

SUPPORTING



CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

Bridgnorth
Sub Branch

Ale Sabrina

Free



There's Not Only Port in Portugal!

A Trip Along the SVR

Ale-bania - Breweries and Beer in Albania

Ale on the Rails - Refreshments on the Go

Elgood's Brewery Beer Festival 2018

in conjunction with SIBA East Region featuring local East Anglian Breweries

- **150+ beers from mostly East Anglian breweries**
- **Live Bands:**
 - › Thursday Night – Toadfish Bone
 - › Friday Night – Animal Bar
 - › Saturday Night – Bewildered
- **Food, Cider, Wine, Soft Drinks**

Price

All Tickets: £4.00 All Beer: £3.00 per pint

Venue

Elgood's Brewery, North Brink,
Wisbech, PE13 1LW



Thursday 20th September 5 - 10.30PM

Friday 21st September 5 - 10.30PM

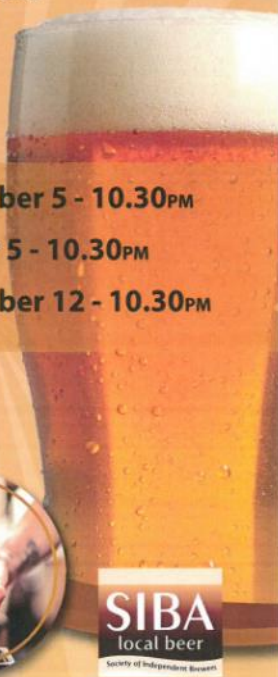
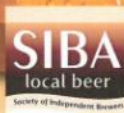
Saturday 22nd September 12 - 10.30PM



Book Tickets: 01945 583160

www.elgoods-brewery.co.uk

01945 583160 | info@elgoods-brewery.co.uk



What's In This Edition

- 5 Editors Comments
- 7 Beer Days Out - Beers in Bridgnorth
- 13 There's Not Only Port in Portugal!
- 17 A Trip Along the SVR
- 18 Footloose in Fort William
- 20 Ale-bania - Breweries and Beer in Albania
- 23 Beer Days Out - Libations in Lichfield
- 27 Branch Pub of the Season
- 30 Beer Days Out - Beers and Bars in Bewdley
- 33 CAMRA Revitalisation Project
- 35 Beer Destinations - Me and My Beer in Myanmar
- 39 Ale on the Rails - Refreshments on the Go
- 45 LocAle Pubs In Our Area
- 47 Get Your Thinking Caps On
- 49 Forthcoming Events
- 50 Branch Contacts

Editorial & Advertising Information

Ale Sabrina is funded entirely by advertising revenue. We would like to thank everyone who has supported us by contributing to this issue.

Should you wish to contribute to the next issue please contact Bill by email:
bsturt@alesabrina.co.uk

**Prices to advertise start at £25
for a quarter page.**

To advertise please email
adsales@alesabrina.co.uk

Autumn 2018 Issue 19

Dead Line: 8th September 2018

Artwork By

Betelguise Web Design

Printed By

Warwick Printing Company Ltd.

.....
Front Cover: Bamboo, Bridgnorth

For Only £50

This advertising space could be yours!

Reach a minimum of 4,000 real ale enthusiasts.

The all need to eat, they may need a taxi,
they all buy clothes and who knows what other
services and products they may be interested in.

You know it makes sense!

JIM JONES SAYS!

TRY OUR FAMOUS HAND CRAFTED ALES

PROUD GUARDIANS OF THE LEGENDARY RECIPE BOOK,
HANDED DOWN THROUGH THE GENERATIONS.



**THREE
TUNS**

Three Tuns Brewery
Office 8, Enterprise House
Station Street, Bishops Castle
Shropshire SY9 5AQ

Tel: 01588 638392

www.threetunsbrewery.co.uk



1642 The UK's Oldest Licensed Brewery



Editor's Comments

Welcome to issue 18 of Ale Sabrina. Yet again I am sitting in a pub garden in glorious sunshine, having just read in my newspaper that from the beginning of July until the end of August we are going to have one of the best spells of good weather for 12 years! Let's hope they are correct and you are reading this on a hot sunny day.

As you will read elsewhere in the magazine, the Bridgnorth Beer Festival at the Severn Valley Railway has been cancelled for the third year running, due to the on-going building of the new refreshment room on platform 1.

As a former employee of John Laing (builders), from day one of starting my apprenticeship in 1962, it was drummed into us new employees that John Laing constructed the M1 motorway from London to Birmingham in 19 months! How times have changed. If you were in the workshop, you had to be at your bench for an 8am start, with overalls on, toolbox open and ready to go!!

People ask me if I have a cast iron stomach because I drink my coffee very hot. The reason is the tea break hooter went at 10am. You got your mug of tea (no luxuries like coffee) and a bun and drank your tea before the hooter went again 10 minutes later. I soon learnt to drink it very hot! Lunch was for 45 minutes, just enough time to pop across the road for a quick pint (life was not so PC in those days)! Then back to work till 5pm. If you were on site you started earlier and finished later to get the job done!!

Enough of the past, let's hope that when the new building is finished and the old refreshment building removed we will be able to hold a Bridgnorth Beer Festival at the Severn Valley Railway in 2019. So for this year look out for Beer Festivals in your area and visit them or just use the pubs. By the time you read this the Bishops Castle Beer festival will be history, but there is still the Clun Valley Beer Festival in October which is well worth a visit!



Bill Sturt
Editor Of Ale

The Old Castle

10/11 West Castle Street Bridgnorth

Tel: 01746 711420



Real Ales



Home Cooked Food



Beautiful Beer Garden

Children & Dogs Welcome

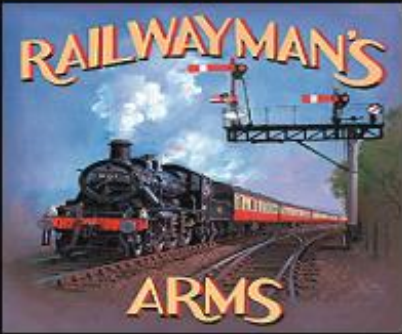


Beer Days Out - *Beers in Bridgnorth*

By Steve James

Bridgnorth is an historic market town in Shropshire on the River Severn and is a popular place for visitors from the West Midlands and elsewhere. It is not only the northern terminus of the Severn Valley Railway, but also has the steepest inland Victorian funicular railway in England, linking Low Town and High Town. An early name for the town may have been Bruges, hence the first link with beer (Belgium). Bridgnorth has a long history of pubs and inns; once nearly 130 pubs and inns were licensed in the town and although this is now down to less than 30, several historic pubs survive. We recently decided to check what was on offer at the many pubs and hostelrys in the town.

We arrived from Kidderminster on the Severn Valley Railway and our first port of call was naturally the bar on the station, the **Railwayman's Arms** (formerly the Station Tavern, dating from 1862). Batham's Best Bitter is always kept well here, which we sampled, along with Bewdley Brewery Station Porter, with six other real ales to choose from. We then crossed over the bridge (replaced in 1994) to New Road, walking up the hill, past the ruins of the 12th century castle, to the **Old Castle** to have an enjoyable meal, washed down with Hobson's Town Crier.

**Severn Valley Railway
Bridgnorth**

*Hobsons Best Bitter & Town Crier
Batham's Best Bitter
5 Guest Ales
Premium Lagers & Ciders*

*Monday - Friday 11.30am - 11.00pm
Saturday 11.00am - 11.00pm
Sunday 11.30am - 10.30pm*

A couple of doors further along West Castle Street is the **White Lion**, dating from the late 1640's. It is now the tap-house of the Hop & Stagger Brewery, previously behind the pub, but now brewing at larger premises in the countryside. We sampled their Bridgnorth Porter, Golden Wander and Triple Hop IPA (very hoppy!) from the choice of seven real ales. Then across the road to the **Shakespeare**, first licensed in 1792 as the Punch Bowl. This historic pub was recently taken over and renovated by Joules (Market Drayton) and here we sampled Slumbering Monk and Pure Blonde ales.



HOLDEN'S

EST. 1915



THE GOLDEN LION INN

BRIDGNORTH



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**



REAL ALES



BAR FOOD



**FROM
EASTER
2018**

ACCOMMODATION



**VOTED BRIDGNORTH CAMRA
PUB OF THE SEASON
SPRING 2018**



83 HIGH STREET, BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE WV16 4DS

Telephone 01746 762016

www.goldenlionbridgnorth.co.uk

OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 11.30Am - 11.00pm :: SUNDAY 12 Noon - 10.30pm



We continued into the market place, with its fine 17th century timbered town hall, where market stalls are set up on Saturdays and at other times. Turning left into Whitburn Street, we visited the **Kings Head**, dating back to 1780 and now owned by local butcher, Richard Beaman; we sampled Hobsons Twisted Spire and Wye Valley HPA. Behind the pub is the **Stable Bar**, now a separate business and the tap-house for the Bridgnorth Brewery, set up in 2011 by Craddocks (Stourbridge). We sampled River Steam, Monarch's Way & King's Escape, along with Three Tuns XXX Pale Ale.



