

CHARITY PARTNER



PROGRAMME
SPONSOR



FESTIVAL SPONSOR



BIG BANG BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND



**FESTIVAL
OF PUBS**

TOWN
CENTRE

LIVE
MUSIC

OFFICIAL EVENTS PROGRAMME

26-31 AUGUST

YOUR QUEST STARTS HERE...

TREASURE
HUNT

GREAT
PUBS

QUEST LOG

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☒ LIVE MUSIC | ☒ TREASURE HUNT |
| ☒ CIDER TASTING | ☒ MURDER MYSTERY |
| ☒ MEET THE AUTHOR | ☒ SPECIAL PUB EVENTS |

**FREE
PROGRAMME**



LOOT INSIDE:

- FULL EVENT SCHEDULE
- VENUE LISTINGS

- MAPS & LOCATIONS
- TRAIL INFORMATION
- COMPETITION DETAILS



THE TURKS HEAD

CAMRA Merseyside & Cheshire
Pub of the Year
2023 • 2024 • 2026

A Real Ale & Cider Destination

• BAR & DRINKS •



14 Real Ales

15 Ciders



Gin & Whiskey
Heaven

★ WATCH OUT FOR ★



Coach
Trips
and
Events

FOOD SERVED

Monday to Saturday

12pm - 8pm



Sunday

12pm - 7pm



• WEEKLY EVENTS •



Quiz Night

Tuesday from 8:30pm

- Win up to £500!



Poker Nights

Wednesday & Thursday



Curry Night

Every Thursday



Great Food • Great Drinks • Great Entertainment
In the Heart of St Helens



Welcome to St Helens and Districts CAMRA

2nd Festival of Pubs

We're thrilled to bring you the 2nd Annual St Helens & Districts CAMRA Festival of Pubs — bigger, better, and expanding across the entire St Helens & District CAMRA branch area! Together with our fantastic local real ale pubs, we're celebrating everything that makes the great British pub the heart of our community.

This isn't just a festival; it's a district-wide celebration with an incredible lineup of events lighting up our local pubs, including:

- Live music
 - Murder mystery
 - The legendary CAMRA Pub Treasure Hunt
 - Pub quizzes
 - Cider tasting
 - Pub map trails
 - Charity raffle
- ... and so much more!

And, of course, the star of the show: an unbelievable selection of real ales and ciders flowing across all participating venues. Whether you're a seasoned ale aficionado or just curious to try something new, your next favourite pint is waiting for you. You can keep track of what's pouring and where by using our live festival beer board, kindly supported by Real Ale Finder.

Check out the website to find full details on all participating pubs, along with the complete schedule of events. We'll be adding even more events to the website as the festival goes on, so be sure to check back regularly for updates.

Pubs are vital community hubs, and with venues facing challenges across the country, it's never been more important to show them some love. Let's raise a glass to great beer, brilliant local pubs, and the people who make them!

