

66TH EDITION

SUMMER 2019



SUNSHINE

Beer & Cider Festival

TEIGNMOUTH RFC, BITTON PARK ROAD
TEIGNMOUTH TQ14 9DQ

SEE PAGE 4



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WELCOME

66TH EDITION
SUMMER 2019



In this edition:

Hello,

In this edition:

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Cheers,
Andrew 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





**25-27
JULY 2019**

SUNSHINE

Beer & Cider Festival

**TEIGNMOUTH RFC, BITTON PARK RD
TEIGNMOUTH, TQ14 9DQ**

25

OPEN
ENTRY

THURS 5PM - 11PM, FRI 11AM-11PM, SAT 11AM-11PM
£10 INCL FESTIVAL GLASS, BEER TOKENS & PROGRAMME, GLASSES NON REFUNDABLE
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Fundraising in aid of the RNLI

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WHAT'S ON

Branch Meetings and Social Events

Date	Time	Purpose	Location
21 June	19:00	Beer festival volunteers meeting	Summer Moon beer festival
22 June	midday	Social	Summer Moon beer festival
28 June		Brewery trip	South Hams Brewery
9 July	20:00	Branch meeting	Tally Ho, Littlehempston
19 July	19:00	Beer festival volunteers meeting	Teignmouth Rugby Club

Beer Festivals

Date	Event	Location
21 - 22 June	Summer Moon beer festival	Church End Road Kingskerswell
27 - 29 June	Plymouth CAMRA beer festival	T.A. Centre The Hoe, Plymouth
28 - 30 June	Beer festival	The Albert, Totnes
20 July	Ipple Tipple	Ipplepen village green
26 - 28 July	South Devon CAMRA Sunshine beer and cider festival	Teignmouth Rugby Club
6 - 10 Aug	GBBF	London Olympia
17 - 18 Aug	Beer festival	Tally Ho, Littlehempston
23 - 26 Aug	Beer festival	Bay Horse, Totnes
24 - 26 Aug	Beer festival	Blue Anchor, Teignmouth
24 - 27 Aug	Staverton Rails and Ales	Staverton Station
6 - 7 Sept	Beer festival	Durant Arms, Ashprington
20 - 22 Sept	Abbfest beer and cider festival	Fermoy's Garden Centre

Please check individual events prior to attending

PUB NEWS

The **Durant Arms** at **Ashprington** had Noss Breweries Church Ledge and a beer from Otter Brewery on the bar recently and was enjoyed by our local reporter.

The Palmers range is a permanent feature at **The Watermans Arms** at **Bow Bridge**.

The Bolton in **Brixham** is relaunched as **The Birdcage** after a £750,000 refurbishment.

The Bear and Blacksmith in **Chillington** has been named Best Pub in Devon in the 2019 National Pub and Bar Awards.

The former Madruth Inn in **Cornworthy** has changed back to its former name of **The Hunters Lodge** and by the time you read this Grahame and Sue Nutt will have taken over. We wish them well with their new enterprise.

The Seale Arms in **Dartmouth** has reopened after a refurbishment. Jail and Doom Bar were on the bar at a recent visit.

The Red Lion at **Dittisham** had Palmers Gold and Dartmoor Legend. The latter was sampled and found very drinkable.

New summertime opening times have been announced for **The Palk Arms** in **Hennock** - see whatpub.com for details. The restaurant and pub frontage has been redecorated and real cider is now on hand pump. The pub is also continuing its community involvement by supporting Hennock Fair in August.

By the time you read this, **The Lord Nelson** in **Kingskerswell** should have lost its White Ensign 'trademark' wall to be replaced by some very classy ship artwork. On a recent visit newly listed Salcombe Brewery was introducing their range to the pub - Les's first choice is Shingle Bay.

All change at **The Ship** in **Kingswear**. Anthony Apthorpe takes over ably assisted by family members. On the bar at a recent visit were Trelawny, Tribute, Otter Ale and Jail all on form.

The Palace Hotel in **Paignton** had Otter Ale and Amber on the bar at a recent visit.

The recent Sausage & Cider Festival at **The Albert Inn** in **Totnes** was a great success - the next big event at the Albert will be celebrating landlord Giles's "umpteenth" (his words) birthday at the Summer Beer Festival, 28-30 June.

