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Articles, letters and sugestions are most welcome so please send them in*

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THE FREE MAGAZINE OF CAMRA SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT

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ISSUE 452 MAY 2015

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CAMPAIGN NEWS

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What is this Real Ale?

Real Ale, also known as cask conditioned beer (although is also available from bottles or key-kegs as well as casks!), is traditionally the British way of doing the best, freshest craft beer.

Real Ale is beer that goes through secondary fermentation in the container (cask, bottle etc.) and dispensed without gas being added to the beer. Real Ale in good condition should have a natural sparkle from the secondary fermentation process.

Back in the 1970s real ale was under threat of being discontinued by the few big breweries and replaced by rather poor quality keg beer that was designed to be consistently inoffensive, have a longer shelf-life, be cheaper to make and rely less on the cellarmanship skills of the publicans to deliver the beer how the brewer intended, CAMRA was formed to maintain the drinkers' choice of quality beer.

CAMRA also formed a group called 'Apple' that promotes real traditional cider and perry that is made from nothing more than fermented juice from freshly pressed fruit. This is quite hard to find in pubs compared to real ale although there are a small number of brands such as Westons that can be found nationally in pub chains. Many of the popular and

mass produced cider brands are made in an industrial style from concentrate and served fizzy.

Over the years, CAMRA has expanded into a successful consumer campaign group for beer drinkers and pub-goers with a membership now around the 170,000 mark. The campaigning priorities now are less to do with availability of good beer (we've never had it so good!) and more to do with pubs and the issues that are causing many to close.

Issues now affecting pubs include planning legislation, taxation, the way pub companies with tenanted estates are run, competition from cheap supermarkets and off licences that encourage 'pre loading' and more. Check out the national CAMRA website www.camra.org. uk for the latest news on national campaigns.

Although of course, that said, we do celebrate our love of real ale and the heritage behind it still and our volunteers organise beer festivals around the UK showcasing the choice of great real ales available.

If you care about pubs and beer (or cider) do join us, there is a form in the back of Beer Matters or you can join online, and don't forget we are a very social organisation as well as a campaigning one!



New committee and onward...

At the branch AGM we elected a new Chairman and appointed the committee members for the year ahead.

The new Chairman is Andrew Cullen, editor of Beer Matters, and we also welcome some new committee members in the shape of Branch Secretary Sadie Skipworth who has recently moved to Sheffield from Norwich, Beer Festival Organiser Louise Singleton and Pubs Officer Mark Boardley.

Some old faces remaining on the committee, other than Andrew, are Mike Humphrey, Dave Pickersgill and Alan Gibbons. Their roles will be confirmed at the committee meeting taking place on the day this magazine arrives from the printers. There are still some vacancies on the committee so volunteers are still welcome!

Commenting on the changes and the plans for the years ahead, new branch Chairman Andrew Cullen said "Thanks to those who supported me returning to this role after 2 years doing other things in the branch, I've been talking to various people recently including a variety of CAMRA members, brewers and publicans and I feel we need to breathe some fresh air into

the branch. There are some things we are already doing well: Beer Matters and the website are both looking good and our beer and cider festival proved an incredible success at Kelham Island Industrial Museum last year. We now need to make our programme of socials good again, make the branch meetings a bit more enjoyable and purposeful, and raise our profile around the pubs of Sheffield & District."

He also commented on his wider campaigning views "I think we should also be communicating CAMRA's national campaigning priorities louder locally. Although we are called the Campaign for Real Ale and our heritage is all about ensuring drinkers have the choice of quality real ale on the bar that really isn't a concern right now. There is plenty of real ale coming out of an ever growing number of breweries and the wider beer scene beyond real ale is starting to embrace quality and craft. Any arguments about changing CAMRA's policy and definitions of beer is somewhat time-wasting, I feel. Where our efforts are needed, are saving pubs. We have seen threats from the way some pub companies do business, from property developers, from convenience store chains. from the tax man and from planning rules that are causing potentially viable, good pubs to close their doors for good."

THE BEER ENGINE

CRAFT BEERS SPIRITS FOOD

17 CEMETRY RD

NOW OPEN!



Make your pub a community asset

Pubs that are listed as Assets of Community Value (England only) require planning permission to be demolished or changed to any other use. In effect existing permitted development rights will be removed for pubs listed as ACVs for as long as the pub is on the local authorities list.

These landmark changes can be attributed to our continued campaign and to the thousands of CAMRA members who lobbied their MP to abolish permitted development rights for pubs. In a second landmark decision a First Tier Tribunal concluded that the London Borough of Lewisham were correct to conclude that a local CAMRA branch is a valid nominating body. As such,

local CAMRA branches can now nominate pubs to be listed as Assets of Community Value in their name.

The planning changes and the tribunal decision could see CAMRA's role in the Community Right to Bid process increase substantially and as a result of these changes CAMRA may have an even greater say in the future of pubs in England.

The changes laid before Parliament on 12th March 2015 came into force on 6th April 2015 and can summarised:

Pubs listed as ACVs require planning permission to change their use or be demolished. This includes pubs already listed as ACVs.

- Planning permission will be required to change the use or demolish a pub from the point of nomination. CAMRA requested this to be included in the amendments and the Government obliged.
- Planning permission will be required for change of use and/or demolition for the period that the pub is listed: five years from the date of listing.
- As part of the changes, pub owners and developers will be required to ascertain whether pubs not on the asset list have actually been nominated. This must be done formally in writing.
- The local authority has 56 days to confirm whether the pub is listed or nominated. This means that the owner cannot change use or demolish a pub lawfully within the prescribed 56 day period.

As a result of these changes CAMRA urges members to nominate pubs to your local authority. Sheffield City Council information is available on their website: sheffield.gov.uk.

Please note that the nomination of a pub will prevent any immediate change of use or demolition.

Dave Pickersgill



National AC

A few of us from Sheffield & District branch spent the weekend in Nottingham for the national CAMRA Members Weekend, As well as enjoying some good beer and wonderful pubs and bars with CAM-RA members from across the UK, we also attended the AGM conference. A good proportion of this is spent debating and voting on motions, which is how the campaign's policy and direction is formed.

There were very few motions this year that split the membership or caused excitement, however a few things did come out of it:

- A new point of sale labelling scheme is to be developed to help drinkers recognise beer that is real ale but not served from a handpump (for example bottle conditioned beers and naturally carbonated key keg beers)
- Branches will be offered more assistance in campaigning against local authorities imposing late night levies
- CAMRA will continue to recognise cider as 'real' with added flavourings





am Briefing

such as fruits, herbs and vegetables as long as they are natural, fresh additives and the cider is still 90% fermented fresh apple juice.

The success of the cider motion did however dismay a lot of the more passionate cider campaigners so this position may well change again next year!



Craft beer now everyday item

The latest Retail Price Index (RPI) now includes 'craft beer'. Hence, we contacted the Office for National Statistics for their definition:

The aim is to pick up prices for a single 500ml bottle of beer. They are not mainstream beers, are usually well packaged and are sometimes considered to be of higher quality. They must be UK

brewed. Fruit/wheat beers, ginger beer and lagers are excluded from the collection. It could be produced by a micro brewery or a major brewer but should not be one of the standard brands. We leave the selection to the collectors and the expectation is that they will select a reasonably wide range of beers that fit the broad description. That way, we increase the

number of prices collected and have as wide a sample as possible with the aim of best measuring price change.

So there we have it, at last a clear definition, the UK Government, Office for National Statistics say 'craft beer' is UK-brewed and only available in 500 ml bottles. However, it is not a 'standard brand.'





Are you voting for pubs on May 7th?

We are now just days away from the General Election and the campaigning is well under way.

It is crucial that candidates standing in our area recognise how important community pubs and real ale are to you as a potential voter.

Already, 772 candidates nationally have pledged their support at the time of writing.

A network of supportive MPs has been essential to our campaigning successes throughout this Parliament, from three successive beer duty cuts to pub company reform and planning protection for pubs.

Please now join us in urging your election candidates to commit to the following pledges if they are elected:

- · Support well-run community pubs
- Promote Britain's 1,300 breweries
- · Represent pub goers and beer drinkers

Find out more at the CAMRA election website: ge2015. camra.org.uk







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Ah, the old sparkler question...

