

Vacant positions in the West Midlands

Volunteer call out in the West Midlands

If you're interested in getting involved in the campaign and are based in the West Midlands, there are a number of regional positions currently available. Why not see if you might be able to take a more active role?

The deadline for filling each of these roles will ideally be the next West Midlands Regional Meeting, taking place on 13 July in Hereford.

1. Area Organisers for Walsall, Wolverhampton, Stourbridge & Halesowen

Area Organisers deputise to the Regional Director and liaise with the branches in a given area (often a county). Please contact Cy Day to register your interest on cy1645@icloud.com

2. Regional Social Media Coordinator

This role requires a person with excellent social media awareness and knowledge on how to use multiple platforms to help branches develop their online presence. They would also work closely with the regional leadership team to ensure the regional website is kept up-to-date. Please contact David Glenwright to register your interest on daveglenwright@gmail.com

3. Regional Director

CAMRA is looking for someone to fill one of its most senior volunteer roles - Regional Director of the West Midlands.

The elected position is key to the successful running of CAMRA activities at a regional level - including campaigning and beer festivals - and at a national level, with Regional Directors involved in some of the highest levels of decision making and strategy setting across the Campaign for Real Ale.

Regional Directors act as a vital conduit between CAMRA branches and the national organisation - mobilising and organising members to deliver CAMRA's campaigning objectives.

If elected by members in the West Midlands, the successful candidate will serve initially for one year, then for a further three-year-term if approved by branches.

The role of Regional Director gives great opportunities for developing skills, including strategy development, working with the media, project management, personnel management and financial management. In addition the role will give you great opportunities to develop personal experiences, such as taking part in events at Parliament, representing an almost 200,000 strong organisation at national level and building a network of friends and contacts across the country.

To apply:

Interested parties should then send their nomination (an indication that they are willing to stand with the signature of a proposer and seconder



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who are CAMRA members) along with a short biography about themselves and why they feel they should have the position of RD. These should be sent to the Returning Officer (Mark Parkes) on citraman@hotmail.co.uk ahead of the next meeting.

Principal Responsibilities

- (1) To meet as often as possible and/or necessary with local Branches, Branch Committees, and members.
- (2) To monitor branch activity closely and to encourage this in pursuit of national and local objectives.
- (3) To advise on and enforce national policies whenever necessary.

Liaison with Branches

- (1) To attend Branch A.G.M.'s and oversee proceedings as necessary.
- (2) To interpret national policy to Branches and explain the background to decisions and actions taken by the National Executive and other national committees, particularly where this is not otherwise apparent or understood.
- (3) To communicate as necessary with Branches advising them how to interpret and act upon national policies in the light of local circumstances and campaigning priorities.
- (4) To oversee and, where necessary, manage the establishment of new Branches and Sub Branches.
- (5) To co-ordinate revisions to Branch boundaries and to manage re-allocation of areas as the need may arise.
- (6) To convene Regional Meetings and Conferences as and when required, in order to discuss campaigning policies/issues and to disseminate information, in the light of local circumstances and campaigning priorities.
- (7) To identify the most effective Branch campaigning practices and share them with other Branches in the Region.
- (8) To identify and interpret the views of Branches and local members on national and regional policies, campaigns, and issues.
- (9) To report appropriate views expressed in (8) to the National Executive and the wider Campaign and feedback locally as necessary.



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- (10) To appoint where considered necessary, and with the required job briefs suitable Regional Officers e.g. Area Organiser, Treasurer, and or Regional Meeting Minutes Secretary.

National Liaison

- (1) To attend, whenever possible, meetings of Branches Committee and the National Executive.
- (2) To keep both Branches Committee and the National Executive informed on the general health of CAMRA at Regional level, views being expressed locally and the progress of any specific local campaigns.
- (3) To organise any Branches Committee, National Executive, and, where requested, other National Committee meetings held within the Region.

Where this meeting requires bed and breakfast accommodation to be provided, to ensure a reasonable standard by personal inspection and/or reference to tourist board ratings (stars). Bookings should only be placed (ideally locating all attendees on the same premises) where the tariff is considered reasonable for the area or where it can be made so through a negotiated discount. Any queries relating to this expenditure should be referred to the Finance Director.

- (4) To be involved fully in the organisation of any National AGM and Conference and any other national seminars held within the Region.
- (5) To undertake the required Regional liaison with the media and other outside bodies, e.g. Tourist Boards.
- (6) To consider where appropriate the appointment of suitable members for such liaison, e.g. Regional Publicity Officer.
- (7) To communicate the best local Branch campaigning practices to Branches Committee so that these can be disseminated widely throughout CAMRA.

Good Beer Guide

- (1) To determine GBG allocations to Branches, within Counties.
- (2) To co-ordinate after correction and collation the return of GBG entries, carry out the required sub-editing and liaise with Branches as required.
- (3) To co-ordinate the pub and brewery entries and proof reading of maps.



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Election Process

The Returning Officer will compile and forward a list of candidates and their biographies to all branches (via email or on the regional web page) for consideration along with a ballot paper. The date for close of nominations will be a minimum of seven days before the election date (06/07/19), to allow branches time to discuss the candidates in a branch meeting.

If there is a single candidate the branches should decide if they are happy to endorse this person and if so for how long.

For two or more candidates, branches should decide upon their preferred candidate.

For those branches that cannot send a representative and wishing to exercise a proxy vote, there should be a deadline e.g. two - three days before the Regional Meeting where the election is to be held. The vote should be either signed by the Branch Chairman and one other Committee Member, or if by email it should be forwarded by the Branch Chairman and one other Committee Member.

Note: Branches choosing to exercise a proxy vote will not have the opportunity to hear the candidate's addresses or ask questions.

Notification of Election

A Returning Officer (responsible for running the election) should be appointed by the region; this person should be impartial and independent and not a candidate. For example an AO, the Regional Secretary, Former RD, Deputy RD, NE mentor etc. **(Mr Stephen Thompson of Dudley & South Staffordshire branch).**

The Returning Officer will need to contact all the branches within the region by letter or email informing them of the vacancy and calling for candidates. A Job Description should be circulated at this time.

All branches, sub branches and branches that are partially within the region should have one vote. This can be a proxy vote sent to the Returning Officer prior to the election **(26 votes for this election).**

Election

At the Regional Meeting where the election is being held, there should be an opportunity for the candidates to make a short address (maximum five minutes) to members present. There should be the opportunity for questions to the candidates. The other candidates will be asked to leave the meeting during these addresses.

A discussion on the candidate(s) can take place with feedback about such things as attendance at local Branch meetings / AGMs and Branches Committee meetings and performance where one of the candidates is an existing RD. This should also be done without the candidates being present.



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Branches should then complete and hand in their ballot papers.

Result

The elected candidate requires 51% of the votes cast.

In the event of a dead heat after the above takes place, the returning officer (if available) will schedule a second ballot between the tied candidates only at the next regional meeting.

The Region should have a policy on how long their RD term is for, one year or three years. Branches present at the time of the election can vote on which term applies for the newly elected RD. **West Midlands region is one year initially followed by three years terms.**

If no candidate is elected the Returning Officer should notify the Chairman of Branches Committee and the NE Mentor for the Region as soon as possible.

