

# Solihull



# Drinker

Issue No 93  
Spring 2022

Free  
Please take one

## Can you help the Solihull Drinker

I want to start this time by giving a huge thank you to all of our advertisers, without whom we would be unable to bring you this quarterly magazine.

The magazine is a great way of making CAMRA and our local branch better known and provides a great resource for the community, both in terms of alerting them to what's happening locally and for attracting new members to CAMRA. It helps us campaign on behalf of local pubs and real ale, and on your behalf.

COVID has impacted on many aspects of brewing and pubs over the last couple of years. A key impact on us locally was our having to pause hard copy publication of the Solihull Drinker. Quite rightly CAMRA wanted us all to make sure we did nothing that might allow the disease to spread.

Once precautions started to lift we were able to produce a September 2021 edition. However, we were unable to produce one in December due to a shortfall in advertising revenue. Such shortfalls threaten our ability to continue with future editions and it would be a real shame if we had to cease publication altogether.

**To ensure we can continue, we need your urgent help in identifying and sourcing new advertisers**

Advertisers do not have to be directly beer or pub related. We are very happy to accept adverts from tradespeople or

businesses, restaurants or take-aways, taxi companies, other services etc requiring local reach.

Do you run or know someone who runs a business/service that would benefit from local advertising? If so, or if you want to find out more, then please contact me at [editor@solihull.camra.org.uk](mailto:editor@solihull.camra.org.uk).

The magazine comes out at the start of March, June, September and December and is filled with news, reviews and features, and is distributed to more than 80 local pubs (including some clubs and off licences) in and around Solihull, including local parts of Warwickshire and parts of Birmingham, so has a good reach. It is also available to download from the Solihull CAMRA website (<https://solihull.camra.org.uk>). It is full colour, glossy and lithograph-printed.

We offer a 10% discount for adverts by CAMRA members – current CAMRA membership number required (you can find other benefits of CAMRA membership on page 15). We also offer a 10% discount for those taking out adverts for 4 consecutive editions (the advert can be amended for each edition). If both discounts are applied it is 20% off the advertising rate.

You will find our current advertising rates at the top of page 3

# ALE HUB

★ MICROPUB ★

Both our micropubs have 4 rotating cask ales and 2 craft beers as well as a range of other drinks. We are dog friendly and under 18's are welcome until 6pm.

## LOCATIONS:



### **Ale Hub Shirley**

Opening Hours:

Sunday – Wednesday: 09:00 – 22:00

Thursday – Saturday: 09:00 – 23:00

Coffee Served from: 09:00 – 14:00

Ale Hub Shirley, 277 Longmore Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 3ER



### **Ale Hub Dickens Heath**

Opening Hours:

Sunday – Wednesday: 12:00 – 22:00

Thursday – Saturday: 12:00 – 23:00

Ale Hub Dickens Heath, 73 Main Street, Dickens Heath, Solihull, B90 1UB



**Dogs Are Welcome!**

## Advertising rates

SIZE	INNER PAGES	FRONT COVER
Full (A5) page	£100.00	Not available
1 / 2 page	£75.00	£100 (landscape only)
1 / 3 page	£55.00	£75.00
1 / 4 page	£45.00	£60.00
1 / 6 page	£35.00	£47.00

## Dates for your diary

### Branch Meetings

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

Monday 4 April  
Monday 16 May  
Monday 6 June

White Lion, Hampton in Arden  
Vaults, Knowle  
Fieldhouse

For more details and contacts for the above, please call Secretary Allan Duffy on 01564 200431 or visit our website [www.solihull.camra.org.uk](http://www.solihull.camra.org.uk)

### Committee Meetings

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

Monday 21 March  
Monday 23 May

Flute & Flagon  
Bluebell Cider House

### Socials

17 – 20 March  
Friday 8 April

Saturday 23 April  
24 or 25 June

Darlington weekend away  
Coventry crawl (details from  
[Steve\\_dyson@solihull.camra.org.uk](mailto:Steve_dyson@solihull.camra.org.uk))  
Day trip to Derby, details TBA  
Stratford beer festival, details TBA

