

Spring 2011

Edition 43

# LAKES & ALE

Newsletter  
of the  
Westmorland  
Branch of  
The  
Campaign for  
Real Ale



[www.camrawestmorland.org](http://www.camrawestmorland.org)

Hawkshead pdf

## Editorial

Regards once again to all our readers. We are now well into 2011 and it's great that we are slowly emerging from the dark, cold days of winter and can look forward to some, hopefully, more pleasant weather.

This edition has some great contributions from several of our stalwarts and I thank them all. It would be really nice to receive some articles & pictures from new contributors, so if you are out & about find something interesting or have a particular subject that you care about or even an axe to grind, do let me know and, so long as it is, as they say, 'decent and legal' I'll be glad to put it in. Then we may get some fresh ideas and views for a change.

This edition sees a complete guide to all Beer Festivals in Westmorland and surrounding areas for 2011. There has been a rise in the number of pubs arranging their first beer festival in recent years and most have become regular features. Here's to a terrific springtime with the chance for us all to enjoy the scenery ....with the beer. Cheers

**David Currington** Editor

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## From the Chair...



2012 Good Beer Guide (GBG) – Pleasing and Disappointing!

Westmorland CAMRA has recently democratically selected its' entries for the next GBG. We will please those who will be in and disappoint those who will not be in.

This is one of the hardest and healthiest things that the branch does! The difficulty arises because the editor limits us to only twenty-two entries. This year we identified fifty establishments (a record) that we felt worthy of surveying, that's the healthy part.

We also had a record number of surveyors – twelve; plus a record number of members, twenty-eight, attending the selection meeting. This attendance is encouraging as 28 represents 10% of the total branch membership!

If space in the GBG were unlimited we would have probably nominated 40 establishments this year. Due to this restriction we will be campaigning to re-introduce 'try also' into the GBG. We will also be exploring creating a Westmorland GBG.

The greatest news of this story is the recent massive growth of interest in real ale, and the resulting increase of establishments that now consistently serve good quality proper beer, some of who will be pleased others who will be disappointed when the 2012 GBG arrives in September this year.

As you read this the final stages of

compiling the 2012 and 38th edition of the CAMRA Good Beer Guide (GBG) will be underway. For many people the GBG is their bible as it lists all breweries and real ales that are produced in the UK plus the Pubs, Clubs & Hotels that serve good real ale on a County basis. These venues cannot buy their way into the GBG, in fact all the entries are free and are identified and nominated by CAMRA members. It is also extremely useful if you are away from your home patch and trying to find a good pint of real ale.

So how does this work? CAMRA branches regularly discuss how their local pubs and beers are faring. This intelligence is used to identify which pubs are consistently serving good quality real ale and therefore worthy of surveying for consideration in the GBG. Systematic surveying takes place from November to January, and this year over 15 Westmorland members were involved surveying. At the selection meeting 28 members listened to the results of the surveys and then democratically voted. Our branch surveyed 42 venues but can only nominate 22 due to space constraints in the guide, so competition is both very high and healthy.

What are we looking for? Once good beer quality is established other important factors come into play such as how welcoming are the staff, LocAle, architecture, history, food, creature comforts, oversized glasses and do they

*(Continued on page 5)*



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hold a beer festival. It is always the beer that comes first as we believe that if the publican looks after his cask beer then everything else in the pub - from the welcome through food to the state of the toilets - are likely to receive the same care. CAMRA will de-list pubs if the beer quality falls below an acceptable standard. You can keep your copy of the GBG up to date by visiting [www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk) click on Updates to 2010 where you will find the changes to pubs and breweries.

The GBG can be sent to CAMRA members automatically for an annual Direct Debit currently £10.00 or non-members can purchase the guide from bookstores for £15.99.

I hope this helps you will take more interest in the Good Beer Guide and discover in September 2010 when the GBG is published the results of Westmorland CAMRA's selection and 2011 entries.

Chris Holland

Westmorland CAMRA Chair

## **Obituary – Dave Shaw, Rifleman's Arms, Kendal**

Dave Shaw was a Burnley lad born and bred and had been a publican with his wife Anita (Neat) for many years, both having excellent cellarmanship skills. They arrived at the Rifleman's Arms, Kendal about sixteen months ago. At that time they hadn't planned to take it on, but were asked by the hotel management group to run it alongside their then pub in Lancaster - at short notice, and as a temporary measure. However, they quickly realised that it was the place for them and was where they wanted to stay.

I met Dave the day of their arrival, and my eye was drawn immediately to his handiwork – the hand pumps shone like jewels and the bar looked the real business! He talked of his love of good beers and I warmed to him and his wonderfully lively grin from the start. In a short space of time he was "our Dave" to the locals and he and Neat became part of the community.

However, after an illness patiently borne he eventually became unable to walk unaided or take an active role in running the pub. He continued to take an interest in everything local and made sure he was out to see our community events on the green, which since their arrival has always very much involved the Rifleman's.

He had a love of fishing and a pride in keeping good traditional beers and that remained for him to the end. Dave passed away at his beloved Rifleman's in the second week of February aged just 48. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Marilyn Molloy

## Pub of the Season - Spring 2011 Mardale Inn, Bampton



The Westmorland Branch of CAMRA has awarded the Pub of the Season Award for Spring 2011 to the Mardale Inn, Bampton. Also known as 'The Mardale Inn at St Patricks Well' the pub was featured in an article on the two pubs in Bampton back



in the Winter 2008/9 edition. It had recently been purchased by Sebastian, a local business man, and converted into a successful real ale outlet that soon deservedly became an entry in the Good Beer Guide. The pub, with its

open log fire, has a minimalist feel regarding the furniture and fittings but has maintained a steady policy of serving up to 5 well kept Cumbrian ales, plus Weston's draught cider.

It is a favourite for walkers & more mobile visitors to the Haweswater area and has 4 en suite rooms available. It is open all day for most of the year and food is normally available all day with larger menus both lunchtime and for

evening meals. In the past weeks Sebastian, in order to give more time to his business interests, has sold the license but not the premises to his good friend Adie Rogan, who had been helping for some time previously. Adie is determined to keep the pub running along the same lines and will remain dedicated to serving fine local real ales, which is all CAMRA can ask. We wish him continued success.



