

2 WINNERS BUT WHO WILL BE CROWNED OVERALL THANET PUB OF THE YEAR??

Thanet CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) members nominated their favourite pubs resulting in a list of 23 pubs which were all visited by the volunteer judges and measured against the national criteria of atmosphere, décor, welcome, service, value for money, customer mix and most importantly – community links and quality of beer. The Pub of the Year is part of the national contest with the ultimate aim to be named the National Pub of the Year with the overall winner, who will be revealed during the presentation of their category certificate, going on to compete against the best of Kent in the Regional round. In recognition of the large quantities of micropubs on the Isle of Thanet this year we split the competition into two categories, with Traditional Pubs and Micro Pubs being judged resulting in two category winners.



THANET TRADITIONAL PUB OF THE YEAR 2019

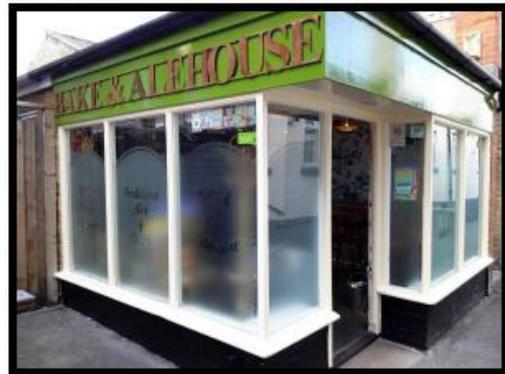
THE MONTEFIORE ARMS, RAMSGATE has been named as Thanet CAMRA's Traditional Pub of the Year 2019 and Eddie Gadd said "We serve really, really good beer in a warm, friendly atmosphere, and we believe this is the true essence of what a pub should be. I think this award recognises that, so I'm really chuffed to get it". This snug pub, Thanet CAMRA's Pub of the Year 2013, was at one time tied to Flint and Co of Canterbury. It appears to have started life as two cottages. J Fowler was the publican in

1885, which was the year Sir Moses Montefiore died aged 100. The pub's name and sign are unique. They honour the great centenarian, whose connections with the town are legendary. Montefiore had a varied life as a financier, Sheriff of London and campaigner for Jewish rights in the Middle East. Locally, however, he is remembered principally as a benefactor to the town's poor. For a good part of his life he lived at East Cliff Lodge, where he entertained such notables as Princess Victoria. Since September 2014 has been run by Eddie Gadd of the nearby Ramsgate Brewery.

Runner up in this category was **Banks Ale & Wine House, Cliftonville**.

THANET MICRO PUB OF THE YEAR 2019

THE BAKE & ALEHOUSE – WESTGATE-ON-SEA scoop the Micro Pub of the Year 2019 award. Situated in a former retail and office premises the pub can be found down an alleyway between the bookmakers and the Carlton cinema. This welcoming Micropub is an oasis for the real ale drinker which serves a selection of five ever changing real ales sourced mainly from Kentish breweries. The beers are served straight from the cask from a temperature controlled room. With seating for



around 18 people the well-considered layout makes the most of the small interior. Colanders are used as lampshades and collages depicting baking and beer memorabilia decorate the walls.

For the non real ale drinker there is a small selection of premium spirits and mixers. Tea and coffee can also be made on request. All made and served with love by John Morphy, the Landlord, who said on hearing the news "Keeping the beer on form is important but the people, I can't call them customers they're really friends, are what it's all about and getting this is an honour".

Joint runners up in the Micro Pub of the Year category were **The Hovelling Boat Inn, Ramsgate** and for the second year running **The Old Bay Alehouse, Minnis Bay**.

Jo Walbank, competition co-ordinator said "it is really exciting time for real ale on the Isle of Thanet and these two pubs and in fact all the nominated pubs, demonstrate real commitment to serving their community the best quality real ale and richly deserve their recognition". All winners and runners up will be presented with their certificates very soon check the website for full details www.thanet-camra.org.uk
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