

# MerseyAle

CAMRA Liverpool & Districts Magazine

Summer 2024 FREE

## Liverpool CAMRA Pub of the Year ROSCOE HEAD

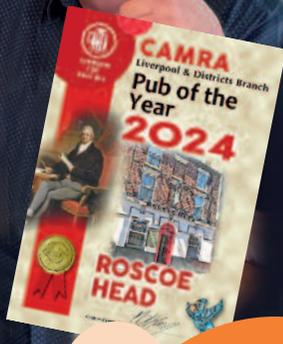


ROSCOE HEAD

FREE HOUSE



Awards Evening  
Cider Pub of the Year  
Pub of the Year  
CBOB Champion Beer of Britain  
Beer of the Liverpool Festival



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE

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## MerseyAle

CAMRA Liverpool and Districts Branch

### Branch Chair

Mel James-Henry  
[chair@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:chair@liverpoolcamra.org.uk)

### Treasurer

Michael Chandler  
[treasurer@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@liverpoolcamra.org.uk)

### Branch Contact

Peter Elloy  
[contact@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:contact@liverpoolcamra.org.uk)

### MerseyAle Contacts

Comments/news/letters/photos  
[merseyale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:merseyale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk)

### Editor

Sonia James-Henry  
Hope Lodge, 17 Victoria Rd, Crosby,  
L23 7XY  
Tel: 07425 174502  
[sonia.james-henry@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:sonia.james-henry@liverpoolcamra.org.uk)

### Advertising contacts

Mel James-Henry, Sonia James-Henry  
and Pete Elloy  
[adverts@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:adverts@liverpoolcamra.org.uk)

### Supplies

For Supplies of MerseyAle and  
CAMRA point of sale items  
[supplies@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:supplies@liverpoolcamra.org.uk)



### Websites and Social Media

Liverpool and Districts  
[www.liverpoolcamra.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolcamra.org.uk)  
[www.liverpoolbeerfestival.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolbeerfestival.org.uk)

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### Designer

Dennis Jones  
Cover: Roscoe Head and staff  
composite photo by Dennis Jones



## Welcome to MerseyAle

Welcome to the bumper summer edition of MerseyAle. In this issue we celebrate our award winning pubs and breweries, you can read about our awards evening where we presented, amongst others, our **Pub of the Year and Cider Pub of the Year awards**. We are very proud to say our local breweries are gaining some well-deserved recognition by winning categories of the **Champion Beer of Britain competition**, you can read about the winners on page 39. The Labour Party comes to Liverpool in September, a good opportunity to campaign for our real ale pubs, clubs and breweries. There are many campaign articles in this issue, provided by CAMRA's communications team, a big thank you to them for their support. We have an **Albert Dock pub walk**, for any party delegates looking to visit the wide variety of drinking establishments in the area, although I wouldn't recommend visiting them all in one go! Everyone at Liverpool CAMRA was saddened to hear of the death of **David**



**Stevenson**, who, for many years, was the licensee of the Ship and Mitre. You can read a tribute to Dave by ex-Liverpool CAMRA Chair **Geoff Edwards** on page 37. Finally, thank you to all our advertisers and contributors, without you there wouldn't be a MerseyAle.

**Sonia James-Henry**  
MerseyAle Editor

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# Liverpool & Districts CAMRA Branch PUB NEWS



Contributors: Julie O'Grady, Mel James-Henry, Sonia James-Henry, Steve Downing, Steve Mulholland

The smallest pub in Liverpool the **Cask Coach House** on Maryland Street has closed.



Monro

**Haul** has reopened as **Black Cat Rose Lane**, a sister pub to **Black Cat** on Smithdown Road.

**Kazimier Gardens** no longer serve real ale.

**The Empress** pub in Liverpool City Centre is closed and is up for sale.

**The Monro** Duke St. has reopened and has 15 hand pulls,



Monro handpulls

is now owned by the 1936 Pub Co, who also own, amongst

others the Vines and the Queen of Hope Street.

**The Fly in the Loaf** Hardman



Fly before



Fly after

Street is now known as just **'The Fly'** and is sporting a subtle new exterior and interior paint job.

### Pub Closures

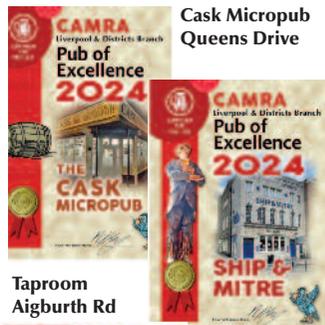
The Pilgrim and the Pig and Whistle are closed, hopefully this will just be temporary.

### Brunswick Vaults

Jimmy and Barbara former licencees of the Vernon are reopening the Brunswick Vaults on Tithebarn Street (was Kitty's Show Bar). It will have 5 cask hand pulls and a cask discount. Due to open mid September.

### Pubs of Excellence in Liverpool

Below is a collection of pubs that have won a Pub of Excellence Award from the Liverpool Branch of CAMRA.



Cask Micropub  
Queens Drive



Ship & Mitre  
Dale Street



Denbig  
Castle  
Hackins  
Hey

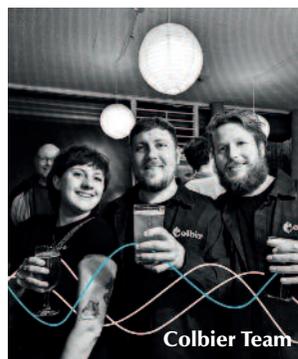
Special Award  
for the Lion  
Tavern  
Moorfields

# BREWERY NEWS



### Colbier Brewery

A new Bootle based brewery, their beers have recently been available in a few pubs such as the **Caledonian**, **Roscoe Head**, **Little Tap Room on Aigburth Road** and **Black Cat**.



Colbier Team

### Love Lane Brewery



Brewing is starting again after the brewery was bought by **White Real Estate Limited**. They will be brewing **Higsons beers**.



### Neptune Brewery

In August the brewery collaborated with **Leaf** on Bold Street to brew a fresh and zingy **Lemongrass** and **Ginger Pale**. Cans available across their sites and cask/keg will be also pouring in Bold Street and West Kirkby as well as their **Beerhouse** and online. On September 19th they will be heading to Aberdeen to brew with **Fierce Beer**. Look out for this collaboration coming early October.

To celebrate Oktoberfest the brewery will be open on Saturday 5th October 12.30- 9pm. Four new German beers have been brewed and will pour alongside a couple of other favourites. Other drinks will be available too. Food trader Noble's Kitchen will be on site cooking Bratwurst sausages and other dishes.

17-19th October find them at Rainhill Rotary Festival where they'll have cask beers pouring and a stand alone bar will be on site dispensing 4 keg beers which is a first for them. (As you know their beer is naturally conditioned in all its relevant vessels).



### Rock the Boat

Are going to be brewing



### STRAWBERRY FIELDS

Strawberry Fields beers in the near future.



### Top Rope Brewery

The brewery based in Bootle was due to close in June but has now been saved by going into partnership with **Legends Whisky**.

### Local Breweries Champion Beers of Britain regional winners

See page 39 for further details of the winners



# CAMRA's priorities for the new Labour Government

As the Labour party conference hits Liverpool this September, CAMRA are giving conference delegates and attendees a run-down on the key issues facing consumers, pubs and breweries across the UK.

CAMRA is a consumer group with around 150,000 members across the UK and acts as an independent voice for real ale drinkers and pub goers. Our vision is to have quality real ale and thriving pubs in every community.



Amelia Claudia

## We would like to see the Labour Government take action on:

### Fair Tax

Cutting duty specifically on beer and cider served in pubs.

### Business Rates

Making the system in England fairer for pubs.

### Planning Protections

Stop pubs being lost to unfair or unwanted demolition or conversion.

### Consumer Rights

Guarantee clear information on ingredients, price, dispense – and the right in law to a full pint.

### Access to Market for independent producers

Improving choice of beer and cider for consumers.

# Looking ahead to the Budget

Ahead of the Chancellor's first Budget on 30th October, we set out what pubgoers, licensees and independent breweries and cider makers want to see from Rachel Reeves.

## Cutting tax on pints in pubs

Pubs are at the heart of communities up and down the country and are a key part of our social fabric, helping to tackle loneliness and social isolation.

To recognise and encourage the social benefits of consuming beer, cider and perry in the regulated setting of licenced premises the Chancellor should extend the discount on tax charged on beer and cider served in pubs and social clubs.

## What is the draught duty rate?

The draught duty rate is a different level of duty specifically for draught beer and cider. At the moment, there is a 10% discount on beer and cider duty for draught products served in pubs, social clubs and brewery taprooms.

**This helps them compete with the likes of supermarket alcohol.**

## Why should the draught duty rate be made more generous?

Extending the discount on tax on pints served in pubs from 10% to 20% would target support at consumers, pubs and independent breweries that sell most of their products to pubs.

This would also be more affordable than an across-the-board alcohol duty freeze, as any reduction in the duty charged on draught beer and cider will not benefit supermarkets and off-licences, recognising the social, environmental and economic benefits of encouraging consumption in our pubs and social clubs.

