



Campaign
for
Real Ale

Solihull Drinker

Issue No 89
Autumn 2019



Free
Please take one

***40 Real Ales
+ Ciders & Perry***

3rd - 5th October 2019

5 - 11pm Thursday

Noon—11pm Friday & Saturday

The Royal British Legion

Union Road. Solihull B91 3DH

**£10 inc. £5 beer tokens, refundable
glass hire & programme**

**(£1 extra beer tokens for card carrying CAMRA
members)**

Food available all days



www.facebook.com/solbf2019



A2B
RADIO CARS

0121 733 3000

**Add a safe ride home
to your last orders**



veezu.

**amazing
journeys.**



Purity
BREWING CO



GREAT BEER. REAL CHARACTER.

BREWERY TOURS



TWO TOURS EVERY SATURDAY
11:00AM - 1:00PM | 2:30PM - 4:30PM

To book email john.conod@puritybrewing.com or
drop us a line at the brewery on 01789 488 007

Bring this flyer along on your tour for an extra FREE gift

PRIVATE TOURS
AND MEETING
ROOM HIRE
AVAILABLE ON
REQUEST



@PURITYALE



@PURITYALE



@PURITYBREWINGCO

WWW.PURITYBREWING.COM

Help Us To Select Our Good Beer Guide Pubs

One of the most important functions of a branch is to select pubs and clubs to appear in the annual CAMRA Good Beer Guide. Each year we look at the process used for Solihull & District, with the dual aim of encouraging as wide a participation by the branch membership as possible, and ensuring the end result is our most worthy pubs and clubs being chosen.

At the November, December, and January branch meetings we accept nominations from the floor. Any member can nominate a pub or club. As long as another member seconds the proposal, it goes into the selection process. We insist on nominations being in person, as **the nominator has to commit to completing a survey form of their nominated pub or club.**

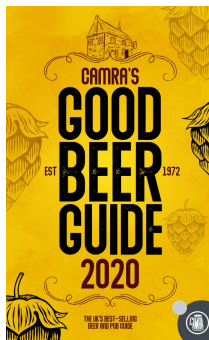
Judging is open to all branch members. Each nomination is scored out of ten on a number of categories; beer quality, service and welcome, overall impression, and so on. A member can score as many or as few pubs as they like. Obviously, we want people to get out and visit as many as they can, but our main request is for scores to be consistent

across the pubs being judged. Once all votes have been cast, nominations are ranked on average score. The five West Midlands and two Warwickshire premises with the highest averages are our selection.

We will again use an electronic voting form this year, which will be accessible after the January nominations. Branch members will be able to log in via a link to be sent out in an email, and enter their scores. We will still accept paper judging forms at the February branch meeting.

Look out for emails on the run up to the meetings for nominations and judging. You must have registered on the National CAMRA website, and given permission to be contacted, to receive emails from your branch.

Martin Buck



See page 17 of this issue for details of the 2020 Good Beer Guide and phone app.

Features in this issue include:

Dates for the Diary & Midlands Area Events	4
Midlands Cider Pub Of The Year Judging Rd 2	7
Beer Festival Thank You Trip to Oxford	11
Out and About in Preston... What a Weekend!	15
Hail To The Ale	18
Discounts and Contacts	20
Charlbury Beer Festival Jolly Outing	22
A Tipple in Vienna	24



Campaign
for
Real Ale

Dates For Your Diary

Branch Meetings

(Branch meetings start at 8.30pm except where noted otherwise)

Monday 30th September	Solihull Royal British Legion Club
<i>(this meeting is also a briefing session for Beer Festival volunteers, so volunteers please attend)</i>	
Monday 4th November	The Shaking Hand, Shirley
Monday 2nd December	The Forest Hotel, Dorridge

Committee Meetings

(8.30pm start. Members may attend but only participate if invited to do so)

Monday 16th September	Platform 3, Olton
Monday 18th November	Greswolde Arms Hotel, Knowle

Socials

Saturday 7th September	Tamworth Beer Festival and Crawl
Thurs 14th - 17th November	Long weekend to Gateshead/Newcastle/ Sunderland area
Saturday 14th December	Christmas Crawl around Warwick

For more details and contacts for the above, please call Secretary Allan Duffy on 01564 200 431 or visit our website: www.solihull.camra.org.uk

Most, though not all, of our local pubs have disabled access. If you wish to come to a meeting and require assistance, contact us beforehand and we will do our best to help.

Upcoming Midlands Area Beer Festivals and Events

**FOR NATIONAL BEER FESTIVALS
PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING LINK**
<https://www.camra.org.uk/beer-festivals-events/>

September 5-7 (Thu-Sat)

26TH TAMWORTH BEER FEST

Masonic Rooms, Lichfield Street, Tamworth, B79 7QE. 75+ ales including festival specials & many new ales. Also ciders, perries and a gin bar (Fri & Sat eves). Hot & cold food & soft drinks available. Live music Fri & Sat. Inside bars and plenty of outdoor & covered seating. This year, we celebrate 50 years since the release of The Italian Job. Open 11-11pm daily. Entry £3 except Friday 5-11pm (£4). CAMRA members FREE entry at all times. Supervised children permitted until 5pm. Details on www.LSTCamra.org.uk

September 7 (Sat):

BLAKESLEY HALL ALE FESTIVAL

Blakesley Road, Yardley, B25 8RN Birmingham. Open 11am to 7pm. Beers and ciders from local breweries. Entry £5 in advance, £6 on door.

September 7 (Sat):

7th YARDLEY BEER FESTIVAL

St Edburgha's Church, Church Road, Yardley, Birmingham B33 8PD. Open 12 noon - 10pm. Entry £5

September 13-14 (Fri-Sat) :

LIONS' BEER AND CIDER FESTIVAL

Shirley Royal British Legion, Parkgate Centre, Shirley, Solihull. 16 real ales and 4 ciders. Open: Fri and Sat 12.00 noon to 10.00 pm. £10 entry includes souvenir glass, £5 tokens and programme. For more details visit www.shirleylions.co.uk/events/

beerfestival.html or Twitter or Facebook.

September 19-21 (Thu-Sat)

CANNOCK CHASE BEER FEST

Prince of Wales Theatre, Church Street, Cannock, WS11 1DE. 60+ ales including new for 2019, BEERS FROM THE WOOD, 20 ciders and bottle bar. Open 5-11pm Thu, 12-11pm Fri, Sat. Admission £3, £2 senior citizens/HM Forces, £1 CAMRA members, £10 package to include admission, festival glass, programme & tokens. Thu: quiet night live music on Fri and Sat night. Hot & cold food all sessions. Details www.cannockbeerfestival.co.uk

October 3-5 (Thu-Sat):

SOLIHULL CAMRA BEER FESTIVAL

Broomfield Hall, Royal British Legion, Union Road, Solihull B91 3DH. Help celebrate our 20th annual festival! 40 real ales & 6 ciders. Open: Thu 5pm-11pm, Fri & Sat 12noon-11pm. Discount to card-carrying CAMRA members for all sessions. Sat 2pm: Homebrew competition. Food available during all sessions. Check our website www.solihull.camra.org.uk and Facebook for updates.

