

BEER MATTERS



Issue 529
November 2023

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Issue 529
November 2023

4 Three Tuns

"Three Huns" Sunday launches

Inn Brief

Old Queen's Head, White Lion,
Dog & Partridge, Lost in West Bar,
Railway, Anglers Rest, Richmond
Hotel, Bankers Draft, Meltdown,
Chapeltown Tap House & Gin Bar,
Hop Hideout, King & Miller

6 Old Queen's Head

A history of this medieval landmark

8 Abbeydale

Additions to *Through the Hopback*
and *Restoration* series

Little Mesters

Sheffield Home of Football beers

10 Bradfield

Brewery merch and seasonal brews

Brewery Bits

Grizzly Grains, brewSocial, Fuggle
Bunny, Heist, Little Critters

12 Hobgoblin brewer to close

CAMRA response to Wychwood
Brewery closure

Help needed to save pubs
CAMRA calls for action on rates and
'Crooked House' laws

14 Sheffield Beer Week 2024

Dates announced for next March

Richard Ryan
1966-2023

18 Pub of the Month

Vote now!

Pins

Local brewers offering smaller casks?

20 Festival guide

Events this autumn and into 2024

21 Festival feedback

Let us know how Steel City 47 went

22 Branch diary

What's on in your local CAMRA



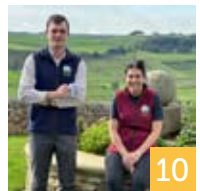
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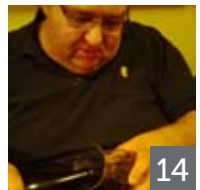
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10



12



14



18



Three Tuns

The Three Tuns in Sheffield City Centre has had a change of management. It's operating on a short term lease from Heineken Star Pub Company for now and tied to their beer list with Bradfield *Farmers Blonde* flying the flag for local alongside a couple of other well known cask brands such as Theakstons and Titanic.

In recent years the Tuns has struggled to find its way with the offices surrounding it that used to provide trade no longer occupied and there is an attempt to do something different here – while it will remain a traditional, relaxed pub during the week it will change character at the weekend with a focus on entertainment and become the “Three Huns” (look out for the neon sign!) with karaoke on Saturdays and a drag act on Sundays.

Inn Brief

There has been a recent change of management at the **Old Queen's Head**. The new general manager is Lisa who has plans for special events in the future and will be launching a new food menu following a couple of weeks of the kitchen being temporarily closed to prepare. The beginning of the new management also saw all the cask ales already in the cellar including the local guests from Blue Bee, reduced to just £3 a pint, while stocks lasted.

Also under new management is the **White Lion** at Heeley where a programme of live entertainment continues.

Following a short break whilst landlord and chef Conor was on holiday for his wedding anniversary, food is back again at the **Dog & Partridge** on Trippet Lane. The kitchen is open 4pm-8pm on Tuesdays then midday to 8pm Wednesday to Friday, midday to 7pm Saturdays. The menu is similar to before with burgers, wings, sandwiches and chips along with changing specials of an Irish theme.

Lost in West Bar have got going with regular events now including jam sessions, live music and food weekends, and a quiz night. Keep an eye on their social media for details.

Railway at Wadsley Bridge continue to host live music on the stage in the back room some weekends, including a gig on 28 October for Switch.

Anglers Rest, Bamford recently celebrate their tenth anniversary of community ownership. Special events ran throughout the week commencing 8 October, culminating in a beer and music festival opened by the High Peak Mayor.

Richmond Hotel, a large community pub with heritage features that has been closed since 2021, should have reopened by the time you read this. The pub is owned by the Stonegate pub company who have refurbished it and leased it out to an independent operator.

Bankers Draft (Wetherspoon) in Sheffield City Centre recently took part in the chain's national autumn beer festival with a discount for card carrying CAMRA members extended to all day everyday until 22 October.

Meltdown e-sports bar in Sheffield City Centre closes at the end of October as the lease on the venue hasn't been renewed with the final hurrah being on Friday 27 with “This Party Sucks”.

