

Summer 2008

Edition 33

Lakes & Ale

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ALAN COULTHWAITE 15th August 1927 to 7th April 2008



Newsletter of the
Westmorland Branch of
The Campaign for Real Ale
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Editorial

Welcome to all our readers both regulars and visitors, I hope you will enjoy this bumper 44 page edition of the Lakes & Ale magazine. We have covered a wide variety of topics which should appeal to most tastes, including the next in our series of Old Inns of Kendal, so well described by Brendan Jamison. Indeed a very big thanks to all those who contributed to this epistle, with out you it would not be possible. Several people have asked for the continuation of the Article in the last Edition on the Temperance Movements onslaught to Drink in Kendal in the 1800's. I hope to find room next time.

In this Edition we must unfortunately report on the very sad loss of our President Alan Coulthwaite after a long illness. His funeral was exceptionally well attended, the Church literally filled to overflowing. A very sure sign of the respect in which Alan was held.

This heralds the reign of a new President of Westmorland Branch in the well known guise of Alan Risdon, ('No Sox' to most of us). This Alan has likewise been a true stalwart of the Branch and strong CAMRA supporter for many years He is well known throughout the CAMRA movement both in Cumbria and nationally, and has in the past taken on much of the day to day running of the Westmorland Branch. What he doesn't know about Beer and Breweries is, as they say, not worth knowing. We hope to make much use of our new President!

We hope you will try to support the growing number of Beer Festivals that continue to flourish in our area, many will have already taken place during the time this Edition has been in preparation, including the Hawkshead Brewery, Stag at Dufton, Strickland Arms at Sizergh, Watermill at Ings, Eagle and Child at Staveley, and the White Horse at Kings Meaburn. We really are spoilt for choice.

Finally at the last AGM of Westmorland Branch there was a change in the Officers. We welcome Chris Holland and David Butler as our new Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively. We hope they has a fruitful time in keeping the Branch in a healthy position, it's not easy. So if **you** want to get involved in Campaigning or just drinking Real Ale in some of the many beautiful locations in our great 'County' of Westmorland why not give us a ring and come along; you will be very welcome.

Cheers ED

Front Cover: A fine nostalgic picture of our much loved late President Alan Coulthwaite of the Watermill at Ings, Alan was a friend to CAMRA and indeed to us all. (Obituary page 4)

COMPLAINT/COMMENT?

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ALAN COULTHWAITE 15th August 1927 to 7th April 2008 AN APPRECIATION

Not long after becoming a resident of Ambleside I was introduced to Alan in early 1990 by Ken Lowe the then local CAMRA branch chairman. Alan was running the Mill Holme guest house at lngs with a table and residential licence but was determined to obtain a full pub licence for the premises.

An application had been submitted but was refused by the magistrates since a few local objections had been received. Alan decided to appeal. He and the family obtained signatures of support from a goodly number of local residents and Ken and other CAMRA members did the same slightly further afield. Alan appeared at the appeal hearing before the magistrates and the application was granted. I know that Alan remained grateful for that particular CAMRA support.

Work then started in earnest to convert the building into a pub. Unbeknown to me Alan had previously run a successful pub (Good Beer Guide listed 1984 - 1987) at Cornwood in Devon and was no stranger to Real Ale. The Watermill Inn, as the Mill Holme G H had now become, opened to an eager public on a snowy Saturday 8th December 1990 complete with shivering Theakstons dray horses standing outside.

It was immediately obvious that Real Ale was to be the central theme - almost the 'mission statement' of the Watermill.

Thus it was included in the 1992 CAMRA Good Beer Guide as it has been ever since. It has also been the Westmorland Branch Pub of the Year no less than 14 times, 12 of them continuously and achieved its highest accolade yet as Runner Up National Pub of the Year in 1999.

By my reckoning the pub has been extended at least four times and now has its own brewery - an addition close to Alan's heart which regrettably came too late for him to realize his ambition to recreate the original, Ulverston brewed, Hartleys XB (for which he had obtained a copy of the recipe from Eric Simpson - its creator).

The Watermill was Alan's dream come true and his daily passion, more than ably encouraged and supported by Barbara and by son Brian. It will stand as a permanent memorial to its founder.

But what of the man? Much loved by many, he was a fanatical supporter of Real Ale, Man U and . . . fun! His repartee was legendary, especially with regular customers. On one occasion he invited some ladies to dine at a

(Continued on page 5)



(Continued from page 4)

table more distant from the bar only to receive the response "Oh no thank you - we are waiting for the cabaret to start!". Not only an avid Goon Show enthusiast (from which he could quote with great eloquence) but also possessed of a fund of humorous 'one (or two) liners' such as his typical greeting "Ah! It's (name) - Pride of the Pappas, Doctor of Darkness" and I seem to recall something about "My fingers tickled idly over the organ keys" and ending with a reference to someone's "knees"- all good (very nearly) clean fun.

Alan retained his dedication to the Watermill and Real Ale despite failing health including a long battle with emphysema and finally the onset of the cruel Alzheimer's disease. I am sure that he remained grateful for the loyal support of Barbara and was com-

forted in the knowledge that his beloved Watermill was still being developed in Brian's safe hands
I salute a true gentleman, a much

Alan & Brian receive their Highly Commended Award in the 1999 national final of CAMRA Pub of the Year !



loved friend and a towering ambassador of Real Ale. He will be sorely missed by many.

Alan Risdon

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“From the Chair”

We all need to get out more. There is always scope for improvement and we are trying to generate more interest and activity in our Westmorland Branch of CAMRA. We are keen to enthuse potential new members to join and ‘sleeping’ members to get more involved. Here is a list of activities that you can ‘pick and mix’ from to meet your individual taste and **become involved**. These all centre around the appreciation of **Real Ale**, presumably why you are reading this, and will apply to most CAMRA branches throughout the UK.

- **Social Events & Friendship**

Join in and make good friends. Humans as a species are social animals; our physical and mental well-being is positively affected by good social human interactions and relations. Our branch is friendly and inclusive, and we tend to sup responsibly and not to bite!

