



NORTH SEA ALE

30TH GREAT GRAMPIAN BEER FESTIVAL

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The views expressed in this publication are those of the contributors, and do not necessarily represent those of CAMRA, or of the editor

The editor welcomes feedback and would be delighted to publish any correspondence, favourable or otherwise

CAMRA, The Campaign for Real Ale's most northerly annual beer festival, is set to showcase the UK's finest ales from Thursday 19th to Saturday 21st May. The event, showcasing Loch Ness Brewery based in Drumnadrochit, will once again be held in the Richard Donald Stand at Pittodrie Stadium near Aberdeen's beach.

The festival is designed to permit discerning drinkers to sample a wide range of the best Real Ale that the UK has to offer. Over 100 different Real Ales are being supplied by more than 70 different breweries from throughout the UK. Styles range from the darker stouts and porters to easy drinking milds, and from barley wines to light pilsner style ales as well as fruit and wheat beers. With over 14,000 pints being dispensed in 3 days, there should be enough choice to satisfy everyone.

The entry fee of £6 includes a commemorative beer festival glass sporting both festival and showcase brewery logos. This glass can also be used for free re-entry to the festival at a later session. This is the 30th annual beer festival organised by the Aberdeen, Grampian and Northern Isles CAMRA branch. Doors open on Thursday from 3pm (note the extra hour) until midnight, on Friday from 2pm until midnight and on Saturday from noon until 11pm.

Ale from several new Scottish microbreweries will be available. In some cases this will be the first time that these beers have been seen in Aberdeen. The festival is also the only place in the North East where a large selection of the Champion Beers of Britain

and Scotland will be available under the same roof.

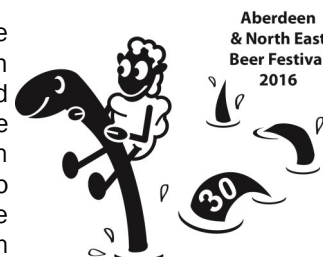
The festival will be supporting the charity Aberdeen Lions, the local part of the Lions International organisation. Amongst the good causes being helped this year are Be-friend A Child and Instant Neighbour. They are the group behind the annual Boxing Day Dip, Spectacle Recycling and offer a marshalling service to many charity walks and races. Drinkers can donate any unused beer tokens to the charity and CAMRA will convert these to cash at face value.

www.lions105ne.org

Beers will be brought in from the length and breadth of the UK; Shetland in the north to Cornwall in the south; Norfolk in the east to Wales in the

west. In 2014 Fallen's Just The Ticket was the people's choice for beer of the festival. Will it win again? You can decide if you come along and cast your vote. You might even win some free beer just by voting.

In addition to the 100 different cask beers, following the continued growth in demand for cider and perry, there will again be a wide range available together with a selection of some of the finest bottled continental beers and food.



Keeping It Real

Pubs of the year 2016

- Town Pub & Overall Winner - Grill
- Country Pub - Marine Stonehaven
- Northern Isles - Auld Motor Hoose Kirkwall

A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

The Chancellor delivered his 2016 Budget, and naturally we are disappointed that there will not be a fourth consecutive cut in beer duty, but a freeze on beer and cider duty.

This freeze can be seen as a positive move as it is effectively a cut, because beer duty has not increased in line with inflation. It also means that the duty charged on a pint of beer is now around 10p below what it

would have been under previous plans to increase duty above inflation each year.

The failure to cut beer duty is a missed opportunity to support the ongoing revival of brewing in the UK; and a further cut would have prompted additional investment in the industry, protected jobs and more importantly, supported stable prices for customers.

LOCH NESS BREWERY

Loch Ness Brewery

The Loch Ness Brewery concept was first mooted in around 2003/4 but the first beer didn't go on sale until 2011. We like to take our time over things, although things have moved on very quickly since those early days.

The Brewery was initially based in a wee bothy at the back of the Benleiva Hotel in Drumnadrochit. Even at this early stage the beers managed to find their way to many CAMRA Festivals, as well as the Houses of Parliament with a special beer NESS Minister, and the Ascot Beer Festival with NESSter Pig-gott. With the power of the Loch Ness brand behind the excellent beers it became clear that larger premises were required.

A new 8 barrel brewkit was installed at the former Blarmor Bar just along the road from the Benleiva which enabled production to increase dramatically.

