

BEER MATTERS



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STEEL CITY 2012

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Good selection of Belgian bottles, draught lagers,
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CIRCULATION**

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Quarter Page £40

Half Page £60

Full Page £90

Back Cover £110

Discounts for regular placements

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Design from £30

Updates from £10

**NEXT COPY DEADLINE
Friday 6 March 2015**

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THE FREE MAGAZINE OF CAMRA SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT

ISSUE 450

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Key campaign updates

Ahead of the Chancellor's Budget announcement on 18 March we have been working hard to try and secure a historic third consecutive cut in beer duty.

To put forward the case we commissioned a report from the Centre for Economic and Business Research (Cebr) which highlights the benefits of two consecutive beer duty cuts and how they have benefitted beer drinkers and pub-goers. We are launching the report on Monday, 23 February.

We urge all members to write to their MPs ahead of the announcement to ensure this year is yet another success for beer drinkers.

Key Campaign: Secure an Effective Government Support Package for Pubs

We continue to put pressure on the Government to strengthen planning laws in England to protect pubs from being demolished or converted

without a say from the community. Last month, almost 4,000 members lobbied their local MPs to support an amendment to the Infrastructure Bill which would close those planning loopholes. The Government has bowed to the mounting pressure by promising urgent action to protect current and future pubs listed as Assets of Community Value. These changes should come into effect before the General Election.

While we still want the Government to go further in protecting all pubs through planning laws this is a great first step in the right direction. We are now urging members to start listing their local pub as an Asset of Community Value before they are under threat.

For more information on how to list your local please visit our campaigns page on the CAMRA website or contact our planning advisor Matt Brown by email.

CAMRA have announced reaching 600 pubs listed as Assets of Community Value, following a campaign to encourage local groups to register pubs as ACVs.

However CAMRA say with 31 pubs still closing per week more needs to be done to protect pubs – with the Government letting communities down by allowing conversion of pubs to supermarkets without planning permission.

"The Government introduced Assets of Community Value to help communities retain valued community assets such as pubs by providing an opportunity to bid for the property if the owner intends to sell. But the scheme is undermined by rules that allow pubs to be converted into supermarket convenience stores and a wide range of other retail uses, without any need for a planning application." Tom Stainer, CAMRA Head of Communications.

Evidence collated by CAMRA earlier this year revealed that 2 pubs a week are converted into supermarket convenience stores, which led to the launch of their 'Pubs Matter' campaign which asks the Government to close the current loopholes and ensure planning permission is always required to convert a pub to other uses.

"The fact pubs are the most listed community asset shows just how much people value their local pub. It is therefore hugely disappointing that the

Government won't act to close planning loopholes which allow developers to convert pubs to other uses without the requirement for planning permission."

"Planning permission is required to convert a convenience store into a pub but no permission is required to convert a pub into a convenience store. The lack of protection for pubs is a glaring anomaly in the English planning system which needs to be corrected. It is surely not right that a supermarket convenience store is given greater planning protection than a valued community pub."

CAMRA's Head of Communications, Tom Stainer added

"Local people are denied a say in the future of their own communities, and this is undermining the Government's stated aim to empower local communities to protect local facilities such as pubs. Government Ministers are giving communities false hope by suggesting that listing a pub as an Asset of Community Value is the solution to gaps in the planning system when they are clearly not."

CAMRA is pressing the Government to act now to help save pubs in light of the latest CGA-CAMRA Pub Tracker, which shows that the number of net pub closures in the UK remains high at 29 per week – almost twice the number of pub closures in 2011[1].

These figures coincide

with a new clause to the Infrastructure Bill[2] in England, tabled this week by a cross-party group of MPs, which would mean that planning permission is always required before demolishing or converting a pub into a supermarket convenience store or other retail use.

Tim Page, CAMRA Chief Executive says: "It is currently possible to convert a pub into a betting shop, pay-day loan store or supermarket without the need for planning permission, making it far too easy for pubs valued by the community to be lost without local people having a say. Given the huge contribution that pubs

make to community life in Britain we believe this cannot be right."

"The clause tabled by Charlotte Leslie MP is a fantastic opportunity to get the Government to take swift action to close these planning loopholes. We urge every MP who supports local communities and local pubs to get behind this clause and help secure a better future for the great British pub industry. We hope that we can rally support from sufficient MPs to persuade Ministers to reconsider their current refusal to provide effective planning protection for viable and valued pubs."

This attempt to amend

the Infrastructure Bill is a huge step forward for CAMRA's Pubs Matter campaign, which calls on the Government to make a simple change to the law in England so that a planning application is required before a pub is demolished or converted into another use. This change would give pubs the same protection that exists for sites such as theatres, scrap yards and nightclubs. It would also give communities the chance to have a say when their local pub is under threat.

