

Minutes

APPLE COMMITTEE MEETING

Vat & Fiddle

Queens Bridge Road, Nottingham, NG2 1NB

Saturday 23 March 2019, noon

Summary of Key Points

- **Producers Questionnaire:** Work is continuing on a questionnaire to cider makers.
- **Guidance Notes:** Work is continuing on producing Guidance Notes on various cider & perry related subjects.
- **National Cider and Perry Championships:** Everything is on track.
- **National Cider Pub of the Year:** Everything is on track.
- **Real Cider Sold Here Window Stickers:** Everything is on track with the 2019/20 stickers.
- **Local Cider/Perry Crowners:** Design work has started.
- **National Cider & Perry Trip 2019:** Everything is on track to hold this in Devon.
- **October Cider Promotion:** Planning has started.

Pubs Campaigns Committee, Clubs Committee - For Information

- **National Cider Pub of the Year:** Everything is on track.
- **Real Cider Sold Here Window Stickers:** Everything is on track with the 2019/20 stickers.
- **Local Cider/Perry Crowners:** Design work has started.

Festivals Committee - For Information

- **National Cider and Perry Championships:** Everything is on track.

Action Decisions Required (from the NE)

None.

Andrea Briers

Chair of CAMRA's Cider and Perry Committee (APPLE)





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**Minutes of the APPLE Committee, Saturday 23 March 2019 at 12 noon,
Vat & Fiddle, Queens Bridge Road, Nottingham, NG2 1NB**

Committee present: Andrea Briers [AB], Chris Charters [CC], Mike Gilroy [MG], Phil Kempton [PK], Mick Lewis [ML], Sarah Newson [SN], Ian Packham [IP], Chris Rouse [CR], Tony Ware [TW], Ian White [IW].

RCCs present: Steve Swain (West Midlands), Bob Southwell [BS] (South West), Luke Bettison (East Midlands).

Others present: Alex Metcalfe (Head Office, Information & Education Manager), Alban Fellows (Hinckley and Bosworth), Mike Robinson (Rochdale, Oldham & Bury), Alistair Smith (Sisson & Smith Cider, Nottingham).

The meeting opened at 12:05pm with Andrea Briers chairing.

Simon Vine of Jigsaw Bag in Box Ltd., gave a talk on the construction and recycling of Bag-in-Boxes used for cider and perry.

Simon Vine has been involved with Bag-In-Box (BiB) technology since the mid 1980s. The first cider maker to use BiB was probably in 1988. Main advantage of BiB is that no air gets to the product, which prevents oxidation. The bags are multi-layer polythene. 1 meter square of film will allow 1 cubic centimetre of air to transfer over 24 hours.

Everything has an environmental impact. We need to appreciate that plastic food packaging is there to reduce food waste. Only 7% of recycled glass actually gets used as glass. 400 million wine bottles are packed in the UK each year, each weighs 1.25kg, so that's 500,000 tons of glass used. The weight of plastic used in the UK each year is about 5% of that.

There are two types of BiBs, foil (or metalised), and just plastic. Foil BiBs cannot be recycled, plastic BiBs can if the tap is removed. The inner bag is polythene, while the outer bag is mostly polythene (92%) with the other 8% being very very close to polythene (ethylene vinyl alcohol), which makes it an excellent barrier to oxygen. The tap is a mix of parts that are made of HDPE, polypropylene, and polyester.

Most plastic cannot be re-used on a commercial basis. BiBs essentially come from oil. You typically get 48Mj of energy from a Kg of gas, 43Mj from oil, and 40Mj from plastic. Instead of recycling, plastic can be seen a fuel waiting to be used, which is what may happen to waste plastic in the future.

In terms of energy used, washing, sterilising, and re-using a BiB is less efficient than a new one.

Summary: BiBs can be recycled through domestic recycle channels, however, any cider or perry must have been removed. This is where some domestic recycling facilities may choose not to accept such bags.

AB thanked IW for arranging the talk.

1. Welcome & Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Committee: Linda Harris [LH], Gillian Hough [GH].

Apologies from RCCs: Paul Sanders (Surrey & Sussex), Bill Wilkinson (North East).

Apologies from Others: Ellie Hudspith (Head Office).

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

2a. Corrections Notified

It was noted that for 'Apologies from Committee', John Lewis is a corresponding member of the committee.

2b. Action Minutes

550x. On-going.

601. On-going.

609. Done. 616. Cleared. 640. On-going.

672. Superseded. 675. Done. 692a. On-going.

692b. On-going.

693. On-going.

700. Done. 701. Done. 702. Done. 703. Done. 704. Done. 705. Done.

706. Done. 707. Done. 708. On-going.

709. Done. 710. Done. 711. On-going.

712. Done. 713. Done. 714. Done. 715. Done. 716. Done. 717. Done.

Action

CR/AB/IP/ML
(550x)

CR/AB (601)
CR (640)
CR (692a)
AB/IW(692b)
CR (693)

CR (708)
AB (711)

718. Done. 719. On-going.
720. On-going.
721. Done. 722. On-going.
723. On-going

IP/BS (719)
CR/GH (720)
CR (722)
CR (723)

2c. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes Not Already on this Agenda

ML raised the possibility of a cider trip to Normandy. There was no objection to someone organising such a trip, but it would not be by or on behalf of the APPLE Committee as our National Cider & Perry Trip.

3. Producer List, Database and Website

CR reported that the next draft of the Producers Questionnaire was emailed to committee for feedback. IP reported that he had been taking new cider makers from RCC reports to add to the master list.

4. Members' Weekend and AGM

AB reported that she had submitted the APPLE AGM Supplement Report for 2019 (for What's Brewing). AB reported that there will be a few pubs in Dundee that will have real cider.

It was reported that there are two cider related motions at conference. As these were only published the day before, it was agreed to take any further discussions to email.

5. Strategic Plan, Strategy and Future Activities

AB thanked IW for his efforts so far on the guidance notes.

IW gave a brief update. There was a question of how do they get published. It is expected that they will be put on the National Website.

Alex Metcalfe (CAMRA's Information & Education Manager) gave a brief outline of his role. He has been working on using live pressings and tastings guided by local cider makers. He is available to help festivals implement learning activities.

Alex was asked if the Cider Challenge could be a part of future Learning and Discovery Spaces, for example, at Cambridge Beer Festival.

Mike Robinson reported that the Learning and Discovery Zone at Manchester Beer & Cider Festival worked very well.

IW offered to do a tutored cider tasting at GBBF. **Action: CR to investigate possibility of IW doing a tutored cider tasting at GBBF.**

Alex suggested that more could be achieved by informal contact and discussion with the public, rather than formal tutored tastings.

CR suggested an infographic of the cider making process, similar to the existing infographic for the brewing process.

Steve Swain suggested a zone at GBBFW in Birmingham.

Alistair Smith asked if anything could be done at Nottingham.

CR (724)

6. Competitions & Awards

6a. National Cider & Perry Championships (for 2019)

CR reported (via email before the meeting): *Everything is on track.*

6b. Regional Cider Competitions Update (for 2019)

CR reported (via email before the meeting):

Wales: Previously reported.