Since then the Brewery has gone from strength to strength, picking up numerous CAMRA awards along the way including HoppyNESS being named as the Bronze Medal winner in the Strong Bitters category at the GBBF in 2014. SaaziNESS is currently the Champion Speciality Bitter of Scotland and WilderNESS the Champion Bitter of Scotland.

An initial order for exporting the beer to Italy was received after tasting HoppyNESS at the GBBF in 2013. From this initial order the beer is now exported all over the world and has gone on sale in Russia, Germany, France, Estonia, and the United States of America.

The core range consists of 4 beers – LightNESS, LochNESS, DarkNESS and HoppyNESS, but there are many other regular beers which pop up from time to time during the year.

The Crossland brothers, who founded the Brewery, are originally from Dunblane and it gave them great pleasure to brew 2 beers to celebrate special moments in the life of Dunblane's other favourite son Andy Murray – GreatNESS to celebrate his first Grand Slam victory and TogetherNESS to celebrate his marriage. Other notable special beers have been MadNESS (One Hop Beyond), AwesomeNESS, GoldenNESS,



NESSun Korma, FestiveNESS, InverNESS, SmokieNESS and the mightiest one of all, Prince of DarkNESS, a 10% abv Russian Imperial Stout. A new addition to our family is NESSiah – a 5.7% NZ Hopped IPA, only rarely found in cask.

The latest projects have been collaborative.

Firstly with Tomatin Distillery creating FREEBURN – a 7% hopped scotch ale, barrel aged in Tomatin whisky casks. The name is taken from the water source used by Tomatin Distillery which ultimately flows into Loch Ness itself. Freeburn was initially launched in Monaco as part of the Monte Carlo Whisky Festival in December 2015, with a UK launch at Fiddler's Whisky Bar, Drumnadrochit in March 2016.

A new link up with another local business – Cobbs Bakery – has produced a beer using ground scones – Beer Today, Scone Tomorrow, which is a 4% golden ale launched in April 2016.

List of Awards (there are quite a few more but can't remember them all now!)

HoppyNESS – Scottish Strong Bitter Gold Medal 2013, Bronze medal in CBOB. 2015 Silver Medal, H&WI CAMRA BOTY

DarkNESS – 2013 Bronze Stouts CBOS, 2015 Highland CAMRA boty Gold, 2016 Highland CAMRA BOTY Bronze

SaaziNESS – 2015 Champion Speciality Beer of Scotland

WilderNESS – 2015 Champion Bitter of Scotland

MildNESS – 2016 Highland CAMRA Beer of the Year Gold





Rigg Robertson presents the Country Pub of the year Award to Sandy Cheshire, at The Marine, Stonehaven

PUB NEWS

The **Ferryhill House Hotel** and the **Fourmile** at Kingswells have been sold after 14 years of ownership by George Lyon and family. The new owner is Allan Henderson, the current owners of McGintys Meal & ale, No.10, and the Stag

The **Prince of Wales** in Aberdeen will temporarily close on Monday 25 April for a careful refurbishment designed to preserve its past. The pub will be closed until May 12 while work is completed, but the emphasis during the work will be on preserving the historic look of the pub and its original features. The pub will have new furnishings and decoration with its floors and bar sanded down and varnished. The men's toilets will be refurbished and their door relocated to the rear corridor. Listed building consent has also been applied for covering changes to the exterior signage.

Ian Stewart and Jas Bagrath present the Club of the Year award to the Ravenswood (British Legion) Club in Banchory



The **Mosset Tavern** in Forres is now regularly featuring beers from Rob Hill's Swannay Brewery and recently had Island Hopping, Orkney IPA and The Duke IPA all on tap at the same time! Other breweries available on a regular basis are Cairngorm, Cromarty, Speyside Craft and Windswept. They are planning to hold an Oktoberfest beer festival outside in a marquee at, as yet unspecified dates in October

Ian Chapman presents the award for the Overall Branch Pub Of The Year to Rob Smith, Eilidh Johnstone and Lea Rumi. Of the Grill, Aberdeen



The **Howff** on Union Street is selling a single beer from Deeside Brewery and is rotating with Macbeth, Swift and owned by the same company, PB Devco, the **Queen Vic** on Rosemount Place is planning to install a fourth pump which may be a dedicated Deeside pump, to supplement the regular Deuchars, Landlord and varying guest beer. Recent guests have been Castle Rock Harvest Pale and Robinson's Dizzy Blond, aka Peggy!

