

BEER MATTERS



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FEB 2015

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Sheffield CAMRA



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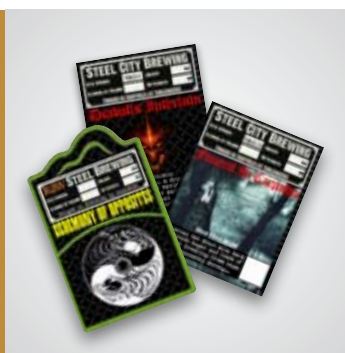
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Happy New Year from Sheffield CAMRA

Welcome to the first *Beer Matters* of 2015, we hope you had an enjoyable Christmas and the new year so far is being kind to you!

We seem to be living in good times for the discerning beer drinker, in our news columns you will read of various new, improved, reopened or reinvented pubs and bars and our growing number of local breweries continuing to be successful - with some of them trying interesting and unusual beers to keep us intrigued and excited - and others consistently producing house staples to a high standard.

On the campaigning front, things seem to be going our way too thanks to putting across a clear and intelligent argument with one voice - that of CAMRA itself, its members and other organisations with aligned interests. The government finally started to listen on the subject of beer tax and are beginning to make the right noises on pub company reform. From our point of view we want to continue to have nice pubs with real ale at affordable prices to visit in the future - however economically having businesses such as pubs open, trading and employ-

ing staff makes sense to the government as it generates tax revenue.

Another interesting development in 2015 seems to be that the bubble is beginning to burst for Supermarket chains in the race to open convenience stores, so the rate of pubs being turned into such shops may slow down.

The concept of micro-pubs along with off-licences featuring sampling bars is growing and really capturing the imagination and whilst we have seen some traditional pubs being turned into shops, we have also seen some shops turned into micro-pubs! Perhaps this reflects a cultural shift as to what is wanted from a community pub - more the atmosphere of a local coffee shop where the family can drop in and relax after shopping with something nice both on the beer and the soft drinks front?

So, the local beer scene has seemingly never had it so good and it is exciting times to be part of it. Here in Sheffield & District CAMRA (and also in our Dronfield & District sub-branch) we are looking for new people to get involved and volunteer. We need people to help keep our pub

database up to date (which powers whatpub.com), we need people to be official brewery liaison officers, we need a new membership secretary and more. The branch AGM is coming up in April and it would be wonderful to get more than the usual old faces on board, shake things up a bit and get everyone passionate about what we do. Of course it isn't just about doing voluntary jobs - we want more people enjoying the social side too and enjoying beer together and we intend to have lots going on during 2015 including brewery tours, beer tastings and more.

Finally, following the success of our new look Steel City Beer & Cider Festival

at Kelham Island Industrial Museum last October, we have started planning this years and have provisional dates - 21st to 24th October with set up commencing from Monday 19th and takedown on Sunday 25th. We intend to build on the success of last year with a few tweaks to improve certain areas based on feedback from staff and customers. If you are a CAMRA member and interested in joining the committee that organises the festival, please do come down to the next planning meeting. You do not need to have any experience in organising festivals, just enthusiasm and a willingness to get things done.

Andy Cullen

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Web:

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Events:

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List your local!

The Sheffield Star (27th December) recently commented on the low number of Sheffield pubs which are officially an Asset of Community Value (ACV).

The Localism Act (2011) allowed communities in England to nominate valued facilities such as pubs as “assets of community value”. When pubs are listed this enables communities to “stop the clock” for up to six months if they are put up for sale in order to consider local

options to save the pub.

In Sheffield, there have been only three applications to list a pub as an ACV. The Castle Inn at Bolsterstone was successfully listed in April 2014. The Sheffield City Council (SCC) evaluation document states: ‘This is a commercially viable pub business. However in addition it also facilitates community activities on a regular basis..... the evidence provided shows that the pub provides a number of community uses and that these community uses could legitimately be considered to contribute to its viability it appears that the evidence provided demonstrates that this property’s actual and current use furthers the social wellbeing and interests

of the local community and satisfies the statutory tests.’

However, applications to list the Queens Ground (Langsett Road) and the Old Cart and Horses (High Green) were both unsuccessful (August and September 2014). The main reasons seem to be a lack of ‘evidence to paint a picture of a cohesive section of the community centred around the Property’ (Queens Ground). The City Council documentation also mentions that, in each case, there are a number of other pubs available locally.

In contrast, two Derbyshire pubs in the Sheffield CAMRA Branch area have applied for, and are listed as, an ACV. The Angel (Spinkhill) is expected to reopen in the near future and the Anglers Rest

(Bamford) is now a successfully-run community-owned local, including a cafe and Post Office.

It is difficult to extrapolate from only three applications. However, it seems that, perhaps, SCC is taking an unduly rigorous line regarding the interpretation of the evaluation criteria. We await, other ACV applications, with interest.

Sheffield City Council documentation:

tinyurl.com/l57qkww

CAMRA guide to listing a pub as an ACV:

tinyurl.com/k4yvDNA

Dave Pickersgill
Sheffield CAMRA Pub
Preservation Officer





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2
YEARS

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Events February/March 2015

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<i>Cavendish Charity Meal</i>	-10/02/15
<i>Abbeysdale Ales Night</i>	-12/02/15
<i>World Whiskey Tasting</i>	-17/02/15
<i>White Wine and Nibbles</i>	-19/02/15
<i>Gueuze Beer Night</i>	-26/02/15
<i>Guest Bottles</i>	-03/03/15
<i>Industry workers Night</i>	-05/03/15
<i>World Gin Tasting</i>	-10/03/15
<i>USA Beer Night</i>	-12/03/15
<i>Tequila Night</i>	-17/03/15

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Blue Bee

Well, we've made it into 2015 and new beer keeps rolling out. Firstly, **Ella IPA** 5.0% is the next in our ever popular single hopped IPA series using the Australian hop Ella, with strong apricot, cedar and peach characteristics.

Also new for 2015 is our series of beers named after different groups of numbers. First out and on bars as this month's Beer Matters goes to press is **Natural**, a small IPA packed full of American hops. At 3.5% it's a perfect session beer for the New Year. Second up will be **Integer** 4%. Using one of our favourite hops, Citra, this is sure to be packed full of intense citrus and fruit hop flavours.