For more details of socials please call Paul Wigley on 07402 312457

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

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## Upcoming Midlands Area Beer Festivals and Events

**FOR NATIONAL BEER FESTIVALS PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING LINK:**

<https://www.camra.org.uk/beer-festivals-events/>

**4 – 5 March (Fri – Sat)**

Rugby Beer Festival  
Arnold House  
Elsee Road  
Rugby CV21 3BA

**6 – 7 May (Fri – Sat)**

Rearranged Coventry beer festival  
details tbc

**18 – 19 March (Fri – Sat)**

Round Table beer festival  
Knowle British Legion club  
Warwick Road  
Knowle B93 9LE

**2 – 5 June (Thurs – Sun)**

Case is Altered beer festival  
Five Ways  
Hatton CV35 7JD

**24 – 25 June (Fri – Sat)**

Stratford beer festival  
Stratford Racecourse

### *Solihull* **THE FLUTE & FLAGON**

**28-30 Station Parade**

**Solihull B91 3SB**

**Tel: 0121 711 3630**

**[www.fluteandflagonsolihull.co.uk](http://www.fluteandflagonsolihull.co.uk)**



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food, great drinks, &  
unforgettable experiences*



**sky sports**

**BT Sport**



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 Friday

09.00 – 01.00 Saturday

### **Memories of The Bluebell, Warings Green.**

**Licensee Mrs Laura A Lucas.**

Mrs Lucas had moved to the Bluebell as a young bride after the first world war. Her husband who ran the farm and brewed the beer died before the second world war and she became the licensee. She had three sons, Dave who ran the pub for

her, Fred who had a job but sometimes helped at weekends and Jim who ran the farm and who had been taught brewing by his father. The beer was unusual in that it was sugar free, so many regulars were diabetics. It was a pale beer with a



The Bluebell, Warings Green, picture taken June 1953

slight greenish tinge and an ABV of about 4%. It had a very smooth flavour and was very drinkable and never gave anyone a hangover, something I could vouch for. After Jim left the brewing stopped and the unique recipe died with Jim.

Mrs Lucas died in 1968. Jim tried to take the license but at that time a male licensee had to be married and none of the Lucas sons had married. The building was owned by Umberslade Estates who then leased it to Bulmers who opened it as a cider house and carried out many alterations.

The front door opened onto a passage through the bar room which had a stone flagged floor. The bar counter itself was at the rear of the room between the passageway and the central chimney. The bar had 2 hand pulls and a bottle opener for corks. Spirits bottles were kept on the back shelf and served by measure, no optics. There was a bar skittles table on the inner front corner of the bar. Seating was on wooden settles against the walls and scrubbed tables. The back corner behind the fireplace was where Mrs Lucas held court and ran the crib school. The bar was presided over by Dave, the eldest son, until he died in 1964.

On the right hand side of the passage there was a door to the other front room which had a full size slate bed billiard table. The door was kept locked and only opened for a few select customers

to use. The passage continued to the back of the building. The room behind the bar was Mrs Lucas's lounge, furnished in 1920's style, this was available for ladies to use.

Behind the pub were the farm buildings the domain of Jim, the youngest son. Jim had a small herd of about 5 Guernsey cows, which give the richest milk of all, and a bull. The brew house was above the dairy which was to the left of the building. Jim brewed once a week on Mondays.

Between the house and the barns was a passage which had shelter on one side with benches under. This was where my brother and I sat when we cycled there with Dad on Sunday afternoons in the 1940's having a glass of lemonade and a packet of crisps while he enjoyed his pint. Also, in this passage there were cages with exotic birds which Fred, the middle son, bred and showed. The gents' urinal was an open brick enclosure to the right of the front of the building beyond the painted wall. The walls were lined with slate which was periodically washed down with Jeyes fluid.

