

# BEER MATTERS



Issue 527  
September 2023

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All contributions\* welcome,  
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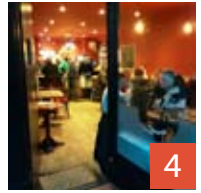


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## Two & Six Micropub

### Snig Hill

Two & Six Micropub opened on Saturday 5 August at 26 Snig Hill in Sheffield City Centre.

This is the unit that was previously home to theSocial bar. Behind the new venture are Juliet and Dan (Juliet was previously theSocial manager).

The bar offers a choice of real ales, craft beer on keg, wines and spirits, in a cosy and comfortable micropub atmosphere. There is also a downstairs function room.

Opening hours are Wed/Thu 2-10pm, Fri/Sat 12-11pm, Sun 2-8pm.

## Inn Brief



**Riverside Cafe** in Hillsborough is now only opening the upstairs bar on Sheffield Wednesday match days and for private functions.

Some have asked whatever happened to the plans to restore and open **Barrow Boys**, under the Commercial Street bridge. It is still happening, however problems with the drains need to be dealt with first, then it will be full steam ahead to create a rock bar in the space.



## Sheffield CAMRA welcomes freshers!

You've chosen a fantastic city for beer to make your home while at university, with pubs and bars of all styles and atmospheres that offer real ale and other craft beers.

Check out our online local area guides to the **City Centre, Kelham Island & Neepsend, Crookes & Walkley, Heeley & Abbeydale, Ecclesall Road** and **Dronfield** areas to inspire exploration.

We also have articles online featuring pubs and brewery tap rooms you can get to on the tram, and even an open top bus route in the Peaks! Visit [sheffield.camra.org.uk/pub-guides](https://sheffield.camra.org.uk/pub-guides).

**Sportsman** at Lodge Moor had another successful Gillyfest and raised £2,580.13 for St Luke's. There were eight bands throughout the day on the outdoor stage, fairground stalls, children's play area, BBQ and outdoor bar. Beers both inside and out were Bradfield *Farmers Blonde* and Timothy Taylor's *Landlord*.

**Beer House S6** at Hillsborough have now opened their downstairs room, which contains a pool table.

Recent reopenings include **Brown Bear** in Sheffield City Centre and **Closed Shop** on Commonsides.

**Lost in West Bar** have been running a 10% off cask ale promotion on Sundays.

**Heist Brew Co.** are hosting a Northern Monk tap takeover on Friday 25 August.

**Perch Brewhouse** are hosting a Belgian beer festival from 1 to 3 September.

**Chantry Brewery Tap**, a short walk from Parkgate tram terminus, has introduced a monthly northern soul DJ night on the first Friday of the month, with free entry from 7pm to midnight. Coinciding with the launch of this event, Chantry launched a new beer, *Vespa*, a 4% ABV pale ale with the image of a classic scooter on the pumpclip and bottle label.

The brewery tap also continues to have a busy programme of ticketed gigs.



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S6 2XF



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## Abbeydale

We're getting September off to a celebratory start! New from our **Restoration** series, we have an **Irish Red Ale** (4.3%), a special release created for our brewer Thom's wedding to the lovely Lisa. Gently sweet, with notes of caramel, balanced by a piney, spicy edge. The addition of Columbus, Cascade and Centennial hops give a modern American-style twist and a fresh, light bitterness.

For our cask-only specials, we're starting to head towards autumn with **Harvested** (4.1%), a lip-smacking pale ale with Galaxy hops for a deliciously tropical flavour and delicate notes of melon. **Doctor Morton's Demon Drink** (4.2%) features Citra, Cascade and Chinook hops for a citrusy character and a gentle grassiness. From our **Geoglyph** series we'll have **Ursa Major** (4.0%), easy drinking with a punchy bitter finish.

AND IT'S BACK... yes, it's that time of year again, and our **Pumpkin Spiced Ale Pilgrim** (5.0%) will be rolling out from the middle of the month, ready to get you in the mood for spooky shenanigans. This year it's got a stouty friend! **Twilight Pilgrim** (also 5.0%) is ready to make its debut – we're keeping some of the details under wraps just for now, but we absolutely can't wait for this one.

## Brewery Bits

The new **Kelham Island Brewery Company** have added a second beer alongside *Pale Rider* – their own version of *Gold Label*, a barley wine at 9.9% ABV. Kelham beers are currently brewed at Thornbridge in Bakewell.

**Grizzly Grains**, the home of *Sheffield Mead*, have, in their latest mead experiment, filled an oak cask with Peak District heather honey, Rivelin Valley blossom honey, organic redcurrants and water, to see what comes out after fermentation! Meanwhile, on the beer side of things, released on cask is **Milk Crate Throne**, a hazy pale ale brewed with Waimea, Motueka and Enigma hops.

**Eyam Brewery's** final beer in their summer special series, **8/23** (as in August 2023), was a dry hopped summer pale ale with a light floral aroma at a sessionable 4.2% ABV. It is available exclusively in cask.



**Bradfield Brewery** have introduced a new **Light Ale**, at an easy drinking ABV of 3.4%. It is brewed with British hops and has a tropical fruit aroma. Looking further ahead, their usual seasonal rotation will feature **Jack O'Lantern** for Halloween, **Poppy Ale** for Armistice Day and Remembrance Sunday, then of course **Belgian Blue** for Christmas!

Meanwhile, on the bottled beer side of things at Bradfield, gluten free versions of **Farmers Blonde** and **Farmers Brown Cow** have now been launched, available from the brewery shop.

**Fuggle Bunny** continue to run some Saturday tap events, as well as their usual Friday openings. Saturday 26 August (bank holiday weekend) sees live music from Celana Deans, and the street food offering is paella.

