiny brewery has a stellar reputation for small batch IPAs and oak-aged sours. We shared three of these, the Dreams (witbier 4.3% containing cardamom, coriander &



orange zest), Time Bomb (session IPA, 4.5% with Citra and Nelson Sauvin hops) and lastly Cat Daddy (milk stout 5.5%). All were excellent for their style.



Moving on and we visited four new breweries. Cueni Brewing Co. opened in November 2016, right in the heart of Dunedin adjacent to the Pinellas Cycle Trail, which was the old railway track into St. Petersburg from the north. They offer hand crafted beers with a focus on English Ales and Belgian Beers, and won Bronze in the Best Florida Beer Competition for their Monkey Skull Porter in 2017 and 2018. At this year's Best Florida Beer Competition they also won Bronze for Drunken MONK'E (Belgian Quad) and Gold for Belgian 3 Way (Belgian Tripel). As you may gather, they specialise in way out beers. I had to have the Monkey Skull Porter, because I love porters and it had won an award two years running. Described as a chocolate porter, 5.8%, it had a lovely roast malt & chocolaty smooth flavour. We then tasted their English Pale Ale, Gose, Dry Irish Stout and a beer using Mandarinina hops. I was particularly impressed with the EPA at 4.5%.



Next stop was Caledonia Brewing established in April 2017 in the old Dunedin Times building. Caledonia is the name given to Scotland by the Romans and is a nod to the local Scottish heritage in Dunedin. Scotland's national animal, the unicorn, features in the logo and decor as well as the Scottish flag, the Saltire. We shared a Saison, Oatmeal Stout (quite light and fruity, more like a porter), Milk Stout (good with a dry finish) and a Berliner Gose (3.5% and very sour but true to style having visited Berlin).







We staggered on to Soggy Bottom Brewing Co. (Yes, a brewery called Soggy Bottom!)

Three long-time Dunedin bartenders are the newest kids

on the block after years of planning and hard work. They are applying some of their mixed drink experience to creating beers that pack a flavour punch. Another unique aspect of the brewery tap is the bar furniture, featuring kegs and licence plates. We

shared a Brown Ale (5.7% with good malty flavour and body), a Dry Stout (which was very good), Clockout (an IPA which I think they forgot to put the hops in!), and finally, 3 with Coffee (an excellent coffee flavour porter).



Last, but not least, we visited Woodwright Brewing, established in March 2016. They brew traditional German & European style beer, served in their tasting room and beer garden. By this time we were feeling hungry, so we just tried the Sour Gose and the English Pale Ale, both very good for their style.



On the way back to St. Pete we stopped off at Big Storm for a good meal. This is a large operation

(16,000 sq.ft.) with three sites in Florida. The spacious and modern taproom is embedded in the brewery and is food-led. However, we did need some beer to wash down the excellent seafood. We chose a paddle of five beers: Oatmeal Stout, Low Pressure (an easy drinking IPA), Arcus Southern Pale (APA style), Palm Bender (a real IPA!), and Firestorm (a black IPA, which was not hoppy enough in my opinion).



What an excellent day out. And in case you're wondering, yes I did buy plenty of takeout for our designated driver to drink when we got home!

Alan Molloy



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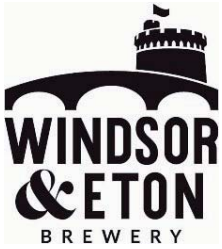
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## SPOTLIGHT ON WINDSOR & ETON BREWERY

### WINNING WAYS



Windsor & Eton Brewery won Beer of Festival at the recent Maidenhead Beer & Cider Festival with a joint win between two totally different beers, Firefly and Conqueror 1075. The brewer also won Bronze in the Golden Ales category at CAMRA's prestigious Champion Beer of Britain competition with its Knight of the Garter.