October 4-5 (Fri-Sat):

WYTHALL'S 10TH BEER FESTIVAL

Wythall Community Club, Silver Street, Wythall, Birmingham B47 6LZ. For details wythallcommunityclub.org.uk

October 11-14 (Thu-Sun):

INN ON THE GREEN BEER FESTIVAL

2 Westley Road, Acocks Green, B27 7UH. Music Friday and Saturday live and free. www.innonthegreen.pub

November 7-9 (Thu-Sat)

KIDDERMINSTER BEER & CIDER FEST

Kidderminster Town Hall, Vicar Street, Kidderminster DY10 1DB. 10 min walk from Rail Station, 2 min from Bus Station. 42 beers, 15 ciders/perries, local wines & new for 2019: Gin Bar. Open: CAMRA members preview Thu 12noon-2pm, public entry 2-10pm, Fri 11am-11pm, Sat 11am- 7pm. Hot & cold food all sessions, local wines, snacks & soft drinks. Tables & seating separate from bar. Entry £3 for non-members, card carrying CAMRA members £1. £2.50 refundable souvenir glass. More info www.wyreforest.camra.org.uk

Holding a beer festival locally? Let us know and we can include it here. 27th October deadline for the December issue.

20th Solihull & District CAMRA Beer Festival

Was it really a year ago? Yes, it's time once again for the Solihull Beer Festival - and this is our 20th edition. We will again be at the Solihull British Legion, which has recently been refurbished.

As always, we aim to bring you a wide selection of quality real ales and ciders; this year there will be 40 ales and six ciders. For the first time, we will be playing host to judging for one of the categories in the regional Champion



Beer of Britain competition. Our festival will be deciding the West Midlands winner of the 'strong ales' category.

The festival is on 3rd to 5th October - on Thursday evening we'll be open from 5 pm, and on Friday and Saturday doors open at noon. Time will be called at 11 pm each evening. Hot food will be available at all sessions. We hope to see you there.

Martin Buck

Shirley, Acocks Green & Solihull Lions
Present

A Charity Beer & Cider Festival



Friday 13th - Saturday 14th September 2019

12 Noon - 10 pm each day

At Shirley British Legion, Parkgate, 186 Stratford Rd,
Shirley, Solihull, B90 3BQ

£10 a ticket which includes £5 worth of
tokens, a programme & a glass.

In support of local charities



@sasbeerfestival



/sasbeerfest/

Midlands Cider Pub Of The Year Judging Round 2

In the last Drinker I outlined Round 1 of the judging for the West Midlands Regional Cider Pub of the Year (CPOTY).

Following Round 1, the field of candidates was reduced to the pub that received the most votes in each of the 6 counties, and the 4 highest scoring runners up, leaving 10 to judge in round 2.

Herefordshire: Yew Tree, Peterstow.

Worcestershire: the Beer Emporium & Cider House, Kidderminster.

Shropshire: The Salopian, Shrewsbury.

Warwickshire: The Merchants Inn, Rugby

West Midlands: (our own entry) the Pup & Duckling, Olton; and the Black Country Arms, Walsall.

Staffordshire: Kings Arms, Stafford; Kings Ditch, Tamworth; Bridge Street Ale House, Newcastle under Lyme; and Black Lion, Consall Forge.



The King's Ditch, Tamworth

As can be seen, there was quite a geographical spread, and we didn't have much time to fit them all in.

Martin Buck kindly offered to drive our first leg, which was to cover the pubs in Stafford, Newcastle under Lyme, Consall Forge, and then take in The Merchants Inn in Rugby.

Consall Forge is an out of the way hamlet to the East of Stoke, and has the

Churnet Valley Railway (a heritage railway with steam trains) running past it. It's a delightful location and a charming pub which also sells good real ales and is well worth a visit.

By far the best of the three in Staffordshire is the Bridge Street Ale House, which has a great range of ciders and perry (and real ales), with very knowledgeable staff. A definite contender for the title in my book. The Merchants Inn in Rugby was also a contender with a wide selection (also of real ales).

I managed to fit in a trip with my better half, Carol, to Hereford one weekend, and drove there via the Yew Tree at Peterstow, near Ross on Wye. Another lovely little country pub, which has a cider shop in an adjacent barn, selling ciders from the Ross on Wye Cider & Perry Co, who operate from the nearby Broome Farm. There were a host of different single varietal ciders. If there was a downside it was that most were dry or medium dry, and only 2 draught ciders in the pub. Mind you they do serve a mean ham, egg and chips!

5 left to visit, and I drove this last rather widely spread selection. We started at our own Pup & Duckling. For our area this has a better selection than I've seen elsewhere on our patch, but definitely not in the same league as the other contenders.

Next it was on the Black Country Arms in Walsall, who have a decent selection too. We ate here when judging both the first and second rounds as the food is good value, and of decent proportions! Excellent for soaking up the cider and perry!

From Walsall we set off en-route to the King's Ditch in Tamworth, but made one stop on the way. We would be passing through Mere Green, where the Mare Pool was an entry for the West Midlands pub of the year judging. It would be cra-

The King's Ditch in Tamworth: well what can I say! This was my clear favourite and contender for the title. I know some of our ale drinking branch members have even drunk cider in here when visiting the Tamworth beer festival in the past. Don't deny it - Paul Wigley 'dobbed' you in!

Mind you, do watch out for the wall in the car park opposite. I'm sure it moved while I was parking (and I was still very much sober at the time)!

We had a lovely cross country drive up to Kidderminster next, to visit the final pub, the Beer Emporium and Cider House. Another drive of around an hour, only to find the pub was shut for nearly 2 weeks. Que sera!

park the car, and then catch up with Paul and Martin at K&DCC, where I'd dropped them off. I needed a pint or two by now! Watching others drink and having to drive is thirsty work.

From our judging visits there were three clear contenders: the Bridge Street Ale House, The Merchants Inn and the King's Ditch with, for me, the latter being the pick of the crop. Therefore I am pleased to be able to announce that it

was the King's Ditch in Tamworth that won. This pub really is well worth a visit. See the blackboard on the left for some of the ciders that were on offer when we were last there.

I know I wrote this last time too, but the variation in types of both cider and perry is very much equivalent to the breadth of real ales. I

don't like all real ales and I don't like all real ciders or perries. But, as with real ale, it is most definitely worth giving them a go, and I really think more of you should try them. You might be pleasantly surprised.