The **Chapeltown Tap House & Gin Bar** has closed down.

Hop Hideout is hosting a Paws Party on 11 November from 2pm to celebrate their tenth birthday. This is in the Kommunity room in Kommune with a beer, quiz and social. The event will see the first pour of their birthday collaboration beer. Tickets are required and available from their website.

King & Miller at Deepcar has celebrated five years as a Bradfield Brewery tap.

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Old Queen's Head

A history of this medieval Sheffield landmark

The Old Queen's Head is the oldest non-religious building in Sheffield and one of only three medieval timber framed buildings in the city that still remain. The building is widely considered to have initially been a hunting or fishing lodge that was associated with Sheffield Castle, and tree ring dating indicates that it was constructed sometime between 1503 and 1510. The building is likely to have been constructed for the 4th Earl of Shrewsbury, who took an active interest in local affairs and transformed Sheffield Manor Lodge into a vast Tudor country retreat in 1516. The building was originally located on the North West edge of the Sheffield Medieval Deer Park surrounded

by ponds, and initially had a much larger L-shaped footprint.

There are tunnel openings within the cellars, and it is rumoured that these connected with Sheffield Castle and Sheffield Manor Lodge. The first written reference to the building is in a 1582 inventory for the 6th Earl of Shrewsbury, where it was referred to as 'the Hawle at the Poandes'. The Earl may have used the building to throw banquets for guests who came to hunt wild fowl, and the inventory recorded rich and plentiful contents. Many of the road and place names in the immediate vicinity refer to the aforementioned ponds, which now no longer remain.

The Earl kept Mary Queen of Scots under house arrest in Sheffield between 1570 and 1584, and it is believed that she visited the hall and surrounding ponds.

The building is constructed using oak supporting beams. These were likely infilled by wattle and daub, and the building would originally have had a thatched roof. The building is jettied, where the upper floor projects beyond the lower floor, and has a fireplace believed to be original. Historic timberwork and carving is located internally and externally, and the building has five carved oak heads. These are believed to depict the 6th Earl of Shrewsbury, Bess of Hardwick, a King, a

person coming out of a fish's mouth, along with a further unknown carving.



Sometime between 1582 and 1637, it appears that the building was let out to tenants and its status declined. There are later references to the building having been used for ducal washing and also as a wash-house to Sheffield Castle and Sheffield Manor Lodge. By the beginning of the 1800s the building was being used as a house, and the first known image of the building is a watercolour by BK Dale from 1815.

A three storey building was constructed to the rear of the hall in 1840 and this became a public house. James Pilley may have been the original landlord, and is listed in an 1849 directory as running a beerhouse at 2 River Street. The pub was initially called the Queen Hotel, likely in reference to Mary Queen of Scots, and the entrance door and signage can be seen in a photograph from the mid to late 1800s. The establish-



ment reportedly expanded into the hall sometime after 1862, and was identified as the Queen's Head Hotel from 1864. The Old Queens Head was subsequently restored by John Smith's in 1950 and then refurbished and extended by the Tom Cobleigh pub chain in the early 1990s.

Today the building is Grade II* listed, but is largely surrounded by modern high rise development and Sheffield

Interchange. Despite this, the Old Queen's Head remains of great importance to those with an interest in heritage pubs, historic buildings, local history and the paranormal. With regards to the latter, the building is said to be haunted by ghosts including a Civil War soldier, a medieval child, a hunting hound, a lady in white, and a pub local from the 1970s!

Joe Freegard





Abbeydale

Our *Through the Hopback* series sees us experimenting with **Nectar**, a hop that we have never used before! We'll be showcasing it in a 3.9% pale ale, and we're really looking forward to the promised tropical fruit notes sure to tantalise the tastebuds.

New to our **Restoration** series, we'll be releasing a classic **English Porter** (5.0%). Considered to be one of the oldest beer styles in the world, malt is the true star of the show here, with six different grains carefully selected to give a rich, rounded, deep and chocolatey character. Expect light roasty toasty notes layered with unctuous caramel, followed by a balanced bitter finish.