The Maltsters Arms at **Tuckenhay** had two cask ales on the bar on a recent trip, Otter Bitter and Hanlons Yellow Hammer. The latter was sampled and in good form.

Trading Standards Office Devon 01392 382818
Torbay 01803 208080

Contact them if you are dissatisfied with service or quantities
and are unable to resolve this with the service provider.

Bays Brewery Topsail has won champion beer of Britain for the South West in the bitters category and Bays Gold has won silver in the golden ales category.

Sunshine Pale Ale 4.2% abv has again been brewed exclusively for The South Devon CAMRA Beer Festival 2019 by **Black Tor** and 60 casks of the popular hoppy pale ale will be found in pubs across the South West before the beer festival. Maximajor ESB 5.6% abv was launched in May, Black Tor's latest limited edition cask ale is a full bodied, strong malty extra special bitter brewed with Maris Otter malt and English hops Goldings and Jester. They celebrated their third GOLD award in a year for their Raven 4.2% abv best bitter, winning a GOLD at The SIBA South West Beer Competition. Blonde 3.8% abv ale is now available in 500ml bottles.

Bridgetown Brewery's Head Brewer George Langabeer recently swapped his mash paddle for a paintbrush and has redecorated the brewery throughout. He has also rebranded (though not renamed) the Bridgetown beers, redesigning all the pump clips.

Silver Award for **Dartmoor** Jail Ale in the Strong Bitters Category at the South West Champion Beer of Britain Competition.

New Lion Brewery was due to move this month into its new premises at Webbers Yard, Dartington, but plans have been slightly delayed due to Dartington Trust being unable to renovate the premises. The brewery now plans to move there during June and July. Once established, the ambitious plans to launch its community-owned enterprise will be set in motion. In the meantime the brewery continues to make White Label brews some of which were made in collaboration with local business. Mudskipper brewed together with Roam Brewing was reported as cloudy but delicious, and Taphouse Milkshake brewed with Taphouse Bottle Shop was also very popular while the fruit sours are continuing to be winners.

Riviera Brewing has started using British Hops from the Charles Faram Hop development program. Varieties include Jester and Olicana which are used for both bittering and aroma providing fruit flavours. These will be included in Riviera Gold 4.2%, Beach Blonde 4.1% and Riviera Pale Ale 3.9%. Drunken Porter 4.5% Torbay Express 4.8% and a special variant of Devonian 4.5% will also be available this Summer at local festivals in Devon

Throughout 2019, **Salcombe Brewery** are donating 5p of every pint of Lifesaver to the RNLI, as Salcombe commemorates 150 years of having its own Lifeboat Station. Owner of Salcombe Brewery Co., John Tiner, says: "We are committed to giving back to our local area and are thrilled to have the opportunity to support an important cause. Salcombe's first Lifeboat Station was established in 1869 so 2019 marks 150 years of saving lives. We are keen to raise awareness of the invaluable role that the RNLI has played in our community for the last century and a half and to raise funds to support them in the continuation of this work. In 2019, we will be donating 5 pence to the RNLI for every draught pint sold of our much-loved and aptly named Lifesaver." Lifesaver (abv 4.8%) is a tasty bronze coloured ale which boasts a pleasantly malty flavour with a smack of citrus and orange peel. The initial citrus flavour gently fades into a subtle liquorice and toffee character with a floral finish. Lifesaver is available on draught throughout pubs and bars in the South West. »

BREWERY NEWS.... CONTINUED

» **St Austell's** Black Square - their Russian Imperial Stout - won a Championship Trophy at the recent International Brewing Awards

Summerskills Plymouth Porter featured in the JD Wetherspoon National Guest Ale programme between January and March and was well received. So much so in fact that the Packet Station in Falmouth, where the Porter went down particularly well, held a Tap Takeover featuring 8 of their beers over the late May Bank Holiday weekend. Special brew made with the last of the Tuckers Malt and First Gold hops "First Gold, Tuckers Last" was launched at the Tuckers Maltings Beer festival in April and has been very popular. They brewed the Show Beer for Devon County Show this year and as they are celebrating the Centenary of the Forestry Commission have produced "Forestry Centenary Ale" for the event. Brewed using lager malt, First Gold and Faram Fuggle hops it is a pale, easy drinking 4.1% refreshing beer, which will be on general release after the event. By the time you read this First Light should also be ready to go out into the trade and Ninja will be brewed over the Summer too. They are supporting the Summer Moon Festival for the first time this year, the Plymouth CAMRA beer festival at the end of June and we are looking forward to supporting the South Devon CAMRA beer festival at the end of July.

