



NORTH SEA ALE

LANDMARK VOTE ON PUB TIE SYSTEM

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The 18th of November was a momentous day for the drinks industry as the Government was defeated in a Commons vote, marking a major victory for beer drinkers, pub goers and licensees.

The landmark Parliamentary vote helps secure the future of pubs. CAMRA is delighted that, after ten years of our campaigning, MPs have voted to introduce a market rent only option for licensees tied to the large pub companies - a move that will help secure the future of the Great British Pub.

The Government was defeated by 284 votes to 269 with MPs from all parties voting in favour of a new clause to the Small Business Bill that will empower pubco licensees to choose between a tied agreement and a market rent only agreement that will allow them to buy beer on the open market. Allowing over 13,000 pub tenants tied to the large pub companies the option of buying beer on the open market at competitive prices will help keep pubs open and ensure the cost of a pint to consumers remains affordable. The large pub companies will no longer be able to charge their tenants prices up to 60 pence a pint higher than open market prices.

This simple choice should spell the end of pubco licensees being forced out of business through high rents and tied product prices.

Thank you to the 8000 CAMRA members and campaigners who lobbied their MP's to help make this happen and to those MPs that voted to support pubs. CAMRA are now urging the Government to accept the outcome of the vote."

PUB NEWS

The editor welcomes feedback and would be delighted to publish any correspondence, favourable or otherwise

Our more remote pubs are being seriously affected by the changes to the drink driving legislation. Publicans are pleading with the brewers to produce beer with good flavour, but low strength (2.5% alcohol).

The Feughside Inn near Strachan reopened 30th January after a 2 year closure.

The Old Mill Inn Maryculter has finally closed and planning permission is being sought for 132 two bed accommodation units on the carpark, with the existing building being used to provide food (but no alcohol) to workers on the Western Peripheral route. When the roadbuilding is complete it is expected that the temporary buildings will be dismantled and the site will revert to being a hotel.

The Udney Arms Newburgh has closed and the building is being converted into flats.

St Austell Proper Job was their final offering. The home of Sticky Toffee Pudding is no more. On a more positive note Stuart Singer at the Redgarth recently celebrated his 25th anniversary in the multi-winning Pub of The Year.

The Foundry has restarted selling real ale, and they have Hobgoblin on at £2.40 a pint. The other regular beer is Greene King IPA and it will sell at £2.20. Other beers are likely to be Deuchars, Flying Scotsman and Old Speckled Hen. Not a very exciting range, but ale none the less - and at very competitive prices.

The Glenkindie Arms Hotel has finally been sold. The new owners are Brian and Anne Miller and their intention is to refurbish areas which require refurbishment etc then open as a Country pub / bar, pretty much as it was in the past before the era of Ian Simpson. The Number 10 wine bar in Queens terrace has been acquired by the owners of Mc Gintys and the Stag, and plans have been submitted to extend into the basement of the adjacent 9 Queens Terrace to provide an area for serving food.

The Balfour, in Tomitoul, has started a sideline of producing soap from real ale.

Pubs of the year 2014

- Town Pub & Overall Winner - Moorings
- Country Pub - Marine Stonehaven

A PUBLICAN'S PERSPECTIVE

Interview by George Howie with Calum Grant, currently manager of the Queen Vic in Rosemount Place. The Vic is primarily a locals bar which was once a Co-op bakers shop and also an opticians. For more details of the pub, please look up www.whatpub.com

Where were you brought up and when?

I am originally a Highland lad, born in a town called Thurso, over thirty years ago now, and moved down from the far North to the North East about 12 years ago.

Brief Resume of your education

I moved down to Aberdeen in the early 2000s to study History but spent more time working in bars and night-clubs than I did in the Library to be honest. However I was lucky enough to live next to three bars with a large selection of real ales and CAMRA members. So maybe I spent more time educating myself on that, than on the Holy Roman Empire. Needless to say the Good Beer Guides 2002-2006 are probably my most read and used textbooks from this era although being a student an Ale under £2.00 and over 4.5% constituted exceptional value?

