

A&W CAMRA Calling January 2025

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Branch Events in January and early February

Tuesday 7 January SCOTD Election Q&A Session

Online; 1900

See separate article for details.

Monday 13 January Branch Committee Meeting

Village Inn, 46 Bay St, Fairlie, Largs, KA29 0AL; 20:00

Obviously targeted at committee members, but anyone interested is welcome, indeed encouraged, to attend.

Thursday 16 January North Ayrshire Pub of the Year Presentation

Village Inn, 46 Bay St, Fairlie, Largs, KA29 0AL; 19:30

Targeted at members residing in North Ayrshire, but those from other areas of the branch will be equally welcome.

Tuesday 21 January South Ayrshire Pub of the Year Presentation and Branch Meeting

Prestwick Pioneer, 87 Main St, Prestwick KA9 1JS; 14:00

Again, primarily targeted at members residing in South Ayrshire, but those from other areas of the branch will be equally welcome, especially as a very short branch meeting, as demanded by our constitution, will take place at some point during the afternoon.

Wednesday 22 January Wigtownshire Pub of the Year Presentation

The Grapes, 4-6 Bridge St, Stranraer DG9 7HY; 14:00

Again, primarily targeted at members residing in Wigtownshire, but those from other areas of the branch will be equally welcome.

Wednesday 22 January East Ayrshire Pub of the Year Presentation

Wheatsheaf Inn, 70 Portland St, Kilmarnock KA1 1JG; 19:30

Yet again, primarily targeted at members residing in East Ayrshire, but those from other areas of the branch will be equally welcome.

Wednesday 29 January Ayrshire Real Ale Festival Beer of the Year Presentation

Mighty Oak Brewery, 14B W Station Yard, Spital Rd, Maldon, CM9 6TW

See separate article for details.

Saturday 1 February Scottish Branches Meeting

Tennent's, 191 Byres Rd, Glasgow, G12 8TN; 13:30

Quarterly business meeting, which anyone interested is encouraged to attend. The agenda will include the election of a Scottish Director (Stuart McMahon is the only nomination) and will be preceded by the presentation of 50th Pub Trail awards.

Monday 3 February Ayrshire Real Ale Festival Planning Meeting

Wheatsheaf Inn, 70 Portland St, Kilmarnock KA1 1JG; 20:00

Planning starts for our branch's flagship event ARAF scheduled for Troon's Concert and Walker Halls 2nd-4th October. All those interested are encouraged to attend, in particular any "new blood" will be most welcome.

SCOTD Election Q&A Session

This is an opportunity to pose questions to prospective Scottish Director (SCOTD) Stuart McMahon in advance of his election on Tuesday, 7 January at 19:00 via Microsoft Teams.

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 380 617 526 871

Passcode: rJ9Qr9Yy

Pub of the Year (PotY)

The Area PotYs are:

East Ayrshire Wheatsheaf Inn Kilmarnock

North Ayrshire Village Inn Fairlie

South Ayrshire Prestwick Pioneer

Wigtownshire Grapes Stranraer

Please see Branch Events for presentation details. These pubs will now be judged for the overall Branch PotY, deadline 9 March. The winner will progress to the Scottish PotY competition.

Essex Visit

The main purpose of this is to present the Mighty Oak Brewery in Maldon

(<http://www.mightyoakbrewing.co.uk/>) with the Ayrshire Real Ale Festival Beer of the Festival for their Captain Bob. This award has now been renamed the "Josef Hoffman and Ursula Keiler Beer of the Festival Award". The presentation will take place in the brewery on Wednesday, 29 January, at 13:30, after which we will adjourn to the Brewery Tap.

The date has been chosen to coincide with the Colchester Winter Beer Festival to be held from 29 January - 1 February in Colchester Arts Centre www.colchestercamra.org.uk We intend to visit this on Thursday, 30 January.

Why not stay in the area for a few nights and explore Essex or include a London visit. For good local public transport options, you could consider staying in Chelmsford, Colchester or Maldon itself. The Premier Inn, Chelmsford would be an excellent base for the area. The hotel is close to rail & bus stations with easy links to Maldon, Colchester, London or Stansted Airport.

Those intending to join in on this should advise our Social Secretary Matt Miller social@awcamra.org.uk of their arrangements.

Branch 40th Anniversary Service Awards

As intimated in November 2024's edition of this newsletter, several branch members received Service Awards as part of CAMRA's 50th Anniversary in 2021 and 50 Years of CAMRA in Scotland last year. As part of our Branch's 40th Anniversary, the following have received Awards for service to the Branch, most having been presented at the various meals over the festive period – Marie Anderson, George Bryden, Ian Calder, Andy Cooper, Bob Forrest, Bill Girvan, Karen Grant, Steven Grist, Kenny MacIsaac, Elaine McClure, Sandy McWhirter, Linda Nagle, Sharon-Leah Perry, Julie Pessall, John Plimbley, Hugh Reid, Tricia Turpie.

Full Pints Advertising

The viability of our multi-award-winning magazine, Full Pints, depends on advertising income covering production and distribution costs. To this end, we are always on the lookout for new advertisers. If you are aware of any business, doesn't have to be real ale related, who might like to advertise in our magazine, please supply details to our Advertising Manager Janis Wood advertising@awcamra.org.uk

Branch Code of Conduct

This applies to all events.

Our wish is for everyone to enjoy themselves and have fun on our trips and events. However please remember that organisers have only volunteered to arrange times and/or travel arrangements and to provide information about the venue(s). CAMRA promotes responsible drinking and so excessive drinking will not be tolerated on CAMRA outings. Members should not behave in any manner that may bring the Campaign into disrepute. Any member doing so may be barred from future events. You are responsible for your own safety and wellbeing. If you have an existing medical condition that requires support, you must bring your own backup/carer with you.