

Late Summer 2007

Edition No. 30

Lakes & Ale



Special smoke-free issue



FREE Newsletter of the
Westmorland Branch of
the Campaign for Real Ale



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THE KINGS HEAD HOTEL

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EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 30th edition of Lakes & Ale – the somewhat, sort of, regular quarterly magazine of the Westmorland Branch of CAMRA. That is, it comes out when it's ready!

Our regular editor Marilyn is taking a back seat for a few issues and therefore this epistle is the result of a small (but select) editorial committee. Let's hope that what people say about doing things by committee is just not true.

This edition majors on the recently introduced 'Smoking Ban' which, whilst not technically anything to do with real ale (some smokers may well disagree), will no doubt have an effect on the 'atmosphere' in pub bars up and down the country, and I don't just mean the air we breathe. We have sent our two intrepid investigators out into deepest Kendal, and even as far as Burton, to question drinkers on what they think of the new law and to talk to the landlords as well. After all, they are not just there to provide us real ale drinkers with a decent pint; they do have a business to run successfully. We also remind people just what the law states and what it costs to disobey.

The campaigning this month deals with the important subjects of guest ales and the parlous state of many pubs, but CAMRA's main topic this summer, and onwards, is the 'Take it to the Top' campaign – the right for us all to get a full pint of liquid, 'cause that's what we have paid for and what we deserve.

Along with all our other normal topics we hope you will enjoy a read of the magazine whilst you sup your pint (or three).

Do continue to support our splendid real ale pubs in Westmorland but remember, *drink carefully*, the Government is already being lobbied to stop binge drinking by raising prices. That will affect all drinkers, both the majority who can handle it and the small minority who plainly can't and it won't solve the situation. Don't give the authorities any more ammunition.

Alan 'No Sox' Risdon
Jenny Turner
Marilyn Molloy
David Currington
(Editorial Committee)

Campaign Slot

Guest Beer Rights

The vast majority of pubs in the UK are tied to either a pub company or a brewer. This means they are often unable to stock beers from brewers of their choice. A guest beer right would allow these pubs the choice of stocking one cask conditioned beer of their choice. This would have two huge advantages:

- Increasing consumer choice. Allowing pubs to stock one beer of their choice will help them attract new customers by allowing them to stock an appealing guest beer.
- Supporting small brewers. The biggest hurdle facing Britain's small brewers is access to market. A guest beer right would transform the fortunes of small brewers by enabling all of Britain's 60,000 pubs to sell one beer from a small brewer.
- Research commissioned by CAMRA shows clear consumer demand for locally brewed beer. 55% of people indicated that they would like to see at least one locally brewed beer in every pub. In addition 31% of all adults who visit pubs would buy a locally brewed beer in a pub over non-locally brewed beer.

A guest beer right was introduced in 1989 and was initially very successful



in delivering greater beer choice for consumers. The old guest beer right however only applied to tenants of brewer that owned more than 2000 pubs, and by the millennium only a few hundred pubs continued to benefit from the guest beer right. In 2002 the Government removed the guest beer legislation.

CAMRA is now campaigning for a new guest beer right which applies to tenants and managers of pub companies as well as brewers.

Pub Watch Survey

Recently CAMRA undertook its annual Pub Watch Survey. The results give a very sobering picture of the state of many of our pubs, particularly those in urban areas. 42 CAMRA Branches took part and reported 139 pubs closing permanently during 2005 - (33 rural and 106 urban). This gives an average of 3.31 pubs per Branch which, scaled up nationally, gives the horrendous figures of 652 per year, 54 per month, 12.5 per week.



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(Continued from page 4)

Last year CAMRA announced that 26 pubs per month were closing permanently. Why the apparent huge jump? The main reason seems to be that last year's figures came from a survey of local authorities, based on their planning records. Professional planners who are also members of CAMRA's own Planning Advisory Group have suggested that the local authority figures were very likely to be an under-estimate given that planning consent is not needed for some changes of use e.g. pub to restaurant, nor for demolitions. Unfortunately, it gets worse.

- Branches were also asked to report on pubs which closed during 2005 but where their future was uncertain i.e. they might or might not reopen. Here the figures were similar - 134 in total, 35 rural and 99 urban. Branches also gave figures on pubs which had closed before 1 January 2005 but which might yet reopen. The total was 71, with 15 rural and 56 urban.

This suggests that in addition to the pubs which closed forever during 2005, there are some 970 others which are currently closed and face an uncertain future. We can be fairly sure that quite a number of these "temporary" closures will become permanent.