REAL ALE FINDER



ON TAP NEAR YOU



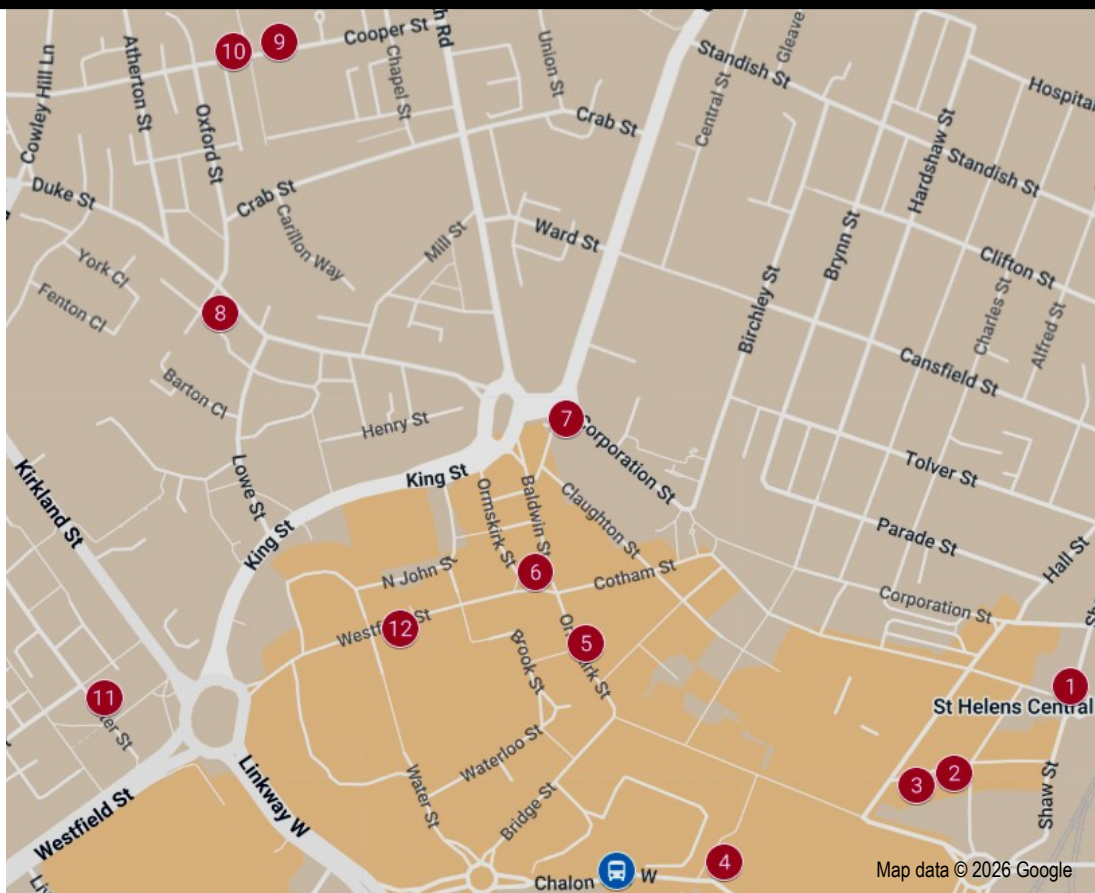
Live Festival Beer Board

supported by Real Ale Finder

Check out www.sthelens.camra.org.uk/beerboard or scan the QR code to view the live beer board.

Download the Real Ale Finder App for Android or Apple to find what's on in real ale pubs wherever you are. Manage a pub and don't use Real Ale Finder? Check out the benefits of using this FREE app now.

The town centre real ale pubs & where to find them



1 Royal Alfred

Renovated to a high standard, large traditional pub with a friendly welcome. Opposite the train station. Great real ale and food available.

2 Little George Quarter

Small very friendly bar with two real ales available and a wide selection of other drinks.

3 George

Friendly town centre traditional local. Primarily serves beers from Wigan Brewhouse.

4 Glass House

Large Wetherspoons converted from an indoor market.

5 Tippy Tap

Modern pub serving a wide range of beers. Shows most sports and often has live music.

6 Sefton

A comfortable town centre pub. Whether you want food, sports or just drinks with friends in a nice safe atmosphere.

7 Lamb Inn

Built in 1854 this friendly town centre pub was tastefully renovated in 2022 highlighting many of its historical features.

8 Cornerstone Inn

Newly refurbished traditional pub with lounge and tap room. Beer garden to the rear.

9 Cowley Vaults

Friendly local community pub hosting pool teams and live music entertainment. Beer garden to the rear and side. Food is available from the Cowley Grill.

The town centre real ale pubs & where to find them

10 Turks Head

Current Merseyside & Cheshire Pub of the Year. Serving a wide range of cask beer and real cider. Good quality food available every day.

11 Cricketers Arms

National Pub of the Year 2017. Wide range of cask beer including from the onsite Howzat Brewery.

12 TANK bar

Small bar with a great selection of craft beers including real ale in cans and bottles, cocktails and spirits. Live music, comedy night and other special events.

Additional information

Pubs serving food

Cowley Vaults ★ Cricketers Arms
Glass House ★ Royal Alfred ★ Sefton
Turks Head

Pubs that allow children (check timings)

Cornerstone Inn ★ Cowley Vaults

Cricketers Arms ★ George ★ Glass House
Lamb Inn ★ Little George Quarter
Royal Alfred ★ Sefton ★ Topsy Tap
Turks Head

Pubs that allow dogs

Cornerstone Inn ★ Cowley Vaults
Cricketers Arms ★ George ★ Royal
Alfred ★ Tank ★ Topsy Tap ★ Turks
Head

Check out our website for a full list of pubs in our branch and also to access downloadable pub trail maps covering many more pubs with events on throughout the week.



