



Campaign for Real Ale  
Stroud CAMRA  
Minutes 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025



1. Attendance & Apologies

**Attendees:** Peter Bennetts, Bob Brooks, Bob Fletcher, George Hill, Tony Hill, Chris Hall, Andy Long, John McMahon, Tim Mars.

**Apologies:** Nick Bishop, Andy Burston

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting/Action Status/Matters Arising

a. February Minutes.

February's minutes were accepted as is.

b. Action Status

Reference	Description	Actionee	Status
Nov #5	Propose itinerary for GBBF 2025 outing	Andy Burston	Ongoing
Jan #2	Create Magpies Club and Juliet Bistro/Bar on Pubzilla	Andy Burston	Ongoing
Feb #1	Stroud vote for RD to be submitted at inaugural meeting in Worcester	Tony Hill	Complete
Feb #2	Clarification on County POTY, C-POTY & COTY competition to be sought	Tony Hill	Complete
Feb #3	Deliver Tiplers to the Ram Woodchester and add to Richard Taylors round	Tony Hill	Complete
Feb #4	Submit article to the Tippler representing Stroud	Tim Mars	Complete
Feb #5	Organise presentation for POTY with Nigel for 02/02/25	Tim Mars	Complete
Feb #6	GBG descriptions need to be entered in Pubzilla for out 2026 GBG candidates	Tim Mars	Complete
Feb #7	Asking membership for GBG 2027 pub nominations through Website and Facebook page.	Chris Hall	Complete
Feb #8	Add discussion on changing POTY, -C-POTY & COTY to March Agenda	Tony Hill	Complete
Feb #9	Publicise social to the Beacon, Haresfield on 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Bob Fletcher	Complete
Feb #10	Survey data for the Crown & Sceptre to be provided to Andy for entry into Pubzilla	Chris Hall/Andy Burston	Complete

c. Matters Arising

None.

3. Officers Briefings

a. Chairs Report

The chair appraised the committee of his and Chris Halls attendance at the inaugural West Central committee meeting at the Saracens Head Worcester. At this meeting Brett Laniosh was confirmed as Regional Director in the election.

The chair raised a question at the meeting relating to the need to announce a Gloucestershire POTY C-POTY and COTY, which included the branches of Cheltenham, North Cotswolds & Tewkesbury branches which had all left Gloucestershire some years ago. The outcome was that the existing competition is as and a new tier is added above. The difficulty is in designation and drawing a distinction but it was agreed to go with:

**"Gloucestershire"** (existing, Cirencester, Dursley, Forest of Dean, Gloucester City & Stroud)

**"Gloucestershire Area"** (new tier, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, North Cotswolds & Tewkesbury).

At the Gloucester Branch meeting the winner for Gloucestershire CPOTY was announce and is the Carpenters Arms, Westrip. The COTY is Chalford Sports & Social Club. The POTY has not been announced as the Forest of Dean have yet to complete their judging which they plan to do this coming Saturday. These winners go forward to compete against Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and North Cotswold winners. Since we were unsure of the process for the judging or the timeline and Peter Bennetts was in attendance this was clarified:

**"Gloucestershire Area"** (new tier, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, North Cotswolds & Tewkesbury) to be judged using the same method as Gloucestershire, organised by Gloucestershire area and completed by end May. Peter further stated that the West Central winners were to be determined by July.

As is usual post Gloucestershire Branch meeting the sub-branch reports will be provided to active members through the WhatsApp group.

#### **Action #1 Tony Hill**

During a pub survey at the Old Crown, Ebley it was established that, Anne the barmaid has worked bar at the Old Crown Ebley for 25 years. A question was raised as to should we present her with an award. The committee felt this would be a good idea. Action to confirm the length of service

#### **Action #2 Tony Hill**

The Old Crown Inn, Ebley is due to close in June with the owners already having it on the market. This will coincide with 25 years' service for Anne the barmaid.

The Bowbridge Arms, Stroud closed on Saturday 28th December. New owners were planning to reopen after period of refurbishment early Feb but this this was pushed back to 28th Feb and then again finally reopening on Friday 7th March, looks like 3 real ales from regular breweries. Stroud CAMRA has yet to perform first person survey, though Whatpub is updated.

The Bear, Bisley closed on 2nd March. The tenants are reportedly taking on the Kilkenny in Cheltenham. Whatpub has been updated.

The King Street Social Tap opens 17<sup>th</sup> March for a steady ramp up. This will need creating in Whatpub, in Andy's absence the chair will do this

#### **Action #3 Tony Hill**

The Whitminster inn closed in April – now marked so in Whatpub.

**b. Pubs Officer's Report**

Tim reported that he had updated the GBG descriptions for all of our ten 2026 GBG candidate pubs. Tim then highlighted varying fortunes between town and country pubs evidenced by another town pub investment by Amber Tavers, The King Street Social Tap.

**c. Pub Data Officer's Report**

In absentia, no report. Andy did however inform the Chair that The Rose Inn Paganhill is for Sale. An advert may be found on line for the freehold sale where offers are invited in excess of £399,950.

