

71ST EDITION

SPRING 2022





of Britain's eal ale pub featured





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South Devon CAMRA



REAL ALE

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The South Hams Drinks range. Locally crafted and locally enjoyed... Devon knows how good our drinks are.

WELCOME

71ST EDITION SPRING 2022





Welcome.

Pubs featured on WhatPub.com have been independently added and updated by thousands of CAMRA volunteers and includes over 96% of Britain's real ale pubs – that's over 35,000 real ale venues currently listed.

CAMRA members continue to support the industry in these challenging times by updating features, with particular focus on opening times and beers sold, as things return to normal.

Also in this edition:

- What's On in the South Devon area (page 5)
- News about your pubs and breweries (page 8, 9, 10 and 11)
- Salcombe out of season (page 15)
- South Devon CAMRA does Chagford (page 19)
- That BBQ (page 21)
- Back to normality
 with Grumpy's calendar (page 24 and 25)



Cheers, Andren Thomson Editor

Please enter your monthly What Pub scores by the **6th** of the following month for them to be included on that month's database. For a 'how to' description of scoring see

southdevon.camra.org.uk







WHAT'S ON

Branch Meetings and Social Events

Date 8 March	Time 2000h	Purpose Branch meeting - Pub of the Year choice	Location Conservative Club Paignton
16 March	1145h	Midweek to Totnes via Littlehempston	Bus 7 at 1145h from Newton Abbot bus station
26 March	midday	Torquay social crawl	Start at Yates, Torquay
8-10 April		CAMRA Members Weekend	Winter Garden, Compton Street Eastbourne, BN21 4BP
12 April	2000h	Branch meeting	Check website
13 April	midday	Midweek to Dartmouth	Start at The Cherub, Dartmouth
23 April	midday	Social	SIBA (Tuckers), Osborne Park Newton Abbot
4 May	midday	Ten Tors beer festival	London Inn, Okehampton
10 May	2000h	Branch meeting	Check website
11 May	1130h	Social	Dartmouth No 3 bus route. Meet bus stop A pontoon
21 May	midday	New Lion Brewery Tap soc	cial Meet at Dartington Brewery Tap
14 June		AGM	Conservative Club, Paignton

For full details see www.southdevon.camra.org.uk

Beer Festivals

Deel Learing	ais	
Date	Event	Location
19 March	Yeofest	Yeoford Village Hall
22 -24 April	Sausage and cider festival	The Albert Inn, Totnes
21 – 23 April	SIBA Tuckers Maltings Festival	Osborne Park Newton Abbot
May	Mild month	At a pub near you
4 – 8 May	London Inn, Okehampton	Ten tors festival (Get there by train)
2-5 June	Queens Platinum Jubilee and beer festival	Staverton station
24 - 26 June	Landlords Beer festival	The Albert, Totnes
16 July	IppleTipple	Ipplepen village green
21 – 23 July	South Devon CAMRA Sunshine beer and cider festival	Teignmouth Rugby Club
26 – 29 August	Rails and Ales festival	Staverton station
16 - 18 September	Abbfest beer festival	Fermoys garden centre
Please check individual ever	nts prior to attending	



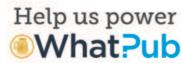
A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU ON THE EAST SUSSEX COAST!

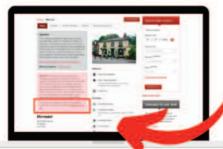
CAMRA's Members' Weekend, AGM & Conference will be hosted by our Sussex branches at the **Winter Garden in Eastbourne 8-10 April 2022.**

It's free to attend and open to all CAMRA members.

www.camra.org.uk/members-weekend-agm-conference

Or email membersweekend@camra.org.uk





Things are a little different right now. Help CAMRA keep WhatPub up to date by using the feedback form to let us know about any changes:

www.whatpub.com





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Est. 1130 a.d.

Welcome to the Old Exeter Inn 892 years old this year!

Good Beer Guide for 22 years.

Local, Regional & National Real Ales on Gravity Pour. Large section of Real Cider & Perry. Good Simple Cooking 7 Days a Week.