Download real ale maps and explore pubs across our branch area

Check out www.camra.org.uk/pubs for more detailed information including opening times



THE COWLEY VAULTS

CAMRA Award winning Cosy Local Pub & Grill

OUR DRINKS



6 Real Ales



Traditional Ciders



Draught Beers

OUR FOOD



Stone Baked Pizzas
Grill Specials



WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT



Live Music Sundays

Open The Box Every Sunday



GAMES

Pool table & darts



Great Food • Great Drinks

In the Heart of St Helens

What's on

Wednesday 26 August

CAMRA branch social: Wander round the George Quarter. Meet at the George at 7pm and then on to The Little George Quarter and The Royal Alfred for great beer and great company. All welcome.

- **The Lamb Inn:** Good Folk Jam Night 7 - 9pm
- **The Turks Head:** Poker Night in the Tower Lounge. £5 buy-in, free food. From 7.30pm
- **Masons Arms (Billinge):** Limitless Peak Free Run Club – 5k social loop. From 6:30pm
- **Pied Bull (Newton-le-Willows):** Quiz from 7:30pm
- **The Abbey (St Helens):** Quiz from 8pm (includes “Open the Box”).
- **Clock Face (Prescot):** Quiz from 8pm
- **Masons Arms (Billinge):** Quiz from 8:30pm
- **The Commercial (Rainhill):** Evening quiz. Speed quizzing – £1 per player
- **The Griffin (Eccleston):** Quiz from 8pm



High quality Sensory Toys and Products for children and adults, at the very best prices!

floor tiles



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and so much more!



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sensorytoywarehouse.com

What's on

Thursday 27 August

The Cornerstone Inn: Meet the Author event. Journalist and author, Mike Critchley will be talking about his book *'Happy Hours – A British Pub Diary'*. Come along and have a chat and enjoy a pint. From 6.30pm



The Firkin (Newton-le-Willows): Farm Trip fringe event. Rivington are hosting their brilliant FARM TRIP beer festival, and The Firkin will be joining in with a little Fringe event of their own. CELLARMAKER are making the journey all the way from the USA

The Topsy Tap: Live music from 6pm

The Turks Head: Poker Night in the Tower Lounge. £5 buy-in, free food. From 7:30pm

The Commercial (Rainhill): Poker Night. Whether you're a pro, or just for fun.

Cowley Vaults: Jam Night with Matt and Rob from 8.30pm

Sun Inn (Prescot): Quiz from 8pm

The Abbey: Quiz night from 8pm (includes "Open the Box")

The Pied Bull (Newton-le-Willows): Quiz night from 7:30pm

Clock Face (Prescot): Quiz night from 8pm

The Griffin (Eccleston): Quiz night from 8pm

Masons Arms (Billinge): Quiz night from 8.30pm

Latest what's on details

Scan the QR code to see any updates to events and what's on since we've gone to print.



What's on

Friday 28 August

TANK bar: Monthly Jazz Night from 8pm

Saints v Leeds in Super League. Watch it live. *Most town centre pubs will be showing the game on TV.*



Join CAMRA Today...

Help support the pubs and breweries in your community plus get **£30 of real ale vouchers!**

JOIN TODAY

Saturday 29 August

Turks Head: Cider tasting event from 4pm. Come along and taste some great REAL cider. Our new cider rep, Sam, will talk you through what you are drinking. Come and see what REAL cider is all about. Free for CAMRA members (valid card needed), non-CAMRA members £5 per person. No ticket needed, but space is limited so be sure to get there early to avoid disappointment.



Clock Face (Prescot): Back to the 80s Afternoon Tea from 2pm. £25pp, booking essential

Cowley Vaults: Live music from The IndieTweeners from 8.30pm

The Sun Inn (Prescot): Sunfest 2026. Day 1. Live music & fun from 2.30pm

The Junction (Rainford): Juncstock 2026 Day 1. A weekend of music from 2pm featuring open mic from 3pm each day.

