

# Solihull



# Drinker

Issue No 92  
Autumn 2021

Free  
Please take one

## Welcome Back!



*Solihull CAMRA members enjoying their first face to face branch meeting at the Bull's Head, Barston*

Welcome back, to the first issue of Solihull Drinker for 18 months. When we were putting together the Spring 2020 edition, little did we know it would be so long until the next issue, or what would happen to the entire country during the intervening period. Everyone in the Solihull & District branch of CAMRA sincerely hopes you have found ways to stay safe, sane and well over the course of the pandemic.

Coronavirus has been hard on all of us, in terms of both our physical and mental well-being; if one good thing has

come out of the repeated lockdowns, I feel it's a heightened appreciation for just how much our pubs really are at the heart of our communities. Last summer, when we were allowed into pubs for a while, I treasured my first visit; not for the real ale, good though it was, but just for the opportunity to meet friends again, and the chance to sit and make conversation. Missing out on that has been one of the tougher parts of the restrictions we've endured.

And then there has been the impact on businesses, especially those in the hos-

# ALE HUB

• MICRO PUB •

Both our micropubs have 4 rotating cask ales and 2 craft beers as well as a range of other drinks. We are dog friendly and under 18's are welcome until 6pm.

## LOCATIONS:



### **Ale Hub Shirley**

Opening Hours:

Sunday - Wednesday: 09:00 - 22:00

Thursday - Saturday: 09:00 - 23:00

Coffee Served from: 09:00 - 14:00

Ale Hub Shirley, 277 Longmore Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 3ER



### **Ale Hub Dickens Heath**

Opening Hours:

Sunday - Wednesday: 12:00 - 22:00

Thursday - Saturday: 12:00 - 23:00

Ale Hub Dickens Heath, 73 Main Street, Dickens Heath, Solihull, B90 1UB



**Dogs Are Welcome!**

pitality sector. While the furlough scheme has allowed many companies to avoid laying staff off, there have been ongoing costs such as rent and utility bills. Even when they were allowed to reopen, the restrictions meant it wasn't economically feasible for some venues to do so.

Having said all that, I am relieved to report that, so far as has been reported to us, only one of our pubs has been forced out of business. This must have been a bitter blow to the owners of the Winged Spur at Ullenhall, after investing substantially in refurbishing the pub and making a welcome return to the Good Beer Guide. As I write the pub is undergoing another refurbishment, having been bought by the family which owns the Tardebigge, in Bromsgrove.

As you can imagine, there have been numerous changes over the past 18 months, resulting in an extensive Hail to the Ale section elsewhere. One of the changes is that we now have a new editor for the Drinker; Ray Cooke has stepped up to the challenge. Our aim now is to return to our usual quarterly cycle; if you have anything to contribute, whether it's a brief update on a pub or club in our area or a longer article for publication, please don't hesitate to get

in touch.

Monday 2 August saw us able to hold our first proper branch meeting in a long time, though we did undertake the meeting outside to be on the safe side (hence the coats!). We convened at the Bull's Head in Barston, with 19 Solihull branch members enjoying our first face to face branch meeting since COVID restrictions had been lifted. Two ales were on offer, Adnams Southwold Bitter and Wainwright.

Branch meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, starting at 8.30pm and lasting around 45 minutes with time for socialising afterwards. We very much hope branch members feel able to attend now that restrictions have been lifted. If you are reading this and are not a CAMRA member there is absolutely no reason why you cannot also come along. We'd love to encourage you into joining CAMRA.

Our next two branch meetings will be on Monday 6 September at Knowle and Dorridge Cricket Club and Monday 4 October at the Shaking Hand in Shirley (next to the entrance to the ASDA store); please do come along.