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**BEER  
MATTERS**

## Brewery Bits

A recent collaboration beer at **Heist Brew Co**, with Dexter & Jones, is **Whose Round Is It Anyway?** A juicy 5% ABV IPA with tropical, citrus and pine flavours.

**Little Critters** have launched a new session IPA, **Spot On**, which is a sensible 4.3% ABV.

**Little Mesters** are planning on opening Mesters Tap soon, in the upstairs room at the brewery. Keep an eye on their socials and website for any announcements.

**Lost Industry** recently brewed a collaboration with the Gin Bar of Abbeydale Road, with the idea of a beer that not only is good to drink as it comes, but also perfect to be a cocktail ingredient. The beer is **Smokin Paloma Sour** and the flavour involves grapefruit and liquid smoke!

**Triple Point** picked up gongs in this year's World Beer Awards for four of their beers: **Tinto**, **Libertas**, **Catharina** and **Kerlsch**.

**Peak Ales** have a new **Mango Pale Ale** and have released a small batch of it in cask for pubs.

**Resting Devil**, the brewery based in the Chesterfield Arms pub, has won a Great Taste Award for their **Chatsworth Honey Ale**. This beer is available in bottles from the Chatsworth farm shop.



## Developers flout regulations

### Shock pub closure figures released by CAMRA show a third of pub losses happen without the required planning permission

The data – published as part of CAMRA's biennial pub closure figures – shows a total of 96 pubs lost to conversion or demolition across the UK in the first six months of the year, with 31 of those lacking planning permission.

Pubs in England cannot be converted or demolished without planning permission – a vital protection campaigned for by CAMRA – which empowers communities to have their say on the future of their local. However, concerning figures released today by the Campaign show that a third of pub losses happen without this process taking place.

A further 772 were classed as 'long-term closed', equivalent to 30 pubs a week, and by far the highest figures seen since CAMRA improved and revised its data collection methods in 2021. While the outlook is undoubtedly serious for the pub trade, there are reasons

to be optimistic within these numbers, as 'long-term closed' describes pubs that may still reopen to their communities, and, where more detail was available, most venues were seeking a new tenant or being actively marketed as pubs.

Commenting on the figures, CAMRA pub and club campaigns director, Gary Timmins, said "The pub trade is resilient, but it's simply unacceptable that developers are able to flout planning regulations in this manner.

"CAMRA has been calling for more consistent enforcement of planning requirements by councils for some time. We believe that if Local Planning Authorities are not able to apply pub protections as set out in legislation, then Government in Westminster must step in to provide clearer guidance. These are national policies in England and yet the variation that our campaigners see between councils with the strongest pub protection policies, and those that view pubs as an inconvenience, is shocking.

"Today's figures must be a wake-up call for government at all levels to take a more proactive approach in ensuring compliance with the National Planning Policy Framework.

"We are also calling on the Welsh Government to urgently introduce and enforce planning protections for pubs in Wales – and for the Scottish Government to end the current loophole where pubs can be demolished without planning permission."



## Pint considered unaffordable

### CAMRA calls for action on business rates and energy bills to alleviate pressure on pubs

Research commissioned by CAMRA shows that only a small minority of Brits (10%) feel that a pint is affordable.

Despite some variation, the figures paint a grim picture across the whole of Britain. Drinkers in Scotland felt the most out of pocket at the bar, with just 6% saying a pint was affordable. Despite having some of the steepest prices in the UK, a high of 15% of Londoners said they found a pint affordable.

CAMRA has long called on government to level the playing field between regulated, community venues like pubs and social clubs, and off-licence venues like supermarkets, which face far lower levels of regulation and tax. Additionally, the beer tie and other exclusive purchasing agreements mean many publicans are locked into contracts that mean they must buy beer and cider at higher than market prices, further increasing prices at the bar.

The Campaign celebrated lobbying success with the introduction of a new draught duty rate on 1 August. Under this new system, beer and cider sold on draught pays a lower rate of tax, which recognises the social and community value of the on-trade in the alcohol duty system for the first time.

Despite this, the price of a pint has continued to rise as the cost-of-business crisis has hit pubs and brewers, forcing them to increase prices. At

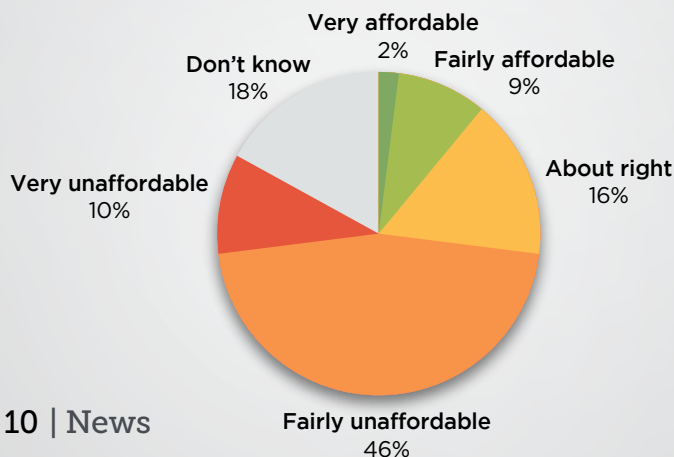
the same time, the cost-of-living crisis has meant that many consumers can't afford to spend as much supporting local pubs, clubs, brewers and cider makers.

Commenting, CAMRA national chairman, Nik Antona, said "This data shows how vital it is that government takes action this autumn, and use their planned fiscal event to reassess the huge financial burden they place on the trade.

"A pint down the pub with friends is one of life's simple pleasures, as well as being a unique part of our cultural heritage. It's devastating that so few of us feel that this is affordable.