Back into the market place, we briefly visited the local Wetherspoons pub, the **Jewel of the Severn**, opened in 2002, to sample some Salopian Lemon Dream from their selection

of eight real ales. A couple of doors further along High Street, near the 13th century town gate, is the historic **Golden Lion**, dating back to 1790 and once with its own brewery. In 2017, this pub was bought and renovated by Holdens, and was CAMRA pub-of-the season in Spring 2018; here we sampled Holdens Mild, Golden Glow and Black Country Mild.

Retracing our steps along High Street to the end of the market place, we called into the **Merckz** specialist Belgian bar, named after the famous Belgian cyclist, Eddy Merckz. It has nine taps offering a variety of Belgian and German beers, and over 60 bottled beers, served by Maria & Jed who are very knowledgeable about Belgian beers and gins. We then turned left down the hill to Cartway. This steep narrow street was once home to over 20 pubs and inns, some with secret hatches and passageways, but now only two survive. The **Black Boy** (previously The Blackie Boy) was first licensed in 1790 and the present pub dates from 1889.



BamBoo

Breakfasts - Lunches - Evening Meals



Locally Sourced Home Cooked Food

Premium Gins and Vodkas

Riverside Beer Garden

Premium Lagers

Real Local Ales

Show your CAMRA
Card to receive:

10p off Half

20p off Pint

(Ales Only)

15 Bridge Street, Bridgnorth

01746 765333

Dogs and Children welcome

www.bamboobridgnorth.co.uk



'LocAle' Accredited



We sampled Three Castles Black Boy Bitter, Greene King St Edmunds Golden Beer and one of my own favourites, Saltaire Triple Chocaholic. The other surviving pub at the bottom of Cartway, the **Bassa Villa** (previously Magpie/Beehive), has a small range of local beers on draught and in bottle.

Unfortunately, because we had to catch the train back to Kidderminster, we hadn't time to cross the river into Low Town. Here, recommended pubs include the **Black Horse** in Bridge Street, dating from 1810 (10 hand-pumps, including Wye Valley), and **The Vine** (1720) and **Fosters Arms** (1790) in Mill Street. Nor did we have time to pop into the CAMRA award-winning pub, **The George**, in Hollybush Road (six real ales), near the railway station.

So Bridgnorth is an interesting place for historic pubs and a wide variety of excellent beers and is well worth a day out.





8 Real Ales
4 Pint Real Ale Carry Out
Great Wine Selection
5 Log Fires
Live Music Every Friday
Beer Garden
Free Wi-Fi

Extensive Menu

Meal times:

Mon-Fri 12.00-2.30pm & 6.00-9.00pm

Saturday 12.00-4.00pm & 6.00-9.30pm

Sunday 12.00-8.30pm

Top Rated on TRIP ADVISOR

Visit us at www.kingsheadbridgnorth.co.uk

Tel: King's Head 01746 762141

Whitburn Street, Bridgnorth.

HOBSONS 25 YEAR JOURNEY

Award-winning REAL ALE brewed
with local ingredients for great taste

CLEOBURY MORTIMER - SHROPSHIRE



Visit www.hobsons-brewery.co.uk to watch our 25 year journey in short films





There's Not Only Port in Portugal!

By Steve James

In the past, many beer enthusiasts have thought of Portugal as something of a beer desert – the best you could get was a good glass of Super Bock or Sagres. But beer has a long history in Portugal, going back to Roman times and the nation is the 7th largest European exporter of the product. And now there seems to be a virtual explosion of micro-breweries and craft beer, with a wide range of light and dark beers available in the main towns and cities.

We decided to check what is on offer on a recent trip to Lisbon. This historic city is well worth a visit for the sightseeing alone, using the familiar yellow and black trams, buses, metro and funiculars. After our familiarisation trip on the Grayline open-top bus, our first port of call was **Museu da Cerveja** (Museum of Beer), near the waterfront at Terreiro do Paco. A typical tourist restaurant, there is an exhibition upstairs about the history of beer-making in Portugal and its former colonies, with many bottles. The €5 entrance fee entitles you to a 'free' glass of Sagres beer. Afterwards, we sat outside in the glorious sunshine and sampled some excellent draught beers, including Sagres Branca (blonde lager), Preta (dark

lager) and Bohemia (amber), along with bottles of craft beer, including Oitava Colina Ze Arnaldo Porter (St Arnaldo is the patron saint of beer!), Rosa Nunes Cruz Rapada dry stout, LX Black Rye IPA and Bolina Nina stout. Don't forget to try the codfish cakes, a speciality of the restaurant.

We then found the **Delirium Cafe** in Calçada Nova de São Francisco, with its range of Belgian and local beers, including Delirium Noel and Oitava Colina Urraca Vendaval IPA. That evening, feeling hungry, we visited **Burguers & Beer**, a modern burger bar in Avenida Fontes Pereira de Melo, with a good range of Portuguese and imported craft beers, including Waterloo Strong dark ale. Finally, we visited the **Cerveteca Lisboa**, a cosy bar somewhat off the beaten track in Praça das Flores. With 12 craft taps and two handpulls serving local and imported beers, we were spoiled for choice, but sampled Ballut Zaina Porter, Letra Harvest & Friends and Barona Castanha Brown Ale.

Next day, after a visit to the Tram and Carriage museums, we went by tram and bus to the Beato district in the east of the city. Here we found the **Dois Corvos Cervejeira** (Two Crows) in Rua Capitão Leão, a friendly back-street micro-brewery opened in 2015 offering a wide range of beers brewed on the premises. We sampled Matiné (Session IPA), LBD (German IPA), Centennial Motueka IPA, Metropolitan Pale Ale, Galaxia Milk Stout, Avenida Blonde and Finisterra Imperial Porter (9.5%). Just around the corner in Rua do Acúcar, we spotted the **Cerveja Independente Musa**, but although the taproom was closed for re-flooring, we were able to sample a bottle of Twist &



Museu da Cerveja, Lisbon



Fosters Arms

FREEHOUSE

Traditional Pub,
Guest Ales.
Beer Garden.
Free WiFi.
Open from 11.00 am daily.
All live sport shown.

56 Mill Street,
Bridgnorth.
WV15 5AG
Telephone:
01746 762332



BEWDLEY BREWERY

Bottles available from
brewery in cases of
12 or just 1 bottle

18 pint, 36 pint and 72 pint containers always
available with 3 days notice



www.bewdleybrewery.co.uk
Brewery shop: 01299 405148

SHOP
OPEN

Mon to Sat
10.00-16.00

BAR
OPEN

Fri & Sat
12.00-18.00



By Steve James

Stout. Then it was back to the city centre to find **Lisbeer**, in the back streets of Beco do Arco Escuro, which like several bars does not open until 5pm. A basic bar with friendly staff offering a selection of draught and bottled beers. Here we sampled another Colina Ze Arnaldo Porter, Musa Red Zeppelin and Prazares D'Ourique IPA.



Dois Corvos micro-brewery, Lisbon

While trying to find the highly recommended **Duque** brew pub (now closed due to structural problems), we alighted on the **Beer Station**, just behind Rossio railway station. A tiny but friendly bar, offering a good range of Portuguese craft beers in draught and bottles. We sampled a glass of Musa Baltic Sabbath Porter (7%) and Oitava Colina Vila Iolande IPA. Finally, another tram ride along the waterfront and a short walk to Rua Prior led us to the **Quimera** restaurant, a small and rather eclectic brew-pub run by an American. We sampled Quimera Northern Brown Ale (definitely hints of Newcastle), Pumpkin Ale, Lemon Grass Sorachi Ace IPA, American Dark Lager, Not Another Fxxking IPA, Single Hop Cascade and Sacarrabos Winter Ale.



A fine selection of Portuguese craft beers at the Beer Station

And of course, if you want something stronger, there's always the port....

Cervejas e saudações! (Beers and cheers!)

THE GREAT WESTERN

5 real ales, cider
& fine wine
Locally-made pork pies
& homemade cobs



Open fires
Dogs welcome

42 Kidderminster Road
Bewdley

01299 488828

facebook.com/greatwesternbewdley

The HARBOUR *Inn*

Real ales

Food served
all day every day

Beer garden with
new bar

Dogs welcome in
bar and conservatory



Arley DY12 3NF

01299 403348



*"A fine beer may be
judged with only one
sip, but it's better to be
thoroughly sure."*

Czech proverb



A Trip Along the SVR

By Bill Sturt

A day trip along the beautiful Severn Valley Railway is a must for a pub crawl with a difference. On a Saturday using timetable B and a day rover ticket (costing £21).

The King & Castle on the concourse of the SVR Kidderminster Station, was my starting point. It opened at 10am on the day of my visit. The beers on offer at this railway themed station bar were Dawlish Neptune, Wye Valley Butty Bach, Everard's Tiger, Bewdley Worcestershire Way, Batham's Best, Hobson's Town Crier, Old Prickly and Mild. There was also a selection of ciders. After a pint or two of your chosen tipple, it is time to catch the 11.10 train to Bewdley. Sit on the right of the carriage if you want to see the Rhinos and Elephants in the West Midlands Safari Park!

On arrival at Bewdley, leave the station and turn right. Then there are signs directing you to the Great Western pub. The beers on offer there were Holden's Golden Glow, Three Tuns XXX, Bewdley 2857, Worcestershire Way and Morland Golden Hen., Plus two ciders on hand pumps. One and a half hours before your next train leaves ample time to try their well filled crusty cobs of Cheese, Cheese and Onion and Ham. Also Pork Pies and Sausage Rolls to help soak up the beer! Return to the station to catch the 1.02 train to Arley.