While downing a convivial pint with friends at one of Sheffield's premier cask ale pubs, I was dismayed to find that while the beer was served in oversized glasses, there was an absence of the good thick creamy head which typifies (or used to typify) a pint of fine Yorkshire ale. The little head there was, was thin and resembled washing up bubbles in texture.

My musings led me to the much discussed and intensely opinion dividing subject of sparklers or no sparklers so here's my two pennorth:

Traditionally, northern beers or more correctly, Yorkshire beers are served through a sparkler while beers from other regions are served without. As a proud Yorkshireman I'm no doubt influenced to some degree by this but as that proud Yorkshire man, I'm a little saddened that some of the best cask ale pubs in our city are choosing to serve their beer without that tight, creamy head which clings to the glass and lets you know how many pulls you've had from it.

It's often argued by the no sparkler corner that perfectly conditioned beer needs no sparkler. Probably true but as with most things in life, true perfection is well nigh impossible to achieve on a regular basis. There are so many variables from brewer to cellar man that the perfectly conditioned pint is not always achievable no matter how good the craftsman. It would make

sense then to get a little help wherever we can.

To my mind sparklers do one simple and incredibly important thing.....They AERATE the beer. Please, please don't confuse this with the no sparkler corner's argument that sparklers "knock condition (CO2) out of the beer". CO2 and air are two totally different substances. They affect the taste of beer differently. Take for example a pint of normal keg which has CO2 dissolved in it and a pint of the exact same beer but with a Nitrogen mix dissolved in it, so called "smooth beer". The characteristics are totally different because there are different gases dissolved in it.

Why is aerating so vitally important to taste? Well,

ask yourself this, when a wine expert smells a wine what's the first thing he does? He swirls it in the glass. Why? To get air into it and release its aroma. When he tastes the wine what's the first thing he does after he's taken a sip? He does that daft slurping thing we all laugh at...he AERATES the wine in his mouth. Why? To release its flavour. If it works for wine then it works for beer and any other liquid you care to taste.

It's the same with cask. Some CO2 is displaced from the beer into the head (creating of course, said head) by the aeration but the same process dissolves 21% oxygen, 78% nitrogen, 1% argon and all the other trace gases present in air into the beer affecting its taste (whether to its benefit or detriment is, of course, the \$64,000 question).

On a final note and as a dire warning not to let the great American tradition of pretending they invented something great and therefore know all about it, creep into cask ale writing, I recently read a treatise online vehemently demonising the sparkler. The writer's credentials? He was an American who cited his visit to "the great Yorkshire city of Burton Upon Trent" as inspiration for his tirade against the sparkler.....'Nuff said. Musings over.

Craig Harris





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Science, history and brewing at Kelham Island Museum

As it was both National Science Week and Sheffield Beer Week, it was appropriate to have a beer-themed Science event at the venue of the Sheffield CAMRA Beer Festival. Hence, on Wednesday 18th. March, over 30 Science/ Beer buffs arrived at the Millowners Arms to be greeted by a pint of Pale Rider from Kelham Island Brewery (KIB).

This was followed by a short talk on Sheffield Brewery history from ex-Sheffield CAMRA Chairman, John Dowd, Then utilising various samples, Nigel Turnbull, Head Brewer at KIB explained the brewing process.

Participants then adjourned to the classroom where Bob Kibble, Member of the Institute of Physics and the Chair of Doncaster CAMRA took

them through their paces with some beer-inspired Science: make your own hydrometer and the exponential decay of the froth on your pint.

After a quick buffet, the evening finished with an 'Ask the Experts' session in which John and Nigel were joined by Dave Pickersgill from Sheffield CAMRA. A repeat is planned for Science Week 2016.

Worksop & **Retford Brewery**

The story continues... Local Sheffield CAMRA members. Dave Pickersgill and John Stocks gave an illustrated talk, 'The Worksop and Retford Brewery,' at The Station Hotel, Worksop on Thursday 26th March. This event was supported by the Worksop Archaeological and Local History Society. It attracted 36 attendees, including a number of ex-employees of the brewery. A repeat event is planned for Worksop Library on 16th September. The associated e-book is available on Kindle.

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Exit 33

One of the brewery's popular brews from last year, the single hop session ale Mosaic makes a return for the next few months. Showcasing the single hop variety at its best, this beer has complex blend of floral, and tropical, fruity and earthy characteristics.

Exit 33 also brewed their Christmas special a few weeks ago. Sounds strange I know, but this is an imperial strength oat stout, which will be aged, in Speyside Whisky casks until December.

An old favourite brew is also being resurrected for late May/early June as Ginger Daze makes a reappearance. This pale ale is brewed with copious quantities of fresh root ginger. This year the beer will be unfined and naturally hazy and so vegan friendly.

There will be six different Exit 33 beers available at this years Magna beer festival, which takes place 11th to 13th June.



Thornbridge

It's been a busy time here at Thornbridge with our new brew house expansion now completed - nearly £500k invested with the aim of increasing production by 40%. Much needed as stocks have been a little tight around here for a while.

However it's not all been spanners and engineers we have found time to develop and launch a few new beers as we strive as ever to be never ordinary in what we brew.

Bamberg 6% - This beer is golden brown in colour with an alluring aroma of sweet, smoked malt. The rich, charred maltiness carries through to the taste but is perfectly balanced by a long, cold maturation to produce a robust, intoxicating and unforgettable beer. Hops: Hallertau Malts: Weyermann Smoked Malt, Munich, Crystal.

Bear State 7% - Bear State is a classic IPA brewed in the spirit of the West Coast of the USA. This is a massively hoppy beer, balanced perfectly with a touch of malt sweetness and an intensely citrus hop character to finish. Hops: Centennial, Cascade. Chinook. Malts: Maris Otter, Crystal.

Jehanne Biere De Garde 7.4% - Jehanne pours a deep reddish bronze that hits you on the nose with a sweetness and hint of orange blossom. This is followed by a mouthfeel of smooth silk leading to a toasty caramel affability with a medium dry finish which leaves the palate longing for more. Hops: Goldings. Malts: Pale Ale, Munich, Crystal.

JaipurX 10% - Jaipur IPA is seen by many as the first and most successful beer of the new craft revolution in British brewing. This imperial version has been brewed specially to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Thornbridge beers and of Jaipur's first brew on 7th June 2005. Hops: Warrior, Chinook, Centennial. Malts: Maris Otter, Vienna.

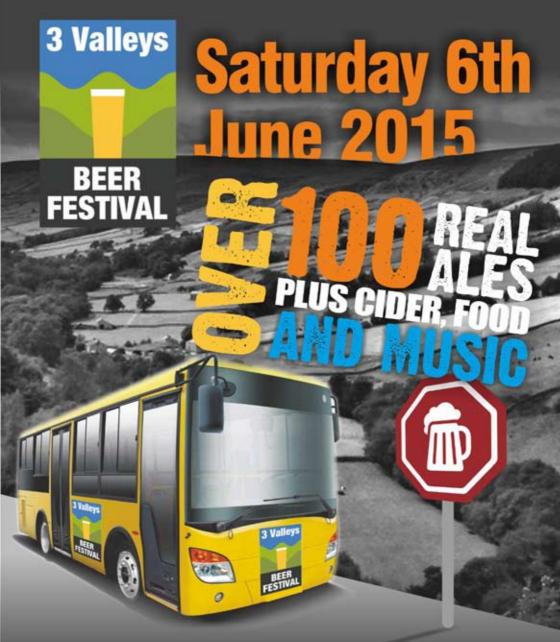


Marstons buys Thwaites brands Daniel Thwaites PLC has

exchanged contracts to sell the major part of its' beer business to Marston's PLC: the businesses that sell and wholesale beers to the independent free trade, national pub companies, wholesalers, supermarkets and export. It has also sold two beer brands, Wainwright Golden Ale and Lancaster Bomber. Thwaites' distribution operation and free trade loan book will also be sold, and Marston's will continue to brew some brands under license. Marston's have been brewing Wainwright and Bomber since early 2014. The consideration is in the region of £25m, plus working capital.

The sale is subject to a consultation process and it is envisaged that approximately 150 employees will be transferring to Marston's before the end of April. Thwaites has retained ownership of its' 'craft beer' brands and other cask ale brands. including its seasonal ale range, which it will continue to brew and sell in its' own properties.