*Martin Buck*

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## Dates For Your Diary

### Branch Meetings

*(Branch meetings start at 8.30pm except where noted otherwise)*

Monday 4th October	Shaking Hand, Shirley
Monday 1st November	TBC
Monday 6th December	TBC

### Committee Meetings

*(8.30pm start. Members may attend but only participate if invited to do so)*

Monday 20th September	Woodman's Rest, Shirley
Monday 15th November	British Legion club, Solihull

### Socials

11th to 14th November	Weekend away—Staying in Newport, Day trips to Cardiff and Bristol
Saturday 4th December	Christmas crawl—Birmingham

**For more details and contacts for the above, please call Secretary Allan Duffy on 01564 200 431 or visit our website: [www.solihull.camra.org.uk](http://www.solihull.camra.org.uk)**

***Most, though not all, of our local pubs have disabled access. If you wish to come to a meeting and require assistance, contact us beforehand and we will do our best to help.***

## CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2021



# THE FIELDHOUSE

10 Knightcote Drive,  
Solihull B91 3JU Tel:  
0121 703



[www.emberinns.co.uk/the-fieldhouse-solihull](http://www.emberinns.co.uk/the-fieldhouse-solihull)



Fieldhouse,  
Solihull



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Hot & cold meals served all week from  
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Brunch from 10 am weekends

### Live Music & Events

Sat 18 Sept – Space Monkey  
Sat 2 Oct – Phil Collins Tribute  
Sat 9 Oct – Vinyl Revival  
60s, 70s, 80s, 90s Music  
Mon 25 Oct – St Austell meet the brewer  
Sunday & Tuesday – quiz night 8.30pm

**Special Offers for CAMRA members.**  
*(membership cards must be shown)*

- 20p discount off a pint of Cask Ale
- 20% off food
- Christmas – free bottle prosecco for CAMRA members booking a table for 6 or more

*7 Real Ales on at all times*  
*Landlord, UBU, Proper Job, plus 4*  
*regularly changing guests.*  
*All Cask Ales £2.89 a pint on Mondays*  
*and Thursdays – Wine club Monday*  
*& Thursday £10 per bottle*



# Return to Pompey, Part 1

It feels like an eternity ago now but in early February 2020 four of us, Martin, Paul W and Paul B, set off for a weekend in Portsmouth. We arrived late Friday afternoon and checked into the Ibis. We'd noticed on arrival that there was a Brewhouse and Kitchen just around the corner in Guildhall Walk and that was where we started the evening, with decent offerings of Mucky Duck with notes of caramel, Mary Rose and Sexton which was golden and citrusy.



Pump clips on the ceiling at the Hole in the Wall

Then we headed off to Southsea and the pub that was my favourite that evening, the Hole in the Wall in Great Southsea Street. Although it's small this feels like a proper old-fashioned boozer, very welcoming and with a good choice of

both real ales and cider. They had Flower Potts Goodens Gold, Listers Limehouse Porter which I thought was excellent, White Horse Brewery Stable Genius, and Easy Life and Session IPA from Eight Arch Brewery. A look at the pump clips

## Upcoming Midlands Area Beer Festivals and Events

**FOR NATIONAL BEER FESTIVALS PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING LINK:**  
<https://www.camra.org.uk/beer-festivals-events/>

### September 16-18 (Thu-Sat)

#### **27th Tamworth Beer Festival**

75+ real ales, as well as ciders and perries. Open 11am-11pm each day; live music Fri & Sat evenings. Assembly Rooms, Tamworth

### October 1-2 (Fri-Sat)

#### **Solihull & District Pubs Festival**

Various pubs in our branch area will be putting on interesting beers at the end of CAMRA's Cask Ale Week. See article on page 11 for full details

### October 15-16 (Fri-Sat)

#### **Three Lions Beer Festival**

Charity beer festival organised by Shirley Lions. See ad on page 9 for full details.  
Shirley British Legion club.