"Our campaigning priorities over the next few months will be calling for a shakeup of the punishing Business Rates systems, action to address energy costs, seeing the draught duty rate refined to work better for pubs, and working to secure increased access to market for small UK brewers."

**In your opinion, is the average price of a pint of beer in a pub in the UK affordable or unaffordable, or is it about right?**



## Bus timetable changes

First Bus are making changes to timetables on some routes from 3 September, including some to evening services.

Details on their website.

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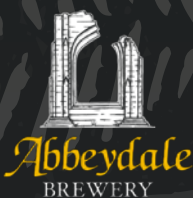


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## Survey: Leaders not trusted on pubs

### Survey figures suggest lack of faith in political leaders to protect pubs - CAMRA warns politicians ahead of election

Just two days after prime minister Rishi Sunak attended CAMRA's Great British Beer Festival, new research com-

missioned by the consumer campaigning group shows two in five Brits (43%) don't trust any of the Conservative, Labour or Liberal Democrat political party leaders to look out for the interests of British pubs.

Labour's Keir Starmer fared best, with 17% of Britons saying they would trust him to look out for the interests of pubs, while current Conservative PM, Rishi Sunak, only had the trust of 9%. Liberal Democrat leader Ed Davey came in at the bottom of the pack with just 3% of Brits saying they would trust him to look out for the interests of pubs.

Consumer organisation CAMRA has always maintained party-political neutrality in its campaigning, having worked closely with all major political parties in its 50-year history. The network of grassroots campaigners that make up the 150,000 strong organisation work, with elected representatives at every level, as well as fighting for pubs,

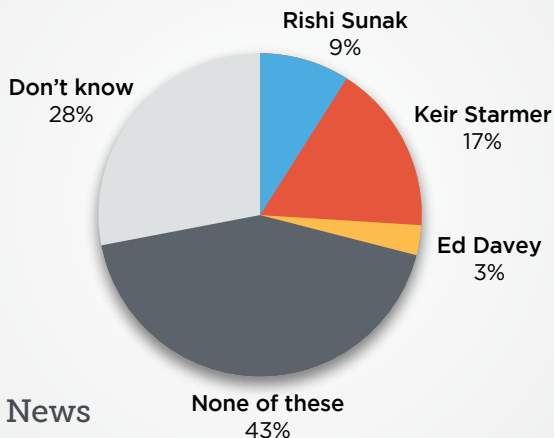
social clubs, brewers and cider makers with more direct campaigning.

Despite recent lobbying successes for the Campaign, including the introduction of a lower rate of tax for beer and cider sold on draught, the organisation voiced its concerns for the future of British pubs.

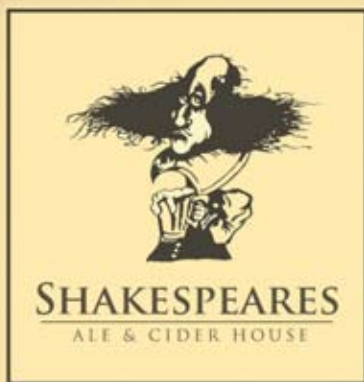
CAMRA's national chairman, Nik Antona, commented "Sadly, this data suggests that the public's perception is that our beloved locals have often been an afterthought in politics. We often hear politicians playing lip service to the community and social value of our locals - which is brilliant - but we need that to be backed up with meaningful action.

"With a general election approaching, these results should be a wake-up call for politicians, who need to have substantive policies in place to address the catalogue of issues facing the pub trade.

#### Which of the following would you trust the most to look out for the interests of British pubs?



"CAMRA believes our pubs and social clubs deserve a fighting chance, with urgent action needed on energy prices, Business Rates, a fix for the takeaway pints issue caused by the new Alcohol Duty system [stop press: an 18 month extension was announced just before going to print], and the right for licensees to choose what products they keep on the bar without stocklists being dictated by pub companies."



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## Champion Beer of Britain

### Elland's 1872 Porter crowned

Elland Brewery's **1872 Porter** (6.5% ABV) has struck gold after winning CAMRA's prestigious Champion Beer of Britain competition.

The porter was crowned winner at this year's Great British Beer Festival (GBBF), following a rigorous and hard-fought competition. The beer has been awarded Champion Winter Beer of Britain four times, including this year.

Champion Beer of Britain co-ordinator Christine Cryne said it was a deserving champion, despite incredibly strong competition. She described the beer as a ruby black porter, with chocolate and caramelised fruit flavours and a hint of black toffee on the nose. The judges enjoyed its smooth mouthfeel with a finish that is roasty and dry. A satisfying and remarkably easy-drinking porter.

The award, one of the most coveted real ale competitions in the world, puts the winner firmly in both the national and international spotlight. It was exclusively revealed at the GBBF trade session.

Festival visitors were able to enjoy sampling this year's newly crowned champion, along with the silver and bronze winning beers.

The silver prize winner was **Abbot** (5%) from Greene King Brewery, described as a classic premium bitter with typical fruit hops and malty throughout. The bronze winner was **Darwin's Origin** (4.3%) from Salopian Brewery, which impressed judges with citrus, earthy hops and a flavour that starts fruity and fades into a pleasant bittersweet finish.

Elland brewer, Rob Thomas, said "It is absolutely unbelievable to win this accolade, we really didn't expect it. For a team of three people to win the supreme award is fantastic. There is a real passion for more traditional styles – and for a very good reason, they taste fantastic!"

"The beer is steeped in history, with the recipe dating back more than 150 years. We thrive on these sorts of styles and this is testament to what people enjoy drinking: steeped in history, tradition while embracing innovation."

