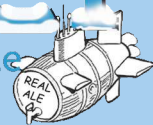


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InnQuirer

Furness CAMRA Branch Magazine

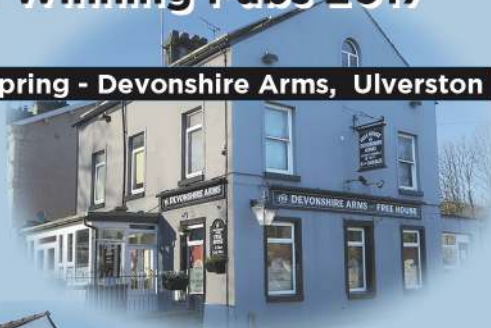
Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18



Furness CAMRA Award Winning Pubs 2017



Winter 16/17 - The Yewdale, Coniston



Spring - Devonshire Arms, Ulverston

Pub of the Year 2017



King's Arms, Hawcoat



Summer - Wellington Inn, Loppergarth



Autumn - Tower Bank Arms, Sawrey

Inside this issue:

Beer Quality and how to complain
William Marshall and Cartmel
Well, that's Christmas and New Year over
Beer Festivals, their purpose and future

Plus regulars:

LocAle
Discounts
Crossword and more...



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CAMRA Furness Branch Magazine
www.furness.camra.org.uk

InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

InnQuirer is produced entirely in-house by Furness CAMRA volunteers with final printing done by HSPMilners

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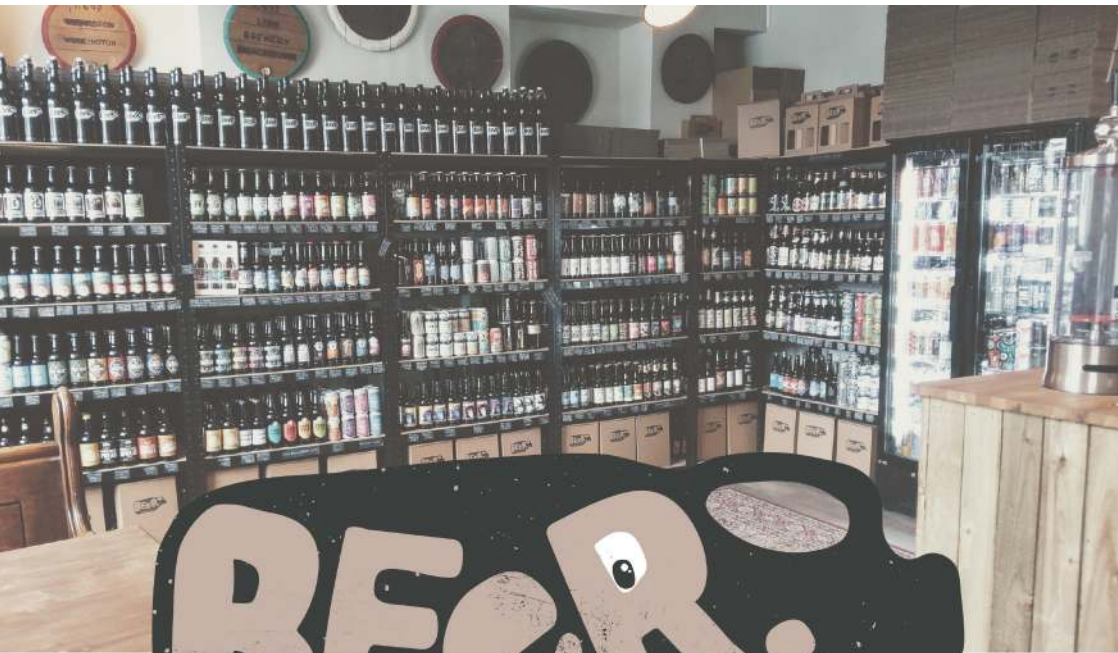
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A word from the Editor

Christmas has come and gone, New Year resolutions have come (and probably gone too) and to those of you who stopped drinking for January, I hope your local pub managed to survive without your trade. If not, you only have yourself to blame! I think the sensible advice would have been to have a few no-alcohol days a week all year round and not binge on the weekends! Just in time for the magazine to go to press, we managed to get up to the Tower Banks Arms in Near Sawrey to present the Autumn Pub of the Season certificate. We have had some great 'Pubs of the Season' this past year and the only real problem in a rural area like Furness is trying to get to the more remote ones for a few drinks without having to drive. That doesn't mean we shouldn't try and it was great to see people from all over, including someone from New Zealand, in there when we visited the pub. This is really the point of CAMRA at the branch level, going to see all our great pubs when we can and keeping in touch with the landlord (and the breweries too!) CAMRA itself at 'HQ' can be seen as a campaigning organisation, lobbying for reductions in beer duty, rates and the like as well as promoting quality conditioned beer but at the branch level, we do try and keep to our roots in championing the beer and the places who brew and sell it.

Disclaimer: Views and opinions expressed in articles in this magazine are not necessarily the same as those of Furness CAMRA or CAMRA in general.



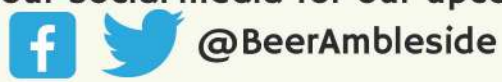
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Chairman's Report

Dave Stubbins - Furness Branch Chairman

InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

I hope you all enjoyed the festive season and are looking forward to a happy and prosperous 2018.

2017 was another challenging year for the industry as another significant rise in the minimum wage was announced, but I'm pleased to be able to report that there were very few pub closures in our area, at least among those serving real ale, and it was particularly pleasing to see the Manor at Oxen Park reopening as a free house, the Town House in Barrow opening and the opening of Beerwolf, a micropub and beer shop in Ulverston.

Congratulations to those pubs that won our awards this year, featured on the front cover. However, it is becoming increasingly difficult to select these pubs as so many of you are serving an excellent range and quality of beers.

CAMRA's annual Good Beer Guide can unfortunately only include a certain number of you owing to space constraints, which we know is frustrating to many of our landlords who work so hard to maintain excellent quality beers.

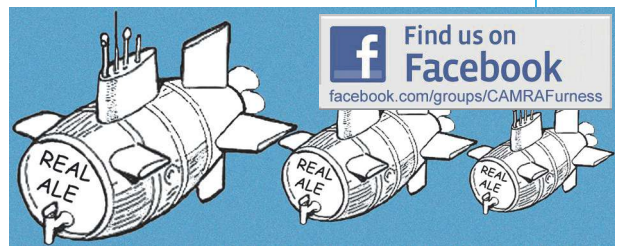
In our selection process we are

increasingly reliant on beer scores submitted by branch members and visitors to our area so please take a little time to visit the WhatPub site and register a score. It is much appreciated.

