

544
APR 2025

BEER MATTERS

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PUB OF THE YEAR

Announcing our 2025 winners



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BEER MATTERS

544
APR 2025

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Opinions expressed are those of the author and may not represent those of CAMRA, the local branch or editor.

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CAMRA
Sheffield & District

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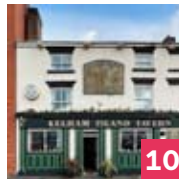
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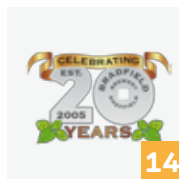
THE COMMITTEE
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DOROTHY PAX

Live music venue, real ale bar, canal-side drinking spot, home of the Pax Cat, and a unique Sheffield institution – the Dorothy Pax was all of these things. However, it has now closed down. The shock announcement at the beginning of March followed a series of gig cancellations due to poor ticket sales.

Statement from the Dorothy Pax:

"We are heartbroken to announce that The Dorothy Pax is now closed with immediate effect.

It's not been an easy decision to make as this affects not only ourselves but the bar staff, the engineers, the artists, our local boating community, our wider Sheffield community, and our suppliers.

We've had some amazing parties, produced several festivals, hosted countless world-class talent on our stage, laughed, cried, shared incredible evenings, made lifelong friends, and boogied the night away.

However, we cannot continue to do so. I don't want to point fingers,

but we've had our fair share of battles, and we've always come out the other side, but we've got too many wounds to lick now to continue.

It's not very pleasant to be a statistic at any time, and we're certainly upset about being added to the number of grassroots music venues that have closed down over the last few years through difficulties thrown at the industry, including Covid-19, rising bills, and our customers facing a cost-of-living crisis.

The grassroots music industry is facing an uphill battle. As a whole, we're all trying to make this work on a profit margin of 0.48%, whilst those at the top are reporting billions in profits. If £1 per ticket at

stadium shows, arena gigs, and large festivals went back to us collectively, we wouldn't have to subsidise ourselves hugely to carry on doing the work we do.

But we have. We've footed that bill internally, mainly because we love it and understand its importance to our wellbeing, community, and cultural output. We know we do good work. Nothing is quite like the high you get when you see a full room of people dancing, enjoying each other's company, whilst the musicians on stage are performing their hearts out with smiles across their faces. Nothing will ever come close to that feeling.

If it wasn't for the support of the Music Venue Trust, this announcement would have come five years ago. They've not only had our side, but they've tirelessly worked so hard in supporting 900+ of our colleagues within the grassroots music industry.

Please believe us that we have exhausted every possible avenue over the last year or so to keep on going, but the time has come.

Continue to support your grassroots music venues, your local pub, and independent businesses because now is the time that they need you the most. Use them, or lose them.

So, thank you all for the best eight years."



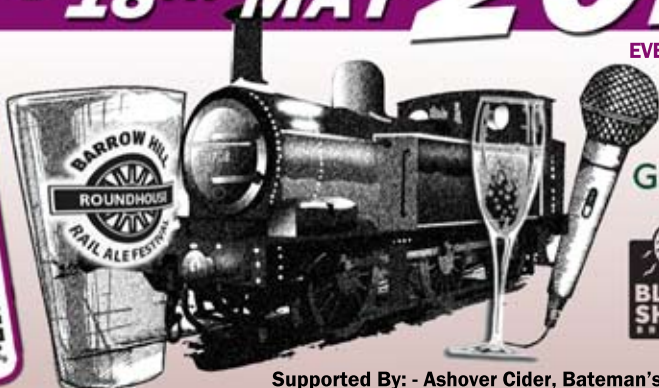
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INN BRIEF

Sheffield Beer Week saw the wooden pin make another appearance at **Hop Hideout** (pictured left) in Leah's Yard, Sheffield City Centre, providing a cask ale option. This time, the beer from the wood was Abbeydale *Moonshine*.

By the time this issue of **BEER MATTERS** hits the streets, the **Mount Pleasant** in Norton Lees should have reopened under new management.

Clubhouse on London Road has announced that they won't be renewing their lease and are likely to close in March. In a statement, they described it as a heartbreaking decision but acknowledged that times are tough, bills are becoming extortionate, and they simply can't continue. The Steel City derby match was unusually not screened there, as their direct debit to Sky Sports had already been cancelled ahead of the closure – it was costing them £3,000 a month!

Two of the Dronfield town centre pubs taking part in the One Valley Festival on 7 June have announced their plans. **Manor House Hotel** will be following a similar format to last year, with the car park closed off and two outdoor bars – one featuring cask ale from Abbeydale Brewery, along with Pellizco's Mexican food trailer. Live music will be provided by The Britpop Rockers at 4pm and 6pm, followed by DJ Brad Gee, who will keep the party going from 7:30pm until late.

Meanwhile, down the road at **Green Dragon**, they are also sticking to a tried-and-tested formula, with the car park closed off and live music performed from the back of a wagon. DJ Higz will be playing tunes between and after the bands, and a fish & chip trailer will keep everyone fed. Two outdoor bars will supplement the main pub bar, offering real ales, shots, and bottled drinks outside.

Cross Scythes in Totley has now reopened under new management following refurbishment and is offering "elevated pub dining."



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PUB OF THE MONTH

Since 1979 we've awarded pubs and bars that consistently serve good quality real ale in a friendly and comfortable environment.

Please visit some of the nominees and, if you're a CAMRA member, vote whether you think they deserve to win Pub of the Month.