On arrival at Arley, take a short walk down the lane to the Harbour pub. On the day of my visit the beers on offer were Hobson's Town Crier, Thwaites Wainwright, Wye Valley HPA and Harbour Ale. If you want to do the whole line your time is limited as the next train to Highley is at 2:17!

At Highley leave the station from the platform and walk down the bank towards the river, where you will find the Ship. The beers on offer there were Hobson's Town Crier and Twisted Spire, Marston's Pedigree, Thwaites Wainwright and Wye Valley HPA. This is another quick visit as the train leaves at 3.14 to Hampton Loade!

On arrival at Hampton Loade, again leave the station and head towards the river. The Unicorn is by the entrance to the caravan park and camp site! The beers on offer were Banks's Bitter and Marston's Pedigree. Again another short visit as you will need to catch the 4.20 train to Bridgnorth.

The Railwaymans Arms is situated on platform one at Bridgnorth Station. Here you will have time to try one or two beers from the 10 hand pumps on the bar. Regular beers are Batham's Best, Hobson's Bitter and Town Crier and Bewdley Worcestershire Way. Also on offer is a Mild (usually but not always Hobson's). Also a Porter (usually but not always Station Porter 6% ABV from Bewdley Brewery). There are also three changing guest beers and one cider on a hand pump. The last train for your return journey to Kidderminster leaves at 5.40 - so don't miss it!

All beers on my visit were in very good condition and luckily the weather was good too. So come again to the Severn Valley Railway and try the pubs at a more leisurely pace. If you did not pick up a timetable go to svr.co.uk to plan your journey.

Happy drinking!



Footloose in Fort William

By Bob Newton

We wanted to climb Ben Nevis so we hired a bungalow called 'Torosay' for a week in Fort William, in order to pick the best day for our ascent. It turned out to be the Tuesday, appropriately the same day we normally go walking. The other days were spent on lesser walks along Glen Nevis, Glenfinnan and Glencoe (we didn't find Glenmillier but then no-one has since the war) and when it rained – the Fort William Museum. You notice I haven't mentioned any pubs yet, that is because they were an evening experience and I will come to that later.

On the Tuesday we drove to the Ben Nevis Tourist Centre which is nearly two miles out of town (£4 parking charge) and set off following the well-made path over a bridge and fields past the Ben Nevis Inn (no time to stop) and onto the lower slopes of 'Meall an t-Suidhe' which we will skirt while all the time climbing higher. Crossing two metal bridges we swing north into a ravine which is the border between 'Meall an t-Suidhe' and Ben Nevis and suddenly the going gets much harder with dog-legs, zig zags and very loose rocks underfoot. It will be this way right to the top and, when you get there its like there has been an explosion in a boulder factory, with shattered rocks all about and snowfields to negotiate, even in June. At the summit, the remains of the old permanent weather station remind us that three men lived up here all year round in Arctic conditions, stumbling about this 'blockfield' of shattered granite and schist and living in the stone built bunkhouse (which is the highest building in the UK). You can scramble up to the doorway to have your photo taken, knowing that you are 4409 feet above sea level and the highest

human being standing in the British Isles!

The route is four and a half miles long and took us five hours and twenty minutes, with frequent rests; and it's the same way back downhill where you must exercise caution, as the way is treacherous with jagged and unstable rocks and others coming uphill who according to mountain etiquette you must give way to. It took us all our strength and stamina to get down safely (10 hours) and we had to give the Ben Nevis Inn a miss in order to get home for a hot shower and some food before doing the rounds of Fort Williams pubs.

There are really just five real ale pubs, all in the High street; starting at 'Cobbs @ Nevisport' nearest the Railway station (just look for the ski lift gondola). This place tries to be a ski resort pub but is never full enough to get any atmosphere, but is kept going by loyal regulars and the odd tourist looking for the café, which is upstairs. Two Scottish beers, Orkney and Loch Lomond, served too cold and both average. Heading up the High St we come to the 'Crofter Bar' which is bigger inside than it looks and is a live music venue at weekends. Only two beers on the bar, again Scottish and again average so don't waste your time here; go to the 'Garrison West' behind the Model T Ford* statue, just past the Museum. A cosy restaurant with a bar, which serves local Scottish beers but with panache and they have flavour (but pricey) but only the two pulls once again. For more variety go further up the road to the 'Grog & Gruel', a sister pub to the 'Clachaig Inn' at Glencoe, and sporting no fewer than six pulls, Harviestoun, Loch Lomond, Caledonian, Orkney and Skye, but again served too cold. This place also

does very expensive meals (mainly burgers and hot dogs) but with Wetherspoons only just up the road, why waste money? Said 'Spoons' is called the 'Great Glen' and very popular due to its prices, not their choice of beers. As usual, they offer six pulls but only half of them have any ale to dispense, usually Scottish beers and usually run of the mill stuff like Caledonian 'Deuchars IPA', but the food is very good and keenly priced (we had a 'Managers Special' mixed grill for £3.99) but the staff are as useless as ever and the beer is too cold. Having said that, our bungalow was only five minutes away so it was very handy.

*Someone drove a Model T Ford up and back down Ben Nevis in 1911. I didn't believe it either till I saw the film of it in the Fort William Museum. They used dynamite to remove any big obstructions.



The Friars

3 St Mary's St,
Bridgnorth,
WV16 4DW

En-suite Accommodation

from £65 inc breakfast

Home Cooked Food

Local Ales





Dogs Welcome

Friendly Staff


01746 762396

www.thefriars.co.uk

WOOD'S

Shropshire beers since 1980



Pale Ale with a full and hoppy flavour




www.woodbrewery.co.uk


[www.facebook.com/
WoodBreweryLtd](https://www.facebook.com/WoodBreweryLtd)
[#woodsbrewcrew](https://twitter.com/woodsbrewcrew)

Wood Brewery tap
The Plough, Wistanstow SY7 8DG
01588 673251



Albania is a small country lying in the south-west of the Balkans, on the eastern side of the Adriatic Sea, between Montenegro and Greece and close to Italy. Most of its population of around 3 million live on the coastal plain, focused on the capital city, Tirana and its main port, Durrës; but more Albanians live outside the country than within it! It has a long history, covering the Roman, Greek & Ottoman empires, but for much of the time after the 2nd World War, it was almost a 'closed' country under Communist rule. However, it is now a democratic and thriving country, which welcomes tourists and visitors who wish to experience the burgeoning tourist industry. For economic and religious reasons, per capita beer consumption is fairly low, but Albania has a thriving beer and brewing industry. The main 'national' brewers are: the largest, Birra Malto (1960; Birra Tirana); Stefani (1994; Birra Stela); Birra Korça (1928); T.E.A (2007; Kaon) and Birra Elbar (2015). There are also three brewpubs: Brauhaus Shallvare (Tirana), Albion Brauhaus (Durrës) and Beer Houz (Puka). Most of the beers are focused on lagers and blonde beers, although there are the occasional dunkel and Weiss beers.

Since it has the only international airport, **Tirana** was a good place to start our tour. Most of the city centre bars and restaurants offer a range of national beers (mainly Birra Tirana and Birra Korça), but some import beers from Kosovo (Peja & Prishtina) and Italy (Peroni). Amstel and Heineken are often available, both on draught and in bottles. However, the first port of call had to be **Brauhaus Shallvare** in Rruga Reshit Collaku, established in 1995. Most of the eight beers

produced here are available in draught or bottled form. The Bockbeir (Veri Elbit), Brown Ale (Brunja) and Marzen beers were delicious, with two amber (rose) ales, a weizenbier and an aromatic blonde ale (Bjondja Aromatike). The **Kaon Brewhouse**, also in Tirana, offers a range of T.E.A beers, including lager, pilsner, pils and weissbeer. If you fancy cowboys Albanian style, try the **Spaghetti Western** restaurant, which sometimes offers Puka craft beer.



Durrës is a major port and seaside town to the west of Tirana. Most of the bars and restaurants offer both national and imported beers (particularly from Italy), but the first stop had to be the **Albion Brauhaus** along the seafront. Recently relocated from the Albion Hotel to near the university in Rruga e Currilave, it is the home of Kaltenbeer and is run by the brother of the Tirana Brauhaus, who started brewing here in 2016. A selection of the nine beers brewed here are



usually available, including the tasty Festival Beer, IPA, Marzen, Weizen and the deliciously malty Terminator. The bar near the railway station also offered draught Stela (Stefani), a pale lager not to be confused with a similarly spelt Belgian beer, along with bottles of Kuqalashe beer (Birra Malto).

In the south of the country, **Korçe** is the home of Birra Korça, its beers are offered in many of the town's bars and restaurants. My favourite was Pils e Zeze, a dark and malty dunkel beer, which makes a change from the Blonde and 01 lager beers. Every August, Birra Korça holds a beer festival in the town. **Mapo's Irish Pub** in the main pedestrian street was one of the best bars to try it and on the opposite side of the road we sampled bottles of Stefani's Cez Pilsner Craft Beer Iliria Weissbier (unfiltered) and Cek Pilsner Pilsen beer.