Our brewers have also generally had a good year with seven beers produced in Cumbria getting through to the finals of the Champion Beer of Britain competition. In the Furness area, Foxfield with Dark Mild and Barn gates, with four winning beers, Red Bull Terrier, Goodhew's Dry Stout, Tag Lag and Cracker, were our successful brewers. We are aware of expansion plans for Fell brewery in Flookburgh and will be welcoming Hawkshead Brewery back to our area as their expansion plans involve the construction of a new brewery in South Cumbria, to operate alongside their existing plant in Staveley.

We have scheduled branch meetings up to the end of March which are included in our diary. All are very welcome to attend and I hope to see you there.

Enjoy our beers and pubs in 2018.



Why not follow the **Furness CAMRA** Group on **Facebook**? Go to: facebook.com/groups/CAMRAFurness and join the group to see the latest information.

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Beer Quality (and how to complain politely!)

Tom Stainer - CAMRA Head of Communications

InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

It's important to remember that the vast majority of bar staff across the UK try as hard as they can to give the best experience possible - but knowing how and when to give feedback is important as consumers, because if we don't things won't improve.

Also bear in mind that in many cases it's not the person behind the bar who is at fault. They may not have had enough training, someone else might be responsible for looking after the cellar or they might just be (unwillingly) doing what they're told - so be gentle!

Being reasonable and polite works best in most circumstance. People react better when you don't make a scene or try to embarrass them, so you'll find your complaint will be dealt with more seriously if you do it quietly and privately, rather than putting on a show for the rest of the pub.

The "don't you know who I am?" approach tends to go down like an off-pint as well. Being a beer expert - or dare I say it - a card-carrying CAMRA member doesn't make you more important, or your criticism more valid.

Make sure you're not in error before you wade in. Is that pint really murky, or did you opt for something unfiltered without realising? Did you order an intentionally sour beer? Are you about to demand someone tops up an oversized pint glass? And just double check that's not your lipstick on the glass.

As a beer consumer you should expect some basics. Drinks should be served in a clean glass. Ideally, you should get a full measure, without it slopping down the outside of the glass (but pick your battles!). Depending on your preference (and geographic location) it should have a nice, tight, creamy head, or a looser, but still visible frothy top. Remind yourself where you are in the country before you get too het up if the head is not to your usual liking however.

Before you have a sip, have a smell. While a few beers might have unusual aromas, some intentionally veering toward "off", the majority should smell enticing, perhaps malty

or aromatic with citrus or floral hops.

Anything veering toward vinegar or musty cellars might raise some suspicions. And like most things in life, if it smells of baby sick, put it down carefully and back away.

Even if unfiltered, there really shouldn't be anything chunky floating around in the glass - and definitely nothing with eyes or legs. Unfiltered beers might have a perfectly acceptable haze, filtered beers should look bright and polished.

Like the aroma, most beers shouldn't have any "off" flavours - these include apple, bananas, cheese, metal, sulphur, popcorn or vinegar. All indicate a beer which either hasn't been brewed particularly well, hasn't been looked after, or is past its best.

Carbonation is also important. While most beers shouldn't display soft-drink like levels of carbonation, a well-kept beer should have a nice, refreshing touch of conditioning when you drink it - and not be completely flat and lifeless.

And finally, temperature. Tastes vary from place to place, pub to pub and beer style to beer style, but beer should be served well below room temperature (but not super-chilled either, which inhibits flavour). A pint of beer can always warm up to ideal temperature as you drink, a too-warm pint is never going to get any better.

So, if you're not getting the above, politely point out what's wrong as soon as you notice it - staff tend to be a bit suspicious if you only decide a beer is too warm with two gulps left to go.

Try to be as specific as possible - but without being irritatingly technical. "There's an odd flavour of vegetables" is usually better received than "I can't bear the levels of Mercaptan present!". Equally just marching up and stating "I don't like that" and demanding a new pint might not achieve all you were hoping.

It's rare you won't be offered a replacement pint and most pubs will appreciate being told if a beer has gone off, or there is something

Continued on page 9

THE COMMODORE INN GRANGE OVER SANDS



The Commodore Inn, the sister pub to The Sun Inn in Ulverston, has recently undergone an extensive refurbishment. Open daily from 11am, excellent quality food is served 12-2:30pm and 5:30pm-8:30pm

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The Inn has excellent views over Morecambe Bay.



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www.facebook.com/TheCommodoreInnGrangeoverSands/

Beer Quality (and how to complain politely!)

Tom Stainer - CAMRA Head of Communications

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else amiss.

Be realistic in what you are complaining about. If a pub hasn't got much throughput, the first pint of the day from a pump might not be ideal - but if a replacement pint is just as bad, it's not going to improve how ever many replacements you get. Try a different beer, or move pubs.

Equally, if a pub's cooling system simply isn't up to scratch, or it's clear there isn't a decently washed and dried glass in the entire place, you might be better moving on.

It bears repetition however that if you just leave, the pub doesn't know why. So give them some positive feedback - "that beer would be really good if it was a bit colder" or like many of us, take the very British way out and make a (non-ranty) comment on one of the many online pub review sites.

Try to be realistic in your demand for putting things right. An apology and a replacement is

a win for both sides - claiming damages for suffering is pushing it.

If your complaint is dismissed and ignored, to be honest there's little you can do other than potentially embarrass yourself with big scene. There will always be a small minority of staff who take a sip and pass it back with a "tastes okay to me", or "it's meant to be like that". If you enjoy long and unresolved arguments and festering resentment next time you go in, then carry on.

There's often more value to be had in contacting brewers directly if you've had a bad experience with their beer in a pub. They don't want their reputation soiled by a poor pub and if they're made aware of quality issues they'll be keen to solve them on your behalf.

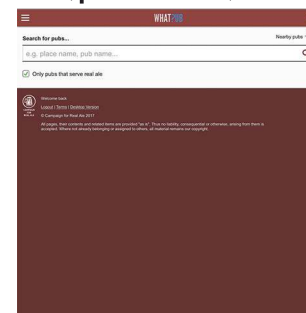
Ultimately, what you can do is vote with your feet and go elsewhere - and make sure you warn people off repeat offenders, and importantly, promote and praise those pubs which do get it right.

