

Summer 2010

Edition 40

LAKES & ALE



Newsletter of the
Westmorland Branch of
The Campaign for Real Ale

www.camrawestmorland.org



Hawkshead pdf done

Front :*Branch members celebrate at the presentation of the Pub of the Year award to the White Horse, Kings Meaburn.*

Editorial

With spring, allegedly, virtually over and summer almost on us we shall soon be entering, fingers crossed, the long round of summer beer festivals. These seem to grow by the year, very satisfying from CAMRA's viewpoint. The growth in real ale outlets, beer festivals and not least breweries in our area and indeed throughout Cumbria is truly amazing and we welcome the new Croglin Brewery in Kirkby Stephen.

It is however somewhat tempered by the continuing closures and changing hands of pubs who are clearly struggling to survive. Is it any coincidence that many of these are pubs tied to a Pub Co, paying well over the odds for their beers on top of rising overheads & rents. With speculation, as I write, about almost certain increases in VAT and an emergency budget due in the next couple of months from our new government, how much more must the pubs & beer drinkers have to suffer? Never mind the £3 pint; how long before the £3.50 pint!

Let's hope that Chancellor George will be constructive re alcohol duties and tax the supermarkets cheap beers and not the pubs and thereby help to kill the goose that lays so much tax.

This edition is full with both articles for which I thank the contributors and adverts from our many supportive advertisers & with out whom we could not issue this magazine. So help repay them by supporting their pubs and hotels. Have a good summer and remember to drink carefully at all time Regards ED

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From the Chair...

Dear Reader

It is wonderful to report on the fantastic growth and development in real ale in our area over the recent months. I wish to attempt to list these achievements:

BREWERIES

We have seen the development of two new Westmorland breweries Brown Horse at Winster, the Croglin Brewery, Kirkby Stephen and third hopefully soon to be operational at Burgundys, Kendal late Summer.

Hawkshead Brewery continues to increase their production and are now brewing five times a week.

Kirkby Lonsdale Brewery expansion plans are taking shape. They now have a new 12 barrel fermentor which doubles their capacity to 24 barrels a week. They are also knocking through to the unit next door to double the area of the brewery.

Bampton Brewing Company beers are currently contracted out. However they hope to be operational later in 2010.

PUBS / OUTLETS

In terms of Kendal pubs, the Ring O'Bells has re-opened and has quickly increased from two to three hand pumps. Bootleggers Music bar has begun serving real ale. Alexander's

the Pub at the Best Western, Castle Green Hotel has expanded from three to four hand pumps.

The Bay Horse at Winton now re-opened and selling three soon to be four real ales.

White Cross Holiday Homes Windermere and Ambleside Youth Hostel are dispensing Hawkshead Beers.

FESTIVALS

♦ Punch Bowl, Underbarrow,
24th-27th June

♦ Stag, Dufton Aug 6th-8th

♦ Hawkshead 22nd-25th July

♦ Strickland Arms 30th Jul-1st Aug

♦ Westmorland CAMRA October
13-16 Oct

♦ Kings Arms Kirkby Stephen
30th Jul-1st Aug

♦ Tweedies, Grasmere 3rd-5th Sept
So, with responsible drinking in mind lets celebrate the efforts of the real ale industry and CAMRA plus those who have seen the light and tasted the taste and converted to real ale. Please raise your next glass to the many more people who are now drinking real ale without which this wonderful growth would have not have happened.

Chris Holland

Westmorland CAMRA Chair

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On the Fringe.... Along the A683 Casterton to Middleton

Continuing our occasional series of 'On the Fringe...' which takes a look at some of the pubs located on the very edges of old Westmorland, I decided this time to have a look at three pubs along or very near to the A683. This road leaves the A65 just after it crosses the River Lune at Devil's Bridge and along this stretch heads almost directly north towards the A684 Kendal-Sedbergh Road.

Parts of the A 683 appear to have been a Roman road and certainly in recent years our CAMRA branch has been very lacking in keeping an eye on the pubs along the route.

Leaving the main A65 the first pub is in the village of Casterton, home to the well known academic girls' boarding and day School for girls. In the centre of the village stands The Pheasant an 18th century inn and hotel. Don't be fooled by the big solid wooden doors that appear to make it seem closed. It is open all year round and has a large car park with a very pleasant beer garden overlooking the Kirkby Lonsdale and the Lune Valley.

Inside and through the spacious porch area are two bars with a third seating area. The pub was serving two real ales which on the day were Dent Aviator and Theakstons bitter both well kept and a terrific series of paintings depicting scenes from several of the Cumbrian Hunts.

Moving on northwards and a few miles up the road one needs to turn off to the right on the byway signposted 'Barbon'. In the centre of the village stands The Barbon Inn originally built in the 17th century as a Coaching Inn, it has recently been refurbished, retaining all the character you would expect to find in a building over 300 years old.

As you walk in you are met with



The Pheasant Casterton



The Barbon Inn

(Continued on page 7)



The range in the Barbon Inn

one of the cosiest pub scenes imaginable, facing you is a bar with two changing and local real ales and to the left an old iron range, which on my visit was cheerfully burning away on some logs. The local ales were a Dent beer and one from the nearby Kirkby Lonsdale brewery, so how local can you get! To the right, through a

door, is a lounge seating area full of large comfy chairs and sofas. This is one pub I shall not by-pass in future, it is well worth the small detour from the main road.

And so on to the next hostelry and so back to the A683 and after making my way north once more I soon came upon another possibly older establishment in Middleton. Do not expect a village or even perhaps a hamlet for Middleton is in fact the Parish hereabouts. To the left going north signs prominently announce the turn for The Swan Inn. This pub has a good local following many of whom drink the Thwaites Bitter on one of four real ale handpumps. The other beers were one from Kirkby Lonsdale Brewery, one, Curlew's Return 4.2%, from Allendale Brewery plus the ubiquitous Black Sheep.