If this isn't enough excitement for some of you then we must not forget to mention to look out for our dry hopped IPA, made especially to celebrate The

Three Tuns' Sausage Fest. This event takes place Valentines weekend with lots of sausage based fun. After all, what's more romantic than a plate of bangers and mash with a pint of IPA to wash it down?

February 11th sees the Closed Shop celebrate its 2nd Birthday under the ownership of Reet Ale Pubs. So, we have had assistant manager Christie down at the brewery as free labour, allowing us to spend more time sitting and drinking Earl Grey... The resulting beer is **Red Rye Centennial** 6.0%; it sees us using rye malt for the first time accompanied with copious amounts of Centennial hops. Be sure to try a special dry hopped version at the Closed Shop on the 11th February as well as looking out for it throughout the various other great hostilities of Sheffield.



Intrepid

Having established their core range of three beers, a programme of interesting one off beers under the banner of 'Intrepid Journeys' has commenced. Beers in this range will be interpretations of various beer styles from around the world often brewed in small batches, starting off with a Belgian Saison.

So Journey number 1 is a short hop over the channel into Belgium which is home to some fantastic beer, typically associated with high gravity beers that you might sip or have just one of. The Saison is a departure from the Belgian norm in that it is the easy drinking sibling of the Tripel.

A concern given the time of year is being able to maintain the temperature in the fermentation vessel. Belgian yeast ferments fairly warm and the brewery is about 5 degrees

at this time of year which means the beer may stall. A difference from a true Saison this beer will be casked rather than bottled and served through a pump meaning we can't carbonate the beer as highly as a Saison would normally be.

Saison is a style of beer that is reputed to originate from Wallonia which is in the south of Belgium. It's also known as Farmhouse beer, brewed in fairly variable conditions to quench thirst, not knock you out after two pints.

As with other Belgian beers, the defining characteristic is the flavours from the specific yeast rather than the trend these days towards hoppy pale beers. The Belgian yeasts tend to generate spicy/peppery flavours, described as earthy. So this will be an interesting journey for us as too as our standard beers are defined by the hops, the oak or the malt, the

Journey #1 is expected to be 4.6% ABV with an OG of about 1.046 – medium body – and an IBU of around 25 Not massively bitter – *Explorer* is 35 IBUs for comparison. Noble hops, Perle & East Kent Goldings to extenuate the earthy, spicy flavours. Possibly some Cascade to give it a bit more fruitiness.

The colour is an EBC of 10 – about the same colour as *Explorer*. Malts used are UK Pale, Pilsner, Munich & Wheat possibly a small amount of Special B.



Brand new image Same great beers

You might not recognise our new name but you can't mistake our flavourful beers.

See the 'brewery news' section for more info about us.

Our range has a beer for everyone, from easy going session ales, to hop forward IPA's, traditional Northern bitters and luscious stouts.

Favourites include Thirst Aid, Hop Monster, Stateside Pale, Frontier, and our IPA which was developed from the 2013 Champion Beer of Sheffield. The same great beer but much improved.

You can find our beers across the freehouses of Sheffield and across the country. Not forgetting that there are always six different varieties of ours on the bar in The Harlequin pub.

If you surf the web you can check out our new website or follow us on Twitter for all the latest news 'n' views.



Our monthly speical is now out...

Called simplySESH! This 4.0% pale session ale is hopped with New Zealand Kohatu and American El Dorado then dry hopped in the fermenter with Falconers Flight 7C's. This beer elicits fruity notes, specifically tropical fruit flavors. So easy to drink you'll find yourself on a 'Sesh'

www.exit33.beer

Unit 7, 106 Fitzwalter Road, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S2 2SP.
Tel: +44 (0) 114 2709991 | tweet us @exit33brewing





Steel City Brewing

Steel City's first brew of the year is an away collaboration... Dave realised that he'd somehow managed to not do a single collaboration with Raw in 2014, so put this right with a visit to brew ***Ceremony of Opposites*** (name inspired by the Samael album, obviously...), an oxymoronic Black IPA with the tropical-flavoured Galaxy and Citra hops supplemented by mango and passion fruit.

The second brew was just a day later at 'home' (Toolmakers), this time a stout. ***Diabolis Interium***, meaning, as any scholar of Latin or fan of Dark Funeral will know, 'Devil Within', is the latest instalment in the Black Metal series. It's a dry stout made with oats, dark muscovado sugar for a rummy molasses fla-

vour, chocolate malt and roasted barley, with a big flame-out charge of Bramling Cross hops. A kegged (but still real!) version with honey will be available at the Shakespeare and the Craven Arms in Birmingham, and is called ***Mead From Hell*** (well, it has been a few months since Dave brewed an Alestorm-related beer...). The Shakey will also be getting a version with added rum.

The minikit also made an appearance, for an exclusive 9-gallon brew of ***Funeral in Carpathia***, an Imperial Stout named after a Cradle of Filth track (are you spotting a theme here...). Final ABV is not yet known, but Dave expects to be paying 'Tramp Tax' on this one! A pin of it will appear at the Shakespeare, while the rest

will go in bottles.

Recently we've seen quite a few cases of breweries taking legal action against other brewers over similar names – e.g. Brewsters taking on Brew Star, Camden taking on just about everybody – so when Dave saw there's now a Black Metal brewery in Edinburgh there was only one thing to do – a collaboration! Nothing confirmed yet, but Steel City/Black Metal collabs will definitely happen this year.

More collaborations are lined up for March – a long overdue away collab at not-so-silent Steel City partner Gazza's Hopcraft brewery in Wales, then later the same weekend away to Arbor to brew a sour beer, hopefully with different fruit versions.



Fuggle Bunny Brew House

The brewery will be celebrating its first anniversary of brewing in March 2015, there is going to be a Limited Edition Birthday Ale to celebrate their success. Their latest offering, ***Chapter 7 – Russian Rare-Bit***, a 5% Imperial Black Stout afforded them their first award, securing 1st Place in the stout category at the 40th Sheffield Steel City Beer & Cider festival in October 2014. Due to a successful first year they are currently investing in another FV to keep up with demand, enabling greater production of their Quintessential – Quaffable – Quality award winning Ales.

