



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**

PINTS of VIEW

**The
Magazine
of
Edinburgh
and
South-East
Scotland
CAMRA**

In with the New!



Inside this issue...

- Interview with Sarah Bellis, new Scotland & NI Regional Director
- Beer scoring: what is it?
- The Barley Mow
- Latest real ale pub news
- Latest local brewery news
- ... and more!

Pull-out 2017 calendar inside!

Pints of View is the magazine of the Edinburgh & South-East Scotland Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA), an independent, voluntary organisation campaigning for real ale, community pubs and consumer rights.



www.edinburghcamra.org.uk

 [edinburghcamra](https://www.facebook.com/edinburghcamra)

 [@CAMRA_Edinburgh](https://twitter.com/CAMRA_Edinburgh)

Editorial Board

Scott Telford (poveditor@edinburghcamra.org.uk)

Pat Hanson (advertising@edinburghcamra.org.uk)

Callum Bracher

Charlie Hughes

Branch Membership Secretary

Mike Just (memsec@edinburghcamra.org.uk)

Branch Secretary

Jim Darroch (secretary@edinburghcamra.org.uk)

Views expressed in *Pints of View* are not necessarily those of the Edinburgh & South-East Scotland Branch of CAMRA, the editor or the publishers. While every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in *Pints of View*, no responsibility can be accepted for any errors or omissions.

Pints of View accepts advertising on condition that their inclusion does not necessarily imply an endorsement or approval of content. The editor reserves the right to edit contributions sent for publication. All marks and copyright acknowledged.

Circulation: 10,000 copies distributed throughout Edinburgh, Lothian and the Borders.

Trading Standards Officers

Borders

St Dunstons, High Street, Melrose
01896 823924

East Lothian

Council Offices, Court Street, Haddington
01620 827365

West Lothian

Almondvale Boulevard, Livingston
01506 776410

Edinburgh

Chesser House, 500 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh
0131 529 3030

Midlothian

8 Lothian Road, Dalkeith, Midlothian
0131 270 7500

Editorial

Hello again!

This issue's cover illustrates just a few of the numerous new real ale outlets and breweries we are seeing in our branch area. Foundry 39, the Booking Office, the Ferry Brewery and Cross Borders Brewing are typical of the new developments that are keeping our branch committee busy these days! Interestingly, both those pubs occupy premises that were previously restaurants.

Another new development was the election in August of Sarah Bellis as CAMRA's Scotland and Northern Ireland Director. Find out more about Sarah and her plans on page 5.

Scott

P.S. Apologies for a technical error in the last issue of PoV which resulted in some of the pictures and adverts suffering excessive "pixellation". We promise it won't happen again!

Advertising Rates

Our standard fees for advertisements are as follows;

- Full page: £270
- Half-page: £180
- Quarter-page: £108
- One-eighth page: £72
- Back cover: £POA

We normally also give a discount for multiple inserts in a single publication.

Subscriptions

This magazine is available by subscription at the following rates:

- 4 issues - £8.00
- 6 issues - £12.00

Currently it is our intention publish *PoV* twice a year, although this could change in the future.

The magazine is also available as a PDF version on our website if you would prefer just to download it.

Subscription requests with a cheque payable to "Edinburgh CAMRA" should be sent to:

Pints of View Subscriptions
c/o Jon Addinall
22 Wadingburn Road
Lasswade
EH18 1HS

CAMRA Calling

Branch News

Stagg's Bar - CAMRA Scotland and Northern Ireland Pub of the Year 2016



Congratulations to Stagg's Bar, Musselburgh on winning the overall Scotland and Northern Ireland Pub of the Year award, adding to their Branch Pub of the Year award.

Forthcoming branch meetings

Our branch activities are publicised on our branch website, Facebook page and Twitter. CAMRA members can also check the Diary section of the CAMRA newspaper *What's Brewing*.

Good Beer Guide 2018 Hitlist Meeting

2pm, 26 November 2016 (members only)
Prestoungrange Gothenburg, Prestonpans (in the bistro)

Two-Pub Social

7:30pm, 14 December 2016
Bow Bar, West Bow, then Jolly Judge, Lawnmarket

Christmas Leith Pub Crawl

1pm, 17 December 2016
Starting at Carriers Quarters, Bernard St.

Branch Social Meeting

3pm, 14 January 2017
Southside Social, Buccleuch St. (upstairs)

East Lothian Pub Crawl by bus

2pm, 21 January 2017
Meet Levenhall Arms, Musselburgh at 2pm, then head East.



CRAFT BEER. EDINBURGH. SCOTLAND

BREWERY SHOP AND TAP

0131 563 7580

shop@stewartbrewing.co.uk

GROWLER
FILLS

GIFTS

BREWERY
TOURS

BEER
FLIGHTS

BREW YOUR
OWN BEER



26A Dryden Road, Bilston Glen Ind Estate. EH20 9LZ

WHERE YOU BREW THE BEER

CAMRA Calling

(continued)

Good Beer Guide 2018 Selection Meeting

2pm, 18 February 2017 (members only)
Beehive, Grassmarket

Branch Social Meeting

25 March 2017
Caledonian Brewery, Slateford Rd.
Pre-booking required. Details tbc.

And thanks to...

Thanks to the venues who have supported CAMRA by accommodating our events this year:

- Kenilworth
- Colinton Inn
- Beehive Inn
- Navaar House, Penicuik
- Standing Order
- Caledonian Brewery
- Stagg's Bar
- Clark's Bar
- Cumberland Bar
- Laird & Dog, Lasswade
- Plough Inn, Leitholm
- Diggers
- Canon's Gait

Letters to the Editor

Write to: poveditor@edinburghcamra.org.uk

Re Pubs and Music: the legal angle

Sir,

I agree that the Edinburgh council guidelines and implementation of the rules regarding amplified music are in some cases arbitrary, however the use of loud and intrusive music and sounds by some pubs has caused unnecessary distress to neighbours and can lead to unfortunate psychological consequences. Partly this is to do with the introduction of megapubs and chains and to combat this free for all the regulations apply to all. It might help if the industry was to offer a self-regulating body that would have power or sanction over premises that cause upset and disquiet by unsympathetic use of amplified sounds and at the same time promote and encourage responsible self-restraint.

There is enough intrusive noise in our city already without added noise (not all neighbours would recognise music, let alone enjoy it) but at the same time there must be the scope to enjoy music in the friendly atmosphere of a well-run pub.

Richard Allen.

[See also Callum Bracher's article on p21 - Ed.]

STAGG'S

Family owned pub since 1858

CAMRA Branch
and
Overall

Scotland & Northern Ireland
Pub of the Year 2016
plus many other awards



The Volunteer Arms

81 North High Street, Fisherrow, Musselburgh EH21 6FE

www.staggsbar.com

For our latest real ale and cider selection follow @staggsbar on Twitter

The Interview: Sarah Bellis

CAMRA Scotland & Northern Ireland Director

How timely that the appointment of Sarah Bellis as the new director for CAMRA's Scotland & Northern Ireland Branches should coincide with the publishing of our winter issue. Sarah has kindly agreed to speak to PoV.

Q: Firstly Sarah, congratulations. Can you tell us a bit about your previous roles in CAMRA?