During the 1960's I and my family lived on a boat moored at the wharf in Limekiln Lane, opposite the Bluebell. Warings Green was a very small community with a small farm across the road from the pub, run by George Withy, and a house on the other side of the canal where the Trinder family lived. The Lucas family were very helpful, I filled my water tank from Jim's dairy once a week and we could use their phone if we needed to ring for the doctor if the children were ill.

I was happy to repay this kindness by regular evening visits to enjoy a pint and chat with Jim. I felt I had truly arrived one snowy winters evening when Jim asked if I could play crib. Because of the weather Mrs Lucas's crib club was a player short and I was invited to join them. Here the beer was served in a large white enamel jug which was passed round, each player taking a turn at buying the refill. It is certainly very different now!

Colin Scrivener.



## Case Is Altered Octoberfest, 2021

The Case has held beer festivals in the Spring for a number of years but the recent pandemic resulted in the cancellation of the last two. However, a small **Octoberfest** was held over the last weekend in October with a total of 14 real ales and two ciders.

On the main bar were the usual three Old Pie Factory beers alongside Wye Valley Butty Bach and Church End Gravediggers mild. Josh the OPF brewer, produced an Octoberfest (ABV 4.4%), described as a full-bodied winter ale but with a citrus hop nose and finish, which was very popular as was another of the OPF ales, Humble Pie.

On the outside bar, in the front courtyard, were eight guest ales and two ciders. The ales ranged from the Wantsum 1381 (the year of the peasant's revolt), an excellent session IPA (ABV 3.8%) flavoured with mosaic and centennial hops to the popular Plum Porter (4.9%) brewed by Titanic. Your author's favourites were the Dawkins



Bristol Best (4.0%), a well-balanced traditional bitter and White Horse Dark Blue Oxford University Ale (4.3%), a dark chestnut full-bodied ale with a coffee, chocolate and malt nose.

All sessions of the festival were well attended with your author behind the bar for two sessions (pictured above). The guest beers had all run out by the conclusion of the festival. A small contingent from Solihull CAMRA spent the Saturday afternoon sampling the beers (Keith, Geoff, Lawrence and Martin R pictured left).

Iain Wells



ps – with lifting of pandemic precautions the Case will be holding a somewhat later than usual Spring beer festival this year. See advert below



### The Case is Altered

Five Ways, Hatton, Nr Warwick CV35 7JD

An old-fashioned Ale House

Opening Hours

Mon – Wed 6pm – 11pm Thu – Sat 12-2pm & 6pm – 11 pm

Sunday 12pm - 7pm

DATE FOR THE DIARY

BEER FESTIVAL

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June

With a minimum of 20 Ales



**A warm welcome awaits you on the East Sussex coast!**

CAMRA's Members' Weekend, AGM & Conference will be hosted by our Sussex branches at the **Winter Garden in Eastbourne 8-10 April 2022.**

After two years without a physical event, hundreds of members have already registered to attend – to see what Sussex has to offer by way of great beer, cider and perry. The weekend is a chance to meet friends, make new ones, go on organised brewery trips and take part in activities.

It's free to attend and open to all CAMRA members.

The weekend is staffed by volunteers – with a range of opportunities to help on offer.

All the information is on the event page – where you can register to attend / sign up to help – go to

[www.camra.org.uk/members-weekend-agm-conference](http://www.camra.org.uk/members-weekend-agm-conference)

Or email [membersweekend@camra.org.uk](mailto:membersweekend@camra.org.uk)

CHANGING RANGE OF  
**4 REAL ALES**

EXTENSIVE RANGE OF  
**CRAFT BEER**  
ON TAP AND CAN!

#### OPENING TIMES

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY  
**2PM - 11PM**

SATURDAY **12PM - 11PM**

SUNDAY **1PM - 6PM**

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

@THESHAKINGHAND  
 @THESHAKINGHANDSHIRLEY  
 THESHAKINGHAND2018@GMAIL.COM



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## COP 26 – Drink Greener

As COP 26 got underway last year CAMRA launched a new 'Drink Greener' quality mark which helps consumers recognise and celebrate where our campaigns can help you become a more environmentally conscious drinker and pub goer. The great news is that one of the most environmentally friendly ways to drink is by enjoying cask beer or cider from a local producer at the pub!