THE NOMINEES

- **Anchor**, Tideswell (bus 65 or 173)
- **Banner Cross**, Ecclesall (bus 65, 81, 88 or 272)
- **Bath Hotel**, City Centre (bus 51, 52, 52a, 95, 120, 257 or tram to University of Sheffield)
- **Forest**, Neepsend (bus 7 or 8)
- **Ranmoor Inn**, Ranmoor (get there on bus 120)

HOW TO VOTE

Scan the code or go to sheffield.camra.org.uk/potm and fill in the form using your CAMRA login, or vote in person at our monthly branch meetings. See the diary for details of the next one.



PUB OF THE MONTH MARCH 2025



SHEAF VIEW

Heeley

On Tuesday 11 March at 8pm, the Sheaf View in Heeley was the calm after the storm.

The pub had been packed with Sheffield United fans enjoying a pre-match pint, but they were soon replaced by a group of CAMRA members and locals as we presented Dom and the team with their Pub of the Month award!



CAMRA Sheffield & District's Phil Ellett presents Dominic Durham and the staff with their award. Photo by John Beardshaw.

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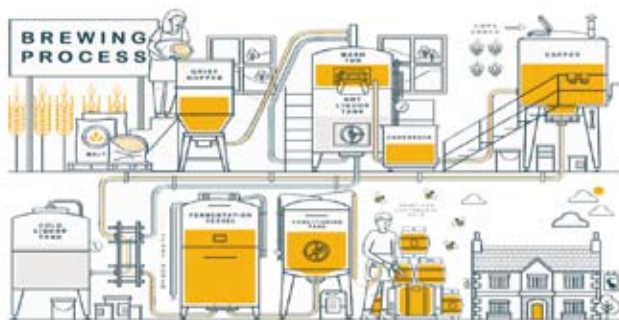
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Following your member votes and the judging panel visits, we are pleased to announce the following awards for 2025:



PUB OF THE YEAR

2025 OVERALL AND KELHAM ISLAND/NEEPSSEND



KELHAM ISLAND TAVERN

Russell Street

AREA WINNERS



CITY CENTRE



BATH HOTEL

Victoria Street



NORTH SHEFFIELD



COMMERCIAL

Chapeltown



SOUTH SHEFFIELD



**BROTHERS
ARMS**

Heeley



EAST SHEFFIELD



**OWBOW
MICROPUB**

Woodhouse Mill

Congratulations to all our winners! We will be arranging award presentations at each venue, where you can join us to celebrate with them. Please keep an eye on the branch diary online and in future editions of **BEER MATTERS** for further details and winner profiles.

Both the Kelham Island Tavern and the Old Hall Hotel, Hope will now go forward to represent the branch in the Yorkshire and North Derbyshire Regional Pub of the Year judging.

Finally, thank you to all our members who voted and judging panel.

Paul Manning

JOIN US...

...for the award presentation and a pint or two at the **Commercial** on **Tue 3 Jun** (during the branch meeting)



WEST SHEFFIELD



RISEING SUN Nethergreen

Congratulations to Garry and the team at the Rising Sun (471 Fulwood Road, S10 3QA), winners of the Sheffield & District CAMRA Sheffield (West) Pub of the Year 2025.

Owned by Sheffield Beerworks EOT Ltd., the Employee-Owned Trust that also includes Abbeydale Brewery, the Rising Sun has been an Abbeydale community pub and dining room since 19 December 2005, when the brewery took over from the University of Sheffield Union of Students. The Union had run the building for just over 23 years. Previous management includes the Sheffield & District Public House Trust Co. Ltd. and John Smith's Tadcaster Brewery.

The original pub opened around 1860. The name refers to pubs that face east and receive early morning sunlight, as did the earlier Rising Sun. The current pub was built when the Sheffield Town Trustees agreed to provide land for the widening of Fulwood Road in exchange for the demolition and reconstruction of the original building. The new pub opened in July 1904, and Abbeydale carried out an extensive refurbishment in 2014.

Inside, there are two comfortably furnished rooms with a log-burning fire between the main bar and the glass-roofed extension. The large beer garden includes covered, heated areas, and the pub is child- and dog-friendly. A quiz night is held on Sunday evenings.

In 1914, the *Sheffield and Rotherham Red Book and Almanac* (p.407) stated that "many pleasure seekers find this suburban house very convenient for the supply of general refreshments." Today, not much has changed – the Rising Sun offers 13 cask beers, including a large Abbeydale range, alongside rotating guest specials across both cask and keg. There is also an ever-changing cider selection, a carefully curated wine list, a large range of quality spirits, and plenty of non-alcoholic options. In addition, the creative, seasonal food menu showcases the best of British produce, with the pub working closely with a range of local suppliers.

Dave Pickersgill

JOIN US...

...for the presentation at
7pm on Wed 16 Apr



DISTRICT



OLD HALL HOTEL Hope

The "District" part of the Sheffield & District branch covers the Derbyshire area, including Killamarsh, Ridgeway, and a large section of the Peak District National Park, primarily the Hope Valley, extending as far as Millers Dale and Edale. As with the Yorkshire pubs in Sheffield, a panel of judges visits the top two pubs from the members' vote to select an overall winner. That winner then advances to the North Derbyshire entry round of the national competition.

For 2025, our District Pub of the Year is the Old Hall Hotel in Hope. The venue combines a pub, restaurant, tea room, and bed & breakfast accommodation, with the bar offering a range of cask ales and an extensive selection of Scotch single malt whiskies.