A: I joined in 2009 at Wigan Beer Festival as a joint member with my boyfriend, Gordon. I thought he was taking me out for an evening but... I ended up with a volunteer t-shirt on, serving behind the bar. I had never even visited a beer festival before and did not have a clue what real ale was! I learned a lot over that weekend and started to attend the local branch meetings.

And since then I have been manager of a cider bar, deputy manager of a foreign beer bar, organised entertainment, press and publicity. I have been festival organiser for a beer festival that raises over £20,000 a year for charity. At branch level I was chair of South East Lancs branch. The branch covered an area to the North West of Manchester and when I joined it was struggling to get a committee together. But five years later, there were over 30 members attending every meeting. One of my greatest achievements was arranging a meeting with a national PubCo and branch members and that's something I want to replicate in Scotland and Northern Ireland too.

Q: I know it is early days yet, but where do you feel your priorities lie in your new role?

A: I want to try to get more members volunteering to take active roles within CAMRA. CAMRA is a membership-led organisation, and everything happens because of volunteers, without whose support CAMRA will struggle to continue to grow and develop. Additionally, those of us who are happy in our roles need to pass on our knowledge to others, thus ensuring a sustainable future. But it is impossible for us to pass on these skills if there are no volunteers waiting in the wings.

I also want to engage with grass roots members, not just the Branch Committees. I've heard Colin Valentine say on

many occasions that he is the most contactable member in CAMRA. Well I aim to be the most contactable member in Scotland and Northern Ireland, besides Colin of course. I want every single member who has a problem, or is worried about something, or is not sure what to do, to know that if they contact me I will help them, or find someone who can.

Q: CAMRA nationally is undergoing a Revitalisation Project which will determine the future direction of the Campaign. This will be a democratic process which will take account of a variety of diverse opinions. It is fair to say that one of the most challenging of those will be our relationship with the 'craft' beer - or more specifically the 'craft' keg - phenomenon. How do you view "craft" beer?



A: Some people say that CAMRA has achieved its objective and that the fight for real ale has been won. When I look at pubs in Scotland outside of our major cities I am not so sure that that key objective has been fully met, or that the advances undoubtedly made in the last 40 years can be sustained.

We certainly can and will be doing more over the next three years to promote real ale in Scotland. I see 'craft' beer as being CAMRA's next challenge. Every man and his dog are brewing 'craft' beer with no definitive industry definition as to what the word actually means. In my opinion, if 'craft' beer is deemed to be small-batch, hand brewed with premium ingredients and containing live yeast, then I believe CAMRA should support it; but if it's deemed to be any beer that has slightly more hops than your standard popular Scottish lager and is brewed in the same way as high-volume, industry-standard fizz and pasteurised, then that's a different story.

Q: The minimum pricing of alcohol is a topic well publicised and debated. It's almost a case of "damned if we do and damned if we don't". And of course the anti-alcohol lobby has its own agenda. Is minimum pricing really the panacea for Scotland's alcohol abuse?

A: No, I do not agree that this is the solution to this problem. Though more radical, we only have to look at how the United States Government's prohibition laws in the 1920s proved comprehensibly unsuccessful and were repealed early in 1933. Such actions do not drive down consumption; they only damage communities and people's livelihoods.

Of course minimum pricing in Scotland would impact severely on our pubs, particularly the rural ones, already feeling the brunt not only of recently ►►►

The Interview: Sarah Bellis

(continued)

introduced legislation that is at odds with the rest of the UK, but also the removal of vital local transport services.

The Scottish Government would be better investing in support services in the local community to promote responsible drinking, supporting pubs and thus encouraging drinkers to use their local pub, rather than opting for a trip to the supermarket.

Q: *And finally, CAMRA is perceived rightly or wrongly by some as being set in its ways and not moving with the times. As our first female director do you feel more able to either address or challenge this perception?*

A: I believe CAMRA is in for a bumpy ride! As we mentioned earlier, the Revitalisation Project is ongoing and you can be certain that not everyone will be happy with the results. I would appeal to every CAMRA member, active or not, to embrace the Revitalisation Project and input their views. The Campaign for Real Ale needs to be relevant to its members and with real ale as its priority. In terms of policies, much legislation differs within our four countries, so what might work for England and Wales may not work for Scotland and Northern Ireland. We need to be able to tackle the policies of both national and devolved governments, whilst at the same time allowing us to utilise the resources and support available from CAMRA HQ.

There is strength in numbers and recruitment in Scotland and Northern Ireland is vital to give us a louder voice at Holyrood and Stormont. I am encouraged that by the time you read this a Beer and Pub Cross Party Group should have been established by CAMRA members within Holyrood. I hope by working with such a group we are able to reverse some policies and legislation that have had such a devastating impact on our local pubs and real ale. This is a fine example of the good work being done by our members which will continue no matter what proposals are recommended by the Revitalisation Steering Group.

And about me being the first female director... Well, I think that can only prove that CAMRA membership covers a wide range of ages and people from varying demographics. I believe the perception of CAMRA is changing: it's not an old man's drinking club; you only have to take a glance at the CAMRA website to see all the good work we do at pubs, within parliament and beyond!

We would like to thank Sarah for taking the time to speak to PoV so soon after her appointment and we wish her well in her new role. You can contact her via email at RD.ScotlandNI@CAMRA.org.uk.

EXHIBITION REVEALS ALLOA'S BREWING HISTORY

by Harvey Milne, John Martin & Allan McLean, SBAA

An Alloa Breweries Memorabilia Exhibition in the Speirs Centre in Alloa at 29 Primrose Street, FK10 1JJ, will run to the end of January 2017.

It has been set up jointly by Susan Mills, Museum and Heritage Officer in Alloa, and John Martin of the not-for-profit community interest company Brewing Heritage Scotland and the Scottish Brewing Archive Association (SBAA).

Exhibits have come from the archives in Alloa, the two previous "Raise Your Glass!" exhibitions in Edinburgh, historian Forbes Gibb and brewer Brian Eaton, who has a long association with Alloa.



A bust of Archibald Arrol formerly in Alloa Brewery is also on show. Some readers may recognise the outline of Mr Arrol from the years when it was on show at the Caledonian Brewery in Edinburgh.

Alloa is well known for its commercial brewing heritage which can be traced back to brewing ale for sale in the first half of the 17th century.

In 1900 there were ten breweries in and around Alloa, something recalled by Brian Eaton and fellow Alloa brewer Harvey Milne on guided walking tours around the town. Their first walk was held as part of the Doors Open weekend on 24 September and others are being arranged in connection with the exhibition.

Further events associated with the exhibition are at the planning stage. It is expected that there will be talks by Brian, Harvey and John at the exhibition itself.

Note Clackmannanshire Council website:
www.clacksweb.org.uk

Where are they now?

by Pat Hanson

Pat rediscovers his dog-eared master copy of CAMRA's 2013 Edinburgh and SE Scotland Real Ale Guide and wonders what's been happening in the ensuing three years?.....

In the 2013 Guide there were 227 real ale pubs listed in Edinburgh, not counting private members' clubs but including **Heriot's Rugby Club** (open to all). Of those, three have closed down (**Sitting Room**, **Blue Goose** (despite the optimistic words in the last PoV), **Braidburn**) and 24 have ceased selling real ale. Some of these are well known, like the **Red Squirrel**, and some are less so, e.g. the **Slug and Lettuce** (Omni).