He added "Since lockdown, we have faced many challenges and difficult times, and this is testament to our small team and our unwavering loyalty to succeed. We passionately believe in our products and people do get excited to try everything we make, we are incredibly proud to take home the crown."

Laura Emson, CAMRA's national director responsible for the competition, says "Congratulations to Elland Brewery for winning this year's Champion Beer of Britain Award. As ever, it was a highly competitive final, with the judges having a difficult decision to make. Congratulations to all the finalists – it really shows the wide range and amazing cask beers which are available for all to enjoy."

An advertisement for Craftworks Micropub. The top part shows a photo of the pub's interior with people sitting at tables. Below the photo, it says "4 x CASK 10 x KEG". The address "38C - 38D High St, Mosborough, Sheffield S20 5AE" is listed. A large QR code is on the right. Text on the left lists "Quiz Nights", "Live Music", "Tap Takeovers", and "Dog Friendly". At the bottom, it says "Open 7 Days 9AM - 10.30PM 0114 349 2210".

CRAFTWORKS  
MICROPUB

4 x CASK  
10 x KEG

38C - 38D High St, Mosborough, Sheffield S20 5AE

Quiz Nights  
Live Music  
Tap Takeovers  
Dog Friendly

Open 7 Days 9AM - 10.30PM 0114 349 2210

## Champion Bottled Beer of Britain

In a closely fought competition, **Baltic Trader** (10.5%) has been awarded CAMRA's Champion Bottled Beer of Britain. The annual competition recognises the best bottle-conditioned real ales in the country.

Judges described the extra strong export stout as a ruby black strong stout with a stunning oyster head. It had dark roast, black treacle and currants on the nose with alcohol and a very rich smooth mouthfeel. Dry black chocolate, hints of cherry, caramelised fruits and a growing bitter roasty finish that is sweet and lingering. A beer to be savoured.

The well-deserved runners up included **Dhustone Stout** (4.3%) by Hobsons Brewery who scooped silver, and **McGregor's Mild** (3.8%) by Five Kingdoms Brewery who took home bronze.

Announced at GBBF, following the grand final with a panel of esteemed judges, previous judging rounds included a series of local member voting rounds and regional judging competitions throughout the year.

Tim Dunford, owner of Green Jack Brewing, said "Thank you to all who voted for *Baltic Trader*, a lifetime achievement has been met. This is one of the highlights in 30 years of brewing. The team and I are beyond pleased. Another great accolade for Green Jack!"

Laura Emson of CAMRA's National Executive, who made the announcement, said "Huge congratulations to this year's worthy winner of the Champion Bottled Beer of Britain award. Celebrating bottled conditioned cask beer is important; by giving consumers more choice, while offering brewers across the country more opportunities to get a wider range of drinks to the public. As ever the dedication, professionalism and hard work put into bottled beer by brewery teams across the country was evident from the high-quality beers judged this year.

CAMRA has its bottle and canned accreditation scheme, dubbed 'One to Try' to support more breweries producing 'live beer' and making it easier for brewers to sign up.

## Brewer of Tomorrow

In the second year of its Homebrew Competition, Patrick Davies (pictured below) has been named as the "Brewer of Tomorrow" at this year's GBBF. The judges crowned **Magnificent Frigate** strong mild (6.2%) as the winner following a rigorous competition.



Davies took home first prize, which invites him to Brewhouse & Kitchen in Worthing to brew his winning beer in a 500 L kit under the supervision and support of the head brewer. The beer will be sold and distributed across local CAMRA festivals. The brewer describes his beer as an 'end of a night beer' which is rich, warming and smooth.

Davies, who began brewing in 2016, said "This award is very exciting and unexpected. I used to work in very ale-y pubs and learnt a lot about beer, and felt the best way to learn more was to begin making it myself. I'm incredibly excited to see how the beer tastes when brewed in a professional kit."

The silver award went to **Golden Dragon** by Richard Roseblade, who will take home a case of eight craft beers every month for a year, courtesy of Beer52. Bronze was awarded to **Old Claire** by Mark Robotham, who has won four VIP tickets for the next GBBF.

This year's competition was sponsored by Brewhouse & Kitchen, Beer52, The Malt Miller and Brew at Home.

Catherine Tonry, GBBF festival organiser said "I am delighted to give this award to Patrick, it's testament to the passion and love our brewers of tomorrow have for live beer. To announce the results at trade day at GBBF gives all the finalists in attendance the opportunity to talk with the wider industry and build their networks as they continue their brewing ventures.

"Some of the best beers in the UK started from small beginnings, and it is vital we work with brewers who may be starting out on their journey, while recognising their commitment and hard work."

# VOTE

for

## Pub of the Month

Vote online by scanning the code or visiting the address below, or vote in person at branch meetings.

- ☐ **Blue Ball**  
Worrall
- ☐ **Harlequin**  
Nursery Street
- ☐ **Old Hall Hotel**  
Hope
- ☐ **Two Sheds**  
Crookes
- ☐ **Walkley Beer Co**  
Walkley



[sheffield.camra.org.uk/potm](https://sheffield.camra.org.uk/potm)



As Sheffield Tigers' clubhouse won the our Club of the Year award, I decided to pop along and meet up with Kevin, their bar manager, to discuss all things beer and Tigers.

Sheffield Tigers are a local rugby club who play at Dore Moor and currently play in National League 2 North. Their clubhouse is generally open when the teams play or train: usually on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

The clubhouse is warm and welcoming, with TVs for sport and enough room to seat around 60 people. The bar area is at the end of the building and serves traditional Sheffield beers on cask from Abbeydale brewery, namely *Moonshine* and *Daily Bread*

with a variety of keg beers, lagers, ciders and *Guinness*. There is also an array of wines and spirits.

