



# Cwrw 2022 Ceredigion



Pub & brewery news ♦ Pub guide ♦ CAMRA events

## Fundraising campaign saves Vale of Aeron



The free magazine of Bae Ceredigion CAMRA

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IN CAMRA GOOD BEER GUIDE 2022

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Bae Ceredigion CAMRA Cider Pub of the Year 2022



## Bae Ceredigion CAMRA

The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) is a consumer organisation. The Bae Ceredigion CAMRA branch covers mid and north Ceredigion and a small part of Powys and Gwynedd. The main towns and villages in the branch area are New Quay, Aberaeron, Tregaron, Aberystwyth, Talybont and Machynlleth.

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### Cwrw Ceredigion

Cwrw Ceredigion is a not-for-profit publication produced by Bae Ceredigion CAMRA. Our aim is to promote local breweries, cider makers and the best places to drink real ale and cider in the area. Content is written, edited and designed by volunteer local CAMRA members.

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### Advertising in Cwrw Ceredigion

We rely on income from advertising to fund production costs. Space is limited and is sold on a first come, first served basis. We can design your advertisement free of charge.

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We try to ensure that information is correct when we go to press. If we get something wrong, please let us know. Please note that opinions are not necessarily those of CAMRA either locally or nationally, and publication of an advertisement is not an endorsement of quality by CAMRA. If you feel you have been treated unfairly in a pub, contact Trading Standards or see [www.tradingstandards.wales.org.uk](http://www.tradingstandards.wales.org.uk)



Am nad oes llawer o le gennym, cyhoeddiad cyfrwng Saesneg fydd hwn, ond mae croeso i chi gyfathrebu gyda ni yn y Gymraeg.

Cwrw Ceredigion: issue 13, June 2022

© Published by the Bae Ceredigion branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA)

Front cover: Vale of Aeron, Ystrad Aeron



*Local CAMRA members in the Ship and Castle*

Like so many things over the last two years, Cwrw Ceredigion came to a temporary halt due to the pandemic. So I am delighted to be writing the introduction to our first issue since March 2020 which we decided to produce in response to demand from local publicans and pub-goers.

If you are a visitor reading this magazine, welcome to our beautiful part of West Wales. I hope the pub guide feature and the advertisements inspire you to enjoy a pint or two of Welsh ale in some of our local pubs.

The lead feature is about our pub of the year competition. Congratulations to the winning pub, the Ship and Castle in Aberystwyth, and thanks to the local CAMRA members who voted at the short-listing stage and to the judges who evaluated the final three pubs against CAMRA's criteria. The finalists really do offer something for everyone and you are certain to get an excellent pint along with a warm welcome at each one.

Cwrw Ceredigion is produced by local CAMRA members who contribute articles, help sell advertising and distribute copies to pubs. Many thanks to these volunteers and to our advertisers, without their support this magazine could not be published.

If you'd like to get involved or suggest an idea for a future feature please do get in touch, and don't forget to follow us on Facebook to keep up-to-date with the local real ale scene.

lechydd da!

Mary Galliers, Editor

# PUB OF THE YEAR

## The Ship and Castle in Aberystwyth is Bae Ceredigion Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) pub of the year 2022.



**Ship and Castle, Aberystwyth**

Local CAMRA members voted for their favourite pubs and then judges visited the top three shortlisted pubs anonymously to evaluate each one against CAMRA's pub of the year criteria. The quality of the real ale is the most important single factor, but judges also considered how well beer is promoted, the role a pub plays in its local community, the atmosphere, décor and welcome.

"The Ship and Castle has been well-known as Aberystwyth's real ale flagship for many years and it is a must-visit pub for local people and visitors," said Bae Ceredigion CAMRA Chair Mary Galliers. "The range of cask ale demonstrates landlord Ian Blair's commitment to sourcing beer from many different British breweries, some of which are never available elsewhere locally."

The cask beers always include a couple from Wye Valley along with three ever-changing guest ales, one of which is normally a dark style. The pub of the year judges noted the "five pump platter" which allows drinkers to sample a third pint measure of each of the cask ales, and the range of keg beer and draught cider.

The pub hosts occasional live music nights and has traditionally held an annual beer festival. It is also a popular and friendly spot in which to watch Wales's rugby matches.

"The Ship and Castle is a well-run pub with a good atmosphere, and it is a comfortable place to relax and enjoy a top-notch pint or two," added Mary.