And the winning streak doesn't end there. At the recent Society of Independent Brewers Association (SIBA) South East Region awards Windsor & Eton Brewery won Gold for their World Cup beer called Molotov Russian Blonde brewed with rum and guava. In addition, Uprising won Silver for White Riot as a bottle conditioned cross between an IPA and a wheat beer.

The brewery has also recently been re-approved to the top external accreditation standard, SALSA (Small and Local Supplier Accreditation). This allows supermarkets and pub chains to buy from small breweries with confidence.

### WINDSOR & ETON LAUNCH



### CAPITAL LAGER

Windsor & Eton Brewery have launched their second lager - CAPITAL - a 4% Dry Hopped Lager. CAPITAL celebrates the diversity of the capital city with three contemporary London characters featured on the lens.

Co-Founder Will Calvert said: "We chose three characters to reflect some of the talent and energy of London – busker, barber and cyclist. We're giving landlords and bar managers the choice as to which design they want in their bar."

As for the beer itself, it promises to be a treat as Master Brewer and Co-Founder Paddy Johnson explains. "We use two newer hops in CAPITAL – Lemondrop from the US and Mandarina Bavaria from Germany," he said. "Both have great aroma and together create a zesty, refreshing

lager with real character. From the secret trial brew we ran in a handful of selected pubs, we really think we've created a craft lager that will appeal to lovers of classic lagers as well as fans of light English craft beers".

CAPITAL follows the success of Windsor & Eton's REPUBLIKA, a 4.8% pilsner lager that has won 10 major national and international awards including Silvers at the 2014 Dublin Craft Beer Festival and the 2016 SIBA National Finals as well as SIBA Silver and Gold medals in bottle.

### CORE BEERS, SEASONALS AND SPECIALS

The **core cask beers** remain as Knight of the Garter, Guardsman, Windsor Knot, Conqueror and All Day Pale Ale, except Parklife will take over from All Day Pale Ale during the winter months (Nov to Feb). The core keg beers are Republika, Capital, Eton Rifles, Treason and White Riot.

Seasonals and specials

The autumn seasonal is Canberra (Oct to Dec) followed by Father Thames for winter.

Special beers on offer during the autumn are:

- **September** - Champions beer brewed for Ascot Racecourse - a 4% light coloured dry hopped bitter.
- **October** - Roast Chestnut Ale (new).
- **November** - Seattle Porter, a firm favourite.
- **December** - Mandarin and Conqueror 1075, the light and dark Xmas beers.



All the above beers will be available in the shop either as take away or to drink in the bar area. New brews from the experimental plant will be available in the shop/bar. Keep popping in to see the new beers available. The brewery also runs The Old Court Bar in Peascod St, Windsor which sells real ale and reports a successful summer's trading.

#### Opening times and contact details:

Mon 10am-6pm

Tues & Weds 10am-7pm, Thurs to Sat 10am-9pm

[www.webrew.co.uk](http://www.webrew.co.uk)

t. 01753 854075

#### KNIGHT CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Knight Club membership for 2018 is still open and growing each year as the ideal way to sample the beers, with friends, at low cost at the brewery. Visit [webrew.co.uk/knightclub](http://webrew.co.uk/knightclub) or call 01753 854075.



## REBELLION

Great news for a great taste

"We are very happy to say that our REBELLION lager has won a one-star award in the Great Taste Awards 2018!" says Rebellion's Stu Sutherland. "Judges said that it was 'visually appealing, a great golden hue, good nose, perfectly refreshing with hoppy bitter notes. It has a wonderful aroma of authenticity, and over all a clean, pleasing, well balanced lager'. Our Zebedee has also won Gold at the Camberley Beer Festival which was a public vote, so cheers to all that voted."

Autumn seasonal beers include the malty Red, 4.7%, Philosopher, 4.2% (September; pale and floral), Voyager, 4.2% (October; copper and crisp) and Virtuoso, 4.2% (November; amber and hoppy).