National Beer Scoring System

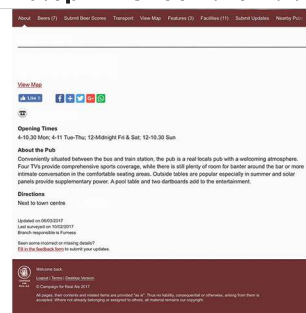
If you are a **CAMRA** member then you can help us by scoring the quality of your beer on **WhatPub**. You need to sign in with your **CAMRA** membership, select the pub then the brewery and finally the beer. You can then rate the beer on a score of 1 (Poor quality) to 5 (Perfect - a very rare score). Remember this is a rating of the quality of the beer, not whether you like it or not! Beer scoring helps us select pubs for the Good Beer Guide so why not become part of the process by scoring your pint at:

www.whatpub.com

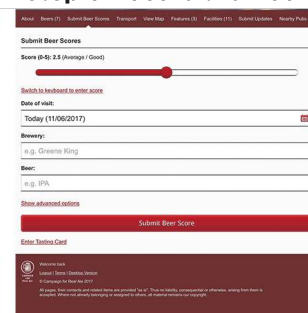
Step 1 - Find the Pub



Step 2 - Check the Pub



Step 3 - Score the Beer



(A fuller description of how this works can be found online and in this magazine from time to time in past and future issues)

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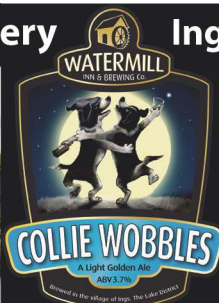
Furness CAMRA Pub of the Year 2015

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Well, that's Christmas and New Year over....

Ann Summers-Glass - Furness CAMRA Database co-ordinator

InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

Well, that's the Christmas and New Year festivities over (I'm writing this at the beginning of January) and we're all now planning for Easter! I hope Santa brought you everything you wanted and that you haven't broken too many New Year Resolutions.

I hope one you're sticking to is supporting Tryanuary, which is a nationwide campaign to encourage support for the beer industry throughout January. We're blessed here in Furness, and in all of Cumbria and Lancashire, with lots of good breweries - small, medium and large - and we have a really good range of pubs selling their beer. Add a bit of excitement to your life by trying beers you might not otherwise think of; you may surprise yourself. A number of breweries, pubs and other outlets have been organising special events, not just on the official Beer Day for Cumbria and the Isle of Man which is 28 January (Lancashire's is on 27 January).

And if you're reading this after January, don't think you've missed out. The breweries and pubs are still there and need our continued support throughout the year. (And you can start planning for next year's Tryanuary - it's an annual event!)

I'm not saying you should be drinking beer (or any alcohol at all, in fact!) every day - a couple of "dry" days each week will help you stay healthy, but going to the pub for a couple of pints with friends is one of the great pleasures in life. It's a lot more fun than sitting at home with a slab of cheap tinnies!

A big problem in areas like Furness is the lack of a good public transport system. A lot of of

pubs aren't anywhere near a bus route or are a fair trek from a rail station. The designated driver usually ends up drinking a fruit juice which costs as much if not more than a beer! However, things may be improving. A number of small brewers are now producing low or no alcohol beers - I've even heard of a cask one being brewed in West Cumbria. There are also some soft drinks with more interesting flavours (Cloudy Apple & Yorkshire Rhubarb with Cinnamon, anyone?). It might be helpful if we all spoke to our favourite landlords to make sure they are aware of all these new options.

Of course, so many pubs are "tied" to pubcos or breweries who control the price the landlord pays for their stock (and what they're allowed to stock) which means the price to the customer can be eye-wateringly high! Should we campaign more to support our tenant and lessee publicans? One of CAMRA's key campaigns is Promoting and Protecting Pubs and this is one of ways we can do that.

So, let's raise a glass to 2018! Here's to our brewers and our landlords, and cheers to our designated drivers!



Furness Autumn Pub of the Season Presentation

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Dave Stubbins, Furness CAMRA Branch Chairman, presents the award for Furness CAMRA Pub of the Season, Autumn 2017 to Anthony at the Tower Bank Arms in Near Sawrey.

We are so fortunate in Furness that we have access to some really great pubs in the area as well as some excellent, award-winning, breweries (in case you were wondering, the beer on the bar was Barngates Tag Lag and it was very tasty!)

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Sir William Marshall

by PeeGee - Furness Branch Member



InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

Question: Unsworths' Yard Brewery, Cartmel Priory and Magna Carta. What is the common element?

Answer: Sir William Marshal, whose favourite tippie, according to Unsworth's delightful anachronism, was their Crusader ale; who founded the Priory in 1189; and who was chiefly responsible for getting King John and his revolting barons to sign Magna Carta.

One of the most important men in mediaeval England, Sir William Marshal has been largely shunted off onto the sidelines and forgotten. This account is intended to give him some of the recognition that he so richly deserves.

Born c1146/7 the fourth son of a minor noble, William Marshal rose from relative poverty to become, as Regent for the boy King Henry III, the most powerful man in the kingdom, serving with unimpeachable loyalty five crowned kings, two of which he knighted.

He first comes to notice in 1152 as hostage for his father's good behaviour in readying Newbury Castle for surrender to King Stephen during the anarchy of the war with Matilda. When his father reneged on his agreement, Stephen threatened to catapult Marshal over the battlements, to which the father replied that he had hammer and anvil to make more and better sons. Marshal's youthful innocence endeared him to Stephen, who spared his life and took him into his household.

Aged about 12 Marshal was packed off to the household of mother's cousin William de Tancarville in Normandy, where he learned the chivalric craft of the warrior knight, was knighted in 1166 and grew to excel at the tournament. In this, the sport of the day, participants would ride around in mock battle, beat merry hell out of each other and capture as many "prisoners" as possible. The unfortunate victims would then be ransomed. At these frequent events, and by defeating over 500 opponents in single combat, Marshal's prowess gained him a sizable fortune.

In 1168 he was accompanying his uncle Patrick, Earl of Salisbury, in escorting Henry II's Queen Eleanor around her lands in Aquitaine when, ambushed by the always-troublesome de Lusignan brothers, the Earl was killed. Fury at his uncle's death, though not fully armed, Marshal charged the murderers but was heavily outnumbered, seriously wounded and taken prisoner.

Recognising his bravery that had allowed her to escape and realising his potential, the Queen paid his ransom, brought him back to health and took him into her service. In 1170 she entrusted to him the tutoring of her eldest surviving son Henry, now crowned as the future king, in martial arts and the duties of manhood.