Totnes Brewing Company have taken out the bar in the back room making more space for seating and entertainment, and often showcase live music. Tropango continues to be a best-seller for those who like a fruity beer and the core ales Woodman and Spannerhand are hits with the traditionalists. In addition the brewery is devising very many ales.



Pete Salmon and Will Freeland from Bays receive their awards from Bob Southwell and Dave Buckler.



Ian Packham presents the award to Dartmoor's Richard Smith

drinkaware.co.uk
for the facts

THE SUPERIOR PALE ALE



QUALITY SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

PUB IN FOCUS – THE CROWN & SCEPTRE, ST MARYCHURCH

Not many South Devon pubs can boast 7 or 8 beers on the bar all the time, let alone run by the same family for 43 years; this edition of Pub in Focus has the spotlight on The Crown and Sceptre in St Marychurch.



Landlord Dave Wheeler

As a Youngs area manager in London, Roy Wheeler had his sights on his own pub, and after moving his family to the South West settled on The Crown & Sceptre as it had a great group of locals and good passing trade. Current landlord and son Dave Wheeler had helped in the pub when younger then after a retail career took over following his father's passing - a total 43 years in the Wheeler family!

Originally a coaching inn around 1830 owned by Swain and Co, it was then taken over by Plymouth Breweries, followed by Courage, and eventually Enterprise Inns. The interior decor is traditional wood and stone with the ceiling adorned with masses of breweriana, chamber pots, pennants and other interesting paraphernalia.

Landlord Dave takes pride in offering 7 or 8 beers on the bar, many the same as in his father's days. Few changes have been made; quite simply if it sells don't change it but if not they don't re-order! It's a popular range with something for regulars and visitors.

Music is an important theme with gentle background music from the 60s and 70s. Live music Mondays, Tuesdays are Jazz nights, Appalachian mountain music on Wednesdays, Fridays is folk, and occasional Saturdays have established bands.

Mervyn Edwards, a CAMRA member on holiday from Newcastle, Staffs, shares his recent visit with News & Brews. "As a recent first-time visitor to The Crown and Sceptre in »

THE CROWN & SCEPTRE.... CONTINUED

» St Marychurch, I won't list its multifarious merits and fascinating bric-a-brac and risk boring those who have known and loved it for years. However, I would like to praise a pub whose ambience has been nurtured by the landlord and its customers. As one who - to almost quote Monty Python - is fond of caseous comestibles, I was delighted to drop by on a recent Wednesday afternoon, at which time the locals perform the strange ritual of bringing in free cheese for everyone to sample. I am not the type of correspondent who offers a printed recommendation on the strength of a few bites of Stilton, but I was pleased to observe a symbiosis between a pub and its customers that is rare nowadays".

"As a 'random' from North Staffordshire, I soon found myself talking, debating and laughing with the regulars, regardless of our party political views, football allegiances and cultural differences. Cheese, is after all, a great social leveller. The term 'community pub' is somewhat over-used even by ourselves in CAMRA, but landlord Mr Wheeler and the patrons of The Crown and Sceptre - who were keen to give me a guided tour of the pub - have created something truly special here. The only trouble is, I live 217 miles away, so could I ask Devonians to look after it for me until I get back".

And not to be left out, a tribute from long-time fan and South Devon CAMRA stalwart, Roger Adams. "I have known The Crown and Sceptre for almost as many years as I have lived in South Devon. I have visited this pub many times, been to many meetings, drank many pints there and talked with Roy and Heather when they were running it and I have chatted with David in more recent years. The pub was mentioned in the Good Beer Guide in 1976 and though there have been a few decoration changes, more hats and pots, it is almost the same as it was 40 odd years ago. The pub is renowned for its beer and I want very little else in a pub apart from good beer and more good beer. I reckon this is just a good pub".