Kevin was keen to express just how good the cask beer is; how they have invested in new cellar technology and staff training to be able to serve a perfect pint.

So it's easy to see why Tigers were nominated. On a match-day the bar is usually full of people enjoying rugby and good beer. The ambience and atmosphere is friendly and buzzing.

Add to this that Tigers hold their own beer festival every August and you have a great combination. This year they are expecting around 40 cask beers and ten keg from in and around Sheffield for you to try in a very pleasant marquee setting.



**Neil Adgie**

## JOIN US

We're presenting the award at their beer festival on **Fri 25 Aug at 7:30pm**. All welcome. Buses 65, 271 and 272 pass the end of their drive or buses to Dore (81/82) are a short walk away.



## Rising Sun Nether Green

### Pub of the Year 2023 (West Sheffield)

A pub has been sited here since the 19th century, with its first appearance in the 1859 *General Directory of Sheffield*. The name is chosen for pubs facing east and receiving the early-morning sun, which the original building did.

The current pub opened when the then owners, The Sheffield Town Trustees, agreed to provide land for the widening of Fulwood Road free of charge in return for the demolition and reconstruction of the original pub.



CAMRA Sheffield & District chairman Glyn Mansell presenting the award to manager Garry Raynes

The existing building opened in July 1904 and was operated by the Sheffield Public House Trust Company. The University of Sheffield Students' Union took over the pub in July 1922, with Abbeydale Brewery taking ownership just in time for Christmas 2005.

The Rising Sun is a community pub and in the *Good Beer Guide 2023*. It acts as the tap for Abbeydale Brewery with *Daily Bread*, *Deception*, *Moonshine* and *Absolution* always available alongside seven changing beers from Abbeydale and guests. An ever-changing cider is also available.

Food is served Tue-Sat 12-9pm and Sun 12-7pm, with the dining room located in a recent extension to the pub. Other recent developments include a section of the car park given over to an upgraded outdoor drinking area.

Congratulations to Garry and the team!

**Glyn Mansell**





## Baseball & beer

### Vice chair Paul Manning and wife Bev's June trip to London

After travelling down on National Express we booked into our hotel which was the **Hayden Pub & Rooms** in Bayswater – a great base for our three day trip which was in 30+ °C temperatures (great timing before the July washout!).

The Hayden's on-tap beers were Meantime *Anytime IPA* (4.7%) and Salt *Loom Pale* (4%); both very drinkable. On the first evening we headed over to Brixton, and after a pint of *London Pride* each in the **Beehive** Wetherspoons (cheapest pint we had all weekend at £2.49) we

visited **London Beer Lab** in a railway arch in nearby Nursery Road. We joined another 12 or so drinkers for a ten-tap tasting of beer mostly brewed by London Beer Lab. The company was set up in 2012, and to date have brewed over 9,000 different recipes. The beers went from a *Kaiser Pils* at 4.6% to *Brixton Haze* NEIPA, *Saison Dupont*, *Russia Coloda* whittbier and *Black Lab Stout*. A great start to our weekend and a quirky place to seek out if in London.

The next day we had booked on a **London Craft Beer Cruise** which ran for two and a half hours along the Thames from Millbank to Greenwich and back. We each had six craft beers in very generous portions along with a take-home commemorative glass. The beers included close-to-home Thornbridge *Jaipur* and *AM:PM*, and Siren *DDH Calypso* and *Soundwave*.

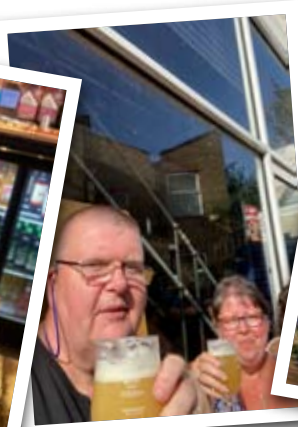
We then had another couple of hours sat outside at the **Morpeth Arms**, a Young's pub which had great views of the river, opposite the M16