Brief resume of your career before joining the licensed trade

Erm... 9-5 has never really appealed to me, I worked in the most Northern Mainland Cinema in the UK from 15- 17 then got a job in a hotel. I sporadically worked in a freezer factory over summer holidays ,kept me cool at least!

History of your career in the licence trade

After being a manager of one of the city centre's busiest cocktail bars for eight years I got a transfer up to the Queen Vic in Rosemount two years ago where I finally found a willing home to indulge my interest in cask and local beer. It seemed to me that a Local Pub in Aberdeen should have a wide range of beers and ales sourced from the area. So I have made that my mission. I am by no means there yet but it is a task I am enjoying. We have a full range of 20+ Local craft beers by the bottle and one rotational font and three casks always available . After the success of our last guest cask tap, I plan on introducing a 100% local hand pump which isn't bad for a wee pub like the Vic. As knowing where your Ale come from is so important to drinkers now, we have launched a series of meet the brewer nights up here with Deeside showcasing last year and Speyside Craft (Forres), Brewdog (Ellon) and Windswept (Lossiemouth) due to appear this year.

What is your favourite food

I love seafood, as many types as you can pack into one meal. Not the dessert though, I draw the line at prawn cheese-cake.

What is your favourite drink

Anything brewed locally, I am in the privileged position to have shaken the hand of most of the people that make my favourite drinks which is always good, but saying that I have had Windswept Weizen on the guest cask up here three times so that's a clue.

Hobbies outside the pub?

What! There a life outside the trade?? Why did no one tell me till now??

Taste in music

Well i do have one hobby which is music, I have played in quite a few bands over the years so I would have to say whatever I am playing.

Favourite Films

Anything not made to appease the tastes of an "average American" test screening.

Favourite TV programs

Depends on my mood but mainly documentaries, Beer Wars (about the Craft Vs Corporate beer industries in America) sticks in my mind as brilliant insight to the precursor of what is happening here.

Marital status

Not married with kids but have a brilliant girlfriend that is taking me to Belgium beer tasting for a week, so don't write the married with kids thing off yet.

How do you think CAMRA is doing in supporting real ale, pubs and brewers

Well I can only speak from my experience in the North East but over the last ten years I have seen a massive increase in original locally brewed ales sold at the Vic but also across Aberdeen. All of which have had some form of help from CAMRA along the way in getting their product out there. Many of which have come from new breweries established in the last five years each with their own original style. CAMRA has been a talisman for the local brewing industry linking them, the people selling their cask and those drinking it. Through Ale festivals and news letters on a local level and the Good Beers Guides combined with an active membership spreading the word on a national level. So yes CAMRA seems to evolve and adapt with the Cask Ales it promotes which can only be a good thing.



Do you think that Real Ale is on the up or is it suffering from the craft beer revolution

Yeah here at the Queen Vic I have definitely noticed a big surge in the drinking of real ale, so much so that we have installed a new Cask Ale Line and have plans for the creation of a fourth exclusively local tap.

I think this is where the "craft beer" revolution has repaid the 40 years of work CAMRA has invested into fighting for a pint to taste as individual as the drinker. Personally I don't fear the import of the "craft" craze from the states as detrimental to Real Ale uptake here. I don't view this import as comparable to the wave of tasteless kegs of continental lager that flooded our shores. I cant see this revolution resulting in the ridiculous eventuality of it being OK to shove wedges of limes in your beer. Quite the opposite the "craft revolution" is anchored (sells itself) on the principles of taste quality and locality which translate very well to the foundations of any Real Ale drinker.

Just as the "craft beer" revolution has benefited from the work of the Real Ale Campaign in keeping flavour rather than temperature as the main selling point of a drink. I think the "craft beer" aficionados of today are the Real Ale drinkers of tomorrow and if anything it has brought a taste for IPAs, Porters, Blondes etc. to a younger generation. From my experience in this pub, craft beer appears to be a necessary stepping stone to for the public to rediscover their love of real ale. Lets put it this way, I would be a lot more worried with the general trend in the market towards locality, quality and taste if I was a member of the Campaign For Exponentially Colder Pilsner.