CAMRA is the most successful single issue consumer campaign group in Britain. If CAMRA had not been

formed to save real ale then this classic, great-tasting British drink would have become extinct. Since its formation in 1971 CAMRA has achieved the following:

- In the 1970's CAMRA successfully fought the efforts of the big brewers to replace traditional ales with tasteless keg beers.
- In the 1980's CAMRA lobbied against the lack of choice in Britain's pubs. In 1989 the Government responded with wide reaching reforms called the Beer Orders. The Beer Orders forced the big six brewers to sell or free from the tie over 11,000 as well as introducing the Guest Beer provision.
- In the 1990's CAMRA actively encouraged and supported real ale resurgence. During the decade CAMRA thwarted efforts by the EU Commission to abolish Britain's Guest Beer provision.
- Since 2000 CAMRA has succeeded in campaigning for the extension of mandatory rate relief to public houses, reform of the outdated licensing laws in England and Wales leading to a more flexible licensing system, and introduction of reduced excise duty for small brewers which means that small brewers are able to compete on a more level playing field with the large brewers.



14th WESTMORLAND BEER FESTIVAL



Town Hall, Highgate, Kendal
Wednesday 10th to Saturday 13th, October 2007
12 noon - 11pm

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Fifty years of imbibing - the first twenty-five -

Born 7th June 1937 but, fast forward to finishing secondary education in Summer 1954 and commencing a cycling tour with a fellow leaver. We stayed in Youth Hostels and sneaked into one or two pubs along the way. Clearly the current purge on under-age drinking wasn't even a twinkle in authority's eye.

In September I joined the staff of Lloyds bank as a junior clerk at their Palmers Green Branch. Despite being late on day one thanks to a bus breakdown I was invited to take a one hour lunch break either between 12noon and 1pm or the following hour; being anxious to find a nearby pub I opted for the former. That decision stood me in good stead for the next forty working years.

It was at this time that Flowers brewery of Stratford upon Avon developed production of a 'keg' beer to a level which rendered it a commercial proposition. As a (fairly) 'with it' young man I was keen to be up with the latest trend; it soon became clear that neither was for me. Disaster! What to do instead?

I consulted the (what seemed to me to be) elderly regulars in my North London local about the problem. "You want to get some proper beer inside you, sonny" they said. Upon enquiring what was meant by 'proper' beer I received the prompt reply that "It comes out of a Hand pump not a

b****y new fangled nozzle".

So called proper beer then was probably Charrington IPA or Inde Coope Bitter, both now long forgotten and perhaps not the most exciting of choices, but far more acceptable than the gassy, sharp tasting, bland flatulence inducing alternative.

A transfer to Oxford Street offered an opportunity to sample Watneys and Trumans beers before those brewers jumped onto the keg wagon but, more worthwhile, also those of Youngs and Fullers. National Service in the RAF (1957-9) was somewhat bleak apart from a spell near Hereford and a brief flirtation with cider.

A return to the Bank saw a transfer in 1963 to the City. Here the lunchtime opportunities initially seemed more promising though dark clouds were gathering as more and more outlets became 'fizz' only and, therefore, out of bounds as far as I, and increasingly others, was concerned.

On one of my regular visits to collect my box of stiff collars from a dry cleaners in Queen Victoria Street I noticed a gentleman at the end of a short queue with a seriously beer-stained dress shirt over his arm. A short conversation ran roughly as follows: 'Must have been quite an event', reply: 'Indeed, I don't remember much about the end of it'. 'I get a distinct aroma of Worthington'. 'By gad, you're right!

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(first stop after Coniston Old Man)

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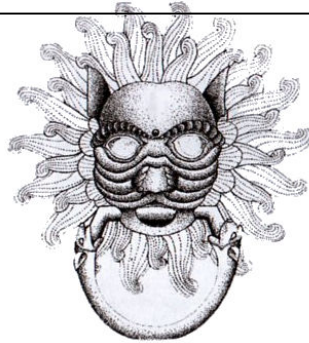
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Do I detect a member of the SPBW?'. 'Afraid not, but what on earth is the SPBW?'. 'Ah! I just happen to have an application form in my back pocket. Just complete, stick in an envelope and address it to 'Arthur Millard, c/o The Bank of England' that will find me'. He was now at the head of the queue and, upon handing over the said shirt for cleaning, bade me farewell.

Subsequent examination of the form revealed that SPBW stood for Society for the Preservation of Beers from the Wood - an explanation for younger drinkers: in the early sixties all real ale was supplied in wooden casks, metal containers were the sole preserve of keg beer.

In due course the completed form was returned complete with a rubber stamped panel which was signed and read:

S. P. B. W. APPLICATION ENDORSED CHAIRMAN SECRETARY
--

It was accompanied by a helpful information sheet from one O. S. Tillett - P.R.O.