The Brewery caught the eye of the Sheffield Hallam University Students, who chose them from the many established breweries in Sheffield to use as their project called 'This is Sheffield' which will be exhibited from 21st January until 23rd February at the Made in North Gallery, on Brown Street. Keep hoping onto their website www.fugglebunnybrewhouse.co.uk, facebook & Twitter accounts to keep a breast of more exciting news to follow....The future is bright, the future is FUGGLE.

THE **FOREST** FREEHOUSE

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Blue Print

Flange Noir

Bow Saw

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*1st Saturday each month all Toolmakers beers only £2 a pint
courtesy of Toolmakers Brewery and The Forest*

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**FREE
POOL**

Tuesday & Thursday

**DARTS
DOMINOES
CRIB**

Friday

**BUSKERS
NIGHT**
singers/guitarists
etc. welcome

Saturday

LIVE
ENTERTAINMENT

Sunday

CARVERY
served 12:30 - 3pm
FREE QUIZ
evenings

Monday to Thursday 4 - 11.30pm

Friday 3pm - late

Saturday/Sunday 12noon - late

Gary and Norman welcome customers old and new

10% discount on cask ales for card carrying CAMRA members

Functions catered for - please contact us with your requirements



Spire Brewery reborn

You will remember back in September we reported that the owner of Spire Brewery, Dave McLaren – who retired from brewing with a bad back and wound up the original brewing business - sold the equipment, Spire name and beer range to Gareth Jones, a Chesterfield CAM-RA member. Since then he has been busy doing a lot of cleaning, finding suitable premises to move to and jumping the hoops necessary to obtain a brewing licence for the new company, Spire Brewing Co.

Gareth has now started brewing, with Whiter Shade of Pale brewed on

Tuesday and Chesterfield Best brewed yesterday. Sgt. Pepper Stout is soon to follow.

The new branding continues with new Pump clips and the website is still work in progress but there should soon be a Home page appearing with information.

The plan to update to a 15 barrel plant in the new year is still in place. The search for a Brewer has ended with the new person taking position in the new year.

You can follow the latest news from the new Spire Brewery Company on Twitter @spirebrewingCo



Acorn

Following another record breaking December the brewery is looking forward to a busy start to 2015. Hop contracts have been signed and delivery of the hops for the first half of the year have arrived. Please check our website for regular updated of new and old beers.

Seasonal beers for February are;

White Oak 4.8% – Pale and aromatic bitter with a citrus fruit aroma and hints of tangerine from the Crystal Hops.

Kohatu IPA 5% – Rich golden in colour, this New Zealand hop variety has bags of tropical fruit, also plenty of lime and pineapple notes.



Exit 33 Brewing

Although you may not recognise our name, we actually commenced brewing in Sheffield back in 2008. Up until early 2014 we were called The Brew Company, but a shift in direction saw us move to a new location and we rebranded as Sky's Edge Brewing.

Unfortunately we recently ran into a trademark problem and so we've had a second rebirth as Exit 33 Brewing. (We are located a few miles from the M1 and spend a lot of time going through Exit 33 with our beer so it seemed a fitting name).

The same great distinctive flavourful beers remain; as does the contemporary eye catching branding and we are still associated with The Harlequin pub on Nursery Street.

By the time you read this, a new website should be up at www.exit33brewing.co.uk

GARDENERS REST

What's On...

Wed 28th Jan	John Keane Session 9pm
Fri 30th	Jackalope Tales 9pm
Tue 3rd Feb	Old Time Country Group 9pm
Wed 4th	Tracey's Session 9pm
Fri 6th	M & J Blues 9pm
Sat 7th	Jim O'Mahoney 9pm
Fri 13th	John Keane Session 9pm
Sat 14th	Dogwood Rose 9pm
Tue 17th	Old Time Country Group 9pm
Wed 25th	John Keane Session 9pm
Fri 27th	Jackalope Tales 9pm

Other events to be confirmed

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Ales,
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Music,
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Billiards,
Garden...**

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@gardeners_rest



Abbeydale

Well first of all we would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! We hope that you have all kept to your resolutions, and ours is to carry on brewing more beer for all of you lucky people!

2015 is looking like the year of collaborations over at Abbeydale HQ, early January saw the launch of the **Birdhouse Tea Beer**. Rebecca at Birdhouse made us a special blend of green tea, jasmine, hibiscus, rose petals and summer fruits, which were combined with some lovely Cascade hops. If you haven't been to their shop at Nether Edge, we recommend checking it out!

This month brings the launch of a collaboration with another brewery, and we are excited to be brewing with Rat Brewery of Huddersfield for the first time. The recipe is still being formulated, however expect the brew to be a

strong Red Rye beer with plenty of hops!!! Mmmm hops! Did we mention we like hops?

Keep your eyes and ears open for more collaborations with other exciting people for later on in the year, with the return collaboration with Raw Brewery on the cards soon!

Dr Morton has been very busy recently with the return of **Duck Baffler** and new arrival **Stamped Addressed Antelope** last month, and there are several other new arrivals this month with **Accent Compensation** (4.1%), **Sane Again** (4.3%) and the return of **Cask Paint** (4.1%). All of these will appear at some point in February.

We are looking forward to SIBA BeerX returning to Sheffield next month, we hope to see a lot of you there for that.

Until next time mine's a pint!



Sheffield Brewery Company

There are many good things in life – love, health and happiness. The Sheffield Brewery Company, a local independent brewery, claim to be able to help with at least two of those three! They have launched their Sheffield Brewery Beer Club which offers supporters that join some exclusive benefits.

Members get an invite to their exclusive Last Friday of the Month beer club events with a free pint at the first event after joining. Members then get a discount at the brewery's real ale bar.

Beer Club Members also get discounts on prebooked brewery tour events for their whole party, discounts on brewery merchandise and clothing,

a say in how the brewery is developed and a monthly newsletter.

Sheffield Brewery will also be hosting taste testing panels and advice nights for home brewers, home brewers' challenges and tasting events.

The next Members Club event is on Friday 27th February featuring live music with 4 Piece Zero playing in the Cellar venue at The Sheffield Brewery. This band is brilliant live and covers a repertoire of indie rock and punk hits from the late 70s and 80s.

To join the beer club online email sales@sheffieldbrewery.com, the first 50 applicants for 2015 get discounted price of £10 for session membership.