We're teaming up with Knaresborough's Turning Point Brew Co for the next version of our Wanderer, which this time takes the form of a **Cascade IPA** (6.0%). It's a homage to one of the USA's very first IPAs, and as the name suggests is single hopped with Cascade. Expect a crisp, vibrant and beautifully balanced beer with rounded citrus notes and a light floral character, leading the way to a zesty grapefruit bitterness in the finish.

And, you guessed it, the Christmas beers are on their way! Starting with **Doctor Morton's Rude Elf**, a classic pale ale at 4.1% with Centennial and Chinook hops. We'll also have a festive addition to our gorgeous stained glass inspired series of pale ales. Look out for them on a bar near you!



Little Mesters

Sheffield Home of Football is a new organisation just officially launched with charitable status that is campaigning for the city's recognition and the creation of a football museum.

There are official beers too – an IPA and a lager – that are brewed by Little Mesters Brewing. These were recently on the bar at the Gardeners Rest for a talk on the subject as part of the Heritage Open Days programme.



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Bradfield

Bradfield Brewery Shop is gearing up for Christmas with all sorts of merchandise in stock suitable for presents including mugs and clothing!

Meanwhile on the beer front of course the run up to Christmas means just one thing – **Belgian Blue**! It was on the bar at our Steel City Beer & Cider Festival and is likely to be in a pub near you now!

Also on the roster of seasonal beers is the **Farmers Poppy Ale**, which was released in time for remembrance Sunday.



Brewery Bits

Grizzly Grains have now got their green hopped beer in cask and bottle going out to bars and shops. The fresh hops used this year are giving a floral aroma and good bitterness with flavours of orange, grapefruit, herbs and spice. Also packaged recently is a fresh batch of their **Tilt Hammer Stout**.

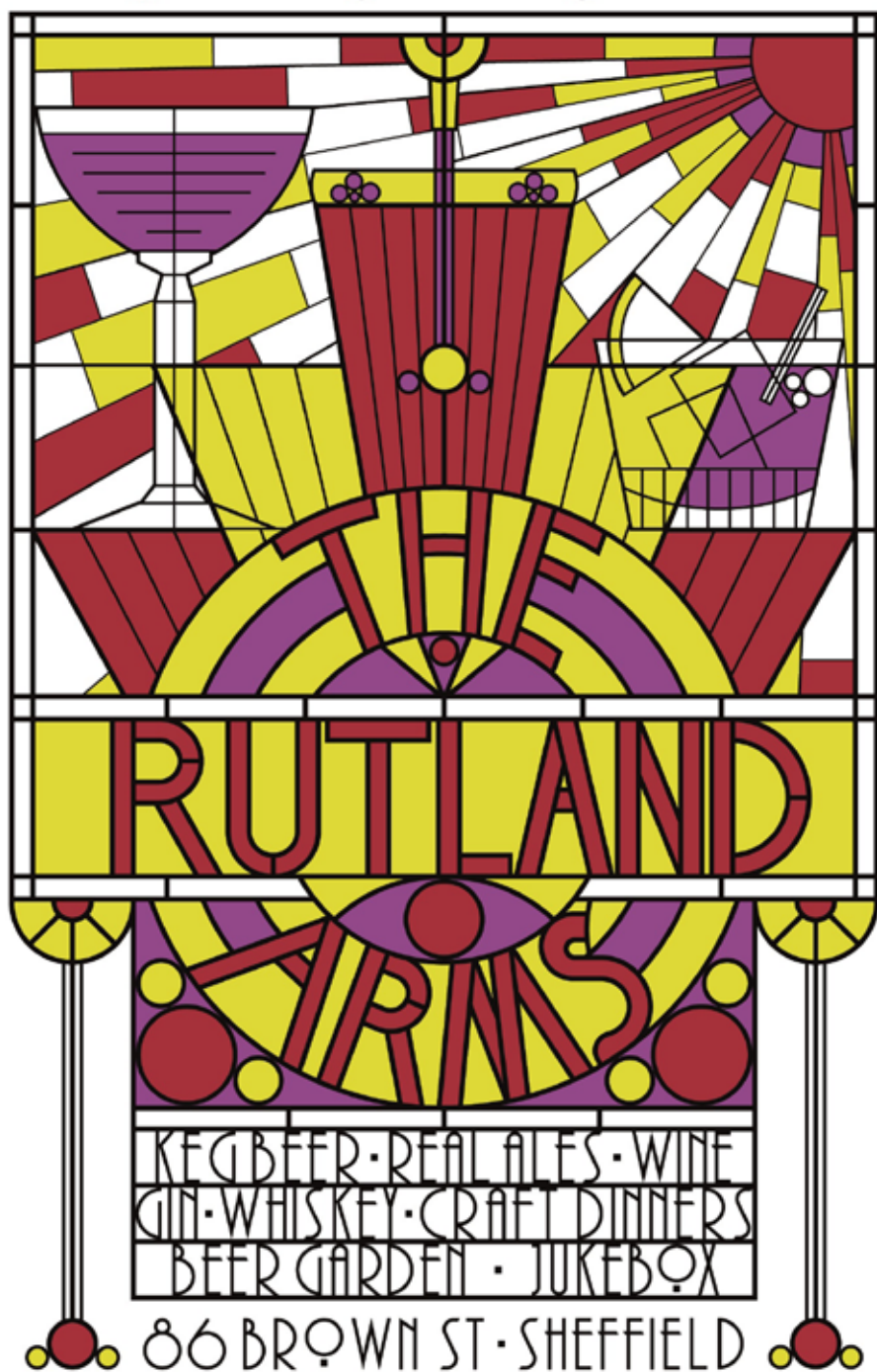
October saw **brewSocial** release **Shooting Stars**, a triple hopped beauty.