Our festival secretary, Jess Cawley, reports on his visit:

"Located in the Hope Valley, the Old Hall public house sits in the picturesque village of Hope, nestled below Lose Hill, which marks one end of the famous Lose Hill ridge. The first mention of the current building dates back to a rebuilding in 1703, forming what is now the Old Hall pub, which became a listed building in 1984.

Inside, the pub has a traditional feel, with oak-paneled walls creating a welcoming and convivial atmosphere. My lunchtime meal was French onion soup and a beef sandwich, both of which went down well. There were half a dozen real ales to choose from, including the well-known Theakston's Old Peculier. My Theakston's Best was very palatable.

The pub also runs a beer festival on bank holidays and is popular with both tourists and locals. Facilities were excellent, and the extensive menu was reasonably priced."



ABBEYDALE BREWERY

Due for release from Abbeydale Brewery this month, **Dr Morton's Rogue Apostrophe** (4.1%) is back to irritate the grammatically minded amongst us. An easy drinking pale with Pacific Gem and Azacca hop's, combining to give flavours of tropical fruit's and berries. Joining it on bars throughout April is **Through the Hopback – Cascade**, a 3.9% pale ale and a hop we can't quite believe we haven't showcased in this series before! Citrussy grapefruit in abundance on the aroma, with a gentle spicy character and a smooth bitterness.

Fen Violet is the first in a new cask only range for us, with artwork inspired by vintage botanical prints and lithographs. This one will be a 4.3% pale ale with Vic Secret and Columbus hops. We're expecting lovely aromatic qualities in this one, with gentle herbal notes of marjoram in the background and some fruity tropical flavours up front.

And from our Brewers Emporium we have a couple of exciting new specials on the way too. **Cherry Bakewell Stout** (5.0%) is a new special in our Salvation series, featuring the enticing combination of ripe, juicy cherry and flavours of frangipane. And from our single-hopped Obsession series, look out for **Citra NEIPA** (6.5%). A rockstar of the hop world, Citra is famed for an intensely citrussy character. Expect a potent, zesty aroma and a lip-smacking lemony flavour, smooth and fruity with a juicy finish.

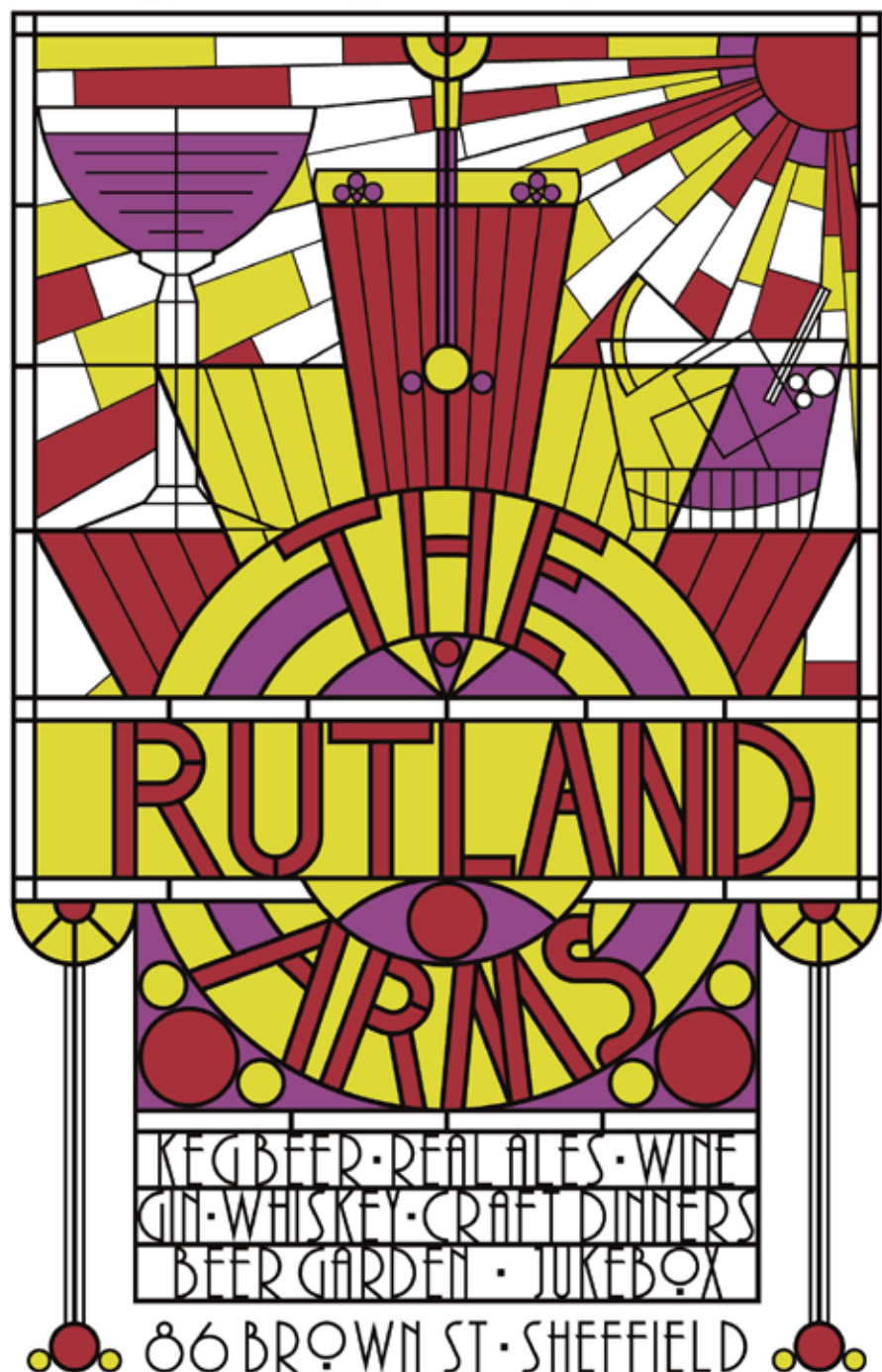


DUALITY BREW CO.