**d. Webmasters Report**

Chris reported that traffic is up on both the Stroud CAMRA website and the Facebook page. He went on to outline how he had offered to help with Gloucester's Website and give it a common look and feel with ours so that some content can be shared across both.

**4. Threatened Pubs Update**

Currently we have two threatened pubs, for which community groups were working to save, the Rose & Crown – Nympsfield and the Kings Head - Kings Stanley.

**a. Rose & Crown – Nympsfield**

Latest news:

12/02/2025 - We are excited to announce that we have reached an agreement with the pub's owner to purchase the Rose & Crown Inn! 🍷👑❤️

We have instructed a law firm experienced in commercial property transactions that has worked with several community pubs, and we intend to complete the purchase by the end of March.

In parallel, we have launched a Membership Loans Offer to raise the additional funds required to complete the purchase and begin renovation work on the pub. The offer is exclusively available to investors in Nympsfield Community Pub Limited - If you are an investor, please check your emails for more information.

and recognise the value of the Rose & Crown Inn to our local community.

For all the latest information check the Facebook page:

[https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61559116111731&locale=en\\_GB](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61559116111731&locale=en_GB)

**b. Kings Head - Kings Stanley**

No news

**5. POTY Presentations Branch POTY Judging & 2026 GBG Entries**

Stroud CAMRA POTY 2025 winner was the Ale House. We presented the certificate to Nigel on Sunday 2nd March. We hope to get this event into the local press.

**Action #4 Tim Mars**

We will be organising the CPOTY presentation next. Sammy offered 3 dates as possible, 12/13 April or Randwick Wap day 10<sup>th</sup> May. The committee felt that 13<sup>th</sup> April was the best option. Liaison with Sammy needed to finalise and then publicise.

**Action #5 Tony Hill**

Committee agreed to go for a May date for the COTY presentation at Chalford Sports & Social Club. Liaison with Rob and Ali Brady needed.

**Action #6 Tim Mars**

We completed our Gloucestershire POTY/CPOTY/COTY judging on 1st March with the following scores/comments.

Award	Venue	Score	Comments
Cirencester POTY	Drillmans Arms, Stratton	█	[REDACTED]
Dursley POTY	New Inn, Woodmancote	█	[REDACTED]
Dursley CPOTY	Hoptician, Dursley	█	[REDACTED]
Forest of Dean	Dog House, Coleford	█	[REDACTED]
Gloucester POTY	Pelican Inn, Gloucester	█	[REDACTED]
Gloucester CPOTY	Pelican Inn, Gloucester	█	[REDACTED]
Gloucester COTY	BMI Club, Upton St Leonards	█	[REDACTED]

**6. 2027 GBG Survey Candidate Pubs**

The following rank order list represents the pubs that are expected to be in the 2026 GBG, and therefore potential candidates for the 2027 GBG for which Spring Gold cards are needed. A partial allocation was made as follows:

Rank	Pub	Location	Spring Judges
1	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
3	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
4	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
5	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
6	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
7	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
8	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

We need an additional 4 pubs to make 12 for yearlong survey. Adding to the pubs agreed at the February meeting are another two, all to be surveyed as potential entries to the 2027 GBG:

Pub	Location	Spring Judges
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

These are to be down selected at the next meeting to four additional pubs to make the 12 based on the Spring gold card results.

A motion was proposed to change the way we arrive at our POTY for next year. The current system is time consuming, gets little traction with voters, only 27 of over 150 so turnout of less than 20% and favours the best-known town pubs. The chair understood the proposal was to determine our shortlist in the usual way but then vote at committee on the winner with voting members needing to have recently visited all shortlisted to allow a proper competition where the merits of each venue are compared and contrasted. This would be a similar process to other sub-branches notably Dursley. However, this proposal was not widely accepted by committee with several different variations proposed. It was accepted that the member vote would be dropped and that due to time constraints the discussion on the exact format for determination by committee would roll forward to the next meeting.

**Action #7 Tony Hill**

**7. Breweries Update**

**The Fresh Standard Brewing Co**

The Taproom is now back with foodie weekend. They have won another award this time through Untappd where they won Bronze - Mild (Other) - Red Mild, Fresh Standard.

**Keep Brewing**

As of February 2025, Keep Brewery have rebranded into The Village Inn Brewhouse. Voyager, 4.7%, the English IPA has become Every Firkin Time. Moon Base, 4.8%, the Milk Stout has become That's No Firkin Moon. So far, it has been joined by a new single hopped Pale Ale made with Styrian Wolf hops, Wolf, 3.7%.