### Bottle & Barrel is runner-up

The Bottle & Barrel was runner-up having been a finalist when the competition was last run in 2020.

Owner Zac Marsden has a passion for seeking out new beers, and his friendly and knowledgeable team will chat through the different styles and offer tasters.

The range is promoted on a screen behind the bar and a beer flight lets customers order smaller measures of four of the draught beers.

The onsite bottle shop sells a huge range of beer and cider to drink on the premises or take away.

Regular events include "meet the brewer", "tap takeovers" and food and beer matching nights when local businesses supply the food.

"The huge choice of quality cask, keg and bottled beers at the Bottle & Barrel impressed the pub of the year judges," said Mary. "Many of the beers sold here are produced in Wales and the range always includes different and unusual beer styles."



**Bottle & Barrel, Aberystwyth**

## Dovey Valley Hotel makes final three

The Dovey Valley Hotel in Cemmaes Road was the other finalist in the pub of the year competition.



This Grade II listed pub features in CAMRA's national inventory of historic pub interiors. Built in the 1860s as a hotel to serve the trade of the new railway line, it has been sensitively restored to its former glory by owners Michael Denton and Maureen Fairclough. Customers come from far afield to appreciate the historic features and ambience in its cosy front bar with open fire and in the other beautifully furnished rooms. There is a attractive beer garden with views over the countryside, and meals and accommodation are available.

"The hand pumps take pride of place at the front of the historic bar area and offer two regularly changing real ales from Welsh breweries and every pint is served in excellent condition," said Mary.

## West Wales pub of the year

The Ship and Castle will now go up against the winning pubs from Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire in the competition for CAMRA West Wales pub of the year; the winner of that award will then be a finalist in the Wales pub of the year.

"Many thanks to all local CAMRA members who voted in our survey to shortlist the finalists and to the judges who travelled to the shortlisted pubs to evaluate them against CAMRA's pub of the year criteria," said Mary.

## Slater's Arms claims cider crown

The Bae Ceredigion CAMRA cider pub of the year 2022 award has been presented to the Slater's Arms in Corris.

Three different styles of Welsh real cider are on sale at the Slaters Arms and these are served at the correct temperature from a bag in box.

"We are delighted to give the Slater's Arms our cider pub of the year award," said Bae Ceredigion CAMRA Cider Officer Ruth Waters, "The award recognises the effort that landlord Mike Jones puts into sourcing interesting local real cider."

"The cider complements the excellent range of different real ales here and ensures the pub offers something for every discerning cider and beer drinker."

The pub is listed in CAMRA's Real Heritage Pubs of Wales and it has a characterful and attractive bar with a massive inglenook style fireplace and a slate floor. It was refurbished during the lockdown and now offers four en-suite bedrooms.

The runner-up was Kane's Bar in Aberystwyth which specialises in cider and sells a wide range from producers across the UK.



**Slater's Arms, Corris**



## Tafarn y Cadwgan Aberaeron



**Traditional atmosphere**  
**Three real ales**  
**Dog friendly**  
**Rear patio & outside seating**

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*Welcomes*



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Up to three real ales, some from Welsh breweries  
Garden with sea views and children's play area  
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Bar, dining room and accommodation  
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Traditional Family Pub



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**Uplands Square, New Quay, SA45 9QH**

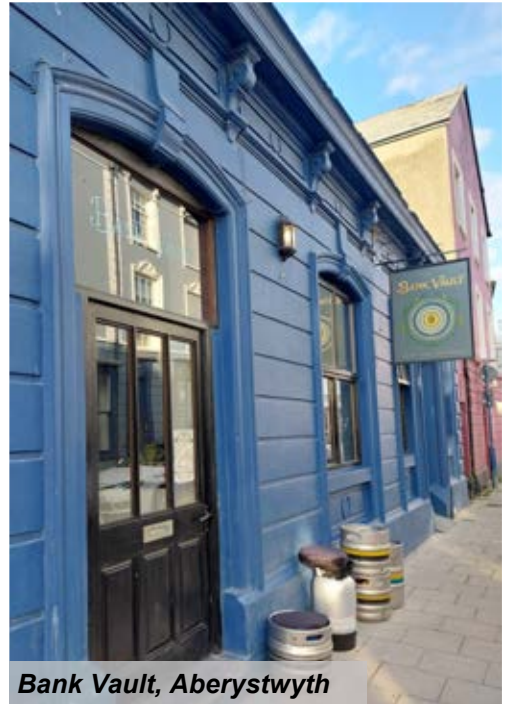
## New craft beer and music bar in Aberystwyth

The Bank Vault is a small craft beer bar in Aberystwyth which opened in May 2022. It has been established by the owner of the popular Bottle & Barrel craft beer bar and bottle shop, also in the town.

