

BEER MATTERS

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SHEFFIELD BEER CENSUS

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MAY 2026

CAMRA
BRANCH
MAGAZINE OF
THE YEAR
2026

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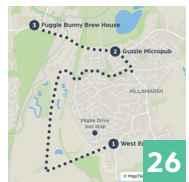
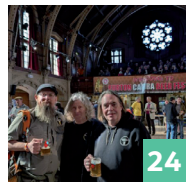
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SHEFFIELD BEER CENSUS

SAT 30 MAY

LAST YEAR'S NUMBERS



CAMRA Sheffield & District had been doing this survey for many years, ever since Derby tried to attract tourists by publicly claiming their city as the Real Ale Capital of Britain. Derby does indeed have some great pubs, a few micro-breweries and a good choice of beer. However, we knew Sheffield was better and in an act of friendly rivalry, started an annual survey to count how many different cask ales were available on the bars of our proud city to prove we were indeed the true Beer Capital of Britain. Some other cities have joined in over the years such as York and Norwich, all failing to beat us!

We've also seen respected beer writer Pete Brown commissioned in conjunction with the University of Sheffield to publish a report on Sheffield's beer scene to prove it is the best beer city!

We still do an annual beer census, these days it is a way of taking the pulse of Sheffield's beer scene and comparing data year on year, seeing how many beers are available, which breweries are most represented and other such trending statistics.

The 2026 census will take place on **Sat 30 May** and we need as much help as possible! On this day we are asking folk visiting pubs in Sheffield to record which cask ales are on the bar by logging them online at sheffield.beer/survey (scan the code to go there). You can do that under your own steam or by joining one of our organised survey crawls – if there is a group it will be more social as well as sometimes being able to split up briefly to cover more pubs!



The daytime crawls start in the suburbs at midday and work their way towards the City Centre. We'll all then meet up in the **Red Deer** at **6:30pm** with the option of then doing evening surveys around central Sheffield. An all-day travel pass such as CityWide could prove good value.

CROOKES & WALKLEY

Meet at the **Walkley Cottage Inn**, leader TBC

HILLSBOROUGH, LOXLEY & BRADFIELD

Meet at the **Park**, leader TBC

NEEPSSEND & KELHAM ISLAND

Meet at the **Gardeners Rest**, led by **Dan Rowe**

FULWOOD, NETHER GREEN & BROOMHILL

Meet at the **Rising Sun**, led by **Phil Ellett**

WOODSEATS & HEELEY

Meet at **Guzzle Micropub**, led by **Malcolm Dixon**

TOTLEY, MILLHOUSES & ABBEYDALE ROAD

Meet at the **Cross Scythes**, led by **Andy Cullen**

BANNER CROSS & ECCLESALL ROAD

Meet at the **Itchy Pig Banner Cross**, led by **Paul Manning**

BEIGHTON, HALFWAY, WOODHOUSE & HANDSWORTH

Meet at the **Scarsdale Hundred** (Wether-spoon), led by **Mike Cooke**

CHAPELTOWN, ECCLESFIELD & MEADOWHALL

Leader still needed!

Scan on Sat 30 May to start logging

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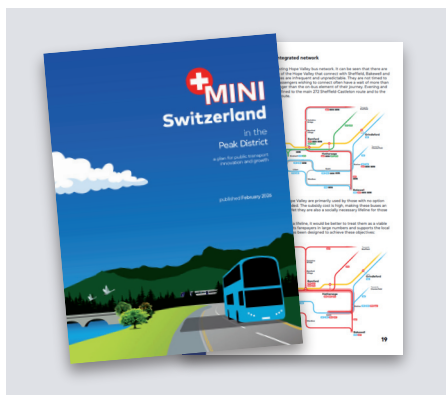
PUBLIC TRANSPORT



23 May sees the launch of the 2026 season for the Peak Sightseer open top bus tours. There will be one feeder trip from South Sheffield in the morning, departing Meadowhead at 09:54 and running via Woodseats, Millhouses and Totley to Chatsworth, returning from Chatsworth at 17:43. Inbetween those times tours will run hourly from Chatsworth to Bakewell (Red route) and Chatsworth to Mam Tor (Blue route). The price of a Peak Sightseer ticket is £14 for adults and £9.50 for concessions, this allows you to hop on and off as much as you like. See stagecoachbus.com for more details.

April saw the Department for Transport publish their “Better Connected” strategy for joined up transport. Much of this was about improving and standardising online information and ticketing with selected digital partner companies, however of perhaps more interest for us was the announcement that £6m of funding had been awarded to run a pilot of the proposed “Mini Switzerland” network in the Peak District.

The “Mini Switzerland” concept sees a bus network that runs to a clockface timetable every hour that is designed to connect with Hope Valley trains at Grindleford, Hathersage, Bamford, Hope and Edale stations with core corridors of Castleton to Hathersage and Calver to Eyam offering a bus every 20 minutes. The idea is you can get a train into the Hope Valley every hour and connect into a conveniently timed bus to the villages not served by train all day every day the trains operate and all on one combined ticket.



The proposed network includes:

- existing bus **272** Sheffield–Castleton every hour via Hathersage, Bamford station and Hope
- existing bus **257** Sheffield–Bakewell every hour via Bamford village, Hathersage, Calver and Eyam
- existing bus **173** Castleton–Bakewell increased to every hour via Hope, Bradwell and Tideswell
- existing bus **65** Sheffield–Buxton every alternate hour via Grindleford, Calver, Eyam, Tideswell and Litton supplemented by bus **66** Chesterfield–Tideswell via Calver and Eyam with the two routes combining to provide an hourly service Calver–Tideswell.
- **new hourly service 256** Castleton to Eyam via Hope, Bamford station, Hathersage and Calver (a combination of existing services 272 and 257).