Duality Brewery has recently relocated to Sheffield. Registered by Ben and Brendan in Todwick in March 2024 after winning a home-brew competition, the duo is now producing their beers in a unit located on Percy Street in Neepsend, next door to Alder Bar.

Many of their beers are styles where hops dominate, such as a New England IPA; however, they've also been known to produce other beers and recently showcased their range in Sheffield by hosting a brewery bar at the Neepsend Craft Beer Festival.

At the moment, Duality continues to be a part-time operation, with Ben and Brendan working a day job during the week and brewing on Saturdays. However, with them making a name for themselves quite quickly, who knows how that may change in the future!





BRADFIELD BREWERY

How time flies...

Can you believe it's been 20 years since the first brew was crafted at Watt House Farm, marking the birth of Bradfield Brewery?

What started as a side project to supplement the declining income from our dairy farming quickly became a success. As brewing took off beyond our expectations, we soon found ourselves at a crossroads – there simply weren't enough hours in the day to juggle both dairy farming and brewing. With a heavy heart, we made the tough decision to stop milk production and focus entirely on our growing brewery. As the saying goes, we've never looked back!

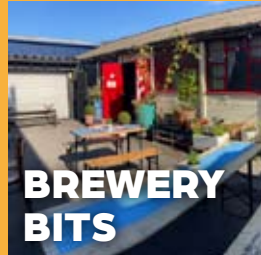
Fast forward 20 years, and we're now brewing over 100,000 pints of beer each week! With a dedicated team of 25 at the brewery and another 20 at our brewery pubs, the beers keep flowing – fresh from grain to glass.

Our farming roots remain a huge part of our identity, and we love celebrating this through our beers. *Farmers Blonde*, which became our flagship ale, was named after the Blonde d'Aquitaine breed of cow, and many of our other beers follow the same theme.

While we embrace new trends and innovations, our brand is all about keeping cherished traditions alive – meeting friends at the pub, pint in hand, and having a natter. Our session ales are the perfect companion for these moments – a true taste of tradition.

From all of us at Bradfield Brewery, a heartfelt thank you to everyone – our suppliers, our hardworking team, and, of course, our loyal customers near and far. Your support means the world to us. Cheers to the next 20 years!

We've got some exciting things in store to celebrate our 20th anniversary. First, we're paying homage to our very first brew, *Farmers Bitter*, with a brand-new creation – ***Farmers XX Best!*** This new 4.6% ABV beer for Bradfield Brewery has been brewed with Maris Otter, amber, and chocolate malts, giving a full-bodied and complex mouthfeel, complemented by a robust bitterness and dark fruit flavours from the hops. Available in cask and 330ml bottles from the end of March, this new brew is just the beginning of more exciting things to come in 2025!



BREWERY BITS

As is now traditional, Sheffield Beer Week marked the **Brewery of St Mars of the Desert's** tap room coming out its winter hibernation and it is now open most Fridays and Saturdays, 2pm to 8pm. It is now bar service and card payment only, it continues to be dog friendly. The brewery is just a few minutes walk from the main road through Attercliffe, served by buses 9/9a, 52/52a, 207 and X3.

As part of Sheffield Beer Week, the Kelham Island Tavern showcased a number of new beers from **Blue Bee Brewery**. These included a coffee mild, french oak aged red ale and charred oak aged export stout as well as the usual hoppy pales that Blue Bee are more commonly known for!

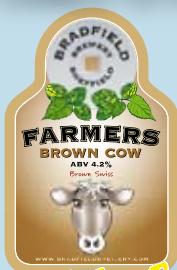


Bradfield Brewery have released a special edition of their cask *Farmers Stout* with the stronger ABV of 8.4%.

Fuggle Bunny Brew House is introducing a monthly Saturday tap session in addition to the weekly Friday bar opening. The programme of "Fuggle Saturdays" kick off on Easter Saturday then take place on the last Saturday of each month from 31 May to 29 November with the bar in the brewery open 3pm to 9pm and live music at 5pm. They also plan to host a food trader at Saturday events.



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HILLSBOROUGH SOCIAL

Our annual Hillsborough Social took place on Friday 21 February at the **Pangolin** on Middlewood Road. After meeting an old St Luke's friend in town, I arrived to find a healthy dozen or so drinkers ready to explore the delights the district has to offer.

My first drink of the evening was Brid's Cross, a brewery I wasn't familiar with. I opted for *Ash and Elm*, a 4.5% pale ale with piney, malty notes – a very pleasant American Pale Ale.

Next, we took a short hop over the tram tracks to the excellent little micropub, the **Beekeeper**. This bar always has three hand pumps, one usually featuring a new Neepsend brew. I went for *Muisca*, a 5.5% American IPA.

Heading towards Hillsborough Corner, we popped into **Northern Monkey**, where they are making an effort to stock two cask ales. One of these was the *Doctor Morton's Duck Baffler*, a simple American pale ale of 4.1% for easy quaffing.