There was a pub on the same site 120 years ago called New Street Vaults, later renamed Bank Vault, but the building has had several different uses since then.

The Bank Vault has an ever-changing range of eight keg beers, a keg cider and one real ale served on gravity. The beers are always different to what's on offer in the Bottle & Barrel and so craft beer fans will be spoilt for choice in these two venues.

The bar also offers a varied and regular range of events including live music, "bring your own instrument" sessions, storytelling and tasting sessions – see the current opening times and gig guide on their Facebook page.



**Bank Vault, Aberystwyth**

## Vale of Aeron re-opens its doors to drinkers

The Vale of Aeron in Ystrad Aeron re-opened in May 2022 after a community fundraising campaign sold shares and raised enough money to buy the pub.

The campaign raised over £380,000, exceeding its target, and gained the support of over 600 investors from throughout Wales and as far afield as America and Hong Kong. Even Matthew Rhys, a Hollywood star, invested in the Vale! Everyone who bought a share is a member of the society and has a say in how the pub is run.

This campaign's initial investment was to buy the property and undertake a renovation programme. The campaign team has also applied for grants for more substantial improvements to the building.

In the meantime, the decision was made to re-open the Vale's doors as soon as possible. Local people worked together to decorate and clean the pub, and volunteers were trained as bar staff.

The pub opened for three nights a week at first, offering one real ale from a Welsh brewery. Check current opening hours and the latest news on Facebook or [www.tafarn.cymru](http://www.tafarn.cymru).



**Behind the bar at the Vale of Aeron**

# THE THREE HORSESHOE



**Two real ales always available**  
**Great value meals & Sunday lunches**  
**Large games room**  
**Large covered garden seating area**  
**Live music with open mic nights**

Warm welcome to families, bikers, dogs & walkers

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# Rhos yr Hafod

Cross Inn (Llanon)



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 from Welsh breweries  
 Check our beer board for what's coming soon  
 Relax on our front patio or in the large garden  
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## Bluestone launches beer in cans



Pembrokeshire based Bluestone Brewing Company launched four beers in cans in April. They include Al Fresco (4.3% hazy pale ale), Pyjama Republic (4.5% wheat beer), Saint

Croix (5.6% New England IPA) and Engelberg (3.8% Berliner Weisse).

The four new canned beers join their more traditional brews that will remain bottled for now, but look out for seasonal and limited edition canned beer throughout the year.

"We believe that there is a social responsibility on all businesses to reduce their footprints for the benefit of everybody," said founder of Bluestone Brewing Company Simon Turner. "The benefit of cans for the environment has been amply demonstrated, and the fact that it also respects the fantastic flavours of our beers is just a bonus!"

The brewery's taproom and shop near Newport is open from 11am to 6pm, Wednesday to Saturday.

## More investment at Mantle

During the lockdown Mantle invested in a new cask and keg washer at their premises in Cardigan. This has enabled them to move on from plastic recyclable kegs to their own stock of stainless steel kegs, which has greatly reduced waste and their impact on the environment.

The brewery has added a new keg lager to their regular and seasonal brands. Named Strata, this is a very light coloured 4.4% ABV

beer. They have also updated their branding – look out for the new logo on bottles and pump clips and on their new delivery van.



## Our local breweries

If you are a visitor to Cardigan Bay, look out for beers from these nearby breweries in local pubs. Try one here or buy some bottles or cans to take home a taste of West Wales.

### **Bluestone Brewing, near Newport:**

Farm-based brewery established in 2013 with an expanding beer range available as cask, keg, bottled or canned. Brewery shop, tap-room and regular events.

**Cader Ales, Dolgellau:** Micro-brewery set up in 2012, named after Cader Idris mountain.

Beer often on draught in the Wynnstey in Machynlleth and available in bottles.

### **Cardigan Brewery, Brynhofnant:**

Micro-brewery based at Y Bryn a'r Bragdy (former Brynhofnant Inn) with two ranges – Crafty Dai and Penlon. Available in keg and bottles at Y Bryn a'r Bragdy and at the Teifi Waterside Inn.