Not far away is **Gjirokaster**, which used to be known for its cannabis growing areas (now banned!) It is the home of Alfa S.A. who brew just one beer, Birra Elbar, a very drinkable pale lager. One of the best bars to sample this and Korça beers is the **Taverna Kuko**, with its excellent food menu and tortoises in the garden!

In the north of the country is **Shkoder**, where bars and restaurants not only offer the national beers, but also some imported beers from Kosovo and Montenegro

(including Nikšičko Pivo from the Molson/Coors-owned Trebjesa brewery). Here is the quirky **Retro-Bar**, with old gramophones, sewing machines and radios, but unfortunately no Albanian beer! Better is the **Radio Bar**, nearby.

So, if you find yourself in Albania, visting or just passing through, you can be assured of a variety of tasty beers from a range of national and local breweries. And while you're there, you may wish to take a journey on a local train – a couple of trains a day on each line, with two carriages, graffiti covered with every window broken, and hauled by ageing Czech diesel locomotives at barely 15mph!

Birradhe brohoritje - Gezuar! (Beers and cheers!)

THE KING AND CASTLE

SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY
KIDDERMINSTER

8 REAL ALES INCLUDING BATHAM'S
AND 3 TRADITIONAL CIDERS

FOOD SERVED FROM 11AM TIL 4PM

GENTLEMAN'S AFTERNOON TEA -
£8.99

COB MEAL DEAL - £5.50

DOGS AND FAMILIES WELCOME

LOG FIRE





Are you looking for warm open fire welcome, Home Cooked Food, Real Ale, Accommodation, Camping or fishing in the Shropshire Countryside... then why not visit us

Unicorn Inn



17th Century Rural Pub with Real Ales

and Extensive Home Cooked Menu

B&B Rooms & Holiday Flats • Fishing Tickets

Secure Campsite Entrance • Family Friendly

Kids Safe Play Area • Pets Welcome



On the Banks
of the River Severn



2 minutes from Severn Valley Railway Station



Full Campsite
Facilities

Hampton Loade, Chelmarsh, Nr Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 6BN

Tel: 01746 861515 Email: unicorninn@hotmail.co.uk

www.unicorninnhamptonloade.co.uk



Beer Days Out - *Libations in Lichfield*

By Steve James

Lichfield is an historic Georgian cathedral city in east Staffordshire, notable as the birthplace of Dr Samuel Johnson, who wrote the first English dictionary and Erasmus Darwin, the grandfather of Charles Darwin. In older times, it certainly was a ‘city of philosophers’, as Dr Johnson said! And it is still an important ecclesiastical centre. But it was also a city of pubs and inns. In 1834, it had over 70 pubs, one for every 69 people! Like many towns and cities, the number of pubs has now dramatically declined, but there are still many well worth visiting. As Dr Johnson also said: *“There is nothing which has yet been contrived by man, by which so much happiness is produced as by a good tavern or inn”*.



Brewhouse & Kitchen, St John Street, Lichfield

Arriving by train at Lichfield City railway station, we turned left along the main road and then right into St John Street. Our first port of call was the **Brewhouse & Kitchen**, on the corner with The Friary. This is one of a small chain of micro-brewery restaurants in some 20 towns in England. There is a regular range of four-five cask beers, with a couple of seasonal offerings and an extensive range of UK and imported bottled beers, along with

some tasty meals. We sampled the locally-brewed Gatehouse and Spellman Sam English-style ales, Handy Man IPA and 3 Sticks, Lunartrick and Tricky Spires American-style ales. With more time (seven hours), we could have indulged in a Brewery Experience Day (£85), taking away a 5-litre mini-keg of our own beer! Or perhaps a Beer Masterclass (£20) tasting eight different beers and nibbles, or even a Beer & Food Matching Experience (£30) with three beers and dishes.

Turning left into Bird Street and then into Sandford Street, we came across the **Horse & Jockey**, a lively city-centre pub with eight ever-changing real ales and a good choice of snacks. Run by CAMRA award-winning licencees, Tracey and James, we couldn't resist a glass of Bathams Best Bitter and Timothy Taylor's Landlord. Retracing our steps to Bird Street, we crossed over into Market Street to visit the historic **Angel Inn**, a popular pub, now operated by Joules (Market Drayton). Here we sampled Slumbering Monk and Joules Old No.6. Further along Market Street, we found **The Scales**, another traditional pub, formerly a coaching inn dating back to the 1700's, which serves a good range of hand-pulled beers, including Overhang Blonde and White Rat.

Turning right into Bread Market Street to join Bore Street, we turned left into Tamworth Street, to pause briefly at **The Acorn**, the sole remaining Wetherspoon's pub in the city centre. We found it very crowded at lunchtime, but managed a quick glass of Wolf's Granny Wouldn't Like It. Then two real highlights of our day. First, **Beerbohm**, a micro-pub offering a good



The New Inn



70 Seat Restaurant | 100 Seat Beer Garden | 5 Cask Ales
Locally sourced, freshly prepared meals | Over 80 different Gins

Opening Hours

Monday - Thursday: 12.00pm - 11.00pm
Friday & Saturday: 12.00pm - 12.00am
Sunday: 12.00pm - 11.00pm

Food Service Hours

Monday - Friday: 12.00pm - 9.00pm
Saturday: 12.00pm - 9.30pm
Sunday: 12.00pm - 4.00pm



Raising funds for Local Charities | Two Open Fires | Live Music every Sunday

Booking advisable, contact us at...

2 Stafford Road, Newport,
Shropshire TF10 7LX

01952 812295

thenewinnnewport@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/TheNewInnNewport

**For more information and to see
what's coming up...**

www.thenewinnnewport.co.uk

www.atthenewinn.co.uk

www.newinnbeerfest.co.uk

www.newinnrumfest.co.uk

www.newinninfest.co.uk



By Steve James

range of hand-pulled beers along with an excellent selection of Belgian and German bottled beers. We sampled Heritage Masterpiece, The Great Ratsby and Leatherbritches Hairy Tossler.



Beerbohm, Tamworth Street, Lichfield

Just a couple of doors down is another CAMRA award-winning micro-pub, **The Whippet Inn**. This small real ale bar offers four ever-changing beers, including those from owner Paul's Hippy Killer brewery. We were lucky to be able to sample his Lemon Pie Saison ale, Fixed Wheel Domestique, Tiny Rebel Dutty IPA and Salopian The Bends. Returning back towards the railway station, we paused at **55 Wade Street** (formerly the Garrick Theatre. A more up-market establishment, but offering an interesting range of draught beers, including Salopian's Lemon Dream.

Finally, we had been told of a new micro-pub that had just opened not far from the railway station, so we thought it was worth a visit before returning home. The **Bitter-Suite** is around the corner in Upper John Street, opposite a former brewery and next to one of the most 'bashed' railway bridges in the country! In fact, it doesn't have a bar at all – glasses of beer and other drinks are served at

your table, after having been drawn from barrels in the adjoining ground floor 'cellar', all kept at perfect temperature. We sampled Magpie's Thieving Rogue, Dancing Duck's 22, Weetwood Anchor Ale and Mallinson's Sorachi Noir Black IPA.

So Lichfield is another good beer day-out. But please note that most of the micro-pubs tend to be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. A good time to visit Lichfield is when the local beer festivals are being held in the Guildhall, normally in January and September/October.

Beers and cheers!



Whippet Inn, Tamworth Street, Lichfield

THE WHEATSHEAF INN

SHIFNAL

Friendly Welcoming Atmosphere

Great Food | Exceptional Cask Ales

Live Entertainment Every Saturday



OPEN MIC NIGHT
EVERY TUESDAY



61 Broadway, Shifnal TF11 8BB

Telephone: 01952 879453



The Beer Emporium & Cider House

Oxford Street, Kidderminster, DY10 1AR

Real Ales & Ciders, Straight From The Cask.

The Finest Continental Bottled Beers & First Class Wine List.

Opening Times

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|-------------|
| Mon | Closed | Friday | 4 til 11pm |
| Tuesday | Closed | Saturday | 12 til 11pm |
| Wednesday | 4 til 10pm | Sunday | 12 til 8pm |
| Thursday | 4 til 11pm | | |

500 yards from the
Railway Stations.
(Network Rail & SVR)

Find us on  @beeremporiumkidderminster



Bridgnorth CAMRA Pub Of The Season – Summer 2017

The Ship Inn



This issue's Pub of The Season has been awarded to The Ship Inn, Highley as voted for by our members. Congratulations to the team at The Ship!

Call For Votes for Bridgnorth Branch 'Pub of the Season - Autumn'

To be eligible for selection a pub needs to not be in the Good Beer Guide and currently achieving a minimum of 3.0 for their beer quality score (an up to date beer score will be checked following nomination).

Please email your nomination (with your name and membership number) to LocAle.TES@gmail.com or submit them at the next branch meeting.

“COME ALONG CHAPS!”



