

Issue 79
—
Winter 2022
—
FREE

PINTS of VIEW



Campaign
for
Real Ale

The CAMRA Magazine for Edinburgh and South-East Scotland

WE'RE BACK!

In this issue ...

- WhatPub, Beer Scoring and the Good Beer Guide
- Pub Companies pt.3: Pub Operating Models
- Latest real ale pub news
- Latest local brewery news
- ... and more!



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.



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The consumer helpline can:

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For more information, see:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland/consumer/>

Editorial

After a three-year Covid-induced absence from our local hostelrys, it's good to be back in print again!

On a more serious note, we at CAMRA have been most concerned at the recent publication by the Scottish Government of a consultation which proposes draconian restrictions on the marketing and advertising of alcoholic drinks. These proposals include banning alcohol-related sponsorship of sport and public events, banning all advertising of alcohol in public places and even restrictions on the display of alcohol inside shops. In the words of licensing law expert Stephen McGowan, "the almost complete eradication of the public presence of alcohol". Have your say at consult.gov.scot/alcohol-policy/alcohol-advertising-and-promotion/.

Scott

++ STOP PRESS ++ News of another new microbrewery just missed the deadline for our Brewery News column. Closet Brewing Project, founded earlier in 2022 in Edinburgh by Lucy Stevens has released several canned beers including a German Helles (4,6% abv) and Cocoa Cannonball (7.2%).

Cover photos: Neil Johnson (main image), Pat Hanson (others)

Advertising Rates

Our standard fees for advertisements are as follows:

- Full page: £285
- Half-page: £190
- Quarter-page: £115
- One-eighth page: £75
- Back cover: £POA

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

All enquiries to advertising@edinburghcamra.org.uk

Subscriptions

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

We currently publish *PoV* twice a year. You can also read the current and previous issues on our website.

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

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CAMRA Calling

Branch News

Two-Pub Social (Leith)

7:30pm 8 February

Roseleaf, then the Shore

Good Beer Guide Hitlist Meeting

2pm 25 February

Kilderkin. Members Only.

Two-Pub Social (Marchmont)

7:30pm 8 March

Earl of Marchmont, then the Argyle Bar

Scotland & NI Branches (SNIB) Events

See snib.camra.org.uk/whats-on/events/ for further details.

Quarterly SNIB Meeting

1pm 4 February 2023

Hosted by the Aberdeen, Grampian and Northern Isles branch.

Blue Lamp, Aberdeen

Quarterly SNIB Meeting

1pm 13 May 2023

Hosted by the Dumfries & Stewartry sub-branch

Venue TBC

Forthcoming Branch Events

All venues for branch events are in Edinburgh unless otherwise noted.

Occasionally we may need to cancel or re-arrange events after we go to press. Please check www.edinburghcamra.org.uk/diary for the latest event information and updates.

Two-Pub Social (Old Town)

7:30pm 11 January

Deacon Brodie's, then Jolly Judge

Branch Social Meeting

2:30pm 21 January

The Bonnington



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CAMRA Calling

(continued)

Real Ale Quality Awards

Beer scores received from members have been used to select the winners of the 2022 Real Ale Quality award. The winners were announced at the November branch meeting:

Borders: Plough, Leitholm

Runners up: **Traquair Arms**, Innerleithen and **Allanton Inn**

Lothians: Volunteer, Dunbar

Runners up: **Brig and Barrel**, Belhaven and **Auld Hoose**, North Berwick

Edinburgh: Kay's Bar

Runners up: **Mitre** and **Dreadnought**

Overall winner: Kay's Bar

Congratulations to all the winners! We plan to do a presentation for the overall winner in the New Year.

Champion Beer of Britain

Scotland & NI Heats

The winners of the heats held at the Alloa Beer Festival on 11th November were:

Mild: Swannay Dark Munro

Strong Stout and Porter: Swannay Orkney Porter

The winner of the **Session Real Ale in a Bottle** heat, held in The Bull, Paisley on 19th November, was **Five Kingdoms McGregors Mild**.