Environmental issues are becoming increasingly high profile for governments throughout the UK. In response CAMRA has formed an Environmental Working Group to look at which aspects of our campaign are already environmentally friendly as well as create and launch new campaigns with a green focus.

Some of the environmental benefits associated with the pubs, clubs, brewers, and cider makers include:

- Drinking local beer, rather than imported, is better for the environment – you can save 65g of CO2 for every pint!
- Beer served on draught has benefits as the materials used in every step of the supply chain can be reused. This means no waste is created.
- Brewers across the UK have already produced innovative technological breakthroughs designed to save water and energy and reduce emissions and waste.
- The CAMRA LocAle scheme has been promoting pubs that serve local beer since 2007.
- Traditional cider and perry is usually made close to the orchard where the fruit was harvested and is often sold to local consumers, which reduces transport emissions.
- The orchards that produce fruit for cider and perry absorb carbon and contribute to biodiversity.



## Hail to the Ale

### Local Beer, Pub, Club and Brewery News

Skogen, in Dorridge, has had its planning application for the first floor approved.

The proposed conversion of Tidbury Green Farm into a new pub, by Brunning & Price, called the Mallard, will now go ahead and open later this year.

The Lion in Shirley has opened serving 3 real ales.

The Butchers in Henley-In-Arden has closed and will reopen as The Mount – by

chef Glynn Purnell. It is expected to remain open to those just after a pint.

Please let us know, whether you are a publican or a drinker, if you are aware of any other pub, club or brewery news that you feel worth sharing [pubs@solihull.camra.org.uk](mailto:pubs@solihull.camra.org.uk)

We always welcome such news as it helps to keep us up to date.

## Government's Autumn 2021 Budget

The Chancellor announced a historic improvement in the Budget to the way alcohol is taxed, although the changes will not begin to take effect until February 2023.

For the first time, draught beer and cider served in pubs and social clubs in Great Britain will be taxed at a lower rate – something CAMRA has campaigned for for years.

This establishes an important principle in the taxation system for the first time: that pubs and clubs are a force for good in our communities and should be better supported to help them survive, thrive and compete with the likes of supermarkets.

In addition, the lower strength duty band was increased to include drinks below 3.5% ABV, and a progressive duty system for small cider makers was also announced. The new progressive duty system for cider and perry will support

smaller producers to grow their businesses, increasing choice of quality ciders and perries available to consumers.

CAMRA will now be campaigning to ensure the new, lower rate of duty for draught beer and cider will also apply to smaller brewery beer and 'bag in box' ciders and perries.

This is necessary as the budget announced the changes will only apply to containers of 40 litres or more, and only where such containers are designed to be connected to a dispense system.

That would exclude most bag in box ciders (the commonest form) and smaller beer vessels.

So, although some key CAMRA campaigning aims have been listened to and met, there is still more work to be done.

## CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2022



### THE FIELDHOUSE

10 Knightcote Drive,  
Solihull B91 3JU  
0121 703 9209



Open from 11.00am - 11.30pm

Hot & cold meals served all week from  
11.00 am to 9.00 pm  
Brunch from 10 am weekends

### Live Music & Events

Sat 19 March - St Patrick's Vinyl  
Revival party  
Fri 15 April - new menu  
launch - 25% discount for  
CAMRA members (18-20 April)  
Sat 23 April - Elvis & Neil  
Diamond tribute show  
Sat 7 May - BGT runner up  
- Julian Smith

[www.emberinns.co.uk/the-fieldhouse-solihull](http://www.emberinns.co.uk/the-fieldhouse-solihull)



Fieldhouse,  
Solihull

*6 Real Ales on at all times  
Landlord, UBU, Proper Job, plus 4  
regularly changing guests.  
All Cask Ales £2.89 a pint on Mondays  
and Thursdays – Wine club Monday  
& Thursday £10 per bottle*

