

JOLLY BOYS OUTING: LANCASTER

THURSDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2010

Brief History:

- (a) Lancaster began when the Romans built a Fort in the area about 80AD.
- (b) The Normans built a castle on the site of the Roman Fortress. The stone Keep was built in 1170 and early in the 13th Century King John built a wall with towers and a massive gateway around the Keep.
- (c) In 1612 the trial of the Pendle witches was held in Lancaster. Of the 20 people accused 11 were found guilty. Of those found guilty 10 were hanged and one person was treated leniently and was only sentenced to a term in the stocks.
- (d) A canal from Preston to Lancaster was opened in 1792.
- (e) A railway to Preston opened in 1840.
- (f) The inventor of the Edmondson Railway Ticket dating machine was born here.

STATION to PUB 1 = 10 minutes walk.

PUB No. 1 = THE GREEN AYRE (Faces bottom of Damside Street)
(10.10-5.5am) Weatherspoons Pub for anyone requiring Breakfast.

PUB No. 1 to PUB No. 2 = 5 minutes walk.

PUB No. 2 = SUN HOTEL, 53 Market Street; Tel 01524-66006
(11.05 to 11.30) GBG 2010 listed with beer from Lancaster Brewery and various guest beers.

PUB No. 2 to PUB No. 3 = 8 minutes walk

PUB No. 3 = BOROUGH, 3 Dalton Square; Tel 01524-64170.
(11.40 to 12.10) GBG 2010 listed and recently started to open at 11am. Good selection of Cask Ales mainly brewed in the North of England.

PUB 3 to PUB No 4 = 5 minutes walk.

PUB No. 4 = WHITE CROSS, Quarry Road (canalside pub). Tel. 01524-33999.
(12.15 to 13.10) GBG 2010 listed with up to 15 Cask Ales and Cider which included
FOOD Tirrell/Bank Top/Copper Dragon & Meethouses at end of June.

PUB No. 4 to PUB No. 5 = 5 minutes walk along canal towpath.

PUB No. 5 = WATER WITCH, on canal towpath opposite Aldcliffe Road.
(13.15 to 13.50) Not currently GBG listed but has up to 9 Cask Ales

PUB 5 to PUB No. 6 = 10 minutes walk.

PUB No. 6 = MERCHANTS, Market St/Meeting House Lane (on way back to the station)
(14.05 to —) Not currently GBG listed but has reasonable selection of cask ales.

PUB No. 6 to STATION = 10 minutes walk.

Lancaster Lancaster Visitor Information Centre
The Storey, Meeting House Lane, Lancaster LA1 1TH
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Pub of the Year 2009 Awards update for the Lunesdale Branch

The White Cross, Lancaster is Pub of the Year 2009 for our branch, who made the award at a presentation attended by bar staff, CAMRA members and pub regulars. The pub won the prize for the extensive range and excellent quality of its real ales, its welcoming atmosphere, and the attitude of its informed and friendly staff.

Presenting the award, Lunesdale CAMRA branch Chairman Anne Stewardson spoke of the transformation of the pub in the past four years. During that time the number of handpumps had increased from one to the current ten, with more planned. "The beer here is always on top form," she said, "and local brews are well represented." She added: "The White Cross has the feeling of a family-run establishment and this rubs off on its regulars, keeping the community spirit alive."

Accepting the framed certificate, bar manager Tom Wilkinson said it was "an affirmation of the hard work of the staff, the efforts of craft brewers, and the loyal support of all our customers." He was proud that the White Cross was a place where "real ale is being discovered by a new



Tim Tomlinson (left), Tom Wilkinson and Lunesdale CAMRA branch Chairman Anne Stewardson with White Cross staff.

generation and re-discovered by an older generation."

Landlord Tim Tomlinson emphasised the context in which the award had been made. Paying tribute to the "hard to beat" local competition, he said: "This city is a centre of excellence when it comes to cask ale, and you have to be at the top of your game to win Pub of the Year." The secret was quality and freshness of the product, and recognition that cask ale drinkers were "discerning and demanding".

Double wammy for Lancaster Pub

Tom Wilkinson, bar manager at The White Cross in Lancaster has been honoured for his imagination and expertise in selecting and promoting cask conditioned ales (front cover). He was given the award by CAMRA

at a special presentation held at the pub on July 13th.

The branch's coveted award for "Outstanding Services to Real Ale" has been made only twice before, to Gareth Ellis of Lancaster University's Graduate Bar and to George Palmer, founder of Brysons Brewery. It is reserved for individuals who have made significant individual contributions to the production or promotion of cask ales, taking the distinctive real ale "message" to a wider clientele.

Tom, who has been at the canal-side White Cross for six years, has the responsibility for ensuring that the pub's ten hand pumps dispense a varied and stimulating range of beers, which involves persistent negotiations with the owners, Enterprise Inns, to widen the choice available. And when on duty he can often be seen offering "tasters" to non-ale drinkers, part of his on-going efforts to win recruits to the real ale cause.

Presenting the framed certificate, Chairman of Lunesdale CAMRA Anne Stewardson, said: "Tom's passion for the product is reflected in the quality of real



CAMRA chairman Anne Stewardson (left) presenting the award to Palatine manager Sarah Connolly, watched by Ben Johnson and Sarah Glyn-Jones.

ale that he makes available. His weekly range, which always includes local or regional ale, is inspired and truly varied, with something for every palate."

Accepting the award, which he said was "a real privilege," Tom described his job as "a labour of love - making the weekly selection is something I relish." He aimed for a balanced range of strengths and beer styles, often with "something a bit quirky" too.

He paid tribute to all the breweries involved, to staff at The White Cross for their commitment to high standards of service, to

CAMRA for its "absolute dedication", and to the loyal and appreciative customers. He had special thanks for boss and licensee Tim Tomlinson, who "instilled in me a passion for real ale in the first place."

Morecambe Newcomer Kicks off POTS 2009

A local that has been open for just a few months has been named Pub of the Season (Spring) by the branch. The Palatine, on Morecambe's sea front, won the award for the variety and quality of its real ales, as well as its friendly, comfortable atmosphere.

Presenting the certificate, Lunesdale CAMRA chairman Anne Stewardson, said the beer in The Palatine was "always in excellent condition" and added: "The superb view from the top room across Morecambe Bay is the perfect accompaniment to the perfect pint." She went on to pay tribute to the management and staff for quickly attracting

a core of regulars and for creating a "warm, welcoming atmosphere that makes this place irresistible. You call in 'just for one' and end up running for the last train home."

Accepting the award, manager Sarah Connolly, said: "I'm happy and excited about this. It's a tribute to our fantastic customers and staff and to the wonderful support we've received from the local community."

The Palatine, which was extensively refurbished prior to its opening late last year, is the latest acquisition of the pub company C2i, owners of The Sun in Lancaster and Lancaster Brewery. There are four Lancaster beers permanently available on the bar, plus four guest ales.

The Marton Arms, Thornton-in-Lonsdale, has just been voted as Lunesdale CAMRA Pub of the Season (Summer) 2009. Presentation date to be announced.

Thoughts for the day....

There's alcohol in plant and tree
It must be Nature's plan
That there should be in fair degree
Some alcohol in man.

A.P. Herbert



"I feel sorry for people who don't drink. They wake up in the morning and that's the best they're going to feel all day."

Dean Martin

Beer is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy!

Benjamin Franklin