Mary Moriarty

by Jim Darroch

Mary Moriarty, the "Queen of Leith"

The much-loved Leith character and legend died on the 4th October, aged 83. Mary was the legendary landlady of the **Port O' Leith** bar in Constitution Street when it truly was world-famous. During those 25 years the pub was literally the first port of call for ships crew from around the world and it was unique in having an international juke box with songs from around Europe. Mary was one of the reasons that people visited it, as she was a character with a huge welcome for everyone.

After she retired she supported the Leith Festival, Leith FM and many community organisations.

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WhatPub, Beer Scoring and the Good Beer Guide

by Sonia James-Henry

You are probably aware of the *Good Beer Guide*, CAMRA's flagship publication which lists the best pubs in the UK. But what you may not know is how those pubs are selected. The answer is that it is largely via beer scores submitted by CAMRA members from all over the country, if you've ever wondered why your favourite pub isn't in the Guide, this may well be because you, and others, haven't entered scores rating the quality of beer there. By beer scoring, you can contribute to the process of selection of pubs that go in the *Good Beer Guide*.

So how do I score the quality of the beer?

You don't have to be an 'expert' to begin scoring your beer. However, it is not about your personal favourite beer receiving the highest scores! You may try a beer that isn't to your normal taste but what you need to consider is the quality of that beer, how well the pub has kept it and served it and score it according to the general guide below. It is a simple 0 to 5 point system, with half points being used if your opinion of the beer falls between two categories.

0: No cask ale available

1: Poor. Beer is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.

2: Average. Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing.

3: Good. Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again.

4: Very Good. Excellent beer in excellent condition. You stay put!

5: Perfect. Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.

How do I submit my scores?

In order to submit your scores, you need to login to CAMRA's online pub guide www.whatpub.com either on a computer or by smartphone. Here you will find a list of over 55,000 pubs from all over the UK. In order to start submitting scores via WhatPub you need to:

1. Login. To do this you need your membership number and your CAMRA password.

2. You can then search for your pub by name. Be careful here as there are many pubs in the country which share the same name. My advice is to search by the pub name and the town or postcode. The WhatPub smartphone web page also gives you the option to search for real ale pubs nearby, very useful if you are in an unfamiliar town.
3. Once you have found your pub a 'Submit Beer Scores' box will appear on the righthand side of the screen (or on the tab bar underneath the pub photo if you are using a smartphone).
4. Simply fill in the date and your score then as you begin typing the brewery name should automatically appear underneath where you are typing. You do not have to enter the name of the beer you are drinking but if you wish to do so once you have entered the brewery name you should be able to click on the arrow in the beer box and a dropdown list of that brewery's beers should appear. In some cases, the beer you are drinking may be new or a one-off, so may not appear on the list, if this is the case you can simply type in the beer name. Select the correct one click 'submit score' and your score will be entered into the database.

It is as simple as that. An added bonus is that it will keep a record of your scores so you can look back to see what beers you have had and how you rated them if you want.

This article by Sonia James-Henry originally appeared in Mersey Ale. Thanks to Sonia and magazine editor John Armstrong for giving permission for it to be used by other branches. If your branch has any questions about beer scoring, please do visit www.camra.org.uk/nbss

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City Ale Tales

Pub News

Congratulations are in order for **Winston's** in Corstorphine, who lifted the Scottish Licensed Trade News (SLTN) Beer Quality Award in the November presentations. The pub has demonstrated great consistency, also winning in 2019 pre-lockdown. The **Bow Bar** was awarded SLTN Craft Beer Bar of the Year and, rather controversially, the **Rose Street Garden** won Best Outdoor Area. You won't find this offshoot of the **Dome** on WhatPub and you can't even test out its seasonal outdoor facilities until next May!

Another award-winner was the **Barony Bar**, which was adjudged Gastro Pub of the Year South East in the Food Awards Scotland in September. Well done also to **Teuchters Landing** which gained a Scottish Thistle Award as Best Bar or Pub in the Lothians and Borders in the regional finals in October. **Black Ivy** won Dog Friendly Pub of the Year at the Scottish Pub and Bar Awards in Glasgow in August.



Bar manager James at Monty's, before closure

Now for the less good news, particularly for fans of the top quality beer at **Monty's** in Morrison Street, which closed at the end of August after James had failed to agree a suitable new tenancy arrangement with Caledonian Heritable in the face of sharply rising costs.