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I / We wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale and agree to abide by its Articles of Association

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Under 26 & Over 60	£16.50 <input type="checkbox"/>	£18.50 <input type="checkbox"/>

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* Joint Concessions are only available when both members are eligible for that concessionary rate. e.g. both under 26 or both over 60.

Title _____ Surname _____
 Forename(s) _____
 Date of birth _____ Email _____
 Address _____

Post Code _____ Date _____
 Telephone Number(s) _____
 Where did you find this leaflet? E.g. name of pub, beer festival. _____

Partner's details (if Joint Membership)
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For 15 months membership for the price of 12 and a £2 discount please complete the Direct Debit form. Alternatively you can join with one of the following methods but you will unfortunately not receive the above benefit.

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If you wish to pay by cheque then please use this FREE POST facility and post this form and your cheque payable to:
CAMRA Ltd to CAMRA, Membership Department, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 4LW

Good Beer Guide

I would like to purchase the current Good Beer Guide.
 I enclose a cheque / please charge my card
 £11 (saving £4.99) please add £2.50 for p&p

We will process and store your details in-line with the Data Protection Act 1998. The information you provide will be used by CAMRA in accordance with both our Memorandum and Article of Association as well as our Privacy Policy viewable at www.camra.org.uk and will not be passed on to any third party.



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- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

DIRECT Debit

BREWERY NEWS

Lerwick Brewery have signed an agreement with drinks wholesaler Ooberstock to give their beers national distribution. 3 beers are in regular production—Skippers Ticket (a dark IPA), 60 degrees north(a lager) and Tushkar(an oatmeal stout).

Arran Brewery are expanding in to Ayrshire. They have purchased a dilapidated former primary school and intend to build a bottling hall, brewing school and Sake brewery. An American beer importing company has also been setup to help their overseas marketing push.

Caledonian 80 /- will soon be no more . It is to be replaced by Edinburgh Castle which will be a slightly hoppier product.

Roths Brewery is a brand new addition to the local beer scene . Brewing commenced in November, and the brewery was officially launched at the Seafield Arms in Rothies on 21st December. Three beers are brewed Dounie Ale, Ben Aigen Bitter and Conrock Pale Ale All production is currently in bottle, but production of draught beers is scheduled for early in 2015. The Rothies Brewery bottles are now available in The Seafield Arms Hotel, Rothies, The Victoria Bar, Rothies and Rothies Golf Club .

The hardy ladies and gents from the Craigellachie Real Ale Club took a case of Ben Aigen Bitter up Ben Aigen to celebrate the Winter Solstice .

Scaffolding Suppliers to the Aberdeen & North East CAMRA Beer Festival



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Bandstand Bar, Crescent Road, Nairn IV124NB T:01667452341
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twitter.com/bandstandbar www.facebook.com/bandstandbar

When

Wed 11th Feb
 Sat 28th Feb
 Thu 19 Mar
 Mon 20 Apr
 Tue 5 May
 Wed 13 May
 Thur 4th - to Sat 6th June,

Where

8.30pm Mariner Hotel
 2pm Six Degrees North
 8-30pm Prince of Wales
 8-30pm Blue Lamp
 8-30pm Aitchies Ale House
 8-30pm Old Blackfriars
 Pittodrie Stadium