- **new hourly service 258** between Bamford station, Bamford village, Yorkshire Bridge and Fairholmes visitor centre (Derwent dams)
- existing service **62 amended** to run Edale to Buxton every alternate hour
- **new minibus services 63 and 64** operating a circular route between Edale station and Castleton (one via Hope, the other via Winnats pass).

If you've been following our guides to Peak District pubs in our branch area along bus routes or live in this part of the Peak District, you'll realise that these changes could represent game-changing improvements that will make lots of great country pubs much easier to get to, especially where evening and Sunday services are introduced on routes that don't currently have them.

We await details of when the project will actually be delivered and whether it will be the same as the above proposal in the consultation document.

One small development already implemented however is on route 272 with a bus from Castleton to Sheffield added at 11:59pm on Friday and Saturday nights.

Meanwhile in Sheffield, the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) is working towards phase one of bus franchising with whoever wins the contract taking over services that operate out of Olive Grove depot (currently the base for First Bus who have sold the depot to SYMCA) from autumn 2027. SYMCA currently have a public consultation survey on their website regarding priorities for improving bus services when they take over the whole network, the survey is open until 17 May.

One recent improvement that has happened in Sheffield is the addition of a Sunday service on routes 61/62 between Hillsborough and Bradfield, this is being operated by First Bus under contract to SYMCA. Timetables and live tracking is available at bustimes.org.

Andy Cullen

2 THREE B'S MICROPUB 2

REAL ALES **REAL GIDERS**

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OF ALE OR GIDER
WITH EVERY 10 PURCHASED

EVER-CHANGING RANGE OF ALES
10 CIDERS
LARGE GIN SELECTION

30 SEATS
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SUN 12-9 | 2-9
MON - TUE closed
WED - SAT 12-10 | 1-9

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WE'RE IN IT

JOINT PUB OF THE YEAR 2024
YORKSHIRE CAMRA

INN BRIEF

Red Deer on Pitt Street, in Sheffield City Centre, is under new management and is running a cask club promotion on Thursdays (2pm to 11pm) with real ales priced at £3.50 a pint.

Cricket Inn at Totley have refurbished their parlour room.

Anchor near Tideswell has introduced a beer collector card – get it stamped each time you buy a pint of Robinson's Trooper, Unicorn or Dizzy Blonde and when you collect eight stamps you can exchange the card for a free pint!

Trippets on Trippet Lane, a bar offering live jazz music, wine & spirits and dining have announced they are closing on 18 April due to significantly rising costs (including business rates and rent) and unpredictable trade making it unviable.

White Swan at Greenhill and **Sportsman** at Norton Lees have had a change of management.

Greene King are advertising for a new tenant to take on the **Shepley Spitfire** in Totley as one of their Hive franchises. Lesley, Louise and Nicole's last day running the pub was Thursday 16 April.

Bridge Inn opposite Rotherham Central station, which is currently closed and empty following a change of ownership, has been added to a local heritage list.

Eyam Brewery Tap & Shop in Tideswell reopened Easter weekend. They now have planning permission to convert the industrial unit into a tap room, shop



A new micropub, the **Tram Stop Tavern**, is proposed in Hillsborough and is currently going through the process of gaining planning permission. This will see the owners of Pro Property convert their shop unit into a bar. The location is at the outbound Hillsborough Park tram stop, opposite Pangolin craft beer bar/shop and just up from the Beekeeper micropub.

and kitchen although a condition the Peak Park authority have included is that anyone arriving by car has to have their details logged! They are still trading on temporary events notices so only opening at weekends. Now they have planning permission they have been able to go through the licence application process which once obtained will see building work begin to install an open kitchen and be able to offer food. Until then there will be occasional pop ups from traders like Sunshine Pizza and TJ Smash Burgers. Buses 65 and 173 stop on the main road nearby.

The current management at the **Old Bowling Green Inn** in Bradwell has signed a 5 year lease on the pub.

Mount Pleasant in Norton Lees is temporarily closing for its long awaited refurbishment.

Sportsman Inn in Norton Lees has closed with the management there moving on to turn around a failing pubco venue elsewhere. Real ale had been successfully

reintroduced here as well as being host to various social and community groups. The pub is to be refurbished for a new tenant.

Cross Scythes at Norton Lees has seen some internal changes to make it feel multi roomed and cosy and also now has a food offering. The same manager has now also taken on the Old Crown on London Road, still no real ale available here at present though.

Albion on London Road, Stancill's brewery tap, has a new manager.

Pubs around the Kelham Island area including **Shakespeares** and **Harlequin** report being incredibly busy over the Easter weekend due to Kelham Festival and Sheffield Folk Music Sessions Festival taking place in the area. Other upcoming events in the area include **Get Together Festival** (16 May) and **Kelham Pride** (20 June).

Devonshire Arms in Dore reopened as planned under new management following a refurbishment.

Cherry Tree Inn on Carterknowle Avenue in Millhouses, now has four regularly changing cask ales including *Abbeylea's Daily Bread* bitter at a reasonable £3.70.

The newly opened **Pig & Whistle** at Gleadless Townend has now established itself and proving popular. It has a regularly changing range of craft beers including two cask ales alongside some more mainstream options and has a regular program of events including street food pop ups, quiz nights, live entertainment and tasting evenings. They are also planning to start offering coffee and cake too!



Little John Hotel in Hathersage closed for refurbishment following a change of management there. It has now relaunched looking rather smart inside and out, the table football has gone but there is still a pool table! This pub with rooms is now part of the Northern Collective who run a number of other venues including the Bank House in Hathersage and the Cross Scythes in Totley. The bar features three cask ales among its offering.

Rivelin Hotel has a new manager who was previously at the Walkley Cottage Inn.