Other closures in Edinburgh have included the **Caley Sample Room** (to be reopened by Kev McGhee from the nearby **Diggers** we hear in late news!), **Ooh Mami** in Leith, the **Filmhouse Café Bar** (another real ale venue), the **Bunch O' Roses**, the **Jam House**, **Philly's** at Edinburgh Park and **Oman's** in Craigmillar. The **Boathouse** in Portobello has also been closed and may be rebuilt in a different form. The owners are concentrating on getting **Joppa Rocks** along the beach up and running.

The **Kilted Pig** closed down for a while and re-emerged as the **Foundation**, still without real ale. The parent Quiet Scotsman pubco has also now taken on **Woodland**



Creatures, which usually features a real ale, making five venues in all. Vault City's **Porty Vault** opened on the site of the former **Skylark** in Portobello in July with a bank of keg taps and a stated aim of introducing at least one cask line later, which doesn't seem to have happened yet. There's a new handpump in place at the **Keller Taproom** just off Broughton Street, usually featuring a real ale such as Edinburgh Gold or Ka Pai from Stewart.

The Old Town Pub Co reopened the **Canons' Gait** on the Royal Mile in the summer, with four handpumps. The same company's new-build **Mackay's on the Mile** on the other side of the road has still not been opened yet.

In North Edinburgh the former **Spiers Bar** is now to become the **Golden Acre**, with two real ales, Deuchars and Jarl, recently available. The **Bonnington** reopened in October with two real ales and is now part of the group that includes the **Malt and Hops**, **Old Chain Pier** and the **Three Marys**.

More name changes have seen **52 Canoes** become the **Cowshed**, **Crosstown ED** become the **Fountainbridge Fox** and **No.1 The Grange** become **Brass Monkey Grange**, thus becoming the fourth in that group and the third to retain real ale, usually from Top Out (but sadly not for much longer - see p18).



The Bonnington on reopening day



In other Edinburgh pub news:

- **Ballie Ballerson** opened in the former **McSorley's** on Forrest Road in July. Entry to the ball pit is ticketed
- There is a new branch of **Cornelius** at 128 Leith Walk in the revived red sandstone block now entitled 'The Red Sandstone'
- The closure of **Ryan's Bar** in the West End proved to be a very long affair, but it's now reopened as the **West End Brasserie**
- There is a threat to the **Willow** at Jock's Lodge (and two other adjacent pubs) from plans for redevelopment into student flats (yes, again!). A formal planning application had not been issued as we went to press although there has been an initial consultation exercise
- Real ale returned earlier this year to **Jeremiah's Taproom**, completing a good cask ale area at the upper end of Leith Walk with **Brass Monkey Leith**, **Woodland Creatures**, **Joker** and **the Thief** and the **Windsor**

Real ale has, however, unfortunately disappeared from the **Rose and Crown**, **Frankenstein**, **Green Room**, **Traverse Theatre**, **Hanover Tap**, **Ghillie Dhu**, **Foundry 39**, **Nobles** (apart from the occasional one-off), **Port O'Leith**, **Harmonium**, **One Canon**, **Lioness of Leith** and **Holyrood 9A**. There's also currently no real ale at the **Southern**, although it may return later, according to staff. It seems to be a similar situation with the unused handpumps at the **Golf Tavern** and **Hector's**.

Kay's Bar has been enrolled in Timothy Taylor's Champion's Club for its 'dedication to excellent cellarmanship'. Other pubs with this accolade in our Branch area include the **Cross Inn** at Paxton in the Borders. Elsewhere in the New Town the remaining part of the lease at the **Star Bar** has been put up for sale.

Craig Millar

Please note: our Pub News columns sadly cannot mention every real ale pub in the branch area in every issue. If you have some news about your pub you'd like us to share in the next issue, please get in touch (contact details on p2).

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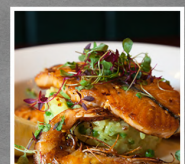


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From the Four-in-Hand to the Old Eastway Tap

by Jim Lawrie

Over the last 40 years, this Easter Road pub has been the Four-in-Hand, the IV, back to the Four-in-Hand, Riordan's Sports Bar, and is now Cross Borders Brewery's Old Eastway Tap, named after a nearby cinema and offering up to four cask and 16 craft keg beers.



