

BEER MATTERS

545
MAY 2025

CASK OF BEAR

Abbeydale Road shop's first foray into cask

SAVE THE ROYAL

Council must protect pub at the heart of Dungworth



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BEER MATTERS

545
MAY 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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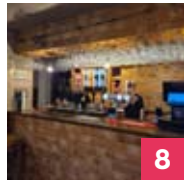
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ROYAL HOTEL

"Viable options clearly exist to avoid the unnecessary loss of a valued local facility – one that supports community cohesion, social interaction, and the local economy"

Heart of Dungworth at risk

Many of you will recall that the Royal closed last year. A planning application has now been lodged with Sheffield City Council to convert the pub into residential accommodation (ref. 25/00501/FUL). We have formally objected: the permanent loss of this culturally significant and historic pub would have a profound and detrimental impact on the local community and beyond.

The Royal Hotel (S6 6HF) has served as a vital community hub since 1813, providing a space for social interaction, local traditions and live music. Most notably, it is one of the key venues for the Sheffield Christmas Carols – a centuries-old folk tradition that draws visitors from across the country and further afield. Losing the pub would diminish this deeply rooted cultural event, which has been widely recognised as a unique and important part of British heritage.

The Royal attracts visitors not only from Sheffield but from further afield. The area has a growing, affluent customer base who regularly visit the surrounding countryside for recreation. Dungworth is criss-crossed with walking trails and sits on the edge of the Peak District National Park – the pub is a welcome sight for walkers seeking rest and refreshment. Locally, the past two years have seen nearly 20 new houses either built or granted planning.

There is strong evidence to suggest that, with the right management, the Royal could thrive. Many similar rural pubs in the Sheffield area are successfully attracting a mix of local patrons and visitors. The Royal's setting – with its historical significance and sweeping views across the Loxley Valley – offers a clear opportunity for revitalisation.

A key requirement for change-of-use applications involving pubs is a demonstrable effort to market the premises as a going

concern. In this case, there is little evidence that the Royal has been properly offered for sale as a functioning pub. In contrast, a local fundraising initiative has already pledged a six-figure sum to support the future of the Royal, and a local brewery has expressed interest in purchasing the pub. Viable options clearly exist to avoid the unnecessary loss of a valued local facility – one that supports community cohesion, social interaction, and the local economy.

Given the strong interest in preserving the Royal, granting permission for its conversion at this stage would be premature. We believe the proposed development is inconsistent with both local and national policies on the conversion of pubs. With overwhelming community support and positive indicators from the Public House Viability Test, we urge the council to reject the application and support efforts to secure the future of the Royal Hotel as a sustainable business and vital community asset.

Dave Pickersgill
Pub Heritage Officer

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PUB



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OR VISIT US ON [AIZLEWOOD ROAD, S8 0YX](#)

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THE BEAR

While attending the Bear's beer and cheese event during Sheffield Beer Week, owner Matt pointed out an overly large pump clip on the wall, saying 'you know what that means'. I did – but I wasn't sure how he intended to serve it. The Bear has no cask lines.

Founded in 2021 by Matt Beety, the Bear is a cosy bottle shop at the top of Abbeydale Road, specialising primarily in craft beer. It boasts a wall of fridges and a bar with six keg lines. The Bear holds regular meet the brewer events, and the clip Matt pointed out was for Weekend Project's appearance in mid-March.

This was the Bear's first foray into cask (though its sister bar, the Old Shoe, has two lines), and the first issue to overcome was the complete absence of any serving mechanism for cask beer.

Matt brought in local company SR Beer Co to help set up a temporary handpump at the end of the bar, and relied on a bucket and some ice to keep the nine-gallon cask cool.

The event was attended by Will from Weekend Project, along with sausage dog Oliver and seven of their beers – and, of course, about 25 drinkers. First up, and star of the show, was *Planet Caravan* on the new pump, ably poured by Sooty (with some help from his friend Jonny).

It was an evening full of tales from breweries both foreign and domestic – and quite a lot of beer.

The Bear has a steady stream of meet the brewer events advertised on its social media platforms, which tend to sell out quickly – and perhaps we can hope that future editions might feature some cask offerings too.