Toolmakers

Following a successful series of open days at the brewery in the run up to Christmas, another one is planned for Saturday 7th February. It is expected to then become a monthly event.

On the open day the Toolmakers bar opens up with a range of beers brewed on site, live music to keep

everyone entertained, a BBQ in the courtyard and tours around the brewhouse conducted by the brewers themselves.

Additionally the Forest pub around the corner features Toolmaker beers that are different to the ones on the brewery bar at the same reasonable price.

The Hillsborough and Wood St. Brewery

*Alison would like to welcome you to the Hillsborough
to meet our new manager Arron.*

*Situated on the tram route, The Hillsborough has a
superior range of guest ales as well as our own
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Kelham Island Brewery

Two returning classics from the Kelham recipe book this month.

Bête Noire 5.5% Hirisk Stout. A firm favourite brewed every February for many a year. Bête Noire or 'Black Beast' is a strong "hi-risk" stout brewed with a specially selected trio of roasted grain to give a strong dark chocolate roasted nose, a fiery sweet satisfying palate leads to a full finish.

Radar Men From the Moon 4% Cosmic Golden Ale. Makes its annual (early) re-entry to bring you an exciting adventure in a pint pot. Brewed with a blend of Australian and American hops to produce a golden ale with an out of this world aroma of fruit & earthy lychee.

The Fat Cat are the hosts for CAMRA's February meeting, which takes place on Tuesday 3rd February at 8pm.



Punchbowl/Springvale

Tracey and Heather are moving on "to pastures new". We are moving down the hill to the Springvale on Commons. However, we feel we are on the "up and up" and are hoping to continue what we started at the Punchbowl by creating a real community Pub. It doesn't matter what your age, young or old, there will be something for eve-

ryone at our venue.

We will continue serving our appetising food and hosting live bands, jam sessions and Monday night quizzes.

We will have a good selection of cask ales available immediately and after Christmas, with the help of a SIBA listing, we will be able to increase the selection on offer.

The fuller flavour.



WWW.FULLERS.CO.UK
WWW.DRINKAWARE.CO.UK

WHATEVER YOU DO, TAKE PRIDE.

Inn Brief

The **Harlequin** on Nursery Street will be hosting a gin tasting event in February and with over 35 different varieties always on sale the event is sure to be gintastic! For details please phone the pub on 0114 275 8195 or check theharlequinpub.wordpress.com. Also don't forget that for you real cider lovers there's always at least 12 ciders stocked all year round.

The **Miners Arms** on Warren Lane, Chapeltown, has recently been bought by a consortium of local residents and is now a free house. Caroline and Julian who had a long association with the pub have returned as landlords. Currently there are 2 real ales on hand pull and food should reappear by the end of February.

Reet Ale Pubs will be celebrating 2 years of running the **Closed Shop** on Commonsode on the 11th of February with bit of a party. Expect a build a butty buffet, cake, a Christie's quiz special, Blue Bee special beer and much fun and games, alongside the usual selection of great ales and atmosphere. Bus 95 stops close to the pub on a regular basis!

A couple of new quiz nights recently started in our area – Tuesday nights at the **Dronfield Arms** and Wednesday night at the **Beer House** on Ecclesall Road.



Three Tuns

The most important thing to mention this month is... **#sausagefest2015**, a Valentine's sausage extravaganza.

The premise is simple: lots of beer and a showcase of the best sausages Sheffield has to offer. A tasty alternative to Valentine's Day, couples, families and singletons all welcome! Thursday 12th - Sunday 15th February.

Sausage themed games and innuendo aplenty! There will also be veggie sausages and non-sausage alternatives available.

Sunday lunches are starting to take off after some great reviews, so head down to the Tuns between 12 and 6.

New Barrack Tavern

The New Barrack Tavern on Penistone Road has had the builders in to extend the pub and create a new function room which will have its own bar and toilets. This will be available to hire for private parties, events, meetings etc as well as hosting some of the pub's comedy and music nights. More news on this soon!



Ranmoor Inn

Nigel and Vanessa Williams left the Ranmoor Inn, Fulwood Road after 14 years and the pub is now being run by Alex and Katharine Pierce. They have both been at pubs in Derbyshire but this is their first one in Sheffield.

The pub is open plan and has original etched glass windows. There is a heated stable yard at the back which has its own bar for

private parties. Although there is no menu, snacks are always available, including locally made pork pies. Quiz night is Thursday with free chips served.

On the bar is Abbeydale Deception, Bradfield Farmer's Bitter and Farmer's Blonde with

Woodforde's Wherry and a rotating guest beer. The 120 bus serves the pub and is frequent service.



Dove & Rainbow

The Dove & Rainbow, in Sheffield City Centre has launched a new games night on Mondays from 7pm, with 10% off all cask ales. There'll be pool competitions, pinball tournaments and whatever other varieties of games, both geeky and non-geeky, depending on what customers want to bring down with them.

And there's plenty of live music planned too, includ-

ing an all-day fund raiser for St Luke's Hospice on Sunday 8th Feb, which is being run jointly with the Mulberry Tavern. Expect to see bands playing most, if not all Fridays and Saturdays, and some Thursdays too. And alternate Tuesdays (3 and 17 Feb) you can come along and have a go yourself at their regular Open Mic / Jam night, where new faces and talents are always welcome.

THE BEER HOUSE

Sheffield's Micropub

The Beer House

Sheffield's first micropub, the Beer House, opened on 14th December.

The pub sells local ales and drinks, offer games (including chess and backgammon) as well as 'convivial conversation' in a former E-cigarette shop near Hunters Bar roundabout.

Wines and spirits for the pub have been sourced locally, from shop Starmoreboss on Sharrowvale Road, with ales from local breweries. Organic rioja and other more unusual drinks are also on the menu.

The venue consists of two small rooms and a shop front. In the front room is the bar, featuring 6 handpumps, generally with

an every changing range of 5 cask ales – mostly from local breweries but now and again other beers of interest appear from breweries such as Marble of Manchester. There is also a single tap for draught lager – Stancill Brewery's *Sheffield Pilsener*. There are also bar stools and a couple of tables in the bar room. Up a couple of steps to the rear room is a fireplace and some more tables, along with access to the toilets at the back.

The micropub concept seems to have really caught the imagination of local people and proved popular, especially amongst those wanting to relax after shopping in the area!