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SOUTH DEVON CAMRA 2019 PUB OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The Taphouse and Bottle Shop in Newton Abbot wins Town Pub and Overall Pub of the Year 2019, two years after founders Jonathan Webber and Richard Goodfellow decided over a beer to open a micro pub, and realised the potential of The Maltings as the perfect venue. Initially run by Sam Webber it was seamlessly taken over by current manager Becks Connett.



Jonathan, Becks and Richard receiving the award from South Devon Chairman Bob Southwell

Over at The Tally Ho in Littlehempston, Mike and Kelly Joiner have won Country Pub of the Year 2019. They maintain the community ethos that was at the heart of previous owner Littlehempston Community Pub's concept. At the time of writing Mike is planning his next beer and music festival over the weekend of 17 & 18th August.

Dale Holwell at the Conservative Club in Shaldon received the Club of the Year award as he leaves the club. We thank him for his welcome to CAMRA members and wish him the best for the future.

The Bridford Inn in Bridford won the Cider Pub of the Year 2019.



Dale Holwell received the award from Bob Southwell

Ipplepen Village Show and Ipple Tipple Beer Festival

2.00pm—11.30pm, Saturday 20th July 2019

Marquee on the playing field, Ipplepen.

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Live music from: Raspberry Fish. Go tell Alice. Unity in Sound Community Choir.





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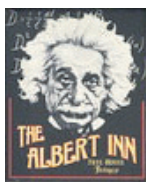
The Albert Inn

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.

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SOUTH WEST INDEPENDENT BEER AWARDS 2019

The overall Champion cask beer was Tally Ho from Palmers while YPA from Yeovil Ales came top in the bottle and can competition held at the Maltings Beer Festival in April.

South Devon CAMRA branch area boasted a number of winners:



Dr Declan Teare, Yeovil head brewer and Darren Batten head brewer and director of Palmers receiving their awards from SIBA competitions chairman, Guy Sheppard

Category	Award	Brewery	Beer
Cask British bitter (up to 4.4%)	Silver	South Hams Brewery	Wild Blonde 4.4%
Cask Premium PAS (4.4 - 5.4%)	Silver	Salcombe Brewery	Salcombe Pale Ale 4.6%
Bottle/can British dark beers (up to 4.4%)	Gold	Black Tor	Raven 4.20%
Bottle/can British dark beers (4.5 - 6.4%)	Gold	Salcombe Brewery	Island Street Porter 5.9%
Bottle/can Premium Bitters (4.5 - 6.4%)	Bronze	Hunters Brewery	Premium 4.8%
Bottle/can Imperial IPA (6.5% and over)	Silver	Hunters Brewery	Full Bore 6.8%
Bottle/can session lager and pilsner	Silver	Red Rock	Devon Pilsner 4.1%
Bottle/can Speciality light beer	Gold	South Hams Brewery	Cloch Point 6.8%
Bottle/can speciality mid to dark beers	Silver	South Hams Brewery	Corryvreckan 6.8%
Bottle/can Sous/Spontaneous	Gold	New Lion	Fruit Sour 5.5%



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PLYMOUTH CAMRA



BEER FESTIVAL

Festival Catering



Entry Cost

CAMRA Members/Armed Forces - £10.00 to include (Glass, Beer List and £6.00 of Tokens) - Non CAMRA Members - £10.00 to include (Glass, Beer List and £3.00 of Tokens)

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Festival Charity



How to get there:

Please see Plymouth Camra website for travel information

www.plymouth.camra.org.uk/beerfestival

**The 2019 Pub of the Year winners for
Devon, Cornwall, and Somerset are**

Cornwall **White Hart**
at Chilsworthy

Plymouth **Royal Oak**
at Meavy

Exeter and
East Devon **Tom Cobley**
at Spreyton

North
Devon **Bell**
at Chittlehampton

Somerset **Crossways**
at West Huntspill

South Devon **The Taphouse and Bottleshop**
at Newton Abbot

The Durant Arms
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LANCASTER DAY OUT

Last Good Friday, I found myself in Lancaster, although it wasn't planned as such. It was about 20.00 hours when I arrived and as I strolled through the town centre looking for my hotel, I noticed a lot of very old pubs. These were extremely busy owing to the large amount of people enjoying the bank holiday.