The Inn dates from the coaching days of the 1590's and has many old features including as at the Barbon Inn an old iron range busily roaring away in the dining room. Two in the space of less than an hour!

There is a very large beer garden and children's play area to the front and plenty of customer parking. Whilst there is a good menu for food unfortunately there is no accommodation.

I then intended to visit the remaining pub just further to the north but on being informed that no real ale was available I carried on past since it could not therefore figure in this Magazine. A useful trip over all, all

the pubs were serving good real ale which really was the main purpose of my journey up this very picturesque part of the UK nestling as it does between the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Parks.



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Dales Way Discovery

As we walked down the main street in Staveley, a poster in a window across the street caught my eye. I thought 'What is a map of the London Underground doing here?'

There were six of us, starting our last day of walking the Dales Way from Ilkley to Bowness on Windermere. We'd stayed the previous night at the Jolly Anglers



in Burneside, which was a fine old pub with a real 'village' atmosphere, brightened even more by the charms of Carly, the welcoming host and excellent cook. After an exemplary full English breakfast, we'd said our goodbyes and headed west towards the Lakes.

The three Brits in our group, Keith, John and Chris, all from Derbyshire, had got the bit between their teeth, and had fixed their sights on reaching Bowness for lunch and celebratory beers. The U.S.A contingent, all from Oregon, Bob, Sam and me (though strictly I'm a Northumbrian transplant who came to Oregon in 1992) were less energetic, and had detoured into Staveley to pick up some snacks for 'elevenses' - a British habit that the

Oregonians had happily acquired.

So we crossed the main street in Staveley to examine the London Underground poster, and realized that it was in fact the CAMRA "Breweries of Cumbria" map.

What a brilliant idea! I had to have one. It turned out that we'd stumbled across the offices of Designworks, where the map had been

produced, based on an original idea of CAMRA's Chris Holland. In next to no time they had packaged me up a copy, checked with the local post office to find out postage rates to Oregon, and had it on its way over the Atlantic before I even got on the plane home.

The poster is now framed and prominently displayed in my home, where it attracts much admiration from

real ale aficionados, and, along with old cricket scorecards and pewter tankards, generates puzzled questions from others. As you may know from another article in Lakes & Ale, Oregon is quite a Mecca for real ale enthusiasts (more about that later).

Our Dales Way walk was a couple of years in the planning. Keith, with whom I'd climbed, walked and



(Continued on page 11)

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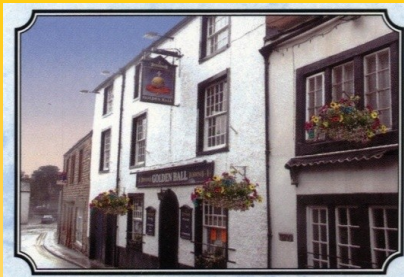
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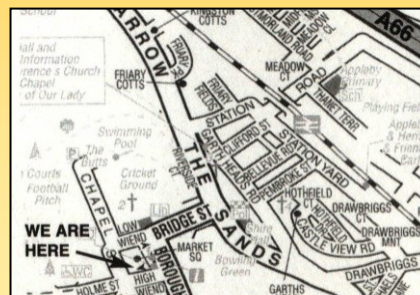
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(Continued from page 9)

drunk beer long before I left for Oregon, did the Dales Way alone the hard way a few years ago. That is, he carried a tent, sleeping bag, and cooking gear, but appeared to have survived on crisps, chip 'butties' and ample quantities of real ale.

This time, being older and wiser, we decided to do it the easier way, carrying light packs, and staying each night at pubs or bed-and-breakfasts. We'd also reduced the intake of chips and chip 'butties' but not the real ale!

We assembled in Ilkley in early September. A gentle walk on Ilkley Moor, with laboured translation of the 'bah't at' song for the Americans, was followed by a night on the town, limited to restrained sampling of Tetleys and Theakstons (surprisingly

gritstone landscape around Ilkley soon gives way to limestone country. Following the Wharfe upstream, the route climbs up above Grassington to the summit at Conistone Pie, then drops down again to Wharfedale, where the George Inn at Hubberholme makes a welcome break. Who'd guess it was originally a vicarage? Barry Roberts, the landlord, is well-known for the excellent real beer he serves – we particularly enjoyed the Black Sheep.

The next day is a tough one, about 16 miles, first up Langstrothdale, then climbing up to meet the Pennine Way on Cam Fell, and finally down into Dentdale. When the Sportsman's Inn at Cowgill was reached we were ready to get our boots off and get stuck into our first taste of Dent Brewery products, made not far up the hill from our lodgings.



Sportsmans Cowgill

disappointing). We knew things would get better as we headed west.

The next morning we set off on the official route, starting at Ilkley Old Bridge. We stopped for five nights on the way, at Burnsall, Hubberholme (The George Inn), Cowgill (The Sportsman's), Sedbergh, Burneside (The Jolly Anglers), then stayed two nights in Bowness so we could enjoy a day in the Lakes to unwind.

It's a terrific walk, covering an amazing variety of the scenery that makes northern England so special. The dark

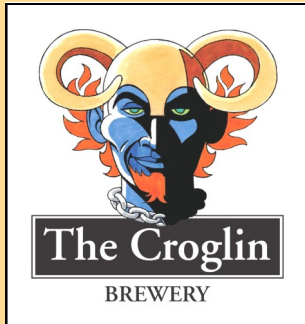
A more gentle Saturday brought us to Sedbergh, but first an important detour had to be made for lunch in the delightful village of Dent, where the George and Dragon features all the Dent Brewery products, though the Sun was also well worth a visit. Aviator was judged our favourite brew, though the Dent Ale also got high marks.