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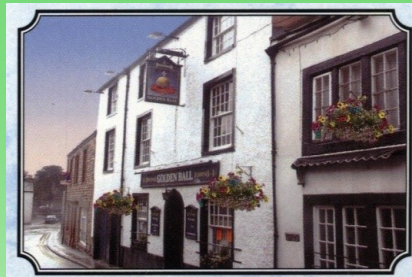
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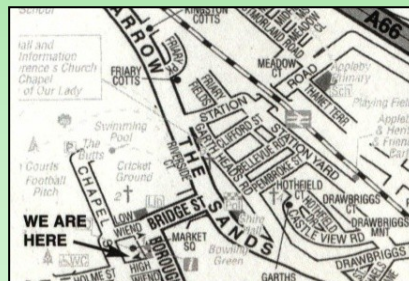
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# OVER THE POND



By Roger Davies

It's westward once more as I've again been in New York. The lure of vintage buses working normal bus routes



Ale Street News

during the holiday period is too good to resist and this year, a 1963 General Motors diesel had skyscrapers shivering along 34<sup>th</sup> Street. There is, of course more to the Big Apple including the continued growth of craft breweries. The one I always seem to stay near, Heartland Brewery, continues to thrive even having an outlet in the Port Authority bus terminal, a neat marrying of two pleasures. It used to be the case in the UK too when there was anything of much interest in UK buses.

Anyway, I picked up a copy of the US

version of "What's Brewing " a monthly publication called "Ale Street News" which has the strapline "Your bridge to beer and life's related pleasures". This has a national part and then a regional insert section B. You can have a look online at [alestreetonline.com](http://alestreetonline.com)

I understand that there are now over 1600 craft breweries in the US, up from just over 1400 two years ago. There has been a trend for what is called "wet hopping" where brewers are keen to get fresh, local hops as fast as they can into their brews. Whereas it is felt that this



1963 GMC with the Hudson in the background.

gives the beers a more herbal, spicy earthiness, it also mirrors the trend in getting food locally sourced from farm to table that is sweeping the US. There is no shortage of local hops as after a shortage in 2007, growers have sprung up all over the country, from Maine to New Mexico and brewers in Vermont are turning away local supplies as they have enough.

Given that Cumbria leads in the UK locally sourced food sales, shall we be seeing hop gardens in the Lyth Valley ? But the Americans aren't stopping there, the next idea is locally sourced barley. Milwaukee's Lakefront brewery has been using 40 acres of local barley for 3 years

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now and mixed with Wisconsin hops is, as brewery owner Russ Klisch puts it, “an



Heartland Brewery in Union Sq NYC

easy sell”. Over in the wonderful beer paradise that is Oregon, Rogue Brewery from Newport has grown Charles 2 row barley on a 215 acre site for the past 2 years which it combines with hops from its 42 acre hop farm. It is just building its own maltings. Quite apart from the local appeal, all this dramatically reduces transport.

Just as we have the GBBF, the US has the Great American Beer Festival. Believe it or not, last year it celebrated 29 years having been founded in 1982. It all began in the Harvest House hotel in Boulder, Colorado with 22 brewers and 40 beers

to keep the 800 attendees happy. Last year it took over the Colorado Convention Center in Denver with 455 breweries of which 56



were new. 2,200 beers rewarded the 49,000 visitors who drank 36,000 gallons of the offerings. The 150 judges were faced with choosing from no less than 133 beer styles. Given the size of it all I can't possibly list all the winners, but just in case it comes up in a pub quiz, winner in the Large Brewery category was Blue Moon of Denver, that in the Mid size was the Utah Brewers Cooperative. The latter is heartening given that state's somewhat prehistoric views on alcohol. As one reporter described the GABF, it was, “Shaking the big stick for American Craft beers”.

For the true beer aficionado, the USA is rapidly becoming a must visit destination.

Roger Davies 2/11



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## A CAMRA Visit to The Croglin Brewery at Kirkby Stephen

The Croglin Brewery officially started brewing on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 in the cellar of The Croglin Castle Hotel, which is on the Southern outskirts of the town and is adjacent to The Stainmore Railway Museum.

It was set up by Anthony Barrett who had previously been a chef and had been challenged to set up and operate a brewery. The beers that were originally produced were **"Loki Original" (ABV 3.7%)** which is an amber ale with initial sweetness overlaid with bitter notes leading to a dry finish and **"Trickster" (ABV 4.2%)** which is a golden ale with a hint of bitterness in the finish. The next beer to be produced was **"Gylden Ringer" (ABV 3.8%)** which is a golden beer with good body and bitter flavour. The plan to brew an interesting dark beer had been trialled and members of CAMRA Westmorland were invited to assist in the production of the first of what is to be a regular brew.



Therefore, on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2011 six members visited the brewery. Transport was provided from Kendal and Appleby by Anthony the brewer. On arrival we were warmly welcomed with proper coffee in the bar and Anthony began his first ever and slightly nervous tour; possibly justified as whilst he is now an experienced brewer he is not an experienced tour guide!

He was now faced with the likes of local CAMRA member Duncan Crabtree, a formidable character within the brewing world, who has many years of experience himself. Anthony explained about some teething problems that they had with brews, distribution and even the difficulty in getting barrels returned since starting the business up. The excellent news was that all of the problems were now sorted out. There was still a lot to learn and Anthony is eager to not only take the business forward but



*Duncan gets to work*

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also is planning to enlarge brewing capacity.

So, it was down to the cellar to see the two and a half barrel brewery and to help brew Croglin's first ever dark ale.



*In with the hops*

Anthony had started early getting the process going with his mix of malts already warming away in the mash tun. We, of course, just had to hang our noses over to try and pick up those wonderful scents associated with dark ales. Malt, hop, and a touch of liquorice were already wafting their way through our senses and hinting on how the final product may taste.

We were introduced to some of the breweries investors who had come down to see the process as well and discuss further business developments. They all had a sound in depth knowledge of the beer business and with the enthusiastic Anthony made up what is a good recipe for a successful venture. As we went through the brewing process we were bought down to the three beers they had on sale in the bar; **Loki Original**, **Trickster** and **Gylden**

**Ringer**, with Trickster being particularly enjoyed by all of us.

After the mash was thoroughly sparged it was then put through to the copper, the hops added and then heated before primary fermentation. Now it's a two week wait before we can sample what promises to be a very interesting dark ale.