# Beer Festival Volunteers Thank You Trip

One of the perks of working as a volunteer at the beer festival is a free coach trip. If the brewery that wins the beer of the festival is located within driving distance we usually go there and present them with their award. This year's beer of the festival was won by **George Samuel Brewery** with their **Chocolate Honeycomb Stout**.



As the brewery is in the North East and too far to drive to, we passed their certificate to their Brewery Liaison Officer, who organised a presentation.

We then asked our committee if they could come up with an alternative destination for the trip and it was **Steve Downing** who suggested a trip to Skipton and the **Skipton Beer Festival**, organised by the local CAMRA branch.

The trip proved popular and with a full coach we set off from Liverpool on what, was, a sunny morning, unfortunately the weather deteriorated as the day went on. After an event free drive we arrived in Skipton, the beer festival was in Skipton Town Hall a great venue and a few minutes' walk from the coach car park.

The local CAMRA branch had kindly provided us with a list of recommended pubs, some coach trippers ventured to these first, so that they could

enjoy the canal side pubs whilst the sun was still shining. Others went into the beer festival, where the beer choice was considerably smaller than at our festival, but there were lots of beers that you do not see in Liverpool. Plenty of style choice too.

After a few hours spent at the festival, there were some pubs that were a must to visit, although the weather was starting to turn so outside drinking was not an option. We headed to the **Narrow Boat pub** close to the canal, where the beer was good as was the food, my



husband said the chips were the best he had ever had. The pub itself has just been refurbished but has kept the characteristics of a traditional English pub.

From the Narrow Boat we worked our way back to the coach park, stopping off firstly at the **Swadford Tap**, despite having large screens showing football, the pub was not too busy. They only have four hand pulls but the beer was of good quality.

Time was running out but we managed to fit one more pub in, the **Speakeasy**, a cosy, welcoming space that despite its small size is a venue for live music. They have three hand pulls dispensing beer from the local **LAMB brewery** from Littondale.

There are plenty more good real ale pubs in Skipton which were visited by other members of our party, the feedback was positive, a great day was had by all.

We headed back to the coach, tired but happy, there was even a fish and chip shop less than a minute from where the coach was parked, which some people took advantage of. After all that beer an ideal way to finish the day.

If you would like to join us on our next volunteer thank you trip, volunteer forms for next year's festival will be up on our website from the middle of September. You do not need to be a CAMRA member or have any experience to volunteer at our beer festival.



Coach trips were once a regular feature of our social CAMRA, but since our Social Secretary Matt Valentine sadly passed away, we haven't been able to run any. If you are a CAMRA member and would like to help out and take on the role of coach trip organiser please contact our Chair Mel James-Henry at [chair@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:chair@liverpoolcamra.org.uk).

**Sonia James-Henry**  
Liverpool Beer Festival  
Staffing Officer

## How CAMRA can help Parliamentarians, councillors and political activists

CAMRA's Campaigns and Communications Team are here to help elected representatives and campaigners work for a fair deal for consumers, pubs, social clubs, breweries and cider makers.



CAMRA can help with:

- Statistics about pub closures and openings in your area.
- Briefings on key local, national and regional campaigns and issues facing the beer and pubs sector.
- Resources and guides on things like saving your local pub, tackling loneliness or promoting local beer and cider.
- Parliamentary activity - help with drafting Parliamentary questions, early day motions, amendments to legislation etc.
- Cross Party Groups: CAMRA help run the Westminster All-Party Parliamentary Pubs Group, the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Beer and Pubs and the Senedd's Cross Party Group on Beer and Pubs.
- Council work - for example, providing best practice on planning policy for local authorities to help protect community pubs.

You can contact the Campaigns Team at any time by emailing [campaigns@camra.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@camra.org.uk).

## Protecting our pubs

Our locals are at the heart of community life up and down the country. When they are under threat, we need planning laws to offer pubs protection – as well as giving communities the right to take over their local as a community pub.

### Protecting pubs in England

CAMRA welcomes the Labour Government's plan to give communities a right to buy community assets under threat of being sold, converted or demolished – including pubs.

However, we also need planning laws to be strengthened to stop pubs being lost to illegal conversion or demolition, against the wishes of local people. In the past year, 29 pubs were demolished or converted without apparent planning permission.

- The Government should ensure that local authorities have the resources and enforcement powers needed to stop pubs being lost to unfair or unwanted demolition or conversion without serious and consistent consequences for developers - including the power to order pubs to be rebuilt brick by brick if necessary.
- Plans for rolling out High Street Rental Auction schemes should exclude pubs so they aren't lost to communities by being converted into other uses.
- Planning law and planning policy should require all new large-scale developments to contain at least one pub.
- The Government should introduce a definition of a pub for planning purposes.

## Protecting our pubs

### Protecting pubs in Scotland

In Scotland, you don't need planning permission to demolish a freestanding pub.

CAMRA wants MSPs to close this loophole by changing permitted development rights so that planning permission is always required to demolish a pub. This would give communities a say over the decision, and a chance to campaign to save their pub or take over the running of it as a community pub.

### Protecting pubs in Wales

In Wales, there are no protections in planning law for pubs.

The Welsh Government should use its upcoming legislation on planning to introduce protections for Welsh pubs for the first time. Making sure planning permission is needed before a pub is converted into another use or demolished entirely would give the community a chance to object to the loss of their local.

### What can Conference goers do to help?

- Speak to your local MP, MS or MSP to ask them about supporting better planning protections for pubs.
- Get in touch with your local CAMRA branch to get involved in their local campaigning to protect and promote pubs: <https://camra.org.uk/about/camra-near-you/find-a-branch/>
- Contact [campaigns@camra.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@camra.org.uk) to find out more about our pub-saving resources and campaigns.

# Big brewers are misleading consumers – help us stop the Handpump Hijack!

Cask beer is a uniquely British product that can only be enjoyed in your local pub, social club or taprooms – but it is under threat!

For generations, a handpump on the bar has been a sign of cask conditioned beer. Now, Carlsberg Marston's Brewing Company – one of the world's largest brewery conglomerates – has resorted to misleading consumers by hijacking the handpump to serve its "Fresh Ale" product.



## What is Fresh Ale?

'Fresh Ale' is a range of beers that have been filtered and put into sealed barrels or kegs.

These are then served to consumers via handpumps on the bar, in a way that is virtually indistinguishable from the dispense method for cask-conditioned beer.

These are not the same as traditional cask-conditioned beer, which doesn't leave the brewery as a finished product. Instead, the conditioning that completes the brewing process for cask beer is done at the pub, and relies on the skills, timing and experience of the staff and licensee.

## Why should handpumps be protected for cask beer?

CAMRA believes there is room in the market for all types of beer – but 'Fresh Ale' shouldn't be served through handpumps at the bar as it is misleading for consumers – making them believe that they are getting cask-conditioned beer when they are not.

## What can the Government do about it?

As a traditional product synonymous with British brewing and pubs, we believe it is imperative that cask conditioned beer served through traditional handpumps at the bar is protected.

That way, consumers know that when they are choosing a beer from a handpump they will be getting a quality, cask-conditioned beer.

The Government should work with National Trading Standards and Trading Standards Scotland to stop the misleading use of cask handpumps in a way that is confusing to customers.

## What can Conference goers do to help?

- Visit <https://camra.org.uk/hijack> to find out more.
- Ask ministers in the Department for Business and Trade to work with National Trading Standards and Trading Standards Scotland to protect consumers from products which unfairly imitate or present themselves as cask-conditioned beer,
- Ask your local council's trading standards department if they will take steps to stop misleading dispense of kegged beer through traditional handpumps at pubs in their area.
- Urge Parliamentarians to support protecting the traditional British handpump for cask ale and its real cider equivalents so consumers aren't misled at the bar.

# Improving consumer rights

CAMRA wants to see the Government introduce some changes to consumer rights laws to make sure beer drinkers and pubgoers have better rights and access to information about what they're buying.



- Beer labelling: Consumers should have a right to know about ingredients and whether a beer is intended to be cloudy or hazy; and who has made the product and where – to stop misleading marketing of beers by global brands pretending to come from small, independent producers.
- Stop misleading practices: We want to see an end to the sale of beers under different trade names, present global brewers' beers as if they come from independent breweries.
- The right to a full pint: A pint of beer should be legally defined as 100% liquid to ensure that consumers are not short-changed at the bar.
- Price lists at the bar: The Government should bring back the requirement for a clearly displayed price list.
- Access to local beer and cider: The Government should look at improving access to market for small and independent breweries to improve choice for consumers, particularly in the tied-pubs sector.



# Save Our Inn Signs

Founded in 1990, the Inn Sign Society raises awareness of the nation's pub signs and compiles a record for the benefit of future generations. Many pub names have links with events from the past or personalities of national and local importance, and the Society provides a forum for members to research the history of inns and pub names.

It has an active web site and a quarterly full-colour journal to which members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures of pub signs and news from their areas.

As inns and pubs close at an alarming rate, much local heritage is in danger of being lost forever. Pubs are not just a place to enjoy a drink, they are often at the heart of the community and can reflect its history.

Many members take a general interest in all signs, with some specialising in particular breweries, counties, aircraft or railways, to name but a few.