The campaign has so far secured the support of nearly 100 MPs for an Early Day Motion on pub demolition and change of

use[3]. CAMRA is calling on all MPs to support the clause and make the changes necessary to support local pubs across the country.

Charlotte Leslie MP for Bristol North West says: "We urgently need a change to the law to protect pubs like The Bourne End in Brentley in my constituency from being simply demolished, or turned into a supermarket before the community has had the ability to have its say. Of course there will be some pubs that simply are not viable, but we must reset the balance in favour of the community, not the big developers."



The Angler's Rest

District Pub of the Year 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014!

Graham & Beryl Yates.

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Fancy joining the committee?

As we approach the branch AGM, we are looking for volunteers to join the committee that does the day to day running of the CAMRA branch - the committee for the new year ahead gets voted in at the AGM.

At present we do not have enough volunteers to fill every role on the committee and have a small bunch of old hands that do more than one job to

keep things ticking over. There is a feeling that the branch needs some new people with fresh ideas and enthusiasm to shake things up, bring some passion back to the branch and in turn get more people involved across the board. Any new volunteers that get voted into roles will of course enjoy support and guidance from the 'old hands'.

Committee positions include...

- **Chairman**
- **Secretary**
- **Membership Secretary**
- **Treasurer**
- **Social Secretary**
- **Pubs Officer**
(including WhatPub database management)
- **Heritage Pub Protection Officer**
- **Beer Matters Editor**
- **Stakeholder/Local politician relationship**
- **Young Members Co-ordinator**
(including University Real Ale Society Liaison)

Aside from the committee, we also look for people wishing to help out with roles such as co-ordinating our Pub of the Year and Pub of the Month competitions, the selection of pubs

for the Good Beer Guide and writing articles for Beer Matters magazine. We also still have some vacancies for Brewery Liaison Officers.

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WWW.ACORN-BREWERY.CO.UK



Acorn

March sees the start of a few exciting months ahead for the brewery.

Our flagship beer, **Barnsley Bitter** is representing the North East region in the SIBA national finals to held at BeerX. This event will once again be held at Sheffield Ice 18th-21st March and pitches our Barnsley Bitter with the other regional winners throughout the UK. Also one to look out for in the finals is

Barnsley's Geeves Brewery with their *Clear Cut* there must be something good in the water around these parts!

Expansion plans are motoring ahead with 2 new 25 barrel conditioning tanks and a cold-room extension ordered and also another major expansion planned for July, details to follow in the near future.

We welcome 2 new members of staff to Acorn towers, Yvonne Underwood joins us in an administration role and Ian Darvill who is a very accomplished home brewer joins the production team.

Our seasonal beer for March is the aptly named **Madness** a 4.5% pale ale brewed with sack loads of hops!



Abbeydale

We're well into 2015 now and the year is already taking shape. Our first few specials have been a hit, especially **Seven Sisters** at 4.2% ABV which had a lovely sweet lemon barley flavour. For February we have one new special, one repeat appearance from last year and of course, one old favourite.

Savoy Hill, the main service entrance for the Welbeck Abbey, was named so because it once resembled the stunning entrance to the grand Savoy Hotel in London. Now it's unfortunately lost many of the original glasswork and tiling but the name remains. This beer should be no less spectacular than the entrance, being filled with the mouth-wateringly fresh aromas of pear, orange and passion fruit. This is a 4.2% beer however, making it a pleasantly light indulgence.

Cathedral Beeches is

repeated special from last year. Coming in at 3.7% this traditional bitter is full of heady herbal aromas from British Phoenix hops, making it surprisingly delicious and certainly more interesting than many of its counterparts. The name stems from an area of woodland with towering Beech trees in which young lovers at Welbeck used to come and carve their names.

Kaiser makes an appearance in February as our next Favourite at Welbeck. Our 4.1% Lager style pale ale is brewed using lager ingredients but in the British way to get the most from these traditional ingredients. If you miss it this month then don't panic, it'll be back again in May.

Aside from the exciting news that we are brewing three specials per month now, we have finally finished the building project

and are open for brewery tours again! The tours are booked as private events so if you would like to organise a visit or even a party at the brewery and we would be happy to help.

We'll be taking part in Sheffield Science Week 2015 as we did in 2014. There will be around 30 places available for members of the public to come to Welbeck for a brewery tour, practical brewing experiments, and a Q&A session with brewers and academics. This will be on Thursday 19th and places for this event and others can be booked here: scienceweeks.org.uk

Finally, we are very pleased to have been short-listed as Company of the Year in the North Notts Business Awards 2015! The final is to be held on Thursday 2nd April, so please keep your fingers crossed for us and we'll let you know how we do.