North of England: took place at Manchester B&CF (in Jan/Feb 2019).

Results: Cider: 1st: Ampleforth Abbey, Traditional Still;

2nd: Madhtters, Nine Holes; 3rd: Pure North, Vintage Deanhouse

Perry: 1st: Udders Orchard, Waterloo Sunset; 2nd: Red Bank, Crackin' Pear

West Midlands: Previously reported.

South West Cider (Cornwall & Devon): Previously reported.

South West (Gloucestershire): took place at Tewkesbury (in Jan/Feb 2019).

Results: Cider: 1st: Jultor Press, Cider; 2nd: Out of the Orchard, Cider;

3rd: Roddy Guildler, Rodney's Revenge; 4th: McCrindles, Cider; 5th: Forgotten Orchard, Cider

Perry: 1st: Forgotten Orchard, Perry; 2nd: Out of the Orchard, Perry

South West Perry (Cornwall & Devon): will take place at Bristol (in Mar 2019).

South West (Somerset & part Wiltshire): will take place at Bristol (in Mar 2019).

East Midlands (Eastern Seaboard): Previously reported.

East Anglia & London (Eastern Seaboard): Previously reported.

Surrey & Sussex (part of South of England): will take place in Brighton (in Mar 2019).

Kent (part of Eastern Seaboard): will not take place.

RCC nominations for a preliminary round will be used:

Nominated Ciders: Double Vision; Dudda's Tun; Kent Cider Co.; Nightingales; Turners, Beardspoon.

Nominated Perries: Double Vision; Dudda's Tun; Kent Cider Co..

Central Southern & Wessex (part of South of England): will take place in Reading (in May 2019).
Champion Cider & Perry of Scotland: Previously reported.

6c. National Cider Pub of the Year Update (for 2019)

The regional deadline for RCCs to inform SN is Sun 19 May 2019.

SN reported that she had dealt with various queries.

There were issues with how an RCC ran the competition in their region. As long as the existing competition guidelines are followed, the actual organisation is for the region to decide. It was suggested that RCCs should document and have agreement from their region, especially if the branch deadline is to be different from the national deadline. **Action: AB/SN to liaise on CPotY deadlines for next year.**

AB/SN (725)

SN reported that more branches are taking the competition seriously, which has cost implications to the campaign as a whole. There needs to be greater understanding and visibility of costs. **Action: AB/SN to liaise on how to ascertain costs of cider judging.**

AB/SN (726)

6d. Pomona Nominations & Any Other Competitions Business

No Pomona nominations received.

ML asked, why are we still doing Pomona when we don't get any nominations. It was agreed to take this discussion to email.

7. Promoting & Campaigning Activities

7a. Real Ale, Cider & Perry Campaigns Committee Update

IP reported that Head Office are looking into cider event promotion via Facebook and submitting events via the national website.

7b. Real Cider Sold Here / WhatPub / Cider Scoring in Pubs

AB reported that the RCSH sticker has been updated, approved, and ordered.

AB reported that a memo is to be sent to branches asking them to ensure WhatPub is up-to-date.

There is a plan to get the stickers sent out to pubs.

IP reported that cider scoring had been taken forward to the WhatPub Steering Group.

7c. Cider Tie

AB reported (via email before the meeting): *Following our last meeting, I informed Pub Campaigns that we have taken the opportunity in our memo to branches relating to the May cider promotion to ask branches to encourage tied pubs who are allowed to stock a real cider for the month of May, or later in the summer if that suits them better. It was also noted at the Pub Campaigns meeting that we would continue to work with them to improve the selection of real cider and perry available in tied pubs.*

7d. Cider Duty/Exemption Update

AB reported (via email before the meeting): *Ellie Hudspeth, from Head Office, has been in touch to let me know that the European Council voted to accept the proposed changes, which include the exemption currently in place in this country, to the Directive last year.*

7e. Liaison with Producer Associations

ML reported that the Parliamentary Reception on 5 Feb 2019 was not well attended.

ML reported that:

- Have not had a reply from the chair of the National Association Cider Makers.
- Have set up a meeting with the Three Counties Cider & Perry Association.
- The South West of England Cidermakers' Association website still has no useful information; have emailed, but still no response.

MG reported that the North of England Cidermakers Association will be working with SICA.

CC reported that he had problems CAMRA's Business plan, causing the WPCS festival to be cancelled.

CR reported (via email before the meeting): *SICA is now registered as a Community Interest Company, so are legally a 'not for profit' organisation. They launched their Quality Mark the first week in March and have 45 producers signed up and in the process of being approved. You can now join SICA on their website. There are two memberships for registered and unregistered cidermakers, but there is also non-voting membership for cider supporters. Membership is only £10 and we would be very glad to have APPLE members join us. Visit <https://www.smallindependentcidermakers.co.uk/> for details.*

CR gave a further update from SICA: *It seems that Heineken have been successful in nobbiling the small cider duty scheme. As I posted the EU had told me it was all put to bed. However it appears that the Romanian Presidency decided to have "another look" at it and the result is that "cider" as a category has been knocked out. and the small producer duty discount has been applied to "other fermented beverages". You might think that this is good news as it means "fruit cider" will also be eligible for a 50% duty cut. However the likelihood of HMRC implementing a scheme to produce cut price alcopops is very limited. Any such scheme is likely to be very small in volume because it will be seen to be indiscriminate and not supporting traditional producers. There is also the extreme likelihood*

that if they do bring in a small "other fermented beverages" scheme it will be used to kill off the 70hl cider derogation. This is really bad news that I don't know if we can do anything about.

7f. Any Other Promoting & Campaigning Business

- A) AB reported that design work has started for the new Local Cider/Perry Crowners.
 B) AB reported that the cider article by Jackie Parker came out in Wetherspoon's Magazine.
 C) IW offered to help with APPLE's Twitter account, and possibility the Facebook account.

8. Cider & Perry Promotional Months

8a May Promotion Update

AB reported (via email before the meeting): *A memo to branches was issued on the 22nd February. The promotion was discussed at the Real Ale Cider and Perry Committee and I will liaise with Head Office nearer the time in relation to social media publicity.*

8b. October Campaigning Angle, Branch Events, Template Articles

AB asked for ideas for a campaigning angle or template articles by email. **Action: AB to email committee and RCCs for ideas for a campaigning angle or template article for the October promotion.**

AB (727)

8c. October National Cider & Perry Trip Update

Bob Southwell gave a brief outline of trip based round Exeter / Newton Abbot / Totnes, with the Ye Olde Cider Bar being able to provide lunch.

8d. Any Other May/October Business

None.

9. Referrals

- A) From Branches Committee: ask APPLE to consider a Cider Liaison Role, with the suggestion that the BLO description could be used as a basis. **Action: CR to ensure the Cider Liaison Role is covered in the Cider Campaigning Questionnaire to branches.**

CR (728)

10. Date and Venue of Future Meetings

Saturday 20 July 2019, noon, Yard of Ale, 72 Oundle Road, Peterborough, PE2 9PA.