The local Midlands Group meets three or four times a year at the **Mare & Colt**, near Kidderminster, to enjoy a lunch followed by a slideshow of pub signs.

The Inn Sign Society is seeking to recruit more members and bring in new blood to

help continue the good work done over the last 32 years.

For more information, including on how to join, see the website at [innsignsociety.com](http://innsignsociety.com)

If the Inn Sign Society doesn't research, capture and save our pub sign heritage, perhaps no-one else will.

*Iain Perks, Membership Secretary Inn Sign Society*



Left: Farriers Arms Worcester  
Above: Boot Inn, Flyford Flavell

## Getting around Merseyside

Below are some useful contact details for transport operators in Merseyside.

**Merseytravel:** For Journey Planner and Timetables

**Tel: 0151 330 1000**  
[www.merseytravel.gov.uk](http://www.merseytravel.gov.uk)

**Merseyrail:** Operators of trains across Merseyside  
**Tel: 0151 555 1111**  
[www.merseyrail.org](http://www.merseyrail.org)

**Whatpub:** Lists which buses or trains stop near the pub  
[www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com)

**National Rail Enquiries**  
[ojp.nationalrail.co.uk](http://ojp.nationalrail.co.uk)

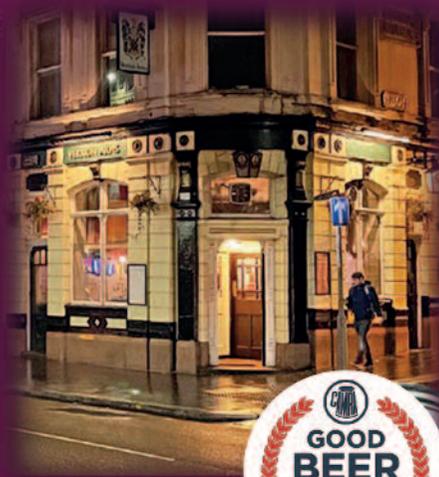


# The Vernon Arms

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Track our ales in real time at:  
[realalefinder.com](https://realalefinder.com)

Mon-Thurs 12pm-12am, Fri-Sun 11am-1am  
[info@vernonarms.net](mailto:info@vernonarms.net) – 0151 236 6132

## Making the Business Rates system fairer [England only]

Pubs currently pay 2.8% of the entire business rates bill but only account for 0.5% of total business turnover.

This is an overpayment of around £500 million by the beer and pubs sector each year. This unfair overpayment by the pub sector needs to end permanently.

CAMRA warmly welcomed the Labour manifesto commitment to change the outdated business rates system in England to make it fairer between online and bricks-and-mortar businesses like pubs.

The Chancellor should use the Budget to guarantee that under a new business rates system, pubs will no longer pay an unfair share of business rates.

Before a new, fairer business rates system can be introduced, the Chancellor should commit to keeping the current 75% discount on business rates for hospitality businesses. This is vital in keeping beer and pub businesses afloat during tough economic times.

### What can Conference goers do to help?

- Contact [campaigns@camra.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@camra.org.uk) to find out more, to hear from the thousands of CAMRA members in your local branch, or to arrange a visit to a local pub, brewery or cider producer.
- Ahead of the Budget, speak to Parliamentarians about cutting duty specifically on draught beer and cider and about making Labour's commitment on business rate reform work for pubs.
- Follow CAMRA on social media to be kept up to date about our latest campaigning.



# BLACK CAT!

AT SMITHDOWN ROAD AND ROSE LANE

## ROSE LANE

102 ROSE LANE

MON - THURS 2PM - 11.30PM // FRI & SAT 12PM - 12AM  
SUN 12PM - 11.30PM

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174 SMITHDOWN ROAD

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**WITH THE PURCHASE OF ANY CASK PINT.**

## CAMRA Champion Beer of Britain Competition



Voting in CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain competition for 2026 will open on Thursday 12 September and will close on 4 November. All current CAMRA members are encouraged to vote. It is your chance to have a say in this competition. If you have not voted before, there is a voting guide available on the main CAMRA website. Once the votes are counted and the nominations

from local tasting panels are taken into account, the winning beers will go through to a series of regional heats that will be held across the country. All judging is carried out on a 'blind tasting' basis. It is hoped that the final judging and the announcement of the winners will take place at the 2026 Great British Beer Festival.

### You can vote for up to five beers across each of the following 12 categories:

- Milds: up to and including 4% ABV
- Session bitters: up to and including 4.3% ABV
- Premium bitters: 4.4% to 6.4% ABV
- Session pale, blond and golden ales: up to and including 4.3% ABV
- Premium pale, blond and golden ales: 4.4% to 6.4% ABV
- British and New World IPAs: 5.5% ABV and above
- Brown and red ales, old ales and strong milds: up to 6.4% ABV
- Session stouts and porters: up to and including 4.9% ABV
- Strong stouts and porters, including imperial stouts and Baltic porters: 5.0% ABV and above
- Barley wines and strong ales: 6.5% ABV and above
- Speciality beers: differently produced
- Speciality beers: flavoured

Your votes are very important, demonstrated by successes this year by local breweries. These beers will go forward in 2026 to the national finals

Neptune Brewery 'Abyss'  
Rock The Boat 'Sittin On The Dock'

Gold in the Strong Stout & Porters category  
Gold in the Milds category

Chris Sandison  
NW Deputy CBOB Coordinator



# The Vines win a national pub heritage award



The Vines (aka “The Big House”) sits on the corner of Lime Street and Copperas Hill, next to the famous Adelphi hotel. It was built in 1907 by the famous Liverpool brewer Robert Cain & Sons on the site previously occupied by an earlier pub run by Author B Vines, from whom it takes its



name. It was designed for Robert by the famous Liverpool architect Walter Thomas who had designed the Philharmonic Dining Rooms for him over seven years earlier.

After years of neglect this Grade II\* listed pub was reopened in early 2023 by the “1936 Pub Group” and was promptly



awarded “Best Refurbishment” by the committee of the local branch of CAMRA. The Vines has now been recognised by CAMRA nationally, winning the “Historic England Conservation” category at the Pub Design Awards. These awards recognise the highest standards of architecture in the refurbishment and historic conservation of pubs across the UK. In the case of the Vines the judges were impressed by “the high quality of the restoration of this iconic Grade II\* listed Edwardian pub that had reversed years of poor care under the previous management”.



The award was presented at the ceremony held in the Vines on 19th June 2024 and Liverpool & Districts branch of CAMRA would like to extend our congratulations to everyone at The Big House for an award that is well deserved.

awarded “Best Refurbishment” by the committee of the local branch of CAMRA. The Vines has now been recognised by CAMRA nationally, winning the “Historic England Conservation” category at the Pub Design Awards. These awards recognise the highest standards of architecture in the refurbishment and historic conservation of pubs across the UK. In the case of the Vines the judges were impressed by “the high quality of the restoration of this iconic Grade II\* listed Edwardian pub that had reversed years of poor care under the previous management”.



Since it reopened last year, I personally have enjoyed many excellent cask conditioned beers in these beautiful, historic and truly opulent surroundings, and encourage you to do the same. You will find a selection of up to 9 cask ales available and distributed on both sides of the central bar. If you’re visiting for the first time, I recommend that you to visit all the rooms because they are all very special in different ways from the sheer size and luxury of the Billiard Room with its beautiful coloured glass ceiling dome to the cozy intimate booths in the lounge which in the winter also benefits from a roaring wood fire.



To learn more about CAMRA Historic Pubs locally and nationally please visit <https://www1.camra.org.uk/heritage-pubs> or contact the local branch using email address [contact@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:contact@liverpoolcamra.org.uk). If you’re a CAMRA member and would like to get more involved with your branch please get in touch or join one of our socials.

Please also visit the pubs own website [www.vinesbighouse.co.uk](http://www.vinesbighouse.co.uk)

**Pete Elloy**, Pubs Heritage Officer

# The BIG HOUSE



# Liverpool CAMRA BEER FESTIVAL 2024

Once again we held our Beer Festival in the magnificent surroundings of Liverpool Metropolitan Lutheran Crypt. Apart from Saturday evening, every session was sold out. Once again we had a selection of Beers from the North East and this year also had some from Scotland. In addition to a excellent range of ciders and perries. The Beer of the Festival was George Samuel Brewery Chocolate Honeycomb Stout.