“YOUR PUBS NEED”
YOU

**DON'T FORGET TO SUBMIT YOUR BEER SCORES.
VOTE NOW! YOUR PUB NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT.**

CUT OUT & RETURN TO



Dave Haddon
TES Survey Officer
Craster
Bakehouse Lane
Chelmarsh
Bridgnorth
WV16 6BB

CAMRA National Beer Scoring Scheme

Surveyor _____

Mem. No. _____ Date of Survey ____ / ____ / ____

Pub _____

Location _____

GBG County Area _____ Score 0 - 5 _____

Beer _____ (Optional)

CAMRA National Beer Scoring Scheme

Surveyor _____

Mem. No. _____ Date of Survey ____ / ____ / ____

Pub _____

Location _____

GBG County Area _____ Score 0 - 5 _____

Beer _____ (Optional)

CAMRA National Beer Scoring Scheme

Surveyor _____

Mem. No. _____ Date of Survey ____ / ____ / ____

Pub _____

Location _____

GBG County Area _____ Score 0 - 5 _____

Beer _____ (Optional)

CAMRA National Beer Scoring Scheme

Surveyor _____

Mem. No. _____ Date of Survey ____ / ____ / ____

Pub _____

Location _____

GBG County Area _____ Score 0 - 5 _____

Beer _____ (Optional)

0. No cask ale available.

1. Poor. Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.

2. Average. Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing.

3. Good. Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again.

4. Very Good. Excellent beer in excellent condition.

5. Perfect. Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.



Bewdley is an historic market town on the banks of the River Severn in north Worcestershire. Known as *Beau-lieu* (beautiful place) in the 14th century, it has many historic buildings and structures, including St Anne's church (1748) and Bewdley river bridge (1798). Formerly a bustling river port, with its quayside, it is now a popular destination for tourists and visitors. With the establishment of the Bewdley Brewery in 2008, we thought it would be a good place to sample some local beers.

We arrived at Bewdley on the Severn Valley Railway. Turning right out of the railway station, we walked under the viaduct and followed the path to the **Great Western**, dating back to the 1840's, formerly known as The Rifleman and originally a brew-pub. It has a range of five draught beers and two draught ciders, including beers from the local Bewdley Brewery, Holdens (Dudley) and Morland (Greene King Ed) and the pork pies are delicious! We sampled Bewdley Brewery's 2857, named after one of the steam locomotives on the Severn Valley Railway, now celebrating its centenary.



Continuing towards the town centre, we reached the **Black Boy Inn**, originally a 15th

century coaching inn named after its Royalist connections in the Civil War. It was formerly the Black Boy Hotel, and has recently reopened after a major refurbishment in 2018. It has a cosy bar and full-service restaurant, and offers a range of five draught beers, including Wye Valley HPA and Butty Bach, Bewdley Worcestershire Way, St Austell Tribute and Timothy Taylor's Landlord.

Crossing the river bridge, we immediately turned right along Severnside North, passing the Cock & Magpie (Marstons) to visit the **Mug House**. This is a friendly pub, spotted by its colourful hanging baskets, which welcomes locals and visitors alike to its cosy bars and outside courtyard. Regular beers include those from the Bewdley Brewery, along with Purity, Wye Valley and Taylor's Landlord; we sampled a glass of Bewdley Beaulieu, reflecting the history of the town. There is also a restaurant serving delicious meals, along with bar meals and snacks, and occasional beer festivals. We then retraced our steps along Severnside North and followed the river along Severnside South. Turning right into Lax Lane, we soon found the old Victorian school building, now housing the Bewdley Craft Centre (this is now closed Ed) and, at the rear, the **Bewdley Brewery**. The brewery shop is open from Mondays-Saturdays, with the brewery bar serving two draught beers on Fridays, Saturdays and Bank Holidays. The cosy taproom is adorned with old railwayana and breweriana items, and hops, and the staff are friendly and knowledgeable. We sampled an excellent glass of Worcestershire Sway.



The welcoming taproom at Bewdley Brewery

Continuing up Lax Lane, turning right into High Street, we found **The Packhorse**, dating from the 15th century. Formerly one of Mad O' Rourke's 'Little' pubs, it still offers the delights of the famous Desperate Dan Cow Pie and has a fine food menu, served in the cosy bar or restaurant. It also offers some excellent ales, usually from Hobsons (Cleobury Mortimer) and Wye Valley, from which we sampled Hobsons Twisted Spire.

Continuing along High Street, we soon came to the top of Load Street and St Anne's church. On the corner with Dog Lane we spotted the busy Horn & Trumpet (usually Wye Valley, Three Tuns and Ludlow Gold beers) and turned right down Load Street. Then a quick visit to the local Wetherspoons pub (**The George**), which is also a hotel, offering the familiar selection of Wetherspoons food and drinks, often including some local beers. A couple of doors away was our final pub, the **Real Ale Tavern**. Originally a bank, dating from the 1760's, it was converted into a pub by Black Country Ales in 2017. It offers not only its own beers (Fireside, BFG and Pig on the Wall) but also

seven guest beers and two draught ciders. The old bank safe door is still on show in the rear part of the bar! We sampled Tickety Brew Coffee Anise Porter and Castle Combe Pendulum, along with a couple of excellent local pork pies. And if you wish to take home some bottled beers, nearby **Tipplers** craft beer shop is highly recommended, with over 400 bottled beers to choose from, along with craft cans and wines.



So Bewdley is certainly to be recommended for a good day out, not only to sample the delights of this historic riverside town, but also for the wide variety of bars and beers. There is also an annual beer festival at St George's Hall on August bank holiday. We returned home on the last train of the day from Bewdley station.

Join up, join in, join the campaign



From
as little as
£25*
a year. That's less
than a pint a
month!

Discover
why we joined.
[camra.org.uk/
members](http://camra.org.uk/members)

Join us, and together we can protect the traditions of great British pubs and everything that goes with them.

Become part of the CAMRA community today – enjoy discounted entry to beer festivals and exclusive member offers. Learn about brewing and beer and join like-minded people supporting our campaigns to save pubs, clubs, your pint and more.

Join the campaign today at
www.camra.org.uk/joinup

*Price for paying by Direct Debit and correct at April 2017. Concessionary rates available. Please visit camra.org.uk/membership-rates



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**



The revitalisation project has never been an exercise to ask the membership how they felt the campaign could be improved, from the start it has been a single issue exercise “should CAMRA accept Keg Beer”. Let’s not fool ourselves ‘other quality beer’ covers every type of beer and dispense method. Therefore pasteurised, carbonated, smooth-flow, top pressure and partially filtered beer will all be accepted by CAMRA and equal to real ale.

CAMRA is not in a position to police the brewing industry or the licensed trade. The CAMRA Technical Advisory Group were asked to draw up a list of beers that met CAMRA’s definition of real ale that could be sold using Key Kegs in 2014. This list has never been drawn up because they cannot get the information from the brewers. The task is enormous because there are so many producers who constantly change their products. To make a list of ‘other quality beer’ is equally as impossible especially as it has no clear definition. Any unscrupulous trader who is only interested in getting credibility and sales will tell you anything to sell their substandard products.

Beer sales are reducing and brewers are chasing a larger share of a shrinking market. As prices go up and disposable income goes down every pint of Craft Beer, Keg or Top Pressure beer that is drunk is a pint less of Real Ale. Real Ale needs to have a regular turn over to be in good condition and CAMRA should be campaigning to improve real ale at the point of dispense, not suggesting that if the Real Ale is not up to standard that you drink something else.

It has been suggested that if CAMRA does not embrace change it will wither and die. During the two years of uncertainty caused by the revitalisation project our membership has increased by 3,000 which to me says people still like our message and what we offer.

If people want to drink this all encompassing ‘Other Quality Beer’ it is their choice, but it is wrong to suggest that it has any place in the Campaign For Real Ale.

A small number of the total CAMRA membership work voluntarily raising over 40% of CAMRA’s funds many are now feeling disenfranchised and demoralised and will not continue their support if the Revitalisation proposals in February’s What’s brewing are accepted.

Over the years CAMRA has gained credibility and if our message was seen as irrelevant or wrong we would not be listened to by the press, media, politicians and the trade.

**Those who support everything
support nothing.**



THE SHAKESPEARE

- Quality Home Cooked Food Served All Day
- Sunday Lunches
- Joules Range Of Real Ales & Changing Guests *Plus* Traditional Cider.
- Restaurant & Large Function Room
- Live Music Most Weekends
- Real Fires

NOW OPEN AFTER MAJOR REFURBISHMENT

West Castle Street , Bridgnorth, Shropshire WV16 4AD

Telephone 01746 728863



Beer Destinations - *Me and My Beer in Myanmar*

By Steve James

The sovereign state of Myanmar lies in South-East Asia, between India/Bangladesh and Thailand. Formerly the British colony of Burma, it has a population of around 54 million, most of whom are Buddhists. Over 7.5 million live in the three largest cities – Yangon (Rangoon), Mandalay and Naypyidaw (the new capital). We recently toured the country, visiting Yangon, Bagan, Mandalay, Bago and Mawlamyine, not only to search out the various beers, but also to travel on the rather antiquated railway system.

Myanmar's history of brewing beer dates from 1886, when the British converted a cannon factory in Mandalay to a brewery. At present, there are two main brewing companies in the country, **Myanmar** and **Mandalay**. These have had a chequered history of being state-owned and independent, and stakes in these breweries are now held by both Heineken and Carlsberg. In 1996, Myanmar Brewing Co opened a new 140,000-hectolitre brewery outside Yangon, brewing both Myanmar and Tiger beer. Dagon Beverages also produce **Dagon** beers. In 2013, Carlsberg secured

brewing licences and established the Myanmar-Carlsberg brewery, brewing Carlsberg, Tuborg and local **Yoma** beers. In 2015, Heineken built a new 330,000-hectolitre brewery for the Alliance/Archipelago Brewing Company outside Yangon, producing Tiger, Heineken, **ABC** and local **Regal Seven** beers. Not surprisingly, per-capita beer consumption in Myanmar has doubled in the past three years.