Beer Central in the Moor indoor market has ceased trading. We're sorry to see them go and thank them for their support over the years. Other specialist beer shops available around Sheffield to satisfy your quality home drinking needs include **Hop Hideout**, **The Dram Shop** in Walkley, **La Di Da** in Chapelton, **Archer Road Beer Stop** in Millhouses and **Mitchells** at Meadowhead.

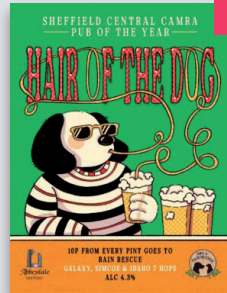
The relatively recently relaunched Boddingtons cask *Bitter*, brewed by JW Lees under licence, has been spotted on this side of the Pennines at the **Ranmoor Inn**, **Bath Hotel** and **Beer House S6**.

Garry Scott, landlord of the **Red Lion** on Charles Street in Sheffield City Centre, recently celebrated 40 years in the business with a bit of a do in his pub on 17 April featuring a DJ and buffet.

The owner of the **Tunnel Tap** micropub at Totley Rise has handed over full responsibility for ordering beer to manager Jess who is now enjoying getting some of her favourite craft beers on the guest taps and handpump alongside the four Thornbridge beers. There is also a change being made to their pie offering, this used to be a Friday night thing with a tray of freshly baked pies delivered and available that weekend until they sell out (usually fairly quickly), in the future a wider range of pies will be delivered frozen and heated up in an air fryer when ordered, this will mean more variety and availability every day they are open.

George Inn in Tideswell, which is now operated by Atlantik Inns (leased from Greene King), has the kitchen and hotel rooms back up and running as well as a diary of events planned for the year ahead. The food is billed as proper pub food done right and is served from midday until 8pm on weekdays, midday to 6pm Saturdays and Sundays. Three cask ales are on the bar, all usually well known brands like Timothy Taylor's *Landlord*, Theakston *Old Peculiar* and Greene King *Old Speckled Hen*.

Fuggle Bunny Brew House continue with their programme of tap room openings every Friday plus the last Saturday of the month. The Fridays are just like a local pub while the Saturdays are something a bit more special, usually featuring a street food trader and entertainment. The 25 April event is open 3-9pm with hot pork sandwiches available and live music at 5pm provided by Sean Stevens.



Dog & Partridge in Sheffield City Centre are celebrating their Sheffield Central Pub of the Year award with a special beer in collaboration with Abbeydale Brewery. "Hair of the Dog" is a 4.3% ABV pale ale brewed with Galaxy, Simcoe and Idaho 7 hops and 10p from the sale of every pint will be donated to the Rain Rescue charity.

White Hart Inn at Bradwell celebrates being 350 years old this year and will be holding a party later in the summer. Obviously it hasn't been under the same management that long of course and is currently operated by Bradfield Brewery.

Big Tree on Woodseats, a Greene King pub, has been closed for refurbishment and the grand reopening is planned for 1 May after which we are promised it'll be "bigger, better and louder than ever" with live entertainment and big sports atmosphere on the reopening weekend.

Walkley Beer Company has been sold and is now under the same management as the **Kelham Island Tavern**.

Commercial in Chapelton is running a European beer and food festival during May.

BUS 218

Following on from our bus guides to Peak District pubs in our branch area, attention turns to a bus that links Sheffield with a bit of the Peaks outside our patch. Owl Bar is Dronfield & District branch and Baslow/Bakewell is Chesterfield but the bus passes a few often overlooked Sheffield pubs along the way, as well as providing useful connections within the Peaks.

TM Travel bus **218** runs from Sheffield to Bakewell via Sharrow, Banner Cross, Ecclesall, Totley, Owl Bar and Baslow. You can change buses in Baslow onto the Andrews **257** to Calver, Stoney Middleton and Eyam whilst in Bakewell you can pick up the Andrews **173** to Great Longstone, Monsal Head, Wardlow Mires, Litton, Tideswell and Bradwell. Some journeys operate via Chatsworth House and in the summer you can join the Peak Sightseer open top bus tours there.

The **218** runs every half-hour in the daytime, seven days a week. There is also a limited evening service Monday to Saturday with the last departure from Bakewell to Sheffield at 11:10pm.

A single fare is capped at £3 per ride, alternatively a choice of all day passes are available – a day ticket just for TM Travel services costs £7.90 whilst a Derbyshire Wayfarer ticket that includes all buses in the area (except for the open-top tour) costs £9.



Beer Engine



Stag's Head



Itchy Pig Banner Cross



Dark Horse



Banner Cross



Prince of Wales



Rising Sun Hotel

Beer Engine, Cemetery Road, is a traditional style multi-roomed pub with large beer offering, reopened in 2015 following a sympathetic refurbishment. The changing beer range is sourced mainly from local and regional micro breweries, with six cask beers and up to 11 craft keg beers. There is also a quality spirits offering. The large beer garden has a heated, covered area.

Stag's Head, Sharrow. Operated by Thornbridge Brewery, this was formerly three rooms around a central bar and, while now opened out, retains distinct areas. A conservatory leads into the pleasant garden. A total of eight cask ales are offered, with two regular Thornbridge beers, an additional six changing Thornbridge beers, and two guest beers. Small library in the front left corner. Card payment only.