**Mantle, Cardigan:** Regular award-winner since brewing started in 2013. Core beers range from Rock Steady pale ale to Dark Heart porter, plus seasonal specials. Available in cask, keg and bottle.

# PUB GUIDE

As this is our first issue since the pandemic we want to showcase the variety of pubs in the Bae Ceredigion CAMRA branch area.

## How to use this guide

Our branch area goes from Aberporth near Cardigan to Corris in Gwynedd and limited space means we cannot include every pub in this feature. So, we reviewed recent feedback from CAMRA members to compile a list of pubs where they have enjoyed a good pint recently.

Information was correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of going to press but do check any details important to you before you set off.

More information about these pubs and all the others in our area can be found on CAMRA's online pub directory [www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com). If you spot anything wrong or missing in a pub entry on this website, please tell us via the "update details" function.

If you are a CAMRA member, please score your beer – we consider all scores when we select pubs for the annual Good Beer Guide.

Pubs that appear in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide 2022 are highlighted in green.

## Aberystwyth area

**Aberystwyth – Bank Vault:** Small craft beer bar opened in Spring 2022 by owner of the Bottle & Barrel. Varied and regular range of live music, "bring your own instrument" sessions and other events. Eight keg beers, keg cider and one real ale served on gravity.

**Aberystwyth – Bottle & Barrel:** Contemporary beer bar and bottle shop with various seating areas and small rear garden. Customers can bring in their own food. A dozen keg lines, two cask ales, real cider and mead, all with a focus on Welsh breweries. Huge range of bottled and canned beers and ciders. Bae Ceredigion CAMRA Pub of the Year 2022 Runner-up.



**Aberystwyth – Glengower:** Large seafront pub and hotel with coastal views. Front terrace and various drinking and dining areas. Pub classics and seasonal specials, often featuring locally-caught seafood. Five regularly changing real ales, usually including Mantle, and cider from Gwynt y Ddraig and Lilleys.

**Aberystwyth – Yr Hen Orsaf:** Wetherspoons pub in former railway station building with rear outdoor seating area on old station concourse. Trains, buses and taxis all adjacent. Up to six real ales, often featuring Welsh breweries.

**Aberystwyth – Kane's Bar:** Quirky, friendly town centre bar specialising in cider, with a large range of ever-changing ciders from producers not stocked elsewhere locally. Selection of canned craft beer and occasional cask ale.

**Aberystwyth – Rummers Bar:** Characterful harbourside building with bar and restaurant. Live music most weekends. Changing selection of Welsh real ale and bottled Gwynt y Ddraig cider.

**Aberystwyth – Ship and Castle:** Long-established real ale flagship with main bar and lower level seating area. Popular spot to watch Wales's rugby matches, occasional live music and annual beer festival. Five ever-changing cask beers usually include two from Wye Valley and a dark ale, range of keg beer and Gwynt y Ddraig cider. Bae Ceredigion CAMRA Pub of the Year 2022.

**Aberystwyth – Starling Cloud:** Marston's pub and hotel close to the railway station, popular with families. Outside seating and play area. Up to three Marston's cask ales.

**Bow Street – Rhydypennau Inn:** Recently refurbished roadside pub restaurant, a few miles from Aberystwyth. Bar, dining areas, heated outside seating area, and children's play area. Up to two cask ales.

**Capel Bangor – Tafarn y Maes:** Five miles from Aberystwyth on the A44. Bar, dining room and outside seating. Varied menu and one real ale, often Mantle or Purple Moose.

**Goginan – Druid Inn:** Recently re-opened under new landlord, seven miles east of Aberystwyth on the A44. Hearty portions of good value pub food. Three real ales often from Welsh breweries.

**Llanbadarn Fawr – Black Lion:** Locals pub on outskirts of Aberystwyth with main bar, large function room and rear garden overlooking ancient church. Quiz nights and other entertainment. Up to four changing real ales.

**Llanbadarn Fawr – Gogerddan Arms:** Historic pub, formerly one of the main inns in Aberystwyth. Bar, lounge and function room. One real ale.

**Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn – Y Ffarmers:** Country dining pub in historic village seven miles from Aberystwyth. Cosy bar, dining area and covered outside seating. Seasonal menu featuring local produce. Range of changing cask ale and cider.