On the other hand, no less than 42 new real ale outlets have not only started selling real ale, but have kept it up

to this day. Some of these are now established beer destinations, eg. **Potting Shed**, **Safari Lounge**, **Beer Kitchen** and **Andrew Usher and Co** (which also usually sells at least two real ciders). Add to these **Jeremiah's Taproom**, spearheading an amazing six new real outlets beginning with the letter 'J'!

Finally there are quite a few pubs that have come and gone as real ale venues in the three years, sometimes after a multiple name change and/or refurbishment. By my reckoning there are 16 in this category, many of them rather obscure, like **The Pub** and **McKenzie's**.

I estimate that the overall current total of real ale pubs in Edinburgh is therefore 242, a modest but encouraging increase of 15 over three years. In the next issue of PoV I'll look at the Lothians and Borders to see if they have fared as well since 2013.

Finally, please note that all of the above statistics are my own, and do not necessarily tally with WhatPub or the Branch Pubs Officer Jon Addinall's records! Copies of the 2013 Guide are still available for a modest contribution – contact secretary@edinburghcamra.org.uk for details.



Cask & Barrel (Southside)

24-26 West Preston Street, Edinburgh.

0131-667 0856



City Ale Tales

Pub News

Central Edinburgh

The **Beer Kitchen** has been selling 'Test Series American IPA', billed as the first Innis & Gunn cask ale from their newly acquired Inveralmond Brewery.

Also in Lothian Road, Wetherspoon's new **Caley Picture House** is due to open on 6th December 2016. It's located right next to the **Red Squirrel**, where the number of cask ale taps has, sadly, progressively reduced from four to two and now to zero.

The nearby **Blue Blazer** is once more featuring a resident Fallen Brewing Co tap, with New World Odyssey being spotted recently.

Cloisters ran a Scottish Beer Festival for the whole month of August to coincide with peak Festival drinking time.

Amongst pubs no longer selling real ale are the **International Bar, Shandwick's, Slug and Lettuce** (Omni) and **Jake's Place** - another bar that started off with four cask ales.

New real ale outlets have included **Stramash!** In Cowgate, a large music and sports venue from the **Whistle Binkie** stable with up to three cask ales, and the immaculately finished **Booking Office** by Wetherspoon on Waverley Bridge. This not only sells 12 real ales (three regulars and 9 guests) but also has a "Changing Places" WC (complex-needs accessible), one of very few in Edinburgh and matched in only six other Wetherspoon pubs.



The Beer House at Waverley Station



Stramash!

The **Rose St Brewery** is dog-friendly, joining the **Black Cat** (usually two excellent real ales) and **Scott's** (no cask ale) as the only such pubs in Rose St.

The **Auld Hundred** in the same street has been taken off the market by the Speratus Group, who will be investing in it. It now has a tap for a guest ale, often from Stewart Brewing, in addition to Deuchars IPA.

Amongst pubs holding popular beer festivals were the **Guildford Arms** in October and the **Bow Bar** in July.

Brauhaus at Tollcross continues to use its handpump at weekends, recently featuring beers from Fyne Ales. ▶ ▶ ▶



Dreadnought Leith

Now Open



Your new, friendly, independent free house.
Cask ales served.
A range of gluten-free and vegan beers and ciders constantly stocked.

72 North Fort St, EH6 4HL

www.DreadnoughtLeith.com

The **Beer House** has replaced the former **Nor'Loch** in Waverley Station and started selling up to four beers on handpump although this soon dwindled to a single Greene King product. It's based on a model used at other main line stations, for example on a larger scale at London Paddington.

BrewDog in Cowgate has been selling Dead Pony Club Live from time to time, following its launch in the summer. This 'Live' version is unfiltered beer in a bag within a box (gas is applied to outer container but doesn't come into contact with beer), similar to 'key-cask' beers.

North Edinburgh, New Town and Leith

The former **Bon Vivant** in Stockbridge has now become **Good Brothers Wine Bar**, run by brothers (of course) Rory and Graeme Sutherland. It sells two real ales.

All handpumps have sadly been removed at the **Phoenix** in Broughton St, to be replaced by a range of 'craft keg' taps. Up the road, **Mathers** has undergone a substantial refurbishment and reopened in a new guise at the end of October as the **Empress of Broughton Street**.



Cider fans in North Edinburgh should head to the **Orchard** in Canonmills, which sells not only real ale but real cider.

Kay's Bar celebrated 40 years of existence with a beer festival running over 40 days in July and August, featuring beer from at least 21 Scottish and English brewers.

The **Malt and Hops** in Leith submitted a remarkable planning application in June for a new pontoon deck extension to be moored in the Water of Leith, with a servery, storage and accessible WC.

The **Mousetrap** and **Victoria** on Leith Walk no longer sell real ale, so the bottom part of the Walk now only has **Bar Brig** as a real ale outlet.

The **Granary** ran a beer festival in June, with local brewers Knops, Campervan, Edinbrew and Krafty Brew. Subsequently a new handpump was brought into regular use, usually featuring a Krafty beer.

The **Hanover Tap** opened in July on the site of the **Jekyll and Hyde**, with three ales on handpump (usually including Taylor Landlord) as opposed to the single one previously.

In Howe St, **Six Degrees North** opened its latest bar on the site of the previous **Standard** and ▶▶▶



THE DIGGERS




6 REAL ALES
VOTED EDINBURGH'S
BEST PUB PIE
DOGS WELCOME
FULL SKY PACKAGE
OVER 340 MALTS
40 MALTS £2.50 FOR 35MLS
OPEN DAILY 11AM UNTIL 1AM
1-3 ANGLE PARK TERRACE
EH11 2JX - 0131 337 3822
FIND US ON FACEBOOK "THEATHLETICARMS"

City Ale Tales

(continued)

Mother's bars. However, unlike its Aberdeen parent it sells no real ale (but up to 40 keg beers!).

The **Dreadnought** opened in October on the site of the former keg-only **Halfway House** in North Leith. It's now a pleasant corner bar with four real ales, usually including two from Brass Castle Brewery.

West End, West Edinburgh and Southside

Foundry 39 has taken over the site of the former Bar Roma and Chimichanga restaurants on Queensferry St. In its industrial-style interior you should find three real ales; the pub often features local breweries such as Campervan and Barney's.

Thomson's hosted a CAMRA 'Tap Takeover' in August, with ales from Fyne, Tryst, Orkney and up to five English breweries.

The **Jolly Botanist** down the road has reduced its cask ale selection to a single shiny Deuchars IPA fount, but if it's choice you want then the **Haymarket** nearby has 10 to 12 real ales most of the time. Across the road we heard in late news that the lease of **Carters Tap** was being taking over by James MacDougall, formerly of Kay's Bar.

Harry's Bar is now part of the social enterprise group that includes the **Southside Social** but disappointingly no longer serves real ale.

The picture of **Bert's Bar** in the last issue of PoV could be a collector's item; owners Big Red Teapot have transformed it into **The Voyage of Buck**, which opened in October. It sells up to five real ales, usually including some from Sharp's and also local breweries.