BEER AND LOTHIAN

Pub News

In shock news from East Lothian, Michelle and Calum Wilson announced that they were terminating their tenancy at the **Prestoungrange Gothenburg (Goth)** with effect from 1st January 2023 due to rising costs and other factors. However, within days it was confirmed that Pat Cairney would be taking over as new tenant. He is already running the **Linton Hotel and Steakhouse** in East Linton and the **Tower** in Tranent (with Dominic McNeill). The pub will probably be closed from 1st January until 4th/5th February. It's hoped that the in-house Faking Bad brewery will continue to provide the real ales.

Elsewhere in East Lothian the former **Winton Arms** in Pencaitland finally reopened as the **Winton** after a massive, lengthy and impressive refurbishment by Caledonian Heritable. There is a cask ale line in place, but it has not yet been brought into use at the time of writing. It's planned to feature real ales from local breweries such as Winton, Cross Borders and Newt.

Owners Stirling and Jela Stewart have placed the **Nether Abbey Hotel** in North Berwick on the market. It is still a strong supporter of real ale and we hope that this will continue in the future whatever happens. In the town centre, Star Pubs and Bars are yet to find a new tenant for the long-closed **County Hotel**, which is beginning to be rather an eyesore.

The **Volunteer Arms** near the harbour in Dunbar continues to supply the only real ale in town. Sue and Donald are planning to obtain new supplies of their customers' favourite beer Pale Rider now that Kelham Island brewery has been saved by Thornbridge. There is also real ale down the road in Belhaven at the **Brig and Barrel**. Not far away in West Barns **No.5 Duke St** has now been placed on the market as a freehold sale after closing again following licence infringements and other problems. The **Green** in Haddington also closed at the beginning of October citing rising costs. Owners Green King say that they are keen to find a new

tenant. There was better news at the **Tyneside Tavern**, where the in-house Mazzoli Italian Kitchen won 'Restaurant of the Year South East' at the Food Awards Scotland. The **Bonnie Badger** in Gullane added to its collection of awards when it was named Restaurant with Rooms Scotland 2022 at the AA Hospitality Awards.

Over in West Lothian the number of real ale pubs in our Branch area has decreased to just two – Wetherspoon's **Newyearfield** in Livingston and the **Black Bull** in Mid Calder. Recent withdrawals from real ale include the **Grapes** in East Calder, the **Railway Inn** West Calder and the reopened **Fork and Field** in Mid Calder.



The Winton, Pencaitland



In the farther-flung areas of West, South West and North West Edinburgh there is little change to report. The **Balerno Inn** still has no real ale, but the **Grey Horse** over the road always has a good choice and a friendly welcome. In South Queensferry the former **Harry Ramsden's** is to reopen shortly as **30 Knots**. This will be operated by Buzzworks, which also has **Scotts** down at the marina. Real ale didn't last very long at Scotts, so we'll hope for better news at the new place. Down at the Airport the former Wetherspoon pub **Turnhouse** is now the **Bridge and Castle**, with no real ale. The **Fetching Fox** is a relatively new gastropub near Kirkliston. During its rather restrictive opening hours it sells Ferry Brewery beer in bottles but no real ale. The **Newliston Arms** in Kirkliston was recently reported to be selling some excellent real ale from the Old Mill Brewery in East Yorkshire.

In Midlothian there is still no real ale in Dalkeith, which is a scandalous situation. The former **Blacksmiths Forge** has finally reopened as **Madisons** but it has