The distinction rapidly became blurred since brewers of real ale realized that metal casks were more hygienic, lighter and required little or no maintenance. The SPBW stuck to the name and still to this day is a fine, if small, organization dedicated to the enjoyment of real ale. Despite its early efforts the availability of real ale was becoming little short of desperate. Huge cities, especially in Scotland, had few if any pubs that had not been converted entirely to keg. A dark period indeed but hope was on the horizon.

The origins of CAMRA are well documented but a brief reminder: In 1971 four chaps were on holiday in Ireland lamenting the sorry state of beer in the UK and decided that lamenting was not good enough - action was needed. An embryonic alternative campaign, which proved to have a profound influence on the life of the author, was emerging.

Geoff & Christine welcome you to

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- In current Good Beer Guide



Andy & Jean welcome you to the

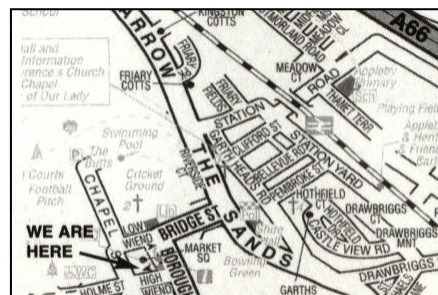
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The History of Kendal's Public Houses: Highgate, north of Kendal Town Hall

The short section of Highgate between Lowther Street and Finkle Street has played host to over ten inns in the past. The first building after the junction was the Dolphin Inn, which existed in the late 18th century. The Unanimous Society, one of several benefit societies popular at that time, met at the Dolphin c. 1800. The inn was advertised to be let in August 1814 by the tenant, William Halhead, who was possibly keen to move on, having lost his wife earlier in the year. By 1881, its public house status had gone, and it had become the Dolphin Cocoa House, owned by one of the Wakefield family.

On part of the site now occupied by Woolworths, once stood the Three Tuns, the name being derived from the Vintners or Brewers coat of arms. The inn existed from the mid 1700's until at least the 1820's. A former landlord, Robert Hind, was killed while attempting to load the cannon in Serpentine Wood, in preparation for a celebratory salute in July 1820.

One of Kendal's most interesting public houses is the Rainbow, originally the Black Horse and Rainbow, and for a brief time, the Pot O' Gold. Owned by Robert Stephenson in the early 1700's, the inn and an adjoining house were given by him to be placed in trust, and the profits distributed annually, some to the poor of the town, and some to the Catholic priests of Kendal. The trust retained ownership of the Rainbow for almost 200 years, but not without some problems, for a report in the 1830's was critical of the fact that the trust was being managed by a sole trustee who lived in Northumberland! On a lighter note, the Kendal Mercury

of August 1838 announced that Mr. Harker's Horse and Rainbow was the venue for a gooseberry show, at which Edward Hind won a copper kettle for the heaviest red gooseberry, while John Hind won a watering can for the heaviest white fruit. Earlier in the year, the 'Rainbow Tavern' had played host to 'Millers Royal Circus' with horses and two dwarf ponies! In November 1974, the Gazette announced that 'The Rainbow's end may be in sight', as the then owners had applied for a change of use. For whatever reason, the scheme was not followed through, and the Rainbow continues to thrive.

Perhaps the town's best known and probably oldest pub is the Fleece Inn, formerly known as the Golden Fleece, built in 1654. The title reflected Kendal's connection with the woollen industry, the Golden Fleece being one of the emblems adopted by the Woolcombers during their Guild Processions. Its age is shown by the style of the building, with its overhanging first floor. Yet even with its central location, the Fleece was no more than a travellers or carriers inn, and had large stabling facilities to cater for those traders.

At the top of the yard immediately to the north, known incorrectly as Fleece Inn Yard, once stood the Butchers Arms, which will be mentioned in more detail in a later article.

The next building to the north was the Exchange Inn. It began its existence as the Crown and Mitre in the early 1700's, and had 'exceedingly good stables, warehouses and a spacious yard,' according to an advert in November 1758.

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The next listed licensee was William Lomas, Victualler and Sheriff's Officer, a somewhat unusual combination of jobs which probably ensured his house maintained a high standard. This ancient inn was demolished in 1779 with the opening up of Old Shambles and a new hostelry erected on the same site, renamed the Fox & Goose. Unfortunately it appears that the Fox & Goose's reputation became tarnished in later years; a report declaring the inn to be the bane of the local magistrates and the butt of the Temperance Society's efforts to reform the town. The situation wasn't helped when the landlord, Mr. Grundy, attached a gin shop (the first in Kendal) to the premises in 1834.