Ray Cooke

Editor's comment. There is a branch visit planned to the Tamworth Beer and Cider Festival on the 7th September. Following the festival we normally visit a few pubs, including The King's Ditch. Come with us and give it a try.



The King's Ditch, Cider Board

BERNIES REAL ALE OFF LICENCE

The best of its kind there is!!!

An ever-changing range of exciting draught beers from season to season—you're welcome to try before you buy.

Now stocking a variety of Craft Ales!



A choice of 350 beers and ciders during the year, available in bottles or on draught.

Now stocking an ever increasing range of craft cans.

Party barrels to order and supplied for any occasion.

Sale or return on sealed goods.

266 Cranmore Boulevard, Shirley, Solihull B90 4PX

Tel. 0121 744 2827

Opening Hours:

Mondays to Saturdays: 11.00am to 10.00pm

Sundays & Bank Holidays: 12 noon to 6.00pm

Wines, aperitifs, and other alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks are also available for all your get-togethers and parties—please come in and talk to us about your requirements and we will always be glad to help.

Now also stocking snacks and confectionery.



Choice which cannot be bettered

CAMRA West Midlands County Pub Of The Year 2018

Open Daily 12-11pm
01564 400 040

7 Real Ales & 1 Real Cider

Ales £3.60 a pint
& only £3.20 for
CAMRA members
(cards must be shown)

Solihull & District CAMRA

**PUB OF THE
YEAR**



**WINNER
2018 & 2019**

1592 High Street, Knowle, Solihull B93 0LF



West Midlands CAMRA
invites you...



Campaign
for
Real Ale



...to join us in celebrating the history,
innovation and diversity of our region
at the Great British Beer Festival Winter
- a Festival of A Thousand Trades!

Featuring over 400 beers, ciders & perries
from across the West Mids and beyond, along
with a spirits bar, street food and live
entertainment!



4-8 Feb 2020

Find out more at: winter.gbbf.org.uk

The New Bingley
Hall, Birmingham



Beer Festival Thank You Trip to Oxford

There are many literary and educational reasons to visit Oxford, but for the party of 40 on our coach, the reason for us was the beer. There were so many of us it was deemed best to split into small groups so that a large mass of people did not drop on one pub at the same time, leaving the bar staff completely overwhelmed.



The Magnificent 40 arrive in Oxford!

With a superb map in hand provided by ex-Solihull CAMRA member Matt Bullcock, 4 of us headed off from our drop off point outside the Ashmolean to The White Rabbit in Friars Entry. Noted by CAMRA as a pub of historic importance, it is small, multi-roomed and has a friendly feel to it. We found 3 beers on handpump; Lodden Citra Quad, Siren Craft Liquid Mistress, and Mashtronauts in Oxfordshire Luna. I tried the 2 former which were in excellent condition, the Liquid Mistress being very bitter. *(Editors note: The Liquid Mistress was very popular and much enjoyed with the cask being emptied before 6pm!)*

We decided that next we would walk to the most outlying pub on our tour, the Castle, and work our way back to the city centre. A Hook Norton pub on Castle Street, the exterior is Mock Tudor in appearance and has a cellar bar below the pub's main floor area. The main show on the handpumps was the expected Hook Norton, the Double Stout being very tasty and supplemented by

an earthy Roosters Nectar. Cider drinkers had a choice of 3 available.

Food time now, so a short walk over to Wetherspoons Swan and Castle, where 4 guests were advertised but surprise, surprise, typical of Wetherspoons only 3 were actually available... why won't they turn the pump clips round?

The Royal Blenheim, our next port of call is a White Horse Brewery pub hence its Village Idiot and Stable Genius, the latter being in excellent condition. 2 beers from Titanic were also on, Plum Porter and Dark Cherry. This is not unusual for White Horse as they have close links with Titanic Brewery. Further handpumps touted Muirhouse Charity Harvest, Beartown Peach Melba, Elgoods Blackberry Stout, Everards Tiger, and my other choice, a very drinkable Butcombe Rain or Shine.

We then popped round the corner into Queen Street and the St. Aldgates Tavern, where West Berkshires Good Old Boys Best Bitter, Hook Norton Old Hookey, Animal London Porter, and Flying Monk Birdman greeted us, all in acceptable condition. An old 18th century coaching inn, a pub has been on the site since the 14th century, and it is a most comfortable pub to while away the time.



Bob and Steve happy in the Chequers.

However, time was not something we had to spare so we soon moved on to

the High Street and Nicholson's pub, Chequers. Tucked down a narrow passage, dating from 1466, it has a variety of rooms and 6 beers to sample. Thornbridge Jaipur and Oakham Dragon in Bavaria hit the spot for me, whilst others tried Skinners Betty Stoggs, Sharps 3.2% Rising Tide, thin and low in alcohol, Nicholson's Pale Ale, and Fullers Day Dreamer. Not an imaginative range but all in fine condition.

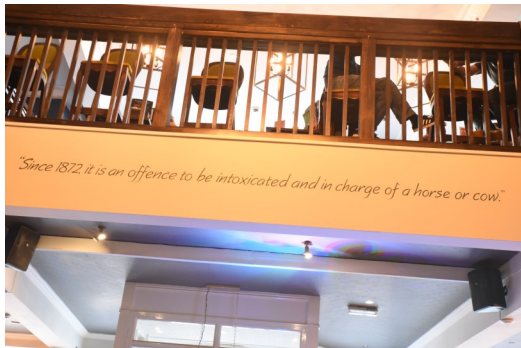
Time was getting on and we still had three pubs to complete our tour. In the Market Hall is a small shop style micro run by Church Hanbrewery, called the Teardrop. We had a bit of difficulty finding it as it is small, with very limited seating. Their Teardrop Citra, a vegan beer was very tasty but the cloudiness gave it a yeasty flavour. Much better was the Mashtronauts of Oxfordshire Luna Keepers Law Tropical Stout, 4.5% and full of flavour. This was one I missed out on at the White Rabbit.



Sampling the beers at the Teardrop.

Leaving the Market Hall we headed next for the Plough at 38 on Cornmarket Street, another new micro in Oxford, converted from an old shop. As with most micros there is a selection of craft and cask beers. With links to XT brewery it is not surprising to find a strong showing of their beers, XT4 and XT19, together with Animal Wasp being on handpump. The XT4 was an amber ale, OK but not to my taste, whereas the Animal Wasp, brewed at XT, was a tasty 4% golden ale which went down a treat.

Coming to the end of our tour now, and not too far away was the White Horse in Broad Street. A small Grade II listed building from the 16th century it hosts 5 handpumps, but only 3 were in operation on our visit and proved a little disappointing: 2 St Austell beers, Tribute and Proper Job, and Shotover Trinity. I went for the Shotover and Proper Job, not standouts here but perfectly acceptable.



