

# Innquirer

## Newsletter

December 1<sup>st</sup> 2024

### Future Newsletters

If you are reading this via a direct communication then the link that you received may only take you directly to *this* newsletter. To see all of them (in the future since this is the first one), go to: **<https://www.innquirer.uk>**

### Royal Oak Sparkbridge closed, again

News just in is that it is closed again and judging by our contacts, it is not likely that it will re-open in the near future, if at all. We went there earlier in the autumn and it seemed like it was going to stay open under the new management but sadly, it seems that we caught it in the middle of its open/close/open/close cycle! CAMRA WhatsApp database has been updated to show it as long-term closed but if you know something that we don't then let us know!

### CAMRA Regional Reorganisation

Now this has been a running project for a few years. CAMRA is attempting to sort the organisation at regional level to make it easier to manage and from our perspective, the main change so far is the the old West Pennines region, to which we used to belong, has been abolished (or subsumed if you like) into a new North West region which now also includes Greater Manchester and some other bits of Derbyshire and Cheshire under the new(ish) Regional Director, Ralph Warrington.

Which branch belongs in which area is still being finalised but from our perspective, no change really but the old Westmorland Branch, currently being 'looked after' by Solway Branch will, we hope, rise from the ashes before long following the promised Branch Review.

## **Branch Trips**

This year has seen the revival of Branch survey trips and we have managed to visit quite a few pubs in the region that are not regularly seen due to their location and/or lack of suitable public transport. These visits have produced some very positive feedback on opening times, cask ales served and of course, beer scoring of the beers tasted during the trips. Scoring the beers is a vital part of working out what pubs are considered for entry in the next Good Beer Guide.

Mind you, these trips aren't bullet-proof and The Royal Oak, Sparkbridge (see above) shows there are exceptions!

## **Facebook Page**

Just in case you were wondering, our Facebook page (the one that has been around for a number of years) no longer exists as we have had some issues over the years with misuse. However, the original older Facebook page, to which we do not have direct access as it belongs to a previous CAMRA member, is still there. Occasionally, other people post to it but we don't maintain or update it ourselves so we are not responsible for its content!

## **Printed InnQuirer**

Currently on hold, it may make a return if we can do the sums, i.e. printing costs vs. advertising income. Now that we don't currently run a Beer Festival, making sure that we can afford to produce it is the top priority. In the current financial climate, this balancing act isn't easy so we don't know when and indeed if, it will return in printed form.

## **Finally, The Ulverston Beer Festival**

No sign of this returning in the near future as the costs are currently prohibitive and the lack of volunteers means we couldn't run one anyway. Let's see what the future might bring.