In 1830 a trial for false imprisonment involved the plaintiff, a Kendal auctioneer named Roberts and the defendant, a draper named Bradley who had both been drinking at the Fox & Goose. Roberts had put Bradley's snuff box into his pocket and refused to give it back, so the constable had been called. The constable, a druggist named Thomas Webster, had put Roberts into the 'black hole', in the House of Correction prison, a dungeon so abominable that it was judged unfit for the commitment of felons. There, Roberts stayed all night. A verdict was given for Roberts with 40s damages and Bradley having to pay all costs. Doubtless they never sought each other's company again. In the 1850's, the inn was renamed the Exchange Inn. If this was an attempt to revive the inn's fortunes, its success was short-lived, for by 1874, it had disappeared from the Rate Books.

At the top of Finkle Street, Kendal's main thoroughfare changes from Highgate to Stricklandgate. The first address on the west side, Yard 2, is

home to Kendal's last remaining Yard inn, the White Hart, which has continued to trade for over 300 years.

The White Hart was originally the crest of Richard II and Edward IV. The origin of the White Hart, with a collar of gold dates from antiquity. Aristotle reported that Diomedes consecrated a White Hart to Diana which, a thousand years later, was killed by Agathocles, King of Sicily. Pliny states, that it was Alexander the Great who caught a white stag and placed a gold collar round its neck. The inn opened in 1702, as Robbin's Coffee House, while the first listed owner was Robert Wilson, stuff weaver, who bought the property for £248! In 1779, the White Hart opened a newsroom, providing the public with an opportunity to access newspapers, which would normally have been beyond their means, due to the tax on newsprint. Notable local names associated with 'Kendal Newsroom' membership included, Crewdson, Wakefield, Strickland, Whitwell, Braithwaite, and Moser, as well as, Sir Michael Le Fleming Bart, the Rev James Romney, son of the painter, George Romney, the chemist, John Dalton, and two members of the Maude family.

Patronised by the middle classes, the White Hart boasted a dining room capable of seating 100 people, and became the venue for the Friendly Society, who held their meetings there, after forming in 1755, with a membership of over 150.

Its gradual decline came about with the building of the Commercial Hotel in 1804, across the road, and the Whitehall Meeting Rooms, on the site of the Town Hall, 21 years later.

Despite all the difficulties of competition, the White Hart has continued to thrive to the present day.

Full Pints Campaign

New figures from CAMRA show that a whopping 26.6% of pints served in pubs contain less than 95% beer. To put it another way CAMRA has found that pints of beer are regularly served up to 10% short because the Government will not legislate to give beer drinkers the same rights as other consumers. If you buy a litre of petrol you can expect receive a full litre of petrol. If you buy a pint of milk you can expect to receive a full pint of milk. Beer drinkers are denied their basic consumer rights and as a result are frequently served short measures.

Full Pints Key Facts

- 1 in 4 pints are more than 5% short measure
- Short measure costs consumers £481 million a year, or over £1.3 million a day
- Pubs serve customers 208 million more pints than they buy in

CAMRA needs your help to ensure you receive a full pint of beer every time. Please go to the National CAMRA website (www.camra.org.uk) and sign up to CAMRA's National Full Pints Petition calling on the Government to keep its promise by putting an end to short beer measures.

History of Beer Measure Legislation

Weights and Measures Act 1963 was silent on whether gas in the head of the froth is part of the measure. Subsequent case law failed to remedy this uncertainty.

Weights and Measures Act 1979 provided that gas was not part of the measure (meaning a pint must contain 100% liquid), but this provision was not brought into force.

Weights and Measures Act 1985 restated, in its section 43, that the gas was not part of the measure, but required a commencement order to bring it into force. The commencement order was laid in 1992 to come into force three years later. However as a result of industry lobbying the order was revoked in 1993 and subsequently Section 43 was repealed.

Weights and Measures Bill 1997/1998 (The Dennis Turner MP Bill) proposed the reintroduction of section 43 stating that gas was not part of the measure. The bill fell at Report stage after being talked out by a small number of Tory MPs.

December 2000. The DTI announced proposals for secondary legislation to oblige licensees to serve 100% liquid on average, with no deficiency exceeding 5%.

March 2002. The DTI announced proposals for secondary legislation to oblige licensees to serve a minimum of 95% liquid. CAMRA and trading standards vigorously opposed this proposal and thus far there has been no legislation

March 2007. CAMRA launches campaign to get a pint defined as 100% liquid.

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Holy Smoke?

So, Westerham Brewery has brewed a beer named Holy Smoke to commemorate the smoking ban in England. Well, it wasn't so holy for me. After thirty years of shivering outside with my pint because the interior of the pub stank like an old ashtray I have now come in from the cold. And not before time!

Greene King polled 5,000 of their customers in 500 different pubs on 1 July to see what they thought of smoke free pubs. 67% thought they were a good idea, whilst 48% said they would visit pubs more often. Of licensees, 82% were in favour.