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

- 20p discount off a pint of Cask Ale
- 20% off food

# Broomfields Hall Solihull British Legion club

Broomfields Hall  
Union Road,  
Solihull,  
B91 3DH  
0121 705 0742  
[clubsec@solihullrblclub.co.uk](mailto:clubsec@solihullrblclub.co.uk)



Snooker Room with 4 tables  
Darts Board  
Bowling Green  
Weekly Rotated Guest Ales  
Ample Parking  
Large selection of Beers  
Fresh food cooked daily

In the heart of Solihull  
New Members Welcome £30/year  
Function Room for Hire: 50–150 people  
Suitable for weddings, birthdays, funeral  
wakes or any occasion.

Available for business meetings or networking groups.  
2 Snooker Teams including a premier league team





# Knowle & Dorridge Cricket Club

Solihull & District CAMRA Club of The Year 2016 – 2019

Awarded Cask Marque accreditation 2021

Knowle & Dorridge Cricket Club offers a warm & comfortable environment in which to enjoy your favourite ales. 3 guest beers and a real cider on every week, with varieties changing all the time.

The bar is open every day, featuring Sky Sports and BT Sport events. In the summer you can relax with your favourite ale watching Birmingham Premier League Cricket with many past and present county players on view. Sponsorship opportunities are also available at K&D.

While the club is a private members club, and is popular on match days, there is no charge for admission, and guests who are CAMRA members are welcome on production of a CAMRA membership card. Social membership is also available which comes with a discount entitlement at the bar to make your favourite beers even better value.

Station Road  
Dorridge  
B93 8ET  
Tel 01564 774338

## Opening Hours:

Mon-Thurs 4.00pm - 10.30pm  
Fridays: 4.00pm - 11.00pm  
Saturdays 12.00noon - 11.00pm  
Sundays 12.00 noon - 10.30pm

Website: [knowleanddorridgecc.co.uk](http://knowleanddorridgecc.co.uk)  
Email: [knowledorridgecc@gmail.com](mailto:knowledorridgecc@gmail.com)  
Instagram @knowledorridgecc



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



## Useful Contact Numbers

### Chair/Beer Festival

Martin Buck. 01564 770708

### Secretary

Allan Duffy 01564 200431

### Membership

Dave Mckowen 01564 778955

### Cider & Perry/Vice Chair

Ray Cooke 01564 777890

### Pubs Campaigning/Socials

Paul Wigley 07402 312457

### Treasurer

Brenda Duffy 01564 200431

### Solihull Drinker Editor

Ray Cooke 01564 777890

### Press & Publicity

Vacant

### Trading Standards contacts:

For local consumer advice in our area please contact the following

Solihull - [www.solihull.gov.uk/tradingstandards](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/tradingstandards)

Warwickshire - [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/contactustradingstandards](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/contactustradingstandards)

Citizens Advice Consumer Service - phone 03454 040506

## Green Duck Thank You Trip

It seems, and is, an awfully long time since we ran our last Solihull CAMRA beer festival at the British Legion in Solihull. Indeed, it was early October 2019.

One thing we always do is to run some form of thank you event for those who volunteer to help at the festival. People give up their own time to volunteer and help out, so it seems only right and proper that we recognise that. More often as not the thank you is in the form

of a trip somewhere. The branch then help out either with transport costs (such as laying on the coach when we went to York), or by contributing toward a brewery visit and some food.

The thank you for our 2019 festival was a trip to the Green Duck Brewery in Stourbridge (<https://greenduckbrewery.co.uk>) and thanks go to our chair Martin Buck for organising it. People made their own way there and we all met up at the brewery tap, (Cont. Pg 14)

## CAMRA Real Ale, Cider and Perry Vouchers

The CAMRA Voucher scheme is a member benefit that entitles members to £30 (60 x 50p) vouchers off a pint of Real Ale, Cider or Perry. The vouchers in this CAMRA owned and operated scheme remain valid for the length of membership for added flexibility.

They are redeemable at over 1,550 pubs nationwide, including J D Wetherspoon, Stonegate, Brains, Castle Rock and Amber Taverns managed pubs.