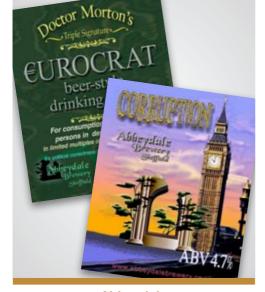
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Abbeydale

Firstly, if you cannot wait for our Sunfest at the Rising Sun (9-12 July) we would be delighted to see you at the Sheffield Breweries Co-Operative tent at Sheffield Food Festival. Please see the entry regarding that elsewhere in this issue.

We were honoured to have the opportunity to host the legendary Mr Dan Rodgers of Griffin Claw Brewing Company, Michigan, at the end of March, and the beer we came up with together should be on the bars around Sheffield as we speak! It's a beast of a beer, an English and American hybrid that really packs a punch, coming in at 6.7%, GriffindAle is to be respected!

You may or may not be aware there is some sort of election going on, so in true Abbeydale style we will make light of the situation and we are releasing two beers this month that poke fun at those in or wanting to be in Westminster! First up is Dr Morton's Eurocrat, a 4.1% pale beer made with Low Colour Maris Otter malt. Crisp hop aromas and flavours with citrus and grapefruit predominating from the New Zealand and American hops. A lasting bitter finish to this very refreshing beer.

Secondly we have the return of Corruption, a 4.7% deep golden ale with a malty biscuity aroma. Pleasant hoppy undertones from the late addition of Chinook and Summit hops to give a well rounded bitterness and a delicate citrus flavour. You will find this beer on at the Food Festival!

Towards the end of the month should see the release of one of our new 'Signature' range of beers, and before you know it, we will be heading into the summer months!



Steel City

Steel City haven't been back in the brewhouse since Troika, which should be doing the rounds now, but have been busy with collaborations. The Hopcraft collab is an Insult to History, being a white porter, and is named Midnight in Antarctica as it's light when it should be dark!

Next up was a three-way collab at Imperial brewery in Mexborough with Great Heck... or rather two

three-way-collabs, as once again parti-gyling was used to create dark and pale versions. The Four Stooges is the pale versions, with hops including Magnum, Dana, Chinook and Citra. Incubus, named after a demon, is the dark side.

Finally, the Shakespeare has a special and possibly incendiary cask of Molten Steel, a pin of Troika with added Scotch Bonnet and Naga chillies. Hope-



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Blue Bee

April was a busy month for us at Blue Bee Brewery and May looks like it is set to continue that way. American 5 Hop Version II proved very popular so this month sees American 5 Hop Version III (4.3%) hitting bars across Sheffield and beyond. This time this pale ale has the fantastic combination of Mosaic, Citra, Chinook, Comet and Columbus hops, so expect plenty of citrus hop flavours and a dry bitter finish.

Returning this month is one of our single hopped IPAs from last year: *Simcoe IPA* (5.0%). Expect a few slight tweaks to the recipe like the addition of hop pellets into the fermenter to enhance the pine and grapefruit aromas of this fantastic American hop even further. On top of this another special for May will be *Real* (4.7%) an American pale ale packed

with one of our favourite hop varieties Sorachi Ace. This hop was developed in Japan but is now grown in American and imparts distinctive coconut and lime flavours.

Finally the second May bank holiday is shaping up to be a great weekend to be drinking beer in Sheffield with Blue Bee beers featuring at two great events. Firstly Sheffield Food Festival in the City Centre where a group of great Sheffield breweries are showcasing their beers at the beer tent. Expect both American 5 Hop Version III and Simcoe IPA from us on top of beers from other Sheffield breweries. Secondly, the Closed Shop at Commonside is hosting a beer festival from Thursday 21st to Sunday 24th May featuring beers from ourselves and other quality breweries from across the UK.



Elland 1872 Porter was recently named 'Champion Winter Beer of Britain' for second time in three years and a few days ago Maureen and Neil at the Junction pub in Castleford found themselves hosting another award ceremony. As winner of CAM-RA's Supreme Champion Winter Beer of Britain 2015 for 1872 Porter, Elland Brewery requested that their recent National CAMRA award be presented at the pub. CAMRA officials, headed by Nik Antona, Champion Winter Beer of Britain Director gathered with brewers, enthusiastic beer lovers and locals at the pub last Thursday.

In presenting the certificate, Nik said: "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."

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, commented: "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 complexity that we get into the beer. This really is fantastic news. We chose the Junction to host the event because Maureen and Neil are great supporters of our brewery, the Junction is the Wakefield CAMRA Branch Pub of the Year and because it provided the opportunity to drink our beers from the wood, notably the aged version of our Champion beer from a Bourbon cask."

Licensee Maureen Shaw said "Neil and I are both delighted and most honoured that Elland Brewery asked us to host such a prestigious National CAMRA event."

High quality beers served from Elland brewery in the wood are regularly found on the bar at the Junction. The 1872 Porter features frequently but never lasts long. We now know why!

> ISSUE 452 MAY 2015





THE HALLMARK OF A PERFECT PINT











Last Friday of the Month Beer Club May 29th Mild Mayhem, Mild, Pies and Games Evening

To celebrate "Mild in May" month. We will be launching a new mild, playing traditional pub games and sourcing a range of pies.





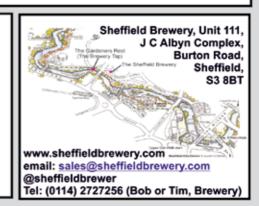


Brewery Tours

Book the brewery for a tour or your own private party. Enjoy a range of our beers, an informed tour of the brewery, and a pie & pea supper or summer BBQ in our garden area.

Core Beer Range

Five Rivers 3.8% Crucible Best 3.8% Blanco Blonde 4.2% Seven Hills 4.2% Sheffield Porter 4.4% Forgemasters 4.8% Sheffield IPA 5.0%





Sheffield Bar Billiards

Drinkers in Sheffield pubs are being reintroduced to a bar game that had almost died out in the city.

Bar Billiards in Sheffield has become so popular that the number of facilities has almost doubled, Landlords Steve and Rebecca Keir are trying to save the traditional pub game from extinction by starting a new league.

They started their efforts to save bar billiards in January 2014, as they had one of only two tables left in the city.

They joined forces with The Gardeners Rest at Neepsend to host regular tournaments of the traditional pub game.

Now there are eight Bar Bil-

liards tables in the city, with new facilities at the Butchers Arms in Marsh Lane. The Steelers Bar at Intake, The Commercial in Chapeltown and more recently at Shakespear's at West Bar.

Steve Keir, and his wife Rebecca, said: "The game is certainly becoming a hit, more and more people are starting to become involved."

Bar billiards, which first became popular in England during the 1930s, developed from the French and Russian game 'billard russe'.

The game is played from only 1 side of the table, making it ideal for small and traditional pubs. Players must pot balls into any of the nine holes on the table, which all have a different point score, within a 17-minute time limit without knocking over any of the three pins.

The first Sheffield Bar Billiards league season started in April 2015 with six of the eight pub teams taking part:

> **Butchers Arms** (Marsh Lane)

Steelers Sports Bar

Shakespeares

Gardeners Rest

Cross Scythes (Derbyshire Lane)

Commercial

The top two teams will go on to play the top two teams in the York Bar Billiards league to find the 2015 Yorkshire Champions.

We are working tiredlessly to save this great British game in Yorkshire and are always looking for new venues, teams and players. It is a fun league with players of all abilities and we dont take it too seriously. For us, its more about the game and the enjoyment of playing, not the win. So if you want to join in, all are welcome. Please help us save Bar Billiards contact your local Billiards pub or contact Sheffield Bar Billiards.

Twitter: @sheffbilliards Facebook: Sheffield-Bar-Billiards Web: sheffieldbarbilliards.com

Steven Keir The Butchers Arms



A few more pubs have confirmed their plans for the Three Valleys Festival on Saturday 6th June. All the pubs will have a free bus service running between them and railway stations at Dronfield and Dore & Totley, every 30 minutes.



The Dronfield Arms will have an outside bar supplied by RAW brewery featuring their beers plus guests, Nether Edge Pizza will be doing the food and there will be a live music stage outside too.



Barlow Brewery will be hosting a music festival in the farmyard with a Barlow beer tent, music stage and food from Moss Valley Fine Meats.

The Shepley Spitfire at Totley will have an outside bar in the beer garden bringing the total beer choice to about 25 beers, the normal pub food menu will be in operation.