Four weeks into the ban, Westmorland CAMRA members visited some of their favourite pubs to find out what effect the legislation was having. First stop [on a day when it seemed to have rained non-stop for

hours] **The Shakespeare** in Highgate, Kendal, now under new management and with a new chef. It has three handpumps and at the time of my visit had Marston's Blond, Pedigree and a nigh on perfect pint of Fullers' London Pride. Landlady, Helen, told me that she hadn't noticed any change in the ale sales but that food sales had definitely increased.

'I'm in favour of the ban,' she said, 'There's less cleaning to do and our clothes and hair no longer smell awful. I've noticed I'm using far less washing powder. The staff are happier too. Even those who smoke think the atmosphere is more pleasant. We used to notice customers look in and turn away because of the smoke - not any more.'

Customers agreed. 'It's much better now,' said one, 'I wouldn't have come in here before but I do now.'

However, outside it was a sorry tale! The Shakespeare has the advantage of one of Kendal's lovely, historic yards on its south side. Here several tables, benches and umbrellas are provided. However, today the rain was still coming down like stair rods and the



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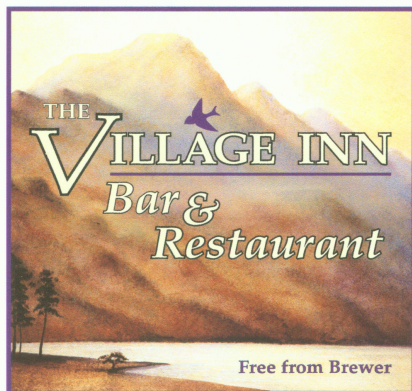
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benches were soaked. Huddled on the stepped entrance to the bar were three smokers. [They declined to be photographed for this article!]

'Do you think the provision for smokers at this pub is satisfactory?' I asked them.

'Oh yes,' they agreed.

'But the ban will affect how often I come out,' said one, 'I won't come so much in the bad weather.'

This is certainly confirmed by a survey conducted for the trade newspaper, *The Morning Advertiser*. Attempting to track the effect on pub trade of the smoking ban, it found that this had no effect with bad weather being the biggest factor in reduced sales. Sales in the North West were down 3.4% but in areas with good weather conditions [yes, they found some] trade was up by 2.7%.



So, next call, **The Castle Inn** on Castle Street, Kendal. On the menu were Jennings Bitter, Hawkshead Bitter, Dent Aviator and Tetley Bitter. Landlady, Chris, painted a similar picture.

'We certainly get more families coming in now and one member of staff who had to use eye drops because of the smoky atmosphere doesn't need them now. Our food sales are up but overall it is quieter than last Summer. I think that's down to the weather.'

The Castle is a land-locked pub in a conservation area so it's not easy to cater for smokers. There are a few tables with umbrellas on the street and golfing umbrellas have been provided in a stand by the door. Two tasteful planters filled with sand are cleaned out every morning.

'There's a real problem with leaving your drink to go out for a smoke,' one customer told me. 'If you're not known in the pub, your drink maybe cleared away. That wouldn't happen here. This is a real community pub where everyone knows everyone else but it would happen in some places and, even worse, is the security aspect. If you take your eyes off your drink it may get spiked.'

Smokers have the Summer to accustom themselves to the outdoor life. Provision to accommodate them

The Cross Keys Hotel

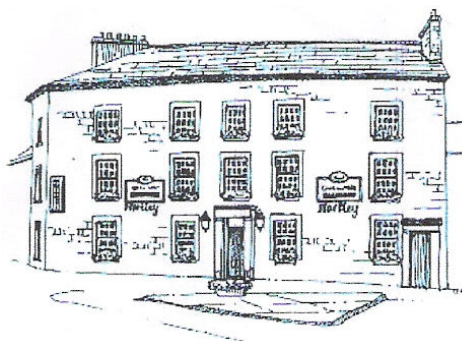
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'THE LITTLE ROOM'
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Sadly excluded from the 2007 Good Beer Guide but the owners,
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Regular Beers are: Yates Bitter and Hawkshead Bitter

Up to 6 other countrywide Guest Beers

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varies from comfortable, heated, covered patios to this:



A young couple with two children told me, 'It's very unfair. We can't take the children into the pub if we just want a drink and now we can't sit outside either because we're surrounded by smokers.'

Certainly, the ground around some of our town centre pubs is a mess, littered with cigarette ends – someone is going to have to pick up the tab!

With **The Kings Arms, Burton in Kendal** being the current Westmorland Branch Pub of the Season, we decided to check out how the changes have been assessed here as an example of one of our more southerly rural recommended houses.