- **Hike’n’Pint**

We try to organise four walks a year through the best of England’s landscape taking in a couple of pubs. The walks are carefully selected and the pace is always comfortable and set to cater for all needs.

- **Surveying Westmorland Pubs and Breweries**

We regularly organise visits to pubs and breweries in our area in order to keep up with the positive and negative changes in these businesses. We also try and encourage members in more remote areas to join us. **We as a CAMRA branch are going to work harder at this to hopefully generate more CAMRA activity.** On occasions

we travel to neighbouring regions to visit other Beer Festivals and other CAMRA events.

- **Beer Tasting.**

We have a CAMRA Cumbria Tasting Panel that is always keen to recruit new taste buds. There are regular tutored tasting events at pubs and breweries where we all get to understand more about how the **10,000 taste buds** in our mouth and olfactory system work. It is **great fun** and it can really increase your experiences and appreciation of food and drink. One of the greatest benefits of this activity, alongside meeting new people, is the fact that **‘we beer tasters swallow’!** The results of all our hard work include positioning our Cumbrian Ales in the Champion Beer of Britain competition, providing tasting notes descriptions for the Good Beer Guide and keeping checks on beer quality.

- **Beer Festivals**

Help at and **enjoy** the Kendal Beer Festival October:- setting-up work begins Sunday October 5th, festival opens Wednesday 8th to Saturday 11th we dismantle Sunday 12th.

- **Good Beer Guide (GBG) Surveys and Selection**

Annually Westmorland CAMRA selects and surveys 36-40 Pub contenders for GBG. These are then put into a democratic process which selects the 23/24 that enter the Cumbria pages representing Westmorland.

- **Campaigns**

Campaigning, a core activity of CAMRA (arguably the UK’s most successful

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campaigning organisation) is performed at local, regional and national levels. Here is an important issue amongst our current campaigns:

Is your local under threat? Promoting and protecting the pub

The British pub is a unique institution, offering the combination of social drinking, acceptance of diversity, conviviality and atmosphere. Drinking proper beer at a beer festival or at home is good, however the best place to savour a pint is in a good pub. This great institution is under threat, CAMRA's own surveys suggest we are losing pubs nationally at the rate of **57 a month** and the suspicion is that this may be an underestimate.

We as real ale drinkers **need to get out more** to support and safeguard our valuable community resource, and, if not already members, join CAMRA. As CAMRA members we need to work harder in organising ourselves and campaigning towards protecting our traditional pubs.

Current economic and societal changes place major threats to the viability of our pubs. Diversity is a way forward and the '**Pub is the Hub**' (PITH) [see article below] initiative is active and running in Cumbria. Rural pubs are often at the heart of their community, PITH encourages support for local services to help them stay that way. Research shows

over 70% of villages no longer have a shop or Post Office. **Indeed nearly 60% no longer have a village pub.** Pubs often provide the only meeting place, where for example, there is no village hall. Rural pubs have potential to assume a wider business and community role in the future as one-stop shops for essential rural services helping to revitalise rural economies and communities. As well as providing services that may be lacking in a village, such as a Post Office or a shop, they can often make the difference between economic success and failure for the pub itself and support local suppliers. Westmorland CAMRA is keen to assist in this process. From October 2008, the Government will be seeking proposals for a national action plan to deliver sustainable communities. The Act will enable CAMRA to pursue measures including:

Increasing the number of pubs eligible for rate relief

Ensuring full planning permission is required to convert a pub to another use

Outlawing the use of restrictive covenants that prevent a closed pub being reopened.

Allocating funding to initiatives to promote local beers.

In the meantime please keep enjoying your responsible real ale supping!

Chris Holland

Chair Westmorland CAMRA

Prince Charles visits the Black Swan, Ravonstonedale

Blue skies and sunshine prevailed when Prince Charles came to Ravenstonedale in March 2008. He visited the Black Swan Hotel in connection with his '**Pub is the Hub**' initiative. The Black Swan had recently opened 'The Village Store' 20 years after the last shop in the village closed. The new shop has breathed new life into the village and is well supported by locals.



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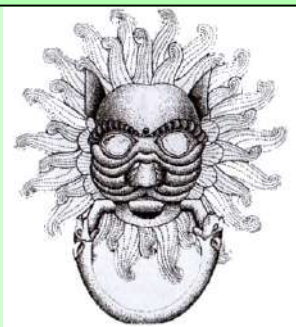
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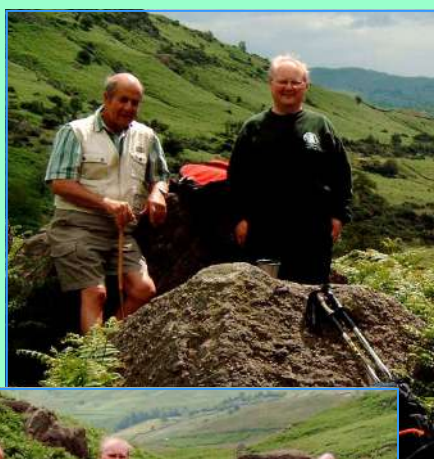
Branch Hike & Pint – June 2008

Many of the branch Hike & Pint regulars felt it had been far too long since we had ventured out onto the fells as a group. Whenever possible we like to have a specific reason to visit the chosen area (other than a random walk to pubs, which is a pretty good pastime in itself) and on this occasion it was to visit our recently awarded Pub of the Year – The Old Dungeon Ghyll (ODG), Great Langdale. We



Langdale Pikes

However, a heavy downpour as we skirted round Side Pike soon deterred our intrepid bunch and we headed instead for the far side of Blea Tarn and the path round Hollin Crag to Wrynose



decided to make this a “Langdales circular”, taking in three excellent hostleries, all decently spaced to ensure the illusion of a purpose other than a pub crawl.

The summer timetable of Stagecoach allows for passengers from Kendal to travel directly to Great Langdale without changing. Picking up along the way, we ended up with a small but dedicated band of five who piled out at the far end with the intention of heading up Lingmoor on our way to Little Langdale.

