

South Devon CAMRA Branch Meeting

Tuesday 14th October 2025 7.30pm

Railway Brewhouse, Newton Abbot

15 Members present

MINUTES

Apologies for absence – Dave Wheeler, Lawrence Stringer, Dave & Amanda Buckler, Paul & Elizabeth Hulme, Phil Kidd, Bob Southwell

Chairman's Report – Clive Mackriell gave an update regarding arrangements for the 50th anniversary social in November, space is limited so we may have to take names in advance to get an idea of numbers.

Treasurer's Report – Ian Packham gave details of the branch finances which are good. We have repaid the loan for this year's festival and paid for the venue for next year. The surplus means we will send £500 back to CAMRA HQ.

Secretary's Report – nothing to report.

Membership Secretary's Report – Dave Clarke reported the current membership is 539. Recent campaign to put membership leaflets and posters in all Wetherspoons, already resulted in one new member joining on last weeks social at the Vigilance, Brixham.

POTY, CPOTY, GBG – in Billy's absence Clive reported the next branch meeting on the 2nd December will be the first stage of POTY selection and further details will be sent out in November.

Social Secretary's Report – Alan Cooke - recent socials have been well attended with 20+ members, reports can be viewed on the website. Suggestions invited for future locations for mid week socials. We are invited to the Exeter branch social to Hunts Cider on the 25th October, details on the website; November social will be No.22 bus route between Torquay and Babbacombe / St Marychurch; Christmas social is on the 13th December from mid day at the Torbay Inn.

Magazine Report – Ian said more advertisers are needed for the News & Brews magazine, the advertising year is nearing the end and we have lost two advertisers from this year.

Totnes Beer & Cider Festival Report – the venue for 2026 has been booked and paid for, the business plan is complete and about to be submitted for approval. This year's festival was a success with a healthy surplus.

Website / Whatpub – Alan Cooke reported the old Whatpub website has been closed and beer scores can now be submitted on the main CAMRA website, it's a

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very simple process so please continue submitting beer scores as before, updates to pub information can be notified in the same way as before.

Cider News – Ian reported the Upside Bar has expanded the range of cider available.

Brewery News – Ian reported that Dartmoor Brewery's Jail Ale recently won gold in the SW & SC CBOB judging and now goes forward to the national judging.

Pub News – The Royal Castle Hotel, Dartmouth has re-opened after a major refurbishment, Alan has completed the pub survey. The Crafty Badger is a new taproom recently opened in Teignmouth. The Royal Oak, Ashburton will re-open soon. Efforts to save the Kingsbridge Inn, Totnes are ongoing. The Coach House Inn, Paignton has re-opened.

Any Other Business – none

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 2nd December 2025 at Paignton Con Club

7.53pm meeting ended.