### October 29-31 (Fri-Sun)

#### **Case is Altered—Oktoberfest**

Up to twenty real ales and ciders. See ad on page 8.

on the ceiling illustrates the regularly changing offerings. From there it was a short walk to the Barley Mow, which is quite a large pub and had a good range of ales. We sampled the Robinson's Wizard, Salcombe Rip Tide and a very pleasant Langham Brewery XXX Dark Mild, which had a slight liquorice note to it. They also had Hobgoblin, Timothy Taylor Landlord, Gales HSB (which seemed to crop up in quite a few of the pubs), London Pride and Tribute. We were beginning to feel hungry by this stage so we headed to a Wetherspoons, in the shape of the Lord Palmerston in Palmerston Road.

This was a typical large pub, although I was pleased to find the toilets on the same floor rather than upstairs or down in the basement as seems often to be the case in a Spoons. While we were debating what to eat the Hop a Doodle Doo ran out. I think we all opted for the Flack Manor Black Jack Porter which was very drinkable. They also had Doom Bar, Greene King IPA and Abbot Ale, Ruddles Best and Shepherd Neame Bishops Finger. After ham, egg and chips it was time for another beer, but at another pub if we were to fit them all in.

So off we strolled to the Meat and Barrel, where the majority of the beers available were craft, though we were able to try Itchen Valley Brewery Pride of the Valley and 6 Nations Hops. I was a little underwhelmed by both so was quite happy for us to quickly move on and head off to the Phoenix. The public bar has Portsmouth FC memorabilia (can't think why Martin thought this a good place to visit!). Nonetheless, this is a charming little boozer with a lovely garden and we did stay a little longer here as there was a jukebox with an extensive and somewhat eclectic selection and also an old fashioned table

Galaxians video game machine, which Paul W managed somehow to achieve the high score on. Mind you there were so few scores it wasn't difficult!



Paul celebrating his high score at Galaxians

None of us opted for the Wadworth 6X. Instead it was Irving (a local Portsmouth brewery) Invincible and Ringwood FortyNiner, both of which were in good nick.

From here it was a short walk down to the bustling Albert Road and the Wine Vaults. Those of you who came on the beer festival thank you trip to Portsmouth a couple of years ago will remember this as the large pub with lots of different levels where we ate that time. It was pretty packed and there wasn't a huge choice of ales; London Pride which none of us tried, Gales HSB (as I mentioned earlier, this turned up at a lot of places) which was to a good standard and Dark Star Partridge, in good condition too.

Although Paul W said he liked the wallpaper (ask him!), the lack of beer choice drove us across the road and a short distance to Porters which definitely had more interesting ales. Ok so they had Doom Bar and Spitfire, but those were

*Solihull*  
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*....serving up delicious  
food, great drinks, &  
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**28-30 Station Parade**

**Solihull B91 3SB**

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**[www.fluteandflagonsolihull.co.uk](http://www.fluteandflagonsolihull.co.uk)**



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**6 hand pumps with  
5 Real Ales &  
a Traditional  
Cider  
3 Craft Beers**

**Opening Hours**

**09.00 - 23.00 Sun - Thur**

**09.00 - 24.00 Friday**

**09.00 - 01.00 Saturday**

overshadowed by Park Brewery Killcat Pale, and Northern Alchemy Blood Orange black IPA, which I rather enjoyed, and Corker.

I have to say that by this time of the evening I was starting to feel a little jaded so I was glad for a bit of a walk to the Wave Maiden, a small, long and narrow venue. There was only one real ale on in Sabro Vibrant Forest, but they had quite a choice of craft keg ales plus a good selection of real ciders. I opted for the Wildbeer Millionaire. Paul W decided to switch to ciders at this point, trying both the Thistly Cross Whisky Cask and the Hallers Oak Aged medium. I tried both and liked them but could not, by this time in the evening, have faced switching to higher strength cider.

It was at this stage I realised I'd had enough for one evening so returned to the hotel. The others carried on though

not for long. So that was Friday.