FREEHOUSE

48 Rutland Street, Sheffield, S3 9PA. 07745 096699

6 Cask Ales

including from our local brewery **TOOLMAKERS**

> Lynch Pin Blue Print Flange Noir Bow Saw

+ 2 rotating quest beers 1st Saturday each month all Toolmakers beers only £2.50 a pint courtesy of Toolmakers Brewery and The Forest

Monday

Tuesday & Thursday

Friday singers/guitarists etc. welcome

Saturday ENTERTAINMENT

Sunday FREE OUIZ 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



Castle Inn, Bradway

Our new Italian inspired menu starts on 1st May and we'll be stocking a range of Italian bottled beers to complement it.

We now have a monthly open music jam session on the first Friday of every month. Guest musicians are welcome to come along either with or without their instruments.

On the same night we'll be doing a different food offering each month such as curry night, fish and chips, tacos or Chinese. All at a special price. The first two have been a real success so we need musicians and ale drinkers to come along and make it grow.

A real cider is now on offer at all times.



Rising Sun, Nether Green

By the time you are reading this our new management team at The Rising Sun should be nicely settled in, and we are delighted to have Ryan and Nicole on board, and we look forward to a long and successful future together. You may well be familiar with them from their previous roles at the Robin Hood and the Hammer and Pincers respectively. Building work is also well underway, and we again apologise for any inconvenience caused during the expansion and appreciate your continued support.

As mentioned in last months edition, the SunFest dates are 9th-12th July and will be going ahead regardless of the building works!

We hope to see as many of you as possible there and if you can't quite wait that long for a beer festival, we would be delighted to see you at the Sheffield Breweries Co-Operative tent at Sheffield Food Festival. Please see the entry regarding that elsewhere in this issue.

Robin Baker Abbeydale Brewery



Ball Inn Crookes

The Ball Inn is now offering a discount for CAMRA members, just show your card before ordering and they will apply the discoun. The Ball has 14 real ale pumps with local beer.



Three Tuns Dronfield

A busy time at the Three Tuns in Dronfield, as you read this the Cheese festival that features platters of various exotic varieties of cheese will have just finished and coming up on the 30th April the pub is hosting Dronfield's Question time event where prospective local MPs will be present to answer questions from voters - with the beer and comfort the pub offers!

Looking further ahead the Tuns is continuing to offer food on bank holiday Mondays (they are normally closed on Mondays) and they are also once again part of the Three Valleys Festival on 6th June.

Inn Brief 3 Valleys Special



The Coach & Horses in Dronfield will be running a village fete theme with beer, food, music and fun in the beer garden.

The Talbot Arms in Dronfield Woodhouse is running a 'soul' theme this year with soul food and soul music plus beers from Brampton Brewery.

The Hyde Park Inn at Dronfield Hill Top plan to make the most of their beer garden with an outside bar, BBO and music.

The Royal Oak in Coal Aston are to open a cellar bar serving drinkers on the patio at the rear of the pub.

The Three Tuns in Dronfield will have a large range of beer and cider plus food stalls and music, including the now famous pizza oven!

The Green Dragon will have beer, cider and food tents in the car park with musical entertainment outdoors too.

The Tickled Trout will have a beer tent in the car park also featuring snacks and live music.



GARDENERS REST

WHAT'S ON...

WED 29TH APRIL JOHN KEANE SESSION 9PM

FRI 1ST MAY M & J BLUES 9PM
SAT 2ND JIM O'MAHONEY 9PM

TUE 5TH OLD TIME COUNTRY GROUP 9PM

WED 6TH TRACEY'S SESSION 9PM
FRI 8TH JOHN KEANE SESSION 9PM
SAT 9TH CHEAP NIGHT OUT 9PM

TUE 19TH OLD TIME COUNTRY GROUP 9PM

SAT 23RD DOGWOOD ROSE 9PM
WED 27TH JOHN KEANE SESSION 9PM
FRI 29TH JACKALOPE TALES 9PM

SAT 30TH LEGAL STREET PERFORMERS 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



Beer Engine

The Beer Engine on Cemetery Road/London Road is now open and already proving a hit amongst beer drinkers. A range of 6 real ales are available - the two regular beers are Exit 33 Thirst Aid (nice, refreshing and session strength) and Bass (a classic bitter) with the rest a regularly changing selection of interesting beers from further afield. Some special events are planned on the beer front including a tap takeover with Bad Seed Brewery. Also on the bar is real cider, craft keg beers and a quality selection of bottled beers.

The food service began a week after opening. Tapas style bar snacks are available on weekdays and roast dinners on Sundays. On a Saturday when Sheffield United are at home pie & peas will be available, other Saturdays its bar snacks.

The pub has already seen a rare glimpse of spring sunshine and the beer garden proved the place to be!

The Beer Engine is currently opening from 4pm Monday to Thursday and from midday Friday to Sunday.



Manor House Hotel Dronfield

The Manor House Hotel have announced their plans for Three Valleys Festival on Saturday 6th June. There will be a dedicated and themed beer tent featuring 6 beers from Abbeydale Brewery, Music in the afternoon (3.30 ish start) on the outside patio from Sam Wain, a jazz/blues/boogiewoogie pianist & singer; Quality food provided by 'I ♥ Ostrich' with their range of superb burgers, fries & other 'street' food and Hotel rooms available for weary and tired drinkers with special festival rates available! As part of the festival a free bus service will run from Dronfield Station to the hotel every half hour.

Inn Brief 3 Valleys Special



The Jolly Farmer will have an extended beer range and BBQ as well as the usual pub food menu.

The White Swan will be hosting a cider festival and BBQ in their newly refurbished outdoor drinking area.





The Miners Arms at Hundall will feature beers from Pictish on the bar in the main pub and a further 10 guest real ales in an inflatable pub next door. There will also be outdoor drinking in the beer garden along with Street Food including pulled pork sandwiches and burgers.

The Miners Arms in Dronfield Woodhouse will be

Three Merry Lads, Lodge Moor

Staff at The Three Merry Lads pub in Lodge Moor, Sheffield will be attempting to break the Guinness World Record for the longest BBQ Marathon as a team. Pub owners Barry Croxall & Jane Thompson will get the barbeque started on Saturday June 20th with the team planning to keep barbecuing until the early hours of Monday morning.

The longest barbecue marathon by a team is 29 hr 1 min and was achieved last year by Lee De Villiers and Simon Clark at The Old Sergeant pub in Wandsworth, London, on 9 & 10

May 2014. (*source)

The Three Merry Lads will be serving a BBQ breakfast each Morning from 8am-11am on Saturday June 20th and Sunday June 21st. There will be an ALL YOU CAN EAT BBQ buffet each day priced at £5.95 between 11am & 5pm and £8.95 thereafter.

The team should break the current Guinness World Record on Sunday June 21st (Fathers Family Fun Day) at 2pm. Where there will be a charity raffle, live music, children's entertainer, bouncy castle and for the adults, a selection of local real ales and a dozen craft ciders.

It promises to be a fun event for the whole family and money collected by fundraising over the weekend will be donated to the Sheffield Royal Society for the Blind. We have already been offered great support from a number of local businesses in the area including PEP Coffee our meat will be provided by Phillip James Butchers in Crosspool, any others interested in getting involved or can offer any support are encouraged to contact either Barry or Jane on 01142302824 for info.

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 Wood Street Brewery ales.



on selected meals all day Monday-Saturday (except Bank Holidays)

SUNDAY LUNCH £5.99

12-5pm





Hop Hideout expands

After 16 months trading within Vintedge on Abbeydale Road, the award winning Hop Hideout has moved location to an independent neighbouring shop at 448 Abbeydale Road; nestled alongside the original unit in the Antiques Quarter. The picturesque corner location, next door to The Broadfield pub, means the specialist beer shop can focus on evening events in conjunction with offering a growing range of beers (400+) for enjoyment. Previous events have included book readings from 2014 Beer Writers of the Year - Boak and Bailey, art exhibitions (featuring work from Alec Doherty of Partizan and Rich Norgate of Magic Rock) beer and cheese paired nights and Meet the Brewers. The next Meet the Brewer event is with Marble Brewery on Thurs 21st May (previous events have included Northern Monk Brew Co, Mad Hatter and Thornbridge).