The next bonus tap session at **Fuggle Bunny Brew House** is on Saturday 28 October from 2pm to 9pm (they also open every Friday). As well as the beer they will have music from Vicki France and food from Bakers Dozen, who will be serving up hot pork sandwiches.

Latest from **Heist Brew Co.** on tap and in can is **That's Between a Man and His Haddock** which is just 3.4% ABV but packs a lot in – its as hazy as anything and single hopped with Simcoe.

October saw **Honey Bear** from **Little Critters** hit the bars, this was a collaboration with **Grizzly Grains** and is a honey porter.





Hobgoblin brewer to close

Responding to Carlsberg Marston's plans to close the Wychwood Brewery, CAMRA National Chairman Nik Antona said:

"CAMRA never wants to see the closure of any brewery, be it large or small, traditional or contemporary, and too many across the UK are shutting their doors forever at an alarming rate. Carlsberg Marston's Brewing Company's (CMBC) proposal to close Wychwood brewery in Witney this November is the latest in a growing list of casualties at the hands of global brewers.

"Whilst it is heartening to know that the Wychwood brand will continue in some fashion at CMBC and the iconic Brakspear Double Drop beer will live on at Banks's, it is a great shame for Oxfordshire to lose such a classic, recognisable brewery.

"Fresh off the heels of closing Jennings brewery in Cumbria and selling off Ringwood Brewery of Hampshire, it is worrying to see the UK's brewing heritage slowly erode. The diminishing consumer choice at the hands of the commercial giants is of great concern."



Help needed to save pubs

Business rates help and new 'Crooked House' laws urgently needed to stop more pub closures: CAMRA

Commenting on figures published by Altus Group showing that pub numbers in England and Wales have fallen to their lowest on record, Chairman of the Campaign for Real Ale Nik Antona said:

"These new figures are shocking if not surprising as our locals continue to face rising costs, sky high energy bills, unfair business rates and customers tightening their belts.

"If we are to save more of our beloved pubs and social clubs from being lost as community hubs then we desperately need the Chancellor to use the Autumn Statement in November to extend help for licensees with business rates which is due to end in April next year. Governments across the UK also need to reform and replace the deeply unfair business rates systems to give pubs a fighting chance of surviving and thriving.