"The Holy Grail of all pubs" - Mick, CAMRA Member, Plymouth

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BRIGHT
4-3% ASN

FULLERS
LONDON PRIDE
4-1 % ASN

FULLERS





SIR
WALTER
RALEIGH
1552-1618
Explorer & Spy
Arrested at the Exeter Inn
July 19 1603
for treason

26 West Street Ashburton Dartmoor Devon TQ13 7DU England bookings@oldexeterinn.com oldexeterinn.com 01364 652013

PUB NEWS

The **Victoria Inn** in **Ashburton** has joined the Seabarn Group and becomes sister to the Millbrook Inn at South Pool.

The **Dolphin** in **Bovey Tracey** is now Hall and Woodhouse so expect the Badger range on the bar.

In **Chagford**, the **Ring O'Bells** has joined the 'Inns of Cornwall and Devon' family, currently running five other pubs in Cornwall and Devon. They plan to continue very much in the same way as before, with experienced publican Myles Gough in charge. On a recent visit, our reporter enjoyed Dartmoor IPA and Jail, Otter Ale and Teignworthy Gun Dog.

The **Palk Arms** in **Hennock** has finally hired the services of a chef who will be cooking dishes to complement the newly refurbished dining area. Sales of the three real ales and real cider on the bar are going well.

In **Kingskerswell** there's further development of **The Park Inn's** garden area in anticipation of a busy Spring and Summer.

Also looking forward to a busy season, the **Tally Ho** in **Littlehempston** has a stylish new outside patio area. A defibrillator has recently been installed in the pub's porch.

The **Jolly Sailor** in **Ogwell** is to be rebuilt following the fire, in sympathy with its Grade II listing. Reopening after a refurbishment is **Henry's** bar in **Paignton** – looking forward to a busy season.

.. As is **The Isaac Merritt** in **Paignton** which boasts a refurb, continuing with five beers on the bar.

In **Totnes**, the **Albert Inn** kitchen has been completely refurbished and enlarged and is now well and truly open for business. Landlord Giles celebrated by holding a Caribbean night featuring various delicacies from that part of the world. The recent beer festival has been deemed a success, with numbers of attendees showing a welcome rise after the Pandemic. The next festivals planned are the annual Sausage & Cider Festival 22-24 April and the Landlords beer festival 24-26 June.



BREWERY NEWS

Bays Brewery has launched a limited beer to support Wildlife Conservation with Paignton Zoo through the Wild Planet Trust. Savanna Ale is a golden ale with a fresh hop character, available on draught in a number of pubs locally. It will also be available in bottles, 20 & 10 litre beer boxes via online shop (use discount code LOYALTY35 for 35% off). Over the years Bays has raised over £20,000 to help protect a number of endangered species to include rhinos, giraffes, elephants, gorillas and orangutans. **>>**



BREWERY NEWS CONTINUED

» **Black Tor** Limited Edition cask beers, Golden Ale 4.7% and New World Pale Ale 4.4% will be in pubs through March & April. They are brewing Sunshine Pale Ale for The South Devon CAMRA Sunshine Beer & Cider Festival, available in pubs from May. Bottled beer range is now vegan and certified gluten-free. Limited edition bottled beers out soon are a Belgianstyle Saison & New Zealand IPA both in 330ml bottles. Blonde 3.8% abv is now be served from keg as well as cask and bottle, a light refreshing hoppy beer brewed with US Cascade and NZ Rakau hops. Black Tor Rum (launched late 2020) is now being sold nationwide and abroad, with their 8 year barrel-aged Premium Reserve Golden Rum already winning a number of regional and international drinks awards.

George the brewer has been hard at work at **Bridgetown Brewery** despite the confines of the Pandemic. On show at the recent Albert Inn beer festival was the debut of "BeezNeez", a honey Ale (4.5%) - which was delicious and sold out quickly. The beer will be back as soon as George can cajole his bees into producing more honey! Also on show was the mk3 version of Brutus Mild (4%). It too sold well and will make a reappearance soon. The brewery is also proud to been asked to make the house beer "Provi Beys" - an earthily hopped 4.5% beer for the Providence Inn in Plymouth, the first batch of which went down very well (and quickly!)

Dartmoor Brewery has partnered with Jim McNeil, a polar explorer, who heads up Ice Warrior. It's based in Princetown and he undertakes polar expeditions with regular people, partly for the adventure but also to study climate change and report back to the scientific community. They are very keen on being as green as they can so it was a natural partnership for them. Last year they made a 6% version of Jail to help support the expedition. It was very well received and sold out. It's back in bottle form, the first week of April, available online.