Dan Rowe



GARDENERS REST

A Community Pub



REAL ALES
CIDERS LAGERS & GINS

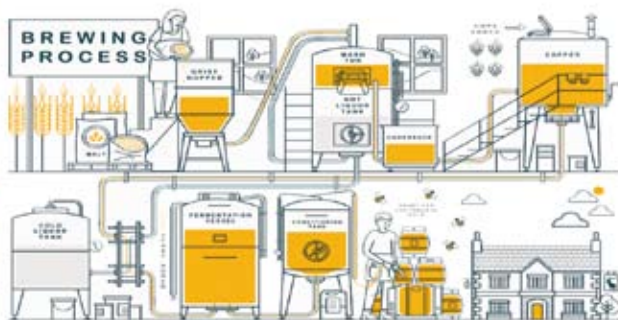
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ANGLERS REST REOPENS

The Anglers has been community-owned since 2013, but this year has seen a change in approach, with the decision to lease the pub to a local business rather than continue running it in-house. The new operator is Peak Hospitality, headed by Rick Ellison, whose Atlantik Inns runs the **Old Hall Hotel** in Hope, the **Peak Hotel** in Castle-
ton, and the **Anchor** in Tideswell, among others. The Anglers is now managed by Claire and Tom.

The pub has recently undergone a refurbishment, including a revamped bar area, a couple of cosy drinkers' spaces, the addition of a pool table, and a separate rustic dining room. The building also continues to house a post office, shop, and café – the latter soon to be transformed into the Tricky Trout Tea Room.

The bar features six handpumps, offering cask beers from Theak-

ston, Eyam and Intrepid, alongside a rotating local guest. It's open from midday every day except Monday, closing at 10pm on Sundays and 11pm the rest of the week. Tom, an experienced chef with a strong reputation, runs the kitchen, serving meals in the pub's restaurant at lunchtimes and in the evenings Monday to Saturday, as well as Sunday afternoons.

The tea room is open daily from 8am to 4pm, serving breakfasts in the morning and a menu of sandwiches, soup and other light bites, with more substantial options available from lunchtime onwards.

The pub has its own car park, with the 257 bus passing the front door. Bamford railway station – served by the 272 bus – is about a 15-minute walk away.

Things are still being tweaked as the new team beds in – check their Facebook page for the latest updates.



5 Real Ales

14 Keg Lines

Over 30 Whiskies



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We announced our 2025 winners last month. Here's a closer look at some more of them...



PUB OF THE YEAR

2025 OVERALL AND KELHAM ISLAND/NEEPSSEND



KELHAM ISLAND TAVERN
Russell Street

Our overall 2025 Pub of the Year – and also Kelham Island & Neepsend Area Pub of the Year – is the outstanding Kelham Island Tavern. The Kelham Island area has become a Sheffield beer destination in its own right, easily accessible from the city centre by bus and tram.

Constructed in the 1830s as part of a terrace, the building originally operated as The Sawmaker, later becoming The White Hart, and in 1995, The Kelham Island Tavern. It closed in 1999, and the derelict building was purchased

and reopened in March 2002, with a focus on real ale.

Over the last 22 years, the pub has gone from strength to strength. Since 2019, under the management of Josh and Louise, it has continued to offer a wide range of both cask and craft beers – always including a stout, porter, and a selection of IPAs and bitters. The beer range is consistently excellent, always featuring at least one from local brewery Blue Bee. The pub also boasts an excellent rear beer garden and maintains the standards to which many others aspire.

A simple snack menu is available, including pork pies.

Kelham Island Tavern was the first pub to be named CAMRA National Pub of the Year two years running (2008 & 2009), and has been CAMRA Yorkshire Pub of the Year five times. It has also taken the title of Sheffield Pub of the Year on 18 occasions – a record that's unlikely ever to be overtaken.

Paul Manning

JOIN US...

...on **Tue 8 Jul** as we present these well-deserved awards to Josh, Louise and the team.



EAST SHEFFIELD



OXBOW MICROPUB Woodhouse Mill

The Oxbow Micropub opened its doors in January 2020, taking over what was once a kitchen showroom. It was founded by a group of friends who had long dreamed of running their own pub.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, they successfully navigated those early years and are now open every day – thanks in no small part to a brilliant team who help make the Oxbow such a welcoming place to enjoy a drink.

The Oxbow offers a relaxed and friendly environment where everyone is welcome. It features three cask lines and seven keg lines (often including a cider), along with a varied selection of bottled and canned beers and ciders. The beer is sourced from both local breweries and further afield, ensuring there's something to suit every taste.