Sedbergh was first heard rather than seen, as the noise from a big rugby match drifted up the hill from the school. Our B&B host recommended that we try eating at the Dalesman Inn. It was full of character, but also full of parents and students celebrating winning the match, so after a pint of their own Dalesman Bitter, brewed for them by Tetleys, we moved on to the Red Lion, which had a good selection of well-kept beers and served reasonable pub food.

Just two more days of walking. The best weather of the trip heralded a smashing Sunday with spectacular views of the Howgill Fells as we

(Continued on page 32)

The Croglin Castle Brewery



Contact information: The Croglin Castle, South Road, Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria CA17 4SY.

(T) 017683 71389; (e-mail) anthony@croglinbrewery.co.uk.

A new brewery has been set up in Cumbria, in Kirkby Stephen, in the Croglin Castle Hotel.

The Croglin Castle Hotel can be found on the side of the main road on the southern outskirts of Kirkby Stephen, situated next to The Stainmore Railway Museum, which used to be the Kirkby Stephen East railway station and is opposite The Pennine View Caravan Site.



A local story says that the hotel should have originally been named "The Croglam Castle" after the nearby ancient castle site, but the sign painter was dyslexic and painted the sign as "Croglin" instead. Possibly not a good career move by the painter if he wanted to carry on with painting signs as a career!

The bar can now be found on what was

(Continued on page 14)

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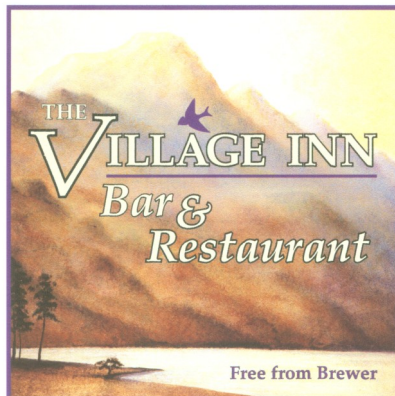
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(Continued from page 12)



originally the first floor of the hotel; it was the first floor until the new railway was constructed, complete with a raised bridge to get the road across the railway which meant that the road approaches were extensively built up and the existing ground floor in the hotel became a very large cellar.

It was lucky that the cellar was so large because when Anthony Barrett, a chef by training, was challenged to try out some brewing because "If you can cook you can brew real ale, it's just recipes isn't it?" he was able to take up the challenge, set up the brewery, produce the beer and win the wager. It wasn't quite as quick as it may sound. Anthony took advantage of undertaking some training with a Master Brewer. After extensive cleaning up and refurbishment the brewery in the cellar was made ready. It comprises of a 2.5 barrel plant, with two fermentation tanks available, which gives a five barrel storage capacity. The beer is supplied in 9 gallon barrels at present, although future supplies could include both 4.5 gallon barrels as well as the 10 litre bag in a box system. Some experimental brews were trialled & after adjustments production started and was well received. Production was

formally and mischievously set to start on 1st April, for reasons that will become clear, although sales of the beers did start before that date. Demand has soon outstripped production and Anthony is trying to spend more time in the brewery.

The brewery logo and the names of the beers are based on Loki because of the relationship between Kirkby Stephen and Loki. Further explanation is required. St. Stephen's church in Kirkby Stephen has an 8th Century carved representation of the bound and chained Loki, who is normally, but incorrectly, thought to be a member of the Norse, Viking, pantheon of Gods. There are only two known examples of this type of carved stone in Europe, and the example found in St. Stephens is the only one in Britain. It is not known why or how the carved stone came to be in Kirkby Stephen but it can remind us of the significant Norse influence in the area before the Norman Conquest. Loki Laufeyjarson is an important figure in the Norse religion and is known as a trickster, a joker and a maker of mischief. Loki was not evil, but was a trickster, a master of deceit and deception and

(Continued on page 16)



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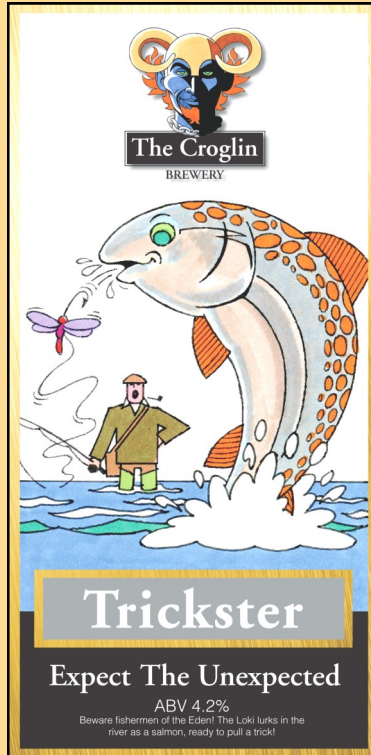
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(Continued from page 14)



was a shape changer. People never knew when they were dealing with Loki because he could take on the likeness of any man or woman or could become a bird, fish or insect. Unfortunately for Loki many of his schemes backfired on himself.

If you want to find out more as to why Loki was bound and chained then a little research or a visit to The Croglin Castle Hotel is called for.

The beers either presently in production or planned are:

"Loki Original" which is an amber ale with initial sweetness overlaid with bitter notes leading to a dry bitter finish.

"Trickster" which is a golden ale with a hint of bitterness in the finish.

"Dark Drover" will be going into production shortly and this will be a dark ale in the porter style.

"Gilden Ringer" will be produced later on and this will be a stronger Imperial Pale Ale style.

Anthony owns The Croglin Castle, which is a Free House, and also owns The Sundial at Bentham which also sells real ale. Croglin Castle Brewery beer is now appearing at a regularly increasing number of venues and Anthony is receiving positive feedback from his customers.

As was mentioned earlier demand is now significantly outstripping production; so if you have ever thought of a change in career and working in a brewery or a hotel let Anthony know because there might be vacancy.