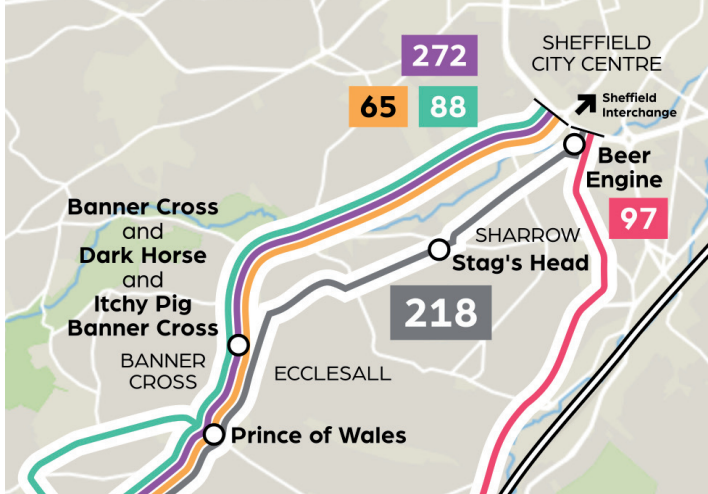
Itchy Pig Banner Cross is a micropub with six hand pumps and 12 keg lines serving a rotating list of guest beers, often locally sourced. One pump is usually for cider. Two of the keg lines are dedicated to a cider and a low alcohol beer. Outdoor seating is available.

Dark Horse, Banner Cross. Latest addition to Ecclesall Road drinking scene, opened January 2022 in former Lloyds Bank building from which it derives its name. Open-plan micropub. Modern style layout with a mix of booths and high tables. Three cask pumps on the bar.

Banner Cross, Banner Cross. A two roomed locals' pub retaining a traditional two-room taproom and lounge format. Upstairs there is a games room with pool tables. Refurbished 2016. Several large HD screens showing sports, including a big 10 ft screen.

Prince of Wales, Ecclesall. Large suburban dining focused pub operated by Mitchells & Butlers. Several different seating areas on varying levels around a central L shaped bar. Quiz nights Mondays and Wednesdays.

Rising Sun Hotel, Parkhead. Former Stone's pub, now part of the Ember Inns chain, in an upmarket area close to Ecclesall Woods. Now open plain but retaining several distinct seating areas around the central bar. A rear extension provides a restaurant area.

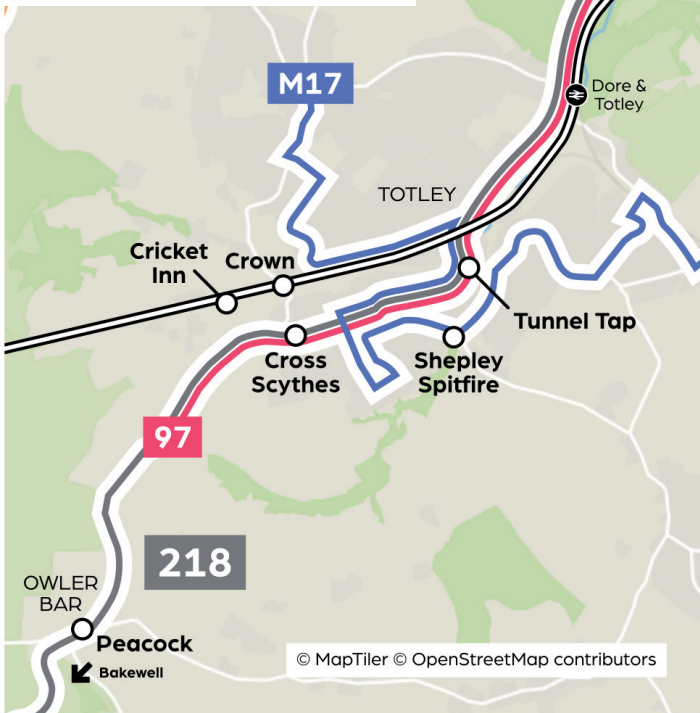


Tunnel Tap, Totley. Small micropub on two floors – the bar is on the ground floor with the majority of the seating downstairs. There is a single handpump offering a changing cask ale plus a range of other beers on keg – a mixture of craft and mainstream, plus a decent selection of cans and bottles. Pies are available at the weekend while stocks last.

Cross Scythes, Totley. Imposing pub, hotel and restaurant operated by the Northern Collective who also have food & drink venues in Dore, Hathersage and Castleton. Smart and food led but still welcoming with a relaxed atmosphere.

Crown, Cricket Inn and **Shepley Spitfire** are also in Totley, these are a short walk from the bus route.

Peacock, Owl Bar. Grade II listed 19th century turnpike inn, now a refurbished dining pub. A good choice of four real ales are offered. Part of the Longbow Venues group.



BASLOW

Prince Of Wales. Modern, welcoming downstairs bar with two locally sourced real ales available.

Devonshire Arms. Tastefully refurbished with a strong emphasis on food. Two changing beers, some local.

Wheatsheaf Hotel. 18th-century coaching house with outdoor seating and childrens' play area. Beers from Marston's range.

BAKEWELL

Wheatsheaf Pub & Pantry. Traditional pub with recent refurb. Emphasis on food. Up to four Marston's ales.

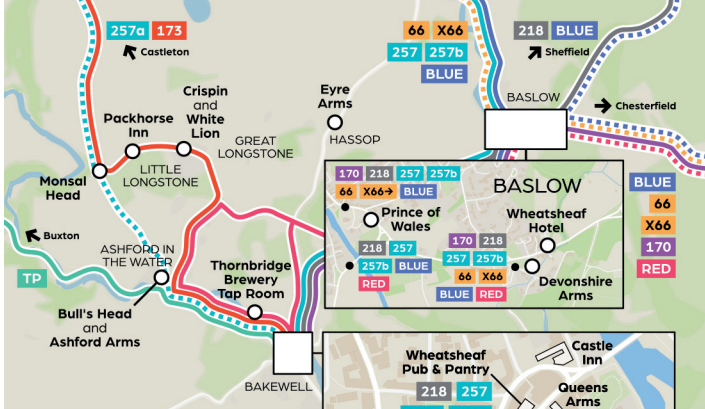
Queens Arms. Grade II listed building in the heart of Bakwell. Popular with locals, Wet led with a long, single room bar, plus games room with pool and darts. Marston's beers with up to four guests, mainly local.