Clerk's Bar on South Clerk St has been taken over by the Signature Pub Group, which has grown rapidly from



five to 12 properties. Signature are also behind the plans for a brewpub at the west end of the Grassmarket, which seems to be progressing slowly.

The **Caley Sample Room**, under the new ownership of Nick and Joy Madigan (**Moriarty**, Lothian Road) now has impressive new exterior signage, as well as new booth-type seating and other revamped features. There are still up to 8 real ales on three banks of handpumps.

Sadly, both branches of the **Growler Beers UK** takeaway beer shops (Morningside and Leith) have closed after the company went into liquidation.

East Edinburgh

The **Skylark** in Portobello is collaborating with local new specialist beer shop **Beer Zoo** over the launch of a new monthly beer club. The first event in November featured a Tempest 'Meet the Brewer'.

The **Sheep Heid Inn** held a summer beer festival, with casks on gravity stillage in the courtyard in addition to its regular taps as well as live music and other attractions.

The **Radical Road** at Willowbrae has reopened and news of a return to real ale is awaited.

Craig Millar





Cask ales
Exceptional food
Single malts
Private suite

THE OLD BELL RESTAURANT
TELEPHONE
0131
668
1573

Christmas Bookings Now Being Taken



The Old Bell Inn - 233 Causewayside - Edinburgh - EH9 1PH
0131 668 1573 - www.oldbelledinburgh.co.uk



TRYST
BREWERY

WINTER WARMERS

Flavoured Porters available in:

Double Chocolate
Chocolate and Coconut
Marshmallow

XMAS SPECIAL

GINGERBREAD
All 4.4% abv



Available in Cask/Keg
Email: admin@trystbrewery.co.uk
Phone: 01324 554000

TIES AT THE SPYLAW TAVERN

by *Iain Wright*

Do you have any affinity or crested ties you no longer wear?

Would you be interested in viewing a free display of ties with a rugby connection?

Over two hundred and fifty such ties have been donated by a large number of former rugby players, who meet for lunch at Stewart's Melville over the winter months. A first selection of over fifty will be displayed in a locked cabinet on a wall in the Spylaw Tavern in Colinton village from the start of November, during opening hours (from 12 noon).

The ties are each identified with their provenance and donor's name: they relate to many Scottish, Welsh, Irish and English clubs' insignia, overseas tours, Scotland's Triple Crown and Grand Slam successes (and failures!), International matches, and some overseas clubs. Several commemorate the very first rugby club in Scotland,

Edinburgh Academical Football Club, which was founded in 1857.

One of the ties was created to celebrate Scotland's Grand Slam 1990 success, which contained a reference to Bannockburn 1314 and the 13-7 score against England at Murrayfield: it portrayed a rampant thistle over a wilting rose! Over 3000 of these ties were sold and raised just over £7500, the proceeds of which were donated to injured rugby players.

It is hoped to extend the original display to accommodate more ties, not only with a rugby theme but to cover other sports such as golf, cricket, curling and various water sports; in addition, there are many ties which reflect education, music, corporate activities, national and international events, and even those with a humorous theme!

If you would be able to add to this tie collection, please leave your ties in a poly bag with Ross at the bar of the Spylaw Tavern, where you can certainly enjoy a drink at the same time! You must identify the provenance of each of the ties, and include your name and email details for acknowledgement and to be made aware of future developments.

Thank you!

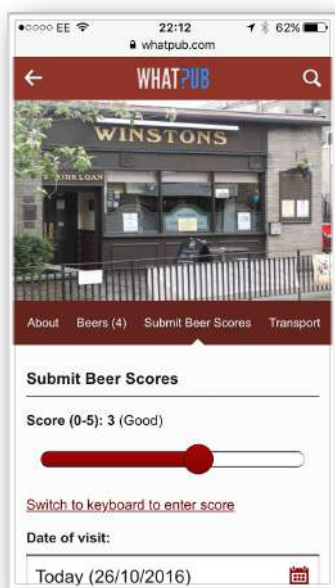
Beer Scoring: What is it? Why bother?

by Charlie Hughes

CAMRA have a website called WhatPub.com. Anyone – CAMRA member or not – can use this site to find pubs, searching by town or postcode. It's really handy if you are in unfamiliar territory.

Part of the site enables CAMRA members to score the beers they drink in each pub. The scores run from 0 (no real ale in sight) to 5 (gobsmackingly good).

CAMRA branches vary in how they use the scores collected, but many – like ours – use them to identify a “hit list” of pubs that might make it into the national *Good Beer Guide*. It provides an objective starting point for shortlisting. Obviously the more members score beers, the better that objective basis is.



Beer scoring is also great fun. It makes you think about what you do and don't like about the beers, it makes you want to compare different beers and styles. You end up trying more beer, and different beers. How bad is that?

All the details are on our branch website (www.edinburghcamra.org.uk/scoring). There are a variety of ways to submit scores. You can score beers online at home or, if you have a smartphone, while you are actually in the pub. (If you aren't online, you can still join in – contact our Pubs Officer for further details.)

So, CAMRA members, three reasons to start scoring:

- Better basis for our Good Beer Guide entries
- It's fun
- It's easy!

CAMRA
CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

WHAT?UB

whatpub.com
Featuring over 35,000 real ale pubs

- Over 96% of Britain's real ale pubs featured
- Information updated by thousands of CAMRA volunteers
- Created by CAMRA who produce the UK's best beer & pub guide

Thousands of pubs at your fingertips!

Pear Tree House

Regular cask ale rotation

Function suite available

"Edinburgh's best beer garden"
-The List

Pear Tree House - 38 West Nicolson Street - Edinburgh
0131 667 7533
peartreedinburgh.co.uk

GREAT RANGE OF QUALITY REAL ALES AVAILABLE

Featuring great ales such as



wetherspoon

THE PLAYFAIR

Omni Centre, Greenside Place
Edinburgh, EH1 3AJ
Tel: 0131 524 7760

THE BOOKING OFFICE

17 Waverley Bridge
Edinburgh, EH1 1BQ
Tel: 0131 558 1003

THE ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL

128 George Street
Edinburgh, EH2 4JZ
Tel: 0131 240 8220

THE FOOT OF THE WALK

183 Constitution Street, Leith
Edinburgh, EH6 7AA
Tel: 0131 553 0120

THE BLACKSMITH'S FORGE

IN THE GOOD BEER GUIDE 2017
5 Newmills Road, Dalkeith
Midlothian, EH22 1DU
Tel: 0131 561 5100

THE NEWYEARFIELD

Unit 1, Livingston Designer Outlet
Almondvale Avenue
Livingston, EH54 6QX
Tel: 01506 420770

THE WHITE LADY

98 St John's Road, Corstorphine
Edinburgh, EH12 8AT
Tel: 0131 314 0680

THE STANDING ORDER

62-66 George Street
Edinburgh, EH2 2LR
Tel: 0131 225 4460

THE DAVID MACBETH MOIR

IN THE GOOD BEER GUIDE 2017
Bridge Street, Musselburgh
East Lothian, EH21 6AG
Tel: 0131 653 1060

www.jdwetherspoon.com

Pub-Finder



Wetherspoon News



SUPPORTED BY



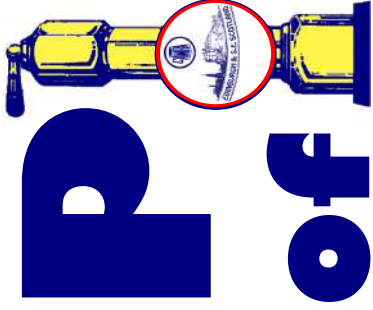
CAMRA
CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

for the facts
drinkaware.co.uk

Subject to local licensing restrictions and availability at participating free houses.