Friday 11 October 2019, 7pm, *Venue TBD* (probably Exeter or Newton Abbot).

Subsequent to the meeting: *Taphouse & Bottle Shop, Tuckers Maltings, Teign Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4AA.*

Suggested: Saturday 25 January 2020, noon, Venue TBD (probably Manchester).

Action: CR to set up a poll to establish possible dates for meetings in 2020.

CR (729)

11. Any Other Business

- A) AB reported that as Jon Hallam is now on TAG, as a cider expert, it would be sensible for him to be a corresponding member. This was approved. **Action: AB to add Jon Hallam as a corresponding member.**

AB (730)

- B) AB reported that following discussions at Branches Committee, RCCs will be asked to work more closely with their RD. **Action: AB to ask RCCs to ensure they are working closely with their RD.**

AB (731)

- C) IP reported that he is standing down from the NE at the next AGM, it was proposed that GH become our NE rep, and IP return to being a core member of the Committee. There were no objections.

Action: IP to take NE rep proposal to the NE.

IP (732)

Meeting closed at 3.41pm.

Actions From This Meeting

Action	Detail	Who	Origin
550x	CR to draft and seek approval for the questionnaire for producers. CR/AB to contact Alexander Wright (IT director) to request somewhere to host a web-based form, plus all the information gathered. AB to send the producers' questionnaire to MRSG & TAG. ML to send our final version of Producers Questionnaire to Tom Oliver (with Three Counties Cider Association hat) in confidence for his comments. CR to seek advice from John Cottrell re GDPR wording.	CR/AB /IP/ML	8 (Apr 16) 3 (Jan 16) 3 (Apr 16) 3 (Jun 16) 3 (Jan 17) 3 (Apr 18)
601	Ask the committee, RCCs and branches via a memo and on-line survey, whether they would welcome the opportunity to score ciders on WhatPub, and ask how the branches would use the information. Questions on other issues previously mentioned to also be included.	CR/AB	7e (Jul 17)

640	Produce a web form of the above after it has been approved (RCC Questionnaire).	CR	8fD(Jan 18)
692a	Draft a memo to branches to say can only use term 'Gluten Free' if NOT straw pressed.	CR	2b (Oct 18)
692b	Liaise with committee members to produce guidance notes.	AB/IW	5 (Oct 18)
693	Liaise with others to try to get cider scoring in NBSS (via BIS).	CR	7gA(Oct 18)
708	CR to draft memo to branches asking them to ensure WhatPub is up-to-date.	CR	7b (Jan 19)
711	Liaise with EH to get Local Cider/Perry crowners updated and printed.	AB	7fA (Jan 19)
719	Arrange October meeting in Devon.	IP/BS	10 (Jan 19)
720	Liaise on a possible printed Good Cider Guide.	CR/GH	11D(Jan19)
722	Contact warehouse and ask them to dispose of 'out-of-date' cider/perry cask cards.	CR	11F(Jan 19)
723	Arrange for a cask card template to be made available.	CR	11F(Jan 19)
724	Investigate possibility of IW doing a tutored cider tasting at GBBF.	CR	5
725	Liaise on CPotY deadlines for next year.	AB/SN	6c
726	Liaise on how to ascertain costs of cider judging.	AB/SN	6c
727	Email committee and RCCs for ideas for a campaigning angle or template article for the October promotion.	AB	8b
728	Ensure the Cider Liaison Role is covered in the Cider Campaigning Questionnaire to branches.	CR	9
729	Set up a poll to establish possible dates for meetings in 2020.	CR	10
730	Add Jon Hallam as a corresponding member.	AB	11
731	Ask RCCs to ensure they are working closely with their RD.	AB	11
732	Take NE rep proposal to the NE.	IP	11

Regional Cider Coordinators Reports

Below is a summary of written reports.

Central Southern, Elvis Evans, (elvis.evans@btinternet.com) [21 Mar 2019]

In my branch area I'm seeing a steady reduction in the number of places selling real cider. Even the not-very-nice cider at my local Wetherspoons has gone. There are other places that have stopped stocking any cider. And others where all you can get is cider from 4.0 to 4.5 % so it must be watered down. The better news is that Rebellion brewery is now stocking Crazy Dave's cider. I have 6 entries for CPOTY. This is the lowest for some years. This could be that, because of my illness, I haven't been able to chase the branches like usual. Also, due to illness, judging the pubs may be a problem. But I will try.

Branch CPotYs

It's the usual suspects.
 White Horse branch - Royal Oak, Wantage
 Mid Chilterns - Rising Sun, Berkhamstead (yes, I'm old, so I spell it the old way)
 SE Berks - Old Manor, Bracknell
 Aylesbury & Wycombe - Cross Keys, Thame
 Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead - Barleycorn, Cippenham, Slough
 South Oxon - Plum Pudding, Milton, near Didcot

No entry from Reading which is a shame as they have won it fairly recently and also have several likely candidates. Nor from Oxford but they have lost their best cider pubs. North Oxon has some possibles but only one real contender. Milton Keynes weren't happy with how I ran CPOTY last year which may explain their lack of entry. A shame as they have one pub/restaurant that is mad about perry. Likewise West Berkshire has a pub/restaurant which has no atmosphere but, wow, do they have a range of cider and perry. But there's nothing to really compete with the Royal Oak (at the moment).

East Anglia, Chris Rouse, (chrisjrouse@yahoo.co.uk) [20 Mar 2019]

East Anglian Cider & Perry Competitions

The presentation to Richards Cider for his Wonky Donkey (2nd Place, East Anglia Cider Competition 2018) took place on Tuesday 19 February 2019 at GBBF-W in Norwich.
 The presentation to Norfolk Raider for his Wingman (3rd Place, East Anglia Cider Competition 2018) also took place on Tuesday 19 February 2019 at GBBF-W in Norwich.
 The presentation to Simon's Cider for his Gibson's Perry (Winner, East Anglia Perry Competition 2018) took place on Thursday 21 February 2019 at GBBF-W in Norwich.
 The presentation to Crone's for his Perry (3rd Place, East Anglia Perry Competition 2017) also took place on Thursday 21 February 2019 at GBBF-W in Norwich.
 Berties received his certificate for 3rd Place in the East Anglia Perry Competition 2018.