Why

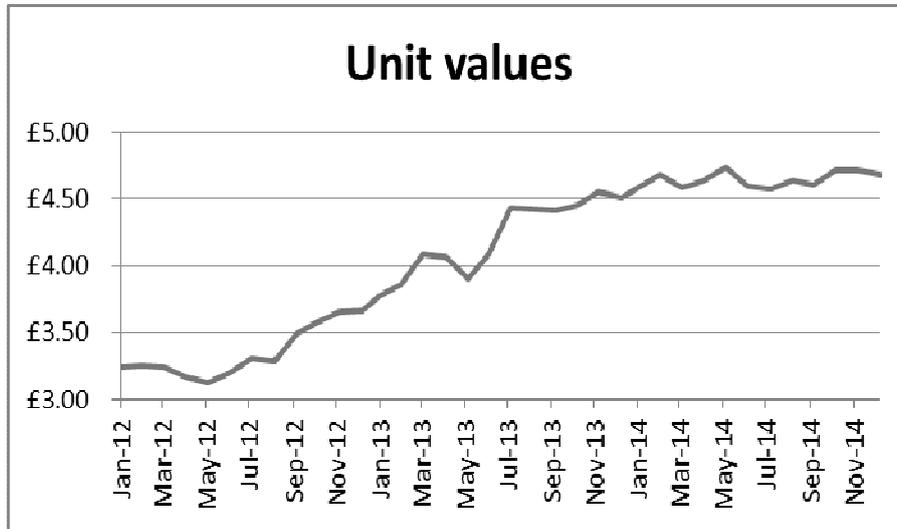
Branch Meeting
 GBG 2016 Pub Selection Meeting
 Branch & Beer Festival Planning
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 CAMRA Great Grampian Beer Festival



CAMRA MEMBERS INVESTMENT CLUB (“CMIC”)

The Club is open to all CAMRA members, each of whom is allowed to make monthly, quarterly or annual payments to the Club. Each member can invest a maximum of £2,000 p.a. (£166 per month). The minimum investment is just £5 per month. More details available at <http://www.cmic.uk.com/>

The Club has almost 4,000 members now and total funds held in breweries etc. are approaching £18m. The Unit price has risen by 3.7% in the last year and by over 44% in the last 3 years, as demonstrated by the graph below:



The Club organises brewery tours for the members every year, one of them overseas. The next UK trip is to Hook Norton. The Club has shares in many companies, including:-CAMRA MEMBERS INVESTMENT CLUB (“CMIC”)

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The Club has shares in many companies, including:- Adnams, Black Eagle (Trumans), Black Sheep, Cantillon, Enterprise Inns, Fullers,

Greene King, Heavitree, Joseph Holt, Hydes, Hop Back, JD Wetherspoon, Marstons, Mitchell and Butler, McMullens, Punch Taverns, Shepherd Neame, Spirit Pub Co, Thwaites, Wadworths, West Berkshire & Youngs



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Just give us a call to discuss your requirements.

REAL ALE OUTLETS

Below is a list of outlets that sell real ale which are known to the Aberdeen, Grampian & Northern Isles branch of CAMRA.

CAMRA is in no way recommending all of the pubs in this list. If you want a list of recommended pubs you will need to buy the Good Beer Guide. The pubs are placed in alphabetical order by location and then pub.

If you know of any pubs that sell real ale, in our area, which are not on this list, or any pubs on this list that no longer sell real ale please contact the editor. Your help is much appreciated

Aberdeen

Aberdeen Hero
Adam Lounge
Aitchies Ale House
Archibald Simpson's
Atholl Hotel
Blue Lamp
Bobbin
Cameron's (Ma's)
Carriages
Dutch Mill
Ferryhill House Hotel
Foundry
Glentana Bar
Globe
Grill
Illicit Still
Justice Mill
Mariner Hotel
McGinty's
McNastys
Moorings
Noose & Monkey
Northern Hotel
Number 10
Old Blackfriars
Old Schoolhouse
Prince Of Wales
Quarterdeck
Queen Vic
Six degrees North
Slains Castle
St Machar Bar
Stag
Triple Kirks
Under The Hammer
Wig

Aberchirder

New Inn

Aboyne

Boat Inn

Alford

Forbes Arms

Houghton Arms

Ballater

Alexandra
Balmoral Bar
Glenaden

Balmedie

Cock and Bull

Banchory

Burnett Arms
Douglas Arms Hotel
Ravenswood Club (British Legion)
Scott Skinners

Tor Na Coille

Banff

Aul Fife
Market Arms
Ship Inn

Braemar

Moorfield House Hotel

Brodie

The Old Mill

Catterline

Creel Inn

Charleston of Aberlour

Aberlour Hotel
Mash Tun

Corgarrif

Allargue Arms

Craigellachie

Craigellachie Hotel (Copper Dog)