The interior is cosy, and there's also an outdoor seating area. The canopy roof was damaged during the storm in early 2025 but is due to be repaired soon. Please note the pub is a cashless venue.

There are regular tap takeovers and specialist beer events, alongside visiting food vans and a pub quiz every other Wednesday.

The pub is easy to reach via Stagecoach bus 52 or First bus X5, both of which stop nearby. If you're travelling on the 52, do allow a bit of extra time as the pub is at the very end of the route.

JOIN US...

...on **Tue 10 Jun** at around 8:15pm for the celebration!



CITY CENTRE



BATH HOTEL Victoria Street

A careful restoration of the original Ind Coope 1930s interior gave this two roomed pub a conservation award in 2002 and acknowledgement by CAMRA as one of Britain's pubs with a three star pub interior of exceptional national historic importance. The bar lies between the tiled lounge, a small corridor drinking area and the cosy well-upholstered snug. The owners, Brian and Ruth Johnson, have been on the Sheffield pub scene for many years – although not



necessarily high profile – and after about ten years of the pub being leased to Thornbridge Brewery, Brian is back running the pub with a team of staff. The Bath is a simple drinkers pub with friendly service and is somewhere to sit with a nice pint of local ale and enjoy conversation or perhaps a game of darts. It also has some community focus with occasional music events and the smaller of the two rooms being available to hire for meetings etc.

The Bath is one of the more atmospheric of Sheffield's pubs. They always offer a wide range of excellent well-kept real ales from both local and further afield breweries as well as several keg beers.

Paul Manning

JOIN US...

...from 8pm on **Thu 29 May** as we present the well earned certificate.



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.



NORTH DERBYSHIRE PUB OF THE YEAR

Four CAMRA branches that include North Derbyshire put forward pubs for judging in this entry round of the national competition (we in Sheffield & District enter one in North Derbyshire and one in Yorkshire) and as part of the deal all four branches have to go out and objectively judge all the pubs! The one that comes out on top is then judged against other East Midlands winners.

Here are the runners and riders!

Sheffield & District
Old Hall Hotel, Hope

Dronfield & District
Cross Daggers, Coal Aston

Chesterfield & District
Rose & Crown, Brampton

Matlock & Dales
Bod Matlock, Matlock

We went out and judged the Dronfield, Chesterfield and Matlock pubs using buses X17 and 44 on 12 April and had an enjoyable day, if you fancy recreating the trip an all day Derbyshire Wayfarer bus pass costs just £9.

Ahead of our visit, Dronfield & District branch presented their Pub of the Year award certificate to the Cross Daggers on the evening of Monday 7 April, this also saw a good turn out of branch members and pub regulars enjoying some well kept ale and conversation!





ABBEYDALE BREWERY

First up this month we've got **Nuggle** (4.2%), a balanced and easy-drinking pale ale, featuring the UK grown hop combo of Nugget and Fuggle! UK hops have come a long way and we reckon they deserve a moment in the spotlight. This one's from our Mythical Creatures series and is inspired by a magical miniature water horse from Shetland folklore.

And trust we'll be releasing **Dr Morton's Fake News** (4.1%) – a 100% reliable pale ale, featuring juicy Idaho 7 hops balanced by delicately resinous and earthy Savinjski Goldings. Plus we've got **Through the Hopback – Chinook** on the way (4.0%). A vibrant pale ale single hopped with bold and bright Chinook hops. Fruity, piney and spicy all in one, with a clean bitterness in the finish.

Lastly on the cask only side of things we're really looking forward to hosting a collaboration with superstars Roosters Brewing Co. Heading into Harrogate will be a 4.6% West Coast style pale, with predominantly Centennial hops.

And from the Brewers Emporium we've got a couple of tasty treats too – New Zealand hopped pale ale **Ōkārīto** (4.5%) makes a welcome return, and we've got a new addition to our Unbeliever series in the form of a 4.7% **Mango Sour**. A throwback to the first EVER sour we made here, it's packed with succulent mango, backed up by bold and fruity Galaxy hops. Sweet, tart and tropical.

EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

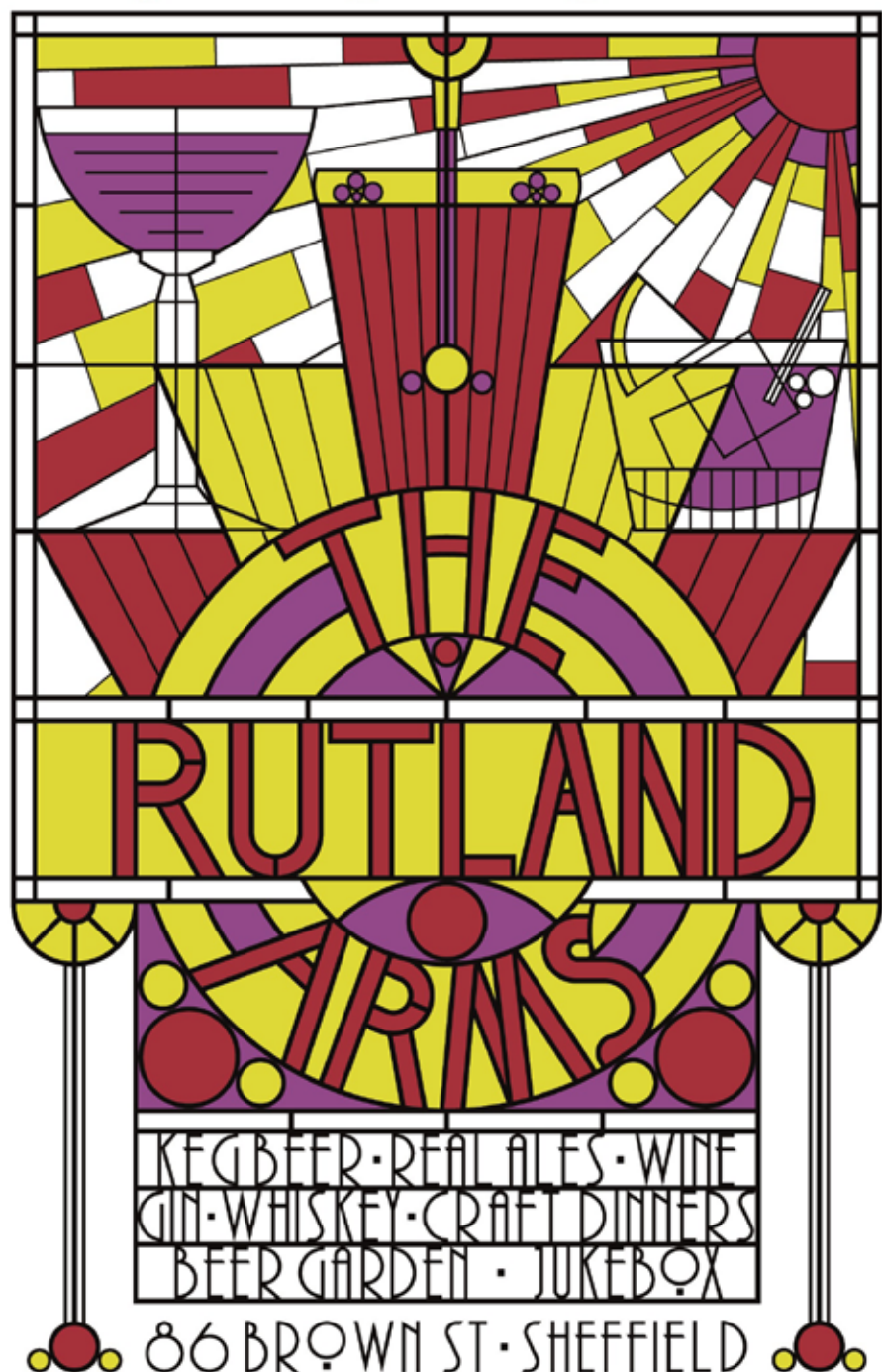
Sheffield based Abbeydale Brewery has been named the Employer of the Year by the Society of Independent Brewers & Associates (SIBA). This accolade celebrates the pioneering transition of the business to becoming 100% employee owned in 2024, recognising the commitment made by founders and selling owners Pat and Sue Morton to ensure a true legacy of independence and cement the team right at the very heart of the business.

The awards were hosted by Sunday Times Beer Columnist and acclaimed author and broadcaster Pete Brown, who said of the award "the judging panel were unanimous in their praise for Abbeydale who this year were trailblazers in the UK as the first employee-owned brewery, building a future for this much-loved brewery whilst giving back to the team who built it."