Across the traffic lights sits the **Hillsborough Tap**, always lively and with five cask pumps. Unfortunately, they had the SWFC match on, and it wasn't going well... so after a quick half, we made our way to the **Rawson Spring**.

This Wetherspoon pub, housed in the old swimming baths, still retains the spectator gallery as a visible feature. There's always a good selection of guest ales at great prices – especially with a CAMRA voucher. Mine was a pale ale, although, being later in the night, I forgot to note it.



Finally, to conclude the evening, we decamped to the **Beer House S6**. This larger ale bar boasts five cask lines, a cider on hand pump, and four or five keg options. There always seems to be something from Two by Two or Big Trip, so you're in safe hands when choosing a pint.

So, another successful social with a great turnout supporting this thriving beer community.

Kevin Thompson

UPCOMING PUB TRIP SOCIALS

- 19 Apr** Doncaster (by train)
- 24 May** Matlock (by bus)
- 6 Jun** Fuggle Bunny Tap
- 21 Jun** Huddersfield (by train)
- Jul** Peak District (by bus, details TBC)
- 30 Aug** New Mills (by train, including Torrside Brewery Tap)



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GOOD BEER GUIDE 2025

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BERLIN

A recent birthday celebration saw a few days in Berlin. Travel was via Ryanair from Manchester: a full plane including a very well-behaved school party. The S9 S-Bahn then took us to our base at the Premier Inn Alexanderplatz. This central location allowed us to walk to most of the key sites, the exercise providing the excuse for the occasional rest-stop.

Bars visited included **Brauhaus Georgbrau** (Spreeufer 4, 10178). Established in 1992, this large

riverside old-style brewery and bar provided traditional favourites, *Helles* and *Dunkel* (both 5%).

Close by, **Weihenstephaner Berlin** (Neue Promenade 5, Hackescher Markt), the main Berlin outlet of the Bavarian State Brewery of Weihenstephan (Bayerische Staatsbrauerei Weihenstephan), provided a full range of German-style beers, all served by waiters wearing lederhosen. The *Tradition Bayerisch Dunkel* (5.2%) was sampled. Established in 1040 and owned by the Free State

of Bavaria, this brewery claims to be the oldest in the world.

Our favourite outlet was **Brauerei Lemke Berlin** (founded 1999), under the railway arches at Hackeschen Markt. Here, Die Bierprobe provided six 0.1 L tasters: *Bohemian Pilsner* (5.0%), *Original* (5.4%), *Weizen* (5.5%), *030 Pale* (5.0%), *India Pale Ale* (6.5%) and *Budike Weisse* (3.4%). The *Budike* had a gentle sourness while the IPA was sound to the style. These were the best beers tasted during our short stay.





Other beers encountered included *Berliner Pranke* echt mild bier (6%), a pale lager from the local Berliner-Kindl-Schultheiss-Brauerei and *Stark-Bier* (7.5%), a doppelbock from Störtebeker Braumanufaktur (1827), based in Stralsund, on the Baltic Sea. This brewery is named after Klaus, a late 14th-century pirate, who was executed in 1401.

We also visited many other well-known spots, including the Brandenburg Gate, Checkpoint Charlie, the Holocaust Memorial, Potsdam, Neue Nationalgalerie and Tiergarten.

In short, an excellent break, lots of culture and some interesting beers!

Dave Pickersgill



THREE B'S MICROPUB

Three B's Micropub was established in Bridlington in 2020.

Since opening, it has won many awards both from CAMRA and other bodies.

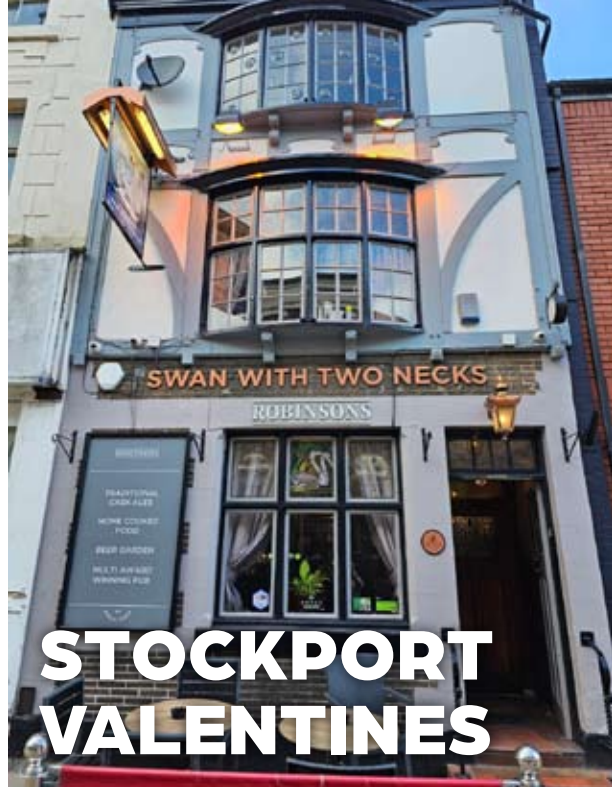
Following on from its success, the pub is moving to a new site within Bridlington this spring.

The new location is 2, Welington Road, YO15 2BG, will feature five handpulls (up from four at the current site), plus craft keg taps and a large beer fridge.

The biggest asset the new pub will have is a large beer garden with seating for around 50 people at maximum.