Marshal's first real test of loyalty arose in 1173, when the young king rebelled against his father. With King Henry's acceptance Marshal chose to support his immediate master. In 1183 young Henry caught dysentery and, dying, told Marshal to take his heart on crusade to Jerusalem. Nothing is known about his stay in the Holy Land, but it was probably at this time that he took the vows of the Knights Templar.

On Marshal's return in 1186 King Henry, who by his marriage to Eleanor had become the most powerful ruler in Europe, with lands stretching from Scotland to the Pyrenees, took him into his service and, a year later granted him the large royal estate of Cartmel.

When in 1188 discord between the king and his eldest son Richard escalated into open rebellion in Aquitaine, the king, now failing and fleeing Richard's onslaught, ordered Marshal to cover his retreat. Marshal ambushed Richard, killing his horse under him, and then returned to Chinon to attend his dying master.

There, in 1189, he oversaw the dressing of the corpse in royal robes and its transport to Fontevrault Abbey where, as it lay in state awaiting the arrival of the new king, Marshal must have wondered what Richard's reaction to him might be.

Continued on page 15



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Sir William Marshall

by PeeGee - Furness Branch Member



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Continued from page 13

It is a measure of Richard's insight and leadership that, after some banter about the ambush, Richard recognised the qualities of this loyal courtier, raised Marshal to a position of trust, granted him lands in England and Normandy, and gave him the hand of Isabel, the heiress of Richard "Stongbow" de Clare, who owned extensive properties in Wales and Ireland. This marriage, which later brought also the Earldom of Pembroke, raised Marshal from landless knight into one of the wealthiest men in the kingdom.

King Richard now made ready to depart on the Third Crusade and left the country in the hands of a council of regency composed of four justices, including William Marshal, to run it in his absence. During Richard's 10-year reign, this absence (which included Richard's 14-month captivity in Austria) turned out to be all but two periods totalling 10 months.

In spite of such long periods without personal contact with his king, Marshal continued to serve loyally, in particular in defending the interests of the absentee king against his younger brother John, who was constantly scheming and plotting to oust him and take the throne for himself.

In 1189 Richard died from gangrene brought on by a cross-bow bolt fired from the battlements of the small castle at Chalus-Chabrol that he was besieging. There was heated discussion among the assembled magnates whether to honour Richard's death bed nomination of John as his successor or whether the crown should go to the son, Arthur of Brittany, of his deceased elder brother Geoffrey. The rule of primogeniture had not yet been established, and William Marshal came down firmly on John's side.

John and Marshal were both in Normandy at the time and John dispatched Marshal to England to secure his throne and obtain sworn allegiance from his barons. This they gave on

Marshal's assurance that John would hear their grievances. He then returned to Normandy to escort the king back to England, where he attended the coronation of king John, who conferred on him substantial grants of land and confirmed him, through his wife, in the highly prestigious and very wealthy earldom of Pembroke.

The next few years Marshal attended the king but could not prevent his incompetence from losing most of his French possessions. As to Marshal's own possessions in Normandy, he obtained permission from John in 1204 to deal with King Philip II for the swearing of fealty. The wily French king, however, insisted on a full oath that would deprive Marshal of his Norman lands if he were to fight against him. King John was furious and in 1205 Marshal had to retire humiliated to his troublesome possessions in Ireland. In 1207 he was summoned back to court to endure the king's vindictive and spiteful behaviour, leaving his lands in Ireland to be ravaged in his absence.

The confrontation between K John and Marshal ended in 1208 with a signed rapprochement, and Marshal was permitted to return to Ireland where he stayed until 1212, when the king, acknowledging Marshal's tact and unshakable loyalty in the face of harsh provocation, and now in need of friends to help deal with his mutinous barons, recalled him to court.

The king's campaign against the barons went well initially but, after a serious setback, he found himself at the mercy of their demands, as set out in Magna Carta. Marshal's rôle was in acting surety for the king and getting both sides together for their famous signing at Runnymede in 1215.

As a means of averting war, Magna Carta was a failure: the northern barons rejected it, and the king got it annulled by the Pope. The war that followed saw the king fleeing, losing his treasure while crossing The Wash, and dying at

Continued on page 17

The Railway Inn

Askam-in-Furness

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Sir William Marshall

by PeeGee - Furness Branch Member



InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

Continued from page 15

King's Lynn in 1216. Meanwhile, the French king had been invited by the barons to send his young son Louis with an invasion to take the crown.

William Marshal was unanimously chosen to be Regent for John's 9-year-old son, Henry III until maturity. Being now 70, Marshal carried out his duties with laudable vigour. With the justification for Louis's invasion now gone, he won back the loyalty of most of the disaffected barons, defeated Louis at the battle of Lincoln in 1217, Marshal himself charging at the head of the army, and sent him packing back to France.

By the time of his death in 1219 Marshal had issued a second version of Magna Carta,

pacified the barons, and left a settled country behind him. He was buried as a Knight Templar in the Temple Church in London.

Eulogised by Archbishop of Canterbury as "the finest knight that ever lived", Marshal was probably responsible for the survival of the Plantagenet dynasty for the next 250 years.

Though Marshal was 43 and his bride Isabel de Clare only 17 at their marriage, it was one of true love and produced ten children, five sons and five daughters. Each son succeeded in turn to the Earldom of Pembroke, none of whom producing any legitimate sons, and it was left to the five daughters to carry Marshal's titles and lands to their respective husbands.

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Beer Festivals

Some thought on their purpose and future

InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

I've heard it said on an increasing number of occasions recently, and surprisingly, especially following our very successful Ulverston Beer Festival of 2017.

So I am minded to give the subject an airing using the medium of this magazine.

There are several variations on the theme, but basically what people are saying is this.

Real Ale, the generally accepted term for cask conditioned beer, is now so widely available that comments such as the following are doing the rounds: 'Guest ales are everywhere these days, and the whole of the country seems like one continuous beer festival.' They will then ask, 'So haven't beer festivals outlived their purpose?'

In recent times this has begun to be said of our campaign itself. Are we victims of our own success? And what indeed is its future, now that we have so clearly made the case for cask ale throughout the nations of the U.K.?

There is currently a vigorous debate going on throughout the campaign, right up to the top, about its purpose and direction as the 21st century progresses.

However, leaving this very real concern aside for now, I'd like to offer some thoughts to our readers on an issue that is being drawn to my attention more and more often.

Haven't beer festivals, or more specifically Real Ale festivals, for so long the shop window for the style, and so vital a part of the resurgence of it in the last four decades, served their purpose?