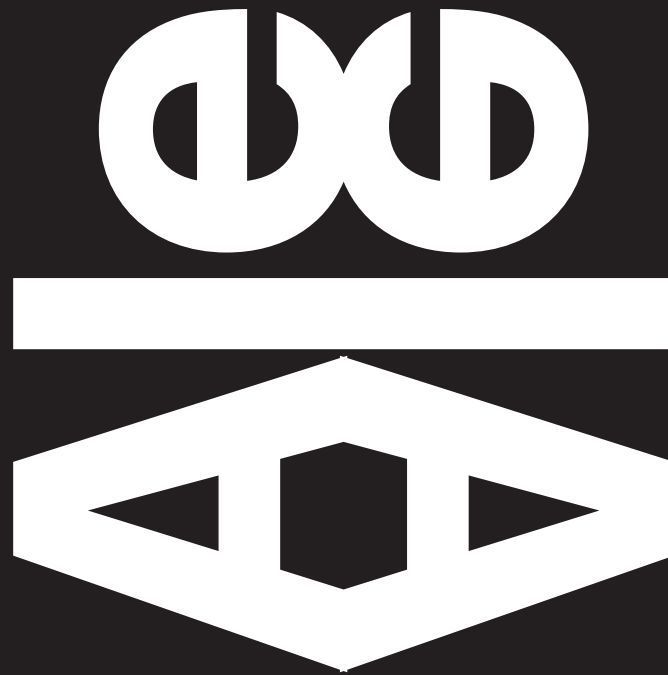
no cask ale, just like its sister premises the **Ratho Park** at Dalmahoy. The **Navaar House Hotel** in Penicuik was reported to be considering taking off its Stewart real ale, leaving just Fyne Ales Jarl. It continues to have the only real ale in town. The sole real ale pub in Loanhead, the **Masons Arms (Paddy's)**, has now had its handpump removed.

The **Stobsmill Inn** in Gorebridge now operates a restaurant called Brunton's, which is open from Friday to Sunday all day and also Monday and Thursday evenings. It's not just the only real ale pub in Gorebridge, but also the last remaining pub of any kind! Food can also be served in the bar.

Craig Leith



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Neidpath Inn, Peebles

the **Loch Tweedbank**, **Allan Ramsay** Carlops and **Black Bull** Duns, which is scheduled to reopen in Spring 2023.

Real ale has been taken off, or its availability severely reduced, in a number of Borders pubs including the **Ladhope Inn** in Galashiels, **Gordon Arms** Mountbenger, **Hemelvaart Bier Café** Ayton and the **Dryburgh Arms Hotel** in Newtown St Boswells, while some pubs have reduced their trading days (e.g. **Clovenfords Hotel** and **Horse & Hound Country Inn** at Bonchester Bridge) in line with winter weather as well as energy costs.

In other Borders news:

- The **Waterloo Arms** at Chirnside has been put up for sale by the consortium of local business people that own it
- The **White Sawn** in Duns is now the focus for the towns real ale drinkers and was recently selling two real ales from Born in excellent condition.
- The **Cross Keys** at Lilliesleaf has reopened as a bar, with no real ale
- The **George Hotel** at Walkerburn is still for sale, having been closed for years. There is no other pub in Walkerburn
- In addition to six pubs in Peebles, elsewhere in the Tweed Valley there is real ale at the **Traquair Arms** and **St Ronans Hotel** in Innerleithen and the **Clovenfords Hotel**

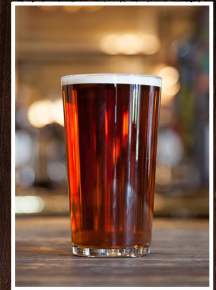
Visitors to Hawick can expect to find real ales from Born, First and Last and Borderlands (Langholm) at the newly reopened **Queens Head** along with a good selection at the **Bourtree**, **Exchange (Dalton's)** and the **Masonic Lodge 424**.

In late shock news, JD Wetherspoon announced that they had added the **Cross Keys** in Peebles to their latest tranche of pubs for sale. CAMRA hopes that JDW will think again (as they have done before)!

Grant S House



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PUB COMPANIES

WHO THEY ARE AND WHAT THEY DO

PART 3

PUB OPERATING MODELS

by Paul Ainsworth

According to the British Beer & Pub Association, in 2019 there were 47,600 pubs in the UK. Of these, 22,750 were free houses, 15,650 were tenanted or leased and 9,200 were managed. In this article, we'll look at the latter two categories along with a newish 'hybrid' model which the BBPA probably counts as a form of tenancy.

Tenancies

As a tenant, you rent the pub premises from a pub company or brewery and acquire the right to occupy the pub for an agreed period – usually two to five years. You will generally be 'tied' for beer and other drinks i.e. you can only purchase the stock from the owning company – though some companies offer partial or free of tie deals (but invariably demanding a higher rent for the privilege). You are self-employed and responsible for all the staff. Responsibility for building repairs will usually be confined to internal, non- structural work.