Pass. The route is normally a sustained bog trot, but on this occasion, following an uncharacteristic dry spell in Lakeland we bounced across the very springy dried out marshland – a novel experience for anyone familiar with its usual state. We crossed Little Langdale to the fell path on the far side, dropping down to Slater’s Bridge and lunch by Little Langdale Tarn.

Now, the more observant among you

(Continued on page 12)

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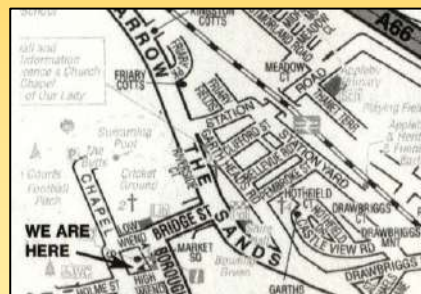
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(Continued from page 10)

might have noticed that we are now three paragraphs in and no mention of a pub – but do not be disheartened dear readers – because we are about to approach our first port of call. The footpath from the tarn is a mere half mile from the Three Shires Inn and a range of three handpumps offering Jennings Cumberland (4%); Hawkshead Red



(4.2%) and Black Sheep Bitter (3.8%) in good condition. The fourth pump was not operational but we were told Coniston Bluebird had been on. We made this a well disciplined brief stop and headed back up onto the fell by Wilson Place and over towards Elterwater. Instead of turning down hill towards the village however, we decided to take the left fork and head on to Chapel Stile via Bays Brown.

Once again the well-informed reader may note we are at this point heading towards another Westmorland CAMRA awarded inn – Wainwright's in Chapel Stile. Very friendly and informative bar staff pointed out the range and history of their current offerings: Fuzzy Duck, Pheasant Plucker 4.2%; Ennerdale Bitter from the

Whitehaven Brewery at 3.9%; Mick the Miller brewed exclusively for Morecambe Wines & Spirits Wholesale at 4%; Jennings' Snecklifter (5.1%) and Thwaites Original Bitter (3.6%); Bomber (4.4%) and Wainwright's (4.1%). We did not sample the entire range but can



Where are we?



Take me to your Leader!

report that the Pheasant Plucker, Ennerdale and Mick the Miller were very well received. One quite bizarre moment worth noting was the appearance of a group emerging from the bar in very smart dress suits, followed by young women in matching bridesmaid coordinated outfits. The party got into rather smart vehicles and drove off up the valley. It was a sharp contrast to the rest of us in rather weather-worn walking clobber.

We also headed off up the valley but along the footpath to the left of Great Langdale Beck. By this time

(mid afternoon) the sun was shining and the going was good. We knew we had plenty of time for lingering at the Old Dungeon Ghyll if we chose, with the option of the 4.30 or 6pm buses, de-

(Continued on page 14)



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(Continued from page 12)

pending on thirst. The weather had tempted quite a crowd onto the outside tables and lo! among them was the aforementioned wedding party enjoying a further tippie in the afternoon sunshine. Now that's what I call a wedding breakfast! One blip in an otherwise impeccable range was Old Scatness, from Valhalla (4%). This looked an interesting choice but the unfortunate couple of us who went for it were less than enchanted by both the taste and appearance. Ivor explained that it was a very difficult beer to settle, and we couldn't even bring ourselves to finish it. I think it definitely falls into the category of "acquired taste". However, this was more than compensated for by the excellent York Brewery Centennial (4%), which was packed with flavour and in first rate condition. The others on offer were Yates Bitter (3.7%), Theakston's XB (4.5%); Black Sheep Ale (4.4%); and



Jennings Cumberland (4%). The ODG really was a worthy winner of our Pub of The Year - it has got everything we in the Westmorland branch prize: good beers, good atmosphere, good surroundings and at this time of year, good public transport links – heaven at the head of the valley.

Marilyn Molloy



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THE SHAKESPEARE INN

HIGHGATE, KENDAL

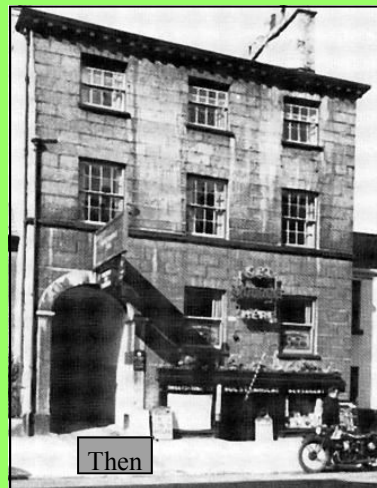
The Westmorland Branch of CAMRA are delighted to congratulate Helen and Jim, licensees of **The Shakespeare Inn**, on winning the prestigious CAMRA Pub of the Season award.



Helen and Jim have been real ale drinkers for many years but their breakthrough in keeping and serving it came about because of Jim's involvement with Stoke-on-Trent rugby club. There he'd been voluntarily running the bar for five or six years but sadly, it didn't serve real ale. Then the volunteer cellarman retired and Jim took on the cellar job as well. He discovered to his amazement that it was fitted with two lines. Say no more! Real ale hit the rugby club! "We went for beers people had heard of initially -Wells Bombardier, Jennings Cumberland, Deuchars' IPA, Shepherd Neame Spitfire and a Fullers or two. It really took off," Jim explained.

Last year, Helen and Jim decided to turn a hobby into a profession. Helen left her job as a solicitor behind her and they headed north to realise their ambition of running a traditional, real ale pub.

It didn't take them long to find one. "The Shakespeare felt right," said Jim, "We love the traditional bar plus it's a real locals pub. That's important to us. We've got two quiz teams in the local league and the regulars are on at me to organise a brewery trip." I suggested Hawkshead and Moorhouses which I know to be worthwhile visits. "They were thinking of Belgium," Jim replied, "but I'm not sure I could do it without losing one or two!"



Last year the beer quality at The Shakespeare improved, sales increased and within two months of Helen and Jim taking over a third handpump was fitted. This year has seen the addition

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(Continued from page 17)

of a fourth and Jim is even dreaming of a fifth if he can think where to put it.