In an adjacent vessel, several hundred pints of **Trickster** was waiting for barrelling but before this the very important job of sterilising had to be done. With the aid of a steamer and a few willing, (and soon to be rather wet), CAMRA members the task was completed.

Our vice chairman David Prickett



*Vice Chairman David ensures that not a drop is wasted! Lynn is already sampling!*

took control of barrelling and treated the brew if it was liquid gold, hardly spilling a drop and managing to fill ten firkins and two pins all under the watchful eyes of Anthony and, of course, our own Mr Crabtree.

By five o'clock we had done all we could and we retired to the bar for a few more beers and a good chat.

*(Continued on page 17)*

Tweedies pdf

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*(Continued from page 14)*

In summary we have a very interesting new Cumbrian brewery to watch, see develop and definitely try the beers! We were all very impressed with the enthusiasm of both Anthony and his investors. We look forward to seeing the increasing range of Croglin Brewery beers in the pubs across our region and beyond.

After the required wait, a few of us returned to taste "**Dark Drover**" when it was put on sale in The Croglin Castle and we are delighted to report that it was as good as we expected. "**Dark Drover**" (ABV 3.3%) is a dark ruby beer with biscuit and malt flavours with an overlying bitter finish and good mouth feel. It is a very tasty session beer that even the "testers" who did not usually try darker beers thoroughly enjoyed.

We wish to say thank you to all at The Croglin Brewery and The Croglin Castle from all of the lucky CAMRA members who were able to attend for making this an extremely informative and very

enjoyable day out.

In conclusion; if you are in the area why not drop into The Croglin Castle and try some of the beers as well as finding out why there is the connection between all of the beers, the Norse "god" Loki and Kirkby Stephen. Brewery trips can also be arranged.

Good luck and continued success to The Croglin Brewery!

**NOTE:** A DATE FOR THE DIARY: The Stainmore Railway will be holding a 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event over the 2011 August Bank Holiday and there will be a beer festival there as well, which will have Croglin Brewery Beers as well as beers from other Cumbrian Breweries on offer.

David Welsh - February 2011

**Contact Information:** (T) 017683 71389, (e-mail)

[Anthony@croglinbrewery.co.uk](mailto:Anthony@croglinbrewery.co.uk),

The Croglin Brewery, South Road, Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria CA17 4SY.



## On the Fringes..... Northern Westmorland

For this edition of Lakes & Ales we will have a look at three pubs that are situated right on the very northern fringes of Westmorland. A very short distance away to the north, across the River Eamont, lies the great uncharted territory that is the Solway Branch.

Travelling north up the A6, and with just a short diversion through the Lowther estate, lies the very picturesque village of Askham. At the cross road at the top of the main street is the Queens Head. This is a very old establishment built from the

time they have transformed the pub. There has been much redecoration to bring out the features of the building and to provide an excellent drinking and eating establishment. There are two to three real ales available but being a Punch Tavern they must order from the Punch list.

The pub is a mecca for those with gluten & wheat intolerances, since Katherine who also suffers has ensured that the menu is impeccably managed to provide a massive choice; not just the token meal that many places add to the menu.

All the food, which is served from noon till 9pm every day, is locally sourced. Tommy and Katharine are to be congratulated on their achievement so far, and what a great place to go for a meal. By the way, their Lamb & Black Pudding has achieved at least runner up in the



very outset, it is believed, as a public house in the seventeenth century. Indeed there is a date of what appears to be 1682 on the lintel of one of the windows.

The pub has been run by Tommy & Katharine for the past year and in that



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National British Pie Week championship and may yet come first if they win the final taste off!

Leaving Askham it is but a mile or two northwards to the village of Tirril. Here there is another and equally well known Queens Head, How many did she have one asks?



very similar lines by Landlords Jim & Margaret. There are normally up to 4 ales at the bar and the pub retains its very old and wonderful atmosphere.



This is the birthplace of the Tirril Brewery as the pub was once owned by Chris Tomlinson who started the Tirril Brewery at the pub but has now left to concentrate solely on the brewery side at the Tirril Brewery, now located at Long Marton.

The pub was purchased by Robinsons and is now run on



Top Right: *The Queen's Head Tirril*

Above left: *The cosy fire at the Queens Head, Tirril*

Above Right: *The well stocked bar.*

Right: *The Gate Inn, Yanwath*



*(Continued from page 19)*

Good local food is available every lunchtime and evening and the pub is open daily 11 till late. Not only has Margaret maintained the very well known & successful Beer & Sausage Festival each August but last year added a successful Beer & Pie Festival in November.



Above Dave at his bar in the Gate Inn

the M6 or from the A6 itself. We are truly blessed here in Cumbria for so many of such excellent pubs all within easy reach for that special trip out with a tame driver. **Ed**

Finally I made my way back towards Penrith and the M6 south, but pulled in for a visit to the well known Yanwath Gate Inn. For the third time I found yet another great little establishment with the very unusual gate sign and rhyme hanging outside. Dave the bar manager told me that this is a free house which owner Matt had run for the past 7 years. There are three real ales, changed as demand dictates, (yes, some regulars still insist on a John Smith Smooth flow option), plus draught Weston's cider. The pub is open from noon till late every day and again there is an excellent food menu available both lunchtimes and in the evening. These three beautiful pubs are all within spitting distance of the Penrith exit from

Contact details are:

Queens Head Askham

01931 712225

[www.queensheadaskham.com](http://www.queensheadaskham.com)

Queens Head, Tirril

01768 863219

[www.queensheadinn.co.uk](http://www.queensheadinn.co.uk)

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# Croglin Brewery



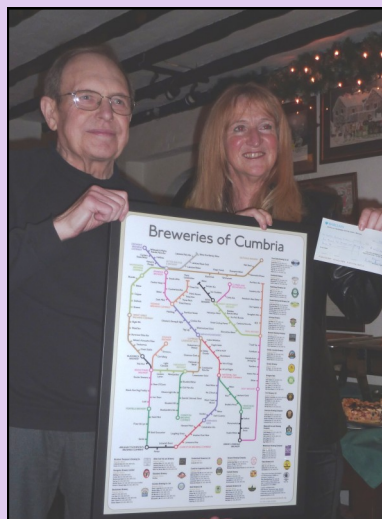
## FUND RAISING REPORT

Since the last edition of Lakes & Ale was issued in early December the Branch has held presentations to two organisations regarding money raised by the Branch.