Welbeck Abbey

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Kelham Island Brewery

After 8 great years as head brewer, Iain Kenny has moved on. Under Iain the brewery has grown and our high standards have been maintained, everyone at Kelham wishes Iain all the best.

Succeeding Iain is brewing legend and all round great chap, Nigel 'Hops' Turnbull.

For his opener Nigel is taking us all back to the sixties summer of love with **Hippy Chick** 8% Imperial Indian Pale Ale. Hopped to the max with all the most aromatic American hops available. These beautiful resinous hop cones give a massively pungent aroma of lemon zest, blackberry, grapefruit and tropical fruits. Just to increase the aroma further we have added a further addition of pelletised hops

before the beer starts to ferment to give a fresh citrus zing.

Making a welcome return for March we have one of Iain's special 'Specials'. **Zombies of the Stratosphere** 4.8%. A blazing extraterrestrial golden ale with a sweet caramel flavour and a remarkable orchestra of noble resinous lime and pine aromas from two types of Styrian Golding hop varieties. The final adventure of the rocket man saga concludes with a zesty flourish of sublime fulfilment and satisfaction.

In the Kelham Shop we are getting down our limited run of **Anniversary Ale** 6.5%. It was run of only 5000 numbered bottles and when it's gone it's gone.



Bee Blue

March will see the return of a special we did last year: **American Five Hop** 4.3%. This pale and hoppy beer proved really popular last year so we thought we should bring it back with a slight twist, changing the varieties of hops used. *Version II* will feature the following five hop varieties: Citra, Columbus, Cascade, Belma and Summit. So keep your eyes peeled for **American Five Hop Version II** as this extra hoppy pale session beer appears around the pubs of Sheffield and beyond.

On top of this our single hopped IPA for March is

Belma IPA 5.0%. Belma is an American hop with floral, pineapple and strawberry characteristics. In addition **Maori Red** 4.5% is available this month, a red beer with a good malt backbone and hoppy finish packed with Green Bullet and Pacific Jade hops all the way from New Zealand.

Finally **Integer** 4.0% Citra pale ale with plenty of passion fruit and citrus flavours and **Red Rye Centennial** 6.0% fruity red rye IPA are both proving popular. So be sure to try them whilst you still can.

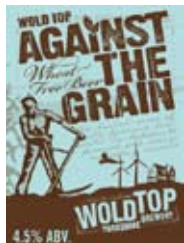


Angel, Holmesfield Gluten free ale and homemade pies

Great British Pie Week begins on Monday 2nd March and the Angel at Holmesfield will again be marking this exciting event in style. Delicious homemade pies with a variety of fillings will be available on a specials board all week. Nothing compliments homemade pie more than a real cask ale, the twist is - all the pies and one cask ale will be gluten free.

Owner of the Angel Mandy Drewery said "it is very exciting, we have been catering for coeliacs for over 3 years and at last we can serve a gluten free cask ale alongside our food offer, this is just great". "Wold Top Brewery have crafted a truly wonderful ale" said Mandy "but, its usually only available in bottles." "After speaking to the Rob at the East Yorkshire Brewery and explaining how difficult it has been to source a gluten free cask ale they are now going to provide us with Against The Grain in barrels for British Pie Week".

Wold Top **Against The Grain**, winner of the SIBA North Gold Award for speciality beers, has proven to be the best tasting gluten free beer in many taste tests. Made from lager malt, maize, hops and yeast, it is a premium full flavoured bitter beer with a good creamy head, refreshing bitterness and citrus aftertaste. The gluten free content is certified to be well below the required co-dex standard of 20ppm.



The Angel will be serving a selection of mouth-watering pies & Against The Grain to celebrate Great British Pie Week from Monday 2nd March. For more information or to book a table call 0114 2890336

Inn Brief

The new Manager at the **Wharnccliffe Arms**, Wharnccliffe Side is Dave Briggs. Dave has previously worked at the **Royal Standard and the Arms**. Currently three Bradford Beers are available, with the intention of both increasing the range and adding a basic food menu. Folk Night is monthly, on the fourth Wednesday.

A Hungry Horse (Greene King) pub, **The Hardy Pick**, opened in early February. It is situated at Broadfields Business Park, Broadfield Road.

Local Sheffield CAMRA members, Dave Pickersgill and John Stocks are giving an illustrated talk, 'The Worksop and Retford Brewery,' at the **Station Hotel**, Worksop on Thursday 26th. March 2015 (7:30 pm start). This talk is supported by the Worksop Archaeological and Local History Society.

The **Ball** at Crookes now has a range of up to 14 real ales, a mix of Greene King house beers and interesting local guest ales.