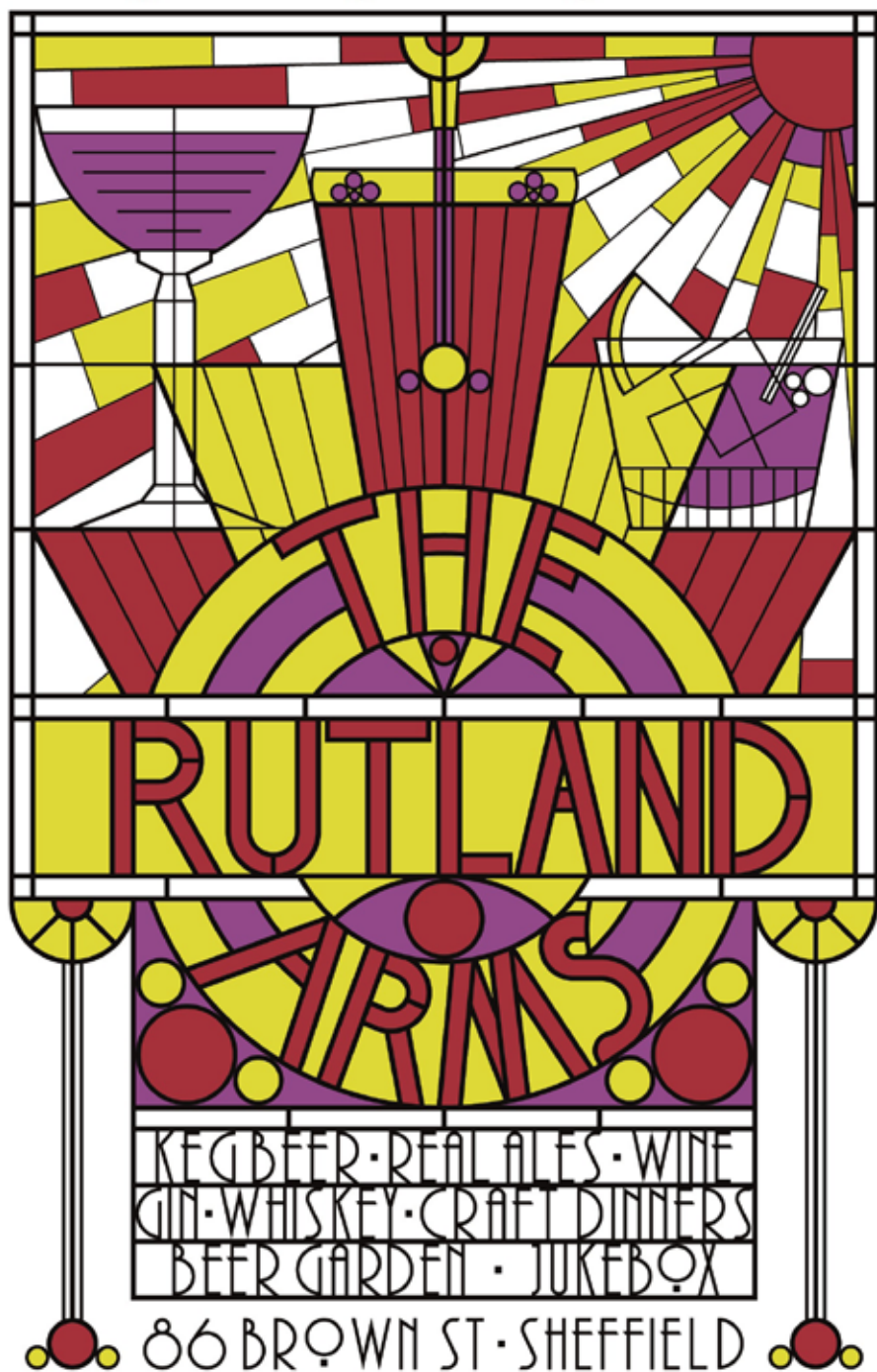
building. We both stayed on *Peckham Ale* from London's Brick Brewery which was a superb brew.

A visit to a Greene King, the **Kings Head** in Bayswater, for a pint of *Level Head* pale preceded a number of fantastic cocktails back at the Hayden (*Buy a Guardian* and *Banana Old Fashioned* being our favourites).

The next day we journeyed to the London Stadium home of West Ham Utd to watch some Major League Baseball with the Chicago Cubs playing the St Louis Cardinals. The game was excellent with the Cardinals winning in front of 56,000 fans. A great surprise was to find two craft beers brewed for the event: *London Series Pale* and *The Birds & the Bears* tart pale ale, both at 4.5%. The MLB returns to London next June and we will be back. We finished with a trip to Portobello Road Market and had a fabulous brunch with gins at Portobello Road Gin Distillery.

**Paul Manning**







## Trip to Torrside

### Branch social over the Peaks

15 July saw a branch social trip to **Torrside Brewing** in New Mills, a town just 45 minutes by train from Sheffield (less from Dore & Totley station where I got on).

The brewery is a ten minute walk from New Mills Central station, next to the canal marina. The easiest walking route is actually via the main road, however, just for the experience we decided to take the more scenic route using the Millenium Walkway, with the river running an absolute torrent below us! I learnt the hard way this choice wasn't ideal for those that suffer from vertigo!

The tap session at the brewery was already quite busy when we got there, with a friendly crowd but no queue at the bar, making it easy to ask about the beer.

Torrside brew quite a broad, interesting range of beers and the choice on the bar included session pales, smoked stouts, traditional bitter, wheat beers and even a Belgian style quad. Complimenting the beer was a Japanese food trailer and I can confirm the pork okonomiyaki was delicious.

A number of people from areas around New Mills and Stockport, that I knew from various beer festivals, were there, offering a great opportunity for a catch-up. Time flew as various beers were sampled.

After walking back into the Town Centre there was about 20 minutes until the train back to Sheffield, so a visit to the **Beer Shed** micropub near Central station was fitted in, where a mild from Torrside brewery that wasn't on at the tap session was enjoyed.

If you fancy a trip there yourself, the brewery opens for tap events on selected weekends through the summer. Check their Facebook page or website for details. The train service from Sheffield to New Mills Central is operated by Northern and runs hourly in the afternoon and into the evening. A Derbyshire Wayfarer ticket covers the journey there and back for £14 or £7 for over-60s.

The brewery is actually just across the road from New Mills Newtown station, unfortunately Sheffield trains don't go there as it is on the Buxton-Manchester line.

**Andy Cullen**



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## Festival guide

### August

#### Seven Hills

**Fri 25 – Sat 26 Aug**

The beer festival held at Sheffield Tigers Rugby Club (winner of our Club of the Year award), located at Dore Moor. The event showcases mainly local brewers.

All the beers are a reasonable £4 a pint and admission costs just £2 which gets you a plastic festival glass to drink from. Camping is available.

Buses 65, 271 and 272 stop on the main road outside the club, or bus 81/82 to Dore stops a short walk away.

#### Hope Valley

**Fri 25 – Mon 28 Aug**

The late summer edition of the Old Hall Hotel's regular bank holiday beer and cider festival.

#### Barnsley CAMRA

**Thu 31 Aug – Sat 2 Sep**

30+ real ales, cider, craft beer and gin at the Church of St Peter the Apostle & St John the Baptist.