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**



PINTS of VIEW

**The
Magazine
of
Edinburgh
and
South-East
Scotland
CAMRA**

2017

January

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

1 Jan New Year's Day
 2 Jan 'New Year's Day' observed
 2 Jan New Year's Day Holiday
 3 Jan 2nd January (substitute day)

25 Jan Burns Night
 14 Apr Good Friday
 1 May Early May Bank Holiday
 29 May Spring Bank Holiday

7 Aug Summer Bank Holiday
 30 Nov St Andrew's Day
 25 Dec Christmas Day
 26 Dec Boxing Day



drinkaware.co.uk
for the facts

WHAT'S LIFE FOR
IF NOT FOR LIVING?
AND WHAT'S BEER FOR IF NOT FOR DRINKING?
SO **EMBRACE LIFE**
LIKE THE **GLASS IN YOUR HAND.**
TO GIVE A LITTLE MORE THINK TO THAT THING WE CALL DRINK.
FOR EVERYTHING WE BREW WILL TAKE YOU ON A
TASTE JOURNEY.
THERE'LL BE STORIES TO TELL AND NEW EXPERIENCES TO SAVOUR.
SADDLE UP, THE ADVENTURE
STARTS RIGHT
HERE.



DOWNLOAD THE 'CALEDONIAN BEER' APP
FOR MORE ADVENTURES. AVAILABLE ON APPLE AND ANDROID.

ADVENTURE
... AWAITS ...

CALEDONIAN
— BREWERY —

CALEDONIANBEER.COM

BEER AND LOTHIAN

Pub News

East Lothian

Haddington has now taken over the title of East Lothian town with the most real ale pubs (5). A recent lunchtime visit found 10 real ales available across the **Tyneside Tavern**, **Maitlandfield House Hotel** (a new outlet with Belhaven IPA well promoted), **Victoria Inn**, **Waterside Bistro** and **Golf Tavern**, with the pick probably being the George's Broadsword at the Golf and the Fyne 'The Cardinal' at the Waterside.



Golf Tavern, Haddington

The Tyneside has recently seen the return of Paul and Ann Kinnoch, who had left the pub eight years ago to run the **Waterloo Bistro** (now closed).

Archerfield Walled Garden near Dirleton has a new director of operations and recently held another Friday evening Beer Night, featuring cask ales from Knops and Archerfield Fine Ales as well as free brewery tours. An earlier Beer Night in June was probably more successful because of the light evening, but full marks for trying again!

In nearby North Berwick the **Nether Abbey Hotel** was planning to mount a large beer festival in early November as PoV went to press, its first for about 10 years. About 50 real ales from around the UK, many never seen in East Lothian, were due to be featured.

Also in North Berwick, the **Golfers Rest's** Brian and Carol Millar have been celebrating their Scottish Publican of the Year award in a scheme run by Punch Taverns. The pub also received a Best Bar None gold award and sells two Cask Marque accredited real ales (one is usually Fuller's London Pride).



Prestoungrange Gothenburg

There's massive news from Prestonpans, where the lease of the **Prestoungrange Gothenburg** was due to be taken up by Kentwood Brewing soon after we went to press. The pub sells three of Kentwood's beers on handpump, with the brewery situated in the small Brewhouse at the back of the bar. PoV wishes the Kentwood team all the best in their new venture.

The Rocks in Dunbar is undergoing a complete refurbishment, due for completion in February 2017. There's a rotating selection of real ales on the two handpumps in the small bar.

Midlothian

Unchained Restaurants, owners of the **Goblin Ha'** in Gifford, are reported to have taken over the **Bucleuch** in Dalkeith. The pub has recently been selling a single real ale, Sharp's Doom Bar.

The nearby **Blacksmith's Forge** has retained its gold accreditation in the local Best Bar None scheme. The pub also staged another of its popular 'Battle of the Brewers' evenings recently, with Isle of Skye Brewery coming out on top.

The CAMRA Branch enjoyed a meeting at the **Laird and Dog** in Lasswade earlier in the year.

Recent real ales on sale have included Arran



Stobsmill Inn

BEER AND LOTHIAN

(continued)

Red Squirrel, Stewart Edinburgh Gold and Clockwork Pacific Pale.

The **Sun Inn** at Lothianbridge is undertaking a substantial refurbishment and extension, with the work due for completion by December. You can get a good view of the extent of the project when travelling over the viaduct on the Borders Railway.

Up the road in Newtongrange the **Dean Tavern** is continuing to sell (and promote well) its cask ale, which mainly comes from Borders breweries like Born in the Borders and Tempest. The Dean was voted 'Best Place for a Pint' in the 2016 Midlothian Food and Drink Awards.

In Penicuik the **Craigiefield Hotel**, a former real ale venue, has been sold to a group with local connections but it remains to be seen whether the planned renovation will provide for a locals' bar with real ale. Also in Bog Road, the **Navaar House Hotel** continues to serve a regularly changing real ale, often light and hoppy.

The excellent **Stobsmill Inn** in Gorebridge could end up being the only pub left in the town, with the **Gorebridge Inn** (no real ale) for sale and facing an uncertain future. The Stewarts 80/- was in fine form at the Stobsmill on a recent Borders Railway stop-off. The GBG-listed pub is located very near to Gorebridge station, whose official 3-letter station abbreviation is GBG!

West Lothian and Edinburgh Beyond the Bypass

The **Fork and Field** in Mid Calder has opened following a £475k refurbishment. Independent pub operator PG Taverns, who run three pubs in Edinburgh, lease the Fork and Field from Star Pubs and Bars. There's quite an emphasis on food, but Deuchars IPA on a large chrome fount is also on offer. Work to create six letting bedrooms will resume early in 2017.

Deuchars also has a permanent tap at the **Black Bull** round the corner, usually accompanied by one Scottish and one English real ale. A beer festival is due to be staged in late January 2017; watch the CAMRA branch website for details of this.

The **Orocco Pier** in South Queensferry has replaced its Deuchars IPA with Greene King's keg East Coast IPA. Across the road **Harry Ramsden's at the Three Bridges** (a Punch Taverns lease) carries one of the longest names in the Branch area and usually sells two regular real ales and two guests.



The Black Bull, Mid Calder

There has been no progress at all on the planned **Fig and Pheasant** pub at Balerno, but that's no problem because you're likely to find five cask ales on the bar at the **Grey Horse**.

The **Weavers** in Currie now has a new lease of life via Darren Christenson, who took over in mid-2016. We await reports on the real ales being offered.



Finally, the **Almond Bank** in Livingston (Wetherspoon) closed down as planned in October and was already being gutted as we went to press. It's not known what the future holds for the site. The same company's **NewYearField** is still up and running next door.

