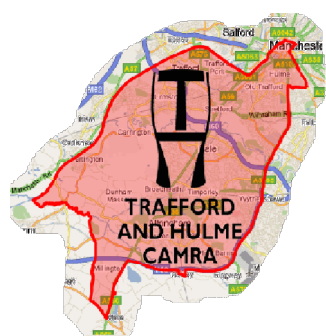


BRANCH HANDBOOK

A short guide to the branch and its activities

Welcome to Trafford & Hulme CAMRA. This handbook is designed to give branch members an introduction to the branch, what it does and how it works. It contains some information about the branch, a short guide to its campaigning and social activities and contact details for the branch officers. There is lots more information about the branch available on our website at www.thcamra.org.uk

About the branch



Although CAMRA was formed in 1971, Trafford and Hulme branch didn't come along until October 1977. The branch name represents what were its pub heartlands at the time of formation - the metropolitan borough of Trafford and the Hulme area of Manchester. Today the branch still covers all of Trafford, but also encompasses a large part of Manchester City Centre (basically bounded by the Irwell, Market Street, Mosely Street and Oxford Street) along with the western part of Manchester including Hulme, Whalley Range and

Chorlton-cum-Hardy.

We are one of 8 branches which form CAMRA's Greater Manchester Region and one of 200 branches across the country. With in excess of 900 members, we are not the largest branch in the country but are far from the smallest.

Branch structure

The branch is run by its members. The branch holds monthly open meetings where members can discuss the campaigns and activities of the branch (over a beer of course). The branch committee leads the different areas of branch activity with many members helping out the branch officers by taking on roles supporting particular campaigns or organising events.

The branch holds its Annual General Meeting each October, where the officers for the next year are elected and the branch's activities in the past year are reviewed.

More information

The branch website is the main source of information on branch campaigns and events, as well as being a resource for visitors to our area to find pubs & brewery information. Have a good look around at www.thcamra.org.uk

Members are encouraged to join the branch e-mail list to receive information on events, agendas and minutes of meetings and other information of interest to members direct to your inbox. If you are not already signed up - just e-mail secretary@thcamra.org.uk

News is also posted to the branch's Facebook page "Trafford & Hulme Campaign For Real Ale" and Twitter feed [@thcamra](https://twitter.com/thcamra)



CAMRA - A Campaign of Two Halves

Campaigning for Pub Goers & Beer Drinkers

Enjoying real ale & pubs



CAMRA's LocAle scheme aims to encourage pubs to permanently stock beers from local brewers as opposed to heavily promoted national brands.

Participating pubs are given free publicity materials and promotion on the branch website and in local newsletters.

Members can help by looking out for new pubs to participate in the scheme and by encouraging the ones already signed up to use the LocAle materials.

Branch Meetings

The branch meets formally on the first Thursday of every month at a different pub or club across the branch area.

Branch officers give reports on activity within the branch and ideas for both campaigning activity and social events are discussed.

Meetings start at 8pm (8.15 in the city centre) and typically last between 1.5 & 2 hours (with breaks for glass refills).

Surveying Socials

A chance to meet up with fellow members over a pint or two, socials are held two or three times a month, usually on Thursday evenings.

Each social visits a different part of the branch and usually takes in 3 or 4 pubs (depending on the area).

As well as being a great opportunity to sample different beers and different pubs, socials help us keep up to date on what is happening in pubs around the branch, collecting beer scores and helping us keep our pub database up to date.

Day Trips

Manchester & Trafford have many great pubs serving excellent ale & cider, but we're not alone in this.

Every couple of months we take a Saturday trip to another town or city, visiting a selection of their best pubs.

Recent day trips have included the the Black Country & the pubs of Leek.

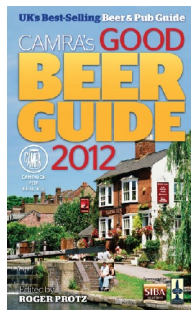


Beer Scoring

One of the easiest ways to get involved in CAMRA's campaigning is simply by scoring the beer you drink in pubs.