**Pisgah – Halfway Inn:** Recently renovated pub on A4120 halfway between Aberystwyth and Devil's Bridge. Cosy bar with flagstone floor and dining room. Outside seating area with far-reaching views. Good value food. Two real ales usually from Monty's.

**Ponterwyd – George Borrow Hotel:** Family-run 17th century hotel with spectacular views from beer garden. Cosy bar with open fire. Food including popular Sunday carvery. Usually one real ale.

**Tal-y-bont – White Lion:** Community local overlooking the green, seven miles north of Aberystwyth on A487. Food includes popular Sunday lunches. Central bar, several drinking areas, sunny front terrace and large beer garden. Up to three real ales.

**Tre'r Ddol – Wildfowler Inn:** Roadside food-led pub with a friendly welcome for drinkers. Bar with open fire, and outside seating in marquee. Occasional live music and other events. Two changing real ales from national breweries.

## Along the coast



**Cadwgan, Aberaeron**

**Aberaeron – Cadwgan:** One-room, traditional freehouse with a friendly welcome for locals and visitors. Sun-trap seating area at front, festooned with hanging baskets in summer, and quiet patio at rear. Occasional live music and events. Three ever-changing real ales from a wide range of breweries.

**Aberaeron – Harbourmaster:** Boutique hotel, restaurant and bar, often busy inside with diners. Menu showcases local fish, meat and cheese. Outside seating area overlooking harbour. Two cask ales and range of craft keg beer, with focus on Welsh breweries.

**Aberaeron – Y Seler:** Former Monachty pub, reopened in Spring 2022 after major refurbishment as an extension of the Cellar Restaurant. Two bars, accommodation and imaginative menu. Two cask ales, usually from Welsh breweries.



# PUB GUIDE

**Aberporth – Ship Inn:** Traditional bar with nautical décor and additional dining rooms with sea views in popular village. Lunch and evening meals. Up to three real ales, some from Welsh breweries.

**Borth – Railway Inn:** Friendly pub with bar, restaurant and beer garden. Good value food. Live music and other entertainment. Up to three real ales.

**Borth – Victoria Inn:** Beachside pub with two bars and dining room. Beach decking and upstairs terrace with views of Cardigan Bay. Food lunchtime and evenings. Up to four real ales, some from Welsh breweries.

**Brynhoffnant - Y Bryn a'r Bragdy:** Former Brynhoffnant Inn, now the home of the Cardigan Brewery. Large outside seating area with views of Cardigan Bay. Food includes wood-fired pizzas. Range of Cardigan Brewery cask, keg and bottled beer.

**Cross Inn (New Quay) – Penrhiwgaled Arms:** Large friendly village pub popular with holidaymakers from local campsites. Bar, dining room and beer garden with play area. Meals served. One real ale.

**Llangrannog – Pentre Arms:** Situated right next to the beach with dramatic sea views from large window in the cosy bar. Accommodation and good value food. Two real ales, usually from Welsh breweries.

**Llangrannog – Ship Inn:** Bar, restaurant and large front patio with ample wooden seating. Live music. Food includes Sunday roast. Up to four real ales, usually including Mantle MOHO.

**Llanon – White Swan:** Refurbished multi-roomed pub. Good value food in generous portions. Regular live music. Real ale during busier months.

**New Quay – Black Lion Hotel:** Pub and hotel with Dylan Thomas connections. Main bar and dining room. Garden with far-reaching coastal views and play area. Hearty portions of quality pub food. Up to three real ales, usually from Welsh breweries.

**New Quay – Penwig Hotel:** Large seafront pub with front terrace overlooking Cardigan Bay. Menu features grills and pub classics. Two Brains beers.

**New Quay – Sea Horse Inn:** Friendly, cosy one room pub with suntrap patio. Popular quiz and music nights. Two real ales from Evan Evans.

**Tresaith – Ship Inn:** Open-plan bar and restaurant and beer garden with stunning sea views. Lunch and evening meals. Three cask ales from Brains or Marston's.

## Machynlleth area

**Ceinws – Tafarn Dwyntant:** Set in a quiet village just off A487, friendly freehouse with cosy bar and front patio. Two changing ales, often from a Welsh brewery.

**Cemmaes Road – Dovey Valley Hotel:** Grade II listed pub on CAMRA's national inventory of historic pub interiors. Cosy front bar and several other beautifully furnished rooms. Beer garden with country views. Meals and accommodation. Two regularly changing Welsh real ales. Bae Ceredigion CAMRA Pub of the Year 2022 Finalist.