Something to be aware of in Oxford!

And so it was we made our way to the last pub of the day, the Kings Arms in Holywell Street, another historic pub dating back some 400 years. With many nooks and crannies the pub is owned by Youngs Brewery from London. On the bar was Youngs Special, complemented by guests: 2 from O'Hanlons, Yellow Hammer and Firefly, with Bath Breweries Gem, now owned by St Austell. Yellow Hammer was my choice here, a zesty, refreshing golden ale. So ended our day in Oxford and there were still many more good pubs to visit. Maybe for another day.

Steve Dyson

Photos by Seven Star Photography

This is just one story of a great day out arranged as a reward to beer festival volunteers. Members who helped at the beer festival had free transport to Oxford. To join us on our next thank you trip, please keep an eye open for requests to volunteer at our 20th festival. Hopefully see you there.

David Cove

Ember Inns Pub Of The Year 2018



Open from 11.30am Weekdays
Close : 11.30 Sunday –Thursday
Midnight Friday –Saturday

Hot & cold meals served all week from
12.00 pm to 10.00 pm
Brunch now from 10 am weekends

THE FIELDHOUSE

10 Knightcote Drive,
Solihull B91 3JU
Tel: 0121 703 9209



www.emberinns.co.uk/the-fieldhouse-solihull



Fieldhouse,
Solihull



Download and use our App
to get free pints of real ale

*7 Real Ales on at all times
Ember Pale Ale, Proper Job,
plus 5 regularly changing guests.
All Cask Ales £2.49 a pint on Mondays*

*Special Offers for CAMRA members.
(membership cards must be shown)*

- 20p discount off a pint of Cask Ale
- 20% off food with a food discount card
- Festive menu 20% off for pre-bookings
(must advise you are a member at time of booking)

Branch Beer Quality Scoring - Points Win Beer!

CAMRA has long promoted the National Beer Scoring System (NBSS), and encouraged branches to make it a key part of selecting pubs for the Good Beer Guide (GBG). Solihull & District has always looked at the scores, but the issue we've had is that our pubs don't get enough scores to make it reliable.

We are looking at the number of scores submitted by each branch member, with the top three scorers (*excluding committee members*) each quarter awarded bottles of beer as an incentive to enter scores. If you want to be in with a chance of free beer, all you have to do is make use of NBSS. Please note: only scores in pubs from our branch area are counted as we cannot see

scores for other branches' areas.

For the period April to June the top scorers were Iain Wells (56), John Tilley (53), and Jon Knibb (33). They all received prizes at the August branch meeting.

To score beers you can use the What-Pub.com website. When viewing a pub's details, choose 'Beer Scoring', then simply choose your score (from 0 to 5), the brewery and the beer. That can be done on a smartphone at the time, or using a computer back at home. Now NBSS has also been incorporated into CAMRA's GBG smartphone app.



WhatPub

Solihull
THE FLUTE & FLAGON

....serving up delicious
food, great drinks, &
unforgettable experiences

28-30 Station Parade

Solihull B91 3SB

Tel: 0121 711 3630

www.fluteandflagonsolihull.co.uk



The Flute & Flagon



10% off real ales for
card-carrying CAMRA
members *

(*not valid in conjunction
with any other offer)

6 hand pumps with
5 Real Ales &
a Traditional
Cider
3 Craft Beers

Opening Hours
09.00—23.00 Sun—Thur
09.00—24.00 Fri
09.00—01.00 Sat

Surrey Hills Brewery 'Shere Drop' Wins Champion Beer of Britain

A brewery located in the heart of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty has come out top in the Champion Beer of Britain 2019 competition. Final judging took place on the opening day of the Great British Beer Festival, and was the culmination of almost a year of local tasting panels and regional heats, recognising the very best in British beer.

'Shere Drop' is a former winner in two different categories and took home bronze in 2010. Described as pale in colour with a subtle hint of grapefruit and lemon in the aroma, the wonderful hop bitterness is complemented by a balanced malt flavour.

Ross Hunter, director of Surrey Hills Brewery, said: "I am absolutely elated.

We have reached the final a number of times, which is most important as it means we are consistently producing quality beers - which is our top goal! To win the gold overall is a fantastic achievement. I am just speechless!"



Bronze place in the Champion Beer of Britain competition was taken by Oakham Ales for their session IPA Citra. Oakham are regulars in the competition and took home the silver award in 2014, 2009 and 1999 as well as gold in 2001.

Silver place was won by Grey Trees Brewery's Afghan IPA, a previous winner of the Strong Bitters category, taking first place in 2017. Grey Trees is based in Aberdare in South Wales.

Out and About in Preston... What a Weekend! - Part 2

Continued from Solihull Drinker 88

Last day, Saturday, so off we went to Preston. For some reason I thought we would find it to be run down, but it really is a lovely little town and has some great pubs.

Leaving the train we headed to The Continental, one of the best pubs in Preston. A little out of the town centre, but after a pleasant walk through the park and alongside the river, we found ourselves there just before opening time, accompanied by a few other eager drinkers. With a large garden, conservatories, and 2 bars, overlooking the River Ribble, it is a draw for families in summer. Beerwise it is known for its beers from West Yorkshire. Indeed, Fernandes Continental (3.9%), a typical Fernandes style beer, is the house beer. Ossett, Pictish, two from Phoenix, Mourne Mountains Mourne Gold from Northern Ireland, and Lancaster Black displayed themselves across the bar. Plumping for the house beer and Phoenix Hopsack (3.9%) started the day off well. We had



Starting the day at The Continental

arrived just in time, as 15 minutes after we arrived a seminar at the pub, attended by teachers, descended on the bar causing quite a queue. Luckily we were all sitting down quaffing very nice ale. The down side now, of course is that we

had to climb up back into the town centre, passing a dapper town square and into cobbled pedestrianised Winkley Street.

With a menu based on 'real' pies made by the owner, the café bar Otter's Pocket is very popular and boasts 3 handpulls. I succumbed to all 3. Beartown Bear Ass (4%), Cross Bay Session EPA Halo (3.6%), and Bowland Pheasant Plucker (3.6%), were all in good condition. The Cross Bay, an English IPA using American Centennial hops was just ahead in flavour for me.

It was now time to eat so we headed to the Wetherspoons, The Twelve Tellers. Housed in an old bank and retaining some historical features it had 6 beers of which 4 were guests. Nine Standards Pale went down well with my meal, and was washed down with a Saltaire New Ground, which was very coffee-ish at 4.6%.

Suitably replenished we made our way next to the Guild Ale House in Lancaster Road. This micro opened in 2016 and consists of two floors, but pride of place must go to the 7 handpumps that greeted us. Saltaire's American Pale Ale, Cascade (4.8%), and Triple Choc, a 4.8% chocolate stout; Lancaster Blonde; Navigation Patriot (3.8%); York Guzzler; Castle Rock Elsie Mo, and my choice Three Friends Brewhouse Bad Uncle Barry, a 4.2% west coast IPA, a real stunner.