To get an up-to-date listing for pubs participating near you, enter your postcode at [www.camra.org.uk/join/](http://www.camra.org.uk/join/)

membership-benefits/camra-voucher-scheme.

CAMRA promotes responsible drinking and thus encourages all vouchers to be used responsibly at all times.





the Badelynge Bar in Rufford Road. The entrance is a somewhat unprepossessing green door in a rather featureless brick wall, so please don't end up walking past it. Once inside you will find a good-sized room and the brewery itself behind glass walls, so you can watch brewers at work. Another interesting feature are the murals on the walls (pictured right); well worth a visit to see these alone.

Green Duck brew a wide range of real ales and craft beers and there were 5 real ales on tap when we visited – Bostin Mild; Session IPA; Dakota; American Pale; and Vanilla Sky (stout). I tried and enjoyed them all and also tried a craft saison beer brewed with cranberries. I expected that to be a little sourer than it was, but still very nice.

Our actual thank you for the volunteers (most of whom are pictured above) was a buffet and tokens for 2 pints. The buffet was fairly basic in being either cheese and red onion or beef rolls/cobs/barms (or whatever variant you can come up with), pork pie, and crisps. However, I'm

not sure I've ever seen a buffet with rolls quite that large or quite that filling.

Once we'd used our tokens and then eaten, we moved on into the centre of Stourbridge. We started at the Seven Stars, close to Stourbridge Junction station, which had an impressive 13 real ales on. I had a pint of Salopian First Time Caller, not one I'd tried before. Unfortunately, I was a little underwhelmed by it. This incarnation of the pub dates from 1903 when it was an M&B flagship. And another little snippet – Robert Plant (Led Zeppelin) had one of his first public performances here at the age of 15, playing harmonica with the Delta Blues band.

Off then to two pubs serving Black Country stalwarts Bathams at the Bird in Hand and Holdens at the Shrubbery Inn. It's been a long time since I've drunk



The Solihull Drinker is the quarterly newsletter of the Solihull & District branch of CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale). Views expressed are not necessarily those of the branch or CAMRA.

Contributions, comments and advertising enquiries should be sent to

[editor@solihull.camra.org.uk](mailto:editor@solihull.camra.org.uk)

Printed by Thistle Print Ltd.,  
Leeds

Solihull CAMRA 2022 ©



Campaign  
for  
Real Ale

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

## Advertise Your Business Here With Us

We distribute to around 80 pubs & clubs around Solihull, and parts of Warwickshire and 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

[editor@solihull.camra.org.uk](mailto:editor@solihull.camra.org.uk)

Bathams mild, so I opted for that at the former, and for best bitter at the latter. Unfortunately, I wasn't overwhelmed by either.

The group had thinned out substantially by the time we walked down to our final stop, the Red House Boutique in Foster Place, with only 6 of us left. They had a decent selection on offer, Abbeydale Moonshine; Vocation Pride & Joy; Enville Ale; Three Tuns Clerics Cure; and Titanic Plum Porter. The Moonshine was a little tired, but I enjoyed the Pride & Joy. By the

time I started drinking cider I knew it was time to call it a day, so it was a walk back up the hill and then off to the station for the journey home.

I'd not really experienced many Green Duck beers till this trip, but I know I will be looking out for them from now on.

Ray Cooke

## Membership Matters

At the time of writing our current branch membership stands at 599. This has dropped by at least 90 members since the beginning of the pandemic and national membership has dropped by c40,000 to 159,520. Let's hope now that the Covid-19 restrictions are being phased out that we can return to some sort of normality and branches can start to run beer festivals across the country to allow us to showcase the virtues of the campaign and why it's worth joining.

With prices of membership starting from £28.50 per annum (only 55p a week), I think you will agree this represents good value for money. How about giving a years' membership as a gift for Father's Day on 19th of June. An even greater advantage of joining CAMRA is the opportunity to become involved with your local branch, including social events, meeting new friends, helping out at our beer festival as well as campaigning. Another benefit in joining is you will receive real ale/cider vouchers with a value of £30 (see page 13 for where you can redeem them).