Following the serious floods in West Cumbria last autumn a special edition of our 'Breweries of Cumbria' poster was issued and raised a total of £4500 which was presented to the Cumbria Community Foundation.

At the same time a cheque for £500 was presented to AGE(UK) from donations at our October beer festival. The branch wishes to thank all those who so generously gave money at various activities for these excellent results.

Below: President Alan Risdon presents a cheque for £4500 to Chris Collier of the CCF.



## CONISTON BREWING CO.



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# DRIP TRAY NOTICE BOARD

We have been informed by the committee of volunteers that organise the Dent Music & Beer Festival the event will be held on Friday 24th June 2011, from 6pm until 10.30pm, Saturday 25th June from 12.30 until 10.30pm & Sunday 26th June from 12.30 until 5.30pm. There will again be a minimum of 25 cask beers to choose from, with a great line up of musicians at this free to enter event. We are hoping Dent Brewery will be one of our 2011 sponsors. Details will be available on [www.discoverdentedale.co.uk](http://www.discoverdentedale.co.uk) nearer to the event

The Croglin Brewery is looking into re creating an India Pale Ale from the old JAS Rowlandson and Son Brewery which was in Kirkby Stephen. This brewery was founded in 1884 and traded as Rowlandson up to about 1900 and as James Rowlandson and Son to about 1923; it ceased brewing around 1929, so it will be interesting to see if there is still anyone who can compare the original to the new brew when it is produced.

The Black Swan at Ravenstonedale intend to hold a Cobwebs Classical Music Weekend on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May 2011 – a music in the garden festival, complete with a range of real ales, including at least two “Locales.”

The George Hotel at Orton was shut by Marston's Brewery before Christmas for structural repairs. It is still closed.

Stainmore Railway 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration will take place at the Stainmore Railway Museum, Kirkby Stephen, over the August Bank Holiday; there will be a beer festival with a “Cumbrian Breweries” theme.

The tenancy of the Hare & Hounds at Bowland Bridge has been taken on by Kerry who used to be at the Strickland Arms and the pub is now free of tie. This is excellent news and Kerry has bought with her the well kept cellar, a great food menu and will be hosting her first Beer Festival on the late May Bank holiday weekend.

Following the success of our Lakeland lager in 2010, Hawkshead is producing a new beer especially for the JDWetherspoon Spring '11 Beer festival, it's a 5% highly hopped pale ale called.... Cumbrian Five Hop, we've introduced a new hop Amarillo which is giving us some wonderful flavours and aromas, following on from that, look out for 'Citrillo' in the very near future.

Kirkby Lonsdale Jubilee Stout voted Beer of Festival with Hawkshead's Brodie's Prime a close second in the recent Lunesdale Dark & Winter Ales Festival. Congrats to two fine beers.

Anita welcomes you to

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## Brewery Updates

### Croglin Brewery

See article on page 15. All four brews are to be available in bottles.

### Dent Brewery

The Brewery have released their new seasonal winter ale which has sold very well. It is called Black Lamb (ABV 4.2%). It is a dark, ruby colour with Smokey roasted malt aroma & a smooth, liquorice and bitter chocolaty flavour. A lingering dry Aftertaste. It should be back next winter.

Final preparations are being made to release the American style IPA mentioned in the last issue but it is not yet named although no doubt it will be some Dent style pun on sheep and bells since it is to be released in mid March to coincide with the rededication of the repaired Dent church bells.



### Hawkshead Brewery

#### *Hawkshead Brewery wins Silver in "The Brewing Oscars"*

Hawkshead Brewery got international recognition, with a silver medal in the Brewing Industry International Awards, 2011, known as the Brewing Oscars.

The brewery's latest cask beer, Windermere Pale, won silver in its category (cask ale below 3.8%abv.)

There were 800 entries from 30 countries in the competition, which is 125 years old, and is held to have the most professional judging panel of any – the judges, from all over the world, must be working brewers. It was held at the National Brewing Centre, Burton on Trent, on Friday 11th February 2011.

Hawkshead's Alex Brodie told us that these are the beer Oscars. To be among the medals here is to be in some very good and very experienced company -- renowned breweries from the UK, USA, Belgium. This was a big boost for their young brewery.

Another Hawkshead beer, "Brodie's Prime," won the CAMRA North West regional final of the Porter category to go through to next year's Champion Winter Beer of Britain final, at the Winter Ales Festival.

Congratulations all-round are due we think

### Kirkby Lonsdale Brewery

The Brewery have a new brew out called Tiffin Gold (3.6%) a light ale with intense fruity nose and long bitter finish. Their beers have continued to sell very well. Also they have also brewed the Westmorland Pale Ale (WPA) (6.2%) again after the success of the Westmorland beer festival. Ruskin's took silver in the best bitter category and the W.P.A took bronze in the strong ale category at the Stockport beer festival at Barons bar. There are also plans for another 2 new beers in the coming months.

### Tirril Brewery

The Brewery continues to be very busy and the big news this edition is the release of the Pennine Pilsner forecast in the last edition of L&A. This a properly brewed bottom

*(Continued on page 32)*

Queens PDF done



## Pub of the Season - Winter 2010/11 Derby Arms, Witherslack

As reported in the Stop Press of the last Lakes & Ale the Westmorland Branch had just voted for the Derby Arms as their Pub of the Season winter 2010/11. The Certificate was duly presented to the pub landlady Sue by our Chairman Chris when Branch members took the opportunity to hold their February social meeting at this great restored hostelry.



*A jolly time was had by all.*



*Chairman Chris Holland presents the Certificate to Sue, Landlady at the Derby Arms*

This was a joint social with members of the Furness Branch. The pub sits very much on the boundary between the two Branches and is appreciated by all. As usual there was a good selection of very well kept ales to keep us quaffing for sometime. We wish Sue and her staff all the very best for the coming year. It is a great place for pint and the food is great too.

## Beer Festivals throughout the Year.

Normally we have informed readers of CAMRA approved Beer Festivals within Cumbria and the surrounding region by listing those coming in the next few months in the events section.