Saturday arrived and the forecast was for rain later, with winds and strong rain coming in on Saturday night through into Sunday (Storm Ciara). Instead we had sunshine and good weather that was totally unexpected for early February. Just as well really, as this day was very much characterised by walking and lots of it. I was pleased I'd opted for trainers rather than shoes.

The plan to begin with was to visit the Southsea Brewery at Southsea Castle and yes, the brewery is in a castle, well at least it's inside the walls of a fort built by Henry VIII in 1544. Quite a walk to get there, only to be disappointed that the brewery was closed.

So back along the seafront, with its old walls and into Portsmouth to the Still and West in Bath Square, a Grade II



The entrance to Southsea castle

listed Fullers pub with London Pride, Seafarers and Gales HSB. This was one of the more expensive rounds we had this weekend (£17.30 for 4 pints, though still reasonable by Solihull standards) and part of the reason is probably the location as this charming pub is right on the harbour front and we were able to sit outside watching boats go by. From here it was a short walk (past the UK America's Cup HQ) to another Fullers pub, the Bridge Tavern in East Street where we again sat

outside in the sun, overlooking Old Portsmouth's Camber Dock. They had the same ales as the previous pub but here they also had Dark Star Hophead (Paul W decided this was his favourite beer of the day at this stage, though may have changed his mind later) which was in excellent condition, and Session Ale.

From here we headed for the Gosport ferry, which runs every fifteen minutes and takes only four minutes for

the crossing—but to discover what we found there, and on our return to Portsmouth and Southsea, you'll have to wait until December and the Winter 2021 issue of the Solihull Drinker.

*Ray Cooke*



## **The Case is Altered** **Five Ways, Hatton nr Warwick CV35 7JD**

**Join us for fine ale (minimum of 5)  
and great conversation**

### **Opening Hours**

**Mon – Tue – Wed 6pm - 11pm**

**Thu – Fri – Sat 12 – 2pm - 6pm - 11pm**

**Sunday 12pm – 7pm**

## **Oktoberfest Beer Festival**

**Is being held this year 29/30/31<sup>st</sup> October 2021  
Up to 20 real ales and ciders**





# 3 Lions Beer Festival



## SAVE THE DATES

FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021  
TO

SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021

EACH DAY STARTS AT 12 NOON  
& ENDS LATE

AT SHIRLEY BRITISH LEGION,  
186 Stratford Rd, Shirley, Solihull B90 3BQ

THIS IS A  
CHARITY FUNDRAISER  
FOR LOCAL  
LIONS' CHARITIES

### CONTACT

<https://fb.me/e/2hd6J1ZT6>

3 LIONS BEER FESTIVAL EVENT ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/Three-Lions-Beer-Festival-104536957881780>

3 LIONS BEER FEST PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/shirleybritishlegionclub/>  
SHIRLEY BRITISH LEGION FACEBOOK PAGE



# Hail To The Ale

## *Local Beer, Pub, Club and Brewery News*

Henley in Arden – we have a new microbrewery, the **Henley Mile Brewing Company**, which is based in a building at the railway station. They have 3 core ales for now (Marquis of Granby, Prince Rupert, and Park Barrels). The **Black Swan**, which has been closed since January 2020, had a planning application submitted to convert it into a series of residential properties. We understand this has been rejected, but we have no news as to what will happen next. The **Bluebell** has reopened as a restaurant only; there is no real ale. The **White Swan** is down to 1 ale on a temporary basis. On a recent visit it was reported that the beer quality at the **Nags Head** was questionable.

Ullenhall – as far as we are aware the **Winged Spur** has been our only COVID casualty. It remains closed though there are reports of building/refurbishment work taking place so let's hope that is a positive sign.

Knowle and Dorridge – the **Railway** has finally reopened under new management after being refurbished. Unfortunately, they are down to only 2 real ales (Doombar and Landlord., and a little pricey at £4.20 and £4.80 respectively). The Watson family who previously ran this pub had done so for over 100 years. It was sad to see them go, and we wish them well.