Branch Cider Pub of the Year 2019

Bedfordshire

East Bedfordshire: Engineers Arms, 68 High Street, Henlow, SG16 6AA, <http://whatpub.com/BEE/210>
North Bedfordshire: Polhill Arms, 25 Wilden Road, Renhold, Bedford, MK41 0JP, <http://whatpub.com/BEN/397>
South Bedfordshire: *Delayed*

Cambridgeshire

Cambridge & District: Plough, 12 High Street, Shepreth, SG8 6PP, <http://whatpub.com/CAM/225>
Ely & District: *None*

Huntingdonshire:	Ale Taster, 25 Russell Street, St Neots, PE19 1BA, http://whatpub.com/STN/189
Peterborough & District:	Letter B, 53-57 Church St, Whittlesey, PE7 1DE, http://whatpub.com/PET/384
Essex	
Chelmsford/Mid.Essex:	Hop Beer Shop, 173 Moulsham Street, Chelmsford, CM2 0LD, http://whatpub.com/CME/11550
Colchester & N.E.Essex:	Victoria Inn, 10 North Station Road, Colchester, CO1 1RB, http://whatpub.com/COL/11113
Herts/Essex Borders:	Woodbine Inn, Honey Lane, Waltham Abbey, EN9 3QT, http://whatpub.com/HEB/11457
Maldon and Dengie:	Carpenters' Arms, 33 Gate Street, Maldon, CM9 5QF, http://whatpub.com/DEN/10473
North West Essex:	Waggon & Horses, Great Yeldham, CO9 4EX, http://whatpub.com/ENW/11317
South East Essex:	Mawson's, 781 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 2PP, http://whatpub.com/ESE/11550
South West Essex:	None
Tendring:	Globe, Castlegate Street, Harwich, CO12 3HA, http://whatpub.com/TND/10700
Hertfordshire	
Herts/Essex Borders:	Queens Head, Allens Green, Sawbridgeworth, CM21 0LS, http://whatpub.com/HEB/13
North Hertfordshire:	Strathmore Arms, London Road, St Pauls Walden, SG4 8BT, http://whatpub.com/HEN/731
South Hertfordshire:	Mermaid, 98 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 3RL, http://whatpub.com/SHE/704
Watford & District:	Land of Liberty Peace & Plenty, Long Lane, Heronsgate, WD3 5BS, http://whatpub.com/WAT/371
Norfolk	
East Norfolk:	Mariners, 69 Howard Street South, Great Yarmouth, NR30 1LN, http://whatpub.com/NOR/333
Mid Anglia:	Fox Inn, The Street, Garboldisham, IP22 2RZ, http://whatpub.com/NOR/257
Norwich & Norfolk:	White Lion, 73 Oak Street, Norwich, Norfolk, NR3 3AQ, http://whatpub.com/NOR/841
West Norfolk:	Blackstone Engine Bar, Denver Windmill, Sluice Road, Denver, PE38 0EG, http://whatpub.com/KLN/1335
Suffolk	
Ipswich & East Suffolk:	Fat Cat 288 Spring Rd Ipswich IP4 5NL, http://whatpub.com/SUF/470
North East Suffolk:	Caxton Club, Beccles, NR34 9SJ, http://whatpub.com/WAV/4050
West Suffolk:	Fox, The Street, Pakenham, IP31 2JU, http://whatpub.com/WSB/804
East Anglian Cider Pub of the Year 2019	
We have county rounds in East Anglia, each coordinated by 'County Cider Coordinator'.	
County Cider Pub of the Year to be notified to Chris Rouse by Sunday 21 Apr 2019 .	

East Midlands, Luke Bettison, (bettisonluke@yahoo.com)

Greater London, <u>Report by Ian White</u> (whiteik@talk21.com) [20 Mar 2019, 24 Mar 2019]
Events and past Festivals
A number of Wassails have taken place in January and February, seems the number is growing in London !
Future Events and festivals
London Cider and Perry festival, Sat 17 th March, Matchstick Theatre Deptford, 12.00-22.00
Arranged by London Camra branches. 30 ciders and perries.
Other News
CPotY 5 entries in, including 3 micro pubs.
Advert for New London RCC went into London Drinker – no responses yet . . .
Branch CPotYs
SE London River ale hse, Greenwich
BEXLEY Kentish Belle, Bexley
N London Southampton Arms, Kentish Town
Kingston and Leatherhead Antelope, Surbiton
Richmond & Hounslow Black Dog Beer House, Brentford
W Middlesex The Owl & The Pussycat, Northfields

Greater Manchester, Mike Gilroy, (mikegilroy17@yahoo.co.uk) [31 Mar 2019]
Regional
We have 191 pubs selling real cider/perry, same as last report.
The next cider rep meeting is 14th April @ Petersgate Tap (Stockport), this is the current Greater Manchester Cider Pub of the Year.
Manchester Beer & Cider Festival; cider of the festival = Hedgehoppers "Old Aged Pig" perry of the festival = Udders Orchard "Waterloo Sunset".
North of England Cider & Perry competition 2019, held at Manchester Beer & Cider Festival; CIDER 1st Ampleforth Abbey "Traditional Still". 2nd Madhatters "Nine Holes". 3rd Pure North "Vintage Deanhouse". PERRY 1st Udders Orchard "Waterloo Sunset". 2nd Red Bank "Crackin' Pear"
North of England Cider Producers Association had their meeting at Manchester Beer & Cider Festival (with a few members from SICA).
Cider Pub of the Year 2019, Branches; Bolton = Olde Man & Scythe. Central Manchester = Smithfield Market Tavern. High Peak, Tameside & North East Cheshire = Silly Country Bar & Bottle Shop. Rochdale, Oldham & Bury = Regal Moon. Salford = New Oxford. South East Lancashire = None. Stockport & South Manchester = Petersgate Tap. Trafford & Hulme = Font. Wigan = Wigan Central.
Beer & Cider Festivals;
Oldham 5th -6th April. Stockport 30th May - 1st June
Bolton: Alison Whitaker.
Branch Cider Pub of the Year = Olde Man & Scythe.
Central Manchester: Dick Withecombe.
No report sent.
High Peak, Tameside & North East Cheshire: Phil Moss.

No report sent.

Salford:

No report sent.

Rochdale, Oldham & Bury: Mike Robinson.

No report sent.

Stockport & South Manchester: Mike Gilroy.

Branch Cider Pub of the Year 2019; Petersgate Tap.

We have 42 pubs selling real cider/perry 1 up from last report.

A presentation to Madhatters from the North of England Cider & Perry Competition for silver in cider will take place at Grove Alehouse on 30th March 8pm.

South East Lancashire:

No report sent.

Trafford & Hulme: Paul King.

Nothing to report.

Wigan: Carol Worthington.

Wigan had a successful beer festival and whilst the cider did not completely sell out the cider bar was very busy Saturday and comments made about the cider selection on offer were very positive.

Our latest cider selling micropub (Real Ale Revolution 1) - which was opened in late October by Andy who owns the Cricketers St Helens (frequent cider pub award winner) under a partnership between himself and the manager of the adjacent Portland Wine and Gin bar has had a change of ownership following Andy dissolving the partnership. The branch has been advised by the new manager that the range of beer and ciders on offer will continue under the ownership of Portland Wine & Gins but it remains to be seen.

A bit of good news is that the Twisted Vine Alehouse in Ashton-in-Makerfield which normally sells 2 or 3 ciders is hosting a cider tasting event on Tuesday 30th April (advance tickets only) and then to maintain a stock of 6 ciders throughout May as part of May Cider Month.