So far they have varied their beers to try and find out what people like. Everards Tiger, Wells Bombardier and Fullers London Pride have worked their way to semi-permanent status as regular guests. They then try to find interesting and varied beers to accompany them. The Harviestoun Bitter and Twisted and the Hopback Summer Lightning both sold out in two days.

Jim's passionate about the condition of his beers [something he shares with CAMRA members]. He keeps a good cellar. It's below the bar and, helped by air conditioning, he keeps it at a constant 52degrees. He then has cold water feed to cool the lines. It's starting to get cramped down in the cellar but he may yet try for that fifth line. He also knows the value of pulling a pint



properly and says that many pubs just don't train their staff or explain the vagaries of the sparkler.

The pub is part of the Scottish & Newcastle empire recently acquired by Carlsberg/Heineken. They have a choice of thirteen different guest beers every month in addition to the regular supplies of Fullers, Marstons, Greene King and Theakstons, etc. What difference will the take-over make? Well, the company have indicated no change in

operations [they all say that, don't they?] but Jim hopes it may make more real ales available and, particularly, that it may enter into an agreement with Cumbrian micros and make it possible to get some really local brews on.

In 1997, local journalist Derek Kingwell, researched the
(Continued on page 21)



A print from the early part of the twentieth century
The Shakespeare Hotel prominently displayed and in the hands
of landlord R Hoggarth..

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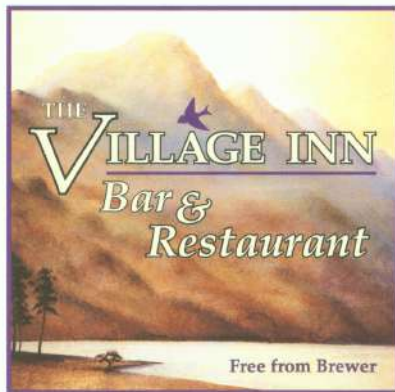
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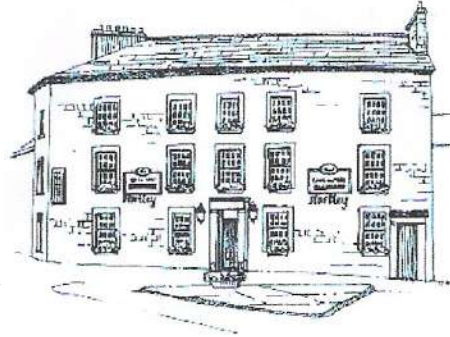
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**CAMRA
Pub of the Season
Winter 2007/8**

(Continued from page 18)

history of this one hundred and seventy eight year old pub. His articles are in six picture frames on the bar wall. [Unfortunately, I needed to stand on a stool to read them and I'm not that

small!] He has documented the names of all the landlords and landladies. Helen and Jim are the thirty-third. That's an average of 5.4 years each. Let's hope that Helen and Jim stay longer than average. Jenny Turner

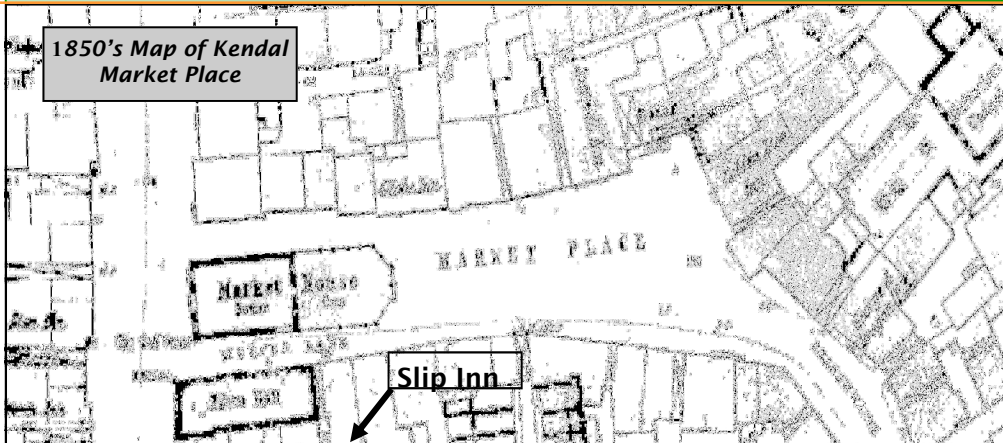


Left: Helen & Jim receive their POTS award from CAMRA Chairman Chris Holland

Below: Members of Westmorland CAMRA celebrate with Helen & Jim

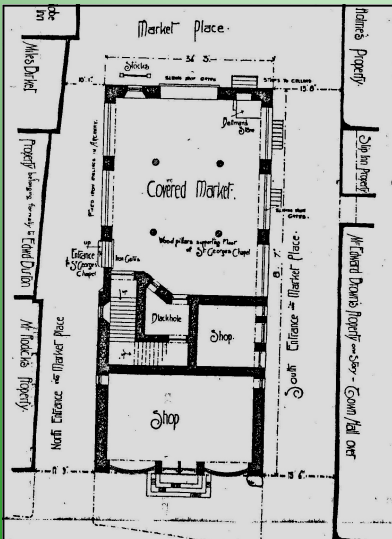


**THE INNS OF MARKET PLACE, FINKLE STREET, AND
KENT STREET**
By Brendan Jameson



This penultimate article featuring Kendal's inns, concentrates on a triangle of ancient streets which have seen considerable changes in their long history.

George's Chapel, with a narrow entrance to the Market Place on each side. The existing menswear shop to the north has a sign high on its wall reading '*Market Place, formerly Cheapside*' while the one on the confectionary shop reads '....., formerly Mercers Lane,' The Globe's title was originally taken from the golden globe, a symbol of the mercers, or cloth merchants, although today there hangs an attractive and unusual signboard showing a miniature Earth.



Looking into the Market Place from Stricklandgate, one would once have seen the imposing façade of St.