In order to give festival goers the full picture it is intended to publish a full list of all such Beer Festivals that we know about and that also meet CAMRA aims.

This list will enable festival visitors to plan ahead and also will especially help the increasing number of Landlords who are seeking to start a new festival. They will be able to run their

festival at a time which does not clash with neighbouring events. We hope this is of assistance and the Editor will be pleased to receive updates/omissions at all

*(continued on page 31)*

PDF K Lonsdale one  
above the other please

### REGULAR BEER FESTIVALS - CUMBRIA & SURROUNDING AREAS

19/22 Jan	Manchester	Nat Winter Ales Fest
10/12 Feb	Fleetwood	Marine Hall
10/13 March	Foxfield	Stout, Porters, Milds & Strong Beer Fest
18/19 March	Whitehaven	Whitehaven Beer & Cider Fest
18/20 March	Staveley	Hawkshead Winter Beer Fest
18/20 March	Haverthwaite	Anglers Arms Beer Fest
1/2/3 April	Windermere	Elleray Hotel. Beer Fest
14/17 April	Kendal	Burgundy's Cumbrian Challenge
22/24 April	Kings Meaburn	White Horse Spring Beer Fest
29/30 April	Staveley	Eagle & Child Beer Fest
19/21 April	Skipton	Town Hall Beer Fest
27/30 May	Bowland Bridge	Hare & hounds Beer Fest.
3/4 June	Keswick	Rugby Club, Keswick
10/12 June	Sizergh	Strickland Arms Beer Fest
18/19 June	Gt Asby	Three Grey hounds Beer Fest
22/26 June	Sedbergh	Dent Music & Beer Fest
24/26 June	Appleby	Golden Ball Beer Fest
1/3 July	Kirkoswald	Featherstone Inn Beer Fest
8/10 July	Foxfield	Ciders and Perries Beer Fest
21/24 June	Staveley	Hawkshead Summer Beer Fest
22/24 July	Kings Meaburn	White Horse Summer Beer Fest
29/31 July	Kirkby Stephen	Kings Arms Music & Beer Fest
2/6 August	Earls Ct. London	GBBF Great British Beer Fest
5/7 August	Duften	Stag inn Beer Fest
12/14 August	Tirril	Queens Head Beer & Sausage Fest
1/3 Sept	Ulverston	Furness Branch Beer Fest
16/18 Sept	Foxfield	Foreign Beer Styles
22/24 Sept	Keighley	Keighley Beer Fest
6/8 October	Carlisle	Solway Beer Fest, Lakes Ct Hotel
7/9 October	Broughton	Broughton Festival of Beers & Bangers
12/15 October	Kendal	Westmorland Beer Fest, Town Hall.
11/13 Nov	Tirril	Pie & Beer Fest

*(Continued from page 27)*

fermented lager at 4.0%ABV.. Some has been sampled in Westmorland and it is a very pale brew that will no doubt do well in warmer weather and may even tempt some lager drinkers onto real ale!

### **Watermill Brewing Co.**

There is nothing to report this Edition

### **Winster Brewery**

There is nothing particularly new to report this time, the brewery continues to thrive on its two cask ales. A keg lager has been produced but, of course, that will not be reported further on these pages.

## **CAMRA BEER DISCOUNT SCHEME**

The following Westmorland Pubs are currently known to be offering discounts to card carrying CAMRA members:

**Badger Bar, Rydal**

**Mile Thompson (Wetherspoons), Kendal**

**Golden Ball, Appleby**

**Croglin Castle Hotel, Kirkby Stephen**

**Elleray Hotel, Windermere**

**George & Dragon, Dent**

*If I've missed one let me know ED*



To find a pub in the UK go to <http://www.camra.org.uk/page.aspx?o=313087>

## **WESTMORLAND CAMRA EVENTS DIARY**

**Contact Duncan Crabtree for more details,  
bookings etc. (01539)735739**

14 <sup>th</sup> March	Branch Meeting, Rifleman's, Kendal 8.00pm. Usual bus arrangements for Ambleside & Appleby.
11 <sup>th</sup> April	Branch Social. Mardale Inn, Brampton details to be advised. POTY presentation. Bus leaves Kendal Bus Station 7.15pm.
9 <sup>th</sup> May	AGM, Greyhound Hotel, Shap. Usual bus arrangements from Kendal & Appleby.



For information or  
Bookings contact:

Ed or Lee

Tel: (015394) 36372

[www.kingsarmshawkshead.co.uk](http://www.kingsarmshawkshead.co.uk)

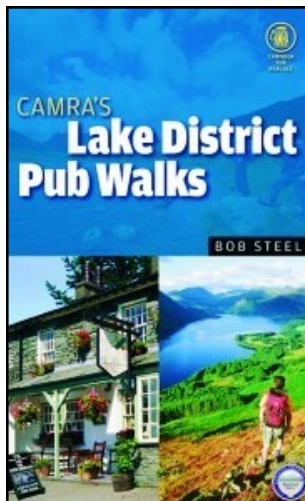
### **HAWKSHEAD, AMBLESIDE, CUMBRIA**

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the coloured edging. Thnxs



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info@elleraywindermere.co.uk



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## **CAMRA Calls for Beer Duty Freeze in upcoming Budget**

CAMRA has called for a freeze in beer duty and abandonment of the beer duty escalator in its pre-Budget submission sent to the Chancellor this morning.

Since its introduction in 2008, the beer duty escalator has meant that beer duty increases 2% above inflation every year - on top of other beer duty rises. As a result, beer duty has increased by 26% since 2008 alone. CAMRA has forecast that, with duty and VAT on a pint approaching £1, a pint of real ale in the pub could reach £2.90 in 2011 - up from £2.45 in 2008.

Pubs are struggling to cope with the successive duty increases, and this is contributing to a pub closure rate of 29 pubs a week.

The Prime Minister has said that he wishes to deliver a "pub friendly Government". It's now time for the Chancellor to take action and make this promise a reality.