Kent, Linda Thompson, (linda_a_thompson@yahoo.co.uk) [21 Mar 2019]

Forthcoming Events

14th Planet Thanet Easter Beer Festival: Good Friday 19 April & Saturday 20 April.

Winter Gardens, Margate, Kent. Free to CAMRA members

An excellent festival for cider and perry drinkers (as well as real ale).

National Cider & Perry Pub of the Year 2019: Kent round

This year I have 7 out of 9 branch winners, as follows. (The other 2 branch don't have any active cider drinkers to judge their pubs.)

I will be declaring separate East Kent (E) and West Kent (W) winners before deciding on an overall Kent winner.

Canterbury, Herne Bay & Whitstable (E):	Thomas Tallis, Canterbury
Deal, Dover, Sandwich & District (E):	Berry, Walmer, Deal
Gravesend & Darent Valley (W):	Old House, Ightham
Maidstone & Mid Kent (W):	Larkins Alehouse, Cranbrook
Medway (W):	Past and Present, Gillingham
Swale (E):	Admiral's Arm, Queenborough, Sheppey
Thanet (E):	(To be confirmed by 31 st March)
West Kent (W):	Pantiles Tap, Tunbridge Wells.

Merseyside and Cheshire, Linda Harris, (ciderandperry@gmail.com) [16 Mar 2019]

Linda Harris Chester and South Clwyd

I have been visiting The Cellar Bar, The Corner House. Telford's Ware House
The Goat and Munch, The Brewery Tap, Harkers, The Bull And Stirrup,
The Square Bottle, The Bridge End Rhuabon .,Constant flow of cider in al, these
Outlets I introduced my self in The Curious Gnome, new bar to Chester
I have sentry them details, of an excellent cider producer
They have one Cider on at the moment
I will be putting a Cider Crawl in Place for This May to support Cider in May
I have ordered and will be managing The Cider and Perry Bar at Cheshire Beer
Festival 22 23 March 2019
No Cider POTY from this Branch as yet

North Cheshire

Linda Harris as support To The Branch, as No Cider Officer in Place as yet
I visited Lower Angel, one cider on Tiny Rebel, which was popular with customers
I asked for Perry, their was none, but they showed great interest, Maybe a tasting
event may be good.
I visited both Weatherspoon's, Cider in Both, The I visited The Market Bar
One Cider in Place, Things are going to change dramatically in this area
In the coming future, as plans to close The Market and move the bar
Out in to Street level were they can open at different times and capture
A different sort of customer, They say it could a beneficial for them
We need to wait and see how things Pan out
But I did have a nice day out
Cider Potty, Appleton Thorn Village Hall

Halton David Grey

Nothing has changed here things remain the same
Weather spoons similar turn around of Ciders available

Their is now Cider available at S T R bar Blue Ball Brewery
Cider POTY. No Entry at this time

St Helens Sandy Gavin

Their has been some minor changes in St Helens,2 of the 13 outlets
no longer have real Cider
Some customers in St Helens still see Cider as a summer drink, and do not
know what Perry is.
Their are more Fruit Ciders on offer as these tend to be best sellers
Sandy deals it is difficult to access The Ciders in some outlets due to their
restricted opening times .
But their is good real cider and Perry to found in St Helens
Branch Cider Poty. The Cricketers

Janet Lawton Wirral

Janet has wrote a piece For Mersey Ale Magazine, Wirral have a Section in this Mag

Cider saucing in January And February on The Wirral
All points of The Wirral Peninsular on The Public Transport Birkenhead to Heswal
And Wallasey To Thornton Hough,
Dee Ciders. Celtic Marshes,The Beer Lab In Heswall Darting Dog by Mad Hatter
Weston's County Perry, well, worth A Read
Branch Cider Potty Red Fox

Mike And Lynn Wawiorio, Macclesfield

The branch have been sampling Real Cider and Perry in Conglaton,
Jill Hasler has wrote a piece For Out In Cheshire about the branch visiting
Congleton Pubs,
The Branch still continue to sauce Real Cider and Perry In The Macclesfield Area
le Waters Green Tavern
Branch Cider Poty. Young Pretender Congalton .

P J Cheers South Clywd

Visited The Railway Tavern, Brymbo, Sam Smiths Reserve, on
Went to The Bridge End Rhuabon Mr Willamsons Cider On , and also
In Pant -yr Ochain Mr Willamsons
Cider drinkers in the Area would like a crawl or Trip
I will lease and try and do something in May to promote Cider in May, preferably
A day time event because of public Transport
Cider Poty Bridge End Rhuabon To be judged By Chris Charters

South Cheshire Colin Jones

No Report or Cider Poty As Yet

Liver Pool Steve Downing

The Branch Cider Potty presentation will,be to The Agustus John on May 22
2019. Their also will be a Cider Tasting for Students put in place
The Yee Crack have dropped Cider and The Pen Factory added a Cider hand pump
for Bag In Box Then removed it
Most weather spoons in the area continue to sell real cider
The sales in The A John are on the up, better by far
Branch Cider Potty Agustus John

Joanne Griffiths Southport

Last October Joanne led a cider Walk round Cider Outlets close to Public
Transport. Other local branches joined in Report in Ale And Hearty
Local Cider Producers The Brennan Brothers Are doing fine at the moment
And also bottling their stock, But they defer they could do with a bit more support from
Camra
Joanne is stepping down as branch Cider Rep, sadly, but
On a happier note, she is expecting her first baby which is wonderful news
For her and her husband.
I wish them well and thank Joanne for all her hard work supporting 2 Branches
And 2 Area s
Branch Cider Poty GrassHopper

North East, Bill Wilkinson, (williamhwilkinson@hotmail.com) [20 Mar 2019]

Personal Statement.

On Tuesday 12th January I admitted myself into the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh having suffered a stroke while at work – the previous Saturday as it happens. Fortunately, it was a "mild" episode and I'm fine and in rude health, apart from weakness to my left arm & leg. I transferred to the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle on Monday 3rd February to complete my rehab. Although I am back on my feet of sorts and hopefully back home within the week, drinking is off the agenda for a wee while. Needless to say I won't be attending meetings for a couple of months yet but I intend to carry on with most of my CAMRA activities as best I can. Having access to my laptop now I'm back in Newcastle is a major step forward and has allowed me to devote time to organising our Cider POTY competition (fuller details below). All being well I plan to be back in action at the forthcoming Newcastle Beer & Cider festival in April, at least on the opening day for the trade session where I hope to be able to assist the cider bar team in a "sitting down" role, engaging with customers and publicans and introducing them to the delights of real cider!

Regional Cider POTY 2019.

Once again, every branch in the north east has submitted entries into the competition. The entries are as follows:

CLEVELAND - Thomas Sheraton, Stockton on Tees.

DARLINGTON - Strathmore Arms, Holwick, Middleton-in-Teesdale.

DURHAM - (county) Black Bull, Frosterley, Co. Durham; (city) Station House, Durham City.

SUNDERLAND & SOUTH TYNESIDE - (Sunderland) The Avenue, Roker; (South Tyneside) Marine, South Shields.