The **Forest** has changed hands and the bar has now become the **Butchers Social at the Forest Hotel**. Word is they are looking to take it more up market and a refurbishment is planned imminently. Ale will still be served.

The **Ale Rooms** has now partnered with Framework Brewery (based in Leicester). We understand this will be a synergistic arrangement as Framework prefer to brew and Ale Rooms prefer to run pubs. It won't affect the excellent range of ales seen at the Ale Rooms.

Solihull – there was no real ale at the **Mason's Arms** at a recent visit. The **Sommar Tap and Lounge** has opened in Station Road. There's no real ale but they do have a decent range of craft beers. The **White Swan** in Solihull had an excellent choice of ales at recent visits. The **Royal British Legion club** in Solihull had its alcohol licence suspended for 2 months following breaches during COVID restrictions. We believe the licence should be back in place around mid-September. Another venue that we've been told had had significant conditions placed on its alcohol licence is the **Damson** in Rowood Drive.

Shirley – a second **Ale Hub** (there is one already in Dickens Heath) has opened in Longmoor Road, near the junction with Blossomfield Road, with four handpulls. The **Red Lion** has new management and is due to undergo a major refurbishment. We hope this will be good news for real ale.

Assorted – the **Boat** in Catherine de Barnes has reopened after refurbishment. We understand the **Beeches** at Hampton in Arden has permanently closed, and the business is in liquidation. The **Halton Turner** brewery has moved to Digbeth (Trent Street) and has a new tap room.

# Solihull Beer Festival *Cancelled*;

## Solihull & District Pubs Beer Festival Instead

While we were really looking forward to welcoming everyone to the Solihull Beer Festival, sadly circumstances beyond our control have forced us to once again cancel it. This wasn't a decision we took lightly – not least because beer festivals are a significant source of income, allowing CAMRA to continue to campaign for real ale, pubs and clubs.

In its place we are working with local pubs and clubs to put on a pubs-based festival, on the weekend of Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd October. This is the ideal time for a beer festival, as it is the end of Cask Ale Week, an annual event when pubgoers are asked to support local pubs by choosing cask ale, particularly locally brewed ale. CAMRA chief executive Tom Stainer said: "Pubs matter and are a vital part of our communi-

ties up and down the country. What's more, the pub is the only place you can get fresh cask ale from your local brewery. We are urging everyone to celebrate Cask Ale Week in style, by getting back down to their local pub, social club or brewery taproom and enjoying a pint of cask ale."

A variety of pubs, across the whole of our branch area, will be putting on interesting beers, and we'll be encouraging people to attend to help support our local venues after an incredibly tough 18 months for them.

At the time of going to press the list is still being finalised; keep checking our website and Facebook for updates. So far, the following establishments have confirmed they will be taking part:

### **Shirley area:**

Ale Hub Dickens Heath  
Ale Hub Shirley  
Colebrook  
Shaking Hand  
Woodman's Rest

### **Solihull area:**

Fieldhouse  
Flute & Flagon  
Olton Tavern  
Pup & Duckling  
White Swan

### **Knowle:**

Ale Rooms  
Red Lion  
Knowle & Dorridge Cricket Club

### **Henley-in-Arden**

Nag's Head  
Three Tuns

Scan this barcode with your smartphone for a link to the page on the branch website with the most up-to-date list of pubs.