Thanks also to our sponsors, and breweries. And a big thank you to the organising team for ensuring the festival was a success. And of course to our volunteers and everyone who came and supported the event. We are now planning next years festival, the dates are 13th - 15th February 2025. Further details on the website [www.liverpoolbeerfestival.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolbeerfestival.org.uk)

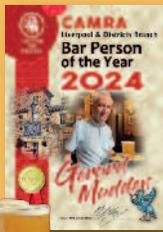
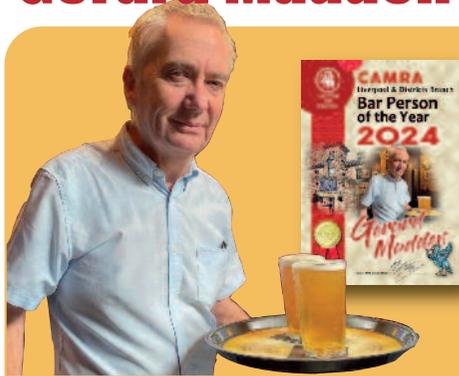
Mel James-Henry, Branch Chair  
Beer Festival Organiser



Andrew Ferriman of George Samuel Brewery was presented with his 'Beer of the Festival' award by Durham CAMRA Brewery Liaison Officer Paul Dobson



# Gerard Madden - Bar Person of the Year



Gerard retired from the Bridewell pub in early July this year, having served there since it re-opened 5 years ago. He was the 'waiter who brought a tray', serving drinks direct to people's tables in his charming and courteous manner, never forgetting an order and taking an interest in everyone he served, whether regulars or people new to the pub. He was a major part of the famed Dominic and Fiona team that has made that pub, and others, such a success. Prior to that, Gerard had been part of Fiona's team at Rigby's, where he worked for 16 years, following a short period at Dr Duncans. Gerard is truly a legend amongst the real ale community of Liverpool and a very worthy recipient of the award.



But what of his earlier life? Gerard grew up in Litherland. His first venture into the hospitality industry was during the summer holidays from St Wilfrid's school when he worked for the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company. He was too young to serve alcohol but he witnessed some very lively scenes and it really was a 'baptism of fire' for a young lad!

He went to study French and English Literature at what was then Kingston Polytechnic but within six months decided academic life wasn't for him and he returned home and spent six years in the sober environments of Liverpool City Council and what was DHSS, and then Princes Foods for three and a half years. But life wasn't all sober! He became a lover of real ale and Higgs' beers in partic-

ular, and fondly recalls drinking them in Waterloo pubs and 'Lulu's' on Everton match days.

In the late 80s, desk jobs abandoned, he moved South for three years as a wine waiter, firstly in Maidenhead in Berkshire and then the Surrey stockbroker belt where his command of French came in very useful when discussing wines with patrons! He was drawn back to his home area by his love of both family and Everton Football club, the two closely intertwined. He had been to his first match at the age of 6 and his knowledge of fixtures and scores is encyclopaedic!

He spent two years as a silver service waiter in the Prince of Wales restaurant in Southport in the early 90s, then in 1994 was headhunted and became manager at the Witchwood in Ashton-under-Lyne, a live music and real ale venue, but after six months and only one day off, enough was enough. Based back in Litherland, he spent five years working at the Armadillo in Mathew Street and a short spell at the Newz Bar in Water Street, before moving to the renowned Charlie Parker restaurant in Waterloo.

And from there to Dr Duncans and the rest is history! The Bridewell was his 'Swan Song'. He says he has many happy memories and described Fiona and Dominic Hornsby as the finest employers and very good friends. They



in turn speak very warmly of him, his loyalty, charm and gentle humour, as do all the staff.

And now – well, Gerard won't be putting his feet up!! He was in Madrid when he was delighted to hear of his 'Bar Person of the Year' award. He has lots of travel plans, both abroad and in this country, loves theatre and cinema, horse racing and vintage buses, never forgetting his beloved Everton and, of course, real ale. I'm delighted to know he'll be out and about lots on the customer side of the bar, enjoying his well-deserved retirement.

**Cheers, Gerard!**

**Jean Pownceby**

# Liverpool and Districts Pub of the Year

## The Roscoe Head



Margaret (Carol's mum) and Carol with Steve Downing Branch contact

This year the Liverpool Branch Pub of the Year went to the Roscoe Head. The Pub of the Year selection process involves several rounds of judging, first on beer scores sent in online to whatpub.com, secondly the top 10 go to a members vote, and then



Carol with Roscoe staff

the top 5 are visited by a panel of judges. An important consideration this year was accessibility, and the judges were impressed that the Roscoe Head has a ramp available for the front steps.

**The Roscoe Head is one of Liverpool's most iconic pubs. It's renowned as one of the Famous Four – pubs that have been in every edition of the CAMRA Good Beer Guide since 1974.**

It was named after William Roscoe MP for Liverpool elected in 1806. He fought for the right to vote to be rolled out to a greater number of people and to abolish slavery. Fittingly, the Roscoe Head serves its local community, with licensee Carol Ross and her staff welcoming locals and visitors alike, as they enter the small bar and snug from the Roscoe Street. With two small lounges, the Roscoe shows how to divide a small pub into series of spaces making it a comfortable and welcoming place to spend time and where conversation is king.



The Roscoe is family run, Carol following on from her parents Nicky and Margaret Joyce. In 2015, the pub was taken over by New River Retail (NRR) who generally convert pubs into convenience stores

and so Carol & Liverpool CAMRA started the 'Save the Roscoe' campaign which included listing the pub as an ACV (asset of community value).

**The pub owning arm of NRR were subsequently brow beaten into selling the freehold and the Roscoe became free to buy whatever beer the customers preferred, including beers from our local breweries.**

Beer quality is the main scoring factor so, it was an easy unanimous decision for the judges to name the Roscoe Head the Pub of Year.

# Liverpool CAMRA Awards Evening 2024



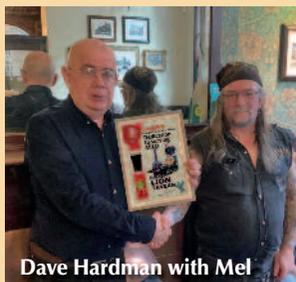
Mel Branch Chair far left, Carol and staff and Steve Pub of the Year Coordinator on the right



## The Roscoe Head Pub of the Year

On Wednesday 24th July Liverpool and Districts CAMRA hosted our annual awards evening, this year taking place at the Augustus John pub. This is a chance for CAMRA committee members and local licensees and brewers to come together and celebrate the branches thriving real ale scene. **Pub of the Year** was presented to the **Roscoe Head** (see article on page 24).

festivals, with the final round at the Great British Beer Festival. **Rock the Boat Brewery Sittin' on the Dock**, won Gold at Stockport Beer Festival for Milds, and where presented with their certificate.



Dave Hardman with Mel

We started the evening with a national award presenting a **Champion Beer of Britain**



Tomasz Kaczmarec (Rock the Boat)

**Award (CBOB).** Champion Beer of Britain regional judging starts off at CAMRA beer

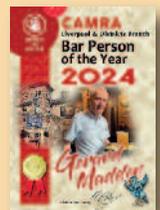
Our next award was to the **Lion Tavern** for their dedication to mild, the pub is committed to trying to always have one mild on.

Our MerseyAle editor **Sonia James-Henry** is wheelchair bound and is committed to promoting accessibility for all. Our next award was for accessibility, proving access to real ale for all, and went to the



Sonia James-Henry MerseyAle editor with Jim Tyson (AJ)

**Augustus John**, who not only have a ramp and an accessible toilet but also have a wide aisle which makes it easy to move round the pub.



Each year we have one award that is decided by CAMRA members and the public, that is **Bar Person of the Year**. This year the award went to Gerard from **The Bridewell / Thomas Rigby's** a well deserved win for a fine bartender who has just retired after many years in the job.

CAMRA isn't just about real ale, its also about real cider, and our next award, presented by **Linda Harris** our **Regional Cider Officer**, was **Cider Pub of the Year**, which, yet again



Mel (Branch Chair) Presents Steve Yip of Childrens Charity KIND with a cheque for £632 raised at the 2024 Liverpool Beer Festival

## Pubs of Excellence

Now we come to our Pubs of Excellence awards. These are the runners up to the pub of the year, and have been voted for by our members.



Linda with Jim Tyson (AJ)



Ship & Mitre



Si and Aggy



Cobden Vaults



Denbigh Castle



Patrick (Cask)

Our Pub of the Year award went to a well-respected real ale pub, loved by people, not only in Merseyside but all over the country. This prestigious award went to the **Roscoe Head**. Congratulations to Carol Ross and her team. See photo top left on page 26.

## Congratulations To All !

One final award.....This award is named after someone who is sadly no longer with us, we've heard lots of stories about him and his campaigning, this is the **Tony Molyneux** award. As this is our 50th anniversary year, its only right to present this award to someone who, has not only been involved in the branch from the very beginning but is still involved in our campaigning and supports the branch. She volunteers at our beer festival, attends many branch social events and is a keen beer scorer. The winner of this prestigious award was **Jean Pownceby**. Congratulations to Jean, and here's to many more years of campaigning. With that, the awards part of the evening was over, hopefully we can do it all again next year.



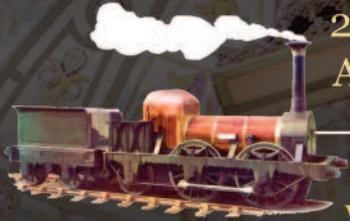
Geoff Edwards left (former Branch Chair) and Mel James-Henry (present Branch Chair) Presenting Jean with the Tony Molyneux award

# The LION TAVERN

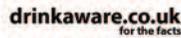
8 Hand Pumps,  
4 regular ales



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# The Party's over, now we have a new one



The General Election in July 2024 saw a Labour government returned. Not much has changed in terms of representation in Liverpool & Districts branch but we do have one new MP. We therefore say hello and welcome to **Anneliese Midgley**, MP for Knowsley, who takes over after the retirement of **Sir George Howarth**. Boundary changes mean that some of us may now be in new constituencies. This is true of members in the Halewood area who were in Liverpool Garston but now find themselves in Widnes and Halewood, represented by **Derek Twigg** MP. We share Derek Twigg with our colleagues in **Halton CAMRA** but we will be contacting him if any issues arise about pubs and clubs in the Halewood area.