A growing number of drinkers, in a world where the beer market is becoming much more diverse, are asking me why the beer festivals we hold throughout the U.K. are limited to just the one style.

From a non-CAMRA person's point of view this is a very valid point, and one that, as the beer world progresses and diversifies, CAMRA may well be forced to address.

However, we are the campaign for Real Ale, and therefore all of our festivals currently reflect the organisation's on-going intention to promote the style.

Put simply, the sustaining, promotion and

proliferation of cask-conditioned ales is the very reason for our existence and we trust that this will continue to be our purpose onwards into whatever the future presents us with.

Quite how this aim will manifest itself as cask ale's main competitor for the drinkers' attention, craft / keg beer, continues to appear alongside of real ales on the bar will be for our membership to decide. I for one certainly hope that, collectively, they will address the issue as a matter of pressing concern as soon as possible.

So, back to the original question concerning the future of our beer festivals.

Thinking about the festivals I have been involved with or attended over the forty plus years of my active participation, what strikes me most is the way that they have evolved over those years, and the type of attendees who patronise them.

We were often mocked and ridiculed by a generally hostile media as being a bunch of middle-aged men of the bearded, Arran sweater wearing, and sandal-shod variety. Pint-quaffing ale swillers the lot of us, endlessly droning on about the finer details of obscure brews with silly names and very limited availability.

I think it was fair comment, looking back, that a considerable number of early festival-goers could have been so categorised, in part if not in whole, but come on folks, this was four decades ago. We were naïve and just beginning to find our sea legs in a largely hostile world that was all too ready to write us off as just another bunch of whacky eccentrics whose campaign almost certainly wouldn't last long. Got that a bit wrong, guys, wouldn't you say?

Contrast that scenario with the one I observed on the Thursday evening of the 2017 Ulverston beer festival. The floor was liberally scattered with tables, at which a great many of those attending were seated. There was a very healthily-balanced mix of gender and age groups, and although pint glasses were the norm they were lined in order that customers could try thirds or halves of ale, and this was what most people were actually doing.

by G.A. Purcell - Furness CAMRA Branch President

InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

If you want variety and a broad spectrum of tasting experience what better way could you have than to split your drinking quota up into manageable amounts?

And, folks, the festival sold out entirely at seven o'clock on the Saturday evening.

A healthy boost for our branch funds, and a very good reason to want this and all of the other thriving festivals to continue.

Hopefully, for the foreseeable future the best of them probably will, but my point is that as long as they are solely 'Real Ale' festivals, and therefore true to our campaign's very reason for existence, they will be seen as what they clearly are, exclusive of the wider range of beers, with their rapidly growing army of followers.

Why confine our beer range at festivals to cask beers?

The answer is because we are the Campaign for Real Ale, it's a simple as that.

Could we be more inclusive and present a few craft / keg examples?

Should we offer a limited range of bottled Continental beers perhaps? after all they are becoming ever-more widely available in our rapidly dwindling stock of pubs, and many have taken to them.

You only have to take a scan of the major supermarkets' drinks shelves, and don't forget that, like it or not, it is they who are the front runners and not pubs in the present day and age who are offering the drinking public the widest range of choice.

Bottled world-sourced beers, Craft Ales and Real Ales, all competing on the shelves for our attention, and the very reason that this wide range exists would seem to prove the claim that this is what beer festivals should be offering to the punters.

The future of Real Ale festivals, and that is precisely what they are and always have been, is, as I see it, inextricably bound up with the question of the future direction of CAMRA itself, in that it is faced with a clear choice, now that most people see its avowed aim as having been achieved.

The organisation can either continue to

support and promote Real Ale, which it has always done very successfully, onwards into the future, to the exclusion of all other styles, or carry on supporting cask ales while also giving support to the ever-widening range of other beer styles available.

To that end it may eventually be forced by the sheer pressure of public demand to begin widening its remit to encompass the growing range of choice out there in the everyday world beyond our beer festival doors.

Within the organisation, will the conservatives (small 'c') or the radicals win?

Will our beer festivals continue to exist solely in order to promote cask beer?

Personally, I feel that the incoming tide of beer choice and variety will eventually bring about at least two things regarding the future of beer festivals.

One: CAMRA at the topmost level and then throughout the network of branches will have to at least consider the option of widening the range of permissible beer styles on offer at festivals, while not actively promoting the alternatives to cask ales.

Two: Beer festivals will begin to appear on the scene with as wide a range of beer styles on offer as possible, irrespective of whether they are CAMRA supported or not.

Our organisation will, I feel, eventually have to decide on where it will make its stand.

The reader might also consider that beer festivals do not have to be confined to one solitary venue.

Think of the success of our local Broughton beer festival, or the one sometimes held in and around the city of Norwich, and the one I heard about a while ago that was held in Preston's market square, and then go back to the original thought, that even a whole town can be involved.

I'm sure that beer festivals in one form or another will continue for as long as there is a public thirst for them, and that they will happen with or without our organisation's involvement or even approval.

Cheers, G.A. Purcell



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Johnson Jaunts

Lynda Johnson - Prince of Wales Foxfield

InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

Tour De Birmingham

Bikes loaded we travelled by train for three nights to the Briar Rose, a Wetherspoon hotel in the centre of Birmingham costing £72 a night. The aim was to travel the canals and visit the Post Office and Wellington pubs excellent establishments, which we have previously visited.

We found the Pure Craft and Kitchen Bar selling purity beers just around the corner on Waterloo Street. Stu really liked the Saddleback and they had a low strength happy bitter to suit me.

A bike ride out to Digbeth to the Spotted Dog was well worthwhile, what a cracking pub, heaving with pre-match football enthusiasts and musicians. Stu drank Holden's Mild and I drank Castle Rock Harvest Pale, the service was quick and very cheerful.

A call in the Anchor also proved well worth a visit, all together a great trip out.

Tour De Oxford (On route to AGM Bournemouth)

Monday evening we cycled into the centre of Oxford to find food and beer in that precise order which proved to be a big mistake. Having missed our preferred pub we ended up at the Jam Factory on Park End Road. They were supposed to have two cask beers. I deliberately chose some local crafty keg beer since the hand pumps were not in use.

The food was very good along with the atmosphere.

Our beer experience was far from quality despite the pub trying. Stu quite definitely thought it was the worst beer experience he had had for years. The beer wasn't

unacceptably cold and not too fizzy on the palette although had increased in acidity due to contact with carbon dioxide used in dispense. It reminded Stuart why we don't drink Keg beer.