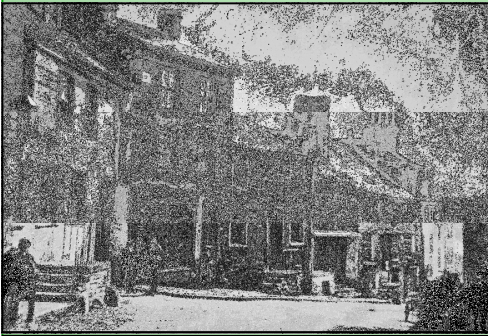


*Golden Lion, taken at take over of Whitwell
Marks by Vaux—middle forties*

(Continued on page 23)

(Continued from page 22)

To the right of the entrance to Westmorland Shopping Centre once stood the Football Inn, which was in existence in the 18th century, and had a theatre on the floor above until 1777. Its name was reputedly taken from the football taken as a trophy after a fierce competition between Kendal and a neighbouring township. The ball hung in the kitchen until the place was rebuilt. The local tradesmen held the meetings of the strangely named 'Fastossity Society' at the Football. The



George & Dragon on left

minutes of these meetings supposedly survive in a handsome leather box in Kendal Museum.

Kendal Corporation purchased the Football around 1900 with a view to improving the market hall and the inn's licence was not renewed after 1903.

In the far corner there stood the Hole in The Wall Inn until the mid 1700's. Again one report claims the inn sign is housed in Kendal Museum, but the museum has no record of it. By 1866 the inn had become the private residence of Robert Skelton, who was listed some years earlier as the licensee of the nearby Golden Lion.

In 1839 Skelton was convicted of ill-treating his servant, Agnes Beecham,

and not paying her any wages for a month. He was fined 10s with 10s costs.

The Golden Lion existed in the 1700's, and at one time, while owned by a Captain Marshall had its name changed to 'The Pack,' with a painting of his ship as the inn sign. At the end of his tenancy, the inn reverted back to its former name.

In the early 1800's, the Lion had the unenviable distinction of having a slaughterhouse in its yard. The inn closed in 1989.

No 42 Market Place has been the site of the George and Dragon for 250 years. Like several of Kendal's older inns, its entrance was originally down the yard, but in 1904, planning permission was sought to construct the present entrance from Branthwaite Brow.



George & Dragon taken at take over of Whitwell Marks by Vaux—middle forties

In addition it was proposed to lower floor of the bar and two parlour rooms by TWO FEET, to bring it to the level of

(Continued on page 24)

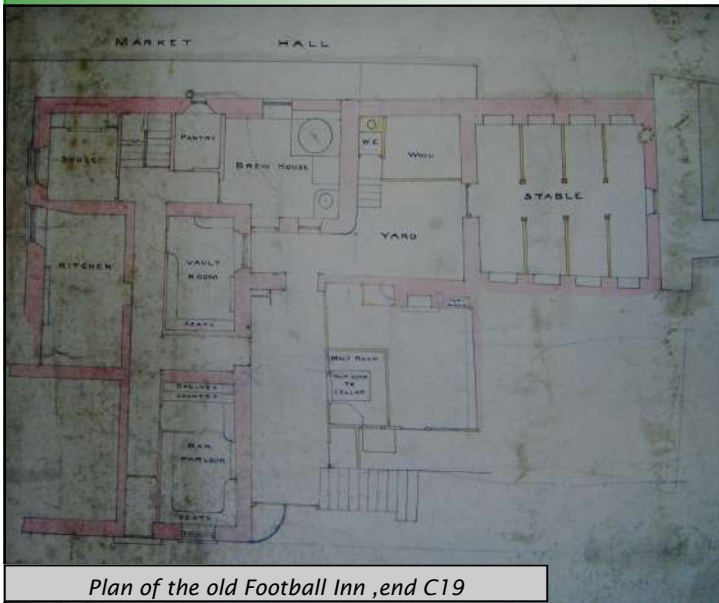
(Continued from page 23)

a tap room at the rear of the inn!! At that time, the George had stabling for 15 horses and six letting bedrooms. As it did not have a dining room, one assumes breakfast in bed was obligatory! On the south side of the George and Dragon yard, stood the King's Head, which existed from the end of the 18th

On the Mercers Lane (south) side of the Market Place once stood The Starr (sic), the Duke of Cumberland, and the Wheatsheaf. Again, little information is available other than a single legal document giving respective dates of 1699, 1756, and 1710. The exception was the Slip Inn, the entrance of which can still be seen at no 9 Market Place, between the hardware store and the confectionary shop.

Once again, entrance to the inn was down the yard. Although plans confirm this, the above mentioned Curwen claims the inn's frontage was modernised in 1865.

Perhaps because the inn had limited access, it was a meeting place for



Plan of the old Football Inn ,end C19

century, until c.1850.

Although generally described as a beerhouse, there is some doubt whether this status was justified. Generally, beerhouses were regarded as low class, offering a minimum of facilities other than drinking rooms. Yet the local historian, Curwen, gives the King's Head as the meeting place for the Female Union Society in 1791. Another report gives the society meeting there between 1797 and 1806. Although one often comes across variances such as this, a society with about 70 members would be unlikely to find the space or the inclination to meet in a beerhouse.



Old photo of Kent Tavern from mid C20

the more radical members of society. John Booth of Ulverston was the owner in 1895. He also owned the Sawyers Arms, the Kendal Green Tavern, and the White Hart. The Slip Inn closed its doors for the last time in 1898.

(Continued on page 27)

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(Continued from page 24)

The steep route down to the river from the junction of Finkle Street and the top of Stramongate, was formerly called Kent Lane, and contained two ancient inns, the Canal Tavern and the Brown Cow. The latter inn existed in the mid-1700's.

The Canal Tavern disappeared c.1819, when the lane was widened to accommodate the increased traffic accessing the canal wharves. One of the buildings erected down the newly created Kent Street was the Kent Tavern. It seems ironic that a newly opened inn, named after an ancient waterway, re-

placed an ancient inn named after a new waterway.

the Pump Inn. As with the entrance to the Market Place, access to Finkle Street was gained by narrow yards on either side of the buildings. The old maps of Kendal show an unnamed yard to the north, adjacent to the Yorkshire Bank premises, while the southern access depicts a gated entrance named Crock Lane.

The Dog and Duck once stood at No.8, on the site presently occupied by the bank before relocating to No.16, premises formerly occupied by an ancient inn called the Half Moon.