24 Carat is also back in stock, the brewer's take on an American style IPA, packed full of hoppy character. "We use Nelson Sauvin which is from New Zealand as well as Amarillo and Mosaic which are both from the States," says Stu. "24 Carat is a perfect beer to have with spicy food like a good curry."

REBELLION is now selling 1 litre bottles and 5 litre kegs of fresh beer online, shipping anywhere in the UK, starting with IPA (the online selection will be increasing). Order by midday Thursday for delivery on Friday.

Brewery Membership - The Rebellion Brewery Club was started in 2002 with the aim of thanking regular customers for their commitment and loyalty. There are currently over 4000 active members and membership starts at £30.

### Shop opening times:

Mon – Sat 8am to 7pm, Sun. Closed  
t. 01628 476594

[www.Rebellionbeer.co.uk](http://www.Rebellionbeer.co.uk)

[www.shop.rebellionbeer.co.uk/fresh-beer](http://www.shop.rebellionbeer.co.uk/fresh-beer)

## WEST BERKSHIRE BREWERY

New brew and new menu



West Berkshire Brewery's latest offering is its Session Pale Ale, 3.6%. The new seasonal draught beer is a punchy, tropical, floral session pale brewed with Vic secret, Galaxy, Chinook and Summit hops with additions of elderflower.

More news comes in the form of a new Head Chef in the Kitchen who's bringing in a new improved menu. Alongside the traditional favourite of pizzas and burgers



Shaun will be introducing pies, salads, bar snacks and a brand-new sandwich menu. (To keep up to date with the new menu follow [@wbbtaproom](https://www.instagram.com/wbbtaproom) on Instagram.)

The Brewer continues to run the successful Good Old Boys Club and Home Brew Club.

**The Good Old Boys Club - Held quarterly, this is an opportunity to meet the brewer and taste special members-only beers. Membership includes 10% discount on beers purchased in the shop/ online; Polo shirt, Glass Tankard, Bottle of Good Old Boy, members-only brewery tours and a regular eNewsletter.**

**Home Brew Club – Members are invited to quarterly meetings at the brewery with access to Steve Munro's wealth of brewing knowledge. Discount on ingredients, hops, yeast, malt, bottles and caps plus the chance to brew on the brewery's 100L pilot kit. A welcome pack (with a £20 voucher) and a Homebrew Club regular eNewsletter.**

### OPENING TIMES

**Shop & Taproom** - Daily 10am - 6pm

**Taproom** - Wed - Sat 10am - 11pm

**Kitchen** - Tues - Sun 12pm - 3pm | Wed - Sat 6pm - 9pm

Kitchen closed on Monday

[e.info@wbbrew.co.uk](mailto:e.info@wbbrew.co.uk)

t.01635 767 090

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

## CHAMPION BEER OF BRITAIN 2018



*Siren Brewery at the Great British Beer Festival*

CAMRA is proud to announce the winners of the Campaign for Real Ale's prestigious Champion Beer of Britain competition, awarded at the Great British Beer Festival. Be sure to look out for these award-winning beers in your local or on your travels, notably Berkshire-based brewer Siren, whose Broken Dream Breakfast Stout won Supreme Champion Gold.

**Supreme Champion Gold** - Broken Dream Breakfast Stout, Siren

**Supreme Champion Silver** - Ripper, Green Jack.

**Supreme Champion Bronze** - Workie Ticket, Mordue.

**MILD** - Gold, XX Mild, Greene King; Silver, Dark, Rhymney; Bronze, Orchid, East London Brewing Company.

**BITTER** - Gold, Red MacGregor, Orkney; Silver, Captain Bob, Mighty Oak; Joint Bronze, Flat Cap, Bank Top & Barnsley Bitter, Acorn.

**BEST BITTER** - Gold, Workie Ticket, Mordue; Silver, 1555, Bishop Nick; Joint Bronze, Tribute, St Austell & Darwin's Origin, Salopian.

**STRONG BITTER** - Gold, Revelation, Dark Star Brewing Co.; Silver, Devon Dumpling, Bays; Bronze, Half Centurion, Kinver.