Landlady Zoe Woolcock had mixed feelings about the smoking ban. As a mother herself, she is aware of how much better the atmosphere is for visiting families with young children. She is much more comfortable with her own 3 year old daughter, Lauren, being in the bar area during the day

without worrying about how long she has been exposed to smoke. However, she also is very conscious that choice of where they can smoke has been taken away from some of their regular customers. Both she and barmaid Courtney felt that there had been more family groups in during the early part of July than would previously have visited. As this was before the school holidays began, they felt it was most likely to be because of the smoking ban.

Veteran regular at the bar, 89 year old Harold was quite happy with the pub as it is now because he doesn't have to put up with friend and fellow regular "Cloggy" smoking his pipe next to him any more! In his turn Cloggy doesn't like having to go outside to light up and thinks it's a sad day when "you can't have a pint and a bit of baccie in your local any more". Local parish councillor Paul Rogers is from the compromise camp and would have liked to have seen designated smokers' rooms available. He thinks it detracts from continuity of conversation when smokers have to go outside and sees it as a bit divisive within groups of drinking companions.

These regulars at the Kings Arms bar felt that there might be an issue outside pubs generally with dropped cigarette butts and glasses left lying around. Not everyone currently it seems is making good use of the provisions laid on outside, and Harold, Cloggy and Paul think pubs may end up with more clearing up as a result.

STRICKLAND ARMS — SIZERGH

Manager Kerry Parsons and assistant manager Dan Schreiber welcome you to this newly-refurbished Cumbrian pub, with open log fires, reclaimed wooden and flag floors and an all-round cosy atmosphere. We pride ourselves on providing excellent-quality pub food and beverages, with service to match.

The pub is a free house and serves a choice of real ales, all locally-brewed. We also host a wide range of bottled beers and lager from across the globe.

As with our real ales, our excellent-quality food is sourced locally. So why not pop in and sample some of our locally-sourced produce home-cooked daily or just enjoy a pint of real ale sat by our open log fires.

Dog friendly—Wheelchair access—Walking boot friendly—Children welcome

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However, it must be said that all the banter about the changes was very good natured in Burton and like it or not, they wouldn't be changing their drinking habits as a result.

The Golden Rule, Ambleside is an almost totally wet-led Robinson's pub which fortunately has an outside area:

On Sunday morning 1st July the ash trays were removed from inside and a couple of large umbrellas were erected over the benches in the area adjacent to the rear entrance. However, visiting smokers will be pleased to note that a more permanent shelter is planned for the winter. Early evidence suggests that

the poor July weather has been a greater influence on trade than the ban.

Two changes in 'atmosphere' have been noted; firstly, obviously, fresher air inside with no infringements of the new law. Secondly, there seems to be a division of regular customers between those drinking inside and popping out for a cig and those drinking outside and popping in for their next drink. Somehow the 'continuity' of conversation seems to have been interrupted.

It's early days and no doubt things will settle down here as with everywhere else in the country, and the Great British pub will survive.

What are the new laws on smoking in public places?

It will be a legal duty for anyone controlling or managing smoke free premises to prevent people from smoking in them, and must take reasonable steps to meet the requirements of the new law. Ashtrays should be removed and staff trained. All premises must display the sign below at the entrance to such premises

What are Smoke Free premises? The new law will apply to virtually all 'enclosed' and 'substantially enclosed' public places. This includes both permanent and temporary places such as tents or marquees.

'Enclosed' premises will have a ceiling or roof and, (except for windows & doors), are wholly

enclosed on a permanent or temporary basis. 'Substantially enclosed' premises will have a ceiling or roof and openings in the walls (excluding windows and doors) which are less than half the total area of the walls.

Remember that Local councils are responsible for the enforcement of the Smoking Ban. The Penalties for ignoring the ban can be severe. Fixed penalties up to £50 will be issued and a Court imposed fine can be up to £200. The owners of premises must do everything possible to enforce the Ban in their premises as the consequences for them can be very severe, with fines up to £1000 for not displaying notices and up to £2500 for failing to prevent smoking on their premises.

Tweedies bar & restaurant

Relax by our traditional log fire or in our extensive lawned grounds. Tweedies is an excellent place in which to wind down after a hard day on the fells or simply soak up the Summer sun. Whatever the weather our five ever-changing guest ales can be sampled along with traditional Scrumpy cider. There is also a wide range of bottled beers from around the world and a great selection of excellent wines for the connoisseur.

Lots of choice for the discerning drinker but we also offer top quality gastro pub food from light meals to a hearty lunch, freshly-made pizzas and a full evening dinner menu. All can be taken either in the well-appointed bar area, in our separate non-smoking dining room or the Lodge restaurant.

Tweedies has a traditional pub atmosphere with a modern twist and is an experience to be enjoyed time and again. Please also feel free to pick up a leaflet about our splendid accommodation.



