

Sir, may I suggest that the best way to promote the unique draught beer product that is British 'Real Ale' would be to cut either VAT or the beer duty rate on cask beer to make it more attractive to consumers and landlords. This would especially benefit wet only pubs that have missed out on the extra support given to food pubs, as well as the many wonderful small cask ale brewers that supply us, who also need support.

I am a licensee with 40 years' experience in the trade. I particularly like running cask ale outlets but my current pub could not support even 1 cask ale due to poor sales resulting in a poor product. Since CAMRA reviewed their guidance on cask breathers and key cask, there is scope to help outlets such as mine through new dispense techniques.

I trade with Carlsberg Marston's UK and have wondered if ales such as Tetley, Pedigree and Wainwright could be dispensed from Carlsberg's current Draughtmaster system? Having said that, I wouldn't want it to replace traditional casks and cellarman-ship. It's a complex question which I am delighted to see being discussed.

Tim Hughes  
Licensee