**GOLDEN** - Gold, Oracle, Salopian; Silver Hop Twister, Salopian; Joint Bronze, Moonshine, Abbeydale & Knight of the Garter, Windsor & Eton.

**SPECIALITY** - Gold, Brazilian Coffee & Vanilla Porter, Colchester; Silver, Red Rocket, Cromarty; Bronze, Cleopatra, Derventio.

## MOVING TIMES FOR MOOGBREW



Image by Kate Simpson

Described as possibly the smallest brewery in the Thames Valley, moogBREW is moving.

"Brewing operations have ended temporarily as we prepare to move to new premises. We'll still be in the Marsh Lane area of Taplow, but it is likely to be Spring of 2019 before we are fully operational again," says moogBREW's Margi Williams. "No major change to the business model is planned, moogBREW will stay true to its principles - ie to remain small, independent, local and community focussed. Subject to all the usual permissions and licences, we plan to continue with our popular open days, through which most of the brewery output will be sold. However, we will have much more space and opportunity to increase output slightly."

The core range of beers will remain much the same, with occasional variants and seasonal releases.

"We'd like to thank all of the drinkers who've spent time in

our taproom and beer garden over the past two years. We have really enjoyed your company and sharing our beers with you," says Margi. "We hope you'll join at our new place too. Please check the website or social media for updates." [moogbrew@gmail.com](mailto:moogbrew@gmail.com)

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### Visitor tickets

Customers booking in advance can obtain a 10-20% discount to the on-the-gate admission price. CAMRA members wishing to purchase tickets for the Queen Anne Enclosure can increase this discount to 50% of the on-the-gate admission price by quoting the Promotion Code CAMRA2018 when booking in advance. (Please note: this CAMRA discount does not apply to tickets for other enclosures or to tickets bought on the day.)

[www.ascotbeerfest.org.uk](http://www.ascotbeerfest.org.uk)

## SITUATIONS VACANT

We are always on the look out for volunteers to help run the SLOUGH, WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD BRANCH and are keen to hear from anyone interested in the following position(s).

- GBG, LocAle & NBSS Coordinator

For job spec & details email: [editor@swm.camra.co.uk](mailto:editor@swm.camra.co.uk)

It would be great to hear from you.



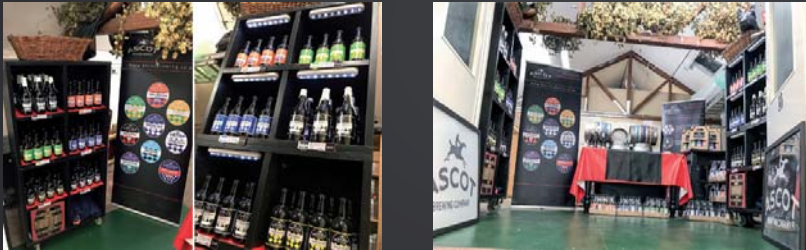


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# WOMEN AND BEER

## Is beer the last alcoholic drink with a gender bias?

The UK has one of the lowest percentage of female beer drinkers in the world, despite the much-lauded craft beer boom. Outdated sexist marketing, fear of the 'beer belly', and negative perceptions about flavour are all contributing to British women spurning our national drink, according to new report *The Gender Pint Gap*.



The Gender Pint Gap report released by the women and beer group, Dea Latis is the first major piece of research about female attitudes towards beer in almost a decade.

The research conducted by YouGov was commissioned by Dea Latis to examine whether the UK's craft beer boom in the last decade has inspired more women to drink beer.