Another micro next in the corner of the Market Place, Orchard, which has been open for less than a year. Only 2 beers are available which were Lancaster Citra (4.7%), and an un-fined Three Friends Brewhouse Bandito, both in good condition. Compact inside, and busy so our visit was short.

Almost opposite was the Market Tap, our next port of call. A traditional Victorian local in appearance it has graced the Market Place since the early 1800s. The beer range at the time of our visit

was not very imaginative, with Fell Brewery Ghyll and Cumbria Legendary Ales Loweswater Gold the only beers not from nationals or mega regionals. Still, it's a pub well worth popping into.

We next headed for the Black Horse, but missed it out as one of our party was allergic to the dogs which populated the bar area. Shame really as this Grade 2 listed Robinson's pub is a real gem and has 4 guests. Others in the group enjoyed Titanic beers and stopped by for the Purbeck Solar Power.

Meanwhile we went on to the Old Black Bull, a soulless pub devoid of any character, and with a very loud TV. Whatpub attributes it with 6 beers but only 2 were on when we arrived, Old School Brewery Blackboard and the pubs saving grace for me, Wily Fox Karma Citra, a beautiful hoppy 4.3% ale.

The others caught up with us as we headed across the road to Plug and Taps. Real cider and craft beers supplement the 4 real ales in this micro. Salopian Push (3.9%), Thornbridge Jaipur, Harbour Pale Ale, and a particularly fine 4.3% Sonnet 43 Raven Bourbon Milk Stout. By far the best was the Raven, a full flavoured milk stout.

Not too far away our next port of call was Plau. We were soon there and settling in with a selection of the 4 beers they had on offer. Cornwall's Doghouse brewery's New Zealand Pale Ale, and Ultra Pale Ale both brewed using American hops were really good, the latter winning by a hairsbreadth. Farm Yard Blood Orange, a 3.9% fruit infused beer was not for me, but a pleasant flavour, not too strong with grapefruit notes. Lastly, Iron Pier Whiteout, a hoppy 5.3% wheat beer. Opened in late 2018 after its previous life as the Plough, which closed in 1923, it's a definite plus for Preston, and a wander up the stairs reveals a glass covered well set in the floor. A view not for those who dislike heights!

We then had a bit of a walk out of town

to what proved to be a cracker of a pub, The Moorbrook. With 9 handpulls and Moorbrook beers brewed by Blackjack from Manchester, this pub could not fail to score with me. Northern Alchemy's 5.1% Dark Chocolate and Mint Milk Stout was a bit of a poser's beer consisting of "torn mint leaves"; Pentrich Glass Half Empty, another milk stout at 5%; Iron Pier Dana and Bullion (3.8%), part of their range of "Joined at the Hop" series, described as an international IPA at 3.8%; Moorbrook Pale Ale which I never tried despite my liking of Blackjack beers, and next to it Neepsend Lubin (5.2%), a wheat stout which did not appeal to me. I usually like their beers but this one was not quite my style. Yet another on the bar, Sonnet 43 Seraphim, a 4.1% blond beer with a gentle hop flavour. Two by Two from Newcastle presented us with Eldorado Citra, both fruity and hoppy (4.6%), and my personal favourite Great Heck Citra, a cracker at 4.5%. There was also another beer from Wales but I am afraid I cannot decipher my writing... after all it had been a long day.

On to the penultimate pub of the day, PRI Bar @ Mad Hatters. Run by Beer Brothers it's another pub with 9 pumps. Stringers The North Will Rise Again (4.9%), Parker Boadicea (5.5%), Problem Child Tantrum (4%), and from the Beer Brothers range True Brit (3.8%), Cloudy Wheat (5.5%), Sinatra (4%) and Hop Chocolate (4.3%), of which the last 2 were really nice.

Our last pub was The Old Vic. I must admit I do not recall this pub, although my notes do say that I enjoyed Beer Monkey's 3.9% For Pete's Sake, and unusual for me, Black Sheep's 4.1% Ram Tackle. Obviously I gave the Wells Bombardier a miss and for reasons to do with too much drink having been taken, I declined Bowland Buster IPA.

Well that was another long weekend wrapped up... I wonder where we shall be off to next?

Steve Dyson

190 Barn Lane
Solihull
B92 7LY
0121 743 2179
www.thelyndonpub.co.uk

The Lyndon

**Live Music and
Entertainment
Every
Friday and Saturday**

Up to 4 cask ales
(20p CAMRA discount)

Freshly prepared quality food
available daily (except Monday)


Free function room to hire for
all occasions

Monday Club - Carling £2.70
and Tetleys £2.40

Tuesday - Quiz and Games
Night from 8pm

New! Wednesday - Bingo
from 2.30pm until 4.30pm

Thursday - All Cask Ales £2.70

 The Lyndon Pub Solihull



Opening Hours:

Sun – Wed: 12.00pm – 11.30pm

Thu – Fri: 12.00pm – 12.00am

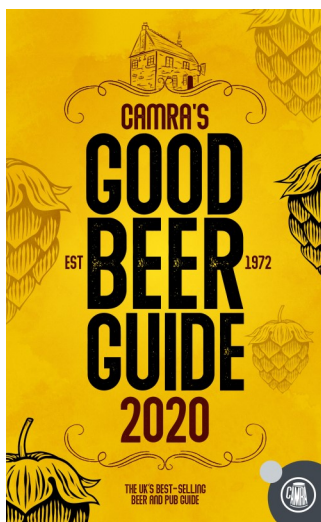
Sat: 12.00pm – 1.00am

2020 Good Beer Guide—On Sale from September 12th

The 2020 Good Beer Guide is published on the 12th September.

Now in its 47th edition, the beer-lovers' bible is fully revised and updated each year to feature recommended pubs across the United Kingdom that serve the best real ale. It is completely independent, with every one of its 4,500 pub listings recommended and evaluated by CAMRA volunteers - who know a thing or two about good beer.

Buying direct from CAMRA off their website helps them to invest directly into campaigning for real ale, pubs and drinkers' rights.



Keep notes, favourites and plan your trips to pubs and bars across the UK with the Good Beer Guide App.

CAMRA's Good Beer Guide App is a live database of over 4500 Good beer guide pubs as well as a further 30,000 pubs and bars and 1750+ breweries across the UK.

With map references and links to navigation apps on your phone or tablet, it couldn't be easier to find a Good Beer Guide pub near you*

Subscriptions start at 99p per month or £4.99 for a full year

(* A subscription is required to unlock full functionality of the app)

Hail To The Ale

Local Beer, Pub, Club and Brewery News

After a lot of good news about pubs opening, reopening, or investment in refurbishment recently, we have to report on a club in our region, and a lovely brewhouse in Birmingham that are currently under threat.