Castle Inn. Very welcoming pub next to the river bridge. Split-level interior and outside area by the town's main road. 10% CAMRA discount.

Peacock. Town centre pub catering mainly for tourists. Grade II listed.

Red Lion. 17th-century coaching inn with oak beams and open fires. Two permanent Timothy Taylor's and two changing beers.

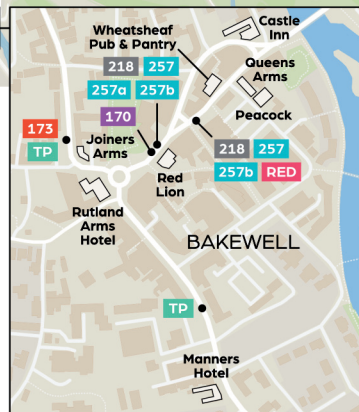
Rutland Arms Hotel. Up-market hotel. Up to two real



Joiners Arms



Thornbridge Brewery Tap Room



ales, generally locally based Thornbridge ales. Card payments only.

Manners Hotel. Traditional Robinsons hotel and pub, very popular with the locals. Large garden. Three Robinsons beers. Lunch and early evening food service. Regular live music and weekly quiz.

Joiners Arms. Small, friendly town centre micropub with stylish interior and warm fireplace for cold winter evenings. Outside seating available outside on main street during warmer months. Six regularly changing cask ales and six craft keg ales available, sourced locally, as are the selection of wines, gins and whiskies. There are often vegan beers on tap.

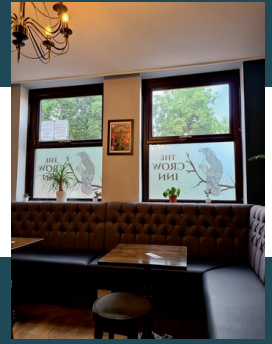
Thornbridge Brewery Tap Room. Situated at the Thornbridge Brewery, this features a spacious shop and a comfortable seating area. Located just a 15-minute stroll from Bakewell town centre on the Riverside Industrial Estate. Excellent freshly handmade pizzas served daily. Selection of four cask and 16 keg lines, with all beers available in thirds, halves, and pints, and the option for beer flights with three selections. Regular music and social events are held monthly (check website). Pre-booked brewery tours are also available to explore the brewing process. Card payment only.

A short bus ride from Bakewell on **TP Transpeak**, **173**, **257a** or **RED Peak Sightseer Red Tour** to Ashford in the Water will bring you to the **Ashford Arms** and **Bull's Head**.

5 Real Ales

14 Keg Lines

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PUB OF THE MONTH

May 2026



NO.3
Sharrow

One of Sheffield's newer micropubs, No.3 was opened by Loxley Brewery owner Stephen Wesley in a former Sharrow Vale shop in November 2024.

It's named not for its street address but that it's the third of Loxley's pubs, after the Wisewood Inn in Loxley and the Raven in Walkley – another recent PotM winner. We visited No.3 as part of our recent Ecclesall Road social and it proved a hit with members, resulting in their win as our Pub of the Month for May.

The micropub is a single wood panelled room with an impressive central bar, made of yew and oak from Grenoside. There is window seating and larger tables in the front, and church pew seating in the rear of the venue. A bench outside offers limited seating in warmer months – and at the end of summer 2025 an air conditioning unit was installed to provide a more literally chilled atmosphere.

Manager Joe and his team curate a large music playlist which is played low to provide a cosy background to the quiet adults-only space. The micropub attracts locals and also diners from the many nearby restaurants.

The 'cellar', a small shed located outside to the rear of the premises, provides three lines of changing Loxley real ale. There are also seven keg lines with four lines of guest craft keg from a range of local and national breweries. Alongside these there are regular lines of a cider, Dortmund *Vier*, and Loxley's *Black Dog* milk stout.

No.3 is a welcome addition to Sharrow Vale and the thriving Sheffield micropub scene, and this award is well deserved.

Dan Rowe

JOIN US...

...at the bar, **8pm Tuesday 12 May** to share a beer with the team and celebrate.

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PUB OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to this year's winners!

KELHAM ISLAND & NEEPSSEND/OVERALL:

Kelham Island Tavern, Russell Street

CENTRAL: Dog & Partridge, Trippet Lane

NORTH: Blake, Walkley

SOUTH: Sheaf View, Heeley

EAST: Chantry Inn, Handsworth

WEST: Rising Sun, Nether Green

DISTRICT (DERBYSHIRE): Red Lion, Litton

CIDER PUB OF THE YEAR: Old Shoe

CLUB OF THE YEAR: Crookes Social Club

The Sheaf View at Heeley has again been voted Pub of the Year (Sheffield South) by our members. The award was presented on Thursday 19 March.

The 19th century pub, near Heeley City Farm became a real ale oasis since reopening as a free house in 2000. The walls and shelves are adorned with breweriana and provide an ideal background for good drinking and conversations.

The pub changed ownership becoming part of the Trust Inns estate (along with the Blake Hotel) in 2022. Day-to-day management however has remained unchanged. The pub was refurbished both internally and externally in the summer of 2024, ready for its 25th Year of trading.

They provide eight casks ales, four from Neepsend Brewery (Celebrating its 10th birthday last year) and four guest ales. A wide



SOUTH SHEFFIELD



SHEAF VIEW

Heeley

range of Belgian and other continental beers, an incredible selection of malt whiskies and traditional cider are also available.