So with this number of breweries, we expected a similarly large range of beers. We were therefore rather disappointed to find a limited range of beer styles available. Most of the breweries produce a normal lager-type beer, with premium/super and strong/special varieties also available. For us, two of the outstanding beers were the award-winning **ABC stout** and **Black Shield stout**, both tasty full-flavoured beers. We also found a most unusual beer in Mandalay – **Spirulina Anti-Ageing beer**; spirulina is a rare micro algae nutritionally rich in antioxidants, amino acids, minerals and vitamins which apparently has anti-ageing properties – I certainly felt younger after sampling a glass!





Now Open
After comprehensive
refurbishment

Richard and Russ are the new owners of The Three Horseshoes (the Shoes) in Alveley and are keeping the tradition of the English pub alive with every pint served; after all it is believed a drinking establishment has stood on this site since 1406.

Open Hours:

Monday 4pm to 10pm - Bank Holidays Open from 12pm
Tues - Thurs 12:00 to 11:00pm
Fri & Sat 12:00 to 11:30pm
Sunday 12:00 to 11:00pm

Food Served:

Tues - Sat
Lunch 12.00 - 2.30pm
Dinner 6.00pm - 8.30pm

Choice of
4 Real Ales
that change
on a regular basis
(many local)

Large
selection of Gins,
Malt Whiskies
and
Vodkas

A Beer Garden
that hosts
stunning views
of the
Clee Hills

Close proximity
to the
Severn Valley
Country Park
and Railway

Charity Quiz
night the last
Sunday of the
month

Freshly cooked
food from
local ingredients

Small functions
catered for



Alveley, Bridgnorth. WV15 6NB Tel: 01746 780 923



Find us on Facebook @3horseshoesalveley
www.thethreehorseshoesalveley.co.uk





Beer strength varies from 4-5% up to over 8% ABV. The ingredients are usually water, malted barley, hops and yeast, but some breweries add rice, a staple part of the Burmese diet; however, some beers proudly pronounce themselves '100% malt'.



Bottled, and occasionally draught, beer is available in most hotels and restaurants, particularly in the main cities. But we didn't find many familiar beer bars or cafés, apart from the odd Irish-type bar. In **Yangon**, both the **Rangoon Tea House** (77-79, Pansodan Street) and **Father's Office** (291, Bo Aung Kyaw Street) have a good range of bottled beers, but the tea-leaf salad and coconut noodles deserve a miss. **50th Street** (9/13, 50th Street) offers Myanmar and Yoma bottled beers, along with bottled and canned beers from the Burbrit micro-brewery (more about which later). However, we hadn't time to find beers from the **York Street Brewing Company**, which apparently brews Porter, IPA and Hefeweizen beers. In **Mandalay**, **Central Park** (66th Street), with its semi-open air bar and barbecue, and **Mann** (83rd Street), popular with locals, also deserve a mention. Outside the main towns, 'beer stations' seem to be the norm, which are little more than shops selling large quantities of bottled beers.

Perhaps the most suprising find in Yangon was the **Burbrit** micro-brewery. This is the first craft beer brewery in Myanmar, set beside the Pazundaung Creek in an industrial area north of the city centre (D16, North Dagon Industrial Zone, 34 Ward, not far from the Bo Bo Min bakery on U Wisara Road). Established in January 2017 by two guys trained in Singapore, this 500-litre plant mainly brews German-style beers (weizen, light pilsner and golden ales), using German-imported malts and hops and French yeast, but also offers an **English Bitter**, **Irish Red Ale**, **Mandalay Brunette** and **London Porter**. Its tasting room and beer garden is open everyday and offers sample trays of all their beers served directly from the keg, as well as take-away bottles and Growlers. A limited range of Burmese-Chinese fusion food is also available. When we were there, a Brewery Experience tour was in full swing, with a group of local Burmese trying their hands at brewing beers. Another tasting room is due to open soon nearer to the city centre, not far from the Thai Embassy (7-1, Ma Naw Haoi Street).

So, there is an expanding beer scene in Myanmar, with a variety of beers to choose from, and with the added bonus of at least one new micro-brewery with craft beers.



Come and enjoy a taste of Shropshire



Hook up at The Ship Inn's

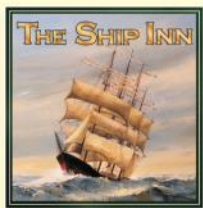


Caravan Touring Site

Advanced booking only • Adults Only

or book one of our rooms in our

Bed & Breakfast



For Room Rates and for more information regarding
Bed & Breakfast facilities or the Touring Site contact:

Tel: 01746 861219

Email: trina.toad@yahoo.co.uk

The Ship inn, Severnside, Highley, WV16 6NU

www.shipinnsevernside.co.uk

**Day
Fishing Permit**
Only £5 per day
available from
the pub



5 REAL ALES • SUNDAY CARVERY • STEAK NIGHT • INDIAN NIGHT
ENSUITE ACCOMMODATION • CARAVAN TOURING SITE
DAY FISHING AVAILABLE • REGULAR LIVE MUSIC SATURDAY EVENINGS



In the last issue of *Ale Sabrina*, we looked at the early days of refreshment rooms on the railway, so it seems appropriate in this issue to move on in time and look at the introduction of catering on the move.

It would have been a completely alien concept to those early Victorian travellers – to be served a cup of tea or a pint of beer while on the move. The concept of comfortable travel wasn't appreciated in the early days – the simple marvel of the steam locomotive, making it possible to travel from A to B without recourse to horse-drawn road carriages, was manna enough.

In the early 19th century, first class coaches were not much more than a stage coach mounted on a railway wagon, so they were fitted with springs, but second and third class had no such refinements, the latter often being nothing more than bench seats in an open wagon.

But even as railway carriages improved and all passengers could travel under cover, the compulsory refreshment stops that punctuated journeys became the norm and were expected interruptions to any long-distance journey.

Besides the obvious difficulty of trying to enjoy a hot beverage while being jolted along behind the smoke-belching locomotive up front (watch out for cinders in your tea!), there was also the small matter of the lack of any form of corridor or carriage connection to allow any seller of refreshments to travel along the length of the train.

Not unless you carried some sort of hip flask with you could you expect some form of liquid refreshment during the actual journey itself and then, you needed to be careful of how much you consumed as the carriage toilet hadn't yet been invented either!

So when did things start to change for the better?

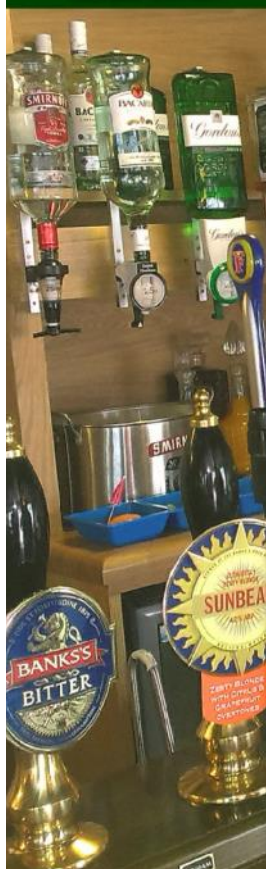
The Great Northern Railway is said to have been the first railway company to introduce a buffet car, in 1879. This was a converted Pullman sleeping car called *Prince of Wales*. This was followed by the London, Brighton & South Coast Railway in 1881, who introduced a 'Pullman Limited Express' serving refreshments from a buffet car.

The introduction of such facilities didn't go down too well at first with the proprietors of station buffets and pubs that had been set up specially to serve the traveller during the compulsory refreshment stops and at many terminus and intermediate stations across the network as it expanded at great speed from the mid-19th century.

However, the improvements in rolling stock standards, including the introduction of flushing lavatories and trains made up of carriages with corridor connections, made travel more convenient and enjoyable and rather than being confined to a compartment that could only be exited when the train came to a stand in a station, passengers could now move about the train and the idea of refreshments on the go not only saved journey times by not having to stop so often, but introduced a new dimension in passenger comfort.



The Vine *Bridgnorth*



Live Music

Real Ales

Karaoke Nights

Live Entertainment


Courtyard

With Outside Bar



THE VINE
57 MILL STREET
BRIDGNORTH,
WV15 5AG

T :: 01746 762087
M :: 07866 489394

Find us on 
@vinebridgnorth

WWW.VINEBRIDGNORTH.CO.UK



Food and drink could be served from buffet cars, which in some cases were fitted with a bar-style counter where thirsty passenger could congregate and socialise. At table service was also introduced and with the invention of the kitchen car, passengers could also sit down to enjoy a hot meal, especially useful on the longest of journeys.

However, we are getting ahead of ourselves! It wasn't until the turn of the century that the first bar-style buffet car was introduced and this was on the Great Central Railway's main line out of London Marylebone, but the idea soon caught on and before long the Southern Railway introduced its iconic 'Southern Belle' train, which featured not only a bar but a lounge-style parlour car.