The Croglin Castle has Bed and Breakfast accommodation and does food prepared from locally sourced ingredients during both lunchtimes and in the evenings. The beer is very "LocAle" as it has to travel from the cellar to the bar. Brewery visits can be arranged upon request.

David Prickett April 2010



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Westmorland CAMRA Pub of the Year 2010 The White Horse King's Meaburn

What do members of Westmorland CAMRA Branch actually do over the year? Yes - you've got it! They drink beer! (And quite a lot of it 'over the year' apparently!)

However it would seem it is not quite that simple because they are quite a fussy (as in difficult to please!) lot and are very particular about what they drink and where they drink it. Evidence for this can be found in the

Guidance Notes for selecting the Westmorland CAMRA Pub of the Year. Top of the list is

- ♦ 'Quality of Beer' - "If it doesn't sell excellent quality beer we should not want to be associated with it.....A pub selling a couple of ales in tip-top condition is infinitely preferable to one selling seven or eight of variable quality".

Other factors include:

- ♦ 'Service and Welcome' (with the interesting question "Does the person serving you seem to regard you as a human being rather than just a source of revenue?"),



*Branch President Alan Risdon presents the
POTY 2010 Certificate to Jon & Dawn.*

(Continued on page 21)



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www.tweediesbargrasmere.co.uk
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(Continued from page 18)

- ♦ 'Clientele Mix',
- ♦ 'Atmosphere' and
- ♦ 'Value for money'.

All of this accounts for the choosing of the White Horse at Kings Meaburn as the Westmorland Branch's 'Pub of the Year

2010' from amongst a selection of some really smashing pubs to choose from in our area. What makes this pub special is its 'atmosphere' which is consistently warm and friendly (interspaced with some gentle banter/humour from the locals) for this is a village pub and a place of community. There is a welcome to be had - come in a stranger

and before long somebody, if not everybody, will have included you in their conversation. The result is the customer mix, that is constantly changing as various people, young and old, locals and visitors, come and go.

The White Horse has been the village pub for over 200 years and was taken over by Jon and Dawn some 8 years ago. The beer on offer is constantly changing and usually comes from microbreweries, often Cumbrian ("because we've got some good ones"). Besides providing a mini Spring beer festival indoors, Jon also organises a superb outdoor beer

festival every summer (this year 17 - 19th July) where one can sit out in the greenery of the English countryside in the sunshine whilst gently sipping one of the 50+ ales (plus ciders and perries) on offer and listening to the birdsong and/or some of the live music provided at



Jon and Dawn at their indoor beer festival

intervals. On the other hand it might be wiser to retire to the Marquee to get out of the downpour (last year)!!

[Alas, the future of this (free) festival is not totally secure at present due to a massive increase in insurance costs for this open venue, but Jon is optimistic that the festival will continue with help of suitable sponsorship].

So, if you enjoy relaxing in a 'traditional' friendly village pub with a pint of decent ale before you then the White Horse is certainly worth a visit.

You may return. **RW**

IT'S FUNNY HOW THINGS SET YOU THINKING.

A while back I commented to a friend how good I thought a particular pub was. He said he didn't like it at all and it dropped on me that my initial impression had been the same, indeed we nearly didn't go in. But inside everything seemed to click, perhaps we hit on a good day, but the point is the same place gave very different opinions.

And then there's price. I feel as strongly as anyone about beer tax but do you know what? I'm not sure I know the price of a pint. It's in the same league as fuel for the car, I hand over what's asked for and only occasionally gasp "£6 a gallon, good grief!" Again this friend's comment on the subject brought me up with a jolt. I was talking to him about a pub with a great location and, I'll be honest,



*The Hare & Hounds, Shudehill,
Manchester*

had no clue about the price of the beer. So I started to be more aware. I found a wonderful typical Manchester pub, the Hare & Hounds opposite Shudehill bus station where a lovely pint of Holts cost £2.10 which I thought was cheap. A few days later I was charged £3 in Lancaster which I thought a bit pricey. Would the price put me off? I'm not sure it would, but it is one of the large number of considerations we make in judging a pub. Already, without trying, I've listed atmosphere, appearance, price, beer, service and location. To that you can add food. So how does it all work? I'm going to suggest a few things, sometimes using real pubs but only illustratively not passing any judgement on them.

Lets start, appropriately, with the beer. A particular decision is if the pub has it own brewery. That in itself is enough to encourage a visit, the brewery tap has always has an allure. It can be a bit special like the Old Crown at Hesketh Newmarket which is the UK's first co-operative pub or it can just be starting up. I didn't know the Brown Horse at Winster was brewing until I went

(Continued on page 24)

Alexander's

THE PUB



Les Brown, the pub manager, and all his staff welcome one and all to their newly redesigned & refurbished establishment. Located in the grounds of the Best Western Castle Green Hotel, it now truly is:

- A great place to drink four fine, ever changing, local real ales in a warm and friendly atmosphere
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- A great place to enjoy the view over Kendal and the southern fells
- A great pub where it is easy to park
- A great hotel to stay if you are visiting the Lakes

In short - just like Alexander 'It's great'

Open everyday from 12 Noon
food served all day from 12 noon until 9.30pm

Alexander's the Pub, Best Western, Castle Green Hotel,
Castle Green Lane, Kendal Cumbria LA9 6RG
Tel (01539) 797017

(Continued from page 22)

there so it was a nice surprise and that added to the visit. But if the pub falls down on other things, say atmosphere, I'd probably not return. Atmosphere is very important. The Rifleman's in Kendal reminds me of