It is hoped the new location will be open by around the end of April. In the meantime, it will continue to trade at its current location on Marshall Avenue.

Check out the pub's social media for updates.



STOCKPORT VALENTINES

Stockport was once described by Friedrich Engels as “the duskiest, smokiest hole.” However, when I arrived at the station, it was bathed in sunshine and was a few degrees warmer than the Sheffield I had left 40 minutes earlier. Having no romantic interest on the day, I consoled myself with beer.

The town has a history of hatting but was also one of the first centres of the Industrial Revolution, with the Rivers Goyt and Tame merging to form the Mersey for transportation.

Walking down into town, my first establishment was the **White Lion** on Gt Underbank, a nice ornate pub serving three cask ales. Mine was a *Weetwood Cheshire Cat*, a blonde/golden 4%.

On exiting, I tackled the short, steep cobbled hill to the Market Place,

a 12th-century feature, which contains the **Angel Inn**. A small bar selling three cask ales, of which the Beartown *Best Bitter* (3.7% session strength) was partaken, as I had not tried this one before. It was here I met Stephen Oakes and his Cockapoo, Boo, who was very friendly and recommended a few establishments, some of which were on my *GBG* list.

Armed with this info, I set off up the town and over a colourful bridge to reach the **Petersgate Tap**, a micro bar busy with locals. The bar has capacity for six cask ales, and I had the Horwich-based Blackedge *Blonde* at 4.5%, followed by a Small World Beers *Barncliffe Bitter*, again sessionable at 3.7%.

I was OK for time and decided on the longer walk towards the A6 Manchester Road to the **Magnet** on



Wellington Rd. This pub is atop the incline and is overshadowed by the railway's arches. Inside is a treasure trove of cask and keg, displayed on a TV screen. I had my first stout of the day, Riverhead's *Winter Stout*, a lovely dark-roast brew, thinner than usual but a reasonable 4.8%. Enjoying this pub, I twisted my own arm to have a Mallinsons *Nectar*, a pleasant 4.1% pale.

A walk back down to the town's Frenchgate Centre saw me at the **Swan With Two Necks**, a Robinsons pub on Princes St selling *Unicorn*, a 4.2% bitter which is pleasantly hopped. I had a great conversation with an older couple who had similar tastes in music and who travelled Europe extensively on their motorcycle.





It was time to climb the cobbled hill again to **Bakers Vaults** in Market Place, a spacious venue with a good choice of cask. Among these was the Staggeringly Good *Forward to the Past*, an American IPA, a tasty 5.2%. With around 75 minutes remaining, I made the walk back towards the station to **Ye Olde Vic**, a very traditional pub with an old-school charm. It boasted three or four ales, and I plumped for the 4Ts *SPA* at 3.8%.

A short hop up and down to the station saw a prompt train return me to Sheffield, with time for a couple of halves (a Derby *Rheingold*, 3.8%, and a Prime *Pacific*, 4.2%) in the **Two & Six Micropub** to end the enjoyable day.

Kevin Thompson



RAMBALE

SAT 26 APR

Join us to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the creation of the Pennine Way long-distance footpath with this much shorter walk between Hope and Edale, where the Way begins its 268-mile route to Kirk Yetholm.

From there, there's a choice:

You can join us for a walk up Lose Hill to Hollins Cross and then down to Edale for a drink at the **Rambler Inn** to get our breath back before walking up to the **Old Nags Head**, where there should be a beer festival in full swing from April 25 to 27.

Alternatively, you can board the 62 bus from outside the Cheshire Cheese to take you to Edale for that section of the RambAle.

Latecomers can also come out on the train to join us at Edale, with departures from Sheffield at 14 minutes past each hour. Return travel will be by train from Edale Station.

All welcome!

Malcolm and Jenny



We shall be catching the 11:36 272 Castleton bus from Sheffield Interchange as far as Hope Village. Our first drink will be in the **Old Hall Inn**, where we'll wait for anyone arriving on the 12:14 Northern train from Sheffield. A short walk then takes us to the **Old Cheshire Cheese** for a second drink.

NEXT RAMBALES

Sat 17 May
Fri 6 Jun
Sat 12 Jul

FESTIVALS & EVENTS

FESTIVALS

Local beer and cider festivals we're aware of. Email the Editor if you know of any more!

EVENTS

Branch meetings, socials, heritage talks, RambAles and other activities. Email our Social Secretary for more info and bookings.

MARCH



Burton on Trent (CAMRA)

Thu 27 – Sat 29 Mar

This event returns as its traditional local CAMRA branch beer and cider festival with over 150 beers and ciders, gin, wine. Live music on Friday and Saturday.



Holly Bush Inn, Makeney

Thu 27 – Sat 29 Mar

This classic country pub near Belper hosts one of its regular beer festivals featuring a range of over 20 beers and ciders. There is also music on Saturday evening. Bus 6.1 (Matlock to Derby) and Transpeak (Buxton to Derby) stop a few minutes walk away on the main road at Milford Bridge.

APRIL



Branch meeting

8pm | Tue 1 Apr

All members welcome to come share pub and brewery news, discuss campaign updates and enjoy a beer! The venue is the **Walkley Cottage**. Get there on bus 52, 52a or 95.



Nottingham Independents

Fri 4 – Sat 5 Apr

This new event is a collaboration between the independent brewers of Nottingham, the city council and Nottingham Castle featuring 10 brewery bars along with Sneinton cider company at **Nottingham Castle**. Information and tickets online.