Surprisingly we went back to what we know and love - The Lamb & Flag on St Giles - a cask only pub. I sampled 'Pitstop Brewery' low strength and moved on to the XT Buffalo 4.7% which was very good.

During the day I had tried a Malt Brewery Mild - it was also good. That night I was a little more adventurous, we cycled to the Chesters on Chester Street for good food as well as beer, which was a loose cannon. The brewery was on two hand pulls along with Salopian Oracle that I plumped for. The selection of craft beer on display was impressive so I studied the offerings questioning the staff as to whether it was key keg or dispensed with or without CO2. The more technical I became the more lost the bar person became although they tried and at least had some knowledge!

On to the Mason Arms - it was well worth the effort despite the ride up the hill I thought Oxford was meant to be flat!? Two Salopian beers, Timothy Taylors Boltmaker, Dark Star Hophead and a Rebellion gave us plenty to go at.

Day 3

Despite pub visits for coffee none of the establishments were noteworthy as such on the beer front although they all had their merits. Our evening choice was 'The Jolly', a West Berkshire Brewery Pub which had excellent food and XT beer No 1 which left us replete after a day's cycling along the Oxford canal and Thames Path.

Continued on page 23

Johnson Jaunts

Lynda Johnson - Prince of Wales Foxfield

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Continued from page 21

Day 4

Onto Whimbourne Minster, a lovely little town with two micropubs. We started at the Taphouse, we enjoyed the Sixpenny Brewery, the beer, which we found consistently good wherever we went.

The micropubs felt more like commercial ventures rather than the kind of establishment Pete runs at the Rat in Hartlepool.

Since I haven't remembered all the beers drunk they can't have been that memorable, either that or my memory is fading!

AGM Bournemouth

On Friday we had a quick wiz along the promenade on the bikes before an organized trip off to Hall & Woodhouse Brewery, an excellent visit. They only sell cask beer in their estate pubs, bottled beers being their biggest market (85% of what they produce).

There are no Hall & Woodhouse pubs in the GBG as they use cask breathers, a subject being debated as part of the revitalisation project. We were at Scarborough when policy was decided that this practice was the thin edge of the wedge against the preservation of real ale. The revitalisation project document suggests we take a neutral position, I cannot agree. The venting of beer is crucial to the development of a beer worth drinking. This system could be easily be abused by the landlord to preserve beer. The problem Camra perceives is there are too few members that do not understand what it is and can ask the landlord the right questions while surveying and have no idea what to look for in the cellar. So my argument is let's educate ourselves! The more we know the better choices that we

have.

I digress, the AGM bar had 70 beers, I particularly enjoyed Vibrant Forest Brewery that does not fine its beers.

Saturday

Oh yes the special resolution - over turning a decision made at the last AGM. Interesting semantics, I now know more about AGM procedures. At 3.30pm we found the discussion groups.

Later - a quick bike ride along the promenade and then much, much more beer!

Sunday - AGM (which finished midday)

A few goodbyes and we were off to stay at the Red Lion Crichlade, a really good pub. They brew their own 'Hop Kettle Brewery' which was very acceptable along with 6X and a few more that I've lost track of.

Monday

The following morning we popped into the brewery and had a chat with their brewer before aiming for Wellington, Telford. The plan was to stay nearby the railway station and cycle to Oakengates then drink in the three GBG pubs which are so close together it's ridiculous then catch the train back to our bed.

All went to plan except the recurring theme of the missing food. We thoroughly enjoyed in order of preference The Old Fighting Cocks which brew it's own beer, the Station Hotel and The Crown.

A more thought provoking trip in all respects than I had expected.

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If you have some interesting information about your pub, such as adding new handpumps (or even removing some or adding craft/keycask beers) or offering discounts, then we can add that into our next magazine under 'Pub Craic'. Although our members do pass information on to us, it would be much easier for us if you contacted InnQuirer directly. Of course, we may not be able to include all information as we only have a limited amount of room but if there is something you want to tell us about, don't be shy - unless you tell us we may not know about it.

Email us at:

innquirer@furness.camra.org.uk

or, of course, you could take out an advert if you just want to publicise your pub!

PUB COMPANY CHANGES - HOW DO THEY AFFECT YOUR LOCAL? CAMRA HQ Information

CAMRA is investigating the impact of changes to our pubs as the big pub owning companies react to the Pubs Code, put into force in 2016 after years of campaigning by licensee groups and **CAMRA**.

In the last two years, the number of pubs run on traditional long-term tenancies has fallen, as some tenants are replaced by managers. Licensee campaigners are concerned that this may encourage management turnover, all to avoid pubs being covered by the Code. The impact on customers is less clear. Our Pub Campaigns Committee is looking, confidentially, for information. It is particularly interested to see if changes in management to pub company pubs result in more or less choice for pub-goers. Has your local pub increased or reduced its range of real ale and cider after a change of tenant? Or do you work in a pubco pub and have seen changes? The Committee would also like to know about any changes in prices and in the quality of the beer being served.

Please send information to the Committee's Chair:
Paul Ainsworth - paul.ainsworth@camra.org.uk

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CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2009 - 2018



Promoting pubs that sell locally brewed real ale, reducing the number of 'beer miles', and supporting local breweries.

CAMRA LocAle is an initiative that promotes pubs stocking locally-brewed real ale. The scheme builds on a growing consumer demand for quality local produce and an increased awareness of 'green' issues.

There are currently over 125 CAMRA branches participating in the **LocAle** scheme which have accredited hundreds of pubs as **LocAle** pubs which regularly sell at least one locally brewed real ale.

Definition of Local

The Sustainable Communities Act, which CAMRA strongly supports, provides a definition of local as up to 30 miles from the point of sale. CAMRA recommends that the distance is calculated from the pub to the brewery and should be based on the shortest driving distance. Real ales from regional and national breweries as well as from microbreweries can be regarded as 'local' if they are brewed within what the branch has decided as being the local area.

The Furness Branch definition is as follows:
"All beers brewed within Cumbria, plus those in North Lancashire as far south as Lancaster and Morecambe"

This definition more accurately reflects our low density population. In reality, the vast majority of our LocAle pubs serve beers which are brewed very close to home - especially from our own 15 branch breweries!

The following pubs are listed in WhatPub as serving local ale on a regular basis This list was compiled in January 2018. If you think something needs changing or you know of another pub in our area that should be included, please let the Editor know.