Hunters Brewery has continued with very steady sales over the past few months and decided to be more proactive in sales activity with owner Paul Walker becoming field sales to visit customers in the area. After the initial lockdowns they took the decision not to venture out to see customers until such time as things started to improve with the pandemic. Paul's visits have proved a success and business is improving with many new customers onboard, as well as existing customers appreciating a visit.

Their range of beers continue to sell well, and brewing continues apace, lower ABV% selection selling better than stronger ales. Bestselling beers currently Charlie, Half Bore, and Devon Dreamer. In the run up to Christmas they had both seasonal favourites Dashers Dinkle and Dashers Tinkle available and both beers have proved popular as staff/office parties have been in full swing after the disappointment of 2020. >>

BREWERY NEWS CONTINUED

» New Lion Brewery has moved to another unit at Webbers Yard, Dartington, which is now expected to be their permanent home. The taproom is now more permanently located across the road at Meadowbrook Community Centre and is thriving, with many events running on a weekly basis that focus on food and music. New Lion's core beer range remains unaltered, although most have changed availabilities due to the pandemic over the past couple of years. The offering at the taproom includes their own beers, like the renowned Pandit, alongside collaborations with other local breweries, plus a wide range of 'craft' beer available on tap and in bottles. Pizzalogica is the on-site eatery providing authentic Italian pizza most days, plus various pop-up food vendors trade at weekends in conjunction with the entertainment. Families and dogs are welcome to this community-orientated venue with a great atmosphere and friendly vibe that can only be described as positive.

More information about the partnership of **Otter Brewery** with Devon Wildlife Trust. 'Pints Mean Trees' is a specific campaign that will support the Trust's, 'Saving Devon's Treescape' project, and will commit Otter Brewery to plant a tree for every brewer's barrel they sell in 2022.

'Saving Devon's Treescapes' was created to lead the fight against Ash Dieback, which is expected to kill at least 90% of Devon's Ash trees in the coming years. The aim of the project is to plant and nurture 250,000 trees across Devon in areas outside of woodlands. Pubs and venues serving Otter's award-winning beer will each be sent a 'Pints Mean Trees' promotional pack in the coming weeks that includes 10x trees and 10x guards. These can be shared with customers on the signing of a pledge card that commits the new tree owner to care for and nurture the sapling. Also included within the packs will be 'Pints Mean Trees' bar runners, beer mats, font clips and bar talkers, which operators can use to help communicate the initiative with their regulars. Landlords and operators can also apply to have their venue designated as a Free Tree Hub, where the wider community can gather on nominated days to collect further trees. To enquire about becoming involved in Otter Brewery's Pints means Trees initiative, visit www.otterbrewery.com/pints-mean-trees.

Looking forward to a great 2022 brewing season is **Riviera Brewing** with local festivals already requesting ales for later in the year. RBC Ale will be found at the CAMRA Sunshine Beer and Cider Festival in July and Abbfest in September. The Drunken Porter 4.5% will be produced in February and will be available through March and April. Riviera Gold 4.2% and Best 4% continue to be produced on a regular basis and are available throughout the year

Salcombe is launching a Small Batch series which will be available in cask/keg and can. Kicking off the first of the series will be Belgica. This traditional Belgian pale is a light amber ale with a smooth malt base, a gently hop character and bags of flavour from the yeast. There is a light toasty and nutty aroma from the malt, while the yeast brings that unmistakeable spicy and fruity aroma to the beer with hints of pear drop and banana. The limited edition Belgica (5.0% abv) will be available in cask, bag in box and 330ml cans from the end of March 2022. Available in local outlets and from the brewery shop online and in-store www.salcombebrewery.com. >>



BREWERY NEWS CONTINUED

>> Summerskills has been brewing flat out since the beginning of January. Devon Dew is featured in the current J D Wetherspoon national guest ale promotion and is being well received. This is the first draft beer to have the new pump clip from the range that complements the style of the new bottle labels. The Talk of the Town in Paignton had a firkin of Dragon Pioneer IPA and swiftly reordered as the first one flew out and was the quickest selling cask beer they'd had for a long time. The darker beers such as Indiana's Bones and Porter have been popular and they brewed Scrum-Half Nectar, an easy drinking 4.1% amber beer, to coincide with the Six Nations tournament. They're looking forward to the return of the beer festival on the field outside the Tuckers Malting buildings, renamed Maltingsfest and due to take place between 21st and 23rd April, after a Covid enforced break of two years.