The independent shop space has launched extended opening hours and now offers draught beer to take out via growler fills - all detailed on their freshly designed website www. hophideout.co.uk

Jules and Will of Hop Hideout shared that, "We hugely enjoy sourcing beers from Yorkshire and all over the world to offer a fantastic selection for our customers. Now that we have our new shop location it means we can showcase a wider range of beers on draught too from exciting breweries such as Magic Rock and Mikkeller. Importantly for us, now that we have our own dedicated space, we can host regular evening events. We're already working on future events which include 'Beery Book Club' every 2nd Thursday of the month starting in May and 'Pucker Up' a night of sour beers."

Over the Easter weekend Hop Hideout joined forces with Picture House Social to host 'A Firkin Beer Festival' featuring 18 casks, kegs and

a specialist bottled beer and cider selection. With lots of collaboration beers from outstanding breweries such as Siren, Fyne, Ilkley, Yeastie Boys, Bad Seed, Northern Alchemy, Weird Beard and Marble showcased. The duo are looking to continue with the success of this inaugural event and are already planning future beer festivals.

Catch Jules hosting beer and cheese pairings alongside friends Anchorage in the demo marquee at the Sheffield Food Festival over the May Bank holiday weekend (23rd to 25th May).









Inn Brief 3 Valleys Special

offering an extended selection of malt whiskies as

well as beer and food.





The Castle Inn at Bradway have confirmed their musical entertainment - quitar duo Twelve Strings, once of which is Andy Moore who may be better known to some as PC Swirling on Emmerdale! The Castle will also have an outside bar showcasing a guest brewery plus food.

Announcements are still awaited at the time of writing from the Travellers Rest.

Other Brief News

The Tap & Barrel on Waingate in Sheffield City Centre is under new management. Real Ale has been introduced to the bar and food is on its way too. This pub is described as a down to earth, good honest boozer frequented by a good mix of people from all walks of







The Half Pint Marathon

A collaboration between Thornbridge Brewery and Forum Cafe Bars LTD will have you reaching for your (half) pint glass this spring.

The 'Half Pint Marathon' is a month long celebration of some of Sheffield's best independent beer venues, dreamt up by the people behind the two companies.

Following on from the newly rebranded Yorkshire Half in April, the Half Pint Marathon will give people the chance to explore the city, support their local independent venues and do something good for charity.

The Half Pint Marathon incorporates thirteen of Sheffield's favourite pubs - The Greystones, The Bath Hotel, The Hallamshire House, The Stags Head, The Forum, The Old House, The York, The Broadfield, Shakespeare's, The Brothers Arms, The University Arms, Kelham Island Tavern and The Rutland Arms.

Each of the venues will be

serving a specially created collaboration Thornbridge and FCBL beer Stitch - a light, hoppy, 4% session ale!

FCBL Managing Director, Kane Yeardley says "The Half Pint Marathon will be a great opportunity for Sheffield to get out there and support their local, independent pubs and some great causes in one go!" And Thornbridge bosses say "This is a fantastic chance to make a tasty new beer, work with some great Sheffield pubs and make some money for good causes. We're very excited for the month of May!"

Participants will have the month of May to visit all thirteen sites armed with their 'Half Pint Marathon' card. Once they have enjoyed a beer in each venue they will have the opportunity to submit their card into the prize draw to win fantastic prizes from across Sheffield, including brewery tours, tasting sessions, beer, and much, much more.

The Half Pint Marathon aims to raise £13,000 for some of Sheffield's best loved charities – St Luke's, Roundabout, The Childrens Hospital and Bluebell Wood. Money will be raised through the sale of the beer and events in each of the participating venues.

Regular updates are available at on Facebook at Half-Pint-Marathon and we'll be encouraging people to get involved by using #halfpintsheff across social media.





Old Hall Hotel, Hope

The Old Hall Hotel at Hope suffered a serious fire on Friday 10th April, thought to be caused by a fault on the deep fat fryer which saw the extractor fan blow a fireball up into the roof space. Part of the roof and two of the hotel rooms were destroyed in the blaze and at the time of writing there was no estimate as

to when the kitchen is likely to reopen, however landlord Rick Ellison and a dedicated team of staff got straight to work as soon as the Fire Brigade had finished and following a deep clean and some electrical work they managed to get the bar back open within 24 hours!

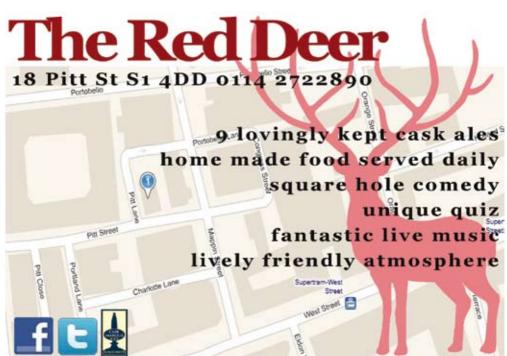
Rick publically thanked

his staff and members of the local community for their help and support and is very proud of how quick the bar reopened in the pub.

There is still however a bit of building work to be done in the weeks ahead to get the full hotel back in business although three of the hotel rooms are unaffected, we assume customers unable to get food or accommodation at the Old Hall will be directed up the road to Rick's other pub & hotel, the Peaks in Castleton.

You can still visit the Old Hall for a drink as the bar is operating normally and we are looking forward to their Spring bank holiday beer & cider festival at the end of Mav.





Pubs with CAMRA members discounts

This month we feature all the pubs in the Dronfield sub-branch area that offer a discount on beer if you produce your current, valid CAMRA membership card before placing your order.

Next month we will feature Sheffield pubs - please let us know if you know of any and don't forget members can download a National Pub Discount Scheme poster from the members website for the pub to use to promote the fact.

Please support the pubs by going to check them out, drinking the beer and taking advantage of their offer of a discount! Some terms & conditions or restrictions may apply, please check directly with the pubs.

Beer Stop, Dronfield 20p per pint

Coach & Horses, Dronfield 20p per pint

Travellers Rest, Apperknowle **20p** per pint

Miners Arms, Hundall 3op per pint

Jolly Farmer, Dronfield Woodhouse 15p per pint

Talbot, Dronfield Woodhouse Discount available



OPENING TIMES

Monday & Tuesday 2pm – 9pm Wednesday & Thursday 2pm – 11pm Friday to Sunday 12.00 noon – 11pm

Tel: 01977 278867

Web:

www.thejunctionpubcastleford.com Events:

www.facebook.com/JunctionPubCas







★ Pub of the Month May 2015 ★ Broadfield, Abbeydale Road

The Broadfield is on the Abbeydale Road, close to the junction with Broadfield Road, located at the southern end of the Sheffield Antiques Quarter. This former Green King pub has been transformed into a thriving local with an excellent selection of real ales and great food. The pub is part of the small Forum group, which also owns the True North Brewing Company.

The pub has a central bar, on one side of which is the dining area, which features a wood burning stove, and the other is for drinkers, with a number of attractive seating alcoves. The garden is reached from this part of the pub. The large walled garden is popular with drinkers. There are some heaters and, being sheltered, the garden is a great place to drink outside even in cooler weather.

The team, led by manager Mark and assistant manager Ed, have done a great job in providing an excellent range of beers and cider, along with excellent food.

As well as regulars Abbeydale Moonshine, Kelham Island Pale Rider and Stancil Barnsley bitter, there is a rotating selection of ales from microbreweries, often including one or two from True North. There is also one real cider on handpump., and an massive range of scotch whiskies

The pub also serves freshly cooked meals using only fresh ingredients prepared on the premises. Booking is advisable if you wish to eat in the evening or weekend lunchtimes.

Opening Hours are 1130 (daily) to 12 Mo-Th, 1am (FS) and 11 (sun). Food is served 12-10 daily. Quiz night is Wednesday.

The Pub of the Month Presentation will be on Tuesday 12th May, with a social commencing at 8pm.

The Broadfield is at 452 Abbeydale Road, Buses 10,10a, 75,76,87,97 and 98 stop nearby.











THE CASTLE INN

1 Twentywell Road, Sheffield S17 4PT Tel: 0114 376 7100



Up to 6 cask ales all from local breweries, real ciders plus bottled Italian beers to complement our........

.....New Spring Menu

featuring the best of our popular British Classics plus a range of rustic dishes from all over Italy.

First Friday of every month

Open Jam Session with Kev n Mick.