PUB DESIGN AWARDS

The Dun Cow in Sunderland's city centre scooped two awards in the National Pub Design Awards 2015, which are run by the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) in association with Historic England and the Victorian Society.

It was crowned the winner in both the Refurbishment and Conservation categories, while The Chief Justice of the Common Pleas at Keswick was the best Conversion to Pub Use. The Admiral Collingwood in Ilfracombe was the New Build winner and The Bevy at Bevendean, Brighton was accredited with a special award for work by the local community.

Author of the Judges Report, Professor Steven Parissien, said: "CAMRA has been at the forefront of initiatives to protect our best pubs from demolition or inappropriate conversion. Now the latest Pub Design Award winners show that there's lots of life left in this much-loved national treasure. These awards boast the most diverse and inspirational range of pub buildings we've judged in the history of the competition."

The Dun Cow is a Grade II-listed building, built as a gin palace in 1901, which has been rejuvenated and restored to its former grandeur as part of a new cultural quarter for Sunderland. Its new owner, the Music, Arts and Culture (MAC) Trust, brought in Camerons Brewery to reopen the pub as one of its managed houses. Fine Edwardian features have been superbly conserved as part of a £300,000 restoration, and its copper-domed tower is a powerful symbol of Sunderland's rebirth.

The sandstone exterior has been treated in an exemplary manner, while the interior – with its outstanding woodwork (including the stunningly ornate backbar), impressive plaster ceiling and wonderful stained and etched glass – has been painstakingly returned to its Edwardian magnificence.

Professor Parissien added: "All the winners show that good, sympathetic design makes commercial as well as aesthetic sense. They also demonstrate how fabulous pubs can be used as the engines of regeneration for communities and causes. They remind us that the British pub is so much more than somewhere to have a pint: it is the beating heart of our neighbourhood, a place that defines our identity and locality, an agent for relaxation, renewal and revitalisation."

The Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, Keswick's award for Conversion to Pub Use came about after it was one of the town's major architectural headaches. Formerly Keswick's Magistrates Court and Police Station, this handsome if predictably austere listed landmark was empty for many years. Now it has been saved by Wetherspoons and sensitively converted into a multi-room pub.

Another Wetherspoons pub, The Admiral Collingwood, on the seafront of Ilfracombe, took the New Build Award. Harrison Ince Architects have devised an uncompromisingly modern building where the glass dome offers urban presence, while the rest of the main elevation is understated yet sophisticated.

New artworks commissioned for the interior and a steel sculpture of a wave breaking reminds customers that they are, after all, on the town's seafront.

Continuing the theme of urban renaissance, the Joe Goodwin award (in memory of a former chairman of CAMRA) goes to an outstanding community pub: The Bevy in Bevendean, Brighton. A 1930s pub in the middle of a Brighton council estate, it faced closure and conversion or demolition. In response, the locals got together and reinvented 'The Bevy', raising funds and carrying out much of the refurbishment work.

The Ship Inn



Fresh Local Fish and Seafood our
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Traditional home cooking using
the finest local produce.

Picturesque Harbourside
location with open-air terrace.

Real Ales, Fine Wines.

Over 100 Malt Whiskies.

Comfortable ensuite bedrooms.

KEEPING IT REAL



Keeping It Real

Broughton, Devanha, Harviestoun, Lorimer & Clark, Maclays, Strathalbyn and Traquair. Look how things have changed. There are now over 100 breweries in Scotland alone and over 1400 in the UK. The places to buy beer in the North East were also relatively thin on the ground to say the least but now any pub worth its salt sells real ale. And any pub that doesn't isn't worth going in to. OK I'll give an exception to those with some interesting historical artefacts and architecture but then you'd have to resort to a glass of single malt for liquid refreshment.