Recent new occasional beers from **Teignmouth Brewery**, such as Deck the Halls (for Christmas) and Tane Ale have been well received and are available in a number of pubs in the South Devon area. John Norish, the Teignmouth brewer is a very busy man but he is definitely putting Teignmouth on the real ale map.

Teignworthy Brewery is proud to announce winning 2nd prize with Martha's Mild 5.3% in the recent Exeter Festival of Winter Ales.

TQ Beerworks Brewery tap is now open in Torquay opposite the Princess theatre.

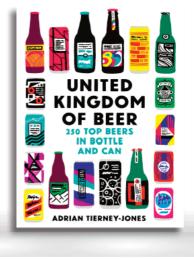


NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE CAMRABOOKSHOP - UNITED KINGDOM OF BEER, 250 TOP BEERS IN BOTTLE AND CAN

There is a thirst for good beer on these islands, a thirst for beer that satisfies the soul, quenches the thirst and leaves the drinker glowing with satisfaction.

You might be in the mood for a muscular Best Bitter, or a brooding, midnight-black Imperial Stout as you cosy up with a loved one on a cold winter's night, or perhaps you fancy a crisp and briskly amiable lager while hanging out with friends on a sunny afternoon.

Check it out at shop1.camra.org.uk



Tally Ho Country Pub Littlehempston



The Tally Ho is a traditional Devon country pub stocking a constantly changing range of Devon real Ales and Ciders.

We have great seasonal lunch and Evening Menus and regular entertainment.

You can be sure of a warm welcome for everyone including families and dogs.

tel. 01803 862316 Mike or Kelly Littlehempston , Totnes, TQ9 6LY

www.tallyho.co.uk







2021 CAMRA Golden Award Winner



Winter hours Tuesday to Thursda

Tuesday to Thursday 3-9 Friday & Saturday 12-11 Sunday 12-8 Monday Closed









Make friends with an Otter

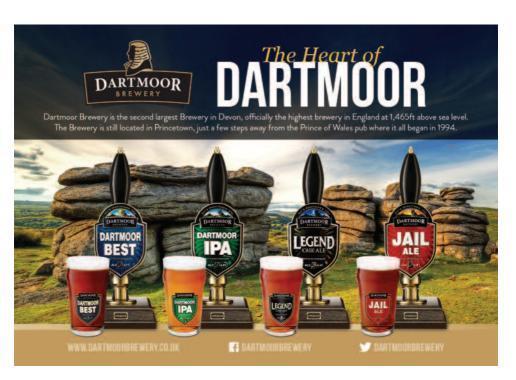


01404 891 285 otterbrewery.com











SALCOMBE OUT OF SEASON

Our previous venture to Salcombe was in the middle of summer. Everywhere was overcrowded resulting in a not particularly pleasant day out. So this time we went in February, on a wet and windy day. At least the temperature was mild for February. The pubs and streets were a lot less crowded making for a much better experience.

We arrived in Salcombe thanks to Tally Ho's 164, just after midday and headed straight to the Victoria. Unfortunately there was no one around to serve us, so, after 5 minutes, we moved on to the Ferry Inn, a Palmers Pub.

Palmers brewery is in Bridport, Dorset, where they have brewed on the same site since 1794. Two of their beers were available to us: Dorset Gold (4.5%abv) a golden ale priced at £4.80/pint hoppy, thirst quenching and zesty, a blend of malted barley and wheat, and Tally Ho (5.5%abv) a multi award-winning dark strong ale priced at an eyewatering £6.30/pint. The beers were in fine form and much enjoyed by the team. We don't often get the chance to try Palmers, there are only two other Palmers pubs in our area: The Watermans by Bow Bridge and the Sea Trout in Staverton.

After the Ferry Inn we decided to give the Victoria another chance; this time we were successful in getting served. Being a St. Austell pub the choices were Tribute, priced more reasonably at £4.00/pint, or Proper Job.