Going to a bar on the train wasn't popular with everyone though, with many passengers preferring to be served at their table or in their compartment. However, this didn't stop the likes of the LNER advertising cocktails being served at the bar of their famous 'Flying Scotsman' service between London King's Cross and Edinburgh and in 1932 it even went so far as to convert the hairdressing carriage into a comfortable lounge and cocktail bar!

The first attempts to introduce cask ale onto trains came in the mid-1930s with trains like the 'Cambridge Buffet Express' between King's Cross and Cambridge satisfying the thirst of real ale enthusiast undergraduates.

The outbreak of the Second World War saw cut backs in on train catering, especially at seat service restaurant cars, against a background of food shortages, but the buffet

car continued to thrive. In 1946, Oliver Bulleid on the Southern designs his 'Tavern Cars'. Entering service in 1949 under the newly formed British Railways, these peculiar vehicles were decorated with brick and mock timber exteriors and even had pub signs painted on them. Inside they featured mock beams and lanterns, with wooden panelled walls, frosted glass windows and pew seating.

Beer was served in proper glass jugs, straight from the cask, but such is the nature of high speed rail travel, that as soon as the barrels were disturbed when passing over point-work that the sediment was disturbed and customers complained that their beer was cloudy!

Meanwhile, BR designed its own type of buffet car that would meet the needs of most passengers – the Mark One RMB, which stands for Restaurant Miniature Buffet. These vehicles managed to cram a fully stocked bar serving hot drinks, alcohol, sandwiches and basic hot food, such as pies and pasties, all crammed into a miniscule space. Today, these vehicles are much sought after by operators of preserved railways.

Catering on Britain's trains then settled into something of a familiar pattern, with hot meals served in first class restaurant cars while the buffet car became the butt of music hall jokes about curled up British Rail sandwiches!

Today, on most preserved steam railways you can enjoy a beer on the go. Line speeds are limited to 25mph so there isn't much

AleWrightNow



**Need a bar for your party, wedding, fete or other event?
Give us a call.**

We specialise in using real ales and ciders.

www.alewrightnow.co.uk

email info@alewrightnow.co.uk

Tel 07817 573471

THE GEORGE BRIDG NORTH THE ONLY PLACE YOU NEED TO BE THIS AUTUMN

**Exciting things are always ready
and waiting at the George.**

*Host an event here, stay a night
in our hotel, wine and dine for
an evening, enjoy some free live
music or just join us for a good
old-fashioned pint!*

- Real Ales
- Wine and dine Grill night
every Wednesday
- Fish night & live music
every Friday
- Live music from 9pm
every Saturday
- Real Log fires



Opposite Severn Valley Railway
Tel: 01746 768868
www.thegeorgebridgnorth.co.uk



By Paul Appleton

chance of spilling it, or the beer being served cloudy. Apart from quality bottled beers, many also serve decanted real ale by gravity on high days and at special events. Look out for the odd gem of a buffet car though, for they still exist in a throw back to the halcyon days of steam. There is a Thompson-designed buffet car in operation on the Llangollen Railway in North Wales which has an excellent 'snug', and the Worth Valley Railway at Keighley in Yorkshire has a real ale bar car on many of its trains.

But who can forget the 'Clapham Buffet' which is part of the National Collection and used to operate on the Severn Valley Railway. With its long counter and line of bar stools, it was a tremendous place to enjoy a pint with friends. The 1934-built GWR coach (No. 9631) was a fixture on the railway until 1992 and is now on static display at the National Railway Museum in York – if only we could have it back please!

CAMRA
CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

WHAT?UB

whatpub.com
Featuring over 35,000 real ale pubs

Thousands of pubs
at your fingertips!

Over 96% of Britain's real ale pubs featured

Information updated by thousands of CAMRA volunteers

Created by CAMRA who produce the UK's best beer & pub guide



“Let a man walk ten miles steadily on a hot summer’s day along a dusty English road, and he will soon discover why beer was invented.”

G.K. Chesterton

For Only £50

This advertising space could be yours!

Reach a minimum of 4,000 real ale enthusiasts.

The all need to eat, they may need a taxi,
they all buy clothes and who knows what other
services and products they may be interested in.

You know it makes sense!



LocAle Pubs In Our Area

Bridgnorth

Squirrel Inn Alveley WV15 6LW
Peacock Inn Boraston WR15 8LL
Tally-Ho Inn Bouldon SY7 9DP
Bamboo Bridgnorth WV16 4BE
Bear Bridgnorth WV16 4ET
Bell & Talbot Bridgnorth WV16 4QU
Fosters Arms Bridgnorth WV15 5AG
Friars Bridgnorth WV16 4DW
Golden Lion Bridgnorth WV16 4DS
Harp Inn Bridgnorth WV16 4DX
Jewel of the Severn Bridgnorth WV16 4DS
Kings Head Bridgnorth WV16 4QN
Old Castle Bridgnorth WV16 4AB
Railwaymans Arms Bridgnorth WV16 5DT
Shakespeare Bridgnorth WV16 4AD
Stable Bar Bridgnorth WV16 4QN
The George Bridgnorth WV16 4AX
Vine Bridgnorth WV 15 5AG
White Lion Bridgnorth WV16 4AB
Rose & Crown Burford WR15 8HA
Bulls Head Chelmarsh WV16 6BA
Plough Inn Claverley WV5 7DX
Golden Cross Clee Hill SY8 3LZ
Bell Cleobury Mortimer DY14 8AA
Kings Arms Cleobury Mortimer DY14 8BS
Royal Fountain Inn Cleobury Mortimer DY14 8BS
Sun Inn Corfton SY7 9DF
Halfway House Eardington WV16 5LS
Unicorn Inn Hampton Loade WV16 6BN
Old Gate Inn Heathton WV5 7EB
Malt Shovel Highley WV16 6HT
Ship Inn Highley WV16 6NU
Crown Inn Hopton Wafers DY14 0NB
Eagle & Serpent Kinlet DY12 3BE
Bennetts End Inn Knowbury SY8 3LL
Longville Inn Longville in the Dale TF13 6DT
Acton Arms Morville WV16 4RU
Pheasant at Neenton Neenton WV16 6RJ
Fighting Cocks Stottesdon DY14 8TZ
Lion O'Morfe Upper Farmcote WV15 5PS
Three Horseshoes Wheathill WV16 8QT
Davenport Arms (The Dog) Worfield WV15 5LF
Wheel Inn Worfield WV15 5NR

Telford and East Shropshire

Platform Ale House Albrighton WV7 3DF
Broseley Social Club Broseley TF12 5EZ
The Riverside Inn Cound SY5 6AF
Royal Oak Ellerdine Heath TF6 6RL
New Inn Newport TF10 7LX
Three Horseshoes Sambrook TF10 8AP
Plough Inn Shifnal TF11 8AZ
White Hart Shifnal TF11 8BH
Coalbrookdale Inn Coalbrook TF8 7DX
Shakespeare Coalport TF8 7HT
Elephant & Castle Dawley TF4 2ET
All Nations Madeley TF7 5DP
Crown Inn Oakengates TF2 6EA
Station Hotel TF2 6DU
Cock Hotel Wellington TF1 2DL
William Withering Wellington TF1 1LU
Wrekin Inn Wellington TF1 1RH

Market Drayton

Old Jack Inn Calverhall SY13 4PA
Fox & Hounds Cheswardine TF9 2RS
Red Lion Cheswardine TF9 2RS
Red Lion Market Drayton TF9 1JP
Sandbrook Vaults Market Drayton TF9 3BY



The Feathers Hotel

17th Century Coaching House



Proudly serving local award winning ales
including the following
Ludlow Brewery - Boiling Well & Ludlow Gold
Hobsons Brewery - Twisted Spire & Old Prickly

Are You A CAMRA Member ?

Twenty pence discount off a pint of real ale on production of
current CAMRA Membership Card.

The Feathers Bat

Three x 1/3 pint glasses of real ale
£3.50

The ideal venue for weddings, business meetings, conferences,
social evenings and private dining.
Restaurant , Bar Food, 40 Bedrooms

Bull Ring Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 4AA
Telephone : 01584 875261



Get Your Thinking Caps On

Find The Pub Names

A word search of Bridgnorth pubs

Bamboo
Bear
Bell and Talbot
Black Boy
Black Horse
Falcon
Fosters
George
Golden Lion
King's Head
Old Castle
Railwayman's Arms
Shakespeare

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | M | S | Y | T | S | I | F | O | L | E | E | G | W | K |
| W | V | N | N | R | C | R | L | R | R | N | M | N | L | K |
| K | H | U | S | X | W | D | E | A | W | D | U | T | V | Q |
| M | L | S | H | Q | C | T | E | T | T | X | B | F | Q | N |
| N | B | L | J | A | M | P | A | K | S | A | F | U | E | T |
| C | I | J | S | D | S | I | T | C | B | O | J | J | K | C |
| S | Q | T | X | E | F | A | L | C | O | N | F | U | I | E |
| S | L | E | K | Y | O | B | K | C | A | L | B | Z | N | T |
| E | M | A | G | O | L | D | E | N | L | I | O | N | G | U |
| U | H | R | Y | P | H | L | W | R | V | R | T | L | S | L |
| S | P | F | A | V | N | W | Y | Z | Y | C | C | H | H | A |
| I | H | J | Z | S | X | F | U | P | R | I | O | C | E | B |
| A | F | E | W | S | N | Z | O | Z | T | N | D | P | A | P |
| X | W | C | G | S | E | A | L | V | O | M | Y | D | D | X |
| B | X | P | H | G | E | T | M | S | B | N | Y | O | Y | G |
| Y | L | F | E | G | Y | Z | O | Y | L | J | F | R | P | D |
| E | H | A | R | O | E | Q | O | H | A | H | X | W | K | U |
| B | D | O | C | D | B | U | B | R | T | W | M | K | V | L |
| R | E | L | C | K | T | M | M | H | D | F | L | T | Y | Z |
| G | D | A | E | G | H | H | A | Q | N | O | Q | I | W | X |
| E | P | O | R | H | X | O | B | H | A | G | I | S | A | G |
| N | H | U | K | Y | M | X | R | G | L | L | I | R | F | R |
| V | H | P | O | X | E | W | C | S | L | J | V | V | N | K |
| Z | G | Z | C | C | J | L | P | A | E | P | A | B | G | D |
| X | D | A | E | A | N | F | W | M | B | X | U | E | V | E |

Phrases and Sayings

Can you work out the well known phrase or saying from the initial letters?