Before the election CAMRA HQ introduced an election e-lobby so that members could contact all candidates with our concerns about protecting and promoting pubs, clubs, breweries and cider producer throughout the UK, to help them survive and thrive. The e-lobby was sent direct to all members who receive emails from CAMRA HQ. It was also posted on our social media outlets. Thank you to all of you who took the time to complete the form and lobby the candidates where you live. I hope some of you got responses. If you did, feel free to pass them to me or our branch contact so that we can remind those MPs of their pledges should the need arise. CAMRA issued its own election manifesto to candidates with a number of demands.

For the UK these were:

- Improved consumer rights on where drinks behind the bar come from and who owns the brand, overall, offering more choice for pub-goers.
- Access to the market for small and independ-

ent beer and cider makers as opposed to a market that is dominated by larger organisations.

■ **The right to fairer tax by maximising the benefits of the new draught duty rate by extending the difference between tax paid on beer and cider in the pub and in off-licences and supermarkets, as well as a VAT reduction on beer and cider sold in the on-trade.**

**Specific asks for England only were:**

■ Improved planning protections and enforcement for viable and valued pubs and social clubs that face unwanted demolition or conversion without serious and consistent consequences.

■ **A full review of business rates to fix the unfair overpayment by the pub sector, with an emphasis that online businesses pay their fair share compared to businesses like pubs and social clubs.**

The election may be over but it is vital that we as CAMRA members and branches build relationships with MPs. We need to keep reminding them about the positive contribution pubs and social clubs make to local communities, and how important brewers, cider and perry producers are to the UK's economy and culture. If you want to make a difference for pubs, pints and people we encourage you to write to your MP and raise the concerns listed above. Members can use their log-in to access the members section of the CAMRA website, where there are lots of materials to help you do this.

**Tony Morgan**  
Vice Chair & Public  
Affairs Officer



## THE MONRO

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theshipandmitre.uk/events/ or scan QR code for more details

## Liverpool CAMRA 50 YEARS

2024 marks the 50th Anniversary of what was then Merseyside CAMRA, comprising of what is now Liverpool, Wirral, Southport and St Helens CAMRA Branches. To celebrate this historical

event there were a few celebrations throughout the year, the first of which was an evening of reminiscing back where it all began in the Globe. We were joined by committee members past and present including **Bob Lockhart** who was at the inaugural meeting in 1974 and, of



course, a lady many of you will know, **Jean Pownceby**. The Globe were presented with a certificate and a plaque to mark the occasion. Big Bog, Neptune and Ossett breweries also brewed special 50th Anniversary beers for Liverpool beer festival.



# Why should I join CAMRA?



As a CAMRA member you will have access to lots of beer-related benefits. You can take advantage of these at home, at events, and in pubs. Here are some options for you to explore:

The campaign: keep up with the campaign that your membership is supporting with our What's Brewing online publication, available online here <https://wb.camra.org.uk/>.

- **Beer discounts:** your membership card and vouchers get you discounts on your beer at pubs up and down the country. Check out [whatpub.com](http://whatpub.com), search locations and use filters to find great pubs near you with features you like.
- **Beer festivals:** as a member of CAMRA, you get free or reduced-price entry to our 160 beer festivals up and down the country. Search for a festival near you on our website, get out and try new brews!
- **The CAMRA shop:** did you know that CAMRA is also an award-winning publisher? As a CAMRA member, you have access to preferred rates at our shop for books, merchandise and more. Take a look on our website today. <https://shop1.camra.org.uk/>.
- **Member benefits:** your membership should allow you to save moneys on the things that matter to you, which is why we work with industry partners to bring you great discounts. We're adding more to our website all the time; see <https://camra.org.uk/join/membership-benefits/partner-benefits/>.
- **Keep in touch:** whether you're on our website, in the pub, or at a beer festival, having a voice and getting involved will allow you to get more out of your membership.

### Annual subscriptions (as from 1 July 2024) are:

- Single membership, paid by Direct Debit; £30.50
  - Joint membership (partner at the same address) £38.50
- Add £2 if not paying by Direct Debit.

Some concessions are available.

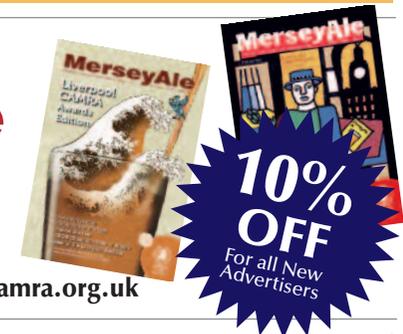
You can find out more at <https://join.camra.org.uk> or search 'join CAMRA'.

**Ian Rayner** Membership Secretary Liverpool & Districts

## Advertise in MerseyAle

A fantastic way to get in front of thousands of potential new customers in Merseyside and the surrounding areas.

Advertising, email enquires to [adverts@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:adverts@liverpoolcamra.org.uk)



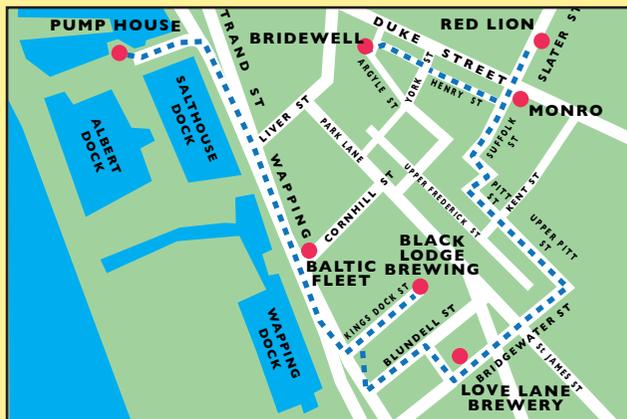
# ALBERT DOCK PUB WALK

Harold Wilson once famously said that “A week is a long time in politics”. Using the same analogy for beer, then it is fair to say that “A year has been a long time in the Liverpool pub set-up”! Putting this into perspective, since the last Labour Party conference was held at the Albert Dock in 2023, we have seen the opening of **Queen of Hope Street**, **The White Hart and The Engineer** all by the **1936 Pub Company** as well as a total revitalisation of **The Vines** (AKA **The Big House**), back to its former and imperious glory. The 1936 Pub Company has also recently opened **The Monro** in Duke Street which we will return to later.

This pub walk takes in 7 pubs in a circular route around the Al-

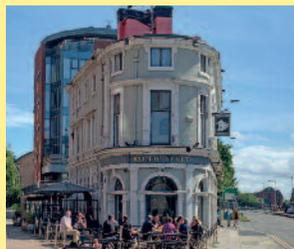


bert Dock area, and starts with **The Pump House**. This pub is instantly recognisable with its distinctive large chimney, and the pub is duly named after its Victorian purpose of providing a hydraulic power system to the area. The pub has a wide range of nooks and crannies covering a couple of floors, and sells decent



pub grub until 9pm. It is very popular with tourists so the area and can get extremely busy at weekends. On my visit there were 8 handpumps, with 5 actively selling cask ales. They have 3 regular beers, **Abbott**, **Greene King IPA** and **Pump House Pale** as well as at least **2 regular changing beers**.

Coming out of the Pump House exit the Albert Dock and turn right down Strand Street. Walking past the old dock wall arch,



you will see the very distinctive **Baltic Fleet**, with its red funnels on the top of the building and its flat Iron frontage giving it very much the image of a mini-Titanic. The pub has 4 handpumps with **Brimstage Trappers Hat** (3.8%), being a regular beer supported by **3 changing beers**. The number of beers sold in the past can be seen by a multitude of beer mats adorning the walls around the bar. **Please note that this is a card only pub.**

Coming out of the Baltic, turn left and keeping walking down the main road (now Wapping) away from the city, past the magnificent Wapping warehouse (Constructed in 1855). At the end of this building, which is on your right, turn left and walk up what looks like a disused road (The signage is not that clear), but persevere up it and you will come to the **Black Lodge Brewery** at the top right (You will see the distinctive black logo flags above the building). The Brewery has an excellent outdoor area which is a real sun trap and always has 1 cask ale on, as well as an array of craft beers. On my visit, they were selling **Black Lodge Summer Ale** (4.5%). The Brewery has



a chess club, meeting on the last Thursday of the month. Please note this brewery is closed on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

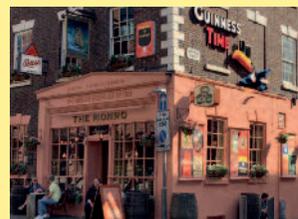
Retrace your steps coming out of the Black Lodge and turn left at the bottom main road, turn left into Blundell Street (Past Funny Boyz) then right onto Simpson

Street and you will see **Love Lane Brewery** on the right hand side. This brewery has 3 handpumps which all currently sell **Higsons Best Bitter** (3.8%), and of course they brew a whole array of craft beers on site. The brewery sells food and has a quiz on the final Thursday of the month. They also have regular food events and Steak nights.