In 2022, it is proposed that The **Land Rover Sports & Social Club** will be closed to expand a car park for Jaguar Land Rover at their Solihull site. The loss of the sports field amenity and club is fighting against the plans. For details go to www.landroversc.co.uk where you can also donate to a fighting fund.

More immediately, the **RockNRoll Brewhouse** in Birmingham is under threat due to a planning application for 37 flats on the site. At the time of writing the outcome is not known, but as our own Silhill brewery knows too well, money drives these sort of decisions. We wish them success in their fight and hope we can continue to visit and drink there for some time to come.

On a more positive note we can report on another new opening in Solihull, and a planned opening in the centre of Birmingham that may be of interest.

Firstly the **Indian Brewery** opened in Solihull at the end of May in Station Road. With 4 cask ales (including guests as well as their own brews) as well as keg beers it should be a welcome addition to Solihull town centre. One to try perhaps if you are visiting Solihull for our beer festival on the 3rd to 5th October. The bar itself is very spacious and colourful, and like the Snow Hill bar you can get Indian Street food. Be aware though that closing times are a bit earlier than adjacent bars, with closing at 8.30 pm Sunday, 10 pm Monday - Thursday and 11pm at the weekend.

Still in Solihull we reported in Drinker 88 that the **Red House** was going to be refurbished. This has now been delayed

to around September we believe.



Inside the newly opened Indian Brewery

Craddocks are planning to open a new bar '**The Good Intent**' in October, located in the Great Western Arcade just opposite Snow Hill Station, ideal for commuters from Solihull.

It will be the first "Not-For-Profit" bar, with all profits going to charity. Partly funded by a crowdfunding campaign, a different charity will benefit each 3 months. The bar is currently under construction and is planned to have a Victorian theme, fitting in with the Great Western arcade. While the prices will not be Victorian the plan is that 10% of the cost of your pint will be donated to charity. Certainly worth a look when it opens its doors.



You may have seen a new beer from **Silhill brewery** around Solihull over the summer. Described as a "zesty IPA", it is a beer worth trying if you see it around.

We still don't have much to report on their relocation plans, but we believe they do want to keep a foothold in or near Solihull.

Finally, watch out for the next "Meet The Brewer" with Timothy Taylor at the **Fieldhouse** on the 29th October, with their beers half price on the night, a quiz, and various giveaway prizes.

The White Swan



Opening Hours
 Sunday to Thursday 07.00 - midnight
 Friday & Saturday 07.00 - 01.30
 Food served until 11pm each day



8 cask Handpulls on at all times including 5 guest ales from a range of local & national breweries

Wide range of craft beers

2 guest ciders also available

32-34 Station Rd
Solihull
West Midlands
B91 3SB
0121 711 5180



The Pump House



Opening Times:
 Sun - Wed:
 7.00am - midnight
 Thurs - Sat:
 7.00am - 1.00am

Alcohol served from
 10.00 am

Food available from
 7.00am to 11.00pm
 daily



Best choice of real ales on 10 hand pumps

Up to 5 guest cask ales from premium local and national breweries £2.15 a pint
5 draught beers off our Craft barrel
4 real ciders, incl. 2 on hand pump

Unit 1A, Parkgate,
Stratford Road,
Shirley
0121 701 5460



Useful Contact Numbers

Chair/ Beer Festival		Pubs Campaigning/Socials	
Martin Buck	01564 770708	Paul Wigley	07402 312457
Secretary		Treasurer	
Allan Duffy	01564 200431	Laurence Loy	email on website
Membership		Solihull Drinker Editor	
Dave Mckowen	01564 778955	David Cove	0121 603 6057
Cider and Perry/ Vice Chair		Press & Publicity	
Ray Cooke	01564 777890	Vacant	

Trading Standards contacts:

For local consumer advice in our area please contact the following

Solihull - www.solihull.gov.uk/tradingstandards

Warwickshire - www.warwickshire.gov.uk/contactustradingstandards

Citizens Advice Consumer Service phone 03454 040506

Solihull Pubs & Clubs CAMRA Member Discounts

Ember Inns (**Fieldhouse, Colebrook, Woodmans Rest, Olton Tavern, Red Lion Knowle**) - 20p/ pint except Mondays where all cask ales are £2.49.

Fieldhouse additionally gives 20% off food with a discount card available from the bar. For other offers see the advert on page 13.

Flute and Flaggon gives 10% off real ales, but may be replaced soon by the new CAMRA Real Ale Discount Scheme vouchers as they are valid at Stonegate.

The Lyndon give 20p/pint except Thursdays when a pint is £2.70. Also 5% off food for card carrying members.

Drum and Monkey, Wharf Tavern, Drawbridge Inn, Boat Inn, Greswolde Arms, give 10% off real ales.

Vintage Inns (**Red Lion Earlswood**) 20p/ pint

The **Ale Rooms, Knowle** 40p/pint or 20p/ half pint

Tap and Tandoor, Solihull 10% off a pint of selected Craft Beers.

The Forest, Dorridge From Sunday 11 a.m to Wednesday 11 p.m £3/pint for card carrying members (around 80p-90p discount)

Please note that discounts given to CAMRA members are at the discretion of the licensee, and these may be withdrawn or amended at any time. They are a privilege given to **card carrying CAMRA members** as a gesture of goodwill.

CAMRA believes that no CAMRA member or Branch should ask for, or expect, a discount from any pub or brewery.

THE BLUE BELL CIDER HOUSE

Warings Green Road
Hockley Heath, Warks. B94 6BP
Tel. 01564 702328

Opening hours:

Monday—Saturday: 11.30am—11.00pm
Sunday: 12.00-10.30pm



5 real ales at all times including beers brewed on site.

Plus 7 ciders, 4 sparkling & 3 traditional still

Home cooked food with a wide variety of daily specials served

Monday - Saturday

12.00 - 8.30pm for main meals

Sunday Carvery 12 - 5.00pm

Midweek Carvery (Wednesday)
12 - 7.00pm



Breakfast served from 9 am Monday - Saturday until 3pm

Sunday Breakfast from 9 am until 3pm



Keep up to date with what's on and what's new at our website:

<http://www.bluebellciderhouse.org/>

Monday - Jam Session (Live Music)

Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday - Poker

Large car parking area
Children & pets welcome
Large beer garden with canal views



Charlbury Beer Festival Jolly Outing

It was a hot June day in summer 2019, and all was sultry and scorching. The CAMRA bus was full of sweat and perspiration. One wished for a cold bath again and again.