They also have occasional events such as beer festivals and live music sessions.

This June, Fri 19 – Sun 21 will see their 31st Birthday Beer Festival. This is the summer edition of their regular beer festival and will feature a pop up bar in the conservatory and further festival beers in the kiosk outside. Great beer and music guaranteed.

This is a popular local pub and especially so on Wednesday quiz nights and Sheffield United match days.

The Sheaf View has now won the Sheffield South Pub of the Year award six times since the area awards were started in 2019.

Phil Ellett





The **Rising Sun** at Nether Green has been voted Sheffield West Pub of the Year.

There was some stiff competition from other pubs in this area, but the Rising Sun won out thanks to it's large and varied beer range, excellent facilities and it's focus on the local area.

The pub is owned by Abbeydale Brewery, which explains the large number of their beers on the bar, although several handpumps and keg taps are given over to guest brewers from around the country.

As part of the presentation evening, we arranged a well-attended tasting session featuring five beers from Abbeydale, and hosted by Online Sales Man-

ager Edd Entwistle. Edd has been with the brewery for over five years, having previously been the owner/brewer of Hopjacker Brewery in Dronfield.

We were treated to third pint samples of five beers – *Moonshine* (4.3% pale ale); *Deception* (4.1% NZ pale ale); *Absolution* (5.3% golden ale); *Daily Bread* (3.8% bitter) and the cask version of *Heathen* (4.1% American pale ale).

The attendees were also given Abbeydale own tasting sheets to score the beers, and one sheet was pulled out at random to award a free pint to its lucky owner.

A great time was had by everyone, and following a mass move in to the main bar, the award for Sheffield West Pub of the Year was presented to manager Gary and his team.

Paul Crofts



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CIDER PUB OF THE YEAR



OLD SHOE
Orchard Square

As a real haven for cider lovers in the city, it's no surprise that the Old Shoe has again been crowned our Cider Pub of the Year.

Despite only being open for three years, it has become a popular destination in the city centre for fans of cider, beer and wine alike, thanks to co-owners Mike Pomranz and Matt Beety.

Mike brings his experience running the Cider Hole, previously at Shalesmoor, and

Matt also owns micropub the Bear on Abbeydale Road.

A recent revamp has increased seating to accommodate its rising popularity.

21 taps and two cask lines, dispense a wide range of drinks, including five ciders, and some low alcohol options. Wine lovers can choose from an incredible 13 options by the glass, and there's usually a mead on offer too!

Paul Crofts

JOIN US...

...on **Wednesday 13 May** when we present their award. The evening starts at **8pm** with the actual presentation at **9pm**.



Photo by Ellie Grace Photography

CLUB OF THE YEAR



CROOKES SOCIAL CLUB
Crookes

Crookes Club on Mulehouse Road in Crookes, has again been voted Club of the Year.

Established in 1919, the club has had its share of ups and downs over the years, but under the stewardship of General Manager Maurice Champeau it has seen a resurgence in recent times.

As well as keeping with its traditional working men's club roots, Maurice has established the club as a thriving music venue, featuring a wide range

of acts and styles. The monthly Comedy Village showcasing new comedians has also proved very popular.

In addition to the Main Hall, which holds 500 people, there is the Midfield Suite, with a capacity of 50, the Lounge bar which has plenty of seating as well as two snooker tables and a pool table, and the attraction of a full sized bowling green by the car park.

During the week there is a wide range of activities on offer, including toddler groups, self defence classes, burlesque dancing, French lessons, exercise classes, and of course the Friday and Sunday Quiz and Bingo nights.

The beer range regularly features beers from local breweries Bradford and Abbeydale.

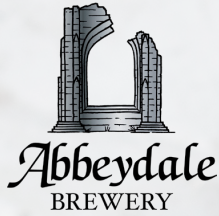


Crookes Social Club is a real success story and has become an important part of the local community.

Paul Crofts

JOIN US...

...as we present their award on **Friday 5 June at 9pm** in the lounge bar.



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NEEPSEND GUIDED WALK

Thanks to **Micropub Adventures** (Scott Sinclair) and **From Sheffield With Pubs** (Niall Green), for joining several of us on a recent guided pub heritage walk. We took the Neepsend route (as in our walk-booklet) before going, via the New Barrack, into Hillsborough. The booklet is available from our website with paper copies obtainable at several local outlets. Scott and Niall reflected on their visit:

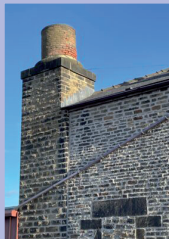
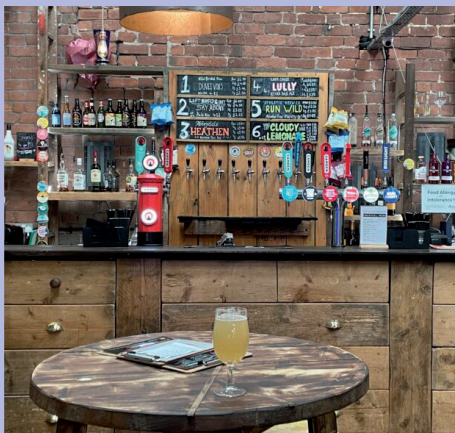


'We were very impressed by both the range and quality of the available beers, but also, by

the many bar-staff we encountered – polite, professional and enthusiastic: an excellent advertisement for the city. Thanks for looking after us.

Neepsend pubs visited were: Church – Temple of Fun, Old Workshop, Alder, Forest, Heist Brew Co and Gardeners Rest. We also passed the ruins of both Stones Cannon and Dearden's High House breweries. In addition, I played bar billiards for the first time in about twenty years, and managed to rack up over 1000 points. In all, an excellent afternoon.

