

# Pomona Awards – historic data

## 2022 Winner

### James Finch, The Cider Critic

James Finch, otherwise known as the Cider Critic on social media, was recognised in 2022 by CAMRA's prestigious Pomona Award for his fantastic promotion of real cider and perry.

James is one of the original founding cider critics, having started his cider journey back in 2012. Not only does he produce his own blog The Cider Critic, but he also helped Craft Nectar's blog become the number one cider blog in the world in 2018. In early 2021 he joined fellow cider writer Adam Well to launch [www.cider-review.com](http://www.cider-review.com), and together they have produced more than 200 reviews and articles and have mentored a new generation of contributing writers about cider and perry.

James is also a prolific YouTuber, having launched "Fine Cider Friday" videos on his The Cider Critic YouTube Channel in 2019. Today he runs many Instagram Live events and has a significant social media presence as the Cider Critic.

## 2021 Winner

### Susanna Forbes

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2021 to Susanna Forbes, cider expert and author and co-founder of Little Pomona Cider in Herefordshire.

Susanna has a multitude of cider achievements under her belt: in 2018 she published the book *Cider Insider*, and she has also served as drinks editor of Imbibe magazine and as a member of the Guild of British Beer Writers. She and her husband James Forbes established Little Pomona in 2015, crafting a variety of cider and perries from their orchard near Bromyard and partner orchardists around the region. They moved to their current site in 2019 and opened a Tasting Room and Cider Garden in 2020.

## 2020 Winner

### Elizabeth Pegler and Simon Gibson

There were two recipients of Pomona Awards during 2020.

CAMRA presented Elizabeth Pegler, from the Orchard Project, with a Pomona Award for developing the social enterprise Local Fox Cider – a project that combines cider production with food waste reduction and volunteer upskilling to create a fine product that benefits the local community.



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CAMRA presented Simon Gibson, of Simon's Cider, with a Pomona Award for creating interactive mixed cider boxes during the lockdown restrictions and complementary private tasting sessions to help people across the country not only learn about cider and perry production but actually try their hand at blending the product.

## 2014 Winner

### The Cider Workshop

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2014 to Cider Workshop ([www.ciderworkshop.com](http://www.ciderworkshop.com)), an online community and information resource.

Cider Workshop, which is used by cider producers and enthusiasts around the world, was chosen for the depth of information they make freely available to anybody interested in real Cider and Perry.

## 2013 Winner

### Tom Oliver of "Oliver's Cider and Perry"

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2013 to Tom Oliver of "Oliver's Cider and Perry" for his 'work in securing the existence of UK orchards and preserving the tradition of perry production for future generations to enjoy'.

Tom has worked tirelessly to ensure the future of British cider and perry, not only in the protection of UK orchards but also by producing a charter for The Guild of Craft Cider and Perry Producers which outlines the standards to which traditional cider and perry producers should adhere.

## 2012 Winner

### Dr Andrew Lea

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2012 to Dr Andrew Lea for his 'wealth of knowledge, technical support and passion in contributing to the science and understanding of cider and perry production'.

Dr Lea's career started at the Long Ashton Research Centre, near Bristol, and fast forward to the present day, he remains one of the leading authorities in the science behind cider and perry making.

## 2011 Winner



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## National Collection of Cider and Perry at Middle Farm

CAMRA lauded praise on the National Collection of Cider and Perry at Middle Farm, near Lewes, East Sussex, presenting the outlet with its Pomona Award 2011 for an outstanding contribution to the cider and perry industry.

### **2010 Winner**

#### Richard Knibbs of Ye Olde Cider Bar

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2010 to Richard Knibbs of Ye Olde Cider Bar at Newton Abbot.

Andrea Briers, CAMRA's Cider & Perry Campaigning Chair said: "Richard Knibbs thoroughly deserves CAMRA's Pomona Award this year. He has provided the community of Newton Abbot with an outstanding range of quality real cider and perry for the last 40 years in a bar that has changed very little in the last 100 years. Scrubbed tables and settles and not a cushion in sight!

"Cider houses have dwindled over the centuries. They are not pubs and do not sell any beer or any spirits and at the last count, there were only four surviving cider houses in England. Ye Olde Cider Bar is one of these extremely rare and special places."

### **2009 Winner**

#### Mike Johnson of Ross-On-Wye Cider and Perry

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2009 to Mike Johnson of Ross-On-Wye Cider & Perry.

### **2008 Winner**

#### Roger Wilkins of Wilkins Cider

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2008 to Roger Wilkins, Wilkins Cider. A Somerset-based farmhouse cidemaker who learnt his trade at his grandfather's knee. Roger has been making cider since 1969, and winning CAMRA awards since the 1980's. A unique and dedicated individual with a passion for his products that is hard to equal.

### **2007 Winner**



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## The Big Apple Organising Committee

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2008 to Roger Wilkins, Wilkins Cider. A Somerset-based farmhouse cidemaker who learnt his trade at his grandfather's knee. Roger has been making cider since 1969, and winning CAMRA awards since the 1980's. A unique and dedicated individual with a passion for his products that is hard to equal.

## **2006 Winner**

### Jon Hallam and John Reek

Joint Award to Jon Hallam and John Reek. Both wholesalers were jointly awarded the accolade for supplying pubs and beer festivals with a range which would not otherwise be obtainable and encouraging farmers to continue producing cider and perry.

## **2005 Winner**

### Ivor and Susie Dunkerton or Dunkertons Cider Co.

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2005 to Ivor and Susie Dunkerton, Dunkertons Cider Co. Ivor and Susie Dunkerton were the first Soil Association certified organic producers in Herefordshire. They were given the award for their tireless work since 1979 in establishing cider and perry as a premium product, and for their extensive orcharding work.

## **2003 Winner**

### Cymdeithas Perai Seider Cymru (Welsh Perry and Cider Society)

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2003 to Cymdeithas Perai Seider Cymru (Welsh Perry and Cider Society). The society was founded in 2001 to support Welsh-produced craft cider and perry. They were commended for raising the profile of Welsh Cider and Perry, arranging for an annual competition for Welsh producers, encouraging the planting of trees, identifying old varieties and ensuring that more pubs choose to sell real cider and perry.

## **2002 Winner**

### Paul Johnson of Johnson's Farmhouse Cider

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2002 to Paul Johnson, Johnson's Farmhouse Cider. Cider Producer on the Isle of Sheppy making blended cider and cider from his own orchard. He gained



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the award for having the vision to plan an orchard of more than 20 standard cider apple trees with a dozen different varieties.

## **2001 Winner**

Rod Marsh, The National Collection of Cider and Perry

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 2001 to Rod Marsh, The National Collection of Cider and Perry. The manager of the National Collection of Cider and Perry – a unique celebration of our national fruit. However, Rod Marsh declined the award stating “My own contribution to cider in the UK is in its infancy compared to those whose families have striven to make our national beverage through several generations. We need to wake up as a nation and appreciate what we have.”

## **1999 Winner**

Kevin Minchew of Minchew’s Real Cyder and Perry

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 1999 to Kevin Minchew, Minchew’s Real Cyder & Perry. Producer dedication to sourcing, growing, and making cider and perry from historic tree varieties. He was commended for his dedication to tracing old varieties of cider and perry fruit, often thought lost, and ensuring that they continue to be celebrated and enjoyed as real cider and perry.

## **1998 Winner**

Gerry Alton, Brogdale

CAMRA presented the Pomona Award for 1998 to Gerry Alton, Brogdale. Gerry established Brogdale as home to the National Fruit Collections; a genetic pool of cider and perry fruit providing an excellent service for both growers and producers.