A big attraction of the tenancy is the relatively low cost of entry, though you still need around £15k to properly operate a start up; a downside is that if you build the business up you may well get no reward from the pub company other than an increased rent. Indeed, the 'reward' might be a refusal to renew the tenancy because, for instance, the company wants to take the now-successful pub into direct management.

The Pubs Code of 2016 was designed to give tenants and lessees greater protection by requiring fair and lawful dealing by pub companies and ensuring that tied tenants were no worse off than if they were free of tie. We'll have a close look at how the Code is working out in a future article.

Leases

Having a lease means you're entitled to occupy the pub and run your business for a fixed term, often between 10 and 25 years. You'll still usually be tied for beer and other products and will be responsible for repairs, maintenance, insurance and other running costs. Unlike with a tenancy, you have the option to sell the business, including a sum for goodwill.

Managed Houses

In this model, the pub is owned and operated by the pub company, who employ all the staff on the premises. The manager is likely to be eligible for performance-related bonuses in addition to their salary. Many managed pubs are branded e.g. Hungry Horse, Ember Inns, Slug & Lettuce.

The obvious advantage to the company is their complete control over every aspect of the operation. On the other hand, they incur all the costs and accept all the risks, instead of sharing those with a tenant or lessee.

Companies whose pubs are all or nearly all managed include Wetherspoons, Mitchells and Butlers, Sam Smiths and Loungers. Many other companies have a mix of models though the overall

growth trend is definitely in the managed direction, especially if you include the next arrangement.

Retail Agreements

This is the new kid on the block and goes by a variety of names – Manchises (Management Franchises) being an increasingly common term. The model was pioneered by Marstons but most of the bigger companies have now adopted it, each with their own brand name e.g. Stonegate have Craft Union, Star Pubs & Bars have Just Add Talent and Greene King, Pub Ready. Unlike in conventional managed pubs, the licensee is *supposedly* self-employed. In most cases, their remuneration comes from a percentage (usually 18-20%) of the pub's net turnover. From this, as licensee, you pay yourself and all your staff plus incidentals like employer's liability insurance and Council Tax.

So, what freedom do you have to run your own business? In truth, not a lot. The pub company sets the opening hours and the prices, decides what products you sell, prescribes the menu for any food offer and provides all the equipment. You can also be chucked out at pretty short notice (immediately in the case of Just Add Talent). If there's a stock deficit then you're charged for it and these can be mysteriously large. The advantages for the licensee are the low ingoing costs (Pub Ready require £5000), you get a roof over your head and have a prospect of making money. To do the last, though, you'd probably need to be taking over £10k a week. Urban, sports-oriented pubs seem to do best under this sort of regime. There are, though, many disgruntled ex-licensees who found the scheme a quick way to lose their dosh – try googling Sam Peeps Diary Marstons for a flavour.

The current number of these Agreements is unknown but they have certainly been growing rapidly. Many tenants have been effectively thrown out of their pubs so that the company can convert the pub to what, for them, are more lucrative arrangements.

You can see why the companies love this model. It frees them from the responsibility of employing staff whilst retaining full control over what the pub actually does. However, there's suddenly a cloud on their horizon. Early in 2021, the Supreme Court ruled that Uber drivers were definitely not self-employed. The parallels with Retail Agreement licensees are striking and Her Majesty's Revenues and Customs are known to be taking a keen interest. Given the amount of control that the companies exert, can they really argue that these licensees are self-employed? Watch this space.

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NEWS OF THE BREWS

Brewery Update

Aye Been Brewing

This Eyemouth brewery sadly announced at the beginning of November that they were closing down and selling the brewing kit. Brewster Yvonne Sinclair said 'We have had an incredible 18 months making delicious beer, meeting fabulous people along the way. Sadly all good things must come to an end'

Only a couple of months before this, Aye Been had won a Bronze Award in the SIBA regional competition for Fort Point Porter. The last deliveries of this and other beers were going out in mid-November to regular stockists such as **Stagg's** Musselburgh, **Plough** Leitholm, **Waterloo Arms** Chirnside and the local Eyemouth pubs **Ship Inn** and **Contented Sole**.

Barney's Beer

There was major success for Barney's at the Scottish Beer Awards, with Andrew Barnett (Barney) winning Brewer of the Year to add to the Small Brewery of the Year award for the brewery. Three Barney's beers also won awards.