1, TEITR 2, PTTR 3, TEBGTW 4, WGUMCD 5, BATB
6, PFTC 7, FFWF 8, BTADB 9, CKTC 10, CBNC

Answers On Page 48



Get Your Thinking Caps On : Answers

Answers To The Quiz On Page 47

Find The Pub Names

```

+ + + + + S + + O + E + + + +
+ + + + + R L + R + + + + +
+ + + + + D E A + + + + +
+ + + + + C + E T + + + + +
+ + + + + A + P + + S + + + +
+ + + S + S + + + + O + + K +
+ + T + E F A L C O N F + I +
S L + K Y O B K C A L B + N +
E M A G O L D E N L I O N G +
+ H R + + + + + + + + + S +
S + + A + + + + + + + + H +
+ + + + S + + + + + + + E +
+ + + + + N + + + T + + + A +
+ + + + + A + + O + + + D +
B + + + + E + M + B + + + + +
+ L + + G + + O Y L + + + + +
+ + A R + + + O + A + + + + +
B + O C + + + B + T W + + + +
+ E + + K + + M + D + L + + +
G + A + + H + A + N + + I + +
+ + + R + + O B + A + + + A +
+ + + + + + + R + L + + + + R
+ + + + + + + + S L + + + + +
+ + + + + + + + E + + + + +
+ + + + + + + + B + + + + +
  
```

Phrases & Sayings

- 1 The Elephant In The Room
- 2 Paint The Town Red
- 3 The Early Bird Gets The Worm
- 4 What Goes Up Must Come Down
- 5 Beating Around The Bush
- 6 Par For The Course
- 7 Fight Fire With Fire
- 8 Back To The Drawing Board
- 9 Curiosity Killed The Cat
- 10 Close But No Cigar



CAMRA's GOOD BEER GUIDE 2018

45th Edition

UK's Best-Selling Beer & Pub Guide



EDITED BY
ROGER PROTZ



Bridgnorth Meetings

24th July - 19:30 Start

The Friars, Central Court Bridgnorth

28th August - 20:00 Start

The Button Oak, Button Oak
(minibus from The George 19:30)

25th September

venue TBA

23rd October - 19:30

The White Lion, Bridgnorth

27th November

venue TBA

For Latest Updates

**See The Bridgnorth CAMRA
Facebook Group**

www.bridgnorthcamra.org.uk

TES Meetings

Saturday 14th April

CAMRAMBLE

Coalport/Ironbridge Area Details Dave or
Eleanor Haddon
(no need to book)

Saturday 5th May

Mild in May Mini Bus Trip

Bridgnorth rural pubs.
Pick up Wellington 11.00am Oakengates
11.15am Shifnal 11.30am Bridgnorth Low
Town Tesco 11.50 return 7.00pm (cost £5.00
pp CAMRA members)

Saturday 2nd June

Coach Trip Oswestry and beyond

Pick ups/drop offs Shifnal, Oakengates,
Wellington, Bridgnorth (cost TBC)

Saturday 23rd June

Hop and Stagger Brewery Afternoon

By minibus/coach from Wellington,
oakengates, Shifnal, Bridgnorth BBQ and live
music (cost TBC)

20th – 22nd July

Festival at the Edge near Whitchurch

Volunteers needed!

More ideas, suggestions and bookings to

Paul Bradburn 01952 510611 e-mail

paulbradburn8439@btinternet.com

Market Drayton Events

No Information Provided

For more information
please contact

Brynn Pass : Bpass@btinternet.com

07949 321442

Branch Contacts

BRIDGNORTH

Branch Secretary

Alan Thwaites
07813 571956
hat.deecie@btinternet.com

Membership Secretary

Alan Thwaites
07813 571956
hat.deecie@btinternet.com

Branch Chairman

Eleanor Haddon
07711 739007 or 01746 862884
ehaddon1@hotmail.com

Social Secretary

Situation currently vacant....

Webmaster

Paul Griffiths
Betelguise Web Design
01746 250500
paul@betelguise.com

MARKET DRAYTON

Chairman

Bryn Pass
bpass@btinternet.com
07949 321442

T.E.S

Chairman

Adrian Zawierka
atoz@caskale.net

Secretary

Eleanor Haddon
ehaddon1@hotmail.com
07711 739007 or 01746 862884

Treasurer

David Jones
safejones@aol.com

Membership Secretary

Paul Jones
paul.jones@caskale.net
01952 460456

Social Secretary

Paul Bradburn
paulbradburn8439@btinternet.com
01952 510611

Pub Survey Officer

Dave Haddon
dhaddon@hotmail.com

Beer Quality Scores www.whatpub.com

Ale Sabrina

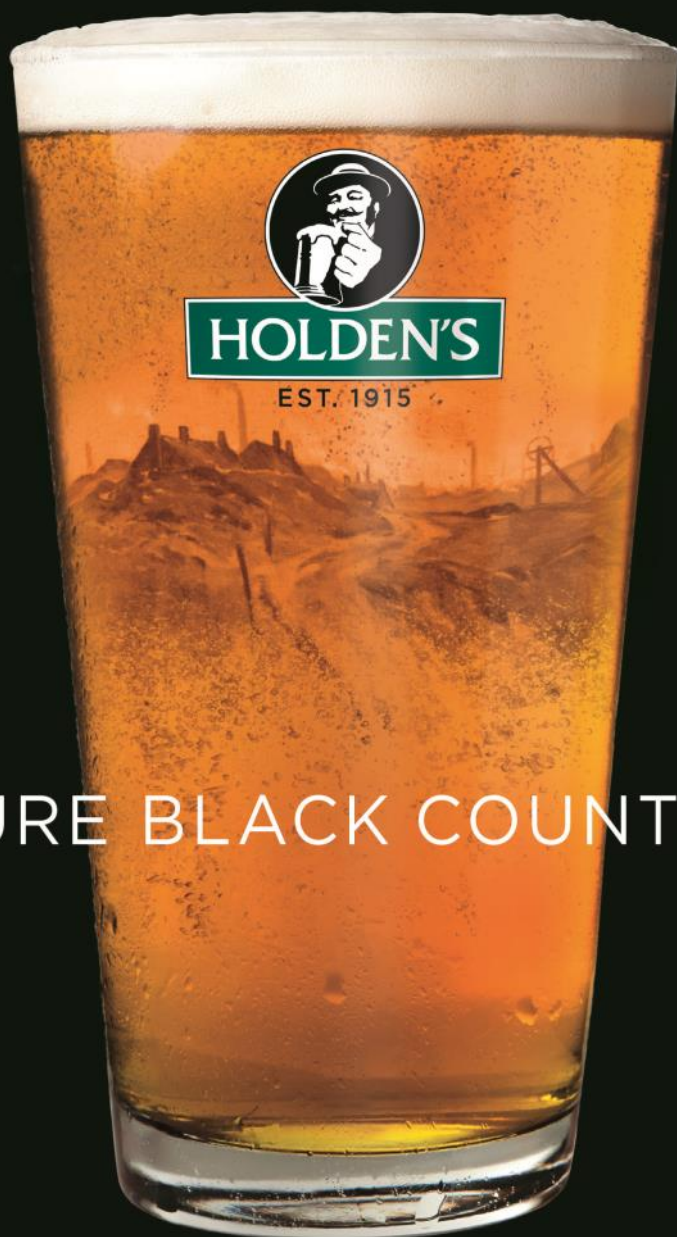
**Advertising**

To advertise please email
adsales@alesabrina.co.uk

Articles

Got an article of interest ?
email bsturt@alesabrina.co.uk

Edwin Butler Bayliss, Black Country Landscape, early 1900s, oil on canvas.
Courtesy of Wolverhampton Arts and Culture © The artist's estate



PURE BLACK COUNTRY.

www.holdensbrewery.co.uk



ENVILLE ALES



Brewers of Fine Cask Ales



Summer
Regular and seasonal favourites
Spring

Tel: 01384 873728 Fax: 01384 873770

Email: info@envilleales.com www.envilleales.com

Enville Ales Limited Hollies Lane, Cox Green, Stourbridge DY7 5LG