They do brewery tours (By prior appointment) including **Turncoat Gin**, the distilling of which, also takes place on the premises. Please note the Brewery is closed on Mondays.

The next walk is the longest (11 minutes to be precise), but also the most rewarding! Walk up Bridgewater Street, which leads onto Nelson Street, then turn left into Upper Pitt Street, just when you think this road has run its course, turn right into Kent Street then up to the main road at Duke Street turning left at the top. On the next block you will see **The Monro** which only opened on 8 August 2024. The Monro has been totally trans-



formed from the Gastro pub previously on site, and has been extended into the building next door, to allow a larger outdoor drinking area at the rear. The

outside of the pub has some fabulous signage including the famous old Guinness Toucan with a “Time for a beer” logo, as well as a **Bass Sign** and many others. The pub has 15 Handpumps, of which 14 sell cask ales (With one cider). In true 1936 Pub Co style, they always have brews from **Ossett**, **Timothy Taylors**, **Titanic and Carnival**. The pub has been set out to provide the feel of a 100 year old Dublin pub and succeeds in doing this with a vast array of old bric-a-brac and an unusual room without a floor on the first floor (Well cordoned off!) which has the feel of an old Edwardian parlour. The first floor also has a smaller bar with 3 handpumps. Coming out of the Monro, just look straight across the main road and 50 yards to the left is the **Red Lion** in Slater Street. This is another 1936 Pub Co venue which at over 2 years old now feels positively ancient against some of the newer builds! The Red Lion has 5 handpumps in-



cluding 4 cask Ales. The 2 regular beers are **Titanic Plum Porter** (4.9%) and **Ossett White Rat** (4.0%). The pub has a quiz on Sunday nights, and Irish and Gypsy Jazz music on Tuesdays and Wednesdays respectively.

Leaving the Red Lion, turn back on yourself and turn right on Duke Street heading back towards town. You will walk towards old signage for the long gone Higsons Custom House Pub, which is now a mini-mart (The Higsons Double-Top sig-

nage still clearly visible on the first floor) as soon as you see this, turn left down Campbell Street and through Campbell Square and you will arrive on the right at **The Bridewell**, a 2023 winner of the **CAMRA Liverpool**



**& District Pub of the Year**. Historically the Bridewell was the place used to lock up various drunks and vagrants, usually prior to a meeting with the beak in the local courts the next morning! The pub has still retained its original infrastructure including the prison cells, with heavy duty doors. It is also the place where **Charles Dickens** once joined up as a special constable” for the day so he could safely walk around the dock area (suitably accompanied by a fellow officer of course!), to no doubt drum up some notorious characters for his next novel! The Bridewell has 4 handpumps including two regulars from the **Kirkstall Brewery – Revival Series Bitter** (3.8%) and **Three Swords EPA** (4.3%). From the Bridewell it is a straight walk down hill back to the Albert Dock.

So yes, it has been a year of significant transition on the Liverpool Beer scene, and it will be interesting to see what the next 12 months holds. As Harold Wilson himself might have said “I’ll raise a glass to that”, not to mention a quick smoke of his pipe as well, although no doubt he would.

**Gary Donnelly**

# Campaigning for cider and perry

While the majority of cider available at the bar comes from just a few large manufacturers, there are hundreds of independent producers throughout the UK.

In fact, around 80% of Britain's cider and perry makers are small producers.



Bill Bradshaw

CAMRA campaigned hard for the creation of a new progressive tax scheme for small producers that will help their businesses grow and support consumer choice at the bar - but that's only half the battle. Now we need to make sure that high quality ciders and perries, and traditional orchards are supported.

## Minimum Juice Content

Most consumers won't be aware that cider has a 'minimum juice content' or the amount of juice it must contain to be taxed as cider. This is currently just 35%, meaning some of the most recognisable cider brands are more water than juice.

In a 2023 YouGov survey commissioned by CAMRA, 93% of Brits thought that the preservation of traditional orchards was important - with 87% specifically supporting raising the minimum juice content of cider to help halt the decline of orchards.

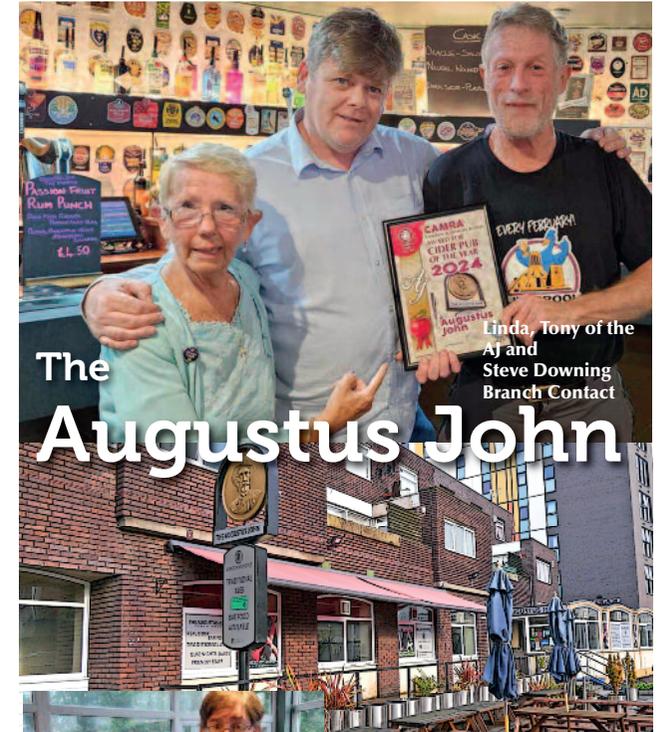
CAMRA is calling for the minimum juice content to be raised to at least 50%, and while the last Government promised a review this was never carried out. It's vital that the Labour Government hold this review so independent producers, quality cider and perry and consumer choice can be put first.

# CIDER and PERRY news



## Liverpool and Districts Cider Pub of the Year

Once again congratulations to the Augustus John on winning the Liverpool and District CAMRA Cider and perry pub of the year. The Augustus John is an absolute treat for cider and perry drinkers, and we hope those who came to the presentation of the award enjoyed the tasting event, sampling ciders and perries. I am happy to announce that **That Beer Place** in Chester is



The Augustus John  
Linda, Tony of the AJ and Steve Downing Branch Contact



the Regional cider and perry pub of the year winner for Merseyside. The pub has a cider club which meets on the second Wednesday of the month, they host tastings and talks, well worth a visit if you are in Chester. A recent talk was by Adam Wells, who



Linda and Steve Mulholland

wrote a book about the Perry pear which is available for sale on the CAMRA Website. In addition to the talk there was a perry tasting which was great fun, I am partial to a drop of

perry and knew that the first tasting was actually Babysham. This caused quite a stir amongst the group.

Thank you everyone who Supports Cider and Perry sales in our outlets. Kind Regards

**Linda Harris**  
Regional Cider Coordinator  
Merseyside and Cheshire

WASSAIL



## CAMRA Members - Are you missing out?

Liverpool & Districts CAMRA keeps in touch with members on email on a regular basis: giving a synopsis on all beery events (both CAMRA and non-CAMRA) and special news such as pub awards, and reminders about branch socials and meetings. We are keeping members up to date with what is going on within the branch without using CAMRA funds on snail mail letters.

**Liverpool & Districts are keen to keep in touch. So, if you are a CAMRA Member and want to be kept up to date with what's happening, both locally and nationally, please make sure that your email address is logged on the CAMRA website.**

### This is very easy to do:

- Log onto the CAMRA website – [www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk).
- Click the Login tab and sign in with your membership number and password.
- Click the Members Area tab then click Edit Membership Details.
- Click Personal Details, update your contact details, and save your changes.
- Any email from CAMRA, both nationally or locally, could go to your spam folder. Check your spam folder regularly and mark any emails as safe.

**Any problems? – contact Ian Rayner (Membership Secretary) on [membership@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:membership@liverpoolcamra.org.uk) (Liverpool & Districts only) or your local branch Membership Secretary.**

**Ian Rayner  
Membership Secretary  
Liverpool & Districts**

# OBITUARY

## David Stevenson



Dave Stevenson passed away peacefully on Wednesday 12th June aged 77, joining his loving wife Evelyn who predeceased him by barely a month.

Dave was both a pioneer and innovator in the real ale revolution that followed the formation of CAMRA in 1971.

Dave was best known for his tenure at the Ship and Mitre, Dale Street, where he established arguably Liverpool's premier real ale free house. The Ship subsequently became an institution both locally and nationally where drinkers would come to enjoy a host of novel real ales.

Dave's mother was from Belgium, which led to him acquiring a range of beers and lagers from that country. Nowadays, continental brews are commonplace. Dave's wife Evelyn encouraged him to initiate popular beer festivals within the pub which have now been transformed into the biannual events at Hulme Hall in Port Sunlight under the management of current owner Ben Garner.

Dave was an excellent cook and a range of lunches was offered to both local office staff and regulars from nearby John Moores University. Among those regulars was the late Andy Greenwood who recruited me to CAMRA. Within the pub, Dave was always keen to maintain the highest standards including keeping the copper bar polished and gleaming after the pub had closed.