Eventually, I found my accommodation and checked in. Almost opposite was an "olde" world pub called The Ring O` Bells of the Mitchell Inns chain. The building was built in 1769 and is a grade 2 listed building. However one thing I did not enjoy was the volume of music being played as it made conversation difficult. The beer itself was very good. I had a couple of pints of York Guzzler 3.6% from York Brewery followed by a couple of pints of Coniston Bluebird bitter also 3.6%. It was pleasant to sample beers that I haven't come across before. The landlord was very friendly and gave me a Lancaster Cask Ale pub guide, which has inspired me to re-visit in the future.

There are 29 pubs all within ½ mile of the city centre. There are 5 ale trails all colour coded on the easy to follow map. The trails are Quay and Luneside views, Market Square and Church Street, Castle Hill and King Street, Georgian Lancaster and finally The Canal stroll. Apparently there are about 177 hand pumps in the guide so you are bound to find an ale to enjoy.

So if you were looking for an interesting place to visit steeped in history try Lancaster.

Phil Ward

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Dartmoor Brewery is the second largest Brewery in Devon, officially the highest brewery in England at 1,465ft above sea level. The Brewery is still located in Princetown, just a few steps away from the Prince of Wales pub where it all began in 1994.



WWW.DARTMOORBREWERY.CO.UK  DARTMOORBREWERY  DARTMOORBREWERY

Pubs code review

Following the news that the first statutory review of the Pubs Code and Adjudicator will take place from 30 April until 22 July, CAMRA is now calling for meaningful changes to take place.

Tom Stainer, CAMRA's Chief Executive said: "The introduction of the Pubs Code could have marked a turning point for England's community pubs but, since it came in, we've seen pub companies use every trick in the book to prevent the legislation from achieving what it set out to do. When Parliament brought in the Pubs Code its intention was for Market Rent Only to be a realistic option, and that simply hasn't happened. This review is therefore essential and welcome, but for communities to stop losing pubs to predatory, short-term business practices, it must lead to meaningful reforms and to a Code that is fit for purpose."

Publicans declare the business rates system 'broken'

Damning new evidence from CAMRA shows the extent of the damage done to Britain's pubs by business rates. New research compiled by CAMRA has been submitted to the House of Commons which shows that 72% of surveyed licensees find the business rates system unfair to pubs.

The report, which comes hot on the heels of a Parliamentary debate on how beer and pubs are taxed, surveyed 650 licensees from across the country. Publicans submitted accounts of the devastating impact of rate increases, including the need to lay off staff, put off investment, and raise prices for consumers.

The evidence will be considered by the Treasury Committee and inform their inquiry into the impact of business rates. It echoes the sentiment expressed in the House of Commons, where over 35 MPs from six different political parties spoke out in support of Britain's pubs during the debate, demonstrating a real need for Government to support these community assets.

Speaking in the debate, Mike Wood MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Beer Group said: "We have to address business rates. We need fundamental reform. The relief announced in the Budget last autumn was enormously helpful, with about 80% of pubs benefiting, but they are still hugely overtaxed. Despite only making up about 0.5% of total business turnover, our pubs represent nearly 3% of all business rate payments."

Tom Stainer, CAMRA's Chief Executive said: "Since the last business rates revaluation in 2017 it has been clear that the business rates system simply isn't working for England's publicans, many of whom have contacted us directly about the issue. The rates hit tied tenants especially hard, as they are usually unable to make cost savings elsewhere and have squeezed profit margins due to the high price of tied beer. It's encouraging to see such overwhelming cross-party support for a fundamental review of how pubs are taxed, and we hope that the Treasury Committee listen to publicans and take that message on board."

The CAMRA survey was carried out in March 2019 and received over 650 responses from publicans.

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CAMRA MEMBER PUB DISCOUNTS

The following pubs give discounts to card carrying CAMRA members

Pub	Location	Scheme
The Monks Retreat Inn	Broadhempston	10p off a pint
The Drum Inn	Cockington	20p off a pint
The Cherub Inn	Dartmouth	60p off a pint
The Palk Arms	Hennock	15% off a pint Monday-Friday
The Sloop	Kingskerswell	10% off cask beers
Waterside Inn	Paignton	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
Totnes Brewing Co	Totnes	10% off TBC brews



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THE GRUMPY OLD MAN *A REALLY BAD DAY ALL IN ONE*

I have grumped about many things on my visits to pubs, but usually it is the case of one grump per visit. I was wondering what it would be like if all of these recent grumps were condensed into the same visit. What follows is therefore fiction assuming that some of the experiences encountered all occurred at the same time which fortunately they did not.

