



A & W CAMRA Calling

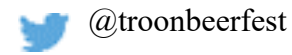
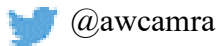
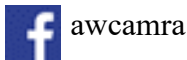
Issue 23 November 2018



Branch Web Sites/Social Media

www.awcamra.org.uk

www.ayrshirebeerfestival.co.uk



Welcome

This members' newsletter is intended to keep you informed of, and give you the opportunity to attend, the many events planned in the Branch over the festive period and beyond. The Branch Committee would like to take this opportunity to wish all our members, your family and your friends a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Branch Diary

27th Nov	E Ayrshire Social	Mill House, Stewarton; 7:30pm
1st Dec	2-pub/new members Social	Smoking Goat/West Kirk, Ayr; 3pm/4.30pm
6th Dec	S Ayrshire Social	West Kirk, Ayr; 7pm
9th Dec	S Ayrshire Xmas Lunch	Glen Park Hotel, Ayr; 1:30pm (fully booked)
9th Dec	Wigtownshire Christmas Social	Grapes, Stranraer; from 3pm
27th Dec	Festive Crawl	Kilmaurs/Kilmarnock; from 1pm
12th Jan	E Ayrshire Annual Dinner	Brass & Granite, Kilmarnock; 2pm
15th Jan	Branch Meeting/S Ayrshire Social	Cheeky Charlies, Troon; 7:30pm
17th Jan	N Ayrshire Social	Twa Dugs, West Kilbride; 8pm
21st Jan	Branch Committee Meeting	R&A Sports Bar, Irvine; 8pm
28th Jan	Beer Festival Planning Meeting	JG Sharps, Largs; 8pm
30th Jan	E Ayrshire Social	First Edition, Kilmarnock; 7:30pm
18th Feb	Good Beer Guide Selection	Cambusdoon Sports Club, Alloway; 8pm
19th Feb	S Ayrshire Social	Smoking Goat, Ayr; 7:30pm
21st Feb	N Ayrshire Social	Village Inn, Fairlie; 8pm
27th Feb	E Ayrshire Social	Fanny by Gaslight, Kilmarnock; 7:30pm
19th Mar	S Ayrshire Social	McKay's, Troon; 7:30pm
21st Mar	N Ayrshire Social	Auld Brig, Irvine; 8pm
23rd Mar	Branch AGM	Abbotsford Hotel, Ayr; 2pm
27th Mar	E Ayrshire Social	Merito, Dunlop; 7:30pm
5th-7th Apr	National Members' Weekend and AGM	Dundee
13th Apr	Wigtownshire Social	Rhins Scottish Grand National coach trip
16th Apr	S Ayrshire Social	Auchens, Dundonald; 7:30pm
30th May-3rd Jun	E Ayrshire Social	Rail trip to Bradford

Festive Crawl 2018



For some this is the social highlight of the year. Come along and join us for what is always a very enjoyable afternoon.



This year it is Kilmarnock's turn to host the crawl on **Thursday 27th December**.

13:00	Weston Tavern, 27 Main Street, Kilmaurs
14:00	Wheatsheaf Inn, 70 Portland Street
14:45	Fanny by Gaslight, 20-22 West George Street
15:30	Saltire Bar (Braehead Bar), 8 Langlands Street
16:15	Brass & Granite, 53 Grange Street
17:00	First Edition, 50 Bank Street

All are welcome, indeed encouraged, to join us for all or part of the crawl. Whilst we do our best to adhere to the published times, it is the nature of this sort of event that timings can become "flexible" (especially towards the end). If you want to join the crawl at any particular time, then you can call Lindsay Grant on 07734 063712 to find out exactly where we are.

2-Pub/New Members' Social

All new members who joined the branch in 2018 are invited to the next 2-pub Social on **Saturday 1st December** in Ayr's Smoking Goat 3pm and then West Kirk 4:30pm. To welcome you to the branch your first pint will be on us.