## **CAMRA Name London Gem National Pub of the Year**



Wednesday, 16th February saw the Campaign for Real Ale announce

**The Harp in Covent Garden**  
as winner of

**CAMRA's National Pub of the Year.**  
Owned by real ale pioneer and John Young Memorial Award winner Bridget

Walsh this true gem of a pub is described in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide 2011 as '*a small friendly, independent free house which has become a haven for beer choice, generally including a mild or porter, Dark Star and London Micro-brewery seasonal. The narrow bar is adorned with mirrors, theatrical memorabilia and portraits. There is no intrusive music or TV and a cosy upstairs room provides refuge from the busy throng.*'

Located in the heart of London, The Harp is the first ever pub in the capital to win this accolade which recognises all the criteria that make a great pub, including atmosphere, decor, customer service, value for money, clientele mix, and most importantly, the quality of the beer. Judged by CAMRA's 120,000 members The Harp beat off competition from the finest pubs around the country to be awarded the prestigious title in the year CAMRA celebrates its 40th anniversary.

This year's runners up were:

**Taps**, Henry Street, Lytham St Annes, Lancashire, FY8 5LE

**Beacon Hotel**, 129 Bilton Street, Sedgley DY3 1JE

**Salutation**, Ham Green, Berkeley, Ham, Gloucestershire, GL13 9QH.



Hare & Hounds PDF



## Musings from the Vice Chair

I'll start off with a miss quote:

***"Ask not what CAMRA can do for you,  
ask what you can do for CAMRA."***

I've written before about the many people that enjoy real ale (and real Cider and Perry) and have joined CAMRA to find out a bit more about them and possibly attend a beer festival or two or three!

I've also written about the fewer people who join CAMRA and then not only enjoy the social side of things but also help out with local branch activities and campaigning, which also involves socialising!

CAMRA have now brought out a new Membership Application form, which should be appearing in your local pub this year, which is titled

***"A Campaign of Two Halves."***

It mentions member benefits, which include: Quarterly Magazine "Beer," Monthly Magazine "What's Brewing," Free or reduced entry to over 160 nationwide beer festivals, Wetherspoon real ale (40 x 50p) vouchers, as well as CAMRA discount real ale schemes in a variety of pubs (I've found it useful to ask if there is discount in the real ale pubs that I visit because sometimes there is and it hasn't been very well advertised and even if there isn't a discount it usually starts of a conversation as to "What discount?"), etcetera. Member benefits are increasing all the time.

It also mentions some of the on-going

campaigns, which include

- ◇ "The beer tie," asking for a fair deal for consumers and stopping large pub companies overcharging their tenants for beer supplies (the Government has given the large pub companies until June 2011 to change),
- ◇ campaigning against beer tax hikes,
- ◇ ensuring political support for pubs, etcetera.

This campaigning is not only carried out by a few members of CAMRA HQ, who do a lot of work; it is carried out by all of the active members throughout the country in each of their individual branches.

So, if you enjoy real ale and well run community pubs and actually having a local pub to go to, why not consider joining CAMRA and enjoying the social life.

You could also consider joining in with your local branch, possibly socially or even maybe helping out with some of the branch activities. We are a friendly bunch and if you are willing to do anything to help the local branch, your assistance will be gratefully received. If you have the knowledge and abilities already – fantastic, but as long as you are willing to help in any areas then full training and assistance can be given.

A membership form can be found in this magazine, or if you want further information, why not have a chat with one of the local members or visit [www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk) and have a browse around the web site.

*Also we feature the 40th CAMRA anniversary in an article on page 41 and an application form on page 44 ED*

**David Prickett**

Vice Chair CAMRA Westmorland

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**Website [www.royaloakwindermere.co.uk](http://www.royaloakwindermere.co.uk)**

**Steve and Angie look forward to seeing you**

## A Day Out via the Settle Carlisle Line: To Lancaster

Lunesdale  
Dark & Winter Ales  
Festival 2011

The Settle to Carlisle railway line is recognised as one of the most scenic lines in the country. A trip out on the line is worthwhile in itself, but if you can add some excellent real ale as part of the journey it can really add to the enjoyment. Northern Rail operates the line and they offer a "Dales Rail Card" which gives you a third off rail fares covering travelling from Carlisle to Leeds, Bradford or Morecombe (via Hellifield). Usually there is a special offer



Hellifield Station

on between mid November and mid February which allows you to travel anywhere mentioned for only a £6.00 return which is incredible value for money.

When we heard that there was going to be a CAMRA Lunesdale branch, "Dark and Winter Ales Festival" in conjunction with the local trade, in the Lancaster area from 24<sup>th</sup> January to 6<sup>th</sup> February the opportunity to "Try a tasty selection of milds, porters, stouts and winter beers across a number of local venues" was not to be missed.

A small party of local CAMRA adventurers left Appleby station and travelled down the Settle Carlisle line; thoroughly enjoying the

moody, magnificent and somewhat cloudy and wet scenery; until we needed to change onto the Morecombe line at Hellifield.

We had enough time at Hellifield to visit the excellent station buffet and enjoy real

coffee complete with bacon and egg rolls, all freshly prepared.

Hellifield station is worth a, unless you are deeply into the history of railways, short visit; to see the faded magnificence of what was a major hub in the Midland Railway system.

Some marshalling yards remain and the old station buildings and platforms give an idea of how busy it was in its prime. The cast iron work in the station still shows the Midland Railway crest.

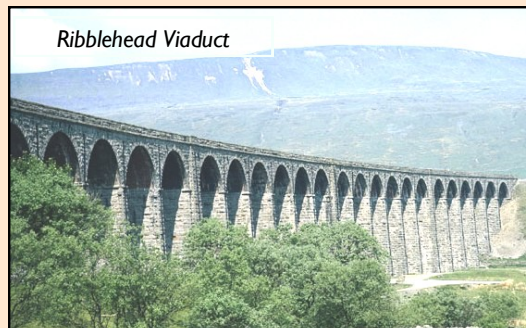
After the break it was onward to Lancaster and some real ale.

We had obtained information about the festival from the CAMRA Lunesdale website. There were thirteen pubs participating in the festival, ten of which were in Lancaster itself. Some of us had visited Lancaster before and we made up

a short list of pubs we had to visit which had to include "The Water Witch" and "The Sun Hotel."