Solihull Camra Beer Festival

## Useful Contact Numbers

<b>Chair/ Beer Festival</b>		<b>Pubs Campaigning/Socials</b>	
Martin Buck	01564 770708	Paul Wigley	07402 312457
<b>Secretary</b>		<b>Treasurer</b>	
Allan Duffy	01564 200431	Brenda Duffy	01564 200431
<b>Membership</b>		<b>Solihull Drinker Editor</b>	
Dave Mckowen	01564 778955	Ray Cooke	01564 777890
<b>Cider and Perry/ Vice Chair</b>		<b>Press &amp; Publicity</b>	
Ray Cooke	01564 777890	Vacant	

### Trading Standards contacts:

For local consumer advice in our area please contact the following

Solihull - [www.solihull.gov.uk/tradingstandards](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/tradingstandards)

Warwickshire - [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/contactustradingstandards](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/contactustradingstandards)

Citizens Advice Consumer Service phone 03454 040506

## CAMRA Real Ale, Cider and Perry Vouchers

The CAMRA Voucher scheme is a member benefit that entitles members to £30, sixty vouchers of fifty pence, off a pint of Real Ale, Cider or Perry. It complements the existing Real Ale Discount Scheme and is a bigger and better voucher scheme for members

As of 1 July 2019, the Wetherspoon vouchers are being replaced with a new CAMRA owned and operated voucher scheme. All existing Wetherspoon vouchers are still valid during the next 12 months.

All new and renewing CAMRA members will now receive £30 (60 x 50p) worth of CAMRA Real Ale, Cider and Perry Vouchers. All vouchers will be valid for the length of membership for added flexibility.

They are redeemable at over 1,550 pubs nationwide, including J D Weth-

erspoon, Stonegate, Brains, Castle Rock and Amber Taverns managed pubs.

To get an up-to-date listing for pubs participating near you, enter your post-code at [www.camra.org.uk/join/membership-benefits/camra-voucher-scheme](http://www.camra.org.uk/join/membership-benefits/camra-voucher-scheme). For the Solihull & District pubs please refer to page 20.

CAMRA promotes responsible drinking and thus encourages all vouchers to be used responsibly at all times.





# Cider and Perry Matters

News - CAMRA has a new definition for real cider and perry

Why does CAMRA have a definition? In 1985 CAMRA recognised that cider and perry as traditional drinks were under threat and committed to campaigning in support of them. Unless you lived in an area which had a tradition of cider production it was highly unlikely that you would be able to buy cider or perry. Perry, in particular, was in real danger of dying out. Had it not begun to feature at CAMRA festivals perry might well have disappeared altogether.

In support of these efforts CAMRA coined the term 'real cider' to describe ciders and perry created using traditional ingredients and processes.

The world of cider and perry has evolved so much in those 40 years since CAMRA began to campaign for real cider and perry that it is virtually unrecognisable. The Campaign has therefore sought to clarify a definition of 'real cider and perry' that is easy to follow and makes sense across all dispense methods. This replaces the previous definition (a complex one split into

ingredients and processes) last reviewed in 2015.

**CAMRA defines real Cider or Perry as being fermented from the whole juice of fresh pressed apples or pears, without the use of concentrated or chaptalised juices.**

The word 'chaptalised' as used in the definition refers to a process, similar in principle to high gravity brewing, where the alcohol level in a cider or perry is increased by the addition of sugar to an unnatural level for storage before it is diluted with water to the desired alcohol content for sale.

Sadly, the bulk of UK cider produced does not meet CAMRA's definition (for example Bulmers, Westons, Thatchers, and Magners – which are either made from concentrated juice or chaptalized), though some of these large-scale industrial producers are now indicating 'made from concentrate' on their labels; and others supply retailers such as M&S who insist on full ingredient listing. This, at least, gives drinkers a better bet of identifying whether the offering is 'real' or not.

The Solihull Drinker is the quarterly newsletter of the Solihull & District Branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale. Views expressed in the Drinker are not necessarily those of the Branch or CAMRA.

Contributions, comments and advertising enquiries should be sent to

[committee@solihull.camra.org.uk](mailto:committee@solihull.camra.org.uk)

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Campaign  
for  
Real Ale

The Editor reserves the right to amend or shorten any items in the newsletter, but will always strive to honour the spirit & intention of the contribution.