Eccyfest II

Fri 4 – Sun 6 Apr

The spring 2025 edition of this initiative with a number of micropubs along Ecclesall Road collaborating. You can buy a stamp card for £1 and if you visit every participating venue and get a stamp in each you could win a prize! Taking part are **Itchy Pig, Beer House, No3 Sharrow Vale, Craft & Berry, The Ale Club, The Local** and **Portland House**.



Railway Terrace (Derby)

Wed 9 – Sat 12 Apr

A joint beer and cider festival across two pubs – the **Brunswick Inn** and **Victoria Inn**, both of which are pretty much across the road from Derby railway station. A range of around 60 cask ales will be available in total.



Festival planning meeting

7:30pm | Tue 15 Apr

We continue work on planning our 2025 Steel City Beer & Cider Festival. The meeting is held upstairs at the **Gardeners Rest**. Get there on bus 7/8 which stop outside the pub, alternatively it is a 5–10 minute walk from Infirmary Road tram stop.



Area Pub of the Year (West Sheffield)

7pm | Wed 16 Apr

We present the winner's award. All are welcome to join at the **Rising Sun** in Nether Green for a drink or two!

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Doncaster Brewery Tap

5 – 11pm | Thu 17 Apr
12 – 11pm | Fri 18/Sat 19
12 – 5pm | Sun 20/Mon 21

Easter edition of their regular programme of festivals which will feature six of their own cask ales, 10 new or obscure guests in cask and 13 keg beers along with as range of craft beer in can and bottle plus six traditional ciders. They will also be serving up bratwurst and other snacks..



Hope Valley

Fri 18 – Mon 21 Apr

Held at the **Old Hall Hotel** in Hope most bank holiday weekends, the festival features a marquee outside filled with a range of beers and ciders, many locally sourced from around Derbyshire, along with food and music. Buses 173, 257c, 271 and 272 pass the pub or Hope railway station is 10 minutes walk away.



Doncaster social

11:50am Sat 19 Apr

We catch a train over to Doncaster to visit a few pubs in the city centre there, along with the beer festival at

Doncaster Brewery Tap. We plan on catching the 11:57 departure from Sheffield, meet us on board! The off peak day return train ticket costs £8.30; alternatively an all day bus, tram and train pass for South Yorkshire (SY Connectticket) costs £11.40.



Committee meeting & BEER MATTERS distribution

8:30pm Tue 22 Apr

Our monthly business meeting. The venue is the **Dog & Partridge** on Trippet Lane in Sheffield City Centre. We also aim to have the new issue of **BEER MATTERS** from the printers ready for distribution volunteers to come and collect from the afternoon onwards. Note it is quiz night on Tuesdays.



Cider Pub of the Year

4pm Wed 23 Apr

We present the certificate to the **Old Shoe** in Orchard Square, Sheffield City Centre. All are welcome to join us there for a drink or two! Buses 83 or 120 will get you there.



RambAle

11:30am Sat 26 Apr

Join us to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Pennine Way. See page 21 for full details.



Old Nags Head (Edale)

Fri 25 – Sun 27 Apr

This pub at the top of Edale village sits next to the beginning of the Pennine Way footpath and this years sees celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of it being mapped, part of which is the **Nags Head Beer Festival** which will feature 30 ales and ciders plus a special menu, live music, games and more. You can get to Edale by train (Sheffield to Manchester line) or on bus 62 (Buxton to Castleton).



University of Sheffield Students' Union

2pm – 12am | Fri 2 – Sun 4

This popular annual event with free entry is back at **Bar One** and Union Garden with 150 different beers and ciders plus live music and street food.

MAY



Doncaster

Fri 2 – Sun 4 May

A new commercially run beer festival held at **Waterdale** in Doncaster with over 80 real ales and other craft beers, lager, spirits, cocktails and live music.

Hope Valley

Fri 2 – Mon 5 May

See April entry for details.

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Branch meeting and AGM

2pm Sat 10 May

As this is also the AGM, there will also be committee elections, reports, and motions for debate. The deadline for motions is the April branch meeting. The venue is **Lescar**, Sharrow Vale Rd. Nearby bus routes include 10, 10A, 65, 81, 82, 88, 218, 272.



Area Pub of the Year (South Sheffield)

9pm | Wed 13 May

Join us for the award presentation and a pint or two at the **Sheaf View**.



Barrow Hill Rail Ale

Thu 15 – Sun 18 May

Held in and around the historic railway roundhouse, this festival offers a truly unique setting and atmosphere as a working railway location! Now in its 25th year, the event boasts a huge range of cask ales, craft beers, cider, perry, gin, and more – alongside live music, food stalls, and train rides (Fri/Sat daytime). New this year is a Sunday afternoon session. Barrow Hill is accessible by bus from Chesterfield, with dedicated festival shuttles from the station or regular local buses from the town centre. Advance tickets on their website.



RambAle

11:30am Sat 17 May

Our RambAles combine a nice country walk with a few real ale pubs. This month we meet outside Dore & Totley station at 11:30am for a walk through Ecclesall Woods and Ryecroft Glen into Dore village for the **Devonshire Arms**, then down to Totley Bents for the **Crown** and **Cricket Inn**. A walk up the hillside to the main road in Totley brings us to **Cross Scythes** where you can catch buses 97 or 218 back into the city centre or continue down to **Shepley Spitfire** or **Tunnel Tap** micropub. Get there by train (11:14 from Sheffield) or buses 97, 98 or 218.