Inn Brief

Legends Sports Bar at Hillsborough has had a bit of a makeover and an improved beer range introduced along with a change of name – it is now the **Hillsborough Tap & Kitchen**.

Sheffield Heeley MP Meg Munn recently visited the **New Inn** on Hemsworth Road following a £110,000 refurbishment scheme overseen by licensees Clive and Andrea Fletcher and owners Punch Taverns. The work saw major changes take place both inside and outside, including a new seating plan, a new bar and a new beer garden.

The Friendship on Manchester Road in Stocksbridge reopened on 19th December with 'real ales at reasonable prices,' 'log burning fire' and an aim to 'return the pub to its Edwardian glory.' Currently available are two Bradfield beers at £2.20/pint. Buses 57 and SL stop nearby.

The Albion on London Road, which for a time recently was known as the **Bell Jar**, has reopened as a simple, traditional free house pub with a range of cask beers, mostly so far from Abbeydale Brewery.

Anchorage, the smart American inspired bar and restaurant on West One Plaza, have expanded their range of craft beers to include a couple of quality cask beers, one of which is usually sourced locally from Skys Edge Brewery.

There are some new tenants running the **Castle Inn** in Bolsterstone – Tracy and John Raynor have moved there from the **King and Miller** at Deepcar.

Meanwhile at another **Castle Inn** that closed and reopened – the one at Bradway – Craig and Marie continue to run a great local pub on behalf of Tandem Leisure on a use it or lose it basis. Three real ales are always available, all sourced from Yorkshire and the East Midlands and food is available at meal times too (generally 12-2pm and 5-8pm but not on Mondays).

The **Anglers Rest** in Bamford is holding a beer festival on Sunday 22nd February featuring a range of 10 beers, half of which will be from the local Intrepid Brewing Co.

The **Sheffield Tap** celebrated the 2nd birthday of the Tapped Brewing Company with a week of special events in the bar at the end of January.

The **Rawson Spring** in Hillsborough has been named by the Sheffield Star newspaper as their 'best bar of the year'. The Rawson Spring is a Wetherspoons pub with their usual offering of reasonable priced real ales and all day food menu, it has also recently benefited from an upgraded outdoor drinking area. The building is a former swimming baths, located at the tram stop.

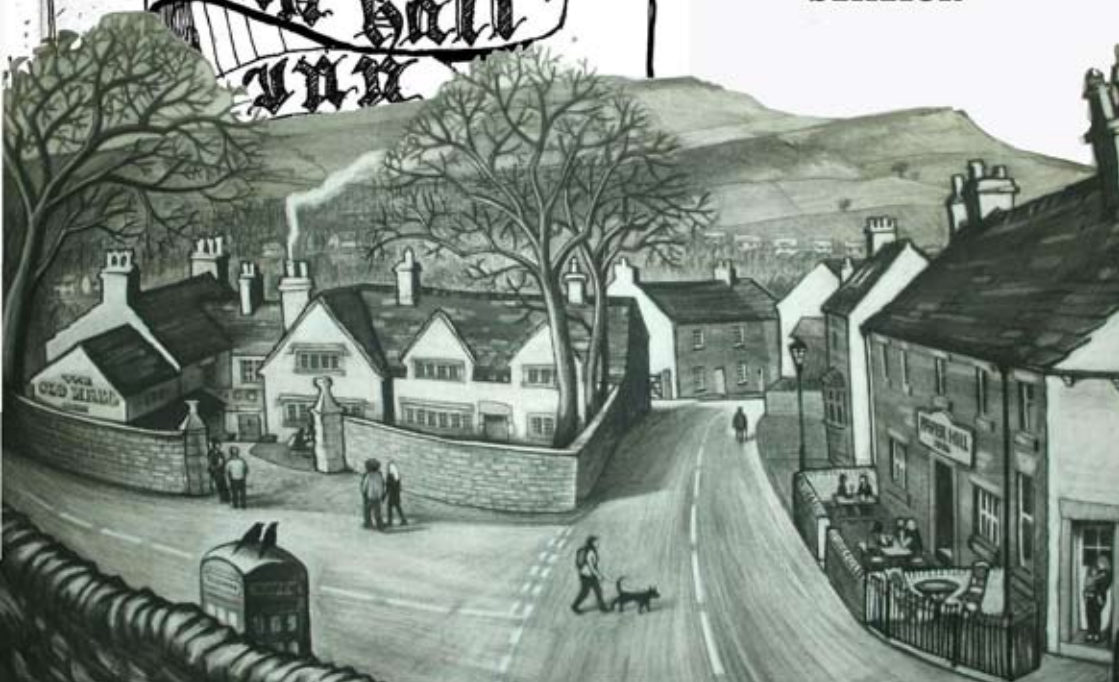
20th-22nd February

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STATION**





The Beer Stop @ Dronfield

In addition to a number of very good pubs, a new craft beer off licence has opened in Dronfield in December. Called The Beer Stop, it is situated at the bottom of Callywhite Lane, behind the post office at Dronfield bottom.

Similar to Real Ale Corner in Chesterfield, it has 2 cask ale pumps, and an excellent range of bottled beers. Not only



bottled beers from local breweries such as Acorn and Bradfield but also bottled beers from the likes of Kernel, De Molen, Brew By Numbers, Rogue and Wild Beer Co. Prices are very reasonable.

The shop, including it's sampling bar, is open Tuesday to Thursday midday to 8pm and Friday to Saturday midday to 10pm.



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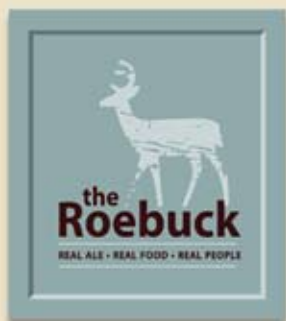
Award-winning beer garden



100% pass
January 2014



March 2014



★ Sheffield CAMRA Pub of the Month December 2014 ★



KARAOKE

LAST FRIDAY
OF THE MONTH



4 TVS
SHOWING
BT SPORT

FREE
XBOX



POOL

2 tables

MUSIC

6th FEB
DJ

7th FEB
Motown &
Northern Soul

13th FEB
14th FEB
20th FEB
DJ

21st FEB
Sneaking
Stupidity

27th FEB
Karaoke

28th FEB
DJ

7th MAR
Motown &
Northern Soul

14th MAR
Amelia Carter
Band

SUNDAY LUNCH

home cooked
12-6pm - £5.99



2 MEALS FOR £10

selected main meals
Mon-Sat 11am-9pm

6 ROTATING CASK ALES

including our
own Wood
Street beers





★ Dronfield Pub of the Season ★ Miners Arms, Hundall

Our Dronfield & District sub branch have voted the **Miners Arms** at Hundall as the winner of their Winter Pub of the Season award.