**Stroud Brewery**

Stroud Brewery's 1830 @4.5% ABV is available again. They said *"Our best bitter flew out last year, so we've brought it back for round two! Rich toffee malt, a touch of dried fruit, and a smooth, floral hop character—proper classic pint vibes."*

## 8. January/Future Socials

A discussion on where to go for the next social was around two options, the Falcon followed by the Oak, Painswick or Bowbridge Arms, followed by the Crown & Sceptre. The decision went the way of the Bowbridge Arms, followed by the Crown & Sceptre. It was agreed to go for 23/04/25

**Action #8 Bob Fletcher**

## 9. Pub Data/Surveys

The Carlton Club, Stroud was fully surveyed on 16th February and fully updated on Whatpub. Thanks to Chris Hall:

<https://camra.org.uk/pubs/carlton-club-stroud-172237>

Stonehouse Court Hotel was fully surveyed on 19th February and fully updated on Whatpub:

<https://camra.org.uk/pubs/stonehouse-court-hotel-stonehouse-171700>

The Old Crown Inn, Ebley was fully surveyed on 19th February and fully updated on Whatpub:

<https://camra.org.uk/pubs/old-crown-inn-ebley-171530>

The Beacon & Railway Hotel, Haresfield was fully surveyed on 26th February and fully updated on Whatpub. Thanks to Andy Burston:

<https://camra.org.uk/pubs/beacon-railway-hotel-haresfield-171589>

The Anchor, Epney was fully surveyed on 26th February and fully updated on Whatpub:

<https://camra.org.uk/pubs/anchor-epney-171531>

The Prince Albert, Rodborough was fully surveyed on 27th February and fully updated on Whatpub:

<https://camra.org.uk/pubs/prince-albert-stroud-171667>

The Regal, Gloucester, was fully surveyed on 1th March and fully updated on Whatpub:

<https://camra.org.uk/pubs/regal-gloucester-172089>

The Stirrup Cup, Bisley was fully surveyed on 5th March and fully updated on Whatpub:

<https://camra.org.uk/pubs/stirrup-cup-bisley-171460>

The Woolpack, Slad was fully surveyed on 5th March and fully updated on Whatpub:

<https://camra.org.uk/pubs/woolpack-slad-172001>

The following list of outstanding surveys is in priority order:

Pub	Last Survey Date	Reason
King Street Social Tap	None	New Venue
Cross Hands, Stroud	04/01/2013	Aged data
Fountain, Stroud	30/10/2020	Tenancy Change
Waypoint, Painswick	05/11/2022	Tenancy Change
Bowbridge Arms (reopened 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar)	08/01/2019	Tenancy Change
Curio Lounge, Stroud	01/08/2021	Aged data
Retreat, Stroud	28/08/2021	Aged data
Falcon Inn, Painswick	01/12/2021	Aged data

Any members can do the survey on the form provided in our WhatsApp group and returned to our Pubs Data Officer Andy Burston or Chair Tony Hill. As many Photos as possible should be taken in landscape format and again returned to the aforementioned.

#### 10. Any Other Business

Spring Tippler is out. Stroud got one article in. The Tippler deliveries completion status is as follows:

<b>Roundsman</b>	<b>Completion</b>
Nick Bishop (7)	Complete
Bob Brooks (10)	Complete
Andy Burston (7)	Complete
Bob Fletcher (8)	Complete
Tim Mars (8)	Ongoing
Richard/Charlotte Taylor (9)	Complete

#### **Date and time of the next meeting**

Wednesday 9th April at 19:30      [chair@stroud.camra.org.uk](mailto:chair@stroud.camra.org.uk)

## Stroud CAMRA Calendar 2025

<b>Date 2025</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Tewkesbury Winter Ales Festival	Watson Hall, Tewkesbury
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting Spring GC Assessments allocated	The Ale House 7.30pm
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> February	2026 GBG ranked list of 10 to be submitted to Branch. Updates to GBG descriptions commence	N/A
15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Great British Beer Festival - Winter	Burton Town Hall
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Deadline for all 2026 GBG descriptions to be entered in Pubzilla	N/A
Tue 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting (week later than normal due to availability)	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
13 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Pelican Inn Winter Ale Festival	Pelican Inn, Gloucester
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Winner of POTY to be sent to RD	N/A
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Gloucestershire Area Branch Meeting	Fountain Inn upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
11 <sup>th</sup> - 13 <sup>th</sup> April	CAMRA Members' Weekend, AGM & Conference	Riviera Centre, Torquay
Tue 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting Spring GC assessments conclude Summer GC Assessments allocated	The Ale House 7.30pm
Date TBD	2026 GBG Proofs are received	N/A
Date TBD	2026 GBG Proofs are approved	N/A
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Cotswold beer festival.	Postlip Hall Tithe Barn
Date TBD	Good Beer Guide 2026 Licensee packs are due to be sent	N/A
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> August	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting Summer GC assessments conclude Autumn GC Assessments allocated	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> September	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm
Tue 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Gloucestershire Branch Meeting	Pelican upstairs 7:30pm
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting Autumn GC Assessments conclude POTY candidates determined and Shortlist for 2026 GBG finalised	The Ale House 7.30pm
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Stroud CAMRA Monthly Meeting	The Ale House 7.30pm