Under Dave's stewardship the Ship deservedly won CAMRA's Pub of the Year on many occasions. Most memorable were the presentations on the roof of the Royal Liver Building arranged by branch Chair Peter Fane. Dave and Evelyn were both CAMRA members and were active in recruiting others to the Campaign. He served as secretary on the local branch Committee.

No assessment of Dave would be complete without an anecdote. Lyn Perrow, who provided much of the information for this article, gave me this one. A customer entered the Ship shortly after opening and sat on an empty bar stool. Nobody seemed within earshot. Dave's head appeared suddenly and almost miraculously from beneath the bar counter and told him. "Do you know you're in my seat?" A man of few words but one who always knew how to make his point.

**Geoff Edwards  
Liverpool and Districts Branch Chair  
2006-2015**

**With grateful thanks to Lyn Perrow,  
Evelyn Stevenson's daughter**

# LocAle Where to Find LocAle in Liverpool

## City Centre

**Angus Tap & Grind**, 83-85

Dale Street, L2 2HT

**Augustus John**, Peach Street,  
L3 5TX

**Baltic Fleet**, 33 Wapping,  
L1 8DQ

**Belvedere**, 8 Sugnall Street,  
L7 7EB

**Black Lodge Brewing Taproom**, 3  
Kings Dock Street,  
L1 8JU

**Blackburne Pub & Eatery**, 24  
Catharine Street, L8 7NL

**Bundobust Restaurant**, 17-19 Bold  
Street, Liverpool, L1 4DN

**Cains Brewery Tap**, 39 Stanhope  
Street, L8 5RE

**Caledonia**, 22 Caledonia Street, L7  
7DX

**Captain Alexander**, 15 James Street,  
L2 7NX

**Carnival Brewery Tap**, Unit 3 King  
Edward Rise Industrial Estate, Gibraltar  
Row, L3 7HJ

**Dr Duncan's**, St Johns Lane,  
L1 1HF

**Dispensary**, 87 Renshaw Street, L1  
2SP

**Fall Well**, Roe Street, L1 1LS

**Grapes**, 60 Roscoe Street,  
L1 9DW

**Head of Steam**, Hanover Street, 85-  
89 Hanover Street, L1 3DZ

**Lime Kiln**, Fleet Street, L1 4NR

**Lion Tavern**, Moorfields, L2 2BP

**Liverpool Brewing Company Tap**,  
72 Lime Street, L1 1JN

**Love Lane Bar & Kitchen**, 62-64  
Bridgewater Street, L1 0AY

**Monro**, 92 Duke Street, L1 5AG

**North Western**, 7 Lime Street, L1 1RJ

**Pumphouse**, The Colonnades,  
Albert Dock, L3 4AN

**Queen of Hope Street**, 1-1A Mrytle  
Street, L7 7DN

**Red Lion**, 36 Slater Street, L1 4BX

**Richard John Blackler**, 1-2,  
Charlotte Row, L1 1HU

**Richmond Hotel**, 32 Williamson  
Street, L11EB

**Roscoe Head**, 24 Roscoe Street, L1  
2SX

**Ship & Mitre**, 133 Dale Street, L2 2JH

**Vernon Arms**, 69 Dale Street, L2 2HJ

**Vines**, 81 Lime Street, L1 1JQ

**Welkin**, 7 Whitechapel, L1 6DS

**White Hart**, 23 Hope Street, L1 9BQ  
(Includes Engineer at rear)

**Ye Hole in Ye Wall**, 4 Hackins Hey,  
L2 2AW

## Outside City Centre

**Barkers Brewery**, Archway Road,  
Huyton, L36 9UJ

**Black Cat**, 174 Smithdown Road,  
Wavertree, L15 3JR

**Butchers**, Booker Avenue, L18 4QZ

**Childwall Fiveways**, 79 Queens  
Drive, L15 6XS

**Cobden**, 89 Quarrary Street,  
Woolton, L25 6HA

**Coop**, 84 College Road, Crosby,  
L23 0RP

**Corner Post**, 25 Bridge Road,  
Crosby, L23 6SA

**Crow's Nest**, 63 Victoria Road,  
Crosby, L23 7XY

**Four Ashes**, 23 Crosby Road, North,  
Waterloo, L22 0LD

**Frank Hornby**, 38 Eastway, Maghull,  
L31 6BR

**Handyman Supermarket**, 46,  
Smithdown Road, L15 3JL

**Homebrew Tap**, 14 Endbutt Lane,  
Crosby, L23 0TR

**Little Tap Room**, 278 Aigburth Road,  
L17 9PJ

**Liver**, 137 South Road, Waterloo,  
L22 0LT

**Navigator**, 694 Queens Drive, Old  
Swan, L13 5UH

**Neptune Brewery Beerhouse**, 25-  
27 Liverpool Road North, Maghull,  
L31 2HB

**Old Bank**, 301 Aigburth Road,  
Aigburth, L17 0BJ

**Punchbowl**, Lunt Road, Sefton  
Village, L29 7WA

**Queen's Picturehouse**, 47 South  
Road, Waterloo, L22 5PE

**Raven**, 72-74 Walton Vale, Walton, L9  
2BU

**Royal Hotel**, Marine Terrace, L22  
5PR

**Stamps Bar**, 5 Crown Buildings,  
Crosby, L23 5SR

**Thomas Frost**, 77-187 Walton Road,  
Kirkdale, L4 4AJ

**Volunteer Canteen**, 45 East Street,  
Waterloo, L22 8QR

**Waterpudlian**, 99 South Road,  
Waterloo, L22 0LR

**Willow Bank Tavern**, 329  
Smithdown Road, Wavertree,  
L15 3JA

**TOTAL 60**

**\*\*New additions are highlighted in  
RED\*\***

**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.**

**Launched 2009 in Liverpool. We  
have now celebrated 15 years of  
LocAle in Liverpool and will be  
arranging periodic socials in 2025,  
please keep an eye on social  
media and Branch Newsletters.**

**A MESSAGE TO PUBS:  
If you think your pub should be  
included in this list, please email:  
locale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk  
giving details. A LocAle beer is a  
REAL ALE BREWED WITHIN 30  
miles of the pub by road. NB:  
Other terms and conditions apply**

**Free point of Sale (POS)  
materials are available  
including window stickers,  
leaflets and pump clip toppers.  
Email  
locale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk**



**You can find all these pubs  
on [www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com) or  
scan the QR Code.**

**Johnathan Hall**

# Local Breweries Winning Champion Beer of Britain (CBOB)

Good news for our local Merseyside  
Breweries, who are winning the regional  
rounds of CBOB which take place at  
beer festivals throughout the country.



**Neptune Brewery**  
Abbyss 5%, awarded Gold  
in the **Strong Stout &  
Porters** category at Liver-  
pool Beer Festival 2024

## Liverpool Brewing Company



Paul Tench (Crewe BF organiser) Mel,  
and Karl Critchley brewer at LBC



**Imperial  
Russian  
Stout 8%,  
awarded  
Gold in Real  
Ale in a Bot-  
tle ABV 4.4%**

or above judged at the Isle of Man Beer  
Festival 2023



**Shipwreck 6.5%**, awarded Gold in **British  
and New World IPAs** at **Crewe Beer  
Festival 2023**



Mel presents award to  
Les O'Grady Neptune Brewery



**Rock The Boat**  
Sittin On The Dock,  
awarded Gold in the  
**Milds** category at  
Stockport Beer

Festival 2024



Tomasz Kaczmarek (Rock  
the Boat brewer)

Congratulations to our local breweries.

Article by Mel James-Henry Branch Chair



# Liverpool Pubs CAMRA Discount



Discounts on production of a valid CAMRA card

- **Angus Tap & Grind**, 83-85 Dale Street, City Centre: 10% Sun – Thur.
- **Arkles**, 77 Anfield Road: 10%
- **The Baltic Fleet**, 33a Wapping, City Centre: 20p off a pint, 10p off a half.
- **Bear & Staff**, 24-26 Gateacre Brow, Gateacre: 10%.
- **Birkey**, 35 Crooks Road: 10%
- **Black Horse**, 641 Prescot Road, Old Swan: 10%.
- **The Crown**, 43 Lime Street, City Centre: 20p off a pint, 10p off a half.
- **Endbutt**, 63-65 Endbutt Lane, Crosby: 10%.
- **Fly**, 13 Hardman Street, City Centre: 10%.
- **Hare & Hounds**, 53 Liverpool Road North, Maghull: 20p off a pint (pints only) except Mon & Thur when all cask is £2.79/pint.\*
- **Head of Steam**, 85-89 Hanover Street, City Centre: 20p off a pint.
- **Jolly Miller**, 176 Mill Lane, West Derby: 10%.
- **Lady of Mann**, 19 Dale Street, City Centre: 10%.
- **Liime Street Central**, 51 Lime Street, City Centre: 20%.
- **The Liver**, 137 South Road, Waterloo: 20%.
- **Liverpool Brewing Company Tap**, 72 Lime Street, City Centre: £3.70 up to 5.0% and £4 above 5.0% (cask pints only).
- **Ma Egerton's**, 9 Pudsey Street, City Centre: 10%.