Solihull & District CAMRA Branch have social outings about once a month and vary from pub crawls, brewery visits to

beer & curry nights, so there is something for everyone. Our branch meetings, where a variety of topics are discussed in relation to the local real ale scene, are held on the first Monday of each month at a local pub. Though they contain a certain amount of CAMRA business, we endeavour to keep them short and friendly only lasting on average an hour, so allowing more time for socialising etc. It may come as a surprise but we also enjoy a pint or two of real ale at the same time.

And as a bonus all new members will get within their branch welcome pack a voucher for a FREE PINT which is redeemable in conjunction with a valid membership card upon attendance at their first Branch meeting courtesy of Solihull & District CAMRA Branch. For a full list of forthcoming events see the Dates for the Diary section in this magazine or visit [www.solihull.camra.org.uk](http://www.solihull.camra.org.uk).

So come on what are you waiting for, Join up, Join in Join the Campaign.

Dave Mckowen  
Membership Secretary

### **Solihull Drinker Issue No. 93 Solihull CAMRA 2022 ©**

**Printed by Thistle Print Ltd., Leeds**

**The 94th edition of the Solihull Drinker will be published (pandemics permitting) on Monday 6 June 2022. Please note that the deadline for copy, advertising and any other contributions for this issue is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May. Thank you in advance to all contributors.**

# CAMRA MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

Campaigning for pubs, pints and people since 1971.

We're leading the fight to keep pubs alive and thriving in every community, serving a broad selection of quality ales and ciders.

## Here's how CAMRA makes a difference

[www.camra.org.uk/campaigns](http://www.camra.org.uk/campaigns)

### Our Campaigns ▼

#### Promoting live beer, cider & perry

CAMRA promotes local, small and independent producers. Initiatives include *LocA/e* (promoting locally brewed ale) and the *Real Cider Served Here* scheme.



#### Helping you save your local

Our in-depth pub-saving guides for England, Scotland and Wales, and advice on Assets of Community Value listing and Community Pub Ownership, provide campaigners with all the tools required to save your local, if it is under threat.



#### Lobbying Government at all levels

CAMRA members across the UK actively lobby their MPs, devolved elected representatives and councillors via email and social media. Our branches talk to politicians about a range of vital topics including taxation, regulation and consumer choice.



#### Pubs as a force for good

Pubs play a vital role in tackling loneliness and social isolation, foster community spirit and encourage social interaction. Research commissioned by CAMRA found that people with a local pub are happier, have more friends and are more engaged with their local communities.



#### Pub Company Reform

CAMRA campaigned for over ten years to introduce a Pubs Code and Adjudicator in England and Wales, to address the imbalance of power between pub companies and tenants. We continue to make sure tenants are treated fairly by pub companies, so they can thrive and run great pubs for us to enjoy, and are seeking a Pubs Code for Scotland too.



### COVID Campaign Response ▼

#### Pulling Together

Our cross-industry campaign supports pubs, clubs, taprooms, breweries and cider makers through the COVID-19 crisis. They need your support now more than ever. We are campaigning on their behalf and providing resources to help them survive. This includes promoting *Cheers for Choice* to ensure beer stocks in reopened pubs, *Brew2You* and *Save our Pubs*.



#### Brew2You

This digital platform has been a vital tool in connecting beer lovers to local pubs, breweries and cider makers offering takeaway and delivery during lockdowns and beyond.



#### Speaking up for pubs, clubs, brewers and cider makers

CAMRA is at the forefront of lobbying for better support, and against unfair restrictions during the Coronavirus pandemic. We support a cut in beer duty on draught beer served in pubs to ensure fair competition with supermarkets and changes to the Business Rates system to end the unfair burden on pubs.



For member benefits visit  
[www.camra.org.uk/benefits](http://www.camra.org.uk/benefits)

If you love beer and pubs,  
CAMRA membership is for you!

[join.camra.org.uk](http://join.camra.org.uk)