**Corris – Slater's Arms:** Grade II listed freehouse. Bar with slate flooring and inglenook fireplace. Accommodation. Good value evening meals and Sunday lunch. Occasional live music. Three ever-changing real ales (try them all on a third pint platter). Two Welsh real ciders. Bae Ceredigion CAMRA Cider Pub of the Year 2022.



*Slater's Arms, Corris*

**Derwenlas – Black Lion Inn:** Food-led 16th century freehouse on A487 just outside Machynlleth. Cosy bar with open fire. Garden and outdoor seating. One changing real ale.

**Machynlleth – Y Llew Coch:** Renovated town-centre pub, specialising in live music and attracting some big names. Central bar with stage area and main stage in garden. Food served. One regularly changing real ale.

**Machynlleth – Skinners Arms:** Traditional pub with lounge, cosy public bar and sun-trap garden. Food served. Two Marston's cask ales.

**Machynlleth – White Horse:** Freehouse with log fire in bar and beer garden. Food normally available. Up to two real ales, often Mantle.

**Machynlleth – White Lion:** Large pub and hotel serving extensive menu of pub classics. Rear garden with rural views. Annual beer festival and up to five ever-changing cask ales.

**Machynlleth – Wynnstey:** Large town centre inn with cosy bar, restaurant, lounge and rear terrace. Accommodation and quality food with focus on local ingredients. Extensive Italian wine list. Up to three Welsh real ales, often including Cader Ales.

## Tregaron area

**Cross Inn (Llanon) – Rhos yr Hafod:** Friendly village pub with cosy drinking areas around central bar, and rear garden. Occasional live music including folk night. Two constantly changing real ales from Welsh breweries.

**Devil's Bridge – Hafod Hotel:** Stylish bar, brasserie and hotel opposite famous waterfalls. Locally sourced food, seasonally changing menu. Up to two real ales and Gwynt y Ddraig cider.

**Llanddewi Brefi – New Inn:** Traditional pub with flagstoned floor, real fire and snug in an historic village. Food available. Mantle beers served from polypins - see pump clips on the wall for what's on.

**Llangeitho – Three Horseshoe Inn:** Family-run village freehouse with main bar, dining room and large undercover drinking area. Excellent value evening meals and Sunday lunch. Monthly open mic night. Two real ales often from Wye Valley and Evan Evans.

**Tregaron – Talbot:** Heritage pub and hotel with restaurant, choice of drinking areas, open fire and huge beams. Large, landscaped garden. Accommodation. Excellent quality food with focus on local produce. Up to three changing real ales from Wales and the Borders. Welsh real cider in busier months.

**Ystrad Aeron – Vale of Aeron:** Re-opened in Spring 2022 after a successful community fundraising campaign. Open Thursday to Sunday initially. One real ale from a Welsh brewery.

**More information about these pubs and all the others in our area can be found on CAMRA's online pub directory [www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com).**



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**mantle**  
BREWERY

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CASK ALES BREWED IN  
CARDIGAN, CEREDIGION

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# THE SHIP & CASTLE ABERYSTWYTH



**THE GOOD BEER GUIDE 2022**  
WE'RE IN IT

**Branch Pub of the Year 2022**  
CWA  
CEREDIGION

**'Award Winning Real Ale Pub'**

1 High Street, Aberystwyth  
f Ship and Castle, Aberystwyth

# The Druid Inn

A warm & friendly welcome

WYE VALLEY BITTER  
PLUS 2 CASK GUEST BEERS  
(USUALLY WELSH)

FOOD LUNCHTIMES & EVENINGS  
SUNDAY LUNCH 12 TO 4PM

DOG FRIENDLY



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f TAFARN Y DRUID INN



**Tafarn y Maes**  
Pub & restaurant  
supporting local producers

**Family & dog friendly ♦ Cosy log fire**  
**Draught real ale ♦ Ample parking**

f Open 5-11.30pm Thur-Sun  
Lunches 12-2.30pm

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# The Black Lion

Llanbadarn Fawr



**THE GOOD BEER GUIDE 2022**  
WE'RE IN IT

Village Pub 1 mile from Aberystwyth

**Real Ales**  
**Secluded Garden**  
**Function room**  
**Two Pool Tables**  
**Sports TV**  
**Snacks available**

Open: Mon - Thur 4-11.30pm | Fri - Sat 2-12pm  
Sun - 2-10.30pm

f facebook.com/blackllanbadarn  
01970 636632



### Cwrw Ceredigion met Sam Hill who runs Y Llew Coch in Machynlleth.



#### **How long have you run Y Llew Coch?**

We have been running the pub for 4 years now but actually bought the lease on the Monday of lockdown. This allowed us to decorate and remodel the garden.