REAL ALE FINDER



ON TAP NEAR YOU

Live Festival Beer Board

supported by Real Ale Finder

www.sthelens.camra.org.uk/beerboard



What's on

Sunday 30 August

The Royal Alfred: CAMRA's legendary Pub Treasure Hunt. It's back for a 5th year. Get your teams together and get ready for a fun-filled day of beer, quizzing, picture clues and riddles as you make your way around the participating pubs. It's a treasure hunt with a difference! Start at The Royal Alfred at 12pm, where you'll be given your clue sheets. Then it's time to put your brains to the test as you solve a series of picture clues and riddles at each participating pub. Teams of up to 6 people. £1 per person. And, of course, there's a prize worth solving for - the winners get a drink on us!



The Cornerstone Inn: The very best of Northern Soul and Motown 3-7pm

The Lamb Inn: Sublime Sunday Sessions. Live music from Chris Elliot 7-9pm

The Sun Inn (Prescot): Sunfest 2026. Day 2. Live music & fun from 2.30pm

The Junction (Rainford): Juncstock 2026 Day 2. A weekend of music from 2pm featuring open mic from 3pm each day

The Commercial (Rainhill): Ultimate Karaoke Party

Monday 31 August

The Wellington (Prescot): Country Music afternoon 2-4pm. Sing along to all your favourite country classics. Why not have a go at Line Dancing with the fantastic Jennie? Whether you're a complete beginner or already know the steps, everyone is welcome to join in!

The Lamb Inn: Mellow Music Monday. Sarah Reilly singing live 2-4pm

The George: Live music from Padge from 4pm



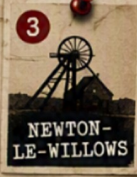
MURDER ON THE HIGH STREET

CASE FILE 001

CAN YOU SOLVE ST HELENS' MOST PUZZLING PUB MYSTERY?

YOUR INVESTIGATION BEGINS HERE

Follow the clues across real ale pubs in:



Visit venues, collect evidence and uncover the truth.



Solve the mystery at your own pace during **August 2026**.



Crack the case for a chance to **WIN TWO TICKETS** to the Retrospective Festival at Sherdley Park!

OPEN THE CASE FILE

SCAN FOR YOUR **FIRST CLUE**



EVIDENCE
DO NOT REMOVE

www.sthelens.camra.org.uk/murdermystery

WIN TWO TICKETS TO THE RETROSPECTIVE FESTIVAL

★ AT SHERDLEY PARK ★

RETROSPECTIVE FESTIVAL
SHERDLEY PARK ★

FESTIVAL SPONSOR



CHARITY PARTNER



A PUB TRAIL.
A MURDER.
WHAT'S YOUR THEORY?



FEATURED VENUE

Murder on the High Street

Case File 001



CONFIDENTIAL

Food & Drink

Every Monday: Pizza Club - 2 pizzas and chips/fries for £21.95 @ The Nelson (St Helens)

Mon – Wed: Food served 11am – 7pm @ The Nelson (St Helens)

Mon – Sat: Kitchen open 12–8pm @ The Turks Head (St Helens)

Every Wednesday: Authentic homemade curry by The Little Curry Pot from 5:30pm @ Masons Arms (Billinge)

Wed – Sun: Bar snacks available all day @ Little George Quarter (St Helens)

Wed – Sat: Food served 11:30am – 8pm @ The Royal Alfred (St Helens)

Every Thursday: Curry Night (4pm – 8pm) @ The Turks Head (St Helens)

Thu – Sun: Kitchen open 2–11pm @ Cowley Grill (St Helens)

Thu – Sun: Food served 11am – 7:30pm @ The Nelson (St Helens)

Sun: Food served 12-7pm @ Turks Head

Sun: Carvery Sunday Lunch (12pm – 6pm, from £10.25) @ The Wellington (Prescot)

Every Sunday in August: 2-for-1 Sunday Lunches @ The Kirkfield (Newton-le-Willows)

Other town centre area pubs with food offering (*please check with them directly for food service times*)

The Cricketers Arms, The Sefton, The Glass House, The Gerard, The Abbey

Do you love pubs and want them to remain a vital part of our community?



Join **CAMRA** Today...