"On the back of the Crooked House affair, we are also calling on the Westminster government to strengthen planning laws to make sure councils in England can protect pubs and require them to be converted back to their original use – or rebuilt brick by brick – if they are unlawfully converted or demolished.

"The Government's plans for High Street Rental Auctions to get high street premises in England back into use also needs to exclude converting high street pubs to other uses.

"The Welsh Government urgently needs to introduce protections for pubs in the planning system where there are currently none so that local people can have a fighting chance of saving their pub from being demolished or converted into the likes of a shop, housing or a take-away."



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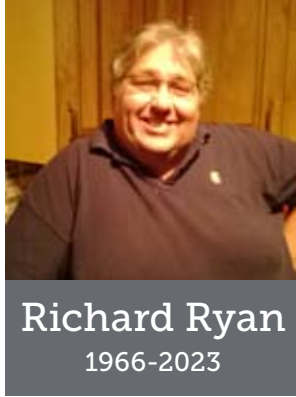
Sheffield Beer Week 2024

The dates have been announced for the 2024 edition of Sheffield Beer Week, which will be taking place from **4 to 10 March**. This will be the 10th anniversary of this initiative that celebrates the Sheffield beer scene including the people in it with themes of beer, food, community and heritage.

The event started its life when SIBA's annual conference and BeerX was held in Sheffield in order to show off what we have in Sheffield to all those trade people visiting the city and has evolved over the last decade into what it is today.

You can look forward to many different events independently organised across the city in pubs, bars, restaurants and breweries – possibly even shops and galleries too based on past experience! It is all coordinated by Jules Gray of Hop Hideout who also organises the annual Indie Beer Feast – a festival showcasing independent brewers with most of the bars hosted by the brewers themselves – which usually takes place the weekend prior to beer week.

For the latest news, keep an eye on sheffieldbeerweek.co.uk and their socials.



Richard Ryan
1966-2023

Richard Ryan, or Ricko to friends, passed away in hospital on the morning of 20 September.

For many years Ricko was actively involved in the Sheffield & District CAMRA branch holding various committee roles including chairman, however I think most people remember him as social secretary, organising some excellent minibus trips to various pubs and breweries, Christmas dinner parties and an annual day out at the Thornbridge Hall charity garden party – which was one of our branch's few family orientated events.

Ricko was involved in brewery related socials well before my drinking career began and Chris Pearce, who now volunteers as cellar manager at our beer festival, recalls first meeting him on a coach trip from the Cocked Hat Attercliffe to Marstons Brewery in the late 1980s. "The coach stopped on the way back for more beer (as if we needed more!) and then on joining the M1 for one junction, we hit a jam. An eternity later we left at junction 29 and stopped at the first lay-by for us to empty aching bladders. The whole coach was lined up against the hedge and we all roared with laughter. We next met when I did my first festival circa 2002 and amazingly

he remembered me. Since then we've always had a good chat at festivals. And that coach trip was remembered in our last conversation in the Northern General".

Ricko was also clubs officer, championing the traditional working mens clubs and keen to find ones with real ale, an interest that was down to growing up in a family that had been involved with running clubs.

He was also involved in our beer festival organising committee and for a number of years was responsible for booking the bands. This was generally a huge success although one year a rock covers band was asked to turn the volume down due to the venue having a wedding party booked in next door to the festival with the result being the band stormed off stage and left! Ricko had to be consoled on the night as he felt he had let everyone down, however since has laughed about it with the rest of us!

For a number of years Ricko also organised an awards night for the beers that had been judged the best of the festival. He was keen to make it a special – but affordable – occasion and managed to persuade Thornbridge to provide us with a high class venue free of charge and the winning brewers to provide free beer – so we were able to sell affordable tickets that just had to cover the cost of a coach to Thornbridge Hall and a buffet! Whilst the support of those businesses was something we were most grateful for, it was really Ricko's warm and easy going character and personality that helped make the organisation of such events possible.