Guests welcome all night. Plus.....a special food offering on the night. See Twitter and FB for details.

Try our delicious **Sunday Lunch**served 12 till 3pm every Sunday. Rare Breed Local
Beef, Pork or Chicken plus a veggie option.
No standing in a carvery queue it's table service all
the way. Try our range of hand made desserts to
Finish.

Web: www.castleinnbradway.co.uk

Twitter: @CastleBradway Buses: 25a, 53, 97, 98.



★ National Club of the Year 2015 ★ Wortley Men's Club

CAMRA recently announced the winner of their National Club of the Year Competition as Wortley Men's Club, which beat off competition from over 28,000 clubs nationwide.

Wortley Men's Club is just outside the Sheffield CAMRA Branch area. They hold an annual Beer Festival in August. The 2015 Good Beer Guide describes the Club: 'In the heart of this pretty village, surrounded by open countryside, the outside of the building is impressive, with traditional timber framing and a small beer garden. The opulent interior has ornate ceilings, a small bar area, a plush lounge and a large games room. The guest ale comes from a local brewery and a guest draught cider is always kept.'

Nigel Pickering, the Steward, had this to say on being named the best Club for real ale anywhere in the UK: "We are overjoyed at receiving this award, it is beyond our expectations. We introduced cask beer in 1997 with 1 pump and we now have 4 pumps and 1 real cider available. This year will be holding our 3rd annual Beer Festival, which will offer 40 beers and 10 ciders. We try to be active in the local community, we are part of a small village and hold events in conjunction

with the local businesses and church, most recently a Brass Band Competition and we have also raised money for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance through our Beer Festival."

Club Mirror magazine and CAMRA joined forces three years ago in the quest to find the best real ale clubs - those which offer a fantastic atmosphere, welcoming surroundings, and most importantly, top quality real ale served in great condition.

Competition organiser John Holland said: "Wortlev Men's Club is hugely deserving of this prestigious CAMRA award. Not only is it a beautiful period building, but the Steward's commitment to quality real ale and the welcome you receive really is second to none. The club itself of course serves men and women, and is free to visit for CAMRA members, but I think you would think yourself extremely lucky to have this as your local club, and I can see why it remains as popular as ever with members as well proving a hit with competition judges."

The CAMRA Club of the Year 2015 Award was presented on 17th March, by **CAMRA National Director** Keith Spencer. Along with BBC Look North, CAMRA and club members were in attendance.

Vote for Pub of the Month!

Our Pub of the Month award is highlighting local pubs that conin friendly and comfortable sur-

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

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

simply vote YES or NO as to

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.

Good Beer Guide entries for branch Pub of the Year, the winner of which is entered into the

The list of nominees includes a trip to try them out:

The Nominees

Cremorne

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

Devonshire Cat

City Centre

Dove & Rainbow

City Centre

Mount Pleasant

Noton Lees (bus 20A)

Old Hall Hotel

Hope (buses 272, 273, 274)

Old Queens Head

City Centre

Red Deer

City Centre

Rising Sun Norton Lees (buses 65, 70, 215, 272)

Shakespeares

Kelham Island

Sheaf View

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

Three Merry Lads

Lodge Moor (bus 51)

Vote online now at sheffieldcamra.org.uk



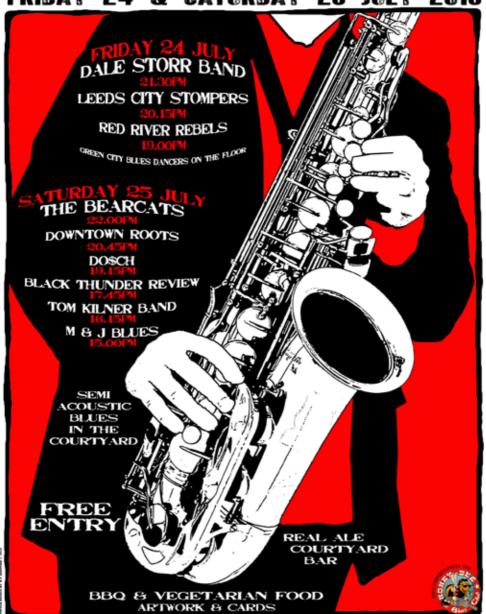




PRESENTS



TRAMLINES BLUES & ALE STAGE FRIDAY 24 & SATURDAY 25 JULY 2015



Awards Gallery



Steel City Beer Awards Porter and overall winner

Thornbridge Cocoa Wonderland, brewed in collaboration with the Cocoa Wonderland chocolate shop on Ecclesall Road. Pictured are Thornbridge brewers with chocolatiers Anne Ashforth and Kate Shepherd.



Steel City Beer Awards Stout category

Fuggle Bunny Brewhouse Russian Rarebit - the Fuggle Bunny team pictured with Beer Matters editor and festival beer order coordinator Andy Cullen.



Pub of the Month The Anglers Rest, Bamford

Certificate presented by then Sheffield & District CAMRA Chairman Alan Gibbons.

Pubs of the Year 2015

At the recent branch AGM. the winners of our Pub and Club of the Year competitions were announced by outgoing branch Chairman Alan Gibbons. This is a bit of positive campaigning celebrating the best in our area which then get entered into the County round of the national competition. The main criteria for a pub of the year is good ale, however we also consider whether pubs show sympathy to our other aims as a consumer campaign and of course it needs to be somewhere evervone feels comfortable drinking.

Our main Pub of the Year competition in Sheffield & District starts out with a vote open to all our members, the ballot paper contains all the Pub of the Month winners from the last 12 months along with those pubs we listed in the national Good Beer Guide

★ Dronfield PotY ★ Travellers Rest, Apperknowle

This has already been presented and is selected by a voting process conducted by the Dronfield subbranch. The winner was the Travellers Rest at Apperknowle with the Coach & Horses in Dronfield a close runner up.

- so Pub of the Year is kind of a grand final. The vote whittles the list down to a top 6 Sheffield pubs and a top 3 District pubs (District being the Derbyshire part of our branch area, except for Dronfield which has a separate competition run by our sub branch there). Our team of judges (who are a good mix of old and young, male and female) then independently visit these pubs and score them on a variety of criteria - the same used by the national competition judges - which are Quality of Beer, Atmosphere/Style/Décor, Service and Welcome, Clientele Mix, Sympathy With CAMRA Aims and value for money. There is some weighting in the scoring to promote beer quality as the priority - however of course if you have several pubs with great beer, the other factors come into play!

★ Cider PotY ★

Following a vote this was presented to the **Three Tuns** in Dronfield which has gone forward into the Derbyshire competition. Our entry into the Yorkshire competition is the **Harlequin** on Nursery Street, Sheffield.



* SI

The finalists included the Blake Hotel in Walkley, the Gardeners Rest at Neepsend, the Fat Cat in Kelham Island, Shakespeare's by West Bar and the Sheffield Tap in Sheffield City Centre.

However the winner is. again, the Kelham Island Tavern. This pub keeps on winning awards, testament to the fact that Trevor, Lewis and the team aren't sitting on their laurels - they are not only maintaining standards but subtly getting even better. There is a wide range of beers on the bar, always well kept, with all the main beer styles always represented to ensure there is something for everyone and not forgetting real cider & perry plus modern craft beers. The prices are also very reasonable.

The Kelham also scores

★ Club of the Year ★

This is selected by a simple branch meeting vote to choose the clubs we are putting forward into the Yorkshire and Derbyshire regional competitions, which feed into the national contest. Our Yorkshire entry is **Crookes Social Club** and our Derbyshire entry is the Dronfield **Hill Top Sports & Social Club**.



neffield Pub of the Year * Kelham Island Tavern

highly beyond just the beer showing effort, care and passion is applied throughout the pub - it is clean, comfortable and welcoming, oversized lined glasses are used ensuring a full measure every time and the beer garden gets a lot of attention too with lots of plants and decorative features making it a pleasant place to be.

The Kelham hosts a midsummer beer festival every summer with an outside bar featuring an extended range of real ales and ciders which attracts beer lovers from across the country to try the new beers showcased here.

We'll be presenting their award certificate during this years beer festival on the evening of Thursday 17th June, all are invited to come down, enjoy a beer and join the pub's celebrations.