The scores provided by members are used to select pubs for The Good Beer Guide, the campaign's flagship publication.

Scorecards can be downloaded from the branch website and scores submitted online at www.beerscoring.org.uk. Scores can also be sent by e-mail or post.



Opening Times Out Inn CHESHIRE

The branch doesn't produce its own newsletter but we contribute to and distribute regional newsletters Opening Times and Out Inn Cheshire to our pubs. New contributors and distributors are always welcome.

Beer Festivals

Beer and cider festivals are where campaigning & enjoying real ale meet. Festivals introduce thousands of drinkers to our real ale and traditional cider for the first time while raising funds to support our campaigns.

Volunteering at CAMRA festivals is how many members first get involved with CAMRA. There is great camaraderie amongst volunteers and of course plenty of ale & cider to sample as a thank you for your efforts.

The branch runs the annual Chorlton Beer and Cider Festival in July. Branch members also volunteer at the regionally organised Manchester Beer & Cider Festival (January @ Manchester Velodrome) and the Greater Manchester Cider and Perry Festival (June @ The Palace Hotel).

Quiz Socials

A relatively new event introduced in 2012 are occasional socials taking in pub quizzes around the branch. There's no set teams, we just meet up at the nominated pub, split up into teams depending on the quiz rules and pit our wits against the regulars. Whether you are a quiz fan or just fancy a night out, new faces are always welcome to join the teams.

Brewery Visits

Held 2 or 3 times a year and always a firm favourite are trips to our local breweries.

Learn about the brewing process, ask the brewer questions and of course sample their work.

Recent trips include Sarah Hughes & Wilson Potter breweries.

Meet your branch committee

Chair: Paul King - chair@thcamra.org.uk

As well as chairing branch meetings, the chair is the main conduit between the branch and CAMRA's regional and national committees.

Vice-Chair: John O'Donnell chair@thcamra.org.uk

The vice-chair stands in when the chair is absent.

Secretary: Caroline O'Donnell - secretary@thcamra.org.uk

The secretary takes minutes of branch meetings, maintains the branch diary and is responsible for much of the branch administration.

Treasurer: Andy Jenkinson - treasurer@thcamra.org.uk

The treasurer looks after the branch's funds, incoming and outgoing.

Membership Secretary: Beth Ingham - membership@thcamra.org.uk

The membership secretary is responsible for recruitment, activation and retention of members including communicating with members and stocking forms in pubs.

Pubs Officer: Andy Jenkinson - pubs@thcamra.org.uk

Assisted by Pubs Database Manager Mark Reeves - inventory@thcamra.org.uk

The role of the Pubs Officer is to stimulate and co-ordinate the Branch's pubs campaigning activities and maintain a database of pubs in the area.

Social Secretary: George Elmslie - social@thcamra.org.uk

The Social Secretary organises regular branch socials to pubs & breweries.

Press & Publicity Officer - Vacant

The local CAMRA contact for press enquiries, issuing press releases and ensuring CAMRA publicity materials are available in pubs across the area

Public Affairs: Tim Field - public_affairs@thcamra.org.uk

The public affairs officers are the conduit between CAMRA and local MPs and councillors ensuring CAMRA's aims are furthered.

Cider & Perry Officer: Paul King - cider@thcamra.org.uk

Promotes traditional cider and perry within the branch's pubs

NBSS Co-ordinator: Jon Gobbett - beerscores@thcamra.org.uk

Collects and collates all your beer scores - send them to Jon at this address.

Under 30s Contact: Bernard Randall - under30@thcamra.org.uk

A contact for younger CAMRA members in our area.

Branch Contacts: John O'Donnell - enquiries@thcamra.org.uk

The public's contact point for the branch and recipient of communications from CAMRA HQ.

Webmaster: David Wade - webmaster@thcamra.org.uk

The webmaster is assisted by a team (Nick Earle, Paul King, Jon Gobbett, John O'Donnell, Adam Bruderer) to keep it up to date.