The 44 beers were warm but very palatable. Cooled only by hessian rags atop the bare barrels, intermittently dampened by a water hose. The water from the hose occasionally dropping down the front of the barrels to wash the kindly servers. £10 to charity to get in bought a half pint quaffing glass and a lonely half pint token.

It was the hottest day of the season. From early morning the excitement of the world championship Aunt Sally event was palpable, however Solihull's players John and Ian had skill which left the skittle motionless. Yes, we did not qualify for the main event. Sorry Solihull, another year perhaps.

The trees were moving less and the Solihull jolly group were not moving at all. Baking and beering in equal measure.

To gain respite we spent a while in the culture tent, exposed to an Oxford don's left leaning "a funny view of Brexit". The vinyl records revival comic turn was marginally funnier and more engaging.

In the tent the atmosphere is sick and stuffy, the sun is bright and burning. It is as hot as the fire itself. The earth not quite dry and parched. The hot winds blow the day along and sanctuary is sought in the wonderful beer.

It was noon. The sun was right overhead. It was showering fire. One felt thirsty. One drank beer again and again, but still dissatisfied.

A venture to the excellent Rose and Crown inn and Blue Boar. Ice and cold water a demand. But no, beer again, beautiful citrus IPAs and wonderful bitter ales provide comfort to this happy

Solihull crew.

The village bazaars were not humming with any activity at all. They (Spar shop and post office) were wearing a cloak of emptiness as the village decamped to the festival grounds. Fans and coolers were of little help, but the cool pub interior allowed fresh air and provided relief from the stifling heat. A few minutes walk on the road to the Rose and Crown provided a highly comfortable welcoming environment.



By early evening there was a little respite from the heat. We needed to find the charabanc, with its three open windows and air putrid with the temperature of the day.

Eddie, our jovial steersman had enjoyed a beer free few hours, being welcomed by the Cotswold folk before returning to collect the Solihull contingent.

The jolly Solihull people began to move from the bazaars and tents of Charlbury's festival grounds. They wanted to finish their daily beer inventory. The journey home begins but is tripped by an M40 delay, which Eddie avoids by circling the villages and hamlets on the road to Warwick. Suffocation increased again. Everyone was helpless.... thus passed the hottest day.

An excellent event, quaffing the finest ales, in great company, with lovely sunshine, even nibbling some gourmet offerings. I advise you to join CAMRA, and enjoy a trip or two before they are banned for being too much fun.

Ian Hunter

Broomfields Hall

Solihull British Legion Club

**18 Union Road,
Solihull,
West Midlands,
B91 3DH
0121 705 0742
rblclubsec@aol.com**



**Snooker Room
Bowling Green
Three Real Ales Available
Five Lagers
Home Made Food Daily
Ample Parking for 100 Cars**

In the centre of Solihull

**New members welcome £20/year
Red Tooth Poker every Wednesday
Function Room for Hire**

**Suitable for weddings, birthday parties,
or any occasion.**

Funeral wakes welcome.

**Further details from the
Club Secretary Ben Brannigan**

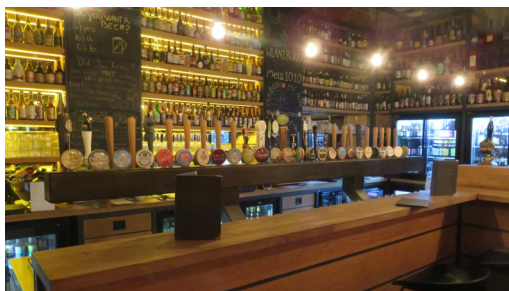


A Tipple in Vienna

My wife Jean and I went to Vienna for a few days in mid-August and whilst there I was able to pop out to a couple of bars/brewpubs to check out the beers available in the city.

We were based on the Stephansplatz so you really could not get more central than that. We quickly established that the best way to get around the city was by using the underground, trams, and buses, which at €17.10 for a week is a really good deal.

My first port of call was 7 Stern Brau at Siebensterngasse 19. Tram 49 takes you there after using the underground to Volkstheatr. Situated behind the Museums Quarter it is very food orientated. It's a massive place with the brewing equipment on show behind the bar. On my visit it was packed with stools at the bar, being the only way to sit down. They do 7 beers; Weiner Helles, a golden unfiltered beer; Pragar Dunkles, malty with a hint of vanilla and caramel; Marzen, described as a red, amber beer with the flavour of walnuts and sponge cake; Hemp Beer, a golden lager with a herbal flavour; Chilli Beer, a golden beer, very, very spicy; Smoked Porter, a dark beer, full bodied with a flavour of bitter chocolate and a subtle smokiness, and finally Weizen Classic, straw coloured with a strong banana aroma and citrus zest. I went for the Pragar Dunkles, and can confirm a nice vanilla flavour. Following this the Smoked Porter went down well, being both smoky and roasted.



Beer taps in Mel's Craft Beer and Diner

Another night I visited Mel's Craft Beers and Diner. At Wipplingerstrasse 9, it lies just 15 minutes walk north of Stephenplatz. They stock 26 beers and 2 ciders (on handpump). Supplementing the bar taps they stock over 350 bottled beers. Perusing the beer menu I went for a US Brewery beer, Flying Dog Easy IPA, 4.7%, and a little disappointing. I then tried an Austrian beer, Bevog Rudeen Black IPA. Very nice, marrying stout, porter, and IPA to give a great taste. I tried a bottle next and chose Austrian brewers Handbrauerei Forstner's Dry Stout. It tasted a little on the sour side to me so was not to my taste.

Our last night took us to the 1516 Brewing Company just off Kärntner Straße, 10 minutes from Stephenplatz. At Krugerstrasse 18 this is another brew pub, again with a strong emphasis on food. The bar on the ground floor gives you a view of the brewing equipment, whilst upstairs there is a non-smoking restaurant. We managed to get a seat outside and I ordered 3 of their beers. Victory Hop Devil IPA at 6.7% was described as a whole leaf hopped beer which was quite malty. Slipper Pale at 5.2% described that it will "transport you on the hoppy side of the tracks. You will love the packed punch by Citra hops hunted down with passion fruit aromas by Galaxy hops and the lemon spikes by Sorachi Ace." I found it a quite soft taste and disappointing for a Citra hopped beer. Finally at 6.5%, Mosaic. This was a bit more like it with a noticeable hop character.

That was about all I could do on my trip to Vienna. It is nice that you can sit outside on the street on warm summer nights. It's a real pavement café culture. I suppose my only bug bear is the lack of hoppy beers. I put this down to the use of lager malts which seem to give soft backbone to the beers, but that after all is the continental way.

Steve Dyson

Editorial

It's been a very busy summer for CAMRA with its "Summer of Pub" campaign, as well as the Great British Beer Festival (GBBF) in Olympia.

Throughout this summer, CAMRA has been highlighting a top 10 of beer gardens, city centre pubs, brewpubs, eco-friendly pubs and others. To find out more visit www.camra.org.uk.