The Old Crown at Hesketh Newmarket,
plus van

lots of such pubs all over the country in terraces, so, as they say "It takes me back" and I much enjoy it. But oddly, 35 years ago I lived opposite it but only went in once as the atmosphere was, shall we say, unwelcoming. Location is important particularly as we are so lucky with what we have on offer. There's the obvious culprits, The Kirkstone and the Drunken Duck, for example, but it's nice to see slightly different angles, say, from the Mortal Man at Troutbeck. I'm also bemused how very few pubs have lakeside locations here in the Lake District. There's one that does have a superb location but I'd not go in the place if

it gave away real ale for free, it is just so awful. So location is not always a deciding factor even here where we are so lucky. Then we have things like a real fire, the Queens Head at Troutbeck claims to have an open fire every day so I can sit in front of it and think "this is the same fire as I sat in front of in 1975 eating a chip butty." Child friendly, dog friendly, such things have both a positive and negative impact, I really didn't enjoy my pint in one pub as someone's dog leapt all over the place "as we are trying to socialise him". Silloth's nice, we went to the Albion to see if they had the descendent of the Carlisle State



The Winster Valley brewery at the Brown Horse, you can get it elsewhere.

Beer that is a bit of an obsession with me. They didn't, but they had a timetable case from the old Ribble bus company about which I'm writing my third book, so it was great and a super photo opportunity. No matter

(Continued on page 27)

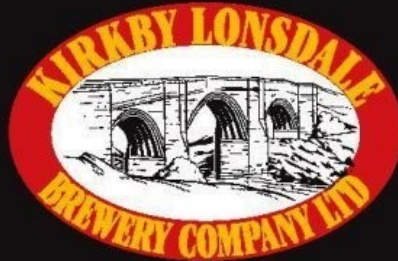
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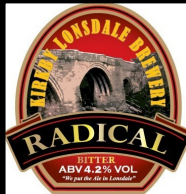


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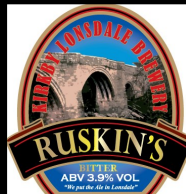
015242 72221 or mobile 07793149999
Kirkby Lonsdale Brewery Co Ltd
Unit 2F Old Station Yard, Kirkby Lonsdale
Via Carnforth, Lancs LA6 2HP

www.kirkbylonsdalebrewery.com

Some of our Regular Beers



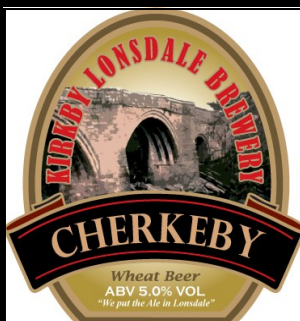
Radical 4.5%



Ruskin's Bitter 3.9%

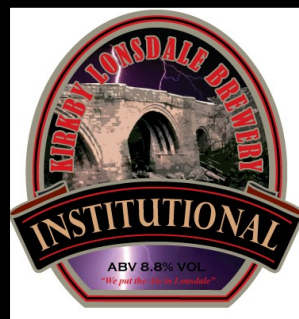


Monumental 5%



Two great new Beers
Cherkeby Wheat beer
5.0%

Institutional
Very Strong IPA
8.0%



(Continued from page 24)

Ribble buses never went to Silloth. Do you read the " Good Beer Guide?" No, I mean do you read it ? It's a goldmine of information. The Wainwrights in Chapel Stile is a former farmhouse near an old gunpowder works. Gunpowder in Langdale, great heavens ! That is absolutely fascinating. The University Arms in Sheffield was formerly the staff club for university academics. The rules of the football association were drawn up in the Freemason's Arms in Covent Garden, London, and a copy is on the wall. The Bree Louise at the

Euston end of the Windermere branch offers food discounts and 50p off a pint to CAMRA members. Reasons to visit those pubs in their own right.

So, why do we visit pubs? Or indeed, why don't we ? The reasons are deep, varied and unbelievably fascinating. We may, rightly, bemoan the loss of rather a lot of pubs, but, by heck, there are so many reasons for visiting the fantastic variety we still have.

It's funny how I think I should visit pubs more often.

Roger Davies 4/2010



Pub of the Season Spring 2010 The Orange Tree, Kirkby Lonsdale

The Westmorland Branch has voted the Orange Tree Hotel in Kirkby Lonsdale as the Westmorland Pub of the Season for Spring 2010.

In 1996 the Hotel was taken over by Stuart Taylor, Richard Taylor and their sister Kate Riddings. The hotel has been steadily and successfully developed into one of the

foremost real ale outlets in Kirby Lonsdale. The pub area consists of one main bar which is full of rugby memorabilia and many other items of ephemera. There are six hand pumps on display of which three sell ales from the pubs own brewery just up the road in the old Kirby Lonsdale station site. Of the three other pumps one is a changing hand pull cider plus two changing ales.

Stuart & Richard at their Bar



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DRIP TRAY NOTICE BOARD

Kendal

The Globe has a new Landlord and should be open by the time this edition is out,
The New Inn has had a complete refurb and is now selling 3 real ales
The Black Swan is closed with a pub to let sign up, as is the **George & Dragon** on Branthwaite Brow near the Market Place.

Great news The **Ring O'Bells** is open and selling 3 real ales incl Thwaites Mild
 Simeon is the new tenant in the **Mason's Arms** in Kendal and intends to continue with local real ales and bar food, to open the large beer garden area and will very soon have en-suite accommodation.

Mike at the **Burgundy Wine Bar** is well under way towards opening his new 6 barrel brewery and adjoining new lounge bar. Keep an eye open!

The **Bay Horse** at Winton is now open. Richard & Rebecca, who formally kept the **Black Bull** at Nateby, are now in this great old free house. Open 12-12 every day and food at lunch time and evenings. We wish them well.