Pete from the **Tapped Brew Company**, based at the Sheffield Tap, recently took a trip down to Worcestershire to visit hop suppliers with a few of signing a contract to be supplied with new English hop varieties for their beers.

The next up and coming real ale circuit in Sheffield may well be London Road if the current developments are a

success. Long established is the **Cremorne**, we also now have real ale available at the **Crown** and the **Albion**, the latter having reopened as a freehouse under its old name after sadly not lasting as the **Bell Jar**. Next to reopen is what was latterly **Delaney's** music bar on Cemetery Road, this pub is to revert to it's previous name of the **Beer Engine** and feature 5 guest ales and a real cider.

JD Wetherspoon has applied for a licence for a potential new pub in Meadowhall.

Dada bar on Trippet Lane has closed down after Thornbridge were given an offer they couldn't refuse to sell the premises. It is to remain a bar, however no more is known about the intentions of the new owner.

City centre based beery good pub, Rutland Arms, has teamed up with Siren Craft Brew to bring the people of Sheffield an evening of awesome booze on March 18th. This is the perfect chance to discuss beer with some of the best brewers in the country. You'll also get to sample some of Siren's fabulous ales with 5 kegs, 4 casks and various bottles available. No tickets, just turn up, buy a beer and head upstairs. *Note that spaces are limited to 35. See the Facebook event for more.

THE DEVONSHIRE CAT

Specialising in all types of beer from around the world.
Over 70 bottles, 12 real ales and a selection of quality
Gins, Whiskies and Draught beers.

Events February/March 2015

<i>Wheat Beer Night</i>	-05/02/15
<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

Locally sourced food served until 9pm (mon-sat)
plus Sunday roasts. Private parties welcome.

49 Wellington Street,
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CAMRA National Pub of the Year 2008/09
Sheffield and Yorkshire Pub of the Year 2014

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- ✓ At least 12 real ales always including a mild, stout and porter, served in lined glasses at sensible prices
- ✓ Traditional cider and perry
- ✓ A selection of English and world craft beers
- ✓ Ever-changing craft keg line
- ✓ Food served 12-3 Mon-Sat
- ✓ Folk night Sunday
- ✓ Quiz night Monday





Hope Valley Ale Trail

The licencees of various pubs in the Hope Valley are getting together to promote themselves as easy to reach via the various public transport routes from Sheffield with a website, app and published guides. Real Ale is available in all the participating pubs and

from time to time beer festivals are held in some of the pubs on the route.

One of the champions of this scheme is Rick Ellison, landlord of the Old Hall in Hope and the Peak Hotel in Castleton, who is holding one of his regular Hope Valley beer festivals

this Easter.

The public transport routes from Sheffield into the Peak District include:

Hope Valley railway line runs from Sheffield to Manchester, taking in Dore & Totley, Grindelford, Hathersage, Bamford, Hope and Edale.

Bus 218

Runs from Sheffield to Bakewell via Totley and Baslow

Bus 240/241

Runs from Sheffield to Bakewell via Ecclesall Road, Ringinglow, Fox House, Grindelford and Baslow.

Bus 272

Runs from Sheffield to Castleton via Ecclesall Road, Fox House, Hathersage, Bamford, Bradwell and Hope.

Bus 273/274

Runs from Sheffield to Castleton via Crosspool, Ladybower, Bamford and Hope.

The Red Deer

18 Pitt St S1 4DD 0114 2722890

9 lovingly kept cask ales
home made food served daily
square hole comedy
unique quiz
fantastic live music
lively friendly atmosphere



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6 Cask Ales *including from our local brewery* **TOOLMAKERS**

Lynch Pin

Blue Print

Flange Noir

Bow Saw

+ 2 rotating guest beers

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

Monday

**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



Best beer off in the North Hop Hideout

The country's best beer retailers were honoured at the inaugural Celebrate British Beer Awards held at the House of Commons last night.

Leading industry names and MPs attended the event organised by trade magazine Off Licence News to recognise the retailers both big and small making the biggest contribution to selling our national drink.

The awards singled out the top independent beer shops from across the UK – along with the best national drinks chain and supermarket.

The winners were voted for by over 500 industry experts.

Rosie Davenport, Editor at Off Licence News Editor, said: "Pubs do a great job promoting beer, but the swathes of great beer shops play just as important a role in enhancing consumers' appreciation.