#### **What did you do before taking on this pub?**

Well, I've had a couple of pubs before. I have also worked in hotels and in the music industry and I guess this experience has culminated at Y Llew Coch.

#### **What do you enjoy most about being a publican?**

Ah, so many things! The conversations over the bar are always brilliant and, as we are a leading live music venue, we have national and international acts visiting the pub which is fantastic. In general, it's a way of life and you have to love it to do it.

#### **Who comes to the pub and who are your locals?**

We have a great core of locals, some who use us as a pub and others who use us as a venue.

#### **Why do you think people enjoy a visit to Y Llew Coch?**

It's such a unique place, with the music memorabilia, the stage in the garden and our food. It's very different so I'd say that is why people come.

#### **Do you hold any regular events?**

Oh yes! We have live music on virtually every week, either inside the pub or on our outside stage. We have already hosted some very cool artists including Quireboys, Anvil, ex members of The Prodigy, Black Lace and our own music festivals.

#### **What are your plans for future events?**

We have spent a lot of time on refurbishment of the garden to create a great sun trap and our events in the garden started at the end of April for the season. We will be hosting international touring bands as we ramp up the offering of live music. We are mainly a rock, blues and punk venue, but we will be broadening our shows from the end of 2022. We plan to add our own Shakespeare festival, opera, musical theatre and much more. In August 2023 East 17 will headline our PHATFest 90's revival show.

#### **Has there been a growth in demand for real ale?**

Yes definitely, and we are now selling a good amount. We started off selling one, which changes regularly, and St Austell Proper Job has been really popular. We plan to add another one or two very soon, including one from Purple Moose.

#### **What's your favourite tippie?**

It's actually gin, but Proper Job is winning me over!

#### **Which famous person would you like to have as a regular and why?**

Stephen Fry for his amazing general knowledge, celebrity stories and sharp comedic edge.



# 10 great reasons to join CAMRA

**1 CAMPAIGN**  
for great beer, cider and perry

**2** Become a  
**BEER EXPERT**

**3** Enjoy CAMRA  
**BEER FESTIVALS**  
in front of or behind the bar

**4 GET INVOLVED**  
and make new friends

**5** Save  
**YOUR LOCAL**

Find the  
**6 BEST PUBS  
IN BRITAIN**

Get great  
**7 VALUE FOR  
MONEY**

**8 DISCOVER**  
pub heritage and the  
great outdoors

Enjoy great  
**9 HEALTH BENEFITS**  
(really!)

**10 HAVE YOUR SAY**

## What's yours?

Discover your reason  
and join the campaign today:

[www.camra.org.uk/10reasons](http://www.camra.org.uk/10reasons)



Campaign  
for  
Real Ale

## An introduction to CAMRA

Founded by four real ale enthusiasts in 1971, the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) is a not-for-profit consumer group which represents beer drinkers and pub-goers. CAMRA has over 158,000 members and a network of local branches (like Bae Ceredigion) which enable members to campaign and socialise in their local area.

Bae Ceredigion members select pubs for inclusion in the Good Beer Guide, CAMRA's annual guide to the best beer pubs in Britain, and keep CAMRA's online pub guide [www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com) up to date. We also select a pub of the year and a cider pub of the year, and produce the magazine you are reading.

Our social events include pub crawls, visits to breweries and quiz nights and our branch meetings are held in pubs with good beer.

So, if you have an interest in good beer, good cider and good pubs, please consider joining us – you can join CAMRA online or complete and post the form on page 19.

## Keep in touch with Bae Ceredigion CAMRA

We email details about social events and meetings plus a regular e-newsletter to all members.

If you have not heard from us recently, make sure that your email address is correct on CAMRA's membership system and that you have given us permission to email you.

Log on to [www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk) to check and update your details.

For our step-by-step guide to updating your CAMRA membership details, email [membership@camra.baeceredigion.co.uk](mailto:membership@camra.baeceredigion.co.uk)

We also add details about social events and forthcoming meetings to the branch diary section on our website and our Facebook page.