Allithwaite - Pheasant	High Newton - The Crown
Askam - Railway	Holmes Green - Black Dog
Askam - London House	Kirkby - Burlington
Bardsea - Ship	Kirksanton - King William
Barngates - Drunken Duck	Lindal - The Railway
Barrow - Ambrose Hotel	Loppergarth - Wellington
Barrow - Duke of Edinburgh	Lowick Bridge - Red Lion
Barrow - Furness Railway	Millom - Devonshire
Barrow - Kings Arms,	Millom - Bear in the Square
Hawcoat	Near Sawrey - Tower Bank
Barrow - Ship, Piel Island	Newby Bridge - Lakeside
Barrow - Townhouse	Newby Bridge - Huntsman
Bouth - White Hart	Newby Bridge - The Swan
Broughton - Black Cock	Newton - Village Inn
Broughton - Manor Arms	Penny Bridge - Britannia
Broughton - Old Kings Head	Piel Island - The Ship
Cark - Engine	Rusland - Rusland Pool
Cartmel - Kings Arms	Satterthwaite - Eagles Head
Cartmel - Royal Oak	Seathwaite - Newfield Inn
Cartmel - Uplands Hotel	Silecroft - Miners Arms
Cartmel - Unsworth's Yard	Stainton - Stagger Inn
Coniston - Black Bull	Strawberry Bank - Masons
Coniston - Sun	The Green - Punchbowl
Coniston - Yewdale	Torver - Church House
Dalton - Brown Cow	Torver - Wilson Arms
Dalton - Chequers	Ulverston - Devonshire
Dalton - Red Lion	Ulverston - Farmers Arms
Far Sawrey - Cuckoo Brow	Ulverston - King's Head
Foxfield - Prince of Wales	Ulverston - Mill
Greenodd - Ship	Ulverston - Old Farmhouse
Grizebeck - Greyhound	Ulverston - Old Friends
Haverthwaite - Anglers	Ulverston - Stan Laurel
Hawkshead - Kings Arms	Ulverston - Sun
Hawkshead - Red Lion	Ulverston - Swan
Hawkshead - Sun	Walney - Queens, Biggar



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Pub and Brewery Craic and Furness CAMRA Diary

InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

Pubs

The Ship Inn, Greenodd has a new beer, brewed on site, Captain's Choice (4.1% abv), which is proving popular. They are also doing food Thurs. to Sunday - see their advert in this issue for times.

The High Cross in Broughton is up for sale, probably as a hotel/restaurant rather than a pub.

The Tower Bank Arms in Sawrey picked up our Furness CAMRA Pub of the Season (Autumn) award - well deserved.

Rioja, a new tapas restaurant in **Ulverston** has real ale, we are informed. Not checked out yet though

Breweries

Both **Hawkshead** and **Fell** Breweries are expanding in Flookburgh. Good to see Hawkshead actually returning to the Furness area (they will maintain their presence in Staveley). No doubt both are taking note of the increased demand for 'Craft' beers.

As mentioned in previous issued, **Yates** is now defunct - no-one took over the Brewery so it has disappeared, very sad.

Coniston No 9 has picked up bronze in the CAMRA Champion Bottled Beer of Britain following the disqualification of the original bronze winner from Oakham for not actually being bottle conditioned!

Watch this space - **The Old Friends in Ulverston** has installed a brewing plant but no news yet on production

Furness CAMRA Diary

Branch Meetings:

- 5th February 6:00pm - Furness CAMRA AGM at The Duke of Edinburgh, Barrow
- 17th February 1:00pm - Cumbria CAMRA branch meeting at Beerwolf, Ulverston
- 5th March 7:00pm - Furness CAMRA branch meeting at The Kings Arms, Hawcoat
- 14th April 2:00pm - Furness CAMRA branch meeting at The Ship, Greenodd

Beer Festivals coming up....

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1-3 February | 14th Pendle Beer Festival, Colne
Bent & Bongs Beer Bash, Atherton |
| 8-10 February | 36th Fleetwood Beer and Cider Festival |
| 20-24 February | Great British Beer Festival -Winter, The Halls, Norwich |
| 21-24 February | Liverpool Beer Festival |
| 21-27 February | Manor Arms, Broughton, Scott's 40th Beer Festival |
| 1-3 March | 31st Wigan Beer Festival |
| 23-24 March | Northern Craft Spring Beer Festival, Hawkshead Brewery, Staveley |
| 30 March - 2 April | Beckstones Mini Beer Festival, The Punchbowl, The Green, Millom |
| 12-14 April | Isle of Man Beer Festival
12th Skipton Beer Festival |
| 20-23 April | Eskdale Cider & Sausage Festival, Woolpack, Eskdale |

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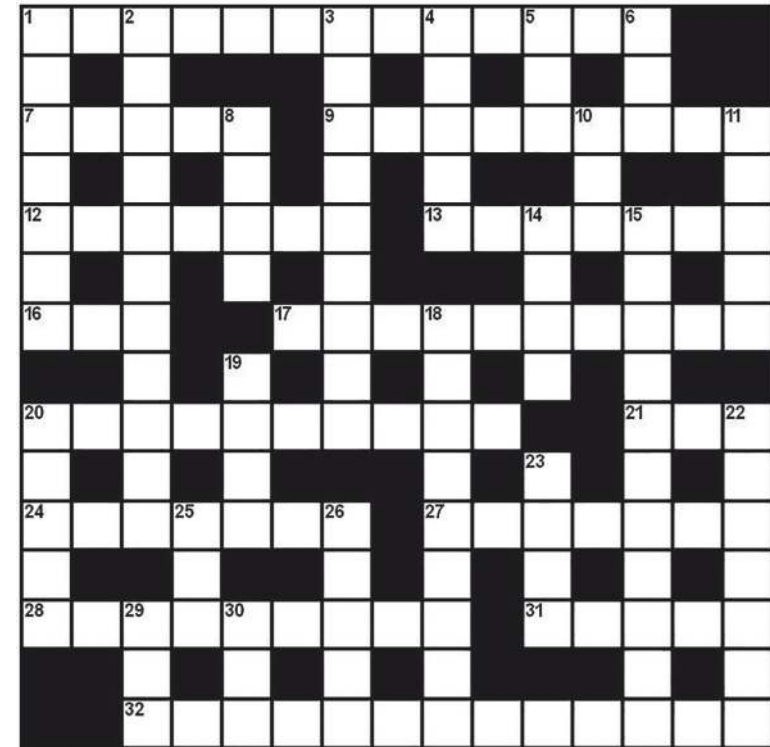
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Crossword No. 23

by PeeGee - Furness Branch Member

InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18



Across

- 1 Clementine's shoe size has been warily brewed to produce local prize winner (2,1,6,4)
- 7 Sides. Putting last in first provides oomph (5)
- 9 Appreciation found rude. Tag it and reset (9)
- 12 Moment to demand worker is removed (7)
- 13 Prime Minister returns to alter arrangement to crush under foot (7)
- 16 Carioca shelters the place that shelters him (3)
- 17 Daily joins players, we hear, to make up the dramatis personae (10)
- 20 Communicate. Wow! Reply (10)
- 21 Slippery creature backs into shelter (3)
- 24 Instrument finds idiot in benefit (7)
- 27 Stretchy lace. It's deformed (7)
- 28 Curse of alto and bass performing with middle soprano (9)
- 31 List to be found in unforgettable nonsense (5)
- 32 Reshape a snake. Reshape a playwright (13)