In 30 years the beer festival scene in the North East of Scotland has also changed. For many years CAMRA ploughed a lonely furrow originally at the Cowdray Hall and then for 18 years at the McClymont Halls on Holburn Street and latterly

The thirtieth annual CAMRA Real Ale festival. A lot has changed since 1987 both in and out of the world of beer. In 1987 there was no internet, mobile phones were bigger than bricks and it was a very immature beer scene in Scotland. There were only a handful of breweries like Alice, Belhaven Bin Hill, Borne,

at Pittodrie. New events have come on the scene in the last few years in Stonehaven, Elgin, Banchory and now Inverurie. Some of these new events are a bit more music and entertainment oriented, hence their much higher cost of entry, and that's fine as their venues lend themselves to this (the acoustics at Pittodrie certainly don't) but what CAMRA's Great Grampian Beer Festival Aberdeen retains is its stance as a purist event in that unlike all the others we don't do keg beer. Now some try to hide it by using the nomenclature craft beer but sad to say the word craft when related to beer has now become a meaningless term. Originally defined as being produced in small batches by artisans using only the finest of ingredients we are now in a situation where every Tom, Dick and Harry, including the multinationals, has craft beer listed in their product portfolio. And if the beer is made in small batches by artisans using only the finest of ingredients then why would you filter it and pasteurise it and take away the final stage of fermentation that produces those fine rounded, multi-dimensional and complex flavours that make beer a real joy to drink. All our beer is real. The organisation name says it all, the Campaign for Real Ale. So once again we offer you one hundred real ales along with real cider and real perry sourced from over seventy breweries throughout the UK from the North Isles down to the south coast of England and all points in between. What more could you need? CAMRA keeping it real, and protecting consumer rights, since 1971.



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ABERDEEN LIONS CLUB—FESTIVAL CHARITY



This year the Great Grampian Beer Festival (19th-21st May – Pittodrie Stadium, Aberdeen) will be supported by Aberdeen Lions Club and other local Lions Clubs from North East Scotland. The Lions Club will be fundraising for a number of charities. Their main nominated charities for the event are Befriend a Child and Instant Neighbour.

Aberdeen Lions Club

Aberdeen Lions Club is part of the wider Lions International organisation. The Lions Club is a service organisation that undertakes a number of different service and fundraising projects and events. All the administration costs of the club are paid by members so all money raised by Lions Clubs goes directly to charitable causes. Examples of just a few current and past projects/events are the following:

Annual Boxing Day Dip – The club organises an Annual Boxing Day Dip in the North Sea where participants can fundraise for a number of different. In past years this has involved over 100 dippers and raised over £14,000 for Charity.



Spectacle Recycling – As part of a wider Lions International Project the club collects old Spectacles from local Opticians. They are then shipped to France where local Lions coordinate sorting and refurbishing them prior to being distributed in Africa. The Club has collected over 48,000 specs in the past 5 years alone – the Project has been running much longer!

Marshalling – The Club has provided Marshalling services to support events such as the JDRF Sponsored Walk, Celebrate Aberdeen Parade and the Castle Fraser Steam Rally.

befriend a child



turn a frown upside down

Befriend a Child

Befriend a Child support children and young people (aged 4-18) growing up in difficult life circumstances from across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire to develop into confident adults and achieve their full potential. Operating since 1975, the charity now supports over 300 local

children each year.

Their core service is a 1:1 Befriending Service, whereby volunteers agree to become a positive role model for a child and meet with them on fortnightly basis to engage in a range of fun, everyday activities aimed at increasing their confidence and self-esteem. They also run a number of other projects, such as a Mentoring Scheme, Playschemes, Youth Clubs and a Grandparents as Parents support group to further support these children and young people.



Instant Neighbour

Established in 1984, Instant Neighbour provides support to some of the poorest and most vulnerable people and communities in the City of Aberdeen & Aberdeenshire. Some of their main services are the following:

Food Bank – Providing emergency food parcels to those in need.

Safe & Sound – Improving access to safe and quality baby items i.e. clothing, cots, food etc. for low income families.

Giving Tree – Providing Christmas gifts to children who would otherwise do without.



REAL ALE OUTLETS

Below is a list of outlets that sell real ale which are known to the Aberdeen, Grampian & Northern Isles branch of CAMRA.

CAMRA is in no way recommending all of the pubs in this list. If you want a list of recommended pubs you will need to buy the Good Beer Guide. The pubs are placed in alphabetical order by location and then pub.