The **George & Dragon**, Dent has become the first Westmorland pub to take up the CAMRA discount Scheme for card carrying CAMRA members when they are purchasing their pints

The **Wateredge** at Ambleside has reopened after the damage sustained in the floods earlier this year

The **Strickland Arms** beer festival will commence 6pm on Friday 30th July, a quite evening for beer lovers; Saturday 31st from 12pm live music, kids entertainer, hog roast, BBQ, charity raffles and live music at night.
 Sunday all the same again closing at 10pm ish!! Over 25 real ales and ciders from Cumbria and surrounding counties

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- ♦ Comfortable en-suite accommodation

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Queens PDF done

Brewery Updates



Dent Brewery see page 39

Hawkshead Brewery

Hawkshead Brewery has embarked on an ambitious expansion project at its Staveley Mill Yard site.

It is moving into the glass fronted building next door, to increase brewing capacity by 80%, and build a new bar and visitors' centre.

Having moved to Staveley four years ago, demand for Hawkshead beers is now outstripping supply again, and the brewery is brewing flat out at 100 barrels (3,600 gallons) a week.

The new building will bring even closer together the brewing and retail sides of the business, further to showcase real ale. A new fermentation room will be installed in full public view and a new brewery tap, over two floors, built around it. There will also be the long-planned specialist beer shop. The existing Beer Hall will remain as a function room.

Hawkshead hope the new building will be ready in time for The Beer Hall's summer beer festival (July 22 – 25) so that a third bar can be added to the festival, which gets bigger every year. As usual SIBA gold medal beers will be featured, alongside a selection of new wave breweries, under the theme "the revolution in British brewing."

Beer News: Hawkshead's cask conditioned Lakeland Lager was voted by customers top British beer and second overall in the Wetherspoon's national beer festival in April. In one day Hawkshead shipped out more than 400 casks of lager to Wetherspoons.

The mightily hopped 3.5% summer beer, Windermere Pale, has been re-launched with a new signature hop, the rare American "Citra".

Kirkby Lonsdale

Brewery news is that they are very busy but now have a new 12 barrel fv doubling their brewing capacity to 24 barrels a week. Cherkeby, the brewery's wheat beer was a great success and sold out very quick.

Tirril

No Details.

Watermill Brewing Co.

No new news to report this edition.

Winster Brewery

The brewery continues to do extremely well and both brews are going strong. Gerard, the Brewer, reports that their brews have been selling both in Manchester and also at the Prince of Wales in Foxfield. Their next aim is to go into bottling.

Like Real Ale! Why not join us in CAMRA?

Step One— Fill in the details below

Name(s):

Address:

.....Post Code

E mail:

I/We wish to join CAMRA & will abide by the CAMRA Rules

Signed: Date:

If under 26 or over 80 please add Date of Birth:/...../.....

Step Two: Cut Out and send to CAMRA with Membership Payment:

Rates Single £22

Joint £27;

Over 60/under 26 £19

(Joint must be at same address)

Send to: Membership Secretary,

CAMRA,

230, Hatfield Road, St Albans,

Herts., AL1 4LW.

(Continued from page 11)

followed the Lune for a while, then headed cross-country, over the M6 and eventually down to Burneside and the Sportsman's Inn, where, appropriately, a cheerful crowd of locals were watching the end of a football derby on TV. What the Sportsman's lacks in sophisticated accommodation it more than makes up for in the warm welcome, fine range of well-kept cask beers, and outstanding home-cooked food. Plus of course the charms of the afore-mentioned Carly!

And so to the last day, which is where this note started. We caught up with the Derbyshire trio before reaching the stone bench above Bowness that marks the end of the walk. As the first serious rain of the week started, we strolled down into Bowness and tumbled into the Royal Oak, which claims to be the official pub marking the end of the Dales Way, and sells commemorative T-shirts. It also sells excellent Coniston Ale and several other brews.

As a finale, we did the 'tourist thing' the following day, showing off some of

the finest spots in the southern Lakes to our U.S. friends, and incidentally sampling the Bluebird ale appropriately in Coniston at the Black Bull. We finished up at Dungeon Ghyll in Langdale, where the climbers bar there is rightly famous for its atmosphere and its beer.

So as I gaze at the poster of Breweries of Cumbria it brings back many happy memories but also regrets - so many beers we didn't sample! It may surprise readers to know that Oregon has about 90 craft breweries, many making superb IPAs, Ambers and Porters as well as complex seasonal brews. In fact about 40% of the beer consumed in Oregon is brewed in Oregon. The US is not all a sterile wilderness of Budweiser, Coors and Miller Lite! Come and see Oregon and explore our landscape. And if you do, drop us an email and we'll direct you to our favourite brewers.

Mike Unsworth

(unswortm@comcast.net), Bob Smythe, Sam Miller, Keith Gregson, John Rex and Chris Johnson .



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Cumbria
Pub
Of
The
Year
2010
The Play
Offs

It's that time again when, in order to find the Cumbria Pub of the Year, a gallant band of Westmorland Branch members, who have nothing better to do with themselves on a Saturday must clamber into a minibus and set off for a day's ride around Cumbria. The County of Cumbria is divided up amongst four Branches - besides us in Westmorland there are Furness, Solway and Western Lakes. Each Branch has already chosen its own Pub of the year (POTY) and we picked the White Horse at Kings Meaburn, as reported elsewhere in this edition.

We therefore have to judge and score the POTY's of the other three Branches and, hopefully, when all the scores are added in some mysterious way we should arrive at a winner.

Right, so now we know what we are at and having equipped ourselves with score sheets and the necessary judging criteria off we set, all six of us. Plus a dog. We started from Kendal at 10.00am and headed for our first stop, the Solway POTY, at Alston - yes that's right. Alston. What a way to go for a few halves. As we travelled, the weather deteriorated into squally showers and to brighten ourselves up we stopped for coffee/teas/buns at the famous bakery in Melmerby.

Refreshed, we eventually arrived at the Cumberland Inn in Alston, gave the beers and the pub the benefit of our so called expertise and having said 'bye' to mine hosts left for the not inconsiderable journey to the next stop - Eskdale, yes Eskdale.