More people are drinking great beer at home than ever before and the businesses recognised at Off Licence News' Celebrate British Beer Awards are dedicated to sourcing and selling interesting brews

and supporting the UK's vibrant brewing scene. "

The Winners

Supermarket of the Year

Waitrose

Chain of the Year

Oddbins

Retailers of the Year (London)

Real Ale, Twickenham



(North)

Hop Hideout, Sheffield

(South)

Beer Emporium, Bristol

(Midlands/East)

Hopology, Nottingham

(Scotland)

Beer Hive, Edinburgh

(Wales)

Gwin Llŷn Wines,
Gwynedd, Pwllhel

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

Broadfield

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

Cremorne

Highfield (buses 75, 76, 87, 97, 98)

Devonshire Cat

City Centre

Dove & Rainbow

City Centre

Sheaf View

Heeley (buses 20, 20A, 25, 25A, 43, 44, 53)

Three Merry Lads

Lodge Moor (bus 51)

Wagon & Horses

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

Vote online now at
sheffieldcamra.org.uk

GARDENERS REST

WHAT'S ON...

SAT 28TH FEB

TUES 3RD MAR

WED 4TH

FRI 6TH

SAT 7TH

FRI 13TH

SAT 14TH

TUES 17TH

WED 25TH

FRI 27TH

ON THE BACK PORCH 9PM

OLD TIME COUNTRY GROUP 9PM

TRACEY'S SESSION 9PM

M & J BLUES 9PM

JIM O'MAHONEY 9PM

JOHN KEANE SESSION 9PM

NIGEL PARSONS 9PM

OLD TIME COUNTRY GROUP 9PM

JOHN KEANE SESSION 9PM

JACKALOPE TALES 9PM

OTHER EVENTS TO BE CONFIRMED

BAR BILLIARDS
Free Table on
Mondays



12 Real
Ales,
Music, Art
Exhibitions,
Bar
Billiards
and board
games, lots
of books.....

QUIZ NIGHT

Every Sunday 9pm
Free General
Knowledge Quiz!



Gardeners Rest, 105 Neepsend Ln, S3 8AT 0114 2724978
@gardeners_rest



Champion Winter Beer of Britain

Elland **1872 Porter** named 'Champion Winter Beer of Britain' for second time in three years

Elland *1872 Porter* has today been crowned CAMRA's Supreme Champion Winter Beer of Britain 2015 by a panel of judges at the National Winter Ales Festival in Derby, which begins today (February 11th) at the city's Roundhouse venue.

The winning 6.5% abv beer is described in CAMRA's 2015 Good Beer Guide as a "creamy, full-flavoured porter with rich liquorice flavours and a hint of chocolate from the roasted malt. A soft but satisfying after taste of bittersweet roast and malt."

Mike Hiscock, Elland Brewery Manager, had this to say on the win:

"It's absolutely fabulous to win the Champion Winter Beer of Britain, though we certainly weren't expecting this, it is amazing to get the hat trick and win this award for the third time. We know it is independently judged so for it to keep coming out on top is testament to the depth of flavour and com-

plexity that we get into the beer. This really is fantastic news."

The Champion Winter Beer of Britain competition judges the best of the best in terms of classic winter warmers – from thick, rich, dark porters and stouts, to sweet and strong Barley Wines.

A panel of beer writers, members of the licensed trade and CAMRA members judged the competition. Elland *1872 Porter* will now go forward to compete in the overall Champion Beer of Britain competition at the Great British Beer Festival this August. Nik Antona, Champion Winter Beer of Britain Director had this to say on the importance of the competition:

"Elland *1872* is a fantastic example of what a traditional porter should taste like and has been hugely popular for many years, particularly it seems with competition judges, who have named it Champion Winter Beer of Britain twice and overall Champion Beer of Britain once in the last three years – a huge achievement."

Overall Winners

Gold

Elland
1872 Porter

Silver

Purple Moose
Darkside of the Moose

Bronze

Dancing Duck
Dark Drake

Barley Wine and Strong Old Ales

Gold

Lees
Moonraker

Silver

Orkney
Skullsplitter

Bronze

Darwin
Extinction Ale

Old Ale and Strong Milds

Gold

Purple Moose
Darkside of the Moose

Silver

Ulverston
Fra diavolo

Bronze

Castle Rock
Midnight Owl

Stouts

Gold

Dancing Duck
Dark Drake

Silver

Plain Ales
Incognito

Bronze

Highland
Sneaky Wee Orkney Stout

Porters

Gold

Elland
1872 Porter

Silver (joint)

Bath Ales
Festivities
Fuller's
London Porter

Bronze

Blakemere
Deep Dark Secret



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Steel City Festival Beer Awards

Teams of judges blind tasted all the beers in the festival by category on the opening night. The category winners were then judged against one another to produce an overall winner.

We're running coaches out to Thornbridge Hall's Carriage House for a presentation night to celebrate the beers that won and you are all invited! A ticket costs just £20, includes travel from Sheffield City Centre or Dronfield, entry to the night, plenty of award winning beer to drink and a buffet supper.