If you know of any pubs that sell real ale, in our area, which are not on this list, or any pubs on this list that no longer sell real ale please contact the editor. Your help is much appreciated

New Outlet

Seasonal

Aberdeen

Adam Lounge
Aitchies Ale House
Archibald Simpson's
Atholl Hotel
Blue Lamp
Bobbin
Cameron's (Ma's)
Carriages
Cocket Hat
Dutch Mill
Ferryhill House Hotel
Foundry
Ghillies Lair
Glentanar Bar
Globe
Grays Inn
Grill
Illicit Still
Justice Mill
Krakatoa
Mariner Hotel
McGinty's
McNastys
Noose & Monkey
Northern Hotel
Number 10
Old Blackfriars
Prince Of Wales
Queen Vic
Six degrees North
Slains Castle
St Machar Bar
Stag
Triple Kirks
Under The Hammer
Wig

Aberchirder

New Inn

Aboyne

Boat Inn

Alford

Forbes Arms
Haughton Arms

Ballater

Alexandra
Balmoral Bar
Glenaden

Balmedie

Cock and Bull

Banchory

Burnett Arms
Douglas Arms Hotel
Ravenswood Club (British Legion)

Scott Skinners

Tor Na Coille

Banff

Aul Fife

Market Arms

Ship Inn

Braemar

Moorfield House Hotel

Brodie

The Old Mill

Catterline

Creel Inn

Charleston of Aberlour

Aberlour Hotel

Mash Tun

Corgarff

Allargue Arms

Craigellachie

Craigellachie Hotel

(Copper Dog)

Highlander Inn

Cullen

Three Kings

Cults

Cults Hotel

Daviot

Smiddy

Dufftown

Commercial

Royal Oak

Stuart Arms

Dun Echt

Jaffs

Dyce

Granite City

Spider's Web

Elgin

Drouthy Cobbler

Muckle Cross
Sunninghill Hotel

Ellon

Station Hotel

Tolbooth

Fettercairn

Ramsay Arms

Findhorn

Crown & Anchor

Kimberley Inn

Fochabers

Gordon Arms Hotel

Grant Arms

Forres

Carisbrooke Hotel

Knockomie Hotel

Mosset Tavern

Ramnee Hotel

Red Lion

Fraserburgh

Elizabethan

Saltoun Arms

Garlogie

Garlogie Inn

Garmouth

Garmouth Hotel

Gourdon

Harbour

Glenlivet

Croft Inn

Huntly

Gordon Arms

Inverbervie

Queens Arms

Inverurie

Black Bull

Edwards

Gordon Highlander

Johnshaven

Anchor

Ship

Kingswells

Four Mile House

Village Hotel

Kinloss

Abbey Inn

Lossiemouth

Beach Bar

Clifton Bar

Coulard Hotel

Skerry Brae Hotel

Luthermuir

Sauchieburn Hotel

Macduff

Old Moray

Marykirk

Marykirk Hotel

Methlick

Ythan View

Monymusk

Grant Arms Hotel

Muir Of Fowls

Muggarthaugh

Netherley

Lairhillock

Newburgh

Newburgh Inn

Oldmeldrum

Redgarth

Pennan

Pennan Inn

Peterhead

Crosskeys

Portsoy

Boyne Hotel

Shore Inn

Station Hotel

Rothies

Seafield Arms

Rothiemay

Forbes Arms

Stonehaven

Belvedere

Hook & Eye

Marine Hotel

Ship Inn

Strachan

Feughside

Strathdon

Colquhounie Hotel

Tarland

Aberdeen Arms

Commercial Arms

Tarves

Aberdeen Arms Hotel

Tomintoul

Glen Avon

Richmond

Gordons (Balfour Manor)

Westhill

Shepherds Rest

Whitehills

Seafield Arms

Orkney

Burray

Sands

Birsay

Barony

Evie

Mistra

Harry

Merkister

Holm

Commodore

Hoy

Stromabank

Kirkwall

Albert Hotel

Auld Motor House

Ayre Hotel

Helgis

Orkney Hotel

Reel

Shore Inn

St Ola

Torvaugh

Ophir

Noust

Rousay

Taversoe

Stenness

Standing Stones

Stromness

Ferry

Stromness Hotel

Sanday

Kettletoft Hotel

Shetland

Lerwick

Captain Flints

Grand Hotel

Scalloway

Scalloway Hotel

Scousburgh

Spiggie Hotel

Weisdale

Westings Hotel



the
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I enclose a cheque for _____
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Applications will be processed within 21 days