## Advertise Your Business Here With Us

We distribute nearly 3,000 copies of the well read Drinker out to pubs, around Solihull, Warwickshire, and parts of Birmingham.

This gives you the opportunity to put your business in front of people who are in the habit of visiting pubs and restaurants.

You don't have to be a pub or restaurant to advertise.

For details on rates, and help in producing your advert, please contact the Editor.

# Membership Matters

Having been some months since I last wrote a membership article for our branch magazine, I would firstly like to wish everybody well and I hope that you have not suffered too much during the lockdown/pandemic with the virus or your mental health. The last 18 months have been a challenge to us all, to say the least, and with the government rules to help protect the population this has meant the hospitality industry has been one of the hardest hit. Now that 75% of the adult population have had both doses of the vaccine, the government has reduced the restrictions for social activities ie visiting pubs/clubs etc. I personally have not visited many

pubs recently. However, with more people being vaccinated I will be reversing that trend in the months to come.

Our current branch membership stands at 606, which is a decrease of 79 members since our last branch meeting in March last year. Nationally CAMRA membership is 164,689, a fall in membership of 27,870.

During the lockdown I fully understand people not renewing CAMRA membership or leaving, as drinking real ale in a pub/club may have been the last thing on their mind, or there was no benefit as the pubs were completely shut.



## Knowle & Dorridge Cricket Club

Solihull & District CAMRA Club of The Year 2016 – 2019

Awarded Cask Marque accreditation 2021

Knowle & Dorridge Cricket Club offers a warm & comfortable environment in which to enjoy your favourite ales. 3 guest beers and a real cider on every week, with varieties changing all the time.

The bar is open every day, featuring Sky Sports and BT Sport events. In the summer you can relax with your favourite ale watching Birmingham Premier League Cricket with many past and present county players on view.

While the club is a private members club, and is popular on match days, there is no charge for admission, and guests who are CAMRA members are welcome on production of a CAMRA membership card. Social membership is also available which comes with a discount entitlement at the bar to make your favourite beers even better value.

Station Road  
Dorridge  
B93 8ET  
Tel 01564 774338

### Opening Hours:

Mon-Thurs 5.30pm - 10.30pm  
Fridays: 5.30pm - 11.00pm  
Saturdays 12.00noon - 11.00pm  
Sundays 12.00 noon - 10.30pm

Website: [knowleanddorridgecc.co.uk](http://knowleanddorridgecc.co.uk)  
Email: [knowledorridgecc@gmail.com](mailto:knowledorridgecc@gmail.com)  
Instagram [@knowledorridgecc](https://www.instagram.com/knowledorridgecc)



@knowleanddorridgecc



@kanddccc

I think now is the time to start thinking of our pub/brewing industry as a whole and by visiting your local and partaking of a couple of pints you will be helping to get the industry back to some sort of normality. If you know somebody who was a CAMRA member and has not renewed his/her membership can you try and persuade them to start thinking about re-joining.

If you are reading this hopefully you are already a CAMRA member and you are fully aware of all the benefits etc, but if not, then all members get £30 worth of real ale/cider vouchers every year, valid at numerous pubs including JD Wetherspoons, Stonegate & Brains. There are many other money saving benefits to becoming a member of CAMRA which can all be found if you visit [www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk).

You also get an online monthly colour newspaper called "What's Brewing" informing you of all the latest beer and pub news as well as detailing events/beer festivals from around the country. In addition, you will receive a quarterly magazine "Beer" which is packed with great articles by award winning writers all about real ale pubs, beer & breweries. Both are available to download in different formats and then you can read them at your leisure using PC, Laptop, Tablet or Smartphone

With prices of membership starting from £26.50 per annum (that's just 50p per week) and including all of the benefits listed above, I think you will agree this represents good value for money.

An even greater advantage of joining CAMRA is the opportunity to become involved in your local branch, this includes social events, meeting new friends, helping out at our beer festival as well as campaigning.