"The Water Witch" was

(Continued on page 40)



Ribbleshead Viaduct

*(Continued from page 39)*

excellent as usual with a good range of excellently kept real ales from a variety of interesting breweries, as well as an interesting range of foreign beers on font or bottled. The Water Witch has recently won the CAMRA Lunesdale "Pub of the Year 2010" award in recognition of "The range and consistent quality of beers



Above: The Waterwitch

Left: The Sun Hotel

Below: The Merchants



offered and the commitment of the management to promoting cask ales through its inspirational beer festivals." Numerous other awards have also been achieved. Although the beer festival was coming to an end we were told that because there had been such an interest in the dark beers that it was intended that a dark beer would regularly be on offer in the future.

We visited a number of the other pubs on the list and enjoyed the range of dark beers on offer.

We also visited another favourite pub "The Sun Hotel," which had been contacted by the festival organisers, but upon enquiry the staff were not aware of this and therefore had not formally joined in; but as usual, "The Sun" had Lancaster Brewery ales on offer which included a dark ale as well as another interesting range of foreign beers on font or bottled.



We finished off in the "Merchants" with some dark ale enjoyed in the 300 year old vaulted underground wine cellars.

Time passed too quickly and we soon had to catch our train home.

Overall it was a thoroughly enjoyable day out with not only gorgeous scenery but also some interesting and excellent beers.

For further information on festivals, Lancaster Ale Trails, Lunesdale Branch information, etcetera, visit [www.lunesdalecamra.org.uk](http://www.lunesdalecamra.org.uk).





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## CAMRA Celebrating 40 Years of Campaigning 1971-2011



CAMRA is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2011 and we hope you will join us in raising a glass of real ale to celebrate this landmark.

CAMRA was formed on 16<sup>th</sup> March 1971 by four founding members – Michael Hardman, Graham Lees, Jim Makin and Bill Mellor whilst visiting a pub on holiday in Ireland. The quartet had become deeply disillusioned with the domination of the market by a handful of national brewing companies, determined to push lower quality of keg beer brands into the market, displacing smaller, local breweries and ales from the bars of pubs across the land.

It turned out they weren't alone in their anger at the rapidly reducing choice and quality available to drinkers across the UK – hundreds and then thousands joined the cause.

40 years later and CAMRA now have more than 120,000 members who like you, love a good pint of beer in a great pub.

CAMRA has achieved many successes over this period. Saving pubs and breweries under threat from closure, the introduction of Small Brewers Relief, LocAle and Licensing Hours Reform and the promotion of endangered beer styles are just a few of the successes CAMRA is proud of over the last 40 years. These and many other achievements have played a major role in there now being more than 3,000 different real ales being brewed in the UK by over 750 real ale breweries.

### CAMRA's Top 40 Campaigners of All Time

To help celebrate CAMRA's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday, we are asking CAMRA members to help compile a list of the 'Top 40 CAMRA Campaigners of All Time'.

Whether alive or sadly passed away, CAMRA would like you to vote for those CAMRA members you feel went that little bit further to help promote CAMRA, real ale and pubs in the last 40 years.

Did they save a pub destined to close? Perhaps they launched a local campaign that became a national CAMRA promotion. Or did they push all the boundaries to help a brewery get established in the local area? May be you would just like to put someone forward who you think should be recognised for their work as a CAMRA branch official.

We know there are thousands of Campaigners that deserve to be considered for the Top 40. We would love to hear about them all!

Please submit your nominations by visiting [www.camra.org.uk/40thbirthday](http://www.camra.org.uk/40thbirthday). Deadline

for entries is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011.

If we receive more than 40 entries, we will encourage members to vote for their favourites based on the reasons you state below.

The Top 40 will be  
(Continued on page 44)





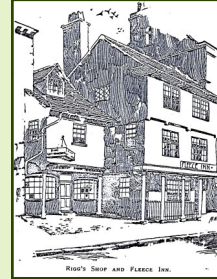
## Olde Fleece Inn

(Reputedly Established 1654)

"is one of ancient standing for previous to the year 1772 a four-horsed coach started from this house.....

The Fleece Inn even today is of quaint style and represents well the old architecture of Kendal."

(Westmorland Gazette 1881)

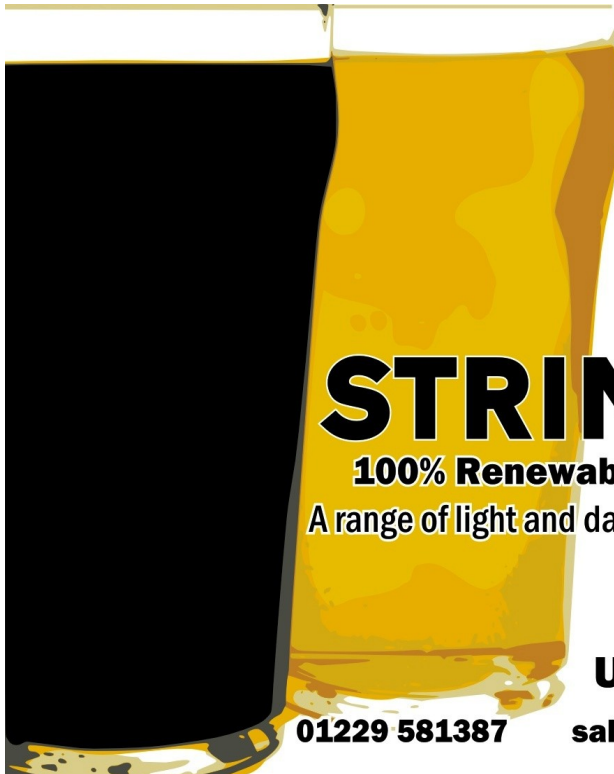


Michael & Leanne invite you to their ancient 17th Century Coaching Inn, reputedly the first such Inn in Kendal

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The four founding members 40 years on.

(Continued from page 42)

announced in August at the Great British Beer Festival.

**If you are not yet a CAMRA member and want to join the organisation then please sign-up in this newsletter or visit [www.camra.org.uk/joinus](http://www.camra.org.uk/joinus)**

As well as a number of very important campaigns you can support, CAMRA offers new members a fantastic membership package.