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Ricko loved his real ale – and also stronger Belgian beers (I wonder thinking back now if that is why bottles often appeared at our beer festival!) He was also a fan of Laurel & Hardy and was a member of Sons of the Desert, an appreciation society, which did see some cross over with his CAMRA membership with

film screenings in pubs and joint brewery trips organised!

In more recent years Ricko's health and mobility wasn't so great, however he did still make the effort to come and help at the beer festival doing a desk job in the cashiers office (aka "counting house"), a volunteer role he'd held for quite a few years. Dr Tim Stillman recalls them working together in some strange places – An artiste's dressing room with lights around the mirrors, behind a curtain at the back of a stage and even a dingy broom cupboard with no ventilation. At an outdoor festival in Cemetery Park, the counting house was our friends caravan parked behind the marquee. It rained constantly and as the festival went on the mud got deeper and deeper in and out of the caravan. As we were counting one afternoon I noticed Richard's

neat piles of ten pence's were taking on the appearance of the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Also our pens seemed to be rolling across the table towards us. He looked at me and said "I think we best sit on the other side of the table"

Meanwhile in Handsworth, where he lived most of his life, he did continue to make the occasional appearance at the Chantry Inn, which is where a get-together was held following his well attended funeral.

For those that couldn't make the funeral or wake another chance to raise a toast to Ricko was provided at this years beer festival with a special beer on the bar brewed in tribute by Bradfield Brewery called *Counting House Stout*.

Andy Cullen

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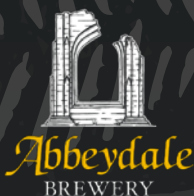


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- ☐ **Rutland Arms**
City Centre
- ☐ **Shakespeares**
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Pins

Greene King recently announced that they are supplying pins (4.5 gallon casks of beer) of 'Fresh Cask Releases' to all their managed, leased, tenanted and free trade customers, as part of their seasonal cask beers calendar. The first releases, in

July, were *Ale Fresco* (4.3%, golden ale) and *New Tricks* (a 4% collaboration with Nethergate, which includes ginger and lemon).

Are there any local breweries doing the same? If so, please tell us, as we know of several local outlets who are attempting to purchase pins of local cask beer, but having zero success. Pins have the advantage of both offering an additional choice and allowing the provision of cask beer when throughput is not high.

Dave Pickersgill



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Festival guide

October

Norwich CAMRA

Mon 23 – Sat 28 Oct

Held at the St Andrews Plain featuring a vast range of beers and ciders from independent breweries from around the UK, plus the Curiosity Bar showcasing single casks of new and exciting beers, and the World Beer Bar featuring draught and bottled beers from outside the UK. More info on their website. Direct trains operated by EMR run from Sheffield to Norwich.

Furnace Inn (Derby)

Wed 25 – Sun 29 Oct

This pub based festival has a light versus dark theme with 12 pale beers and 12 dark beers on the bar. Food available throughout the festival will be sandwiches, pies and pizza then on the Friday & Saturday for the halloween party (prizes for best fancy dress) there will also be street food from "Feast from the East". The Furnace brewpub is on the north of Derby City Centre, a short taxi ride from the station – regular fast trains go there from Sheffield. More information on their Facebook page.

Perch

Fri 27 – Sun 29 Oct

The Halloween edition of Perch's regular programme of beer festivals in their covered events yard.

Chesterfield walkabout

Fri 27 – Sun 29 Oct

The now regular multi venue pub based festival across three areas of Chesterfield – Whittington Moor, town centre and Brampton Mile. Buses 43, 44, 50, 50a and X17 run between Sheffield and Chesterfield town centre via Whittington Moor.

November

Mallard (Workshop station)

Thu 2 – Sun 5 Nov

The Mallard's Ale'Oween beer festival is one of their regular annual beer festivals scattered across the year featuring lots of extra beers in their downstairs function room. Regular Northern trains run there from Sheffield.

Sheaf View (Heeley)

Fri 24 – Sun 26 Nov

The winter edition of the Sheaf View's regular beer festivals spread across the main pub bar and a pop up in the back room. The beers for this one are expected to range all the way from session pales to imperial stouts with music and food also featuring over the weekend.