Solihull & District CAMRA Branch social outings vary from weekends away, pub crawls, brewery visits to beer & curry nights so there is something for everyone. Our branch meetings, where a variety of topics are discussed in relation to the local real ale scene, are held on the first Monday of each month at a local pub, they do contain a certain amount of CAMRA business, but we endeavour to keep them short and friendly. only lasting on average 45 minutes, allowing more time for socialising etc (it may come as a surprise but we also enjoy a pint or two of real ale at the same time).

And as a bonus all new members will get a voucher for a FREE PINT within their branch welcome pack. This is redeemable in conjunction with a valid membership card upon attendance at their first Branch meeting courtesy of Solihull & District CAMRA. For a full list of forthcoming events see the Dates for the Diary section in this magazine or visit [www.solihull.camra.org.uk](http://www.solihull.camra.org.uk).

So come on. If you enjoy beer and pubs what are you waiting for. Join the campaign or re-join and see what you have missed.

*Dave Mckowen, Membership Secretary*

## **Solihull Drinker Issue No. 92 Solihull CAMRA 2021©**

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The 93rd edition of the Solihull Drinker will be published (pandemics permitting!) on Monday 6th December 2021. Please note that the deadline for copy, advertising and any other contributions for this issue is **Sunday 15th November**. Thank you in advance to all contributors.

# CAMRA MEMBERSHIP COUNTS

Campaigning for pubs, pints and people since 1971.

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

## Here's how CAMRA makes a difference

[www.camra.org.uk/campaigns](http://www.camra.org.uk/campaigns)

### Our Campaigns ▼

#### Promoting live beer, cider & perry

CAMRA promotes local, small and independent producers. Initiatives include *LocAle* (promoting locally brewed ale) and the *Real Cider Served Here* scheme.



#### Helping you save your local

Our in-depth pub-saving guides for England, Scotland and Wales, and advice on Assets of Community Value listing and Community Pub Ownership, provide campaigners with all the tools required to save your local, if it is under threat.



#### Lobbying Government at all levels

CAMRA members across the UK actively lobby their MPs, devolved elected representatives and councillors via email and social media. Our branches talk to politicians about a range of vital topics including taxation, regulation and consumer choice.



#### Pubs as a force for good

Pubs play a vital role in tackling loneliness and social isolation, foster community spirit and encourage social interaction. Research commissioned by CAMRA found that people with a local pub are happier, have more friends and are more engaged with their local communities.



#### Pub Company Reform

CAMRA campaigned for over ten years to introduce a Pubs Code and Adjudicator in England and Wales, to address the imbalance of power between pub companies and tenants. We continue to make sure tenants are treated fairly by pub companies, so they can thrive and run great pubs for us to enjoy, and are seeking a Pubs Code for Scotland too.



### COVID Campaign Response ▼

#### Pulling Together

Our cross-industry campaign supports pubs, clubs, taprooms, breweries and cider makers through the COVID-19 crisis. They need your support now more than ever. We are campaigning on their behalf and providing resources to help them survive. This includes promoting *Cheers for Choice* to ensure beer stocks in reopened pubs, *Brew2You* and *Save our Pubs*.



#### Brew2You

This digital platform has been a vital tool in connecting beer lovers to local pubs, breweries and cider makers offering takeaway and delivery during lockdowns and beyond.



#### Speaking up for pubs, clubs, brewers and cider makers

CAMRA is at the forefront of lobbying for better support, and against unfair restrictions during the Coronavirus pandemic. We support a cut in beer duty on draught beer served in pubs to ensure fair competition with supermarkets and changes to the Business Rates system to end the unfair burden on pubs.



For member benefits visit  
[www.camra.org.uk/benefits](http://www.camra.org.uk/benefits)

If you love beer and pubs,  
CAMRA membership is for you!

[join.camra.org.uk](http://join.camra.org.uk)