Our next move simply involved walking across the road to the King's Arms, a Stonegate pub. The choices here were Doom Bar and two from Salcombe Brewery: Lifesaver at £5/pint and Gold.

The final pub in Salcombe was the Fortesque another Stonegate pub where, appropriately Salcombe Brewery ales were again available, my choice being Salcombe Gold at 3.5%. It was suddenly realised that the next 164 was leaving in 10 minutes and if we missed it we would have to wait another hour. So a quick step up the hill to the bus stop was called for. All members were successful.

Everyone alighted in Kingsbridge and went to the Creeks End for a final beer. There was Tribute and GK Abbot Ale, a beer we don't see very often, so that was the choice of most of us.

That was the end of the day everyone departed to catch their buses homeward. An enjoyable day.

Alan Cooke

Except that the 164 goes north or south from Kingsbridge, so an unplanned trip back to Salcombe for some. Time for another pint and a bite to eat before a Kingsbridge bound 164? Well, not exactly, cos this next bus broke down. Eventually rescued by Tally Ho back to Totnes into the Albert Inn for sustenance while awaiting homeward transport! (Ed)

The Albert Inn

Home of Bridgetown Brewery

32 Bridgetown Totnes TQ9 5AD 01803 863214



Bridgetown Brewery brews Albert Ale 3.8% abv; Bridgetown Bitter 4.2% abv; Shark Island Stout 4.5% abv and recently introduced Totnes Hemp Beer, Green Leaf 4% abv. There is also a selection of craft ales from around the world.



Yes, it is a pub with a darts team, a weekly quiz, people resolving their crosswords, people talking, joking, arguing and putting the world to rights. Our own ales brewed on the premises, traditional home made pies, curries, Sunday roasts etc.

However, it also provides a sheltered beer garden overlooking the Dart. Free WiFi. Regular live music, an open mic night for the adventurous or enthusiasts.

Would you expect culinary theme nights, an elaborate lunch menu; a wine list that will surprise you by variety and price? A large range of malt whisky; calvados and brandy to please the connoisseur? Give us a try you will be surprised.







South Devon CAMRA Presents 21st - 23rd July 2022



SUNSINE Beer & Cider Festival

Teignmouth RFC, Bitton Park Road, Teignmouth TQ14 9DQ



THURS 5-11PM FRI & SAT 11-11PM



More details here: southdevon.camra.org.uk



Entry: £10 incl. Festival glass, Beer Tokens & Programme CAMRA, NHS & Teignmouth RFC card carrying members £8 Glasses non refundable. Under 18s free with accompanied adult











Free Bus from Rlwy Station





EVENTS

Meet the Brewer, Ady Byng Pig Racing,

Tombola, RNLI Auction, Outside Stalls









WINE

PIMM'S

& GIN



Fundraising in aid of the RNLI





SOUTH DEVON CAMPA DOES CHAGFORD

The trip was promoted as starting from a bus stop that didn't exist so, in the best of the late Peter O'Nions tradition, criticism was levelled at Grumpy who must have misread something. But, no, there are still web pages claiming buses start from stand 13 at Exeter Bus Station, so the social secretary swerves this one.

Requisite pre-crawl breakfasts were taken at numerous places from Newton Abbot to Exeter and the group eventually mustered on the bus for the hour long trip into the wilds of Dartmoor and the isolated settlement called Chagford that was to be our home for the day.

First stop was the Globe Inn where we enjoyed Otter Bitter, Jail and Dartmoor IPA. Next, to the Ring O'Bells where exactly the same beers were on the bar! Now part of the 'Inns of Cornwall and Devon' family, currently running five other pubs in Cornwall and Devon experienced publican Myles Gough takes charge and our best wishes to previous licensee Mary for an enjoyable retirement.

Next up was the Chagford Inn, where a solitary Otter Bitter was waiting for us, although in first class condition. We finished in the Three Crowns Hotel with Jail, Proper Job and Tribute on the bar and in very good order.

A quick 'facilities' stop in advance of the hour trip back to Exeter. But we 'enjoyed' a rapid ride down narrow country lanes – only to stop for an extended time when found we were so ahead of schedule (what's that all about?).

Back in Exeter the party gradually drifted apart, with the diehards checking out the newly opened Turks Head before heading to trains and buses.