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- This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay by Direct Debits.
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- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

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FUTURE EVENTS

When	Where	Why
Tue 26 April 8pm	Old Blackfriars	Beer Festival Business only
Tue 3 May 8pm	No. 10 (to be confirmed)	Branch , Committee & Beer Festival
Wed 11 May 8pm	Archibald Simpson	Beer Festival Business only
Wed – Sat 11-14 May	Garioch Beer Festival, British Legion, Inverurie	Non Camra event
Thu 19th—Sat 21st May	Richard Donald Stand, Pittodrie	30th Great Grampian Beer Festival
Sat 11 June 8pm	Grill	Post festival/new members social
Thu 16 – Sat 18 June	Stonehaven beer festival	Non Camra event
Thu 23 June 8:30pm	Under the Hammer	Social
Sat 27 Aug, 1pm	Carriages	Beer Festival Post Mortem



John Corall presents the award for Northern Isles Pub of the year to the Auld Motor Hoose , Kirkwall

SPEY VALLEY
BREWERY

We are on the look out for on and off trade retailers to join us in stocking our beers. If you think you might like to give us a try please get in touch.

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speyvalleybrewery.co.uk

f t i

THREE DECADES ON

So here we are again, it is nearly time for the CAMRA Aberdeen Beer Festival and this year we are celebrating our 30th birthday between 19-21 May at the Richard Donald Stand, Pittodrie Stadium. I had a chance at a recent Good Beer Guide and social meeting to speak to some of CAMRA members who work so hard to make the festival happen.

The Aberdeen branch of CAMRA began in 1976 with a handful of members, and with real ale pubs a bit thin on the ground they still managed to have some festivals. The first was held in the Douglas Hotel, although one committee member recalls a festival being brought to an early end as there was a function in another room so the management closed the festival bar and took all the staff to work at the function. The festivals then moved to the Beach Ballroom and were part of the Alternative festival (Real Ale & Jazz/Folk etc.).

By 1987 the branch had grown enough to hold the first CAMRA beer festival in the Cowdray Hall which had a plain glass. All the beer was sold and costs were covered. As far as we know, the only person still with a t-shirt from that festival is George Howie's son David. The shirt, and David, still makes an annual appearance at the festival.

For the second year special permission was given by the council to use the Rhynie Man for the glass logo. The design comes from a six foot high, carved Pictish stone. The festival proved so popular that it ran out of beer. George recalls the volunteers all went over to the Prince of Wales for a pint where he met his friend Charlie McColl. Charlie finished his pint and started to put his coat on so George asked him where he was going. To the beer festival Charlie answered, to George's response of 'It's all finished Charlie. Why do you think we're all in here?'

By 1989 the festival moved to the McClymont Hall which many of us remember fondly. For the set-up team the memories are not all so good with the two flights of stairs they had to negotiate carrying heavy scaffold and casks whilst hoping the ceiling wouldn't give way! The hall only had one ladies toilet in a huge cubicle and there was always a queue so sometimes the only way for female staff to get in was to go and helpfully restock the toilet roll. One member, John Rettie recalled that the floor behind the bar was covered with plastic to protect it but when beer was spilt the bar staff would stick to the floor.

Mike Burton, committee member and away day driver, recalls a hairy moment when the team were unloading casks at the side of the hall and the Granary (now the Foundry) at the top of the hill also had a delivery of beer. 'The next thing a large barrel of beer escaped and came hurtling down the hill straight past us all'.

Richard Jones, the Festival Organiser, and his wife Donna first heard about the festival on returning from their honeymoon in 1990 having just missed it but they made it to the next one in 1991. Richard joined CAMRA in 1993 and began working at the festival in 1994 and Donna recalls how they used to get a lot of volunteers who came up from Portsmouth and Southampton who would all go to stay at their house. Donna also recalls one year when John Cryne, the CAMRA National Chairman at the time came to the festival as he was in Aberdeen and was asked for his ID by a volunteer when requesting his CAMRA discounted entry – 'and quite rightly' adds Richard, 'I commend that volunteer for doing their job'. Richard also recalls how people often used to leave their bags behind in the hall, with such items as 'shopping, a fish supper, and some ladies underwear!'

