



A & W CAMRA Calling



Issue 22 August 2018

Branch Web Sites/Social Media

www.awcamra.org.uk

www.ayrshirebeerfestival.co.uk



awcamra



ayrshirerealalefestival



@awcamra



@troonbeerfest

Welcome

Our award winning magazine *Full Pints* tends to give you only the bare bones for issues that affect us as CAMRA members. This edition of our members' newsletter is intended to provide you with more "meat" for some events in which you might be interested but its main purpose is to make you aware of our annual flagship event, the Ayrshire Real Ale Festival in Troon, and to encourage you to volunteer to assist with staffing that event. Lindsay Grant Branch Chairman.

Branch Diary

4 th Aug	2-Pub Social	Bar Sport/Auld Brig, Irvine 3pm/4:30pm
16 th Aug	Branch Meeting/North Ayrshire Social	Salt Cot, Saltcoats, 8pm
18 th Aug	Wigtownshire "South West 500"	Stagecoach trip to Dumfries
25 th Aug	Social trip to Kinloch Beer Fest	KinlochHotel, Blackwaterfoot, Arran.
25 th Aug	Beith Fest (independent)	Geilsland House, Beith, 1-10pm
25 th Aug	SNIB meeting	Betty Nicols, Kirkcaldy, 1pm
29 th Aug	East Ayrshire Social	Cookhouse and Pub, Kilmarnock, 7:30pm
8 th Sep	COTY Presentation	Cambusdoon Sports Club, Alloway
10 th Sep	Ayrshire Real Ale Fest planning	Geordies Byre, Ayr, 8pm
15 th Sep	Wigtownshire Social	Stranraer Oyster Festival, afternoon/evening
15 th Sep	Tasting Panel	Venue TBC, 2pm
19 th Sep	2-Pub Social	Wheatsheaf Inn/First Edition, Kilmarnock, 1pm/2:30pm,
20 th Sep	North Ayrshire Social	Three Reasons, Largs, 8pm
26 th Sep	East Ayrshire Social	Braehead Bar, Kilmarnock, 7:30pm
29 th Sep	Brewery of the Year presentation	Loch Lomond Brewery, Alexandria
2 nd -3 rd Oct	Ayrshire Real Ale Fest set up	Concert/Walker Halls, Troon
4 th -6 th Oct	Ayrshire Real Ale Festival	Concert/Walker Halls, Troon
7 th -8 th Oct	Ayrshire Real Ale Fest take down	Concert/Walker Halls, Troon
18 th Oct	North Ayrshire Social	Venue TBC, 8pm
27 th Oct	Ayrshire Real Ale Festival staff trip	Alloa Octoberfest
31 st Oct	East Ayrshire Social	Wheatsheaf Inn, Kilmarnock, 7:30pm
10 th Nov	SNIB meeting	Abbotsford Hotel, Ayr, 1pm
15 th Nov	North Ayrshire Social	Venue TBC, 8pm
27 th Nov	East Ayrshire Social	Mill House, Stewarton, 7:30pm
1 st Dec	2 Pub Social	Smoking Goat/Geordie's Byre, Ayr, 3pm/4:30pm
27 th Dec	Festive Crawl	Details TBC
23 rd Mar	Branch AGM	Venue TBC, 2pm

19th Ayrshire Real Ale Festival

This year's Festival will run from 4th - 6th October in the usual venue of Troon Concert Hall with a second bar in the Walker Hall. Set-up is on 2nd/3rd October and the main take-down on 7th October. This year we plan to have 150+ beers and the usual range of ciders and perries.

Whilst, of course, you are encouraged to come along and enjoy the festival as a customer (note the CAMRA members' preview session 12 noon to 2pm on the Thursday) we also need large numbers of you to volunteer to staff the event. Almost without exception members who work at beer festivals find it an enjoyable and rewarding experience and "new blood" is always welcome. Several of us who initiated the festival, almost 20 years ago, are no longer in our "prime" and so any assistance at all from younger members, particularly during set-up, would be welcomed. However, all offers of help, from young or old and for any time during the festival period, will be greatly appreciated. A volunteer staffing form is available from either of the branch websites listed above or you can complete one online via the festival website.