Festival planning meeting

7:30pm Tue 20 May

Our monthly festival planning meeting upstairs at the **Gardeners Rest**.



Lincoln (CAMRA)

Thu 22 – Sat 24 May

This long running annual beer and cider festival moves to a new venue for 2025 – **Southside Lincoln**.



Skipton (CAMRA)

11am – 10pm | Thu 22/Fri 23

11am – 8pm | Sat 24 May

Held at the historic town hall on Skipton High Street with 68 cask ales on gravity pour plus additional craft beers on tap from keykegs plus cider and perry, wine and soft drinks. To eat will be pies supplied by the local butchers. Pay on the door, £4 entry (£1 for members). Get there by train from Sheffield changing at Leeds.



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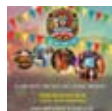
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Red Lion, Matlock Fri 23 – Sat 24 May

The **Red Lion** pub, located at Matlock Green on the way into the town centre, is also host to Moot Ales brewery. For their festival they will not only showcase their own beers but a number of “super funky” guest beers from across the UK with a range of around 20 to choose from. Festival food will be available – sticky BBQ ribs and dirty fries. More info at matlockbeerfestival.co.uk. Bus X17 (Barnsley/Sheffield to Matlock/Wirksworth via Chesterfield) stops right outside.



Hope Valley Fri 23 – Mon 26 May

Old Hall Hotel, Hope. See April entry for details.



Matlock Social 11am Sat 24 May

We catch the Stagecoach X17 bus to Matlock and visit a few pubs including the **Red Lion** which is holding a beer festival. We're getting the bus from Sheffield Interchange at 11:06 (also picks up Meadowhall 10:42, Arundel Gate 11:09, Heeley 11:22 and Woodseats 11:27). Once done at the festival, we'll jump on the bus down to Wirksworth for the **Feather Star** and, if time permits, more Matlock pubs on the way back. A Derbyshire Wayfarer all-day bus pass is £9. Alternatively, a Stagecoach Gold DayRider includes all their buses in South Yorkshire and Derbyshire. Single fares are £3. Hourly buses back to Sheffield from Wirksworth – every 30 mins from Matlock.



Committee meeting & BEER MATTERS distribution 8:30pm Tue 27 May

Monthly business meeting at the **Dog & Partridge** on Trippet Lane.

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Beer Capital Survey

12pm Sat 31 May

"A pub crawl with a purpose" – our mission is to survey as many Sheffield pubs serving cask ale as possible, capturing a snapshot of the local beer scene. By recording the range of beers on offer, we track trends and reinforce Sheffield's status as the beer capital of England! Stay tuned for details on meeting points and the survey app.

JUNE



Branch meeting

8pm Tue 3 Jun

All members welcome to join us at the **Commercial**, Chapeltown.



RambAle and brewery social

11:30am Fri 6 Jun

From the **Scarsdale Hundred**, calling at **Guzzle** and **Fuggle Bunny**.



One Valley (Dronfield)

Sat 7 Jun

A whole list of pubs along with a club and a brewery tap put on a day of beer, cider, food and music. Many of the venues are in the town centre and walkable from Dronfield railway station and a few are a short bus ride away.



Festival planning meeting

7:30pm Tue 17 Jun

Our monthly festival planning meeting upstairs at the **Gardeners Rest**.



Stockport (CAMRA)

Thu 19 – Sat 21 Jun

Back at their new venue, the Guild Hall, the festival features over 250 beers, ciders and perries. More details at stockportfestival.org.uk.



Sheaf View

Sat 21 Jun

Their birthday beer festival. These events usually involve a pop up bar in the back room and an outside kiosk bar featuring interesting beers in addition to the normal pub bar.



Huddersfield social

Sat 21 Jun (TBD)

We catch the train to Huddersfield to visit a few pubs in the town.



Committee meeting & BEER MATTERS distribution

8pm Wed 25 Jun

Monthly business meeting at the **Dog & Partridge** on Trippet Lane.



Swinton

Thu 26 – Sat 28 Jun

A fundraiser for St Margaret's Church where the festival is held in Swinton, near Rotherham.

JULY



Branch meeting

8pm Tue 1 Jul

All members welcome to join us at the **Wisewood Inn**, Loxley.



Merchant Adventurers (York)

Fri 4 – Sat 5 Jul

Charity fundraiser featuring over 30 breweries showcasing over 90 ales, beers and lagers.



RambAle

11:30am Sat 12 Jul

This month we follow in the footsteps of 'Kes', visiting **Tap & Brew**, **Saville Square**, **Miners Arms** and **Commercial**.

• • •

Full listings on our website



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STEEL CITY 49

(CAMRA Sheffield & District)

Wed 15 – Sat 18 Oct

Events at the forthcoming Steel City Beer Festival will include a walk, a talk and a tutored tasting. Following previous successes, local author John Stocks and our Pub Heritage Officer, Dave Pickersgill will be leading a guided walk in Little Chicago on Thursday morning and staging the associated talk on Friday afternoon.

In addition, as part of their 20th anniversary celebrations, Bradfield Brewery will be leading a tutored tasting on the Thursday evening, presenting both core brews and oak-aged beers. Advance tickets for all events will be available nearer the time.

The festival is planned to take place at Kelham Island Museum featuring a huge range of cask ales, a selection of other craft beers in keg plus traditional ciders alongside street food vendors and a programme of live music. The special events including tutored tastings, talks and tours are optional extras to add to your festival experience!

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