The beer glasses in the mid-1990s were drawn by various members of the branch, George's design was the rabbit (1999) (with an unconfirmed rumour that local author Stuart MacBride designed some) and by 2000 the sheep puns started – Scott Wilson the website editor recalls Ewe-2K and in 2004 T'up Helly B'Aa for our Shetland theme. Since 2002 John Cornwell has created the images for all the glasses.

Euan Fraser remembers going to the festival in 1989 and being ordered off the stage by George in a grumpy manner. This year he turned up to a meeting and was elected Sponsorship co-ordinator by George in a grumpy manner. Yes, Euan has been Howied!

In 2006 we were advised that the hall was uninsurable for our event, which led to many meetings and wracked brains trying to find an alternative that was big enough and cheap enough, with all the required facilities for us to continue. Luckily the festival organiser had been trawling potential venues and came across our new home, the Richard Donald Stand at Pittodrie. So in November 2007 the 21st festival was held there. The good thing is the size and the fact that it is all level for the set-up. The bad thing is that it is on the sea-front. And it was November. And it was snowing. The beer nearly froze, the drinkers had to keep hats, scarves and gloves on and the ceiling rained condensation. The wise decision was made to move the festival to end May-early June depending on the football fixtures which has worked well so far although we nearly had to cancel in 2011 when Rod Stewart decided to play a gig at the stadium the weekend we had booked so hats off to Richard and the team for re-arranging that one at short notice, it was close.

It has been a great achievement to keep the festival running through all these years, bringing over 100 beers from 70 or more different breweries from all over the UK each year and this has been due to the hard work of a small number of CAMRA members who work so hard at the planning, organising and setting up of the festival, not to mention all the volunteers who work at the festival behind the bar, on the door, at the merchandise stall and behind the scenes. We hope that the 30th birthday festival will be our best yet and so if you always come we will be happy to see you and thank you for your support over the years, and if you have never been to the festival then



BREWERY NEWS

The **Inveralmond** Brewery in Perth, makers of the popular Lia Fail, Ossian, Thrappledouser and Independence ales, have been taken over by the **Innis and Gunn** Brewery of Edinburgh. The Innis and Gunn beers are currently contract brewed at the giant Tennants Wellpark brewery in Glasgow, and the company had originally planned to build its own brewery. The purchase of the modern Inveralmond plant represents a considerable cost and time saving on building their own brewery. Innis and Gunn also plan to open two new bars in Scotland following the success of a trial in Dundee. Innis and Gunn have purchased the rights to continue to produce Ossian and Thrapple douser, but the fate of the rest of the Inveralmond brands is unclear at present. The brewing team in Perth will not be affected by the takeover.

Burnside Brewery in Laurencekirk has decided to refocus the bulk of its production in to Bottle conditioned beers, which now comprise more than fifty percent of sales, with cask forming thirty five percent, and the rest from running special events, including those in collaboration with Mo-fest in Montrose. A brewery shop has been opened alongside the brewery for off sales only. It is hoped to organise special events at the brewery later this year, following the leasing of extra space adjacent to the existing premises. Existing cask outlets will continue to be supplied.

Thirteen small brewers and cider makers from across Scotland have banded together to form the Craft Beers Clan Scotland. The clan has just successfully concluded a major sale deal with ASDA to supply its Scottish branches with more than seventy five Sottish beers and ciders. The deal is worth approximately £850,000.

As part of the deal Deeside Brewery will supply 8000 bottles of LAF and Macbeth, worth more than £30000.

Other breweries involved in the deal include :- Isle of Arran Brewery, Eden Mill Brewery (St Andrews), Jaw Brew (Glas-



Sponsors of volunteer T – shirts
for the

30th Great Grampian Beer Festival

gow), Knopps (East Lothian), Isle of Skye brewery, Loch Ness, Lerwick, WooHa (Nairn), Stewart Brewing (Edinburgh), Loch Lomond Brewery (Alexandria), Kelburn (Barrhead) and West (Glasgow).

Fierce Brewery is moving to a new site in an industrial unit from the current site in Great Western Road. A 10 barrel plant will be installed and should be in production by mid summer.

Brewdog are branching out into the distilling business and are installing a plant to produce gin, whisky and vodka at their Ellon site. They hope to have the gin and vodka onsale by the end of June. The company has recently spent twenty million pounds on expansion at the site and also plans a twenty five million pound brewery in the United States.