Help support the pubs and breweries in your community plus **£30 of real ale vouchers!**

Sponsors

The festival wouldn't have happened without the kind support of our sponsors.



Festival Sponsor

SSO Logistics is a trusted logistics partner, serving businesses across the UK and Europe. We provide a complete logistics solution with No Grey Areas—just clear, honest service. From container import and de-vanning, through to storage and onward delivery across the UK and Europe, we ensure transparency and reliability at every step.

Programme Sponsor

Turks Head: 14 real ales on everyday | Up to 15 ciders on | Large selection of gins and whiskeys | Food on Monday-Sat 12-8pm and Sun 12-7pm | Quiz Tues win up to £500 8.30pm start | Real fires CAMRA Pub of the Year Merseyside and Cheshire 2023, 2024 & 2026. St Helens & Districts CAMRA Cider Pub of the Year 2026.

Cowley Vaults: A cosy local pub and grill with up to 6 Real Ales, traditional and real ciders, draught beers, stone baked pizzas and grill specials. St Helens & Districts CAMRA Pub of the Year Second Place 2026.



REAL ALE FINDER



ON TAP NEAR YOU

Live Beer Boards hosted by Real Ale Finder App:

We're delighted to be working once again with [Real Ale Finder App](#) who will be providing a live beer board showing all the lovely beers available in participating pubs (as long as the pubs are on Real Ale Finder!). It's the easiest way to see what's pouring where – perfect for planning your festival pints.

Charity Partner

Our charity partner, Willowbrook Hospice, is a Specialist Palliative Care Unit based in Knowsley, offering short term care for patients with complex needs. Patients admitted to a specialist ward will have the benefit of care from a highly skilled team, including complex discharge planning support.

A Hospice isn't just a building, it's a culture. A hospice is a compassionate place that aims to improve the quality of life for people who have a life limiting or terminal illness; helping them to live their life well. Willowbrook instils a holistic approach to the care they provide to patients and their families. Not just caring for a person's physical needs but also for their emotional, spiritual and social needs too.



Make a donation to the vital work of Willowbrook Hospice at
www.willowbrook.org.uk/donate-to-willowbrook/

Real Cider. What's all the fuss?



Did you know that in the UK by law cider only has to contain 35% apple juice. That means many mass produced ciders can have all kinds of things added to produce the final product. They commonly have a large part of their content (and alcohol) derived from diluted fermented sugar syrup. They then have other things added to make it smell and taste as it finally does. Imagine buying a bottle of wine to then find that the main ingredient is water and that only 35% of it was made from grape juice, which has itself been watered back down from juice concentrate. You'd be right in thinking it wouldn't be a great wine (and also illegal in the UK)

Real Cider and Perry is #NotFromConcentrate

CAMRA defines real Cider or Perry as being fermented from the whole juice of fresh pressed apples or pears, without the use of concentrated or chaptalised juices. The word 'chaptalised' as used in the definition refers to a process where the alcohol level in a cider or perry is increased by the addition of sugar to an unnatural level for storage, before it is diluted with water to the desired alcohol content for sale.

So is it real?

In order to be real, cider and perry should never be concentrated then diluted – either in terms of the juice used, or the alcohol content. It doesn't matter whether the cider comes in a box, a bottle, a can or through keg/cask lines, As long as it's produced by fermenting whole juice without the use of concentrate—then it's REAL!

If you want to know more, why not come to our cider tasting event at the Turks Head on Saturday 29 August where a few of us will be on hand to talk you through it.

DISCOVER TRUE FLAVOUR!

REAL CIDER TASTING

Everyone Welcome

- Free to CAMRA members
- £5 none members
- includes samples of 6 ciders

Space is limited. Get there early

4PM | SATURDAY 29 AUGUST
at THE TURKS HEAD

Enjoy the real thing and try a real cider!

Real Ale: Live, natural and fresh

Don't fall for an imitation



Real ale is a living, natural product that continues to mature in the container, creating a complex depth of flavour and a smooth, gentle carbonation you won't typically find in mass produced beers. By choosing a pint of live beer, you're experiencing a fresh, unpasteurized drink bursting with distinct character while directly supporting independent breweries and historic British pub culture.