Getting on for a couple of hours later we arrived at the West Lakes' POTY which was the Brook House Inn at Boot. Somewhat travel weary we were pleased to quaff a few more ales and again make our judgments before, with some relief, setting off for our last stop which was to be the Black Dog Inn on the outskirts of Dalton. So now we swung into action for one last time and having made our individual assessments added up our score sheets and gave them to our Chairman Chris Holland. At last we had finished and set off for home after having a group photo outside, including our Driver David and the ever active mascot Harvey the dog.

We eventually arrived back into Kendal at around 8.00pm; ten hours after we started and having covered just three pubs; one coffee house and 200 miles in distance. Now that's what you call dedication; still someone has to do it.

Oh! By the way I hear you say, who won? I only wish I could say but we all have signed the Official Secrets Act so we can't say till later in the summer. Watch this space! **DC**



The Cumberland Inn, Alston



The Brook House Inn, Boot



The Black Dog Inn, Dalton
L-r: David with Harvey, Duncan Crabtree, Juan Kinley, David Butler, Tony Jackson and Alan Risdon

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Steve and Angie look forward to seeing you

Some Diary Dates on the Settle - Carlisle Line



The Settle to Carlisle railway line is recognised as one of the most scenic lines in the country. A trip out on the line is worthwhile in itself, but if you can add some excellent real ale during the journey it can really add to the enjoyment.

I've noted some dates and destinations that may be of interest.

The Good Beer Guide used to note "Try Also" some pubs that they couldn't fit in full details about, so I've done the same.

SKIPTON - 22nd to 24th April 2010 is the Skipton Beer Festival: an excellent Beer Festival, which usually has a "Mild Ale Trail," run by the Keighley and Craven branch. Unfortunately you've missed for this year but watch out for it in 2011. Try also **THE NARROW BOAT**.

KEIGHLEY - 23rd to 25th September 2010 is the Keighley Beer Festival: an excellent Beer Festival also run by the Keighley and Craven branch which usually has a "Mild Ale Trail." If you can only try one festival on the line this year, make it this one.

Try also **THE CRICKETERS ARMS**, **THE BOLTMAKERS ARMS** and if time permits, **THE BROWN COW**.

APPLEBY - 1st to 3rd October 2010 is the Appleby Beer and Blues Festival which will take place in THE PUBLIC HALL, APPLEBY. You can pay to go in to listen to the music, or

you can just go for the beer - without having to pay an entrance fee. Try also **THE GOLDEN BALL**.

KEIGHLEY - 21st to 24th October 2010 is the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway Beer Festival: try real ale in the only CAMRA GBG listed **RAILWAY TRAIN BUFFET BAR**, as well as many more beers available at both **OXENHOPE** and **KEIGHLEY** stations.

CARLISLE - 23rd to 25th October is the Carlisle Beer Festival in **THE HALLMARK HOTEL**. The festival now seems to be getting bigger and better each year. Try also **THE KINGS HEAD**.

SHIPLEY - monthly Beer Festivals run by **THE SALTAIRE BREWERY** at the brewery; check with the brewery for more information.

Try also **THE JUNCTION** (at Baildon, about a one mile walk) or **FANNY'S ALE AND CIDER HOUSE** (at Saltaire, about a one mile walk in the opposite direction or get off the train at Saltaire).

BRADFORD AND LEEDS are easily available as well, as is Lancaster if you are willing to use the branch line; all of which have numerous entries in the Good Beer Guide and are well worth a visit.

So there we are; a very short list of numerous places to taste a large variety of ales. All venues available via the scenic Settle Carlisle Line. David Prickett May 2010

**A Diary Date: The Kings Arms Hotel, Kirkby Stephen
30th and 31st July and 1st August.**



Mine hosts, Janette Cross and Jeff Scott, are proposing to hold a Music and Beer Festival. It is thought that this will coincide with an International Market visiting Kirkby Stephen on the same weekend. There will be an entrance charge to see the leading folk duet, Chris Wiley and Julie Mathews, which will be taking place on Sunday evening; but entrance to the undercover beer festival and all other music acts will be free.

Other acts booked include: Maccarra, Morris Dickson, Adrian Byron-Burns, Stushi and Urban Stew as well as other local artists.

It is intended that a minimum of 20 real ales will be available in addition to the always available range of real ales in the bar. Locally sourced festival food as well as the excellent similarly sourced normal menu will be available throughout the event.

CAMRA help and assistance in all aspects of setting up and running the festival has been requested, so if you are a member and interested, please let us know.

Contacts on Page 17

David M. Prickett

30th April 2010

THE SWAN INN MIDDLETON

For more
information
contact Lynne or
Richard



Swan Inn
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- Walker & Dogs welcome.
- Large Beer garden
- Traditional Cumbrian Home Cooked food served all day till 8.30pm



Cave Rescue Organisation

Saving Lives Above And Below Ground
In The Yorkshire Dales



CAVE RESCUE ORGANISATION CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY

This year, the Cave Rescue Organisation (CRO) celebrates its 75th Anniversary of becoming the first active cave rescue team in the world.

Based in Clapham in the Yorkshire Dales, the organisation became operational in February 1935 and was formed following the rescue of a caver late the previous year. Today they are one of only three teams in the UK who perform Cave Rescues as well as Mountain Rescues.

Since 1935, the CRO have attended more than 2,266 incidents. This has involved 3,320 people (aged from 5 months to 87 years). During 2009, they attended a record 88 incidents, of which 59 involved fell walking, 15 caving, 5 climbing, 6 animals and 3 others. It is anticipated that they will rescue their 3400th individual in the coming months.