★ District Pub of the Year ★ Anglers Rest, Millers Dale

In the final three was the Cheshire Cheese in Hope and the Three Stags Head at Wardlow Mires, however the winner was judged as the Anglers Rest in Millers Dale. This is a friendly pub with three rooms – dining room, lounge and tap room – with the later featuring a pool table and hosting walkers from the nearby trail during the day and locals from the nearby villages in the evening, the pub of-

fers a selection of well kept ales sourced mostly from breweries within 20 miles of the pub such as Storm brewery in Macclesfield, the pub also takes part in community focused events from time to time.

We are in the process of organising a minibus trip out to the Anglers to present Graham and team with their award, look out for details in the next issue of *Beer Matters*.



Unit 7, 106 Fitzwalter Road, Sheffield, S2 2SP, England, UK. Tel: +44 (0) 114 2709991



www.exit33.beer

tweet us @exit33brewing







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.

May

Philadelphia Blues Fri 1 - Sat 2 May

The annual festival brought to you by Sax Bob that features blues music accompanied by real ale. The venue is CADS (Cultural Arts Development Space) on Snow Lane in Shalesmoor, located a couple of minutes walk from Shakespeare's and the Kelham Island Tavern or 5 minutes walk from Shalesmoor tram stop.

Set in the industrial quarter of Sheffield The Philadelphia Beer and Blues Festival offers locally sourced real ales named on a blues theme plus ciders, wine, cans, bbq, vegetarian food, artwork and cards. Showcasing some of the most exciting Blues Bands around, the Great Hall is a cavernous industrial space complete with stage, mammoth sound system and professional stage lighting. The Philadelphia name is taken from the Old Philadelphia area of Sheffield which is adjacent. The Festival will open at 3pm daily £6 admission and in addition to bands and times on the poster, there will be semi acoustic blues from 3:30 pm. Last orders will be midnight.

There will also be live music in a number of the real ale pubs nearby around Kelham Island, Neepsend and Hillsborough on the weekend and passouts will be available from the main venue at CADS for those wanting to also do the pubs.

Elsecar Steam Railway (Barnsley CAMRA)

Fri 1 – Mon 4 May

A beer tent full of real ale and cider in the yard of the railway station at Elsecar heritage Centre, Food, music and a tombola also features. Trains will run at their normal times and tickets are sold in the normal way if you want to combine beer and trains.

Hill Top Sports & Social Club Fri 1 - Sun 3 May

Dronfield CAMRA's Club of the Year hosts its annual beer festival. open to the general public, Featuring an expanded range of real ales, all on handpump. Each day there is a different theme of entertainment. Friday the festival opens at 3pm with live music in the evening, Saturday open all day from midday with a family disco from 5pm and on Sunday again a midday opening with a quiz and bingo in the evening.

The club is on Longacre Road in Dronfield Hill Top, buses 43/43A stop nearby.

Sheffield Student Union Fri 1 - Sun 3 May

80+ real ales, ciders, German beer and Gin! Open to the public and free entry to all. German theme Friday night, Sheffield theme Saturday and Sunday is Pig & Cider day.

Lees Hall Golf Club

Sat 2 - Sun 3 May

Lees Hall Golf Club's annual beer festival is back with free admission and entertainment.

Barrow Hill Rail Ale Festival 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.

Lincoln CAMRA Thu 21 - Sat 23 May

100+ real ales plus cider, perry, bottled beers and food feature at the Drill Hall in Lincoln City Centre and entry is free for CAMRA members at all times. More information visit www.lincolncamra.org.uk. Northern Rail trains run from Sheffield to Lincoln every hour.





Steel City Festival Entertainment

The 41st Steel City Beer Festival planning continues apace across a variety of areas at once and being co-ordinated and taken forward at monthly meetings (see the diary for upcoming meetings, all volunteers welcome).

The festival involves a myriad of tasks outside of just location, equipment, beer and staffing, such as sponsorship, publicity and entertainment. This year's is already starting to come together and looking really good.

On Thursday upstairs we have 2 sets from 9pm with Leeds City Stompers, a red hot blues band, conjuring the spirit of prohibition America, who headlined the acoustic stage at Europe's biggest blues festival in Colne last year. With real 1920s drum kits, slapped double bass, metal resonator guitars from the 1930s and three voices - "making old sounds in a new way" we are really looking forward to hearing them at this years festival.

On Friday night from 9pm, **The Downtown Roots** will be taking to the stage. If you're luck enough to have seen them play in

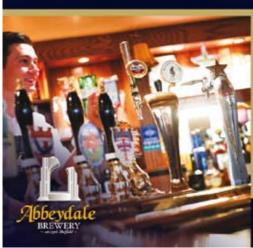
Sheffield already, you will know they've gained an enthusiastic following in a very short time. They are now plying their musical wares up and down the country and getting the same response. With Pete Botterill, Bass, and James 'Skinny' Darnill, Drums, providing a solid rhythm section, Moz Casserly weaves his guitar with the ability of the some of the guitar greats they will bring their psychedelic tinged, Blues Rock to the festival to create a truly memorable evenings musical entertainment.

Saturday afternoon between 2pm and 4pm sees the welcome return of **Loxley Silver Band**, established in 1889 in Loxley Methodist Church and rehearsing there until very recently, the band has a friendly family atmosphere with players ranging from 10-80 years. Last year saw the band celebrate their 125th anniversary and they recorded a CD, which is now available to buy. Loxley were also asked to help a Cornwall-based folk-rock band called 'Love Street' and played on their hit single "Susanna", which is all about the Sheffield Pals regiment and their ultimate sacrifice in WW1. An EP including this single is also available, with part of the proceeds going to The Royal British Legion.

Look out in future *Beer Matters* for details of Saturday night's band as well as something different for the afternoon.



At the heart of the Devonshire Quarter



Specalist in all styles of beer! Food served till 9pm Mon-Sat. Sunday roast untill 6pm. Quiz every Monday 8pm. Beer tasting sessions for hire!

Events May/June:

Abbeydale Ales Friday -08/05/15 Whisky Tasting Course 12/05/15 Rum Night Thursday -14/05/15 Strong Beers Friday -22/05/15 -26/05/15 Wheat Beer Tueday -29/05/15 Craft Keg Friday Curry Night Thursday -04/06/15 GB Bottles Night -09/06/15 Gin Tasting Course -11/06/15 American Beers Night -18/06/15 Tuesday Tapas Chris' Beer School -23/06/15 -25/06/15

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Closed Shop Thu 21 - Sun 24 May

A range of additional beers served on gravity at this pub on Commonside. Food served as normal until 9pm.

Hope Valley

Thu 21 - Mon 25 May

The second festival of the year hosted at the Old Hall Hotel in Hope, this sees a range of up to 40 real ales and 20 artisan ciders featured in a tent outside the pub along with food and entertainment. The Old Hall is on the main road as you first arrive in the centre of the village and is easy to get to from Sheffield - buses 272/273/274 go there with buses hourly at most times, additionally Hope railway station on the Sheffield-Manchester line is about 10-15 minutes walk away.

Sheffield Food & Drink Festival (Brewers Co-op beer tent) Sat 23 - Mon 25 May

Once again this year Sheffield Food Festival will be taking place in the city centre over the spring bank holiday weekend bringing with it the return of the world famous Sheffield Brewers Co-operative. Local brewers Exit 33, Wood Street, Blue Bee, Kelham, Abbevdale & Sheffield have all got their act together to hit beer drinkers far and wide with the best they've got! Staffed by mainly the brewers themselves the Peace Gardens bar will play host to 1 flagship, core beer brand from each brewery served on hand pump plus another special/seasonal beer of their choice gravity fed, beer festival style!

Here's the beer list (it may change):

Abbeydale Corruption 4.7% Deep Golden

Abbeydale Moonshine 4.3% Pale

Blue Bee American 5 Hop 4.3% Pale

> Blue Bee Simcoe IPA 5.0% IPA

> > Exit 33 IPA 5.1% IPA

Exit 33 Mosaic 4.1% Pale

Kelham Island California Drinking 4.8% Amber

Kelham Island Pale Rider 5.2% Pale

Sheffield Five Rivers 3.8% Bitter

Sheffield Forgemasters 4.8% Pale

Wood Street Lemmon 4.0% Pale

Wood Street Maple 4.6% Golden

The beer tent will be open Sat 23 May 11:00-22:00, Sun 24 May 11:00-21:00 and Mon 25 May 11:00-21:00. Come down, say hello and talk to us brewers - We're all a friendly bunch!