Craig Leith

BEER FESTIVAL

Saturday 4th March 2017

Auld Cross Keys Inn, Denholm TD9 8NU
01450 870305 bookings@crosskeysdenholm.co.uk www.crosskeysdenholm.co.uk

OVER 20 DIFFERENT BEERS & PERRIES FROM THROUGHOUT THE UK

Admission **£3** - CAMRA members **£2**
includes souvenir glass and programme

Top Quality Food & Accommodation Available

INN the BORDERS

Pub News

Eymouth has a real ale outlet once more! The **Contented Sole** down by the old harbour, has a single handpump selling a rotating Greene King/Belhaven ale. It's a cheerful family- and dog-friendly bar with a good reputation for food, which can also be taken in an upstairs lounge or on the pleasant patio outside in good weather.



The Contented Sole, Eymouth

Along the harbour the **Ship Hotel** has reopened after a long closure, but this former Good Beer Guide-listed pub now only has a tiny bar with no draught products to accompany the new fine dining features.

As reported in the last *PoV*, real ale has returned to the **Cross Keys** in Kelso. It has handpumps in both Saddlers Lounge Bar and the Oak Room (popular for all-day dining) and has been selling at least one beer from Born in the Borders.

The **Wheatsheaf** in Swinton has a new owner, Michael Lawrence, and will be retaining real ale. Sandwiched between Kelso and Swinton the **Plough Inn** in Leitholm celebrated its first birthday and later hosted a CAMRA minibus awayday and Branch Social Meeting. The trip also took in the **Castle** and **Besom** in Coldstream, the bustling **Black Bull** (Duns) and the **Craw Inn** (Auchencrow), where another excellent beer festival was in full swing. A few weeks later the Plough (which now offers third-pint measures) had Hetton Henny on tap, which had just been acclaimed as one of the best cask beers at the Berwick Beer Festival.

At Burnmouth on the A1 the **First and Last** has been selling two real ales, usually including one from Born in the Borders Brewery.

First and Last, Burnmouth



Rutherford's in Kelso remains the only micropub in Scotland, as far as we are aware, and often has ales from Broughton, Allendale and Knops on its gravity stillage. There's also traditional cider from Waulkmill. One-third pint glasses are available.

A recent trip to Hawick found **Dalton's (Exchange Bar)** on top form, with good Broughton Greenmantle on tap and an ensemble sing-along to The Doors 'Riders on the Storm' in progress! Up the road the **Bourtree** had some interesting Wetherspoon Beer Festival ales on offer, with the best being Old Crafty Hen (oak-aged) by Greene King. This pub seems to have got a lot busier than on previous visits, which should keep it off the 'Spoons for sale' list. Pub Manager Kris Mooney recently accepted an 'Our Heroes' award from the Daily Record in recognition of the Bourtree's assistance to the community during the severe flooding after Christmas 2015.



Dalton's, Hawick

Turning to the A702 corridor, the **Gordon Arms** in West Linton was due to install two additional handpumps so that two regular and two guest beers could be offered.

Further north in Carlisle the **Allan Ramsay Hotel**, with the assistance of Pub is the Hub, staged the first ever Allan Ramsay festival in mid-October. The pub dates from 1792 and was built in recognition of ►►►

INN the BORDERS

(continued)

the eponymous poet, who was honoured by academics and local music and literary groups during the three-day festival. Other Pub is the Hub activities are also being planned in conjunction with Borders pubs.

The **Allanton Inn** hosted another enjoyable beer festival in June, with extra stillage constructed in its attractive garden. As well as guest beers from Atlas Brewery and several areas of England and Wales there was a good range of ciders.



Allanton Inn Beer Festival

One of the more remote real ale outlets in the Branch area, the **Laurel Bank** in Broughton, has a new lease holder, Karen Dunnett and continues to feature Broughton Clipper IPA and other (very) local beers.

In Peebles the Ale House Rock brewery is said to be planning to open a micropub on the brewery site in 2017.

The **Cross Inn Pub and Kitchen** in Paxton now has Deuchars IPA as a regular beer along with two guest ales.

The **Anchor** in Coldingham finally announced in June (by way of a printed notice outside) that it was no longer selling real ale. Its availability had certainly been sporadic anyway. There's a much better welcome across the road at the **New Inn** (two changing real ales), where the lounge is now dog-friendly.

Finally, here's the latest update from the **Gordon Arms** in the lovely Yarrow Valley at Mountbenger. Tommy and Susan closed for a further period in October to enable additional refurbishment to take place, reopening in time for one of their popular Sunday music sessions in the new bar lounge. Born in the Borders Game Bird and Foxy Blonde are the regular real ales.

T B Shiels

Enjoy over 300 Norfolk and other UK **real ales**, **ciders**, **perries** and **international** beers all hosted in a **14th Century** Grade I listed building

Come and **experience** our **extensive** collection of **quality real ales** or explore our **fringe festival** at the selected City Centre pubs

Tuesday 21st CAMRA Members Preview 5:30pm - 10:30pm
 Wednesday 22nd to Saturday 25th Noon - 10:30pm
 The Halls, St Andrews Plain, Norwich NR3 1AU
 Find out more: www.nwaf.org.uk @WinterAlesFest Winteralesfestival

CAMRA CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

THE FERRY TAP

Traditional cask ales
 Picturesque setting
 Wide range of single malts
 Traditional home cooking

36 High Street, South Queensferry
 0131 331 2000
www.ferrytap.co.uk

Pubs and Music, Revisited

by Callum Bracher

Licensing policy update

The article Pubs and Music from last issue (PoV 67) made reference to the fact that Edinburgh Licensing Board were consulting on a potential change in wording of their policy on amplified music. Following the consultation period, Edinburgh Licensing Board met on Monday 29 August to discuss the proposed wording change. The decision was deferred in order to allow more time to consider the evidence. After their next meeting on Monday 26 September the change was passed.

License application will now probably be subject to a condition requiring that music does not cause an audible nuisance in neighbouring residential premises. The Board is to publish a Supplementary Statement of Licensing Policy confirming the amendment. This is seen as a minor relaxation in policy but in reality still leaves any resolution

to a particular case in the hands of the enforcement officer.

CAMRA should aim to support pubs, bars or venues which serve real ale whether they use amplified music or not. We would not like to see real ale outlets threatened with closure over licensing issues such as this.

If you're in central Edinburgh why not:

Enjoy live music with your pint...

- Whistle Binkies
- Bannerman's
- Stramash!

Enjoy your music unamplified...

- The Royal Oak
- Sandy Bell's
- The Black Cat

Or have a quiet drink...

- Jolly Judge
- Cafe Royal
- The Abbotsford

Using the filter options on CAMRA's WhatPub website can help you locate a pub to suit your tastes.

BEER ZOO

Bottle Shop

400+ Bottled beers in stock from
Scotland, England, Germany & Belgium

**5% DISCOUNT FOR
CAMRA MEMBERS**

219 Portobello High Street, Portobello, Edinburgh, EH15 1EU
0131 258 3024 - www.beerzoo.co.uk

Five Real Ales Always On.
Bar meals served daily.
Real fire in the bar.