For just £20 a year\* you can join CAMRA today by Direct Debit, receive 15 months for the price of 12 receive some fantastic benefits. These include:

- A quarterly copy of BEER magazine – packed with superb features on pubs, beers and breweries
- A monthly newspaper, What's Brewing – Beer and pub news with full event and beer festival listings.
- Free or reduced entry to over 160 national, regional and local beer festivals – [www.camra.org.uk/festivals](http://www.camra.org.uk/festivals)
- £20 worth of JD

Wetherspoon vouchers (40 x 50p off a pint of real ale vouchers) – For full terms and conditions see [www.camra.org.uk/jdwvouchers](http://www.camra.org.uk/jdwvouchers)

● 20% off hotel bookings with Ramada Jarvis – [www.camra.org.uk/ramadajarvis](http://www.camra.org.uk/ramadajarvis)

● 10% discount with cottages4you – [www.camra.org.uk/cottages4you](http://www.camra.org.uk/cottages4you)

● 5% off holidays with Hire a Canalboat – [www.camra.org.uk/hireacanalboat](http://www.camra.org.uk/hireacanalboat)

● Discounts on CAMRA Beer Club cases = [www.camrabeerclub.co.uk](http://www.camrabeerclub.co.uk)

● Discounts on all CAMRA books including our best seller, Good Beer Guide

For more information about joining please complete the form overleaf or visit [www.camra.org.uk/joinus](http://www.camra.org.uk/joinus)

\*For non-Direct Debit rates please visit [www.camra.org.uk/joinus](http://www.camra.org.uk/joinus)

#### Campaigning 70's style



## Like Real Ale! Why not join us in CAMRA?

### Step One— Fill in the details below

Name(s): .....

Address: .....

.....Post Code .....

E mail: .....

I/We wish to join CAMRA & will abide by the CAMRA Rules

Signed: ..... Date: .....

If under 26 or over 80 please add Date of Birth: ...../...../.....

### Step Two: Cut Out and send to CAMRA with Membership Payment:

Send to: Membership Secretary,

CAMRA,

230, Hatfield Road, St Albans,

Herts., AL1 4LW.

Rates Single £22

Joint £27;

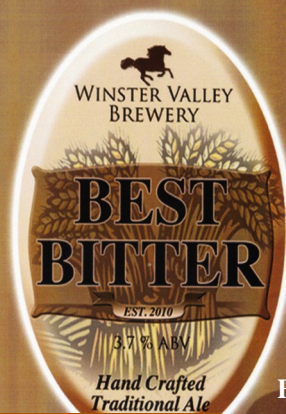
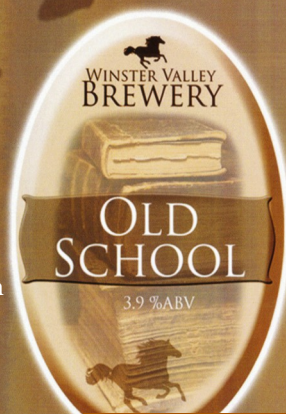
Over 60/under 26 £19

*(joint must be at same address)*



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## Branch Officers and Contacts

<b>Chairman:</b> Chris Holland	(01539) 733859 Email: <i>chrisjudith@yahoo.co.uk</i>
<b>Vice Chairman</b> David Prickett	(01768) 352548 or 07801036295 Email: <i>davidprickett@btinternet.com</i>
<b>Social Secretary:</b> David Butler	(01539) 740017 Email: <i>marleneanddave@btinternet.com</i>
<b>Secretary and Lakes &amp; Ale Editor</b> David Currington	(01539) 732599 Email: <i>dadcurren@btinternet.com</i>
<b>Treasurer:</b> Tony Jackson	(015394) 42136 Email: <i>a.jackson52@btinternet.com</i>
<b>President:</b> Alan Risdon	(015394) 33912 Email: <i>alan.risdon@btinternet.com</i>
<b>Membership Secretary &amp; Pubs Officer</b> Ivor Chittenden	(015394) 37272 Email: <i>i-e-chittenden@hotmail.co.uk</i>
<b>Branch Contact &amp; Transport Officer</b> Duncan Crabtree	(01539) 735739 Email: <i>d.p.crabtree@btinternet.com</i>

Heron PDF



## THE GEORGE & DRAGON DENT



### DENT BREWERY TAP HOUSE

Westmorland CAMRA Pub of the Season Winter 2009/10

- Set in the heart of picturesque Dent village.
- Friendly & welcoming Inn
- With en-suite accommodation in all rooms
- Family rooms available
- Real log fires complement the locally sourced produce for our main meals and bar snacks alike
- Our own brewed real cask ales are available
- Walkers & Dogs welcome
- Hours 10.30am till late 7 days a week
- Lunch 12 - 2.30pm; Evening meals 6 - 8.30pm

Should you require more information or a tour  
of the famous Dent Brewery please contact us on  
015396 25256

Web site: [www.thegeorgeanddragondent.co.uk](http://www.thegeorgeanddragondent.co.uk)

Email: [mail@thegeorgeanddragondent.co.uk](mailto:mail@thegeorgeanddragondent.co.uk)

Discounts on Real Ale  
given on  
production of a CAMRA  
Membership Card



[www.Lakelandpub.co.uk](http://www.Lakelandpub.co.uk)  
Tel 01539 821309

**We are situated In the Village of Ings. Near Windermere LA8 9PY**

**Up to 16 real ales on at once**  
**Excellent choice of menu & specials**  
**Including beef from our own herd**  
**Served every day 12 - 9pm**

**Children & dogs welcome**  
**On site micro brewery**  
**8 en-suite bedrooms**

**We give you 100% Beer in our "over sized" glasses !**

**Food served everyday 12 noon - 9.00pm**

**We are proud to be named as CAMRA CUMBRIA PUB OF THE YEAR 2009**

**WATERMILL INN & BREWING Co.**  
**COLLIE WOBBLES**  
A Light Golden Ale  
ABV 3.2%  
Brewed in the village of Ings, The Lake District

**WATERMILL INN & BREWING Co.**  
**W'RUFF NIGHT**  
Pale, Smooth & Dry  
ABV 3.0%  
Brewed in the village of Ings, The Lake District

**WATERMILL INN & BREWING Co.**  
**A BIT'ER RUFF**  
Classic Bitter  
ABV 4.1%  
Brewed in the village of Ings, The Lake District

**WATERMILL INN & BREWING Co.**  
**DOG'TH VADER**  
Dark & Powerful  
ABV 5.1%  
Brewed in the village of Ings, The Lake District

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