TYNESIDE & NORTHUMBERLAND - (Northumberland) Curfew, Berwick upon Tweed; (Tyneside) Free Trade, Byker.

Interestingly, Durham branch have this year introduced THREE categories in their branch Cider POTY competition, one for Durham City (City Pub); a new one for Town Cider Pub – covering all of the other major urban centres for the county (such as Consett, Bishop Auckland and Seaham) and finally the Country Cider pub covering the rural aspect of County Durham within the branch area. Only two qualify for the regional round.

Cider producers.

Firstly, Chris and Susie Mansfield of the Station House pub in Durham City have some cider fermenting away in their “front room” as Chris put it to me. He went on to add “Ours has been racked off but I've not tasted it yet - not sure what Susie's plans are at the moment “. A little birdie tells me there may be some for “sampling” purposes at next month's Newcastle Beer & Cider festival. The Station House is also holding it's own cider festival from 10th to 16th June when I would expect them to have some of their own cider available. The pub is at the foot of the access road to/from Durham railway station (east coast mainline).

Pete Fenwick, our Darlington branch cider officer (& owner of Mithril Ales brewery) has informed me there is a **new** cider producer on his patch called Kemps of Brafferton. Hopefully, more details soon and I'll update in my next report.

30+ years of cider campaigning.

Some interesting statistics from the latest edition of “Canny Bevv”, the magazine of the Tyneside & Northumberland branch. For a while now the editor has published an updated, full list of branch cider outlets. As a member of this branch but with my regional hat on all I can say is “Well Done”, as we have campaigned in our own quiet way, mainly by promotion through our beer & **cider** festival to reach the level of trade support we have today. There are currently 128 real cider pubs in the branch (48 Northumberland/80 Tyneside) with an amazing 31 outlets in Newcastle City Centre (NE1 Postcode) alone. Not bad for a branch with only one and a half cider producers!

Scotland & N Ireland, Jim Brande, (jimthejambo33@gmail.com) []

Wales, Chris Charters, (chris.pearapple@gmail.com) [12 Mar 2019, 21 Mar 2019, 23 Mar 2019]

Welsh Perry Cider Society

The Welsh Perry Cider Society (WPCS) for several years have held a successful profitable Cider Festival for four days at Caldicot Castle, during the Spring Bank Holiday.

But problems occurred. An announcement was made at the meeting in September that there were insufficient funds to run the festival in 2019.

I asked for CAMRAS help, and to make it more compatible the festival was now going to include real ale which Keith Jenkins Cardiff branch had offered to organise, a trade section similar to Beer on the Wye and several other items that a CAMRA festival would have.

This then gave me the most frustrating time trying to decipher a CAMRA business plan and trying to get it approved.

I am grateful to Keith Jenkins, and Rick Zapple from Cardiff Branch who have assisted in trying to sort out the business plan.

In the end, what has been a successful festival running for 17years, normally making up to £20,000.00 net profits had to be cancelled.

The Cellar Door

Newport Gwent micro pub, judged one in four of the finalists of the Cider Pub of the Year UK

To celebrate this prestigious award we would like to have held a “Wassail” but as this needs an apple orchard, 12 fires, shot guns, etc. not possible as the names describes in a “micro pub”

So after a lot of thought we decided on a “Mari Lwyd”

For those that have not heard of the Mari Lwyd it is a Welsh pagan custom which was performed to bring good luck to the house where it was performed. The custom takes place in the dark of the early evening. The Mari Lwyd party consisted of a group. One who carries the Mari which is a horses skull supported on a pole, with a decorated sheet of coloured ribbons and rosettes attached to the horse's skull and draped over its supporter. The Mari has an Osler who leads her around and looks after her. There is a smartly dressed “Leader” who carried a staff, stick, or whip, two brightly dressed, characters carry a long metal fire iron and a broom. Merrymen playing music, and others in the group are decorated with coloured ribbon rosettes and sometimes wear a broad sash around their waist.

The Mari Lwyd party would approach a house and sing a song in which they requested admittance. The inhabitants of the house would then offer excuses for why the team could not enter. The party would sing a second verse, and the debate between the two sides known as the “pwnco” would continue until the house's inhabitants ran out of ideas, at which time they were obliged to allow the party entry and provide them with ale, cider and food. The one carrying the fireiron tapping the ground to the rhythm of the music and rapping on the door, while the other brushed the ground, house walls, and windows with the broom. The householders had to get a promise that they would not touch their fireplace before they entered the building, otherwise it was the custom that before they left the fire was raked out with the poker.

Once inside, the entertainment continued with the Mari Lwyd running around neighing and snapping its jaws, creating havoc, the Leader and Osler pretended to try to restrain it. The Merrymen played music and entertained the householders.

This was a fantastic success and after the traditional Mari Lwyd ceremony, all the Mari Lwyd group led the singing of traditional Welsh songs. Joining in with all the enjoyment was the Mayor of Newport whom we were told had a 30minute slot, to present the certificates, but he the mayoress and his chauffeur stayed for two hours. The presentation of the awards having to take place behind the counter, as the bar was packed. The mayor congratulating Paul the owner of the Cellar Door winning such a prestigious award having only been open for just over a year. It was a great achievement, and we wish Paul and the Cellar Door all success in the future.

Nation Association Cider Makers

I was approached by “Nation Association Cider Makers” (NACM) to join their committee they said they had not had a representation from Wales for a couple of years. So would be grateful if I would join them to give an input on Welsh cider. This association is made up the large cider producers Thatcher's, Weston's, Bulmer's, etc. The meeting was at the Heineken offices in London where there was an interesting agenda Manley applicable to the larger producer, but a couple of items could be useful to others. We then went onto the All-Party Parliamentary Cider Group Reception on the Terrace Pavilion Houses of Parliament. Where I met several others from the Cider industry, and CAMRA.

NACM have four meetings a year, two in London with a reception at the Houses of parliament

Welsh Assembly

At an evening meeting Tuesday 5th March 2019 The Welsh Assembly formed a new Cross Party Group Beer, Cider, and Pubs. So yet again we pushed for ACV's or similar to be processed, two of the AM's also brought up the problems of pub closures and the need for protection. So it's on the agenda for the next meeting. It still seems a bit of “This year, Next year, Sometime, Never” But we will see what happens. I believe we will need to keep lobbying AM's and keep the pressure on!!!

The Royal Welsh Agriculture Show Spring Fair

Saturday 18th – Sunday 19th May 2019 Sees us running the Cider Nouveau Bar in the food Hall Area of RWAS in conjunction with “Drink Wales”

We shall also be running the CAMRA Welsh cider producer's competition which will include the ciders and perries produced last autumn.

Beer on the Wye Friday 5th – Sunday 7th July 2019

The work continues for changing the cider bar from 5gall poly casks to Bag in Boxes for Beer on the Wye.