Dale Lodge Hotel, Grasmere, Lake District, Cumbria, LA22 9SW

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Email: enquiries@dalelodgehotel.co.uk www.dalelodgehotel.co.uk

PUB OF THE SEASON – SPRING 2007

Tweedies Bar, Dale Lodge Hotel, Grasmere

The Westmorland Branch of CAMRA was very pleased that members overwhelmingly selected the Tweedies Bar at the Dale Lodge Hotel in Grasmere as their Pub of the Season for Spring 2007.

A veritable oasis of notable real ales in Grasmere, some two to three years ago the Tweedies bar had just two hand pumps serving similar brews to many other pubs in the area. Then Gillian Roberts, the hotel proprietor, gave son Alex the task of reviving the bar. A very wise decision, since in less than two years Alex, ably assisted by his friend Brian, has taken dispensing his excellently kept real ales to the point where he now has 5 hand pumps regularly serving a wonderful and ever-changing selection of real ales, with the accent on Scottish beers often evident. Now this is remarkable progress by any

new landlord but as Alex is only just into his twenties, (probably the youngest landlord in Cumbria and for some distance around), and until he took on the job had mostly been a lager drinker, then you can see what effort, dedication, and not to say learning curve, he has put in.

He tells us that he has now served some 278 brews from 75 different brewers and tries to concentrate on beers that have recently won prizes. If you can't make your mind up which to have and only want a pint then ask for a 'bat' and you get three one-third glasses set in a chunk of wood with three holes; an easy way to carry them back to your table. The bar is very pleasantly furnished, with an adjacent dining room separate from the main hotel, and a warm welcome always awaits; an ideal way to begin or end a walk in the fells.



The Tweedies "bat"

Breweries Update

Dent: Seasonal beer 'Wish ewe were here' finished as the seasonal to be replaced with 'Golden fleece' and another batch of Rambrau. Production continues to be near capacity.

Hawkshead: NEW from Hawkshead Brewery: LAKELAND PILSNER 4.8%. A pilsner style beer, a cask conditioned lager. Using only lager malt (plus a little wheat for head retention). Three hops used, all German, all classic lager/pilsner hops. It's crisp, dry, very pale... blond. It was brewed by our very own Aussie lager brewer -- John Meehan, a brewer from Castlemaine, who is working with us for the summer. It has been brewed and will be served in the real ale manner. It is 4.8% abv. It is a trial brew. We are just calling it Pilsner for now. Tell Alex what you think.

The Brewery's first Beer Festival, July 12 to 15, was a huge success. Alex and staff thank all who attended and almost drank every drop. Not quite though. We bought in some of the gold medal winning festival beers to start our policy of selling other breweries' beers as well as our own, in The Beer Hall. So, there will be a guest beer on the bar, alongside the new lager, in the first week of August.

Tirril: The move to Long Marton was completed early in July with brand new plant and pump clips proclaiming 'Fine Westmorland Ales'. The Brougham Hall vessels etc have been sold to the Whitehaven brewery which is setting up in Ennerdale.

The Queens Head Inn at Tirril, the original home of the brewery, has been sold to Robinsons of Stockport. The New Inn at Brampton with strictly no keg beer is now the official Tirril 'tap'.

Watermill: The Brewery was one year old on 5th July – Happy Birthday. Brian also has a new regular beer 'Ruff Justice' @ 4.2% and bottled Collie Wobbles should be available by the time this magazine is published.

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PUB OF THE SEASON – LATE SUMMER 2007

The Kings Arms, Burton-in-Kendal



Our Pub of the Season for Summer 2007 is one from the very south of our area – The King's Arms in Burton - in - Kendal. For the past four years Michael and Zoe have run the Kings Arms as an extremely successful traditional village pub. The pub is at the heart of much of what goes on in the community and, besides having a regular pool team, fund raising events and the like are always a regular feature. In October is the next big event - the annual onion competition!

The pub is part of the Mitchell's chain and Michael and Zoe have built up a rare reputation for their well kept ales, chosen carefully from the Mitchell's current beer list. They run six hand pumps for Cask Ale with Jennings Dark Mild and Moorhouses Premier Bitter as regular beers. The other four pumps are regularly changed and when last visited by CAMRA included one from the Bowland Brewery.

The Pub is also renowned for its quality food but it does not get in the way of being a proper drinking bar. Michael says that he runs a pub with a restaurant not the other way round and the eating areas seem quite separate from the bar area. There is an open fire and a large adjacent pool room/games area.

We wish Michael & Zoe continuing success in the future and congratulate them for providing the good beautifully kept beers which have justifiably led to this POTS Award. We will be back for more!



