

### New/Revived Outlets

- Howff, Aberdeen** Now selling a variety of differing beers with mainly TT Landlord and Burnside Wild Rhino and did recently feature a selection from Cromarty and sometimes
- Bonnie Beastie, Forres** Former Red Lion, refurbished and re-opened in 2022. Haven't heard if they are still selling anything.
- Golf View, Lossiemouth** Is it still selling key-keg? Were informed by Windswept Brewery a while back.
- Against The Grain, Elgin** Has been reported from reliable sources, including Davie MacDonald of Spey Valley Brewery, to have installed a handpump. It is unknown what beer they will be serving. With the limited capacity of the pub, it would struggle to sell enough unless doing pins.
- Malt Mill, Aberdeen** BrewToon of Peterhead have at long last had their plans approved to redevelop the pub. We should approach them to see if they will ever start doing cask beer. Jim Strachan as BLO should contact them.

### Lost/Closed Outlets

- Hop & Anchor, Aberdeen** Was opened again in March 2023 after being closed for about 6 months. Now owned by Lion Pubs and renamed the Exchange Pub & Restaurant. No ale available so far.
- Belvedere, Stonehaven** Bar & restaurant reported was closed initially till spring 2023 but does not appear to have re-opened yet. Possibly only being run as B&B?
- Lairhillock, Netherley** Pub ceased trading in March 2020. Was demolished eventually late 2023 and flats to be built. Shame really!
- Mains of Scotstown** Feedback received stating that no ale available.
- Ramsay Arms, Fettercairn** Various reports about being closed not selling ale. Would be good to get definitive details. Website says currently for sale/rent.
- Linkwood Lodge, Elgin** Reported as selling ale at 2022 AGM but no longer selling any.

### Feedback from Members/Publicans

- Newburgh Inn, Newburgh** Contacted by part owner, Martin Garton-Spence, on 2nd January asking if he could update the hotel's details on our database. A reply was sent asking him to provide details but to date nothing has been received.
- Lerwick Brewery** Several reports re this brewery. Sometimes seems to have ale on generally Skippers Ticket and Tusker Stout. One member suggested that it should feature in a future GBG but that would depend on enough votes being cast. It would be good to have an outlet in Shetland in the GBG!

## **General Situation with Pubs**

Most pubs are more or less back to normal. Some, such as the Prince of Wales, are building up their trade for ale again although not using all 8 available pumps (now up to 6 ales on after only doing 4 for some while since Covid lockdowns) and maybe now having more consistent quality. Also some may close an hour earlier before midnight (or 1am Friday and Saturday). Some pubs with an opening time of 11am are not opening until 12 noon.

Most 2024 GBG outlets are continuing to flourish with good ranges of ales from Scottish independents and national brews. There have been a couple of blips in December 2023 and January 2024 with a few pubs (you know which ones!) having very few or in one case no beers available for a short period. They seem to be back to normal again.