Full Pints

The next issue of our award-winning magazine is due to be in pubs during the 1st week of December, or shortly after that. Whilst many of you receive an electronic version, why not pop down to your local, pick up a "real" copy and do some beer scoring whilst you are there.



Festive Celebrations

In addition to the Festive Crawl, detailed on page 1, the following have been arranged. Whilst primarily targeted at those who reside in the relevant geographical area, all branch members are invited to attend.

Sunday 9th December Wigtownshire Xmas Social

Grapes, Stranraer; from 3pm; details from Malcolm McNeill.

Sunday 9th December South Ayrshire Xmas Lunch

Glen Park Hotel, Ayr; 1:30pm; booking now closed.

Saturday 13th January East Ayrshire Annual Dinner

Brass & Granite, Kilmarnock; 2pm; book with Matt Miller.

Pub of the Year (POTY) 2019

At this time of year we begin the process of selecting our POTY. The first stage is to ask you, as members, to nominate a pub that you think may be worthy of this award. To do this simply send your nomination to the relevant Area Social Organiser by 31st December.

The top pub in each of the Social Areas is then assessed by a panel of judges to decide upon the overall winner. This Branch POTY then progresses to be considered for the Scotland & Northern Ireland award.

Cider POTY 2019

Nominations of pubs in our branch area which serve real cider on a regular basis, and so can be considered for this award, should be sent to Caroline Munro

treasurer@awcamra.org.uk

Social Events in 2019

The Wigtownshire Social Group intend to repeat their annual bus trip around pubs in the Rhins of Galloway to coincide with the Scottish Grand National on **Saturday 13th April**. Details from Malcolm McNeill.

The East Ayrshire Social Group plan to visit Bradford from **Thursday 30th May to Monday 4th June**. Details from Matt Miller.

Disclaimer

The organisers of events have only volunteered to arrange times and/or travel arrangements and to provide information about the venue(s). CAMRA promotes responsible drinking, so excessive drinking is not tolerated during CAMRA outings and events. Members must not behave in any way that brings the Campaign into disrepute and anyone doing so may be barred from future events. You are responsible for your own safety and wellbeing. If you have an existing medical condition that requires assistance you must bring your own backup/carer with you.

Branch Social Groups

These Groups, catering for the different geographical areas of the Branch, meet on a (roughly) monthly basis. The focus is very much on the social aspect of CAMRA with "official" campaigning business only being dealt with very occasionally.

Further information can be obtained from the appropriate Group Organiser:

East Ayrshire

Matt Miller

east-ayrshire@awcamra.org.uk

North Ayrshire

Ian Middleditch

vicechair1@awcamra.org.uk

South Ayrshire

Donald Clark

social@awcamra.org.uk

Wigtownshire

Malcolm McNeill

wigtownshire@awcamra.org.uk

Champion Beer of Britain (CBOB) Nominations

55 members, 8.2% of our membership, nominated beers to be included in CBOB heats in 2019. Whilst this is a slight decrease from last year, we have been congratulated for being the best performing branch in the UK. Thanks to all who took part.

National Members' Weekend

This will be held in Dundee over the weekend 5th-7th April. All members are encouraged to attend. Volunteers are also required to assist with staffing. Details at <https://agm.camra.org.uk/>

Beer Festival

This year's Ayrshire Real Ale Festival in October made a healthy surplus of around £9,500. Some of this has been retained for local campaigning with the remainder being donated to CAMRA's central funds. Beer of the festival was Windswept Weizen and arrangements will be made to present this award.

Planning is now underway for next year's event which will be **3rd-5th October 2019**. If you would like to get involved with planning this event, and new blood is always welcome, come along to a planning meeting. The next will be in JG Sharps, Largs on **Monday 28th January** at 8 p.m.

E-mail Addresses

If you have received a paper copy of this *A&W CAMRA Calling* it means that we do not have a valid e-mail address for you on record.

We are sure that many of you do have an email address but simply need to update your details. This can be done via the national website www.camra.org.uk or contact our Membership Secretary Graeme Watt and he will do it for you membership@awcamra.org.uk