Dave Pickersgill





ROYAL STANDARD RETRO PLANNING REFUSED

Sheffield City Council have ruled regarding the recent retrospective planning application (25/030409/FUL) for the Royal Standard: Refuse with Enforcement Action.

'The Local Planning Authority (LPA) consider that the impact of the works, principally the introduction of inappropriate windows and works to the entrance including the loss of historic fabric have a detrimental impact on the character and architectural and cultural heritage of the building which is a non-designated heritage asset. No clear justification for alterations has been put forward. The building could have been brought back into use in a manner that respected the character and history of the building.'

'It is considered that the proposal is unacceptable and harms the character of the building itself and the immediate locality being contrary to paragraph 135 and 216 of the NPPF and policies BE5 and IB9 of the Unitary Development Plan and Policy CS74 of the Core Strategy.'

The current owners of the building made many alterations to this 19th century public house, without obtaining planning permission. Their retrospective planning application has been refused.

The Planning Officers Report states that: 'It is therefore expedient to require removal of unauthorised works with a remedial scheme to be provided by the developer and agreed with the Local Planning Authority to reinstate the original building fabric.'

We await developments with interest.

Dave Pickersgill
Pub Heritage Officer

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ABBEYDALE BREWERY

Here's what we've got coming up this month... and hopefully, you'll be able to come and try them at Abbeydale Beerworks, our new taproom on Abbeydale Road! At the time of writing work is well underway and we hope to be open by early May, but please do check before you make the journey. This is a really exciting time for us and we can't wait to welcome you! Anyway, here's what we will have available for pubs across the city and beyond...

Hop on the Penistone Line (4.0%) will be a collaboration with Woodland Brewing – where we'll be welcoming back Ash, who has recently started working there after almost five years with Team Abbeydale! Citra, Riwaka and Nectaron hops combine in this tantalisingly tropical pale ale with notes of juicy peach and aromatic passionfruit.

From our Restoration series of classic styles we'll have a 4.1% **Yorkshire Bitter**, well-balanced and easy drinking with a delicately floral flavour set alongside hints of pine, followed up with a pleasing bitterness in the finish.

There's some kind of international sports ball tournament on the horizon so a new Willamette hopped pale ale, **Dr Morton's Verified Ale Recipient** (4.1%), is here to ease the misery of constant kicking. It's a game of two halves, no wait, that's a pint.

And **Cardon Cactus** (3.9%) is new to our series with artwork inspired by vintage botanical prints. As this one features a giant Mexican cactus, we just had to go with a hop from the *Neomexicanus* subspecies! This tasty pale ale showcases Sabro, joined by spicy, grapefruity Chinook.

Finally there's a couple of delicious stouts on the way too – the latest in our Salvation series will be a smooth, sweet and fruity 4.8% **Dark Chocolate & Raspberry Stout**. And as part of our 30th anniversary year we've got the first imperial stout in a while due for release too, **Lost Souls** will be a big, bold and boozy 11.0% classic impy. Complex and carefully crafted, full bodied and warming with luscious vanilla bringing a hint of extravagance to the drinking experience.



BREWERY BITS

New from **Dead Parrot Brewery** on the bar at Perch in March was *Hill*, an American pale ale brewed with Aurora hops. It is 4.2% ABV and has a strong grapefruit character to it!

Recent brews at **Blue Bee** includes *American 5 Hop Version 88* which involves lots of Columbus hops along with Simco, Chinook and others; a new session pale ale involving pink hops plus a special house beer for Itchy Pig Banner Cross brewed with Simcoe, Mosaic and Chinook hops.

Another new beer from **Drone Valley Brewery**, who are celebrating their 10th anniversary this year, is *Volunteer Pale Ale*, celebrating that most of the brewery's staff are volunteers raising money for local good causes.

April 2026 saw **Bradfield Brewery** celebrate their 21st birthday and a new beer released in bottles – *Farmers Imperial Milk Stout*. It is 7.4% ABV, rich and full bodied with notes of cocoa, liquorice and dried fruit in the taste, carrying through to a lasting creamy finish thanks to the addition of lactose.

New from **Duality Brew Co** in cask, keg and can is *Twist the Arrows*, a 4.5% ABV hazy pale ale. It is brewed with generous quantities of Simcoe, Azacca and El Dorado hops offering a juicy character with subtle dank edge underneath and fairly low bitterness.

Triple Point have released a *Blood Orange* flavoured version of their *Cryo Pale Ale*.

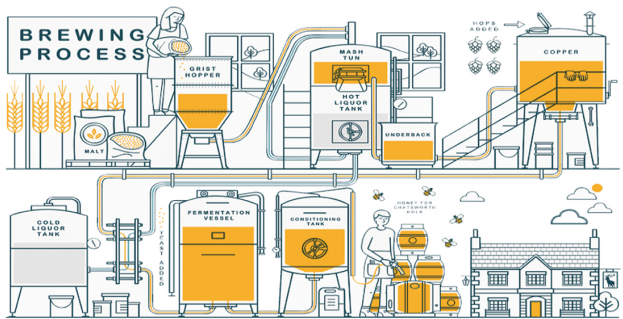
Tapped Brew Co have updated their branding with new round pump clips. Seen on the bar of the Sheffield Tap launching the new look line up was *Brook* (porter), *Sheaf Street* (session IPA), *Mojo* (session pale) and *Bramling* (golden ale).

At the **Brewery of St Mars of the Desert** the arrival of spring meant two things – the tap room opening for the 2026 season and the release of *Fleurs de Printemps* (spring flowers), a 5.4% ABV Belgian inspired blonde ale.