As I approached the bar there were two quite large gentlemen who totally blocked the approach managing to cover most of the bar area and making ordering a drink more than difficult. They clearly had no intention of moving to allow my access treating the bar as their own personal fiefdom. The whole thing was reminiscent of tales of the Germans reserving the best seats with their towels at the swimming pool except that on this occasion it was human bodies doing it. Having shoe horned my way through, the affable barman upset me by saying "hello bud and what can I do for you"? "Well for a start you can stop calling me bud as this is not downtown Pittsburgh! I then ordered a pint of 4X only to be told it was not on. "Why is the pump clip not turned around then? OK, I will have a pint of mild then please. Very sorry, but that's not on either, but both will be on tonight. That is not at all helpful as I am here now and will not be back here tonight". I get very irritated with all the pump clips facing the customer giving the impression of choice when in reality there is very little. Eventually I settled for something else which he then started to pour only to be stopped instantly by my protest. The glass in question is not what I would call a beer glass and was something like an oversized wine glass or an oddly shaped container for displaying flowers or for storing pasta. I explained that I wanted a proper glass only to be told that they did not do those old fashioned style of drinking utensils anymore as there was no call for them these days which is, of course, total coppers. After great difficulty he finishes pouring leaving a massive head and an extremely short measure at which I then asked for it to be topped up. Amazingly he then said that he didn't realise that I wanted a full pint!! What other type of full pint is there? How can three quarters of a pint be a full pint and there is clearly some oxymoronic tautological nonsense going on here. Are there really some people who actually request a short pint? I very much doubt it. On a scale of 1 to 10 his topping up with good grace at this point rendered a 1. After much faffing around and more froth he then returned it leaving as much on the bar as he had topped up and I gave up. "That will be £5.15 please. What, I asked for a pint not a quart and I can't drink your enormous spillage on the bar". Somewhat peeved, I fished in my wallet only to be told that they did not take cash. "Don't tell me it is old fashioned and there is no call for it! No wonder you don't take cash for if I bought a round of drinks then a cash machine would become a regular necessity and you would have one in the corner"!

After all that excitement it was time to sit down and observe my fellow drinkers most of whom were immersed in their mobile phones with the distinctive blue glow reflecting in their face like Martians from a science fiction film. For a change, I must express my eternal gratitude to the pub television as it introduced me to the seedy delights of the Jeremy Kyle Show which was so unbelievably crass that I felt brain cells leaching out of my ears but at least did me the favour of knowing to avoid it in the future. As I did so this person passed me reeking of fag smoke, sat down and began to roll another cigarette. »

GRUMPY CONTINUED

» Meanwhile his mate who had rolled his left for the garden and so they rotated like this spending little time together in this bizarre ritual and I wondered whether they actually disliked each other. I then noticed a rather doleful dog staring at me and bearing in mind their enhanced sense of smell the dreaded fag duo must really have been an unimaginable hell. I have often argued for a 'stink meter' machine where smoker's breath had to be tested before returning to civilisation from their puff in the garden. I always dread people engaging me in conversation and was sitting next to a couple with the women reading the Mail with a massive pull out about the royal birth. Inevitably, she looked at me and proclaimed it to be wonderful news and sought my approval. Fortunately, I had finished my drink and was on my way to the toilets before I could upset her cosy sycophantic world. I now encountered a curious British oddity of labelling the toilets pen and cob (or drake and duck, stallion and mare etc.). What is this nonsense? Is it British prurience renaming unseemly bodily functions or is it the perfidious marketeer attempting to 'sex up' even the toilets? On returning to the bar the door burst open and two kids came running in with the first jumping up on to a table and exhorting mum to follow her. Unfortunately, it was not just mum but a caravan of buggies complete with their handlers and contents..... I am now definitely on my way out and glanced at the dog who seemed to be begging to come with me and escape from all of this.

Bolt Southwell

Aka the Grumpy Old Man

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



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