AWARD WINNING WEBSITE



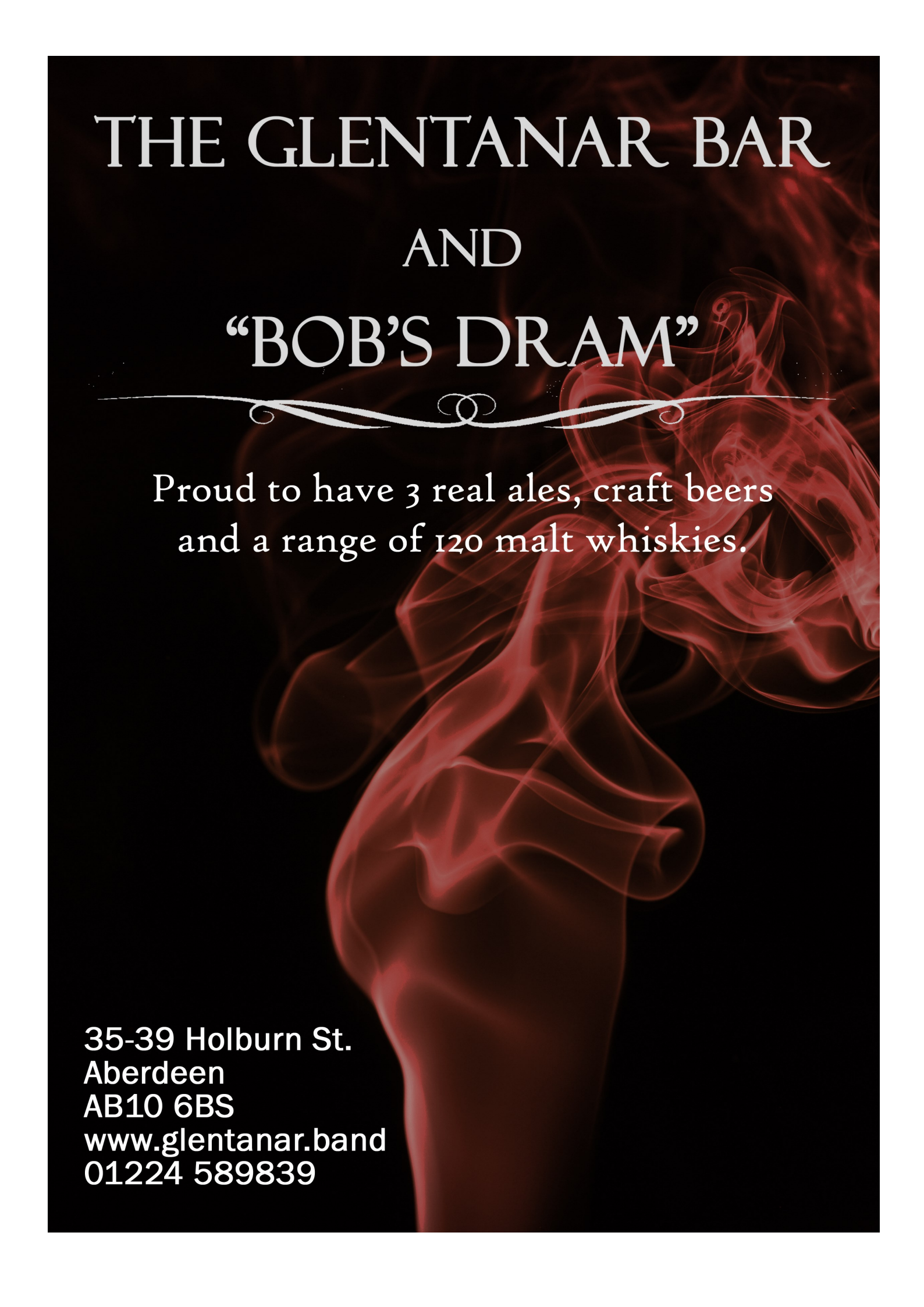
This is what was said about our website at the AGM & Conference -
'The judges found this an appealing modern design that is content rich. It is easy to read and very easy on the eye.'



we have moved to



www.aberdeencamra.org.uk

The background of the entire poster is a dark, swirling pattern of red smoke or mist, creating a moody and atmospheric effect. The smoke rises from the bottom and fills the upper half of the frame.

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