A new beer called Drupe, a Cherry Farmhouse Sour, was released in August. Four new beers from Post Mortem, a barrel-aging project, were due to be released recently. Look out also for the results of two collaborative brewing sessions with Peterhead-based Brew Toon.

Barney's beers are regularly available at the **Royal Dick** and the **Bullfinch**.

Bellfield Brewery

The Bellfield Brewery Taproom won Best Taproom at the Scottish Beer Awards in October. Lawless Village IPA and Jex-Blake Galaxy also won awards in the SIBA Scotland Independent Beer Awards 2022.

Bellfield collaborated with Vault City to produce Full Tilt Imperial Radler (5.6% abv), launched in September.

Born Brewery

Despite the closure of its café and Visitor Centre at Lanton Mill, both Born's brewing and distilling operations are continuing at the site with the core range of Blonde, Amber and IPA all readily available in both cask and bottled form as well as Born Best Bitter on occasion



An advertisement for 'WHAT?UB' by CAMRA. At the top left is the CAMRA logo (Campaign for Real Ale). The main title 'WHAT?UB' is in large, bold, blue letters. Below the title is a man holding two glasses of beer up to his eyes like binoculars. A black box with white text reads 'whatpub.com' and 'Featuring over 35,000 real ale pubs'. Below this are three icons: a beer glass with 'Over 96% of Britain's real ale pubs featured', a smartphone with 'Information updated by thousands of CAMRA volunteers', and a beer glass with 'Created by CAMRA who produce the UK's best beer & pub guide'. At the bottom, a hand holds a smartphone displaying the website. The text 'Thousands of pubs at your fingertips!' is at the bottom.

Broughton Ales

Broughton also excelled in the SIBA Awards, with Old Jock winning Silver in the Cask Imperial and Strong Beer category.

Caledonian Brewery

Owners Heineken UK reported in October that they had been unable to secure a buyer to keep the Caledonian Brewery in operation. The company is therefore marketing the site for open sale. The brewery was first established in 1869 and parts of the older buildings are listed, which may limit the scope for alternative use. There is no word yet about the planned contract brewing of Deuchars IPA and other keg beers at Belhaven. We would like to think that the pump clips would be changed to reflect the new provenance if and when this happens.

Campervan Brewery

Campervan established a new partnership with the Edinburgh International Book Festival, which saw Campervan beers pouring at the Festival bars in the summer.

In the first part of 2022, production reached full capacity, so a new 40HL tank was installed in August to take some pressure off the brewers.



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Cold Town Beer

Welcome to Mark, the new brewer at **Cold Town House** in the Grassmarket. He's a Texan who graduated from the Heriot-Watt Masters programme like so many local brewers.

Cold Town won awards for Consumer Engagement Excellence and Excellence in Digital Content, as well as a Bronze for Pornstar Martini, at the Scottish Beer Awards.

Donzoko Brewing Co.

Recent beer launches have included Dead Good Oatmeal Stout (4.5% abv), a new lager, Citra Pils (5%) and a collaboration with host brewer Newbarns, Autumn, a DDH pale ale (also 5%).

Durty Brewing

The first three canned beers were launched in August.

They have been brewed 'offsite' as there is still no confirmed date for the opening of the microbrewery and taproom in Innerleithen.

Faking Bad Brewery

Faking Bad were rocked by the announcement that the host **Goth** pub in Prestonpans was to close at the end of the year, although the rapid announcement of a new tenant (see Pub News) may give the brewery some hope for continuation. A revamp of the original Dark Energy has been brewed recently and will mainly have been destined for 5L mini-casks.

Ferry Brewery

The Brewery Tap Room is open on Fridays and Saturdays, with the Ferry Beer Shop in South Queensferry High St opening from Thursday to Sunday. Ferry is continuing to move some of the beer range to 440ml cans. Ferry Fair and Three Bridges are also being produced in keg form. Black Bourbon and Loony Brew are still made in wooden casks.

Seasonal beers include a Christmas range ie Santa's Wee Helper, Hoppy Christmas and Christmas Warmer. Thomas Miller received a Silver Award at SIBA Scotland.

The Hanging Bat

Brew Toon visited in October for a limited edition double collaboration brew session. One of the beers is said to have 'plenty of juicy pineapple chucked in'.