Please book via our social secretary, Richard Ryan.

The Winners

Overall (and Porter)

Thornbridge
Cocoa Wonderland

Bitter

Fernandes
Half Nelson

Best Bitter

Rat *Ratweiller*

Strong Bitter

Skys Edge
Citra Smash

Speciality Beer

Liverpool Organic
Josephine Butler

Stout Category

Fuggle Bunny Brewhouse
Russian Rare Bit

Punch Taverns Awards

Four Sheffield pubs are toasting success after winning awards from leased operator Punch Taverns at its Regional Partner of the Year Awards ceremony.

Andy Stephens from the Closed Shop, Commonside, beat off stiff competition from over 360 operators to win the overall Partner of the Year Award. He was recognised for transforming a challenging pub into a flagship real ale and cider destination with a deserved local reputation.

Danny Grayson from Champs Sports Bar & Grill, Ecclesall Road, received the Mystery Shopper Award for delivering outstandingly high customer service standards, receiving 100% scores over nine visits.

Pauline Bosswell of the Royal Hotel in Market Square, Woodhouse, received a Special Recognition Award. She takes a real pride in the pub where she has worked for 20 years and is a popular landlady. Claire Beecroft was awarded the Area Prize

for the hospitality offered and the growth of business at The Cock at Bridge Hill, Oughtibridge.



Also receiving special recognition was Gary Fantom, Landlord of the Rutland Arms in Holmfild.

The annual awards scheme celebrates the best of British pubs with 20 winners chosen from finalists nominated by Punch's partnership development managers.

Regional director Steve Burns who selected the winners and presented them with a certificate and trophy, said: "We believe in a genuine partnership approach to business and work with some extremely talented operators. It's great to have an opportu-

nity to recognise this talent and to showcase the fantastic calibre of people that run our pubs.

"The Closed Shop is worthy of the overall title, having brought the pub back to its former glory just two years after a £250,000 joint investment. The passion of Andy and his team in delivering first-class food, drink and entertainment with a smile is a winning formula."

Andy said: "I love pubs and have great staff who care about what they do and they make a difference. This pub is not only popular with locals but a wide cross section of people, including those who come because we are in the Good Beer Guide. If you get it right and give people a reason to come they will."

Punch owns more than 3,500 pubs across the UK with most operating on a lease to 'business partners'. The Partner of the Year Awards were held at the Great Northern Hotel in Mickleover, Derbyshire.

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Steel City Beer & Cider Festival 2015

The Beer Festival Planning Committee are pleased to be able to report that the budget for this year's festival has been approved and it will be from the 21st to 24th of October back at Kelham Island Museum.

Last year's sell-out success at its new home means this year's will be even bigger and better with more of the museum given over to the festival and more beer, cider and festival activities.

Planning has already commenced and various posts filled, however any additional help and input is always welcome (dates of meetings can be found

in the Diary section at the back of Beer Matters).

One area we are looking for is Bar Managers and Deputy Bar Managers so anyone potentially interested in this should contact us to find out more. Finding people now gives plenty of time to train them in the role.

We will also soon be starting to approach people about sponsorship so again if you want to help in this, or know anyone who might want to be a sponsor please get in touch. E-mail us at festival@sheffieldcamra.org.uk, come to a meeting and follow us on twitter (@scbf41) to keep up to date.



Sheffield Beer Week

March 2015 sees the launch of Sheffield Beer Week, the first of its kind for the city.

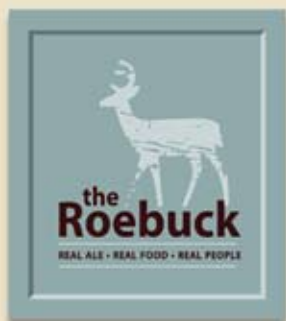
Running from Monday 16th to Sunday 22nd March, Sheffield Beer Week will showcase the very best of Sheffield's beer scene. Organisers Julia Gray and Clare Tollick have arranged Sheffield Beer Week during the same week as SIBA's conference, as the national event already attracts thousands of beer lovers to the city.

Julia Gray said: "Now in its third year at Sheffield, SIBA has already done a lot in terms of highlighting our breweries and pubs, but we want to take things a step further. By encouraging local breweries and

pubs to host events such as beer tastings and tours, we see Sheffield Beer Week as an opportunity to show off the best of the city to all SIBA visitors."

Clare Tollick added: "If anyone is thinking of holding an event throughout Sheffield Beer Week, we can help with ideas and promotion. All events will be listed on our website and shared through our social media accounts. We've already listed a CAMRGB pub crawl and a Meet the Brewer event - we're looking forward to seeing what else people come up with!"