Free entry on Thursday (open 4-10pm) then open Friday and Saturday 12-10pm (entry fee £4, or £3 for CAMRA members).

Venue address is 73 Brinckman Street, Barnsley S70 1JQ, a short distance from the town centre on bus routes 6, 7, 22X, 218, 218a, 219, 219a, 226, X19 and X20.

### September

#### Bolsover

**Fri 1 – Sat 2 Sep**

Held at Bolsover FC, Moor Lane, Bolsover S44 6EB with real ale, cider, gin and food. The Saturday is a family fun day. Bus 53/53a runs from Sheffield to Bolsover. For more details see Facebook.

#### Peaktober Fest

**Fri 1 – Sun 3 Sep**

The Peak Hotel in Castle-ton hold their first German themed beer festival, with a range of over 50 beers and ciders, full Oompah band and food. Organised by the same team as the festival at the Old Hall Hotel in Hope. Details on their website.

#### Worsbrough

**Fri 1 – Sun 3 Sep**

A charity fundraiser organised by the Rotary Club of Stainsborough featuring beer, food and music. Held at Worsbrough Miners Welfare Club on Park Road, S70 4LJ (bus X17 from Sheffield to Barnsley stops close by). Entry ticket is £10 including glass and four beer tokens. Open Friday 6-11pm, Saturday 12-11pm and Sunday 2-5pm.

#### Grenoside Beer & Music

**Sat 9 Sep**

Held in a marquee behind Grenoside Community Centre (Main Street S35 8PR) and open from 2pm to 11pm, featuring a range of beers on both cask and keg along with prosecco, gin and other spir-its, food stalls and live music. Bus 86 goes there. Advance tickets via Eventbrite.

#### York (CAMRA)

**Wed 13 – Sat 16 Sep**

York CAMRA is back with a new smaller scale beer festival at a new venue, St Lawrence's Church & Hall, which is on Hull Road YO10 3WP. Regular trains run from Sheffield to York; it is then walkable to the venue or there are various buses.

#### Rail, Ale & Blues (Cleethorpes)

**Fri 15 – Sun 17 Sep**

Held at the Cleethorpes Coast Light Railway's Lake-side Station, featuring a programme of live blues music, real ales and mini-steam trains! Bands on from 7pm Friday, 1:45pm Saturday and 1pm Sunday. Direct trains run from Sheffield to Cleethorpes. More on their website.

#### Derby Beer Con

**Fri 15 – Sat 16 Sep**

Craft beer festival in "The Chocolate Factory", home of Bustler street food market on John Street, a short walk from Derby railway station. Advance tickets advisable, see their website.

#### Old Hall & Paper Mill (Whitehough)

**Fri 15 – Sun 17 Sep**

For the first time since 2019, this popular beer and cider festival makes a return in September 2023. Bars, food and entertainment are normally spread between the historic Old Hall Inn, the beer garden and the neighbouring Paper Mill Inn. It is in a beautiful rural location, walkable from Chinley railway station on the Sheffield-Manchester line.

## October

### Grand Pavilion (Matlock Bath)

**Fri 6 – Sat 7 Oct**

The Grand Hall in the Grand Pavilion on South Parade, Matlock Bath, hosts a beer festival with over 30 beers to try across cask and keg plus cider. There are two sessions each day – 12-5pm and 5:30-10:30pm with entertainment included on the evening sessions, entry is £5. Details and tickets on their website. Bus X17 goes to Matlock Bath from Sheffield in the daytime and drops off right outside the venue at the Fishponds stop.

### Robin Hood (Nottingham CAMRA)

**Wed 11 – Sat 14 Oct**

At Trent Bridge cricket ground, a short bus ride from Nottingham station with a huge range of beer and cider plus food and live music. For more information see their website.

### Steel City 47 (Sheffield CAMRA)

**Wed 18 – Sat 21 Oct**

We're back at the atmospheric Kelham Island Museum with a fantastic array of

beers in cask, keg, can and bottle along with traditional cider & perry, street food traders, live music and more.

More information online at [sheffield.camra.org.uk/sc](http://sheffield.camra.org.uk/sc) and in next month's festival issue of *Beer Matters*.



## Steel City 47 beermats

By the time this issue of *Beer Matters* hits the pubs, we will have started sending out our festival beermats. As usual we have 12 different sponsors for the mats, each with their own design on one side, and a different festival design on the back. Collecting all 12 mats and fitting them together will form this year's festival poster.

Our *Beer Matters* distributors will be taking the mats far and wide across the city, and beyond, so you might have to visit several pubs to collect them all (I know, it's a tough ask, but I'm sure you'll cope).

We'll also be putting a few sets up on eBay to auction off for the festival charity, which this year is the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

Don't worry if you don't manage to complete your collection, as we'll be holding back a hundred or so of each design to put out on the bars at the festival itself. Yet another reason to come and see us at Steel City 47, 18-21 October 2023, Kelham Island Museum, Sheffield

PS: Our staffing form is now open on our website for anyone wishing to volunteer to help at this year's festival. If you've never volunteered before but are considering it, simply email [festival@sheffield.camra.org.uk](mailto:festival@sheffield.camra.org.uk) and we'll let you know all about it. Trust us, you'll enjoy it.



**Steel City 47 talks, tours and tastings**

## Thu 19 Oct

### Sheffield's Little Chicago Quarter in 1925

**11am - 12:30pm**

For the first time, events at Steel City will include a guided historical walk. This will explore streets that feature in the leader's book, *Sheffield 1925: Gang Wars and Wembley Glory*, with a narrative explaining how Sheffield briefly became the most turbulent city in Britain because of an escalating gang war involving the Park Brigade, Mooney Gang, Gas Tank Gang and many others.

