



Cheltenham Cheers!



CURRENT
BRANCH
MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to contact us, please replace the [at] with the @ symbol in the email addresses shown in this newsletter

Hoppy New Year from your Branch Committee

Notice of Branch AGM

The 2017 branch AGM will take place in The Beehive, Montpellier, on Tuesday 21st February

All branch members are invited to attend the meeting which starts at **7:30pm** and vote on any matters arising. Please ensure you have your membership card with you. All Committee positions will be up for election and a nomination form is provided below. A full list of the Committee positions is available on our website.

If you'd like to raise a motion for discussion, please contact the secretary, secretary[at]cheltenhamcamra.org.uk with the details. See our social media sites for further information.

The Future of CAMRA

The final report of the 'Revitalisation Project' has been published and put forward the National Executive for adoption. The report runs to 48 pages – the summary of proposals itself taking up 4 pages. The report recommends:

- Campaigning for real ale, cider and perry and protecting community pubs and clubs will remain core to CAMRA activities.
- CAMRA widens its mission and purpose to reflect changing consumer needs and developments that have taken
 place across the sector since CAMRA's foundation in 1971. The Revitalisation Project found that there is much
 CAMRA does well, so its proposals principally relate to opportunities for the organisation to remain relevant and
 effective in the future.
- CAMRA broadens its focus to play a "leading role in informing and representing all those with an interest in good beer of any type".
- CAMRA promotes the "virtues of well-produced, well-kept cask-conditioned beers as the pinnacle of the brewer's craft" while also promoting greater awareness and understanding to help drinkers judge for themselves what "quality" beer is.
- Celebrating and protecting well-run community pubs and clubs should also remain core to CAMRA's purpose, but the Campaign should do more to improve the range and quality of beer, cider and perry in "communal drinking" venues across the on-trade.
- In response to the attacks on responsible drinkers by health campaigners, the organisation plays a leading role in speaking on behalf of all UK beer, cider and perry drinkers, and pub and club-goers.

The report is available to download from the CAMRA website: https://revitalisation.camra.org.uk/blog/revitalisation-project-report-published. CAMRA members will continue to be fully involved in the process and will be invited to discuss the Revitalisation Project proposals at the CAMRA Members' Weekend and AGM to be held in Bournemouth in April 2017. A final decision on adopting the proposals will be taken at the Members' Weekend and AGM in Coventry 2018.

"Ale Ambles" and other trips

Please note that from this month, the Ale Ambles will take place on the last Wednesday of the month. For more information on these trips including the departure time and confirmation of service, please contact Veronica - social[at]cheltenhamcamra.org.uk. This month's amble is a visit to Chippenham by train and will be on Wednesday 25th.

Also in January, on the 14th, will be our annual visit to Cardiff. We'll be getting the 10:10 train from the station. Further details will be available on our website. The February Amble, on Wednesday 22nd will be to Worcester/St.Johns.

Oh, I do like to be beside the Seaside!

Next year's CAMRA AGM and Members' Weekend will take place in the Bournemouth International Centre from 7th-9th April. You can now pre-register for the event, whether it's just as a delegate or as a volunteer, at www.camraagm.org.uk. Several branch members normally attend this event, which will include workshops, brewery visits and more.

One thousand and counting ...

We're happy to report that we've broken through the 1000 Twitter Followers' barrier. Remember a twit tweet is for life, not just for Christmas. Keep an eye on all our social media outlets for the latest branch information.



Charity Sing-along

Our charity sing-along, with musical accompaniment from Gren, Les and John, raised over £375 for LINC, which is based at Cheltenham General Hospital.



Thanks to all who donated prizes and for your tremendous support. We'll see you all again next year!











Pub, Club and Other News

- ❖ The presentation of the branch 2016 Pub-Of-The-Year (POTY) award to the Sandford Park Alehouse took place in late November. Congratulations once again to Grant and the team at the SPA, who can be seen in the photo on the right with branch Chair Rob.
- ❖ The Bottle of Sauce (ex Quaich) and Whittle Taps (ex Slug & Lettuce) both had their official openings last month. There's a 10% discount for card carrying CAMRA members, available every day on real ales, craft keg and the real cider in the Whittle Taps. We welcome them both to the Cheltenham beer scene.
- ❖ A planning application (CBC Ref: 16/00114/FUL) that would have seen **The Russell Arms** refurbished and 4 flats created on the upper floors has been withdrawn. A new application, which will also include the adjacent house is expected to be filed.
- Apres Bar, located in the Brewery complex, has closed. It is not known what is happening with the site, although information relating to it has been removed from the parent company's website.



SPA POTY presentation





❖ The future of the Fairview (ex Fiery Angel/Pump & Optic) may have been decided (and it isn't as a pub!). The latest planning application for the site (CBC Ref: 16/01577/FUL), would see the upper floors converted to 7 flats whilst the current 'pub space' is converted to a 'community space' in line with its ACV status.

If you have any pub news of your own, (we're particularly interested in finding out about potential beer festivals), then please send it to news[at]cheltenhamcamra.org.uk and it could be included here and on our award winning website.

Brewery News



Tel: 01242 693409 battledownbrewery.com



Tel: 01242 509946 brewhouseandkitchen.com



Tel: 01242 870164 cotswoldlionbrewery.co.uk



Tel: 07887 537356 deyabrewing.com



Tel: 07526 934866 prescottales.co.uk

- ➤ Battledown's Christmas brew, unsurprisingly called "Christmas Ale", (4.6% ABV), is now available. The brewery, which is co-located with Siblings Distillery, will be moving to new premises in the New Year. The distillery recently successfully launched a crowd-funding project which will see it expand on its current production at the new site.
- Cotswold Lion have produced "Humbug", a 3.8% brew which apparently "Tastes like Christmas"!
- Prescott Brewery's seasonal offering is a "Christmas Seasons Best" at 4.1%.

Events			
11 th Jan	Branch monthly Social, starting at The Fire Station, from 8:00pm.		
14 th Jan	Out of town visit to Cardiff. Please contact Veronica for details.		
24 th Jan	Branch monthly Business meeting. Moran's from 8:00pm. All members welcome.		
25 th Jan	Ale Amble to Chippenham. Contact Veronica for details.		
2 nd -4 th Feb	Tewkesbury Winter Ale Festival. Watson Hall, Barton St. Thursday is Members night.		
9 th Feb	Branch monthly Social, starting at The Somerset, from 7:30pm.		
21st Feb	Branch AGM, from 7:30pm prompt in The Beehive, Montpellier. Committee nomination forms below.		
Listing correct at time of publication. Please check our website for the latest info.			



CHELTENHAM CAMRA COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM 2017-2018

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Nominees must be members of the Cheltenham branch (post codes GL 50, 51, 52 or 53) of good standing. A proposer and seconder are required. After completing this form, please return it to the Secretary, or hand it in before the AGM.

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