Follow our happenings on Twitter @ SheffBreweries or see what's going off @ sheffoodfest/sheffieldfoodfestival.org.

Stockport CAMRA

Thu 28 - Sat 30 May

Edgeley Park Stadium. Features up to 150 beers plus entertainment and

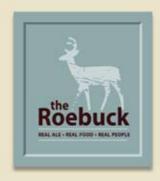


Belper Goes Green (Amber Valley CAMRA)

Fri 29 - Sun 31 May

The beer festival is organised by Amber Valley CAMRA at Belper Rugby Club with around 30 real ales plus cider, it is about 5 minutes walk from the bus and rail station. Open 6pm-11pm Friday and 12pm-11pm Saturday with free entry at all times. The beer festival runs alongside the annual Belper Goes Green Eco-Fest which takes place on the Saturday and Sunday which features all sorts of stalls and sustainable attractions!



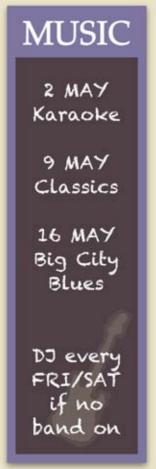


* Sheffield CAMRA Pub of the Month December 2014

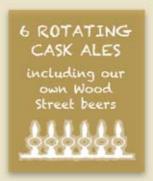


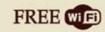
















June

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.

So catch the train to Dronfield, join the bus at the station and hop on and off trying the different beers, foods, entertainment and atmosphere each venue offers!

The venues are:

Barlow Brewery, Barlow Castle Inn, Bradway Coach & Horses, Dronfield Dronfield Arms, Dronfield Green Dragon, Dronfield Hyde Park Inn, Dronfield Hill Top Jolly Farmer, Dronfield Woodhouse Manor House Hotel. Dronfield Miners Arms, Dronfield Woodhouse Miners Arms, Hundall Royal Oak, Coal Aston Shepley Spitfire, Totley Rise Talbot Arms, Dronfield Woodhouse Three Tuns, Dronfield Hallowes Tickled Trout, Barlow Travellers Rest, Apperknowle Victoria, Dronfield White Swan, Dronfield

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).

Kelham Island Tavern Midsummer

Wed 17 - Fri 19 Jun

As is traditional come the summer solstice, an outside bar appears in the Kelham Island Tavern's beer garden featuring an extended range of real ale and cider!

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!

Buses and Trams

South Yorkshire:

Travel Line 01709 51 51 51 www.travelsouthyorkshire.com **Derbyshire**

www.derbysbus.info **Trains**

National Enquiries 08457 48 49 50 www.nationalrail.co.uk

Trading Standards

trading.standards@sheffield.gov.uk Consumer advice (0114) 273 6289 Sheffield Trading Standards, 2-10 Carbrook Hall Road, Sheffield S9 2DB

Sheffield & District

Info and bookings: Richard Ryan (see right)

Branch meeting 8pm Tue 5 May

Monthly meeting open to all members to catch up on campaign issues, pub, club and brewery news, vote for Pub of the Month and any other business – plus a pint or two of course.

Venue: Wisewood Inn, Loxley Road. Buses 31, 31A and 84.

Pub of the Month Tue 12 May

We are at the Broadfield on Abbevdale Road to present them with their certificate, please come along for a few beers and show your support!

RambAle 12:30pm Sat 16 May

Our monthly country walk, enjoying the scenery at a leisurely pace with a number of pub stops along the way. This month we are meeting at the Dronfield Arms and walking to Barrow Hill, finishing at the Rail Ale Festival there.

The preferred way to travel to the starting point is by train, departing Sheffield at 12:05. The Dronfield Arms is just around the corner from the station. We advise buying a return to Chesterfield to allow for return from Barrow Hill (a shuttle bus operates from the festival to Chesterfield station). If you prefer buses, Stagecoach bus 44 passes the pub and departs Sheffield Flat Street at 11:44.

Festival planning meeting 8pm Tue 19 May

We continue work on plans for the Steel City Beer & Cider Festival, which we anticipate will be at Kelham Island Industrial Museum, 21st to 24th October. If you fancy getting involved on the organising committee please come along! Venue TBC.





2pm until 12am (While stocks last)

OVER 80 VARIETIES OF REAL ALE, FRUIT BEERS & CIDER

PLUS GERMAN STEIN BAR AND POP UP GIN BAR



RONEYS OF SHEFFIELD

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION









Hope Valley Bus Crawl 12pm Mon 25 May

Our afternoon out drinking in the Hope Valley along bus route 272/273/274. We start by catching the bus out to Castleton where there are lots of real ale pubs to wander between before catching a bus down to Hope where there are 4 pubs, including the Old Hall with its bank holiday weekend beer festival. We also visit pubs in Bamford and Hathersage.

An all day bus pass for First including these Peak District services is $\pounds 5.50$, meet on the 273 bus departing Sheffield Interchange at 12:00.

Committee meeting & Beer Matters distribution

8pm Tue 26 May

The new *Beer Matters* arrives at the Rutland, Brown Street, for volunteers to distribute. If you have volunteered, come down to collect them and enjoy a beer with fellow distributors. Committee meeting upstairs.

Branch meeting 8pm Tue 2 Jun

Beer Engine on London Road/Cemetery Road. We are promised great hospitality from Tom, the landlord and this will also see the launch of the new meeting format, including the "chairman's challenge" which I'm sure you will enjoy.

Get there on buses 20, 20A, 25,43, 44, 75, 76, 87, 97, 98, 218 (alight first stop on London Road heading out of town).

Dronfield & District

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

Club of the Year presentation 8pm Fri 1 May

We are visiting the beer festival at Hill Top Sports and Social Club and presenting their Club of the Year winners certificate whilst we are there! Join us to enjoy a few beers, live music and support our local award winning club!

Subbranch meeting 8pm Tue 12 May

Monthly meeting to share pub, club and brewery news, vote on awards, arrange future socials and enjoy a beer or two. All members welcome!

Travellers Rest, Apperknowle. If you need a lift from Dronfield centre, email chairman@dronfieldcamra.org.uk.

Working Social at Rail Ale 12pm Sat 16 May

Team Dronfield are manning one of the bars at Barrow Hill Rail Ale Festival from midday until 4pm. You work as a volunteer, however get free entry, free beer and whilst stocks last a free t-shirt. Once our shift is over we will hang around for a few social beers. A bus is provided from Chesterfield station to Barrow Hill, you just need to jump on a train from Dronfield (11:15am). If you would like to work Barrow Hill please contact their staffing officer, Mark Burgess (marktheowl@sky.com).

Beer Matters Distribution Social 8pm Wed 27 May

The Dronfield supply of *Beer Matters* will be available for volunteers to collect and all members are welcome to join us for a beer! Coach & Horses on Sheffield Road (bus 43).

Nottingham Mild Trail Sat 30 May

We plan on catching a train from Dronfield and doing part of the Nottingham CAMRA Mild Trail. Each pub featured in *Nottingham Drinker* offers a sticker when you buy a mild; when you collect enough, you win a prize! Basically a pub crawl to mark CAMRA'a Mild in May campaign, promoting this less fashionable beer style! Details TBC.

Subbranch meeting Tue 9 Jun

Venue TBC but expected to be the Three Tuns (bus 43).

The Committee

Andrew Cullen

Chairman

chairman@sheffieldcamra.org.uk
Beer Matters Editor
beermatters@sheffieldcamra.org.uk

Louise Singleton

Beer Festival Organiser festival@sheffieldcamra.org.uk

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Othe roles TBA

Graham Hall

Dronfield Branch Contact secretary@dronfieldcamra.org.uk

CAMRA (National)

230 Hatfield Rd, St Albans, Herts, AL1 4LW www.camra.org.uk 01727 867201





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Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) Email address (if different from main member)	01/15			
Forename(s)	Applications will be processed within 21 days			
Title Surname	Signed Date			
Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)	I enclose a cheque for			
Tel No(s) —	and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association			
Email address	I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale,			
Postcode	For Young Member and other concessionary rates please visit www.camra.org.uk or call 01727 867201.			
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) —————————————————————————————————	(Partner at the same address)			
Title Surname Forename(s)	Single Membership £24 \$26 (UK & EU)			
Your Details	Direct Debit Non DD			

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