In 1812, the Westmorland Advertiser announced that the landlord, Thomas

Dixon, had died aged 41. His widow, Elizabeth took over the licence and held it until her death in 1834. The Dog and Duck was then advertised for auction as that:-
...newly built and well accustomed inn or public house and coaching house...Dog and Duck, with the coach house, adjoining yard, three stalled stables, brewhouse, three storeys... Also all that newly erected and commissioned stable situate on the south side of Finkle Street containing accommodation for six horses..... and a privy and dunghillstead adjoining.

The inn was purchased by George Bateman, innkeeper of the Angel Inn for 1440 pounds.

Other little known inns in Finkle St include the Lord

Nelson Arms which had ceased to exist by 1858, after being advertised for sale in 1853. This inn was situated on the site presently occupied by Lloyds TSB bank. Further up the street once

(Continued on page 37)



Rear of The Pump and the old Fish Market

placed an ancient inn named after a new waterway.

At the head of Finkle Street stood a row of buildings which included two public houses, the Fountain Inn, and



A LEGENDARY MIDSUMMER NIGHT OUT WITH THE VAMPIRES

It was a bright night on the 23rd June (almost midsummer!) when CAMRA enthusiasts descended by minibus and truck from all parts of Cumbria



The Old Hall Brewery

to enter the home of the CROGLIN VAMPIRE. CAMRA members came to sample the legendary ales brewed by David Newham who together with Liz Newham and partners David and Gill Frost celebrated the second year of trading of CUMBRIAN LEGENDARY ALES by hosting an excellent brewery tour and social evening of beer sampling, beer chat and great food.



The sun was out for the visitors on arrival and as dusk descended and minibuses were delayed – the vampires came out. CROGLIN VAMPIRE is the first bottled beer produced by Cumbrian Legendary Ales. An 8% Doppelbock, CROGLIN VAMPIRE is a traditional beer of Munich brewed using Munich style malt and pure Cumbrian fell water. This 'cool fermented' and lagered ale was the perfect robust flavoured tipple to end an evening sampling the new Dark Red Premium KINGDOM (5.2%) cask ale (which was spe-

cially brewed for this CAMRA visit) and the well established D I C K I E DOODLE].

CUMBRIAN LEGENDARY ALES are based at the

Old Hall Brewery by Esthwaite Water. Housed in a former dairy which the brewers renovated back in early 2006 (see the website for pictures of the



brewing team in the midst of renovation including some interesting wellies).

The building is within a complex of barns dating back to the mid-1500's and is part of the ancient Graysthwaite estate. Grants from DEFRA and Distinctly Cumbrian supported the external and internal renovation which houses the purpose built brewplant – including equipment to brew quality and traditional cool fermented lagers.

David gave the group a short brewery tour. The plant brews a range of fine bitters and traditional lagers. The tour included an explanation of the lagering process (a first introduction to a lager

(Continued on page 30)



Malt tasting

(Continued from page 29)

plant for some of us). To taste the output of the lager end of the brewery –



The Brewery nestles next to Esthwaite Water

readers can try draft Buttermere Pilsner, a golden pilsner 4.8% real ale made from lager malt, Saaz hops and lager yeast fermented at cool temperature.

Shops where you can look for CROGLIN VAMPIRE include Holker Food Hall and 'Open all Hours' Keswick (for a full list of outlets see the website).

The brewery is a fine example of dedication to craft beer and brewery visits can be arranged independently via the excellent website.

www.cumbrianlegendaryales.com/

David told us he wanted a brewery with windows, and from these brewhouse windows you can see Helvellyn and Fairfield Horseshoe – looking out over Esthwaite Water. An idyllic place to work and a great range of beers.

SF.

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Tales from Lagerland

Bamberg : Part 3 The Villages

This is the third part of my visit to Bamberg. I covered the breweries that are in the city in the first two parts, on this third day it was time to get of the bus and explore the villages just outside the town. I believe that there are 12 that are accessible by the city buses, but I only had one day left.

First of all it was onto the number 6 bus for a brewery that is now inside the city. This is Bamberg's largest regional brewer Kaiserdom is situated in the former village of Gaustadt.



Sur Sonne

This is the brewery I haven't visited before, and I didn't manage it this time as the pub wasn't open during the day. However, this wasn't a total disaster, as 15 minute's walk beyond, and still on the bus route is the Zur Sonne (Sun) in the village of Bischberg which is just beyond the city limits. The building dates from 1587, and is the typical long tables. They do a very nice blond beer. As they had a party in, I was invited to sit at the Stammtisch, which is a table reserved for locals.

Then it was back on the bus to the bus station to change for the number 12 bus. At the end of its route in Mühlendorf is the Mühlenbräu brew pub. This is a smart former watermill, complete with mill stream still following beneath it and various mill stones scattered round the bar. It also has a magnificent example of a kachelofen, which is a tiled stove in the middle of the room which traditionally provided the heating, although most pubs

now have central heating. Both their Hell (Blond) and Dunkel (Dark) beers were very tasty.

It was back down the number 12 bus route to the village of Debring, and the Müller brewpub. While the brewery is called Müller the beers are called Debringer. This appears to be a locals place, with a very homely feel. It was raining heavily by now, and while I was there a party of very wet bikers came in to have their lunch and a beer. The Pils, which was more like the lagerbiers in town, was pretty good so I could see why they were there.

It was then back on the 12 into town, to catch the number 4 bus and head off to Dörfleins and the Eichhorn brewery. I had some confusion, as I hadn't realised at first that their pub is actually called the Bräuerei Schwarzer Adler! Once I entered the smoky room with long tables though I had a bit of a treat as they had their unfiltered Bock beer on. Bock beer is a normally dark strong beer and it is normally only produced in the autumn. Most of the Bamberg city breweries produce one from October to December, but I was a few



Mühlenbräu

(Continued on page 35)



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Bay Horse Inn

WINTON

- The Bay Horse Inn is a lovely 16c Coaching Inn situated on the Village Green in the picturesque village of Winton. Winton is a typical Cumbrian settlement from the Early English period nestling in the beautiful Eden Valley. It is an ideal starting point for numerous scenic walks including the Nine Standards and Wild Boar Fell.
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matt@thebayhorseinnwinton.co.uk

(Continued from page 32)

weeks early for this. The Eichhorn one was delicious, so I had to stop for another just to make sure.