In a fast-moving consumer landscape that has seen a huge rise in the number of breweries and beer brands in the UK, the report reveals:

- Only 17% of women drink beer at least once a week (compared to 53% of men).
- Male oriented advertising is one of the three main barriers for over a quarter (27%) of women drinking beer – rising even higher for the 18-24 year-old female group to almost half (48%).
- A fifth of women (20%) say that high calorie content is one of the three main barriers for women drinking beer.
- 17% of women feel that 'being judged by others' is one of the three biggest barriers to drinking beer.
- 32% of women would now drink beer at home with friends, compared to just 3% of women in another survey about women's drinking habits and their relationship with beer in 2009 (*Molson Coors' 2009 Bittersweet Survey*).
- Taste is the great divide: Of the women who drink beer 56% do so because they like the taste; conversely, of the women who never drink beer 83% do so because they don't like the taste.

Comparing their statistics to a similar piece of research conducted in 2009\*, it appears that female attitudes, perceptions and beliefs about beer have not changed

much beyond a stronger trend to drinking beer at home. The report, say the authors, begs the question: why is the beer industry not tapping into this female market with an image overhaul?

Beer Sommelier and Dea Latis director Annabel Smith said: "We know that the beer category has seen massive progress in the last decade – you only need to look at the wide variety of styles and flavours which weren't available widely in the UK ten years ago. Yet it appears the female consumer either hasn't come on the same journey, or the beer industry just isn't addressing their female audience adequately. Overtly masculine advertising and promotion of beer has been largely absent from media channels for a number of years but there is a lot of history to unravel. Women still perceive beer branding is targeted at men."

Co-author of the report, Lisa Harlow added: "Our research has shown many misconceptions which women still hold about beer, such as calorific content, self-image and pre-conceptions about taste. It was disheartening in our supposedly enlightened times that so many of our female respondents cited 'being judged by others' as a reason for not drinking beer. Perhaps we need some high-profile celebrity advocates to show women that it is acceptable to drink beer?"

Beer writer, Sommelier & Certified Cicerone, Melissa Cole said of the report: "An important piece of research that's based on intelligent and insightful questions to unearth the simple ways the beer industry has managed to disenfranchise women from their once-loved drink over the last 70 years or so.

"It highlights everything from societal pressures to inappropriate serves to ingrained misogyny and more as just some of the issues and challenges the brewing industry to do something about it.

"But it's not just criticism, it's got rational advice on how the new, and old, guard of brewing can make beer relevant to 51% of the population again; but it's also only just the start and I hope more long-overdue funding is provided to help address this issue."





Jane Peyton, Beer Sommelier, writer, and founder of the School of Booze said: "The stats are fascinating and so insightful. I learned a lot about attitudes. This report should be read by everyone who makes and sells beer."

The report concludes with a 'Beer Drinking Women's Manifesto' which urges women who drink beer to become advocates; encouraging sampling, asking for different volumes and glassware and dispelling myths about calories and acceptability.

### About the survey:

The Dea Latis survey was conducted using an online interview administered to members of the YouGov Plc UK panel of 800,000+ individuals who have agreed to take part in surveys. The total sample size was 2026 adults of which 1094 were female. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all GB adults (aged 18+).

For more information contact:  
Lisa Harlow on 07917 757860 or  
email: [lisa@lisaharlow.co.uk](mailto:lisa@lisaharlow.co.uk)

Annabel Smith on 07920 058500 or  
email: [annabel@beerbelle.co.uk](mailto:annabel@beerbelle.co.uk)

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If any pub or club would like to offer discounts, please email the details to be included in the next issue to:

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# LIFE BEHIND BARS!

'Oh, Mr Cirrus, What shall we do?'

## Ray Williams continues with Chapter 9 entertaining account of his life behind bars – the licensed kind that is!

Mr Cirrus, a stick-like man of some 80 summers, did not present a picture of which Jeeves would have approved. Clad in a grubby raincoat which was very nearly as venerable as he was, regardless of season, his ensemble was regularly topped with a black, or, possibly, dark green beret, worn at a slightly rakish angle.