The SIBA Business Awards aim to highlight the UK's very best brewing businesses, pubs and retailers of independent beer, in an annual celebration known as the "Oscars of the beer industry" and judged by a panel of industry experts.

The award was collected on behalf of the brewery by Christie McIntosh and Finlay MacDonald, who sit on the new Board of Trustees as Employee Representatives, plus their colleagues and Co-Owners Laura Rangeley and Lily Pickles. Alongside the Employee Ownership Trust, the award recognised the company's long-standing commitment to training, education and emphasis on listening to the employee voice, an ethos which the business has held throughout its existence and has resulted in a loyal and enthusiastic workforce.

McIntosh, who is also a brewer and the Quality Manager at Abbeydale Brewery, said of the EOT; "There are some major perks and holistic benefits which could come with our new status – but we all know we have to put the work in to get there, which is a great motivator. I feel like I can speak for everyone when I say it doesn't automatically make us the best company in the industry to work for – to become that is now entirely down to us. Thank you to Pat and Sue for their leadership and their trust in our team – this award is for them."





DO YOU MEAD IT?

Precious brews from Neepsend's Paradise Garage meadery

I've tried mead on and off for many years – I recall my first time was while watching the extended *Lord of the Rings* trilogy in 2002, and mostly associating it with National Trust gift shops. Later, I discovered better meads – from the various honey types used by UK and German brewers, to those enhanced with fruit or spices.

When visiting the **Crow Inn** in February 2024, I spotted a small chalkboard advertising local mead. I gave it a try – it was called *Salvation* and billed as a traditional mead. It was light and

fresh-tasting, and when I enquired about it, I was told the brewer had a taproom in the middle of its soft launch.

Tim Young was an English teacher overseas, teaching in Vietnam when the pandemic hit in 2020. While unable to teach, he began brewing mead. On his return, Tim – originally from Essex – chose Sheffield as his new home. Still home-brewing at the time, he decided in late 2023 to give full-time brewing a go.

Paradise Garage, his meadery, is named after a long-closed nightclub in New York – and each of the meads follows suit. *Salvation* is Tim's first and only 'classic' mead, with the others becoming increasingly adventurous: *Roxy*, with blackcurrant and peppercorn; *Funhouse*, featuring chilli, apricot and hibiscus; and *AM/PM*, the latest addition, made with plum and Lapsang Souchong tea.



Paradise Garage mead can always be found at the taproom in Merchant's Court (43 Mowbray St), open Fri 6–10pm and Sat 2–7pm. In keeping with the musical theme, there's even a record player on hand.

It's also available by the glass at various Sheffield venues (most commonly the Old Shoe), and Paradise Garage had a stand at the recent Indie Beer Feast – so keep an eye on the website.

Dan Rowe



BREWERY BITS

New from **Drone Valley** brewery for the spring is **First Gold IPA**. Pioneer hops lay the foundation in this recipe providing the bitterness then at the end of the boil First Gold hops are added bringing delicate notes of marmalade. Finally the beer is dry hopped with Mosaic, providing a tropical aroma.

The April cask seasonal in **Thornbridge Brewery's** Year of Beer was **Lumford**, a session strength new world pale ale brewed with a blend of hops from the US and New Zealand. Also April saw a showcase event at the Sheffield Tap where the latest Burton Union brewed beer was launched – a West Coast IPA in collaboration with Burning Sky Brewery.

Welbeck Abbey brewery have brewed a special charity beer to raised funds for Rhubarb Farm that provides horticultural therapy. The beer is **Raising the Dough** and is a session IPA brewed with bread.

Eyam Brewery have bottled a fresh batch of **Imperial Black Death**, the stronger version of their regular vanilla stout. Bottles can be ordered online (collect from the brewery or have couriered to you at home) or selected local bottle shops will also have stock.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Some changes in the Peak District part of our branch area already with Hulleys of Baslow going out of business, however the good news is all the routes continue to run with the service provided by new operators. The 271/272 Sheffield to Castleton has High Peak buses whilst the 173 Bakewell to Castleton along with the Monday to Saturday service on the 257 Sheffield to Bakewell via Bamford is in the hands of Andrews of Tideswell. The Summer Sunday service on route 257 is being provided by South Pennine Community Transport. Unrelated to the Hulleys situation, Bus 218 from Sheffield to Bakewell via Totley, which is operated by TM Travel, has now moved to the summer schedule with an improved Sunday frequency. Timetables at derbys-bus.info.