For those that want to know what CAMRA's formal definition of real ale and live beer is here you go:

Understanding Real Ale: The Modern CAMRA Definition

Since CAMRA was formed in the early 1970s, the beer world has changed dramatically. To keep up with modern brewing techniques, CAMRA uses the overarching term “**Live Beer**” to define the core of what real ale is, before breaking down the specific characteristics of traditional “**Cask-Conditioned Beer**.”

Part 1: What is “Live Beer”?

At its simplest, CAMRA defines a live beer as a beer that is **alive and maturing inside its final container** (whether that container is a cask, bottle, can, keg, or tank).

The Technical Rule: To be classed as a live beer, when it is first put into its container, it must have:

At least **100,000 cells of live yeast** per millilitre.

Enough **fermentable sugar** left over to create a measurable secondary fermentation inside that container.

Part 2: What is “Cask-Conditioned Beer”?

CAMRA defines cask-conditioned beer (traditional Real Ale) as a **live beer that continues to mature in its cask, with any excess carbon dioxide vented out so it can be served at natural atmospheric pressure.**

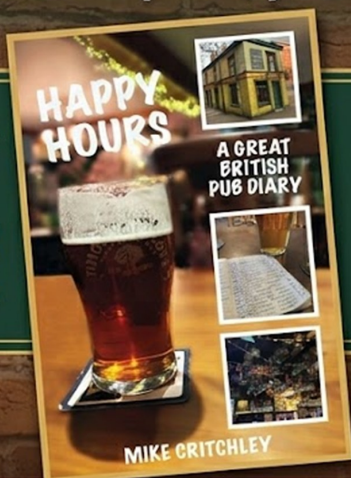
Beware

You may come across some pubs with what looks like a hand pull but showing a pump clip that says brewery conditioned. This is **NOT** real ale but just what CAMRA considers a misleading way of selling keg beer.

For more information check out www.sthelens.camra.org.uk/realale

MEET THE AUTHOR EVENING

*Learn about St Helens &
Districts pubs, past & present!*



**GUEST AUTHOR:
MIKE CRITCHLEY**



CAMRA
St Helens & Districts



**FESTIVAL
OF PUBS**

Festival sponsor



**AT THE CORNERSTONE INN, ST HELENS
THURSDAY 27 AUGUST AT 6.30 PM**

**St Helens & Districts
CAMRA**

**5th Annual
Pub Treasure
Hunt**

**Sunday 30 August
Meet 12.00 noon at
The Royal Alfred**

**Have you got what it
takes?**

A pub trail and quiz all in one

**Ideally 1 - 6 people per team
£1 per person**

Love a Good Pint? So Do We – Let's Make It Even Better!

We're the **St Helens & Districts branch of CAMRA** - a passionate group of volunteers dedicated to promoting **real ale, cider, and perry** in your local pubs and clubs. We're already part of a thriving scene across **St Helens, Billinge, Earlestown, Haydock, Knowsley, Newton-le-Willows, Prescot, Rainford, Rainhill, and Whiston** - and we want YOU to be a part of it too!

What We Do

We're more than just beer lovers - we're campaigners, organisers, and pub-goers who:

- Support local pubs and breweries
- Run pub wanders, socials, festivals & coach trips
- Hold regular meetings (formal *and* fun ones!)
- Keep the Good Beer Guide up to date
- Champion pubs as community hubs
- Promote responsible drinking and inclusivity

Come Along!

Whether you've been a CAMRA member for years or you've just joined, you're welcome to:

- Attend our **branch socials and informal meetings**
- Join us on **pub trips and events**
- Enjoy a pint and a chat with fellow beer enthusiasts!

How You Can Help

We're always looking for more hands (and minds!). Here's how you can get involved:

- ☒ Visit local pubs and send us updates
- ☒ Volunteer to help at an event
- ☒ Submit beer scores via **the CAMRA website**
- ☒ Chat with us on **social media**
- ☒ Write articles for our **newsletter**
- ☒ Campaign with us by contacting your MP

Whether you want to commit a lot or just a little, every bit helps. You don't need to be an expert - just bring your enthusiasm!

Interested? Get in touch today!

Email: contact@sthelens.camra.org.uk

**Be part of something brilliant -
help keep the St Helens real ale scene buzzing!**