The beautiful old sign at The Kings Arms

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CAMRA Westmorland Pub of the Season Summer 2004

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Most Improved Award—Summer 2007: White Lion, Ambleside



Westmorland Branch was also very pleased to give our Most Improved Award to the White Lion in Ambleside. This award is made on an as required basis when we become aware of a particular establishment that has made very noticeable improvements to the range and quality of beer in line with CAMRA's aims and objectives.

One of the original hotels to be built in Ambleside during the early Victorian era, The White Lion remained in private ownership, offering beers from

Hartleys of Ulverston. It was sold to Bass in the mid nineteen eighties; thus just two of their beers: Draught Bass and Worthington were offered.

Following its transition to Mitchells and Butlers ownership and a subsequent refurbishment, a dramatic change resulted in six Real Ales being available. Regulars are Hawkshead Bitter and Jennings Cumberland Ale, the remaining four being chosen from a monthly 'Cask Fresh' list containing some twenty beers of varying strength and from breweries both micro and regional

.Congratulations go to Grahame Murray and his team for embracing this huge improvement with such commendable enthusiasm.

Branch Diary 2007

Monday 10 September

Branch meeting, **The Bull Hotel**, Sedbergh

Wednesday 12th September

Launch of new **2008 Good Beer Guide** – watch our website

www.camrawestmorland.org for further details.

Saturday 22nd September

Next Beer Tasting Panel is to be held at **Barngates Brewery**. Jenny is organising visit including transport - contact her for details.

Wednesday 10th October to Saturday 13th October

14th Westmorland Beer Festival – see advert for details.

***Pick up points (unless stated otherwise): Kendal Leisure Centre & Ambleside Market Cross**
For further details contact Jenny Turner, tel. 01539 731800, email jenupt@tiscali.co.uk
For transport arrangements/bookings, contact Peter Handley on 01539 824248
Branch website: www.camrawestmorland.org*



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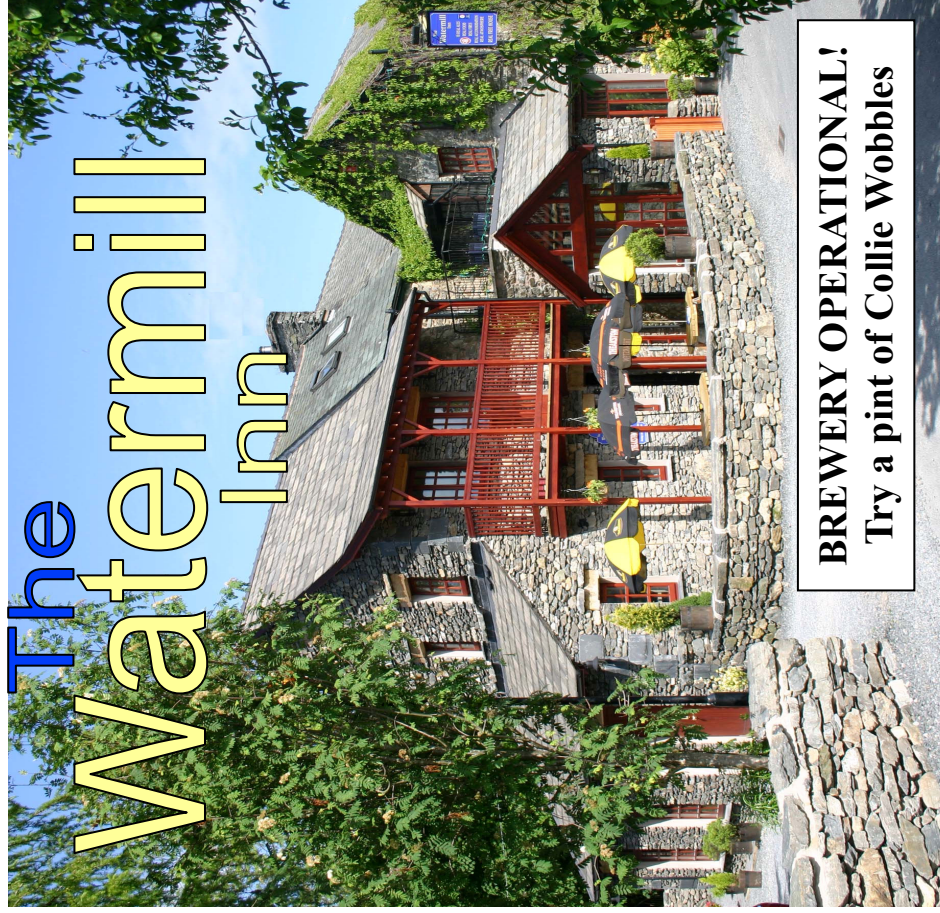
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