Service changes in South Yorkshire and Chesterfield take place from 27 April. The 95a and 95b Walkley to Crystal Peaks are cut back to just run Walkley to Sheffield Interchange and the 75a Jordanthorpe to Fox Hill is cut back to Shiregreen. New service X11 is introduced providing a fast link between Sheffield, Waverley, Kimberworth and Maltby with many journeys extended to Doncaster. A

number of other routes have timetable changes. Details are available at travelsouthyorkshire.com.

24 May sees the return of Stagecoach's Peak Sightseer open top tour buses running from Chatsworth House to Bakewell (Red Route) and Castleton (Blue route). A couple of feeder trips are also available from Meadowhead, Woodseats, Millhouses and Totley. A ticket costs £12 for adults and £7 for concessions with a group deal available for up to five people travelling together for £30. Details at stagecoachbus.com.



Stagecoach's Chesterfield depot has almost completed the introduction of brand new electric buses with a fleet of 18 single deckers and 39 double deckers.

As well as being quieter and having better acceleration than the diesel buses they replace they also feature USB phone charging sockets, next stop announcements and air conditioning. In Sheffield look out for these buses on routes 42/43/44, 50/50a (Sheffield to Chesterfield) and X17 (Barnsley to Wirksworth) along with the Sunday service on route 65 (Meadowhall to Buxton).

Andy Cullen

CAMPAIGN NEWS

NI AND RATES INCREASES WILL CLOSE MORE PUBS

CAMRA warns of more shuttered pubs as double whammy of tax changes come into force

The consumer group fears that more pubs will close their doors because of the extra costs of National Insurance rises and an increase in business rates bills in England coming into force this week.

CAMRA is warning that rates of pub business closures and conversions could be on the up this year as licensees face extra costs from the increase in Employer National Insurance contributions which begin on Thursday 6 April.

Pubs in England will also see an increase in the cost of their business rates bills this week, as business rates relief provided by the Government is reduced from 75% to 40% as of 1 April. Some pubs in Scotland and Wales will also receive 40% relief on business rates bills. CAMRA is calling on governments in all nations of the UK to introduce new, fairer business rates systems that are fairer to pubs.

CAMRA's pub data shows that in 2024, 1,062 pub businesses across Great Britain were no longer operating, with buildings standing empty. A further 210 pub buildings have been converted into other uses like shops or housing.

In the first three months of 2025, 303 pub businesses across England, Scotland and Wales closed – whilst a further 46 pubs have been converted into other uses.



CAMRA Chairman
Ash Corbett-Collins said:

"Hundreds of pubs have already stopped trading this year. How many more need to shut before the Government takes notice? With big increases in costs from higher National Insurance contributions starting this week, and hikes in business rates bills for pubs in England too, it's important for customers to remember that price hikes at the bar are the fault of the Government, not hard-working publicans.

"Pubgoers are calling on the Chancellor to look closely at the rate of pub closures between now and the Budget in the Autumn, to think again on the Employer National Insurance hike for pubs and to cut rates of VAT and duty charged on beer and cider served in pubs.

"Without action from governments in all four nations, we risk losing more pubs which are a vital part of our social fabric and are at the heart of community life up and down the UK."

HERITAGE REVIVAL FUND

Funding to protect heritage pubs needs to be matched by money to save community locals – CAMRA

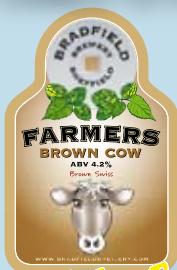
Commenting on the launch of a new UK Government Heritage Revival Fund today, Chair of CAMRA's Pub Heritage Group Paul Ainsworth said:

"CAMRA warmly welcomes this new fund which will help communities bid for funding to breathe new life into closed, derelict or at-risk heritage pubs. We believe that pubs in nationally important buildings, or with historic interiors, need to be protected both as buildings which tell us about our national story, but also as thriving pubs acting as the beating heart of communities today.

"The Government also need to provide funding to save under-threat locals that aren't classed as heritage pubs. There are more than 200 community-owned pubs in the country, where previously struggling pubs have been taken over and run for the people, by the people.

"But those looking to take over their local as a community owned pub if it is under threat of closure or conversion need to be able to access advice, support and funding to make sure bids are successful, securing the pub at the heart of community life for decades to come. Since the Community Ownership Fund closed last year, no such funding has been available. The Government should urgently create a new funding stream so that communities can save their local pub."