The Grey Horse Inn
20 Main Street, Balerno
0131 449 2888

SCOTIA WELDING & FABRICATION



Micro Brewery equipment from individual components to a turnkey application.
All aspects of brewing consultancy if required.

admin@scotiawelding.co.uk | www.scotiawelding.co.uk | 01578 722 696



Proud to be



Border's Pub of the Year 2016

Friendly Staff

Live Entertainment

Extensive Malt Selection

Cash Prize Dominos Every Sunday

Real Ale Discounts For CAMRA Members

and the best locals in town!



Port Brae, Peebles 01721 720589 find us on



NEWS OF THE BREWS

Brewery Update

Alechemy Brewing

The brewery has taken delivery of three new fermentation tanks as part of its Phase 4 expansion and is hoping to move to larger premises in 2017. An increased range of bottle-conditioned beers now includes EH54, IMP, Budgie Smuggler, Rye O'Rye, Higildy Figildy Honey and Fig Saison, Slippery when Wheat; and Wallaby Botherer.

Ale House Rock Brewery

The Peebles-based brewery has been sending its cask ales to beer festivals, including ones in Dunfermline, Ayr and Nottingham. A new version of Smooth Criminal (3.9%) was launched in September.

Barney's Beer

Barney's was a finalist in the Scottish Beer Awards and shortlisted in the World Beer Awards, where its Bastard Amber beer was 'Country Winner UK'. As well as the **Royal Dick** and other permanent stockists, Barney's is now a regular feature at the Pitt St food market (125 Pitt St, Edinburgh), which runs every Sunday until Christmas from 12 to 10pm. Two or three cask conditioned beers as well as keg beers and guests are served from the distinctive Barney's van.

Belhaven Brewery

Belhaven won the 'Exporter of the Year' award at the inaugural Scottish Beer Awards in September. Its distribution centre in Dunbar is expected to close down, being partly replaced by a smaller facility at Straiton. Brewing is not expected to be affected by this change.

Born in the Borders Brewery

The company has launched new branding for pump clips etc, with the former brown style being replaced by coloured cut-out shapes of the Scottish Borders area.

The brewery, along with its other business activities (Born in the Borders Visitor Centre, the Ancrum Cross Keys pub and restaurant and the shop/café at Galashiels



Transport Interchange) continues to do well and consolidate. The beer range is predominantly sold to Edinburgh, Borders and Lothian pubs, plus a growing number of North of England sites. As well as the core range of ales, the coming Six Nations rugby season will see the return of the ever-popular Flower of Scotland ale and some seasonal specialities may well appear also.

Tom Graham, brewer, has recently departed to join Cromarty Brewing, so John Henderson, owner and originator of the Scottish Borders Brewery has once again donned his brewer's wellies. However, come December he plans to appoint a new Head Brewer, so if anyone out there feels that they have the necessary qualifications then John would like to hear from them!

Broughton Ales

Broughton's 6.2 IPA was the highest-placed cask ale from the Edinburgh and SE Scotland CAMRA Branch area at this summer's **Bow Bar** blind-tasting IPA challenge, coming seventh overall.

Caledonian Brewery

Caley is another company to have rebranded its pump clips recently, with the new Deuchars IPA and Edinburgh Castle clips appearing from October onwards. Caledonian stated: *'The new designs focus on ensuring that the Caledonian Brewery brand is prominent and adds modernity. The branding is bolder than previous, uncomplicated and also introduces the icons of Robert Deuchar and Historic Scotland'*.

The new branding also coincides with 25 years of Deuchars IPA being brewed at Caledonian. In another celebration of the anniversary, the limited edition Deuchars Imperial (5.5%) was brewed, featuring in Wetherspoon's October Real Ale Festival. This ►►►

NEWS OF THE BREWS

(continued)

beer also carried the new branding.

The Wee George pilot plant has been used to develop three new keg beers, Three Hop, Rare Red and Coast to Coast (a Gold award winner at the Scottish Beer Awards). The next one off the pilot production line, Dark Light (a 4.7% black lager) promises something a little different and will hopefully be finding its way into casks.

Cross Borders Brewing Company

Gary and Jonny of Cross Borders (Dalkeith) lunched their 4.5% IPA and 3.8% Pale at a unique tap takeover at the **Stockbridge Tap** in July, where each beer was sold in both fined and unfined versions. Two other core beers, a Heavy and a Porter, were set to follow the IPA and Pale into production.

Edinbrew

Edinbrew is enjoying increased sales throughout Scotland and has expanded its beer range to include ten cask ales in total. Industrial Pale Ale bottles featured in Aldi's Autumn Beer Festival.

Elixir Brew Co.

After a long quiet spell, Elixir's collaboration with Lawman Brewing Co 'Zig-a-zig-ah' (a 7.5% Imperial Bitter) appeared at **Cloisters** in August.

Ferry Brewery

Ferry started brewing at a farm site near Dalmeny in June and are the self-proclaimed first brewers in Queensferry since 1851!

The first beer, Ferry Fair, is a 4% golden ale and made its inaugural appearances at **Harry Ramsden's at the Three Bridges, Kay's Bar, Southern and Joker and the Thief** as well as starring in another **Stockbridge Tap** launch with brewer Johnny and business partner Mark. The next beer produced was 40/- Fine, an unfined traditional 80/- ale. A further tap

takeover took place at the **Cumberland Bar** in October.

Freewheelin' Brewery Co.

Freewheelin' moved into a new location at the Peebles Hydro Hotel in June. Look out for their beers at the **Gordon Arms** in West Linton and other outlets in or near Peebles.

Hurly Burly Brewery

This tiny brewery in Inveresk, East Lothian, produces a small range of bottle-conditioned beers using a bespoke one-barrel system and local ingredients such as a malt from Mungoswells in Drem. Each year a small-batch beer, 'The Speshel', is brewed with home-grown hops, which at 5% abv supplements the range of three beers listed in the last PoV. Look out for their beers at **Lockett Bros** in North Berwick and other good bottle shops.

Kentwood Brewing

Since they started to brew at the **Gothenburg** in Prestonpans Kentwood's beers have caused quite a stir, none more so than Wee Heavy, a 7.4% traditional Scottish strong ale.

Kentwood's main 'Scottish Series' of ales has now been rebranded from 'Kentwood No.1' (A tribute to Younger's No.1) through to 'Kentwood No.4' (An 80/- style ale previously known as Lady's Oxtor 80/-). Cask ales have been supplied to beer festivals in Nottingham, Bo'ness and North Berwick, amongst others.

As reported elsewhere in PoV, Kentwood took on the pub lease at the Goth in November in a highly significant and exciting move.

Knops Beer Company

Knops have been actively building stock levels after a busy summer supplying not only a large range of pubs but also supermarkets such as Waitrose and Asda, operating through the Craft Beer Clan.

Brewery tours can now be booked at set times on Sundays and have also been hosted on other occasions, e.g. when special Beer Nights are taking place at the neighbouring **Walled Garden** bar.



Natural Selection

Volcan Wolf, the 2016 collaboration between Stewart Brewing, the Institute of Brewing and Distilling and four Heriot-Watt MSc students, was launched in cask at the Scottish Real Ale Festival and in cask, keg, bottles and cans the same day at Teviot Row House. It's a 4.7% Black Berliner Weisse.