## Get social with Bae Ceredigion CAMRA



Being a CAMRA member is not all about committee meetings or campaigning! Many of us joined CAMRA as we enjoy having a pint and a chat in the pub with other people.

When lockdown restrictions were eased, we launched our monthly “pint in a pub” socials to encourage members to meet up once again and to visit different pubs. These informal events take place on the last Thursday evening of every month. Recently we have visited the Ship and Castle, Aberystwyth; the Victoria Inn, Borth; the Druid Inn, Goginan, and the White Swan, Llanon.

Our spring social was a pub crawl by public bus to Machynlleth. We visited several pubs in the town and had lunch in the White Lion. We then took the bus out to the Dovey Valley Hotel in Cemmaes Road. This pub was a finalist in our pub of the year competition and it was great to be able to relax and enjoy a pint or two in the sunshine.

Don't forget that, as an introduction to the branch, we offer local members a free pint when they attend their first social event. Bring your CAMRA membership card with you and let us know who you are before you go to the bar and then your first drink will be on us!

See our website or Facebook page for details of forthcoming events. If you would like to suggest a pub to meet in or an idea for a future social event please email [social@camra.baeceredigion.co.uk](mailto:social@camra.baeceredigion.co.uk).



## Bae Ceredigion CAMRA member Jane Walton from Penuwch tells us why she loves the Three Horseshoe Inn in Llangeitho.

### What's the pub's history?

The Threehorse Inn dates from the early 1800s and it is situated in an historic village. It has always been a pub but the building has been extended over the years – the function room used to be a sweet shop. There are several chapels nearby with information panels about the village's connections to the Methodist revival.

### Tell us about the landlord.

The Shoes has been in the same family for over 20 years now. Jon Williams is the landlord and he runs the pub with the support of his family who do the food and regular stints behind the bar. Jon is a great landlord with a warm welcome for everyone and he is an enthusiastic supporter of real ale (and Derby County FC!).

### What real ales have been on the bar recently?

There are always two cask ales and these are often Wye Valley's Butty Bach and HPA but sometimes beers from other Welsh breweries like Evan Evans and Monty's are on offer instead. Before Covid there was always a box of Gethin's real cider on the bar and, as a cider drinker, I hope that Jon will consider stocking real cider again soon.

### Where's your favourite place in the pub to enjoy a drink?

I don't have one favourite place. During the colder months I enjoy sitting in the main bar where I can chat with my friends and see other pub visitors. During the summer months I often take my cider and sit outside on the ample seating in the lovely garden area.

### Does the pub serve food? What's your favourite dish?

The pub does serve good pub food, and my favourite dish to date is the lamb and leek pie



*Jane Walton in the Three Horseshoe Inn*

with peas and chips. I have not tried all the food on the large menu so my favourite may change in time. They do vegetarian options and takeaways, and the food is great value. The Sunday lunches are really popular and booking is recommended.

There is a small restaurant and function room which can be booked for parties. I organised a surprise birthday party for my husband in the function room which was a great success with a fantastic buffet.

### Does the pub hold any regular events or activities?

Yes. There is an open mic night on the first Monday of the month, which is very well attended. There are pool and darts competitions, and bingo. In the summer months there has been live music in the garden.

### Do any characters or local celebrities drink there?

Rumour has it that Eric Clapton came here many years ago. More recently the Welsh Whisperer visited as the Shoes was the pub of the week on his S4C programme.

### Sum up in one sentence why our readers should visit your local.

The Shoes is a haven of warmth, friendliness and good food, all served up by a friendly landlord and team.



## CAMRA Membership is for you!

We're leading the fight to keep pubs alive and thriving in every community, serving quality ales and ciders.

Find out more [camra.org.uk/joinup](http://camra.org.uk/joinup)

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Alternatively you can send a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd with your completed form, visit [www.camra.org.uk/joinup](http://www.camra.org.uk/joinup), or call **01727 798440**. \* All forms should be addressed to Membership Department, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

### Your details:

Title ..... Surname .....

Forename(s) .....

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) .....

Address .....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Email address .....

Daytime Tel .....

### Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)

Title ..... Surname .....

Forename(s) .....

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) .....

### Direct Debit Instruction

Please fill in the whole form using a ball point pen and send to:  
**Campaign for Real Ale Ltd. 230 Hatfield Road, St. Albans, Herts AL1 4LW**  
Email: [membership@camra.org.uk](mailto:membership@camra.org.uk) Telephone: 01727 867201

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