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SHEFFIELD BEER CENSUS

SAT 31 MAY

Each year, we encourage as many CAMRA members as possible to head out across Sheffield and help survey the city's pubs – recording which cask ales are available, and where possible, the prices being charged.

While there's definitely a fun side to it – like seeing how many different beers are available in one day and proudly declaring Sheffield the Real Ale Capital of Britain – it also serves a serious purpose. The data helps us track changes in choice, availability and pricing over time. It also gives us a good sense of which brands are most commonly found. It's always great to see local independent brewers like Abbeydale and Bradfield holding their own with strong branding and widespread availability, instead of just national names like Coors, Heineken and Greene King.

Previous years' survey data fed into a wider project led by the University of Sheffield, with respected beer writer Pete Brown producing a report on Sheffield's beer scene. You can download that report via the link on our website.



Hillsborough

👤 Kevin Thompson
📍 **Park** @ 12:00
🚋 Yellow route tram to the Leppings Lane stop, or bus 18, 31 or 57



Walkley, Crookes, Commonsides

👤 Paul Crofts
📍 **Walkley Cottage** @ 12:00
🚋 Bus 52 or 95



Fulwood, Broomhill

👤 John Beardshaw and Phil Ellett
📍 **Rising Sun** @ 12:00
🚋 Bus 83 or 120



Bradway, Totley, Mill-houses, Nether Edge

👤 Andy Cullen
📍 **Castle Inn** @ 12:25
🚋 Bus M17



Hillsborough, Bradfield, Stannington, Malin Bridge

👤 Dave Pickersgill
📍 **Rawson Spring** @ 11:30 or on the...
🚋 61 bus to High Bradfield @ 11:55



Kelham Island, Neepsend

👤 Dan Rowe
📍 **Gardeners Rest** @ 12:00
🚋 Bus 7 or 8



City Centre

📍 **Red Deer** @ 19:00



Woodseats, Heeley

👤 Malcolm Dixon
📍 **Guzzle Micropub** @ 12:30
🚋 Bus 24, 25, 42, 43, 44, 75, 76, M76 or X17

ORGANISED CRAWLS

Join one of our crawls for a so-cialable day out of stats and beer. The leaders, starting pubs/times and transport links are listed here (more may be added – please check our website).

Why not use it as an excuse to explore a part of the city you don't usually drink in?

GETTING AROUND

CityBus Day Ticket (bus only): £5.90

CityWide Day Ticket (bus + tram): £6.70

Buy on the bus or via TravelMaster app.



Beighton, Woodhouse Mill, Handsworth

👤 Paul Manning

📅 **Scarsdale Hundred**

(Wetherspoons) @ 11:00

🚌 Bus 7 or 26, or Blue route
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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.

APRIL



Cider Pub of the Year

4pm Wed 23 Apr

We present the certificate to the **Old Shoe** in Orchard Square. All are welcome to join us there for a drink or two! Buses 83 and 120.



Old Nags Head (Edale)

Fri 25 – Sun 27 Apr

This pub at the top of Edale village sits near the beginning of the Pennine Way. The Nags Head festival will celebrate the footpath's 60th anniversary and feature 30 ales and ciders plus a special menu, live music, games and more. You can get to Edale by train or on bus 62.



RambAle

11:30am | Sat 26 Apr

Join us to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Pennine Way. We start at the **Old Hall Hotel** in Hope followed by the **Cheshire Cheese** before walking up Lose Hill to Hollins Cross then down to Edale where we'll have a refresher at the **Rambler Inn** before walking up to the **Old Nags Head** for their anniversary celebrations. Get there on the 11:36 bus 272 from Sheffield Interchange or the 12:14 train from Sheffield followed by a walk into Hope village. Train back.



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 over 150 different beers and ciders plus live music and street food. Open from 2pm to midnight.

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.



Penistone

Fri 2 – Sun 4 May

Held at St John the Baptist church on Shrewsbury Road in partnership with the Penistone tap bar, this offers over 50 beers, lagers and ciders along with live music from local bands and food. Advance tickets are available via Eventbrite.



Hope Valley

Fri 2 – Mon 5 May

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 2273, 257c, 2722 and 272 pass the pub or Hope railway station is 10 minute walk away.