The short walk will explore the social and Industrial heritage of the area, examining the myths and reality of a tumultuous year in Sheffield history, before finishing at the festival.

### Bridging the Gap between Beer and Cider

**7 - 8pm**

Mike Pomranz (of the Old Shoe) will compare two beers and two ciders: two 'single variety' and two of a 'funkier' description before sampling the single box of a 2023 mixed-variety Sheffield grown and made cider from his Exemption Ciderhouse. Mike successfully delivered a similar, more cider-focussed event, at the recent national Members' Weekend.

## Fri 20 Oct

### Sheffield's Pub Heritage

**3 - 4pm**

Dave Pickersgill, editor of *Sheffield's Real Heritage Pubs*, and our Pub Heritage Officer will provide an illustrated presentation.

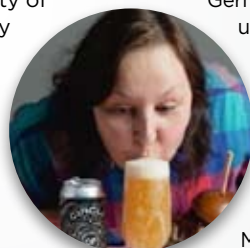
### Cask is Craft?

**4:30 - 5:30pm**

A tutored tasting and discussion which will explore the depth and breadth of modern beer. Led by Julia Gray.

Julia will introduce four contrasting beers: two cask (gravity and hand-pull), one key-keg and one from a small pack. An experienced beer trade professional with almost 20 years in the field, she aims to showcase, "the variety and quality of beer currently available in the UK."

Jules owns a local independent award-winning beer shop and tasting room, Hop Hideout (est. 2013). In 2015 she set-up a city-wide beer celebration in her hometown: Sheffield Beer Week. In 2018, this was followed by a new craft beer festival: Indie Beer Feast, now an annual event.



## Sat 21 Oct

### From Europe to Mars

**4 - 5pm**

A tutored beer tasting and discussion from the team behind the world-renowned Sheffield brewery, Saint Mars of the Desert (SMOD), Dann Paquette and Martha Holley.

Dann and Martha will introduce two European favourites and the beers which they have inspired. SMOD draw their brewing inspiration from many sources, from traditional 19th century recipes to the bright, vibrantly hoppy beers of New England. Their greatest influence is possibly the Belgian monastic style. As Martha put it, "this is an ideal opportunity for us to look back to our key influences, the Belgian and German beers which inspired us to produce such classics as *Clamp* and *Jack D'Or*."

After seven successful years managing the Pretty Things Beer & Ale Project, in Boston, Massachusetts, Dann and Martha spent two years travelling. In 2018, they relocated to the best beer city in the world. On RateBeer, they were quickly named as amongst the top ten new breweries world-wide. Their brewery and taproom is hidden behind old industrial units in a currently unfashionable part of the city.

## TICKETS

Spaces are limited. Get advance tickets on the festival web page: [sheffield.camra.org.uk/sc](https://sheffield.camra.org.uk/sc).

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## Branch diary

Info and bookings:

[social@sheffield.camra.org.uk](mailto:social@sheffield.camra.org.uk)

### Club of the Year

**7:30pm Fri 25 Aug (updated)**

Our members have voted the **Sheffield Tigers RUFC** at Dore Moor as our Club of the Year, join us at their annual Seven Hills Beer Festival where we will present the certificate. Buses 65, 271 and 272 go there.

### RambAle

**10:45am Mon 28 Aug**

Our RambAles combine a gently paced walk, usually in the countryside, with a real ale pub or two. This month we're in the Hope Valley on a walk ending at the **Old Hall Hotel** in Hope where their Hope Valley Beer & Cider Festival will be taking place. Meet on the 272 bus departing Sheffield Interchange at 10:50, we'll be beginning our walk at Bradwell.

### Branch meeting

**8pm Tue 5 Sep**

All our members are welcome to come along, share pub, club and brewery news, discuss campaigning updates, get involved and more importantly enjoy a beer with us! The venue this month is the **Riverside** at Kelham Island. Buses 7/8 and 95/95a go there.

### Pub of the Month

**8pm Tue 12 Sep**

Our members have voted for the **Boston Arms** at Woodseats as the latest award winner, join us for a beer or

two as we present the certificate! Buses 24/25, 43/44 and 75/76 go there.

### Hillsborough pub stroll

**8pm Fri 15 Sep**

In recent years a number of new little bars have sprung up in the area and we thought it was about time we visited them with an official branch social! We're starting at **Pangolin**, located on the inbound platform of Hillsborough Park tram stop (Yellow route), at 8pm. Alternatively if you don't know the area you can meet us in Sheffield City Centre at the **Dog & Partridge** from 7ish, to catch the tram from City Hall at 19:41.

### Festival planning meeting

**7pm Tue 19 Sep**

We continue planning our Steel City 47 Beer & Cider Fest at this meeting held upstairs at the **Gardeners Rest**.

### Committee meeting

**8pm Tue 26 Sep**

The monthly business meeting for the committee. The venue is the **Dog & Partridge** on Trippet Lane in Sheffield City Centre.

### Branch meeting

**8pm Tue 3 Oct**

Venue TBC.

### Steel City 47 setup

**Sun 15 – Tue 17 Oct**

We move into an empty venue and build a beer festival – volunteers needed to help with this!

### Steel City 47

**Wed 18 – Sat 21 Oct**

Our beer festival at Kelham Island Museum kicks off!

## Committee

### Glyn Mansell

Chair

[chair@sheffield.camra.org.uk](mailto:chair@sheffield.camra.org.uk)

### Paul Manning

Vice Chair

Committee Meeting Secretary

Pub of the Year Coordinator

Good Beer Guide Coordinator

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(and Paul Crofts)

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