Highlander Inn

Cullen

Three Kings

Cults

Cults Hotel

Daviot

Smiddy

Dufftown

Commercial

Royal Oak

Stuart Arms

Dunecht

Jaffs

Dyce

Granite City
Spider's Web

Elgin

Drouthy Cobbler
Muckle Cross
Sunninghill Hotel

Ellon

Station Hotel
Tolbooth

Fettercairn

Ramsay Arms

Findhorn

Crown & Anchor
Kimberley Inn

Fochabers

Gordon Arms Hotel
Grant Arms

Forres

Carisbrooke Hotel
Knockomie Hotel
Mosset Tavern
Ramnee Hotel
Red Lion

Fraserburgh

Cheers
Elizabethan
Saltoun Arms

Garlogie

Garlogie Inn

Garmouth

Garmouth Hotel

Gourdon

Harbour

Glenlivet

Croft Inn

Huntly

Gordon Arms

Inverurie

Black Bull
Edwards
Gordon Highlander

Johnshaven

Anchor

Ship

Kingswells

Four Mile House

Kinloss

Abbey Inn

Lossiemouth

Beach Bar
Clifton Bar
Coullard Hotel
Skerry Brae Hotel

Luthermuir

Sauchieburn Hotel

Macduff

Old Moray

Marykirk

Marykirk Hotel

Methlick

Ythan View

Monymusk

Grant Arms Hotel

Muir Of Fowls

Muggarthaugh

Netherley

Lairhillock

Newburgh

Newburgh Inn

Oldmeldrum

Redgarth

Pennan

Pennan Inn

Peterhead

Crosskeys

Portsoy

Boyne Hotel
Shore Inn
Station Hotel

Roths

Seafield Arms

Rothiemay

Forbes Arms

Stonehaven

Belvedere
Marine Hotel
Ship Inn

Strathdon

Colquhonie Hotel

Tarland

Aberdeen Arms
Commercial Arms

Tarves

Aberdeen Arms Hotel

Tomintoul

Glen Avon

Richmond

Gordons (Balfour Manor)

Torphins

Learney Arms

Westhill

Shepherds Rest

Orkney

Evie

Mistra

Hoy

Stromabank

Kirkwall

Albert Hotel

Ayre Hotel

Helgis

Shore Inn

Stromness

Ferry

Stromness Hotel

Sanday

Kettletoft Hotel

Shetland

Lerwick

Captain Flints

Grand Hotel

Scalloway

Scalloway Hotel

Scousburgh

Spiggie Hotel

Weisdale

Westings Hotel



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**

Real Friends - Real Ale - Real Food

The Stag - Situated in the heart of Aberdeen's city centre, just off Union street and a short walk from The Music Hall, the 'Auld Starry' is a traditional bar offering Courage Directors, Inveralmonds extremely popular House Ale and Lia Fail as well as a 4th rotating guest ale. The Stag's a great meeting place, and the foods fantastic too. Hearty, wholesome and appetising, just the way you like it!

Mcginty's Mealanale - A very warm welcome awaits at Mcginty's Mealanale, a cosy Scottish pub where you can enjoy great beers, real ales and other favourite tipples, plus wonderful home cooking. Situated right on Holburn junction, it's a right guid place to meet and have a blether with friends. With 11 plasma screens and a 7ft HD projector it's THE place for all sporting events.

Number 10 - For over 25 years we have been committed to providing quality food and drink in a friendly atmosphere to Aberdeen, West-Ends local residents and businesses.

We have a range of Real Ales including Timothy Taylors Landlord, Inveralmonds Lia Fail, Caledonian Duechars and Fullers London Pride and other craft lagers and ciders.

Now serving meals in the evening and weekends until 9pm, why not organise your next work or friends get together at Number 10?



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e - info@thestag.co.uk



504 Union Street, Aberdeen AB10 1TT
T - 01224 626720
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