



## Liverpool and District CAMRA Branch Mail shot April 2009

Welcome to the second mailshot of 2009

One again there is plenty going on over the next three months for CAMRA members. In April we have our AGM and Cask Ale week, and don't forget May is Mild month.

The purpose of this mail shot is to make sure you get the most out of your CAMRA membership! And to help you remember what's happening, we have included a calendar for you to print out.

### Support local and/or National campaigns

Here are a few ideas to make sure you get the most of your membership.

- Encourage your local to stock local ales and become a locAle pub
- Take part in one of the events during cask ale week (see below)
- Contribute to the Good Beer guide by scoring your beer
- Come along to the AGM or a branch meeting
- Join us on a trip or pub crawl.

### AGM, Branch and Committee Meetings

Committee Meetings normally take place on the 1st Wednesday and Branch Meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Committee meetings are open to all members and Branch meetings are open to everyone, particularly if they aren't a member and wish to join CAMRA!

The purpose is to discuss branch business such as pub and brewery news, local campaigning issues, events and any other relevant topics.

The first **branch meeting** after the AGM is 20th May Lady of Mann, Dale Street 8pm.

Date of next committee meeting is May 6th.

## LocAle

### **Liverpool and district have gone locAle.**

Liverpool and Districts CAMRA branch has now launched the LocAle scheme within the Branch area. The LocAle launch took place in our first LocAle pub, Stamps Too, South Road (opposite the Railway Station) on Monday 9th March 2009. The pub features ales from Southport, Wapping, Cambrinus, Betwixt or Brimstage. Please note that pubs need only have one LocAle on to qualify.

The next pub to become a locAle pub, and our first locAle pub in Liverpool, will be the Baltic Fleet. A launch evening will be taking place at the Baltic on April 9th from 7.00pm, the event is

open to all and will feature a good selection of Wapping ales. The Baltic Fleet as home to Wapping Beers, and Liverpool's only brew pub, is truly deserving of this award.

Liverpool and District CAMRA have agreed that their LocAle distance is 30 miles and that the ale must have a local identity, therefore we would not expect ale that is associated with London to be LocAle in Liverpool, even if its contract brewed locally.

For information on local breweries, please check out the Breweries page, pubs can put their postcodes into a route map (i.e. Google, AA or RAC) to measure distance from their pub to brewery to ensure it falls within 30 miles.

This is an opportunity for pub ambassadors to encourage their pub to become a LocAle pub. Any pubs interested in joining can either contact their pub ambassador or myself.

Once we are satisfied that the pub meets the criteria we will provide posters, window stickers, leaflets and pump clip toppers.

A dedicated web page has now been setup, which will be kept up to date with the new locAle pubs.

## Cask Ale Week

CAMRA have teamed up with Cask Marque, The Independent Family Brewers of Britain, Enterprise Inns and Punch Taverns to bring you the first ever National Cask Ale Week taking place 6-13 April 2009.

National Cask Ale Week will be a week of campaigning across the UK to promote the importance and pleasures of drinking real ale in pubs.

To date the following events have been confirmed in our branch area:

Allgates 'meet the brewer' at the Lady of Mann on 6th April at 6pm.

Rigbys Courtyard - the Mersey Morrismen on 6th April at 7.30pm.

Wapping Beer festival 10th - 13th April 30+ Wapping beers

Turks Head beer festival -- Easter weekend.

Stamps Beer Festival, Crosby

Stamps Too Beer Festival, Waterloo

Please check branch website for further details.

## Real Ale in a Bottle

Now the warmer weather is on its way you may start thinking about barbecues and outdoor drinking. Though we would prefer to see you supporting the local pub, there are times when you will want a drink with your burnt barbecue burgers. So if you do buy some bottle beers, make sure it is 'Real Ale in a Bottle' or 'Bottle Conditioned'.