Dave Yates and I are constructing the new cooling system for 150 Bag in Boxes, and setting up the new stillage to supports the ciders and perries. Also **The West Midlands Cider and Perry 2019 Competition**

will take place at Beer on the Wye, Hereford, with assistance from Mike Gilroy, Dave Yates, and myself

Cider Pub of the Year

These are the CPotY nominations I have to date.

Have sent a chase up email to the branches not responded so hopefully, will have all for Saturday?

1. Tapp in Llandudno.. (Abercolwyn)
2. Kane's bar Aberystwyth. (Bae Ceredigion)
3. Queen's Vaults, Westgate St, (Cardiff)
4. The Plough & Harrow (Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend)
5. Cellar Door (Gwent)
6. No Sign Bar (Swansea)
7. Watson's Ale House Knighton (Radnorshire)

Welsh CPotY to date

1. Tapp in Llandudno Abercolwyn
2. Kane's bar Aberystwyth. (Bae Ceredigion)
3. Queen's Vaults, Westgate St, (Cardiff)
4. The Plough & Harrow (Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend)
5. Cellar Door (Gwent)
6. No Sign Bar (Swansea)
7. Watson's (Radnorshire)
8. Blue Bell at Halkyn (Vale of Clyde)
9. Pontardawe Inn (Neath & Port Talbot)

South West, Bob Southwell, (ecosochistoryman@hotmail.co.uk) [19 Mar 2019]

Cider Pub of the Year

Returns are very slow and as of the deadline on march 17th only 4 had been received:

Tewkesbury and the Boat Inn at Asheleworth

South Devon and the Bridford Inn at the top end of the Teign Valley

Somerset and Pebbles Bar at Watchet

Bristol and the Orchard Inn at Spike Island

I have chased them up and asked the Regional Secretary to send out a reminder to South West branches

National Cider championship

The final stage of the judging will take place at **Bristol Beer Festival** on this coming Thursday the 21st of March

First stage **Falmouth Beer Festival** in October and the results already reported

There was also a smaller supplementary judging session in January at the **Exeter Beer Festival** where Luscombe's cider was deemed to be the best

Second stage at **Tewkesbury Beer Festival** in January with the following winners

Ciders	1 Jultor Press	2 Out of the Orchard	3 Roddy Guilder, Roddy's revenge	4 McCrindles	5 Forgotten Orchard
Perries	1 Forgotten Orchard	2 Out of the Orchard			

Pub

The closure of the **Shipwright's Arms in Shaldon** which carried a reasonable range of cider and especially from the Winkleigh and Sandford Orchards stables

Other News

With Ian Packham trying to put together the National Cider Trip to Devon in October. However, we are having problems with access along narrow Devon lanes to the producers and we have had to rule out 5 whilst another did not have toilets!

Either we are centred around Newton Abbot area or Exeter although on a coach they can easily be linked via the main A38/A381.

What has been agreed is the provision of the lunch at the Cider Bar in Newton Abbot

Surrey & Sussex, Paul Sanders, (paul.s.sanders@btinternet.com) [17 Mar 2019]

Events

Sussex Branches Beer & Cider Festival, running during this meeting

Equinox, North Sussex beer festival, Horsham 1 & 2 March, cider of the festival Camrose Luvvly Jubbly

Cider Pub of the Year

Surrey

East & Mid Surrey – Radius Arms, Whyteleaf

Kingston and Leatherhead -

North Surrey -

Surrey Hants Borders – The Star, Godalming

Sussex

Arun and Adur - Green Man Ale & Cider House, Worthing

Bright South Downs - Old Star Ale & Cider House

North East Sussex – King's Head, East Hoathly

North Sussex – Brewery Shades, Crawley

South East Sussex – George, Hailsham

Western Sussex - None

Producers

Camrose cider (Ray Magnes) have moved from Wales to North Sussex - Oak Tree Cottage, Parbrook, Billingshurst, RH14 9ET, We have already got Ray volunteering at festivals,

Wessex & Channel Isles, Nigel Firth, (nigelfirth@yahoo.co.uk) [20 Mar 2019, 21 Mar 2019]

Festivals

The following non-CAMRA Festivals are/were due to sell cider:-

21st Wickham Charity Beer and Cider Festival, Hampshire, 5-6 April.

1st New Milton Beer Festival, Dorset, 6 April

17th Portchester Beer Festival, Hampshire, 13 April

Junction Tavern Beer Festival, Gosport, Hampshire, 19-22 April

6th Petersfield Beer And Cider Festival, Hampshire, 26-27 April

28th St Marys Church May Fayre, Portsmouth, Hampshire, 6 May

Bill Targett Memorial Steam Rally, Eastleigh, Hampshire, 11-12 May.

Beer Fest On The Green, Sarisbury Green, Southampton, Hampshire, 24-25 May

The following CAMRA Festivals are/were due to sell cider:-

9th Winchester Beer And Cider Festival, Hampshire, 22-23 March.

Portsmouth CAMRA Winterfest February 2019 had cider and perries from Sussex, Hampshire, Surrey, Dorset, Wiltshire, Somerset, Devon, Herefordshire and Monmouthshire.

Cider Of The Festival Winner - Dreyman's Golden Squirrel

Runner-up - Venton's Sweet Maid In Devon

Perry Of The Festival Winner – Nempnett Piglet's

Runner-up – Gwatkin Farmhouse

Other Events:-

Isle of Wight Classic Buses, Beer And Walks Weekend. 13-14 October. Some cider available, including at Ventnor Winter Gardens Beer Festival.

Pub News

Wessex and CI Branches CPOTY 2019:-

Heart of Wessex - Unicorn Inn, Bayford, Wincanton, Somerset BA9 9NL – former National CPOTY

East Dorset – Square and Compass, Worth Matravers – former National CPOTY

West Dorset – Woodman, Bridport

North Hampshire – White Lion, Wherwell near Andover

Portsmouth and South East Hampshire - Lawrence Arms, 63 Lawrence Road, Southsea, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO5 1NU

Nothing this year from IOW, South Hampshire, East Hampshire, Salisbury and South Wiltshire, Channel Islands

Wessex and CI CPOTY 2018 – Firkin Shed, Bournemouth – East Dorset Branch.

National CPOTY 2018 – Firkin Shed, Bournemouth. 2018 was the fourth time in 11 years that the pub I chose as Wessex and CI Regional CPOTY had gone on to win the National title, after the Square and Compass at Worth Matravers, Dorset, the Castle Inn at West Lulworth, Dorset, and the Unicorn Inn at Bayford, Wincanton, Somerset. Very many thanks to all involved in judging at Branch and National level.

Branch News

The 24th Wessex CAMRA Cider Crawl/Social took place on Saturday 27 October, commencing at 2.00pm at the Lawrence Arms, Lawrence Road, Southsea.