Then it was back into the city. The city buses actually stop running around 19:00 so it wasn't possible to do anymore exploring. I can recommend a trip round the villages of Memmendorf, Drosendorf and Merkendorf to the east on the number 7 and 17 buses, with five very good breweries between them, from a previous visit.

This time, as the number 4 stopped right outside and it was wet I went into the Spezial pub and sampled some more of their excellent Rauchbier, with its restrained smoky taste. As it was a Friday night, the pub was busy and I managed to find a seat, and have a limited conversation with my very poor German with some of the locals. Then it was back across the road to the Fässla brewery for a nightcap (or two) to reflect on another successful trip to Bamberg and agree with the locals that Bamberg does have the best beer in Germany. Maybe next year I will get to the Kaiserdom tap!

More information can be found in two books available from CAMRA, the "Good Beer Guide to Germany" edited by Steve Thomas which has a chapter on the pubs of Bamberg and "Bamberg and Franconia. Germany's Brewing Heartland" by John Cohen.

DJB.



Eichhorn

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- CAMRA PUB of the Season - Summer 2007
- 6 Real Ales
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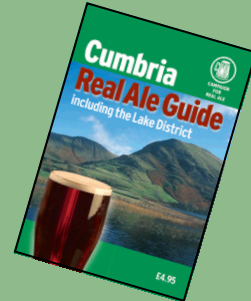
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 - Sunday 24th - 8pm - Open Mic (Acoustic)

**BEER & MUSIC
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The Cumbria Real Ale Guide (CRAG)

The new edition (2008) **Cumbria Real Ale Guide (Crag)** is for sale in shops and pubs at the cover price of £4.95. Discounts are available on larger purchases (details from the contact below).



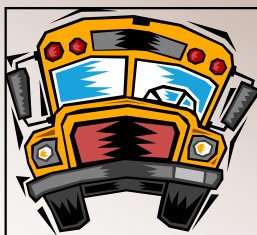
The handy pocket sized (10.5 x 14.5cms) is arranged alphabetically by location with a brief description; within each are full details of each pub offering real ale; at the back is a full colour Cumbrian Breweries section and sectional colour county maps. It has been much improved by the addition of a ring binding and cover flap. As we do not have facilities at present for email cash transactions, if you wish to order a copy please send a cheque or postal order payable to **CAMRA Westmorland Branch** for £5.95 (to include post & packaging) to:

Alan Risdon
Westmorland Branch of CAMRA
4, St Anne's Court
How Head
Ambleside
Cumbria
LA22 9ED

Telephone: 015394 33912
Email:
alan@camrawestmorland.org

**Please ensure you include the following details with your payment:
Name and Address for Delivery and a contact Telephone Number.**

VACANCY - TRANSPORT OFFICER REQUIRED



Our Branch is typical in having a fairly active group of members centred in and around the urban parts and a wide spread of less active members in the rural areas. We need to find ways of working in the rural and urban parts and our members more effectively, the key to this is transport; we are desperately looking for a person to organise and co-ordinate our transport needs.

If you wish to have more information and/or become involved in Westmorland CAMRA Please visit our website and/or contact our Chairman Chris Holland (01539 733859) or Social Secretary Jenny Turner (01539 731800).

(Continued from page 27)

stood the Turk's Head which is named in an agreement dated 1793.

On an unknown site, there once stood an even older inn called the Scotch Arms. A document of 24th November 1729 mentions an agreement for John Holme to pull down to the ground a Messuage Tenement or dwelling housescituate

(sic) in FINKELL Street, and called or named by the name or SIGNE of the Scotch Arms..... and that John Holme will rebuild on that site, a dwelling house, supplying himself all the materials necessary to finish the job at a cost of £50.

On a final note, there was a great deal of debate within Kendal Corporation, when the decision was taken to knock down the ancient Pump Inn in 1878. One option put forward was for a corn market, which would consist of 'a metal structure built on pillars....'

Locals may record the furore, when the proposal to build the present 'Birdcage' was mooted. It would be surprising if, in years to come, there was not a similar outcry, should someone propose knocking it down!

It's a funny old world.
Brendan Jameson

DRIP TRAY

- There is a new real ale venue in Kendal. The Square Orange cafe bar has just opened (Friday 4th July) and has one hand pump. When visited recently the beer was Keswick Thirst Square Orange and was in good condition. The bar is on Stricklandgate at the entrance to Blackhall Yard, and is the sister to one of the same name in Keswick
- The Ring O'Bells is now open, great to see this fine old pub back in business.
- The Hare & Hounds, Bowland Bridge remains shut.
- The Greyhound Shap, recently sold to Enterprise, has a new landlord in Sebastian - currently at the Mardale Inn Bampton - who will now run both pubs. We wish him and Louise all the best.

EVENTS DIARY & BEER FESTIVALS

In what is left of Summer, and certainly well into Autumn, we have some great Beer Festivals in prospect. We list them below together with our new Branch Programme of Meetings & Socials. Ring Jenny (01539) 732800 to book a place on the Transport home. Keep an eye on our website www.camrawestmorland.org for updates and more detailed timings.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| • 11th August | Social visit to Barngates Brewery 7.30pm Transport £5 |
| • 5th September | Ulverston Beer Festival (see website for details) |
| • 5th to 7th Sept | 2nd Grasmere Guzzler Beer Fest., Tweedies,
(see advert P16) |
| • 8th September; | Branch meeting, Badger Bar, Rydal, 8.30pm start.
Transport home £5 |
| • 25th to 27th Sept | Keighley Beer Festival |
| • 8th to 12th Oct | Westmorland Beer Festival, Town Hall Kendal
(see advert p 30) |
| • 10th November. | Branch Meeting, Kirkstone Pass Inn, Transport £5. |

A day in Lancaster

On a warm, well, warm for early February, three members of our Branch set off by train for Lancaster. A short walk towards the town centre from the railway station brought us to the newly opened Robert Gillow to be greeted by Jenny Greenhaugh and Martin Sherlock.