The Miners is a cosy, traditional rural community pub offering a friendly atmosphere, pool table, TV and a civilised quiet lounge are across its 3 opened out rooms. There is also a conservatory area and outside a fantastic view towards over the valley towards Chesterfield. It also boasts a range of three well kept and keenly priced real ales.

At the time of making the award, the landlord of the last three years was Andrew Gledhill, however by the time this issue of *Beer Matters* is published he will have left the Miners

and the pub trade, with the pub taken over by Lauren White who has previously worked as bar manager at the Tickled Trout in Barlow and Travellers Rest in Apperknowle. She plans on developing the winning formula further!

The pub has a small car park, there is also a very limited bus service through the village that passes the pub's front door – TM Travel route 14 from Dronfield to Chesterfield runs once every 2 hours Monday to Saturday daytime. There is no public transport in Hundall evenings or Sundays.

The Miners will also be taking part in Three Valleys beer festival this summer on 6th June with a free bus every half hour from Dronfield Station.



Vote for Pub of the Month!

Our Pub of the Month award is a bit of positive campaigning, highlighting local pubs that consistently serve well kept real ale in friendly and comfortable surroundings.

Voting is your opportunity to support good, real ale pubs you feel deserve some recognition and publicity.

All CAMRA branch members are welcome to vote at branch meetings or on our website.

It's not one pub against another, simply vote YES or NO as to whether you think the pub should be PotM. If we

get enough votes in time we will make the award.

Nomination forms are available at branch meetings and on the website. The pub must have been open and serving real ale for a year and under the same management for 6 months.

Winners compete alongside our Good Beer Guide entries for branch Pub of the Year, the winner of which is entered into the national competition.

The list of nominees includes which buses to take if you fancy a trip to try them out:

The Nominees

Anglers Rest

Bamford (buses 244, 273, 274, 275)

Broadfield

Nether Edge (buses 75, 76 87, 97, 98)

Dove & Rainbow

City Centre

Royal Oak

Deepcar (buses 57, SL)

Wagon & Horses

Chapelton (buses 29, 75, 79A, 87, 265)

Vote online now at
sheffieldcamra.org.uk

OUR BEERS



Five Rivers
Light and hoppy
session ale 3.8%

GOLD

MAGNA 2013



Sheffield Porter
Darkly delicious
porter 4.4%

GOLD

MAGNA 2011



Crucible Best
Complex, dark
best bitter 3.8%

BRONZE SILVER

MAGNA 2014,13



Blanco Blonde
Lager-style
refreshing
ale 4.2%

SILVER

OAKWOOD 2010



Forgemasters
Robust, citrusy
golden ale 4.8%

BRONZE

MAGNA 2014

We also have a regularly changing range of specials including our single-hop IPA series



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Earl Grey update

How did a bottle from Sheffield reach the Western Front?

Thanks to John Stocks and Martine Welsh for responding to my notes in the December edition of 'Beer Matters' when a glass bottle which on display in the Hooze Crater Museum in Belgium was mentioned. This bottle has these words: "W J Downes, Earl Grey Hotel, Sheffield".

The Earl Grey (97 Ecclesall Road) opened in 1833. The landlord from 1907-1939 was William Jackson Downes. The 1911 edition of 'White's Sheffield District Directory' describes him as a 'victualler.' The prestige of the Earl Grey is indicated by the entry in this directory. There are five pages of listed, 'Hotels,

Inns and Taverns.' Only two entries are listed in bold print: one is the Earl Grey.

William married Florence Ann, the 1911 census including their son, William Sidney, born in 1894 and named after his father. On 18th. October 1915, the Sheffield Evening Telegraph announced the marriage on Thursday 14th. October, 'by the Rev.F.Okell, of Private W.S.Downes, City Battalion, the only son of Mr. and Mrs.Downes, Earl Grey Hotel to May Crook.'

The Sheffield City Battalion was instigated by Sheffield University and aimed to recruit 'professional men.' By the end September 1914, 1,131 had enlisted. Training commenced at Bramall Lane,



but quickly transferred to a Redmires. Accommodation was created on Redmires Road, this site becoming a POW camp in WW2. The area is currently forestry with a perimeter wall, a remnant from a 65 acre 1873 racecourse. Racing lasted for only four years, the final meeting taking place on 19th. July 1876.

The City Battalion was in camp for about six months. They left on 13th. May 1915, arriving in France, via Egypt. After taking part in the Battle of the Somme (the 'big push' on 1st. July 1916), the Battalion withdrew on the evening of 3rd. July, having lost 513 officers and men killed, wounded or missing; a further 75 were slightly wounded. By the early weeks of 1918, the battalion was disbanded.

It seems that William Sidney, returned to Sheffield and married before the Somme. As for the bottle, perhaps, it returned to France with William as a toast for his wedding?

Subsequently, it was probably reused, before finally reaching Belgium.

As for the Earl Grey, the pub was immortalised as part of a 1959 short film, 'Short Stop' yorkshirefilmarchive.com/film/short-stop. This film includes scenes which were shot in the 'back room.'

Martine, whose parents, Pam and Arthur Beardow, were licensees of the Earl Grey from 1972 to 1979, has confirmed that this is the case. In the late 1950's, the Earl Grey hosted a Friday night jazz club where the Imperial Jazz Band played, filming taking place at one of the regular weekly sessions. The room was also used for private functions and included a small bar: by the 1970's this dispensed Whitbread Trophy and Heineken Lager. The pub was demolished in the late 1980's as part of the Sheffield Inner Ring Road development.