Head over to sheffieldbeerweek.co.uk for details of how you can get involved.



★ Sheffield CAMRA Pub of the Month December 2014 ★



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OF THE MONTH



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2 tables

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28th FEB
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7th MAR
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Northern
Soul

14th MAR
Amelia
Carter
Band

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6 ROTATING CASK ALES

including our
own Wood
Street beers





Festival Guide

These are the events we're aware of in or near Sheffield over the coming months. Links and updated info on our website.

March

Loughborough CAMRA

Thu 5 – Sat 7 Mar

This festival is once again held at the Polish Club on True Lovers Walk in Loughborough, featuring around 60 real ales plus cider and food. Live music Friday and Saturday. Free entry for CAMRA members and University Real Ale Societies. Direct trains run from Sheffield to Loughborough every hour, operated by East Midlands Trains.

Leicester CAMRA

Wed 11 – Sat 14 Mar

Held at the Charotar Patidar Samaj on Bay Street/South Churchgate, this beer festival is well known for the curry served at the venue as well as having a large choice of new and rare real ales. The beer range runs to a choice of over 220, there is also cider & perry available. Free entry for CAMRA members (a refundable £2.50 deposit is payable for the festival glass on entry). Direct trains run up to twice an hour from Sheffield to Leicester, operated by East Midlands Trains.

Leeds CAMRA

Thu 12 – Sat 14 Mar

Features nearly 200 different real ales from Yorkshire and beyond, this year's 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).

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.

There is a discount on the ticket price for CAMRA members if you buy in advance online.

Burton on Trent CAMRA

Thu 26 – Sat 28 Mar

Held at the gothic Town Hall in Burton this event features up to 140 beers and ciders, food, plenty of seating, entertainment (including for those that like it old skool, the legendary Martin Attlebury on the Wurlitzer Organ Fri/Sat lunchtime) and free entry for CAMRA members. Direct trains run from Sheffield to Burton on Trent operated by Cross Country Trains. Derbyshire Wayfarer all day bus/train passes offer great value for this journey.

On the Edge 9 Pin

Fri 27 Mar

On the Edge Brewery are hosting '9 Pin', one of their bi-monthly mini beer festivals where they brew a small batch of a whole range of different beers to showcase. As the name of the event suggests, there will be 9 different beers and just a pin of each (a pin being a small 35 pint cask). The venue is the Old Junior School on South Road, Walkley, and will be open from 6pm to 10pm.

April

Hope Valley Easter

Thu 2 – Mon 6 Apr

The theme for the Easter festival is 'Rhythm and Booze' and features around 50 real ales, cider, live music, BBQ and hog roast. The festival is held at the Old Hall Inn located at Hope Village, this year there will also be fringe events in Castleton centred on the Peak Hotel (which is now operated by the same landlord as the Old Hall Inn). There is no entry charge to this festival, held in the pub's outdoor drinking area.

Bus 272 runs direct from Sheffield to Hope and Castleton every hour, additional journeys available via route 273/274. Alternatively The Old Hall is about a 10 minute walk from Hope railway station (Sheffield-Manchester line).

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FRIDAY 1 MAY

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STOMPERS

22.00 - 23.30PM

ZACC ROGERS

20.30 - 22.00PM

DOSCH

17.00 - 20.00PM

SATURDAY 2 MAY

MUDCATS BLUES TRIO

22.00 - 23.30PM

DOWNTOWN ROOTS

20.00 - 22.00

AFTER HOURS

17.00 - 20.00PM

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Old No7, Barnsley

Thu 2 – Mon 6 Apr

The Old No7 bar is Acorn Brewery's Tap and their beer festival sees around 20 guest real ales, craft keg beers and a selection of cider and perry.

Doncaster CAMRA

Thu 9 – Sat 11 Apr

Their 25th festival will be held at the Doncaster College Hub building and feature over 100 real ales plus a good selection of foreign beers, ciders and perry. Food available, entertainment Friday and Saturday evenings. Free entry for CAMRA members.

Frequent trains run from Sheffield to Doncaster as does the X78 First bus, the venue is a short walk from Doncaster Interchange (leave door by bus stand 11 and follow path under bridge then via Tesco and the canalside).

High Peak CAMRA

Fri 10 – Sat 11 Apr

5th New Mills Beer Festival. One of the smaller, grass roots CAMRA festivals,

this is held in Chalkers Snooker Club in the town of New Mills, adjacent to New Mills Newtown station (Northern Rail run direct trains from Sheffield to New Mills Central station which is a 15 minute walk from the venue, Newtown station is on the Manchester-Buxton line). The festival offers free entry and has a range of about 25 beers and ciders with food also available.