The CRO is a charitable organization and is dependent on public donations and fundraising events such as the sponsored Three Peaks Challenge on 7th August 2010. The volunteers are all experienced cavers, climbers and walkers who are on call at all times day and night, 365 days a year, and give their time freely to help those in need of assistance. Many members have given over 25 years of service with some over 40 years and one member over 50 years continuous service. On the team is even the granddaughter of one of the rescuers who was actually on the rescue in 1934, which was the catalyst for the CRO to be formed.

The camaraderie of such long serving members has played a major part in the team dealing with the highs and lows of their work. On several occasions they have had to deal with up to six incidents in one day and some occasions four incidents simultaneously. Indeed a large number of the team spent two weeks helping at Lockerbie when that tragedy occurred.

To celebrate the occasion of their 75th Anniversary, the CRO are having an Open Day at their Headquarters in Clapham on 5th June 2010. There will be various events such as a rescue race in the river, an all day BBQ, media show, equipment demonstrations and much more. At 1.00pm, they will officially open their new £130,000 extension that was added last year to update their training, control and storage facilities.

Jack Pickup, Chairman of CRO said "The Open Day is intended as a thank you

(Continued on page 41)

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(Continued from page 39)

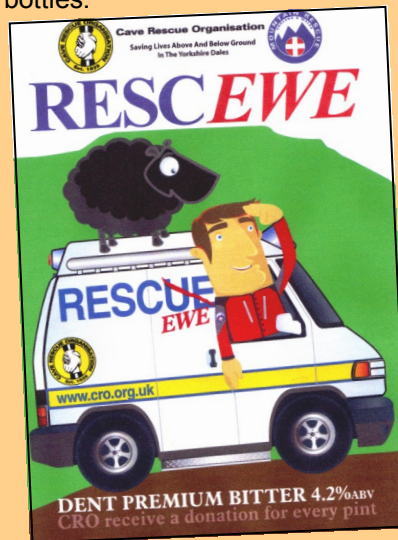
to all of the team, their families, the local community and all who support our work. Everyone is welcome to come along and join in the fun and become a Friend of CRO. It would be great to see previous CRO members and anyone who has been rescued by the team – please come along with your rescue stories and any press cuttings and photographs."

Dent Brewery was asked to produce a special limited edition brew for the Cave and Mountain Rescue Organisation - a local Charity. The brew is a 4.2% ABV Dark Chestnut coloured premium bitter; it is smooth and full bodied with a satisfying after taste.

In keeping with the Dent Sheep theme the beer will be sold as 'Resc Ewe' It will be available in late May in both casks and bottles.

Dent Brewery will make a donation to the CRO charity for every pint or bottle sold.

So look out for the 'quirky' pump clip and support the Cave & Mountain Rescue Organisation who do a sterling job in all weathers in our area.



EVENTS DIARY & BEER FESTIVALS

Contact Duncan Crabtree for more details, bookings etc. (01539)735739

4-5 Jun,	Keswick Beer Festival (http://www.keswickbeerfestival.co.uk/)
10-13 Jun,	Boot Beer Festival, the pubs in Boot (http://www.bootbeer.co.uk/)
11-13 Jun,	Brewers Weekend, Prince of Wales, Foxfield (http://www.princeofwalesfoxfield.co.uk/events.html)
19 June	Branch Social Tasting in Kendal TBA
17 June	1st Bobtown Beer Fest at Roberttown Community Centre www.roberttownroadrunners.co.uk
24-27 June	Punchbowl, Underbarrow Beer Festival BBQ & LIVE MUSIC 015395 68234 FOR MORE INFO
25-27 Jun,	Dentdale Music and Beer Festival (http://www.dentmusicandbeer.com/)
2nd-3rd July	Beer festival "The Fethers" & "The Crown" Kirkoswald
12 July	Branch Meeting Venue to be decided <i>see website</i>
17-19 July	White Horse, Kings Meaburn. Eden Valley Beer Festival
22-25 July	Hawkshead Brewery SIBA Summer Beer Festival (http://www.hawksheadbrewery.co.uk/default.asp)
30 Jul -1 Aug.	Beer Festival, Strickland Arms, Sizergh - probably linked to a Hike & Pint from Kendal details TBA
30 Jul-1 Aug.	Beer Festival, The Kings Arms Hotel, Kirkby Stephen
3-7 Aug,	GBBF, Earl's Court, London (http://gbbf.camra.org.uk/home)
6 -8 Aug	Stag, Dufton, Beer Festival See Advert page
3 -5 Sept	Tweedies Bar Grasmere 4th Grasmere Guzzler Beer Festival , (www.tweediesbargrasmere.co.uk)
2-4 Sep,	Furness Branch Beer Festival Coronation Hall, Ulverston (www.furnesscamra.co.uk)
13-16 Oct	Westmorland Beer Festival Town Hall Kendal



THE GEORGE & DRAGON DENT



DENT BREWERY TAP HOUSE

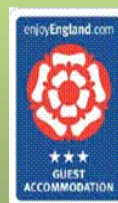
Westmorland CAMRA Pub of the Season Winter 2009/10

- Set in the heart of picturesque Dent village.
- Friendly & welcoming Inn
- With en-suite accommodation in all rooms
- Family rooms available
- Real log fires complement the locally sourced produce for our main meals and bar snacks alike
- Our own brewed real cask ales are available
- Walkers & Dogs welcome
- Hours 10.30am till late 7 days a week
- Lunch 12 - 2.30pm; Evening meals 6 - 8.30pm

Should you require more information or a tour
of the famous Dent Brewery please contact us on
015396 25256

Web site: www.thegeorgeanddragondent.co.uk
Email: mail@thegeorgeanddragondent.co.uk

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Dark & Powerful
ABV 5.1%
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"over sized"
glasses !**

Food served everyday 12 noon - 9.00pm

**We are proud to be named as CAMRA
CUMBRIA
PUB OF THE YEAR
2009**

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