Dave Pickersgill



#sausagefest2015
12-15th February 2015

The Three Tuns,
39 Silver Street Head, Sheffield

Sausages supplied by Beeches of Walkley
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Food Served 12-9 Mon-Sat 12-6 Sunday

#sausagefest2015

The Three Tuns
opening hours

Mon-Thur 11:30-11pm
Fri 11:30-12pm
Sat 12-12pm
Sun 12-11pm



Three Valleys 2015 festival confirmed

It has been confirmed the Three Valleys Festival will be back for 2015 on Saturday 6th June, hardly a surprise given how it has been a hit from day one and grown in popularity over the years it has run!

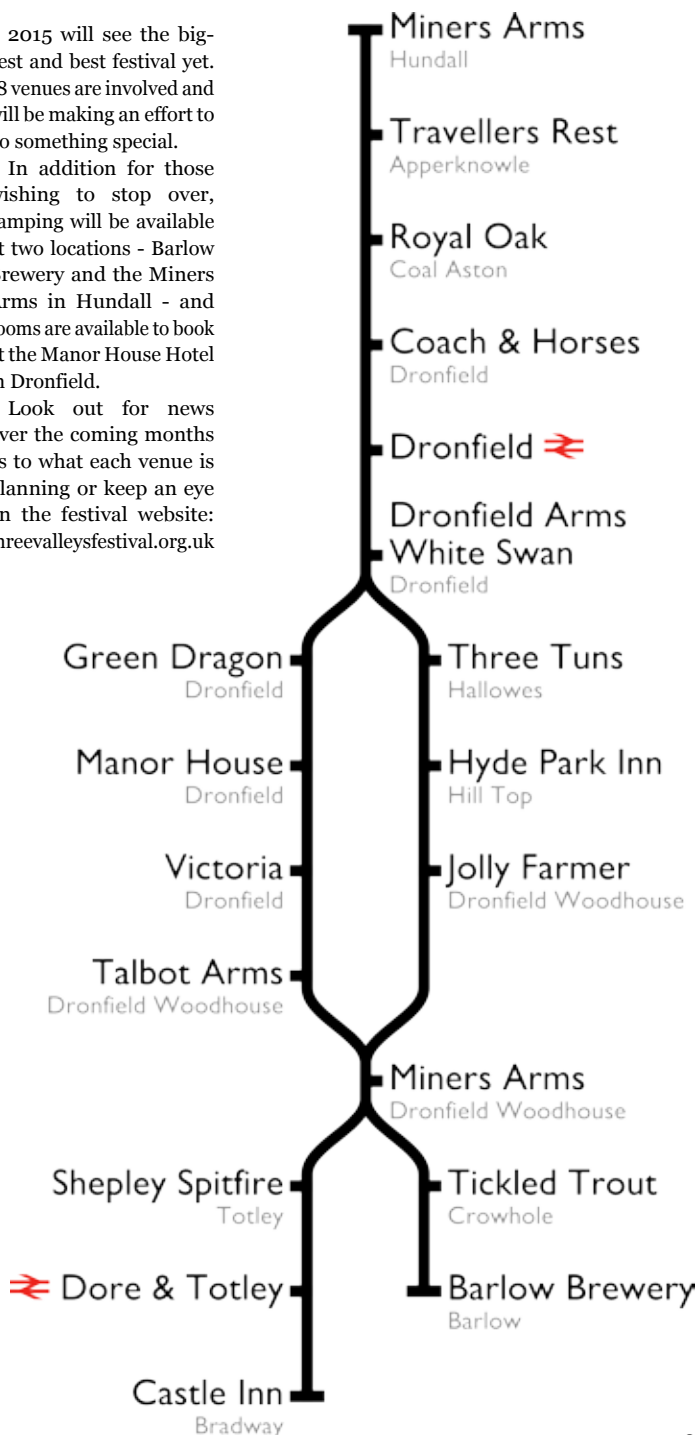
Three Valleys is an almost unique event - a multi venue beer festival with a free bus service linking all the venues every half hour. The festival buses link the venues over three routes, all of which commence from Dronfield railway station, so to take part simply catch a train to Dronfield (10 minute ride from Sheffield) and within no more than 10-15 minutes you will be on a bus to a pub! The buses will run from midday until 11pm.

All the participating venues will have an extended beer range, there will also be cider, food and live music to be enjoyed. As well as the bus service running free of charge, all the venues will offer free entry so all you have to pay for is what you eat and drink.

2015 will see the biggest and best festival yet. 18 venues are involved and will be making an effort to do something special.

In addition for those wishing to stop over, camping will be available at two locations - Barlow Brewery and the Miners Arms in Hundall - and rooms are available to book at the Manor House Hotel in Dronfield.

Look out for news over the coming months as to what each venue is planning or keep an eye on the festival website: threevalleysfestival.org.uk



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Friday 6th February 9.30pm
BLITZ

Saturday 7th February 9.30pm
VAMP

Tuesday 10th February 8.30pm
IN THE SPOTLIGHT
Acoustic session hosted by Kev Percy

Thursday 12th February 8.30pm
OPEN MIC with Chris Firminger

Friday 13th February 9.30pm
KICK THE HABIT

Saturday 14th February 9.30pm
THE PADDY McGUIRE BAND

Tuesday 17th February 8.30pm
TOTALLY UNPLUGGED
Acoustic session
with Julia McNally and Rob Dickinson

Thursday 19th February 8.30pm
OPEN MIC with Chris Firminger

Saturday 21st February 9.30pm
COLDFLAME

Thursday 26th February 8.30pm
OPEN MIC with Chris Firminger

Saturday 28th February 9.30pm
BAD PENNY



t. 0114 255 1500 www.whitelionsheffield.co.uk
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January

Manchester CAMRA

Wed 21 – Sat 24 Jan

This new festival, which replaces the old Winter Ales Festival, is back for it's second year at the Velodrome (National Cycling Centre on Stuart Street, M11 4DQ - next to the Velopark Metrolink tram stop on the line from Piccadilly rail station to Ashton-Under-Lyne) bigger and better than before. Over 500 cask beers feature plus foreign beers, cider and perry with bars located on both the concourse and in the centre of the cycle race track.

Trains run from Sheffield to Manchester Piccadilly up to 3 times an hour, typical journey time 55 minutes. Discounted train tickets are available if you book in advance.

