

### **Buster Grant, Managing Director - Brecon Brewing**

Having always enjoyed a decent beer, getting involved in the trade was probably inevitable... I first got involved with CAMRA in 1992 whilst I was working in the iconic White Horse in Parsons Green, London. I was seconded to the GBBF to help on a brewery bar, which was an extraordinary experience to say the least. Since then I have been involved with the GBBF and CAMRA locally on a regular basis.

Having left Newcastle University with a degree in Archaeology, I ended up, via a South Africa Gold Mining company, back in London doing a couple of weeks Sound Engineering for a friend. This predictably turned into several years work, doing all sorts of weird and wonderful stuff, mostly on the conference side.

With the Millennium looming, I decided it was time think seriously about the future, so ended up back at University, doing an MSc in Brewing and Distilling – at Heriot Watt in Edinburgh.

Having completed the MSc, I moved to Henley to work for Brakspear's, and when that fine brewery sadly closed, an opportunity arose at a new brewery in Brecon, so off to Wales I went...

In 2007, I started working towards forming a brewing trade association in Wales, and in 2008 the Association of Welsh Independent Brewers (AWIB) was created. In 2012, the AWIB was incorporated into a new wider trade association: Drinks Wales. Drinks Wales aims to promote the whole Welsh Drinks Industry, with members from breweries, cider makers, vineyards, distillers and liquor producers.

I have also acted as the Welsh Director for SIBA, the Society of Independent Brewers since 2009.

In 2011, the opportunity arose to start a new brewery, as all attempts to work with the existing company had floundered, so Brecon Brewing was born.

As well as an obvious passion for beer, I still find a little time to play with Land Rovers, and occasionally manage to get out and race...