Macclesfield (CAMRA)

Fri 9 – Sat 10 May

Run in conjunction with the Round Table, raising money for local charities, this festival is held at **Macclesfield RUFC** over three sessions with beer, cider, food music and more. You can get from Sheffield to Macclesfield by train changing at Stockport.



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 | Tue [not Wed] 13 May

Join us for the award presentation and a pint or two at the **Brothers Arms** [sorry for the error last month!].



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

Rambales: 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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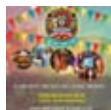
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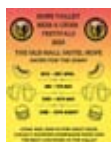


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Red Lion, Matlock Fri 23 – Sat 24 May

This Matlock Green pub, on the way into the town centre, also host Moot Ales brewery. 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. matlockbeerfestival.co.uk. Bus X17 stops right outside.



Hope Valley Fri 23 – Mon 26 May

Old Hall Hotel, Hope. See earlier 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** during its 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, 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.



Area Pub of the Year (City Centre) 8pm Thu 29 May

We present the winners certificate. All welcome to join us at the **Bath Hotel** for a drink or two



SHEFFIELD BEER CENSUS 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! See page 20 to see how to get involved.



Barley, Thorpe Hesley Wed 28 May – Sun 1 Jun

The **Barley** pub in Thorpe Hesley (between Chapeltown and Rotherham) host their inaugural beer festival featuring around 30 ales and ciders along with music and food. The pub also has a great beer garden to enjoy it all in if the weather is good! Bus M35 passes the pub or bus 135 is a short walk away.

JUNE



Branch meeting and Area Pub of the Year (North Sheffield) 8pm Tue 3 Jun



All members welcome to join us at the **Commercial**, Chapeltown. We'll also be presenting their Area Pub of the Year award while we're there. Get there on bus 2 or it is a short walk from Chapeltown railway station.



RambAle and brewery social 11:30am Fri 6 Jun

This one starts from the Scarsdale Hundred Wetherspoons in Beighton and heads through Rother Valley Country Park to Killamarsh for a stop at the Guzzle micropub before continuing down the road to Fuggle Bunny Brewhouse for their regular Friday tap session. Get there on the Blue route tram departing Castle Square at 11:45 with a short walk from the Beighton Drake House stop to the pub. Regular buses and trams return back to Sheffield Centre from Halfway terminus.



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 the railway station and a few are a short bus ride away.



Area Pub of the Year (East Sheffield)

8pm Tue 10 Jun

We present the winners certificate. All welcome at the **Oxbow** for a drink!



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.



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.



Leicester (CAMRA)

Thu 26 – Sat 28 Jun

A marquee filled with over 50 beers from independent brewers plus around a dozen ciders. The venue is **Abbey Pumping Station**. Regular trains run direct from Sheffield to Leicester.



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. Buses 52a and 61/62 go there.



Merchant Adventurers (York)

Fri 4 – Sat 5 Jul

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



Sheffield Pub of the Year

8pm Tue 8 Jul

We present the winners certificate. All are welcome to join at the **Kelham Island Tavern** for a drink or two!



RambAle

11:30am Sat 12 Jul

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



Festival planning meeting

7:30pm Tue 15 Jul

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

Wortley Mens Club

Fri 18 – Sun 20 Jul

This rural former working men's club and institute, which still runs a membership scheme but is open to all, hosts its annual beer festival featuring a tent packed full of ale and cider along with live entertainment and more.



Committee meeting & BEER MATTERS distribution

8pm Wed 22 Jul

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



Abbeydale Road

Thu 31 Jul – Sun 3 Aug

The 2025 edition of this annual initiative with a number of venues collaborating.

AUGUST



Branch meeting

8pm Tue 5 Aug

All members welcome to join us at **Victoria**, Heeley.



Great British Beer Festival Summer (CAMRA)

Tue 5 – Sat 9 Aug

Held at the new venue of the Birmingham NEC, which is a 5 minute walk from the station.



Festival planning meeting

7:30pm Tue 19 Aug

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

Peterborough (CAMRA)

Tue 19 – Sat 23 Aug

Huge tented festival on the river bank.

Hope Valley

Fri 22 – Mon 25 Aug

See May entry for details.



Committee meeting & BEER MATTERS distribution

8pm Wed 26 Aug

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



New Mills social

11am Sat 30 Aug

We catch the 11:14 train to New Mills for the Torrside Brewery tap event.

THE COMMITTEE



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