A good day out and not one suspect beer. Well done, Chagford publicans!



The Ring O'Bells



Three Crowns







THAT BBQ

Peter Lister's tribute to Tony Woodwark in Winter 2021 News & Brews recalled Tony's repeated requests for a new BBQ for the annual jaunt. Pleadings falling on deaf ears, Tony decided to do his own thing......

Our annual BBQ took place as usual, ably conducted by Hunters brewery liaison officer Tony Woodwark, Mr Darcy, and his trusty equipment. At the end of last year the usual BBQ was pensioned off and a new machine took pride of place in the brewery yard.

Early arrivals noted BBQing in full swing with a proud chef flipping burgers and preparing rolls and



Hunger and thirst sated.



BBQ on BBQ!

relish. Keen to showcase his acquisition, the chef turned the machine off to demonstrate its many features.

Unfortunately, despite many, many attempts, it failed to reignite. It was at this point we discovered it was a £3 purchase from the tip with its usable life behind it! Cue the chef to disappear to buy a disposable BBQ, so as not to let down hungry CAMRA members. Cooking BBQ on BBQ is something of an innovation. Nonetheless, the gathered throng enjoyed their meal, accompanied by complementary Crispy Pig from Hunters.

Is the moral of the story that we should have had a whip round earlier to fund a new machine? Guess this will run and run...

Reproduced from News & Brews edition 59

Please enter your monthly What Pub scores by the **6th** of the following month for them to be included on that month's database. For a 'how to' description of scoring see





The Durant Arms Freehouse Ashprington Totnes TQ9 7UP



01803 732240

Alan, Lesley & Simon welcome you to the Durant Arms.

3 hand pulls from Devon and further afield plus real ale and local cider on gravity from our unique "hole in the wall"

Top quality pub grub served lunch and evening using the best local produce

En suite accommodation available Kids, dogs and muddy boots welcome

Just 2.5 miles from Totnes along the beautiful river Dart trail.

www.durantarms.co.uk





Submit updates using the feedback form

www.whatpub.com

THE GREEN DRAGON

STOKE FLEMING

Alan and Georgie welcome you to their traditional village pub serving homemade food, local real ales, delicious wines, a large selection of gin, rums and other spirits.



We have a sunny patio and beautiful beer garden, during warmer months our alfresco bar will be open and in cooler months our log fire will be roaring.

We love to hold a variety of live entertainment, quiz and themed nights and an annual beer and music festival, throughout the year.

You can find us on the South West Coastal path and the bus route. We are very dog friendly.

We offer a 10% discount off real ales for CAMRA members (exclusions apply).

The Green Dragon, Church Road, Stoke Fleming, TQ6 0PX. 01803 770238

www.facebook.com/greendragon2018





great reasons to join CAMRA

- CAMPAIGN
 for great beer, cider and perry
- Enjoy CAMRA
- BEER FESTIVALS in front of or behind the bar
- 5 YOUR LOCAL
- 7 VALUE FOR MONEY
- HEALTH BENEFITS
 (really!)

- 2 BEER EXPERT
- GET INVOLVED and make new friends
- 6 BEST PUBS IN BRITAIN
 - pub heritage and the great outdoors
- HAVE YOUR SAY

What's yours?

Discover your reason and join the campaign today: www.camra.org.uk/10reasons



THE RESUMPTION OF GRUMPY'S ANNUAL CALENDAR

Now that there is some sort of return to normality, I was reminded how many of my groans fit into the annual sequence of events. It was late October, and that dreadful event called 'trick or treat' was upon us. I always avoid this by going out and not being disrupted every couple of minutes by children demanding chocolate to fuel their obesity. In the case of the older ones it can be made worse by demands for money or even alcohol, with rejection greeted by eggs and flour thrown. A friend of mine has an industrial water pistol to give them a real trick, but I wouldn't dare and therefore escape to the safety of the pub. It was quiet and I headed towards my usual territory which was already occupied by a couple and a young child. The child was quiet and well behaved, but taking no chances I ventured further away. For once, I made the right decision as no sooner than seated the child 'kicked off', standing on the seat and basically screaming which went on and on. Eventually, the parents gave up trying to calm him and took the responsible action to leave. Shortly afterwards small groups of adults and children started to form and they were obviously planning to go on manoeuvres for 'trick or treating'. The kids were approximation of zombies or other horror figures apart from one little girl who was dressed as a fairy complete with a wand which was a little bizarre! They were planning their strategy of 'attack'. When I left later I witnessed them in operation systematically 'combing' the streets like a modern style industrial Fagin style operation. I was reminded of a beer festival where the charity organisers told their volunteers to walk four feet apart at the same pace and when they reached the far end to repeat the process, but having changed positions so as punters would encounter different faces. This was hardly entering in to the spirit of things and they were not invited back again.