On the previous 23 Cider Crawls/Socials we have visited 32 different real cider pubs - IKB, Tap, King Street Tavern, Hole In The Wall, Barley Mow, Florence Arms, Apsley House, Sir Loin of Beef, Eastney Cellars, Old Oyster House, Cider House, Taswell Arms, Eastfield Hotel, Artillery Arms, Leopold, White Swan, Eldon Arms, Wine Vaults, Lord Palmerston, Goose At The V&A, Lawrence, Old House At Home, Eastney Tavern, Globe Inn (ex-Fat Fox), Fawcett Inn, Jean Jacques, Nell Gwynne, Phoenix, Froddington Arms, Trafalgar, Wave Maiden and Northcote, plus the Portsea Island Beer Festival and Portsmouth University Students Union Bar, and a lot of these still sell real cider.

Branch Cider Reps:-

Derek Blackshaw - Salisbury and South Wiltshire

Philip King - South Hampshire

Liz Bromley – East Dorset

Alex Bardswell - West Dorset

Paul Smith – Heart Of Wessex

John Glazebrook – Isle of Wight

Nigel Firth – Assistant, Isle of Wight

Nigel Firth – Portsmouth and SE Hampshire

Dickie Hambridge – Assistant, Portsmouth and SE Hampshire

Wessex Region Database of cider producers, as below:-

Hampshire

Mr Whiteheads Cider Company, Colemore, Alton, Hampshire

New Forest Cider, Burley, Hampshire

146 Cider Company, Hedge End, Hampshire

Meon Valley Cider, West Meon, Hampshire

Chalkdown Cider, Andover Down, Hampshire

Shiny Barrel, Aldershot, Hampshire

My'n'ers Cider, Hordle, Hampshire

Isle of Wight

Godshill, Godshill

Rosemary Vineyard, Ryde

Dorset

Castle Cider (Dorset Honey and Cider Co), Whitchurch Canonichorum, Bridport, Dorset.

Cider By Rosie, Winterborne Houghton, Dorset

Kingcombe Valley Cider, Dorset

Lulworth Skipper, Wareham, Dorset

Dorset Piddle Brewery, Piddlehinton, Dorchester, Dorset – Do not produce their own cider, obtained from Mark Rogers of Muckleford, Dorset

and re-badged Ciddle Cider.

Dorset Brewing Company, Dorchester, Dorset – Same arrangement as for Dorset Piddle Brewery but use Purbeck Cider Company.

Dorset Nectar, Waytown, Bridport, Dorset

Dorset Sunshine, Christchurch, Dorset

Marshwood Vale Cider, Bettiscombe, Bridport, Dorset

Twisted Cider, Longburton, Dorset

Bo Bridles Cider, Stour Row, Shaftesbury, Dorset – Also produce a perry.

West Milton Cider Co, West Milton, Bridport, Dorset

Purbeck Cider Company, Kingston, Wareham, Dorset

Lawrence's Cider, Corton Denham, Sherborne, Dorset

Dorset Orchards, Bridport, Dorset – Owned by Palmers Brewery in association with Sheppy's

Copse House Cider, Sandley, Dorset

Cranborne Chase Cider, Blandford Forum, Dorset

Talbot Harris Cider, Burton Bradstock, Bridport, Dorset

Twinways Cyder/Rogers' Cider, Melpash, Bridport, Dorset

Dorset Star, Chalmington, near Dorchester, Dorset

Sherborne Cider, Sherborne, Dorset

Wiltshire

Wessex Cider, Fifeild Bavant, Wiltshire

Place of Interest

Mill House Cider and Clock Museum, Owermoigne, near Dorchester, Dorset.

Many thanks to all Branch Cider Reps and CPOTY surveyors, Dave Atkins, and Southern Hampshire CAMRA Branch for information.

West Midlands, Steve Swain, (steven_swain@msn.com) [12 Mar 2019, 20 Mar 2019]

The Regional Cider Pub of the Year is under way, first round ends 31st March whittling down the possible 26 to 10. Actual entries were 18, with 2 Branches stating they were not entering and 2 Branches failing to get their entry in on time. That is 22 out of 26 (85%).

In the Region we have 3758 pubs of which 844 sell real cider (22%) this is according to Whatpub.com.

At a Regional meeting I was asked to provide Cider articles for the Regions Newsletter Editors, I asked the Branches for details of what they were doing but didn't get enough to write an article. So I wrote A Year In the Life of West Midlands Cider Drinker.

There is a Regional train trip to Shrewsbury on 20th July to take part in the Shrewsbury and Shropshire Cider Trail.

West Midlands CPOTY 2019 Competition

Herefordshire

Yew Tree Peterstow, Ross on Wye. HR9 6JZ

Shropshire

Salopian Smithfield Road, Shrewsbury. SY1 1PW

Staffordshire

Last Heretic 95 Station Street, Burton on Trent. DE14 1BT

Kings Arms 11--12 Peel Terrace, Stafford. ST16 3HD

Kings Ditch 51 Lower Gungate, Tamworth. B79 7AS

Bridge Street Ale House 31 Bridge Street, Newcastle under Lyme. ST5 2RY

Black Lion Consall Forge. ST9 0AJ

Warwickshire

Old Post Office 12 West Street, Warwick. CV34 6AN

Lord Hop Queens Road, Nuneaton. CV11 5JX

Merchants Inn 5 - 6 Little Church Street, Rugby. CV21 3AW

West Midlands

Post Office Vaults 84 Pinfold Street, Birmingham. B2 4AY

Old windmill 22 - 23 Spon Street, Coventry. CV1 3BA

Brittania Pub and Brewery Rowley Village, Rowley Regis. B65 9AT

Pup & Duckling 1 Hatchford Brook Road, Olton. B92 9AG

Wagon & Horses 31 Worcester Street, Stourbridge. DY8 1AT

Black Country Arms High Street, Walsall. WS1 1QW

Worcestershire

Fleece Inn The Cross, Bretforton. WR11 7JE

Beer Emporium and Cider House Oxford Street, Kidderminster. DY10 1AR

West Pennines, Vanessa Gledhill, (vanessa.gledhill@yahoo.co.uk) [22 Mar 2019]

I'm away at the moment so can't compose the report as I would wish as no computer available.

The CPotYs for the West Pennines region are as follows:

East Lancs branch: No 39, Darwen

Central Lancs branch: Market Tap, Preston

West Lancs branch: Court Leet (Wetherspoons), Ormskirk

Blackpool Fylde and Wyre branch: No Fifteen, Lytham St Anne's

West Cumbria branch: Woolpack, Boot

Furness Branch: Wellington, Loppergate

Westmorland Branch: New Union, Kendal

No nominations from Lunesdale or Solway. I will attempt to find out why. The IOM struggles to nominate a CPotY as cider is not generally sold in the winter months, so that's fair enough.

News: Joanne Griffith, the Cider Rep for West Lancs is standing down. I would like to note how grateful I have been for her hard work and enthusiasm, especially as she has had to report to two RCCs!

Blackpool Fylde and Wyre branch: we had the 2019 Fleetwood Beer and Cider Festival. There were 4 perries and 13 ciders. They sold reasonably well. The real fruit ciders were not as popular as I was expecting, which was interesting.

Yorkshire, Christine Jane, (janicejaneuk@yahoo.co.uk) []