- **Meadows Hotel**, Liverpool Road South: 10%
- **Netherton Hotel**, Church Road, Litherland: 10%.
- **Northern Club**, Elm Avenue, Moor Park, Crosby: 10% on Thursday evenings only and also during cricket matches.
- **Pen Factory**, 13 Hope Street, City Centre: 10%.
- **Pumphouse**, The Colonnades, Royal Albert Dock: 25p off a pint (pints only).
- **The Little Taproom**, 278 Aigburth Road, Aigburth: **Loyalty card, buy 8 get 1 free.**
- **The Punchbowl**, Lunt Road, Sefton Village: 20p off a pint, 10p off a half.
- **Richmond Tavern**, Church Road, Wavertree: 20p off a pint (pints only) except Mon & Thurs. when all cask is £2.79/pint.\*
- **Thomas Rigby's**, 23-25 Dale Street, City Centre: 10%.
- **Royal Standard**, Deysbrook Lane, West Derby: 10%.
- **Sefton Arms**, 1 Mill Lane, West Derby: 10%.
- **Victoria Cross**, 1-3 Sir Thomas Street, City Centre: 20p off a pint (pints only) except Sat.
- **Willow Bank Tavern**, 329 Smithdown Road, Wavertree: 10% except Tues after 6pm.

Discount available all day every day unless stated otherwise.

## Discount Days which are available to anyone

- **Flute**, 35 Hardman Street, City Centre: **Tues ONLY** £2.10/pint.
- **Fly**, 13 Hardman Street, City Centre: **Mon ONLY** £3.35/pint.
- **The George**, 1 Moor Lane, Crosby Village: **Tues ONLY** £1.95/pint.
- **Hare & Hounds**, 53 Liverpool Road North, Maghull: **Mon & Thurs ONLY** £2.79/pint.
- **The John Brodie**, Unit 1 Allerton Road, Allerton: **Tues ONLY** £1.95/pint.
- **Love Lane Brewery**, Bar and Kitchen, 62-64 Bridgewater Street, Baltic Triangle: **Mon-Thurs 5pm - 7pm** 25%.
- **Richmond Tavern**, Church Road, Wavertree: **Mon & Thurs ONLY** £2.79/pint.
- **White Star**, Rainford Gardens, City Centre: **Mon-Thurs** selected beer £2.50.
- **Willow Bank Tavern**, 329 Smithdown Road, Wavertree: **Tues ONLY** from 6pm £2.25/pint.



# Discounts available on production of CAMRA Voucher



CAMRA have replaced the JD Wetherspoon Voucher scheme with a new 'CAMRA Voucher Scheme'. The new vouchers will be valid in JD Wetherspoon, Stonegate, Brains, Castle Rock and Amber Taverns managed pubs.

The CAMRA Voucher Scheme entitles members to a discount of 50p off a pint of Real Ale, Cider or Perry. See [www.camra.org.uk/vouchers](http://www.camra.org.uk/vouchers) for full terms and conditions.

## Pubs accepting CAMRA Voucher Scheme

- Albert**, 66-68 Lark Lane, Aigburth. (Stonegate)
- Barkers Brewery**, Archway Road, Huyton. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Captain Alexander**, 15 James Street, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Childwall Fiveways**, 179 Queens Drive, Childwall. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Fall Well**, Roe Street, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Flute**, 35 Hardman Street, City Centre. (Stonegate)
- Frank Hornby**, 38 Eastway, Maghull. (JD Wetherspoon)
- George**, 1 Moor Lane, Crosby Village. (Stonegate)
- John Brodie**, Unit 1 Allerton Road, Allerton. (Stonegate)
- Lime Kiln**, Fleet Street, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Navigator**, 694 Queens Drive, Old Swan. (JD

- Wetherspoon**)
- North Western**, 7 Lime Street, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Old Bank**, 34 South Road, Waterloo. (Stonegate)
- Queens Picture House**, 47-49 South Road, Waterloo. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Raven**, 72-74 Walton Vale, Walton. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Richard John Blackler**, Units 1 & 2 Charlotte Row, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Thomas Frost**, 177-187 Walton Road, Kirkdale. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Welkin**, 7 Whitechapel, City Centre. (JD Wetherspoon)
- Wild Rose**, 2a & 1b Triad Centre, Bootle. (JD Wetherspoon)
- William Gladstone**, 18-20 North John Street, City Centre. (Stonegate)

This list is correct as of November 2023.

Any new discount offers since the last issue are highlighted in **RED**.

All discounts are at the discretion of the Pub or Club and can be as little or as large as the pub feels suits their business needs and maybe withdrawn or changed at any time.

Please remember discounts should never be expected.

Message to licensees / real ale drinkers  
This list is not exhaustive, so if we have left anyone off OR if the discount no longer ap-

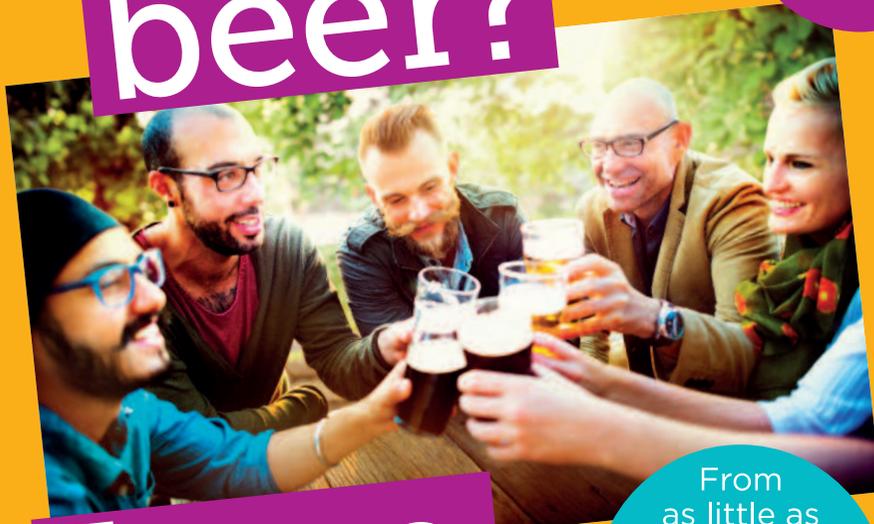
plies, please let me know by emailing: [locale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:locale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk) with details.

Johnathan Hall



# Love beer?

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



From as little as **£30.50\*** a year. That's less than a pint a month!

Includes **£30†** Real Ale Cider & Perry Vouchers

# Love pubs?

## CAMRA Membership is for you!

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

We offer you fantastic benefits and everything you need to find the perfect pint and pub – anytime, anywhere.

Find out more [camra.org.uk/joinup](http://camra.org.uk/joinup)

\*Price for paying by Direct Debit, Concessionary rates available, Please visit [camra.org.uk/membership-rates](http://camra.org.uk/membership-rates)  
†Joint members receive £40 worth of vouchers.



Campaign for Real Ale

# Branch Diary

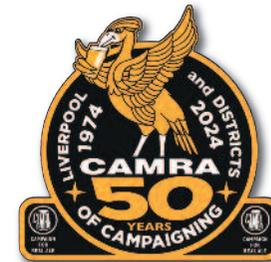
## Cask Ale Week 19th to 29th September 2024

**September 22nd**, Over the River pub walk, starting at noon. We are once again travelling by ferry to Seacombe for a pub walk to New Brighton. We will be taking the 12 noon ferry from the Pier Head and visiting, amongst others, the award winning Magazine.

**September 26th, 2pm**, Good Beer Guide Launch at the Roscoe Head, our Pub of the Year and only pub in Merseyside to have been in every edition.

**October 26th, 1pm** meeting at the Black Cat Rose Lane, (formerly Pi Bar). We will then be visiting other pubs in the area.

**November 7th, 7.30pm**, downstairs in the Denbigh Castle, **Branch AGM followed by pub walk.**



Follow us

### MerseyAle Article and Photo Contributors

Chris Sandison  
Dennis Jones  
Gary Donnelly  
Geoff Edwards  
Iain Perks  
Ian Rayner

Jean Pownceby  
Joel Garnett  
Jonathan Hall  
Julie O'Grady  
Linda Harris  
Mel-James Henry  
Mike Chandler  
Pete Elloy  
Sonia James-Henry

Steve Downing  
Steven Mulholland  
Tony Morgan

With thanks to CAMRA's communications team for their contributions

Apologies if we have left anyone anyone out.

## Trading Standards Departments

The Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline responds to calls from Merseyside Residents on behalf of all local authority Trading Standards departments.

**Tel: 0345 404 0506 or visit [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)**

**Further details of all trading standards departments [www.tradingstandards.uk](http://www.tradingstandards.uk)**

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## WANTED Local News Reporters



Although Liverpool CAMRA branch does cover a wide area of Merseyside, we are aware that some areas don't get the news coverage they deserve.

**This includes the areas of Aigburth, Allerton, Garston, Gateacre, Huyton, Maghull, Woolton and Wavertree.**

We would love more articles on pubs in these areas, these can vary from snippets for pub news to full page pieces. If any of our readers are interested please **email [merseyale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk](mailto:merseyale@liverpoolcamra.org.uk)**



SINCE 1998



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