Hull CAMRA

Thu 16 – Sat 18 Apr

Hull real ale and cider festival offers quite a unique experience as it is held in the Holy Trinity Church. It offers a range of about 125 real ales, 30 ciders and 20 foreign bottled beers. Free entry for CAMRA members. Direct trains run from Sheffield to Hull every hour, operated by Northern Rail, the venue is about 10 minutes walk from the station.

May

Barrow Hill Rail Ale

Thu 14 – Sat 16 May

This popular event gets bigger every year, held at the Barrow Hill Railway roundhouse – the last working roundhouse in the country. The festival boasts a choice of over 250 real ales plus a selection of cider, perry, fruit wines, craft keg beers and foreign bottled beers. There is also a varied choice of food stalls and other traders, the opportunity to view the collection of classic locomotives stored at the Roundhouse with train rides available during the afternoon included in the ticket price and live music Friday and Saturday evening.

Entry tickets are £8.50 on the gate or £6.50 in advance (£5 for the Thursday evening session), CAMRA members get their first beer included (sign in at the membership stand on arrival).

A shuttle bus operates hourly from Chesterfield railway station

(half hourly at busy times). There is no fare payable but passengers are encouraged to donate to the bus maintenance fund (they are operated by volunteers who own and restore the buses themselves).

Frequent and fast trains run from Sheffield to Chesterfield throughout the day and evening, as do Stagecoach buses 43,44,50,50A and X17.

June

Three Valleys Festival

Sat 6 Jun

A massive choice of real ales plus cider, entertainment and food – plus normal pub attractions – spread across 18 different venues with a free bus linking them and railway stations at Dronfield and Dore every half hour from midday until 11pm.

Rotherham Real Ale & Music

Thu 11 – Sat 13 Jun

The big annual festival at Magna Science adventure centre with over 200 real ales, all on handpump, across several unique rooms along with a range of cider & perry, wines, food and live music. Discount entry for CAMRA members. A shuttle bus operates to the festival from Meadowhall Interchange (various trains, trams and buses run to Meadowhall from Sheffield Centre).

October

41st Steel City

Wed 21 – Sat 24 Oct

Our own annual beer & cider festival is confirmed for 2015 and back at Kelham Island Industrial Museum following last years success, with a few tweaks following customer and staff feedback. Everything you loved about the festival will be there again plus we will have more beer and a slightly bigger capacity!

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session ale 3.8%

GOLD

MAGNA 2013



Sheffield Porter
Darkly delicious
porter 4.4%

GOLD

MAGNA 2011



Crucible Best
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best bitter 3.8%

BRONZE SILVER

MAGNA 2014,13



Blanco Blonde
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refreshing
ale 4.2%

SILVER

OAKWOOD 2010



Forgemasters
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BRONZE

MAGNA 2014

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Sheffield & District

Info and bookings:

Richard Ryan (see right)

Branch meeting

8pm Tue 3 Mar

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.

The meeting venue this month is TBC.

Festival planning meeting

8pm Tue 17 Mar

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.

Committee meeting and Beer Matters distribution

8pm Tue 24 Mar

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

Steel City Beer Awards

7pm Fri 27 Mar

We present the award winners certificates from the last Steel City Beer Festival and enjoy some of the award winning beers. A buffet supper is also provided. Coaches will run from Sheffield (Old Queens Head) and Dronfield (Coach & Horses) out to the venue, which is the Thornbridge Hall

Carriage House. Ticket price TBC.

Branch AGM

8pm Tue 7 Apr

The formal annual general meeting where we form the committee for the year ahead, debate and vote on any motions for changes to the branch constitution, inspect the branch accounts and all the other formally required actions, we also announce the winner of our Pub of the Year competition. The normal branch meeting follows. We also drink some beer. The venue is Shakespeare's on Gibraltar Street.

Dronfield & District

Info and bookings: Nick Wheat
(socials@dronfieldcamra.org.uk)

Beer Matters distribution and new members social

8pm Wed 25 Feb

Buffet available at a cost of £5 per person. Coach & Horses, Sheffield Road. Bus 43.

Subbranch AGM

Tue 10 Mar

Gosforth Fields Sports Club Pavilion, Bubnell Road, Dronfield Woodhouse. Bus 43 to Stubley Lane.

Subbranch meeting

Tue 14 Apr

Dronfield Beer Stop, Callywhite Lane. Bus 44.

The Committee

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Chairman
Good Beer Guide Coordinator
Pub Awards Coordinator
Beer Matters Advertising
chairman@sheffieldcamra.org.uk

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Beer Matters Editor
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A Campaign

of Two Halves



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Tel No(s) _____

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Forename(s) _____

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____

Email address (if different from main member) _____

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