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NEWS OF THE BREWS

(continued)

Jump Ship Brewing

Ship's Bell Dry Hopped Lager, a low-alcohol collaboration with Bellfield, was launched at Bellfield's taproom in July.

Keller Brewing

This is the new name for the in-house brewery at the **Keller Taproom** just off Broughton St. It was previously known as 'Bier Edinburgh'. A Hefeweizen beer with the new branding was on sale at the **Bow Bar**.

Kerr's Brewing Co.

This is a new brewery operating from Rosemains Steading in Pathhead, Midlothian. The first two bottled beers, Rosemains Table Beer and First Brew Amber Ale, have been on sale at the **BeerHive** and also at **Vino** branches.

Moonwake Beer Co.

There was a significant development in late August when Moonwake's Milk Stout (4.5% abv) appeared on cask at the nearby **Teuchters Landing**. The brewery was named Best Newcomer at the Scottish Beer Awards.

Newbarns Brewery

The impressive wedge-shaped new taproom opened recently and features a number of Aitken founts (some from the **Bow Bar**) repurposed for keg beer, as well as what is claimed to be the most northerly bar billiards table in the UK!

Newt Brew

New beers appearing on cask during the year have included Organic Thirsty Dog (4% abv) and Organic Simcoe Pale (4.1%). **Guildford Arms**, **Windsor** and **Brass Monkey (Leith)** have been among Newt's regular real ale stockists.

Pilot Beer

Tony Hackney, owner of the **Queens Head** pub in Hawick, has invested in Pilot with a 30% share. He wants to help the brewery develop new beers, so the results are eagerly awaited. Meanwhile, Pilot has announced a new tie-up with Hibernian Women's football team.

Sinnister Brew

This is another new brewery located in Dalkeith (possibly co-located with Otherworld?) which specialises in one off big barrel aged imperial stouts, often in the 12-13% abv range. These beers have featured at **Lost in Leith** and a number of bottle shops.

Stewart Brewing

Stewart's 18th Birthday celebrations in October saw the launch of a new tropical IPA '18' (4.6% abv) and a full 10-tap takeover at the **Guildford Arms**. The previous month another new real ale Ernest (4.3%) made an early appearance at the **Black Bull** in Mid Calder.

The core range of real ales continues to be Jack Back, Pentland IPA, Citra Blonde, Stewart 80/- and Edinburgh Gold. Festive specials will include Holly Jolly, a Christmas Red Ale (4.4%), and Cauld Reekie Stout. Backing Blue IPA will be available during the Six Nations rugby season.

Successes in 2022 included Product Development Team of the Year at the Scottish Beer Awards and a Silver for 80/- at SIBA Scotland in the Cask Session Dark Beer category. Brewery tours at Loanhead were restarted in September.

Stow Brewery

Dhu Brew IPA was reported to be selling well at the **Salmon Inn** Galashiels in November. Stow Brewery continues to support the occasional events held at the Station House in Stow, which is unfortunately still lacking a permanent tenant.

Tartan Shark Brewing

A new keg beer, Blasphemy, was featured at the summer beer festival at **Steel Coulson Shore**.

Tempest Brewing Co.

One of Tempest's newest releases is Helix (5.6% abv), a Rye IPA primarily for canning. Cask Elemental Dark has recently been found in an increasing number of outlets including **Cobbles** in Kelso.

Top Out Brewery

Sadly Top Out announced that the brewery will be closing at the end of 2022 due to financial unviability.

Traquair House

The **Neidpath Inn** in Peebles is a very rare regular outlet for Traquair's real ales.

Walkie Talky Brewing Co.

The planned move to a brewing site in Whitecraig has not yet been realised, so Walkie Talky continues to brew at Campervan. A new beer called It Takes 2 (7.5%), a West Coast double IPA, was released in the summer.

Winton Brewery

Winton has taken steps to regularise the licensing of its taproom at their Haddington site, with full support from East Lothian's licensing board. Winton casks are often found at the **Waterside Bistro** in Haddington. Och Aye, a new 3.6% abv dark mild, was launched at the recent Beer Festival at the **Station Yard** Dunbar. CAMRA is pressing for this to be released in cask format.



Moonwake cask Milk Stout at Teuchter's Landing

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