December

Pigs Ear

(East London CAMRA)

Tue 28 Nov – Sat 2 Dec

Held at the Round Chapel in Hackney, this friendly little festival mainly showcases beers from breweries around the East end of London. It also has a cider bar, food stall and traditional games. More

details on their website. The venue is walkable from Hackney Central station on the London Overground network or various buses stop outside. Plenty of mainline trains and coaches run from Sheffield to London.

January

Chesterfield CAMRA

Fri 26 – Sat 27 Jan

The annual CAMRA beer festival at the Winding Wheel theatre in Chesterfield town centre is back with beer, cider and food across three rooms on two floors plus live music in the evening.

February

GBBF Winter

(Burton CAMRA)

Thu 15 – Sat 17 Feb

Back again at gothic Burton on Trent town hall building, a short walk from the railway station there, with a great range of beer and cider spread across a number of rooms. As Burton is currently the host of the smaller winter edition of Great British Beer Festival, which moves around the country every few years, the Champion Winter Beer of Britain is also judged here. More information on their Facebook page.



Festival feedback

By the time you're reading this, our annual beer festival will be over and hopefully it's been another great success.

The festival committee will be meeting in November to review how things went, and where we can make improvements for next year, and as part of that review we would love to receive feedback from visitors on anything related to the festival.

Opinions on the range of drinks; the food stalls; the live music; layout of the festival; the range of activities and events; the volunteers – we want to know what you think.

Please send any feedback to festival@sheffield.camra.org.uk and I promise we'll discuss it at our meeting.

If anyone wants to be more involved, either by attending the November meeting, or even becoming part of the committee for next year, please mention it in your email and we'll contact you personally for an informal discussion, and probably buy you a pint while we're at it!

Paul Crofts



Issue 529
November 2023



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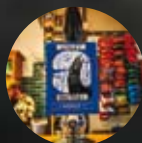


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EST. 2018

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THE
RAVEN
INN

0114 234 5905

THE RAVEN INN
35 PALM STREET
WALKLEY, SHEFFIELD
S6 2XF

Branch diary

Info and bookings:

social@sheffield.camra.org.uk

Branch meeting

8pm Tue 7 Nov

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 **Broadfield**.

Pub of the Month

8pm Tue 14 Nov

Our November winner is the **Walkley Beer Co.** in Walkley. Join us for a beer or two as we present their certificate. Bus 95/95a passes the front door or buses 52/52a are a short walk away.

Steel City 47 review meeting

7pm Tue 21 Nov

We look back at how our 2023 Steel City Beer & Cider Fest went – what worked well and what less so, so we can make it even better next year! This meeting is held upstairs at the **Gardeners Rest**.

Committee meeting

8pm Tue 28 Nov

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

Branch meeting

8pm Tue 5 Dec

The venue this month is TBD.

Christmas dinner social

2:30pm Sat 9 Dec

Our final formal branch get together of the year. We're having a meal at the **Ball Inn** at Crookes (bus 52/52a gets you there) from their Festive Fayre Menu. This costs £19.99 for a three course dinner and a £10 deposit with menu choices is required to book your place – please do this with our Vice Chair, Paul Manning.

City Centre pub wander

7pm Fri 5 Jan

Something of a new tradition, we have a night out in town on the first Friday of the new year when it is typically quieter than normal. Meet in the **Bath Hotel** for a wander around most likely taking in the likes of the Washington, Vocation & Co, Frog & Parrot and Old Shoe (details TBC).

Branch meeting

8pm Tue 9 Jan

The venue this month is TBD. Note the date is a week later than normal.

Committee

Glyn Mansell

Chair

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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Phil Ellett

Secretary

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Paul Crofts

Treasurer

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Andy Shaw

Membership Secretary

Beer Matters Distribution

Clubs Officer

Beer Quality Scoring Coordinator

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and make new friends

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**BEST PUBS
IN BRITAIN**

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MONEY**

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pub heritage and the
great outdoors

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