To complement his mildly exotic choice of headgear, 'Clan' pipe tobacco was his smoking pleasure, a particularly aromatic brand. However, controversial to his shoe-laces, he chose to enjoy this particular pleasure in the form of a thinly rolled cigarette, disregarding the more conventional method of utilising pipe tobacco. These so called cigarettes, something of a masterpiece in themselves, would remain adhered to his lower lip, more often than not unlit. Given sufficient time, the portion in closest proximity to his mouth took on a rather fetching brown colour. Most attractive! Actually, on more than one occasion, I had to remind him that the offending article remained in position as he prepared to set about his repast.

"So kind", he would mutter in his thin, reedy voice, before tucking the moist offender behind his ear for later enjoyment.

If one was not already aware that one of the more eccentric members of the human race had surfaced in our midst, a glance at his chosen reading matter settled it. Not for our wispy Mr Cirrus a copy of 'The Telegraph', 'Daily Mail', or, indeed 'Daily Mirror'. Oh no, a dog eared copy of, ideally, a Spanish, or, at a pinch, Portuguese, classic literary piece hit the spot. Written in its original language, of course. These Mr Cirrus would devour once he had been furnished with his customary 'half a pint of bitter beer' and shambled off to a chair in a quiet corner.

Our story really begins on a day when, after careful and lengthy consideration of the days menu, an order was placed on Mr Cirrus' behalf for chicken curry and rice. Having placed his requirements in our hands, he retired to his book leaving behind a cloud of strangely, perfumed smoke. 'Hey presto, and he's gone,' I thought. Quite magical really!

Now, to fully comprehend the chain of events which then unfolded, it is necessary to understand that our version of a chicken curry and rice consisted of, when everything had gone to plan, a: chicken, and b: rice. In a deep dish the ingredients were arranged, rather artfully, so that half the dish contained rice, on one side, and the other half chicken curry. Simple as that! However, to maintain a semblance of the restaurateurs art, the dish was presented on a side plate replete with a paper doily. And very fine it looked too.

Once the dish was prepared, it was conveyed to Mr Cirrus' table, placed before him for his perusal, and left to its own devices. This, of course, after reminding our dusty friend that a cigarette butt remained embedded on his lower lip.

We, of the licensing fraternity, attach considerable importance to the study of our guests eating, as well as drinking, habits. For instance, a confidante of Mr Cirrus once imparted to me the information that it was of the utmost importance that every mouthful of food be masticated ninety six times. And he practiced what he preached! Of course, at the conclusion of his repast, the



final portion would be stone cold, a fact which he did not hesitate to bring to our attention.

"But at least you won't have Indigestion".

"Very true, very true".

Even as simple a dish as that placed before Mr Cirrus presented several options for its consumption. A mouthful of rice, followed by a similar of curry? Or, consume all the curry, followed by all the product of the paddy field? Or, mix the two items together and enjoy the benefits of both ingredients simultaneously?

Mr Cirrus opted for the latter. However, for reasons known only unto himself, the mixing operation took place on his side plate, not in the deep dish. Ah well, it takes all types, and the cry of "More beer, please, Raymondo", needed to be attended to.

Some twenty minutes later, a cloud of ascending smoke in Mr Cirrus' corner indicated the termination of his meal and the re-ignition of his damp and drooping cigarette. Time to collect the after lunch detritus! Mr Cirrus was not a happy bunny.

"I don't know what you did to the chicken today, but I found it exceedingly tough".

"Sorry to hear that, Mr Cirrus." And I was, until a deeply, unpleasant thought struck me.

"Where is your paper doily, Mr Cirrus?"

"I didn't have one."

"Well, actually you did. It was on the side plate, under the deep dish."

"I didn't see it."

"You've eaten the paper doily, haven't you, Mr Cirrus? When you mixed your two ingredients, you've added a third, unwanted one." And he had!

Several weeks later, our doily-chewer appeared on the scene once again and uttered these words: "I shan't be having your chicken curry again. I suffered from an extremely unpleasant bout of indigestion last time."

Could it be as a result of not chewing his paper curry ninety six times?

Probably not!

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