As part of the CAMRA focus on improving beer knowledge and appreciation, a new discovery zone was launched at the Great British Beer Festival (GBBF) to give festival-goers guidance and advice on beer, cider and perry - from their ingredients and the brewing process, to history and types of dispense.

Meanwhile, the organisers of the winter version of GBBF, are busily organising the first of the West Midlands festivals in Birmingham during February next year. We will have more news on this exciting event on our doorstep in the next issue of the Solihull Drinker.

CAMRA has now laid out 10 great reasons to join, which you can find on page 26 next to our membership matters column. As a branch we now have 682 members, and we are planning a pleasant surprise for our 700th. Could that be you?

Talking about membership, you may have noticed that subscriptions have been slightly raised by £1.50 per annum, however this has been more than offset by a new CAMRA real ale (and cider) discount vouchers to the value of £30 per year (replacing the £20 of Wetherspoon vouchers). You can find more details on page 27.

These vouchers can currently be used in **Wetherspoons, Stonegate, and Brains pubs**. Unfortunately, we have already had a case of people trying to use them in other pubs that are not part of the scheme and becoming aggressive when refused. CAMRA has made it clear that this is unacceptable behaviour from members, as I highlight in the discounts section on page 20.

I look forward to seeing you all at the 20th Solihull Beer Festival at the British Legion in Solihull on 3rd - 5th October. As usual we should have a good range of beers, as well as the 6 best strong ales from West Midlands brewers: part of the judging leading to next year's Champion Beer Of Britain. If you are a member you can always volunteer to help, and as a reward you can get cut price beer and a thank you trip like Oxford (see page 11).

David Cove, Editor

The Solihull Drinker is the quarterly newsletter of the Solihull & District Branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale. Views expressed in the Drinker are not necessarily those of the Branch or CAMRA.



Campaign
for
Real Ale

Contributions, comments and advertising enquiries should be sent to Solihull Drinker Editor, 2 Dunton Hall Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 2RA; or via email to

davidcove@hotmail.co.uk

Printed by Thistle Print Ltd, Leeds
Solihull CAMRA 2019©

The Editor has the right to amend or shorten any items in the newsletter, but will always honour the spirit & intention of the contribution.

Advertise Your Business Here With Us

We distribute nearly 3,000 copies of the well read Drinker out to pubs, around Solihull, Warwickshire, and parts of Birmingham.

This gives you the opportunity to put your business in front of people who are in the habit of visiting pubs and restaurants.

You don't have to be a pub or restaurant to advertise.

For details on rates, and help in producing your advert, please contact the Editor.



10 great reasons to join CAMRA

1 CAMPAIGN
for great beer, cider and perry

2 Become a
BEER EXPERT

3 Enjoy CAMRA
BEER FESTIVALS
in front of or behind the bar

4 **GET INVOLVED**
and make new friends

5 Save
YOUR LOCAL

6 Find the
**BEST PUBS
IN BRITAIN**

7 Get great
**VALUE FOR
MONEY**

8 **DISCOVER**
pub heritage and the
great outdoors

9 Enjoy great
HEALTH BENEFITS
(really!)

10 **HAVE YOUR SAY**

What's yours?

Discover your reason
and join the campaign today:

www.camra.org.uk/10reasons



Campaign
for
Real Ale

Membership Matters

As a branch social, we recently visited the Charlbury Beer Festival, which was really good, with just over 40 beers on offer from different breweries. It seems, upon reflection, that at this point in time, there has never been a better choice of real ale and cider available for drinkers since the inception of CAMRA over 40 years ago. I believe this is due to the part played by over 191,745 CAMRA members and the campaigns organised over those 40 years.

The membership of our branch continues to grow at a steady pace and now stands at just over 680.

However, even though the branch membership is increasing we still don't see many new people at our branch meetings or socials. While you might think meetings are formal, we are now making them much shorter to enable all attendees to socialise over a pint of real ale or cider after the meeting. If you don't fancy the idea of a meeting then come along to one of our socials, listed in this magazine or on our website, or help out at our beer festival. It's a more relaxed way of getting to know other members of the local CAMRA branch. Don't forget all new members get a voucher from Solihull & District CAMRA branch for a free pint when they attend their first branch meeting, so what better reason to come along and enjoy a free beer and socialise with other like minded individuals.

Recently a decision was made by the National Executive to change the existing Real Ale Discount Scheme (RADS) which had been in place since 2008 and promoted by JD Wetherspoon PLC.

The new scheme is solely promoted by CAMRA and the value of vouchers has increased from £20 to £30 per year. Another benefit is that the vouchers are valid at all Wetherspoon, Stonegate & S.A. Brain pubs, although some exclusions may apply.

The new RADS came into effect on the 1st July, so anyone joining or renewing after this date will receive £30 of discount vouchers with their membership card. The existing vouchers are still valid, but can only be used at Wetherspoons outlets. There are also numerous other benefits that can be obtained by joining CAMRA, a comprehensive list can be found by visiting www.camra.org.uk.

You also get an online monthly colour newspaper called "Whats Brewing", and an online quarterly magazine "Beer". Both of the above are available to download in different formats.

Members get free or discounted admission to over 160 beer festivals organised by CAMRA, including the Great British Beer Festival. You will get discounted entry to the 20th Solihull CAMRA Beer & Cider festival, to be held at Solihull British Legion Club from the 3rd to 5th October, and if you join CAMRA at our festival you will get a voucher for an additional 2 free pints.

Membership prices start from £26.50 per annum (50p per week), including all of the above. I think you will agree this represents excellent value for money.

Join up, Join in, Join the Campaign at www.camra.org.uk.

Dave Mckowen

Solihull Drinker Issue No. 89 Solihull CAMRA 2019©

Printed by Thistle Print Ltd, Leeds.

The 90th edition of the Solihull Drinker will be published on Monday 2nd December 2019. Please note that the deadline for copy, advertising and any other contributions for this issue is **Sunday 27th October**. Thank you in advance to all contributors.

Join up, join in, join the campaign

From
as little as
£26.50*
a year. That's less
than a pint a
month!

Includes
£30
Real Ale
Cider & Perry
Vouchers

Discover
why we joined.
[camra.org.uk/
10reasons](http://camra.org.uk/10reasons)

Join us, and together we can protect the traditions of great British pubs and everything that goes with them.

Become part of the CAMRA community today – enjoy discounted entry to beer festivals and exclusive member offers. Learn about brewing and beer and join like-minded people supporting our campaigns to save pubs, clubs, your pint and more.

Join the campaign today at
www.camra.org.uk/joinup

*Price for paying by Direct Debit and correct at April 2019. Concessionary rates available.
Please visit camra.org.uk/membership-rates



Campaign
for
Real Ale