Next there is Christmas and the problem of Christmas Day. Generally, the pubs are only open for a couple of hours at lunchtime, but become full of family groups whose last visit to the pub was last Christmas day. Inevitably, regulars are pushed aside and getting served was chaotic. A family order comprising beer, miscellaneous spirits, wine and children's soft drinks combined with the interruptions of asking Auntie Flo what type of sherry she required. Inevitably all of this produced much mess engulfing the tables. Sadly, some years ago a 12% winter beer was available and virtually everyone was trying a half as it was Christmas. This beer had taken months to mature and it was largely left untouched which would have brought tears to the eyes of the brewer. How sad and so unnecessary! This year it was regulars only and their dogs and a far better atmosphere resulted. At least visitor's children were not able to feed the dogs mince pies!

Throughout the lockdowns and other interruptions I thought that landlords were generally professional in their approach despite being provoked by many an idiot trying to get around the regulations. Unfortunately, such high standards were not always evident in the past. In my younger days I remember entering to hang up our coats only to be told that they were flea and moth ridden and monly fit for his dog to lie on. He also suggested that we move to the other bar so as not to upset the locals. Throughout the 1970s long male hair was fashionable which infuriated many landlords and especially those with a military background. If you dared not ask where the toilets were you might well get the response questioning whether you needed the male or female toilets. Even worse one landlord asked a customer to check that the toilets were not being used as he feared so that other customers might think that they were being propositioned. **



GRUMPY ... CONTINUED

- » There were two landlords who were so elitist that it was a wonder that they had any customers at all. The first was a large Polish man who I asked to stamp my pub trail passport. I held this by this document as if it was a piece of used loo paper and was concerned that the proletarian hordes would descend upon him. He made it clear that he did not want the riff raff contaminating his establishment, but eventually signed with a pretentious moniker covering the whole passport and then threw it back at me. The second was a South African who had been put into this pub to tidy up the clientele. He certainly did that, but with his attitude, cleared out most sensible people with his rules and regulations. When I entered it was empty with Sibelius playing at full blast. I told how nice it was to hear the Sibelius, but in reply he told me that if I didn't like it I should get out. Three possibilities present themselves.
- 1) He misheard and thought I was being critical
- 2) Nobody likes a clever dick which I was obviously being.
- 3) He had put himself on an elitist pedestal and resented oiks like myself joining him.

Anyway I was thrown out leaving the pub empty which is what his attitude and music deserved

Finally there is some excitement to look forward to with the imminent kid's half term. Kids in pubs is becoming more and more reminiscent of those old black and white films where the wagon train forms a circle and is surrounded by yelping Indians. The circle is now formed by the pushchairs with the kids doing the yelping supplemented by the older kids with their scooters. If that is not enough excitement there is always Mothering Sunday to look forward to and a no go day for the pub.

Bols Southwell Aka the Grumpy Old Man

CAMRA MEMBER PUB DISCOUNTS

The following pubs give discounts to card carrying CAMRA members

01 0	, 0		
Pub	Location	Scheme	
The Cherub Inn	Dartmouth	10% off a pint	
The Palk Arms	Hennock	15% off a pint Monday-Friday	
The Sloop	Kingskerswell	10% off cask beers	
The Railway	Newton Abbot	10% off bar bill	
Waterside Inn	Paignton	10% off a pint	
The Green Dragon	Stoke Fleming	10% off a pint	
The Castle Inn	Stoke Gabriel	40p off a pint	
The Kents	Torquay	50p off a pint Monday-Friday	
The Old Engine House	Torquay	10% off cask beers	
Yates	Torquay	10% off a pint	
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Ad Size	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	Year
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