Odyssey Brothers

Odyssey tweeted in July that their next beer, an Imperial IPA, would 'hopefully be available towards the end of 2016', so readers (and PoV) can look out for it and maybe discover more about this mysterious brewer.

Old Worthy Beer

Old Worthy continues to brew at Broughton Ales. They won a Gold Medal in the recent World Beer Awards for Old Worthy Leither's Cure for Scurvy Whisky infused Marmalade Ale ('Best UK Flavoured Beer').

Scotch Hop

At this (occasional) brewpub on Causewayside, Edinburgh, a 7-8% beer has reportedly been laid down for Christmas 2016.

Stewart Brewing

The brewery continues to flourish, with a 15% increase in sales last year. This has promoted the installation of a brand new 10,000 litre fermentation tank, six 5,000 litre conditioning tanks and a new cask washer. In addition, ten 1,000 litre conditioning tanks have been installed to provide beer directly to the growler station within the shop. Next on the list will be a bottling line!

Penny Mob Porter, 4.2% abv, was launched in November for the winter season, with an impressive six-malt line-up finished off with Magnum and Equinox hops. Cauld Reekie will also be available through the winter. For Christmas the popular Weiss Blanc and Weiss Noir beers will be brewed again.

The brewery has done a couple of collaboration brews which will appear mainly in bottles. With BrewDog, Stewart have created a 4.5% Rhubarb sour pale ale and with De Molen (Netherlands) an 8% Double Belgian IPA that's a cross between Stewart's First World Problems and De Molen's Amarillo Imperial IPA, with additional dry hopping with Citra.

Craig Frood has joined the brewery as Sales Director and Craig Scotland (who originally started at Stewart in 2013) has taken over as Head Brewer following Bruce Smith's move to Caledonian.

Stow Brewery

Progress towards full commercial brewing at Stow has been fairly slow, although the company was expecting to get its beer, including Smokebox Porter, Hog Oiler and Evan Dhu lager, into pubs by November. Some early off-site brews were marketed during the summer.



Tempest Brewing Co

When Tempest won BII Scotland's 'Brewery of the Year' award in May they were clearly only warming up, because at the inaugural Scottish Beer Awards in September (sponsored by Aldi) Tempest won no less than seven awards – Scottish Brewery of the Year; Growth Business of the Year; Best IPA (Brave New World); Best Porter/Stout (Red Eye Flight); Best British Style (Old Parochial); Best Speciality Beer (Mexicake) and Best Pale Ale (well, almost, a silver for The Pale Armadillo). The brewery continues to produce its core range of beers, with other limited editions to complement it.

Traquair House Brewery

Bear Ale has been introduced to a much wider market through featuring in one of Aldi's Scottish Beer Festivals. Traquair cask ale also made a very rare appearance in East Lothian at the **Nether Abbey** Beer Festival, North Berwick.

The Barley Mow

by Callum Bracher

This issue should be with you after the autumn harvest and heading into winter when traditionally maltier beers will be the order of the day. So let's talk about that important but often overlooked ingredient to beer...

Barley basics

There are different types of this crop identified by the number of rows of seeds in each head (2 row or 6 row) and whether it is planted in autumn or spring. Two row is generally preferred over six row barley for brewing with but both summer and winter crops can be used meaning beer all year.

Beyond this, there are a number of varieties around with the ubiquitous Maris Otter referred to by more brewers than there may be crop yields to supply! Closer to home, many brewers favour Scottish Golden Promise barley as the staple for their regular beer offerings.

Arguably more important to the brewing process is the colour and flavour of the malt used which is derived from the kilning process (see below). Most beers consist of primarily a base malt – generally pale, Vienna, or pilsner malt - and smaller quantities of other darker malts. Surprisingly small amounts of dark malts can drastically change the colour of the finished beer without adding

greatly to the flavour (black IPA for example). Larger amounts of darker malts will start to impart their characteristic caramel, biscuit and even nutty flavours.

Besides the various barley malts available, several other 'speciality' grains can be used in brewing such as smoked malt, kilned over wood or peat fires; roasted barley, unmalted but highly kilned barley grains; wheat, either malted or not; and rye; to name just a few.

Malt matters

The starch contained in cereals is not soluble in water and must be broken down into simple sugars for use in brewing. The process by which barley grains are treated in order to extract the sugar from them goes like this: steep the grains in water, then spread out and allow them to germinate (essentially tricking the seed to start growing), finally dry in a kiln to preserve (prevent from growing and using up the valuable sugar). The time and temperature of the kilning also determines the colour and flavour of the malt.

Crystal malt is a special case whereby moisture is trapped in the grains before heating which liquefies then crystallises the sugars.



Callum is a CAMRA member of over 10 years in several different branches, former University of Salford real ale society chairman and keen homebrewer. He doesn't have space to grow his own barley.

Grain colour chart

Here's a crude indication of what colours to expect and what beer you might find them in, though the depth of colour contributed to the beer will depend on the quantities used. Other factors can also influence the final colour of the beer.

	Pilsner malt	Palest colour available, used in most lagers and occasionally in some lighter ales
	Wheat malt	Also very light in colour, used in wheat beers and sometime in pale ales as it helps with head retention
	Pale malt	Still light, forms the base of most ales and may be the only grain in many golden ales
	Amber malt	Slightly kilned giving a little more colour and depth of flavour, used in some bitters
	Crystal malt	Deeper in colour and due to the difference in process gives distinctive caramel and toffee flavours, added to bitters and often IPAs
	Chocolate malt	Darker still, and adds more complex flavours, used in darker bitters, old ales and porters
	Roasted barley	Contributes slightly bitter roasted flavours, used in stouts and porters
	Black malt	As dark as it comes, mainly used in stouts and porters but may be found in small quantities in some bitters

170,000 members and growing!

CAMRA Membership Benefits

For just £24* a year, that's less than a pint a month, you can join CAMRA and enjoy the following benefits:

- A quarterly copy of our magazine BEER which is packed with features on pubs, beers and breweries.
- Our monthly newspaper, 'What's Brewing', informing you on beer and pub news and detailing events and beer festivals around the country.
- Reduced entry to over 160 national, regional and local beer festivals.
- Socials and brewery trips, with national, regional and local groups.
- The opportunity to campaign to save pubs and breweries under threat of closure.
- Discounts on all CAMRA books including the Good Beer Guide.



CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE

Plus these amazing discounts...

	<p>£20 worth of JD Wetherspoon Real Ale Vouchers.**</p>		<p>15% discount with weird fish in store and online</p>		<p>10% discount on toprooms.com.</p>
	<p>10% savings at Cotswold Outdoor.</p>		<p>10% off all orders</p>		<p>20% off brewery and beer tasting tours.</p>
	<p>10% discount on booking with cottages4you.</p>		<p>10% discount on booking with Hoseasons.</p>		<p>Up to 52% off - with attractions for the family too numerous to name.</p>

For more on your CAMRA Membership Benefits please visit www.camra.org.uk/benefits

* This price is based on the Direct Debit discount. ** Joint CAMRA memberships will receive one set of vouchers to share. CAMRA reserves the right to withdraw any offer at any time without warning and members should check the CAMRA website for updated and details of current offers.



BELHAVEN
BREWERY

BEAUTIFUL BEERS FROM THE HOME OF SCOTTISH BREWING