Down

- 1 In-laws at times rebel, alternately (7)
- 2 A board game? "No", said Fritz, perhaps, to rattled Mrs Merinos (1,4,6)
- 3 Vessel to illuminate joint (9)
- 4 Last of yellowy oriental fermenter (5)
- 5 Erstwhile chemical giant, coming or going (3)
- 6 Old French coin, choice for European coinage? (3)
- 8 Address for the Queen, bobbing down or rising up up again (4)
- 10 Gamut reveals nemodba (3)
- 11 Rugby event, losing leader, 1/1 at the bookies (5)
- 14 Supreme curved support (4)
- 15 Now having the skill to look neat and tidy (11)
- 18 Competitors at university also took part (7,2)
- 19 Use vote to block resolution (4)
- 20 Oddly, cool Burma houses venomous creature (5)
- 22 Book stand for Hannibal? No (7)
- 23 Extract from part of 1 across, used in brewing (4)
- 25 Mineral spring found in centre of newspaper (3)
- 26 Tied loop for ring at centre of facial feature (5)
- 29 Vehicle for conductors (3)
- 30 Nearly half of inertia accounts for mini-stroke (3)

CAMRA Discounts

by Dave Stubbins - Furness Branch Chairman

InnQuirer Issue 65 - Winter 2017/18

Those of you who are **CAMRA** members will already be aware of the extensive range of benefits available on membership. Of these, probably the most widely used are the 50p off a pint vouchers issued by Wetherspoons.

However, we are aware that a number of pubs in our area offer discounts on beer and accommodation so have put together a list of such establishments. Details will also be on our web site -

www.furness.camra.org.uk

Discounts are available to **CAMRA** members on production of their membership card.

Please accept our apologies if we have missed you off our list and let us have the details which we will publish in the next issue and record on our WhatPub database.

In order for this list to be as complete as possible we are asking all pubs that offer discounts to get in touch and let us know the discount offered, whether or not you think we already know.

The information we are seeking is: The discount on a pint of real ale, whether % or in pence. The period during which this discount is available (if not at all times).

Pubs in the Furness area that currently offer discounts to CAMRA members on production of their membership card:

Cark-in-Cartmel - The Engine
Cartmel - The Kings Arms
Cartmel - The Royal Oak
Cartmel - Unsworth's Yard Brewery
Coniston - The Sun
Coniston - The Yewdale Hotel
Grange - The Commodore
Near Sawrey - The Tower Bank Arms
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If you have any further information, please let us know to us at either:

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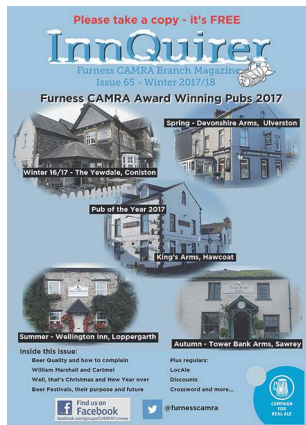
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Provisional deadlines for receiving advertising/content for 2018 are:

Spring: 21st March 2018 **Summer:** 21st June 2018

Autumn: 21st September 2018 **Winter:** 10th January 2019

The magazine will be available approximately two weeks after the deadline.

Answers to Crossword No. 23

Across

- 1 **No 9 Barley Wine** - No 9 shoes + Anag (*brewed*) of *been* *warily*
- 7 **Steam** - Last letter of teams (*Sides*) put first
- 9 **Gratitude** - Anag (*reset*) of (*rude. Tag it*)
- 12 **Instant** - **Insist ant** with *is* removed
- 13 **Trample** - Anag (*arrangement*) of (*alter*) with **mp** (*PM returns*)
- 16 **Rio** - Hidden word (*shelters*) in *Carioca* (inhabitant of *Rio*)
- 17 **Char + actors** - homophone (*we hear*) of *actors*
- 20 **Cor + respond**
- 21 **Eel** - Lee (*shelter*) reversed (*backs*)
- 24 **Bassoon** - **ass** in **Boon**
- 27 **Elastic** - Anag (*Deformed*) of (*lace. It's*)
- 28 **Albatross** - Anag (*performing*) of *alto + bass + r* (middle letter of *soprano*)
- 31 **Table** - Hidden word (*found in*) *unforgettable*
- 32 **Shakespearean** - Anag (*Reshape*) of *Reshape a snake* or of a *snake. Reshape*

Down

- 1 **Nastier** - Odd letters of *In-laws at times rebel*
- 2 **9 Mens' Morris** - Homophone of German "No" + anag (*rattled*) of *Mrs Merinos*
- 3 **Lights + hip**
- 4 **Yeast** - Last letter of *yellowy + east*
- 5 **ICI** - Palindrome (*coming or going*)
- 6 **Ecu** - European Currency Unit
- 8 **Ma'am** - Palindrome (*down...or...up*)
- 10 **Tum** - Abdomen (*nemodba*) backwards as hidden word (reveals) in *Gamut*
- 11 **Evens** - **Sevens** minus first letter
- 14 **Arch**
- 15 **Present + able**
- 18 **Runners + up** (*at University*)
- 19 **Veto** - Anag (*use*) of *vote*
- 20 **Cobra** - Odd letters of *cool Burma*
- 22 **Lecter + n**
- 23 **Malt** - *Extract* of barley (see *part* of 1 across)
- 25 **Spa** - *centre* three letters of *newspaper*
- 26 **Noose** - **o** (*ring*) put in *centre* of *nose*
- 29 **Bus**
- 30 **TIA** - + 3/7th of the letters of *inertia*

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