Additional information can be found on the next page.

19th Ayrshire Real Ale Festival Further Details

- We struggled to have sufficient staff last year at certain times, particularly during the later evening sessions. Members are encouraged to volunteer for at least some of these problematic times.
- We will arrange transport home (subject to logistics) for staff who volunteer to work for a minimum of 5 hours in any one day. This must include the 3 hours from 9 p.m. until close. However, this must be booked in advance by indicating your requirements on the volunteer staffing form.
- Although we appreciate all offers of help, the most valued staff are those who tick the “ANY” box when choosing which jobs they would prefer to do. As an incentive to choose this option, such staff will receive an additional 2 beer tokens, each day they volunteer, over and above their normal allocation, i.e. a pint on us!
- Details of how to submit your form can be found on the form itself. Alternatively, you can apply online at www.ayrshirebeerfestival.co.uk
- General enquiries should be addressed to Douglas Graham at festival@awcamra.org.uk and staffing enquiries to Lindsay Grant (07734 063712) staffing@ayrshirebeerfestival.co.uk
- This year’s staff day out will again be to CAMRA Forth Valley Branch’s Octoberfest in Alloa Town Hall on Saturday 27th October

Cask Sponsorship

Would you, or a business you know, like to sponsor a cask at the 19th Ayrshire Real Ale Festival?

Our major sponsors are a vital part of allowing us to put together our annual beer festival. However, we also offer the more affordable “cask sponsor” packages and these have proved an ideal arrangement to allow local businesses, individuals and groups to show their support.

You, as a branch member, or any business that you consider might be interested, are invited to support the event by sponsoring a cask of real ale in exchange for the following package:

- **Your organisation’s details displayed on the cask end label of the beer of your choice.**
- **Details of all sponsors will be displayed prominently on posters around the venue.**
- **A listing in the Festival Programme, which is issued free to all visitors on admission.**
- **Complimentary entry tickets (including festival glasses) for 2 persons.**
- **Beer tokens to the value of 4 pints.**

The cost is £60 and you should e-mail our Bob Wallace at bobwallace.1869@yahoo.co.uk indicating that you would like to sponsor a cask. As soon as our beer list has been finalised he will then contact you to nominate the beer of your choice. Please note, if you were previously a cask sponsor you will already be on Bob’s contact list.

Festival Equipment Storage

Currently our beer festival stillage and other equipment is stored under the Walker Hall stage. This facility may no longer be available to us in the future. If you are aware of any possible alternative, either free or paid for, please contact the festival organiser Douglas Graham at festival@awcamra.org.uk

2-Pub Socials

The next of these will be on **Saturday 4th August** in Irvine’s Bar Sport 3pm and then Auld Brig 4.30pm. On **Wednesday 19th September** we will visit Kilmarnock’s Wheatsheaf 1pm and then First Edition 2.30pm.

Club of the Year

Alloway’s Cambusdoon Sports Club has been judged our 2018 Ayrshire & Wigtownshire Club of the Year. Having achieved this accolade, we can now confirm that it has also been judged Club of the Year for CAMRA Scotland & Northern Ireland. Our congratulations to all concerned. The presentation of both awards is scheduled for Saturday 8th September at 2 p.m. All are welcome, indeed encouraged, to attend.

Brewery of the Year

Presentation of this award will take place on Saturday 29th September to Loch Lomond Brewery, Alexandria. We intend to run a bus to this with pickup points at various locations throughout Ayrshire. Full details from and bookings to Donald Clark social@awcamra.org.uk

South West 500

Saturday 19th August, outing to pubs in Dumfries using bus service 500.
Depart Stranraer Port Roddie 0900
Newton Stewart 0943
Creetown 1000
Arrive Dumfries 1100

Depart Dumfries Whitesands 1533
Arrive Castle Douglas (for Sulwath Brewery Tap) 1612
Depart Castle Douglas 1802
Arrive Stranraer 1946