10 Reasons to buy real ale in a bottle

1. It's a living product, which means lots of stimulating, fresh flavours.
2. It's the nearest thing to a pint of real ale down at your local.
3. It's not artificially carbonated; the pleasant effervescence is generated wholly by the yeast in the bottle.
4. Almost all bottled real ales are made from just four natural ingredients: malted barley, hops, water and yeast – there are no additives or E numbers.
5. It's mostly brewed by small or regional breweries and sold locally, so you'll be helping your local economy.
6. It's a hand-crafted product and brewers take extra care when producing real ale in a bottle.
7. There is so much variety to be enjoyed – well over 500 real ales in a bottle are now produced in the UK.
8. There are some magnificent bottled real ales from other countries, which go to prove that life outside Britain isn't all bland, international lagers.

9. It makes an excellent accompaniment to food and with so many different bottled real ales available, it's fascinating to try to match their flavours with various dishes. Try real ale in a bottle instead of wine for a change.

Most importantly...

10. It tastes great!

How do you know its real ale in a bottle?

Look out for those that are part of CAMRA accreditation scheme 'CAMRA says this is Real Ale', or look for the words 'Bottle Conditioned'.

## Pub News

### **Vernon Dale Street**

Jim Monaghan ex Excelsior, has taken the Vernon in Dale Street on a lease from Ainscough. He hopes to open in 3 weeks but lot of remedial work is needed. Jim hopes to have all six hand-pumps in action.



# CAMRA Liverpool and District Event calendar

## Join us on a Social Trip, Branch meeting or Event

### Meetings

LAD Committee Meetings. Dates to be confirmed after AGM.

Liverpool AGM : 24<sup>th</sup> April, 8pm, Lady of Mann.  
Liverpool Branch Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> May Lady of Mann, Dale Street 8pm

St Helens Branch Meetings. Second Wednesday of every month.  
(check St Helens website near the time for venue details)  
8<sup>th</sup> April, Griffin Inn, Chapel Lane, Eccleston 8pm

Regional meeting dates (check LAD website near the time for venue details):  
9<sup>th</sup> May, Macclesfield (note change of date)  
18<sup>th</sup> July, Vale of Clwyd  
17<sup>th</sup> October, Liverpool

### Activities / Campaigns

#### Coach Trips:

25<sup>th</sup> April - Ludlow  
23<sup>rd</sup> May - North Derbyshire - including Dronfield  
13<sup>th</sup> June - North Yorkshire ending up at Scarborough  
11<sup>th</sup> July - Bishops Castle for their annual pubs festival  
All cost £12. Depart from outside the Ship&Mitre at 10am. To book email  
[social@merseycamra.org.uk](mailto:social@merseycamra.org.uk) or telephone Ian on 07521 741 586.

**Pub crawls** by public transport.

16<sup>th</sup> May - North area tour finishing in Crosby  
24<sup>th</sup> June - Gateacre & Woolton evening tour  
22<sup>nd</sup> July - South area tour finishing in Garston  
Further details nearer the time, check website.

**LocAle Event at the Baltic:** April 9<sup>th</sup>, from 7pm.

**Cask Ale Week:** 5<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> April

Don't forget – **May is MILD MONTH**

**National Mild Day:** May 9<sup>th</sup>

Don't forget to regularly submit your beer scores

Please check [website](#) for updates and further information.

The July - Sep Calendar will be available end of June.

### Keep in Touch With What's Happening

Join the newly created Liverpool and District CAMRA group on facebook <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=17638118462>  
This will keep you upto date so you never miss an event

Sign up to Yahoo Mail Group  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/merseyside-CAMRA/>

Reading Merseyale (Find it in a pub near you.) Also see <http://www.merseyale.com/>

Regularly checking the Liverpool and District website  
<http://www.merseycamra.org.uk/index.html>

St Helens website  
<http://www.sthelenscamra.org.uk/>

As you can see there are plenty of things happening both locally, and national within CAMRA over the next couple of months. We hope to see you either enjoying a pint in one of the local pubs or giving up a little time to volunteer with CAMRA very soon.

Kind regards

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