Recently converted from a former restaurant by Manchester brewers and pub operators Hydes, it has an impressive

choice from the unusual hand pumps set into the bar rather than the far more common 'clamp on' variety. We were especially interested in the Lancaster Brewery beers which we understood had undergone a change of yeast, recipes and names. They seemed as good as ever to us.

A difficult road crossing was worth the risks of arriving at The Three Mariners, a Mitchells of Lancaster house. And a very old house it is, now much enlarged into



wooden floor and a bank of three hand-pulls on the bar offering three, Hydes beers. Perhaps we were a bit early (1.15pm!) but despite the efforts of the gentleman called to assist, neither the Original nor the Gekyll's Gold clarified properly.

Much better luck at our next port of call, The Sun Inn. A free house furnished in contemporary style, the bar area interconnects with what was originally a separate property. Here there was a fine

adjoining properties and, therefore, with lots of exposed beams and interesting nooks and crannies. Almost hollowed into the foundations of the impressive castle above it offered five beers rather of the 'usual suspects' variety but in good order.

Almost within sight but a couple of busy road crossing was The Yorkshire House (a hangover from the Wars of the Roses

(Continued on page 39)

(Continued from page 38)

perhaps?), another Mitchells house and, judging by the pattern of mosaic floor tiles, much altered but still a basic pub obviously dedicated to live probably loud music – the recorded version was turned down upon our request. Again a decent choice of beers in good order.

No road crossings to reach The Borough, another free house. Formerly a private club, it is an impressive building with columns at the entrance and an impressive stair case to the toilets and a function room. The evening trade was beginning to gather and perhaps another member of staff would have been in order. However there was a fair choice and plenty of seating.

A disappointing range in the recently reopened John o'Gaunt caused us to turn tail and make for the Merchant –

nearer still to the railway station. A former wine vault, the interior is, to say the least, interesting. Three parallel brick lined 'tunnels' served from a single bar opposite the entrances. Each clearly sets out to create different atmospheres, drinking, eating and TV, music etc. Beer quality was again fully acceptable.

So to the station and back home. In summary? A town well worth visiting – we only 'scratched the surface' not even managing to get to either of the well regarded canal side pubs. Perhaps a rather limited choice of less well known micro beers. Star of the visit? Undoubtedly – The Sun Inn.

the mardale inn @ st. patrick's well

- £5 two course Farmer's Meal on weekday lunchtimes (please ring for a table)
- Extensive bottled beer list (40 beers)
 - Fresh local food served all day
 - Early 18th century inn
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- Transport to/from the pub can be arranged

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_____ Postcode _____ Tel. no. _____

I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and articles of Association.

I enclose a cheque for _____

Signed _____

(Applications will be processed within 21 days)

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Please fill in the form and send to: Campaign for Real Ale Ltd, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW	
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Branch Sort Code <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 20px;"></div>	Instructions to your Bank or Building Society Please pay CAMRA Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with CAMRA and, if so will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.
Reference Number <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div>	Signature(s) _____ Date _____
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Westmorland Branch is pleased to be associated with two recently issued local guides for 2008 which are promoting Real Ale in the Lakes.

Save the Planet', 'Let the Train take the Strain' & 'Ride and Don't Drive'!

Westmorland CAMRA, together with others has produced a leaflet promoting 9 pubs serving real ale along the Oxenholme to Windermere rail line. This is available in the pubs listed below and has been circulated to 25,000 CAMRA members along railway corridors connecting to Oxenholme. On production of a current rail ticket you are entitled to 10% off food and beer at the Station Inn Oxenholme, Riverside Hotel Kendal, Eagle & Child Staveley & Lamplighter Bar Windermere; and 10% off beer at Burgundy's Kendal, and Hawkshead Brewery & Beer Hall.

Westmorland CAMRA are pleased to have the opportunity to work effectively in co-operation with First TransPennine Express, the Lakes Line Partnership and our local real ale out-

lets and brewers. We have found it a great joy to be part of a dynamic team promoting sustainable transport, safe and sensible drinking whilst showcasing our varied and quality real ales. The economic, tourism and environmental benefits that this initiative generates will hopefully attract interest for similar real ale and public transport projects for Cumbria and further afield.

Recently I spent a pleasant sunny day cycling and visiting the pubs listed in RAT to find out how well the leaflet is working. All stated that they had a modest amount of business generated from the initiative and agreed to commit to a similar future initiative if we can achieve the necessary sponsorship. So watch this space!

Chris Holland

WESTMORLAND BREWERY UPDATES

HAWKSHEAD BREWERY

Following its third beer festival, at the end of July, and the success of the champion beers format, Hawkshead Brewery has decided make two full beer festivals a year a permanent fixture. They'll be in July and February and will showcase breweries which have won blind tasting competitions – at SIBA and at GBBF.

Hawkshead's Brewery at Staveley Mill Yard is being expanded further, part of the next door building has been taken over. Plans are for a Beer Shop and bottle bar, to accommodate The Beer Hall's expanding international beer collection, offices, a reception area, warehousing and a conference room, to allow the holding of cellar-ing courses.

Hawkshead's new product – Lakeland Lager – was brewed for bottling in 330ml bot-tles , as a local alternative to Beck's, Bud, and such, and as an entry level beer for none real ale drinkers. The few casks allowed out were so popular that throughout the summer, Hawkshead will now be brewing Lakeland Lager as a cask conditioned lager, at 5% abv.

DENT BREWERY

Aviator is now available in bottles and is being offered to local outlets such as farm-ers' markets and off licenses but not supermarkets.

All pump clips have been redesigned. Golden Fleece (3.7% ABV) originally a sea-sonal has become a permanent addition to the range.

So busy that there are now six members of staff.

TIRRIL BREWERY

Tirril now has several Pubs in Lancashire who regularly take Tirril beers

WATERMILL BREWING CO

The Brewery was two years old on 5th July and going great guns .

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