February

Chesterfield CAMRA Winding Wheel

Fri 6 – Sat 7 Feb

The annual festival at the Winding Wheel Theatre in Chesterfield town centre over three rooms on two floors. The main beer and cider bars are in the hall on the ground floor, in the evening there is also live music here. Upstairs includes a bar featuring beers supplied by the Derbyshire Brewers Collective. Hot and Cold food is available in the venue. The festival is open two sessions each day, a lunchtime session from 11am to 4pm (entry £5.50) and an evening session from 6:30pm to 11pm (entry £6.50). Advance tickets advisable for evening sessions, pay on the door for lunchtime sessions.

The venue is close to both the bus stops and rail station. Regular fast trains run from Sheffield and Dronfield to Chesterfield, by bus Stagecoach services 43,44,50,50A and X17 go there from Sheffield.



CAMRA National Winter Ales

Wed 11 – Sat 14 Feb

The home of the Champion Winter Beer of Britain competition where winter beer styles such as stouts, porters, barley wines and old ales are celebrated, however if pale and hoppy ales, brown malty bitters or easy drinking milds are more your thing, don't worry – they are there too! The festival features around 400 real ales plus a good selection of ciders and perrys along with a range of continental beers and live music. The venue this year is once again the Derby College Roundhouse, which many years ago was a railway engine shed, now a seat of learning! The Roundhouse is easy to get to, located right next to Derby railway station (use the Pride Park exit at the rear of the station). Trains run from Sheffield to Derby up to 4 times an hour, journey time about 35 minutes.

March

Leeds CAMRA

Thu 12 – Sat 14 Mar

Features nearly 200 different real ales from Yorkshire and beyond, this years festival theme is Rugby. There is also a range of cider, perry and world beers plus food. Venue is Pudsey Civic Hall, a short walk from New Pudsey railway station (Leeds-Bradford Interchange line).

More info on festival website.

SIBA BeerX

Fri 20 – Sat 21 Mar

SIBA host their annual BeerX in Sheffield at Ice Sheffield again this year which combines their conference, trade show, champion beer awards and a public beer festival into one big celebration of beer. The beer festival element takes place on the Friday and Saturday with a 30 meter long bar with a massive row of pumps working their way through a list of 250 beers that featured in the competition (note not all 250 beers are on at the same time).

The festival is open from 2pm to 11pm on the Friday, with the Everley Pregnant Brothers performing on stage in the evening, Saturday it is open from midday to 11pm with rugby on the big screen in the afternoon and live music in the evening from Bootleggers, a covers band 'supergroup'. There is plenty of seating and also an outside street food enclosure.

Ice Sheffield is easy to get to, it is located alongside the Arena and Don Valley Bowl close to the Arena tram stop. Trams on the Yellow route run there from Sheffield Centre and Meadowhall every 10 minutes during the day and every 20 minutes in the evening until late. Buses 69 and 74 run along Attercliffe Common less frequently.

TBA

Rotherham Magna Real Ale & Music Festival

We've had lot of people asking if the festival is happening this year as they haven't seen it advertised. Magna will be happening this year but later in the year than normal - watch this space for the dates once announced!

April

Doncaster CAMRA National AGM in Nottingham

May

Barrow Hill Rail Ale Lincoln CAMRA Stockport CAMRA

June

3 Valleys



July

Derby CAMRA Thornbridge Great Peak Weekender

August

Great British Beer Festival Peterborough CAMRA Beer The Festival

September

Birmingham CAMRA York CAMRA

October

Sheffield CAMRA (Steel City) Nottingham CAMRA Huddersfield CAMRA Norwich CAMRA Crookes Social Club

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lively friendly atmosphere



Sheffield & District

Info and bookings:

Richard Ryan (see right)

Branch meeting

7:30pm Tue 3 Feb

The formal monthly meeting all branch members are invited to attend to share pub, club and brewery news, vote for pub awards, catch up on what is happening in the campaign and be updated (and have influence) on branch matters.

This month we have a guest speaker, Dave Mountford, talking about pub campaigning and specifically the issue with how pub companies operate.

Venue this month is the Fat Cat on Alma Street in Kelham Island.

Festival planning meeting

8pm Tue 17 Feb

We continue work on plans for the 2015 Steel City Beer & Cider Festival, which we anticipate will take place at Kelham Island Industrial Museum 21st to 24th October. If you fancy getting involved on the organising committee please come along to this meeting, the venue is the New Barrack Tavern on Penistone Road, near Hillsborough. Buses: 53, 79, 79A.

RambAle

10:30am Sat 21 Feb

Our programme of RambAles restarts for 2015, these combine a good walk with a few real ale pubs. This month we catch the Purple route tram up to Herdings Park and walk to Dronfield via the villages of Troway and Apperknowle, most likely visiting the Travellers Rest at Apperknowle which is the Dronfield CAMRA Pub of the Year.

The tram departs Sheffield City Centre (Cathedral) at 10:04, a Stagecoach Sheffield bus & Tram Dayrider ticket costing £4 includes bus travel back from Dronfield to Sheffield on route 43 or 44.

Committee meeting & Beer Matters distribution

8pm Tue 24 Feb

New issue of Beer Matters arrives at the Rutland Arms, Brown Street, for volunteers to distribute to pubs across our area, if you have volunteered, come down to collect them and enjoy a beer with fellow distributors. The committee meeting also takes place in the upstairs room.

Branch meeting

8pm Tue 3 Mar

Venue TBA.

Dronfield & District

Info and bookings: Nick Wheat

(socials@dronfieldcamra.org.uk)

Working Social at Chesterfield Beer Festival

10:30am Sat 7 Feb

We are doing an afternoon shift behind the bar then enjoying drinking the beer we've earned in the evening with a visit to one or two Chesterfield pubs inbetween! Please register with the staffing officer beforehand if you wish to join us.

Subbranch meeting

8pm Tue 10 Feb

George & Dragon, Holmesfield

Train trip to Winter Ales Festival

11:15am Sat 14 Feb

Meet at Dronfield station for the 11:15 via Chesterfield to Derby.

Beer Matters distribution social

8pm Wed 25 Feb

Coach & Horses, Dronfield.

Subbranch AGM

8pm Tue 10 Mar

Gosforth Fields Sports Club, Dronfield Woodhouse.

The Committee

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Chairman

Good Beer Guide Coordinator

Pub Awards Coordinator

Beer Matters Advertising

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Pub Preservation Officer

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A Campaign

of Two Halves



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