Neepsend Brew Co cask ales recently seen on the bar at the Wellington (their tap pub next to Shalesmoor tram stop) include *Dolcita* (4.5% ABV pale ale brewed with Citra and Dolcita hops), *Athena* (6.4% ABV New England IPA brewed with Citra, Amarillo and El Dorado hops), *Vulcan* (3.9% ABV traditional bitter brewed with Challenger and EKG hops) – plus of course their regular, *Blonde*, 4% ABV, gluten free, with Cascade, Chinook and Brewers Gold hops.

Thornbridge Brewery are now several months into their 2026 "Year of Beer" monthly specials, on cask April saw the release of *Quasar*, a 4.5% ABV European pale ale while on keg it was *Golden Spike*, a 5.7% ABV West Coast IPA. Coming up in May on cask is *Present*, a 3.8% ABV coffee mild, then in June look out for *Long Days* – a 4.6% ABV summer ale.

A planning application to set up a nanobrewery in the Meersbrook area has been submitted by Christopher Derbyshire, known for his work as a brewer at Heist.



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A BIMBLE AROUND BURTON

My beer history has not included a trip to Burton-on-Trent, so with free entry for CAMRA members currently, a visit to the Burton Beer Festival seemed like an ideal opportunity.

Additionally for convoluted reasons involving a tombola win at Chesterfield Beer Festival, I know Jeff Henderson, head brewer of Airline Brewing in Maine USA. Jeff spends a two week holiday in Burton around the festival every year, so we had a chance to meet up.

My wife and I arrived on Wednesday afternoon, and went on a walk around Burton. It's immediately obvious that, despite being able to see brewery buildings all around, things are not what they used to be. We pass the entrance to Molson Coors Burton Brewery, with no reference to a cask ale, and a sign that "celebrates" *Carling!*

Across the road there is plenty of evidence of closed up brewery buildings, and around the corner we saw one of the iconic Burton Union System sets sat on the edge of the site, unused and unloved. At this point I was feeling a bit disheartened about Burton, so time for a beer!

We went to the **Burton Bridge Inn** and things started to look up. A classic old-school pub that has been tastefully modernised with an excellent choice. The pub is both next door to, and owned by the Burton Bridge Brewery, who also brew the Heritage Brewing Co beers. Sat in the small sun trap beer garden overlooking the brewery I thoroughly enjoyed the *Bridge Bitter* and *Stairway to Heaven*.

In the evening we went to the **Roebuck Inn** to meet up with Jeff. Again the Roebuck is a classic old-school pub, with six out of eight hand-pulls on. What followed was a delightful evening with Jeff, who it turned out stays in the Roebuck when he visits, and is essentially an honorary regular. Talking to Jeff it became clear that he has a real love for classic UK cask beer, waxing lyrical on the beautiful balance of flavours in a pint of *Bass*. He also had nothing but good things to say about Burton Bridge Brewery, Gates, and Tower Brewery.

While I had been upset by the obvious decline in the status of Burton as a cask ale producer, Jeff was eager to point out the smaller operations that are now producing classic cask styles at high quality, of which the *Gates Reservoir* was an excellent example.



The next day was Festival time, but first a quick trip to the National Brewery Heritage Trust that since the closure of the National Brewery Centre is trying to develop a National Hub for Britain's brewery and pub heritage in Burton-on-Trent. They have grand plans in motion, and are worth supporting (brewery-heritage.com)

So to the festival where we meet up again. I started steadily as normal with the Burton Bridge *Sunshine Pale* (3.4%), Jeff went straight for the Thornbridge *Imperial Stout* (7.7%) as he couldn't wait to try it! Inspired by talking to Jeff I stayed on beers from local breweries throughout the festival; Burton Bridge, Heritage Brewing, Outwoods, Gates and Tower, and didn't have a beer I didn't like, a highpoint being *Tower Ale to the King* (5.5%).

A quick thanks to Andy Morton who we met, and took the picture, and joined us in taking some of the large brewery name signs on offer, including his namesakes "Morton". The Burton Beer Festival was very enjoyable, with an afternoon of live organ music to drink to.

Late afternoon and the call of new pubs to try was too strong so we left. Not far away was the **Outwoods taproom** was a brilliant railway arch operation, which for a small operation had their own three cask and six keg beers on,

plus six others. *Cask Hop Into the Abyss* was a fabulous 4.9% black IPA.

Next the **Coopers Tavern** that several people had recommended, and quite rightly it turned out, for the *Bass* on gravity if nothing else. A quick beer in the **Last Heretic** just before they closed, *Tower Gone for a Burton*, alongside the hottest pickled onion ever, that couldn't be finished between us! Jeff told us he loves English food (not something you hear everyday) with a soft spot for pork scratchings, bacon, Sunday roasts and a crumble with custard.

Final drink with Jeff back in the Roebuck, which was *Gates Reservoir Gold*, a 7.5% barley wine style beer, and again a classic old-school English beer.

By the end of the trip we had exchanged beer-mats, badges, t-shirts (Airline for me, SMOD for Jeff) and I had some Airline Brewing beer cans he'd brought over in his luggage. More importantly an exchange of appreciation for English beers and pubs, and Burton-on-Trent for what it is now, never mind the past. I highly recommend a trip to Burton-on-Trent, and like Jeff, I intend the festival visit to be an annual event in the future.

Paul Rugg



Our RambAle socials are gently paced country walks that start and end at a pub that serves real ale in locations accessible by public transport.

The first two walks of 2026 in April and May are hosted by Malcolm and Jenny Dixon before they retire from their organising responsibilities and hand over to our new social secretary Mike Cooke.



This month we start at the **Flying Childers** at Stanton in Peak and walk over Stanton Moor via the Nine Ladies stone circle to Birchover for the **Red Lion** (home of Birchover brewery)

Then on to Darley Bridge via Clough Lane for the **Three Stags Heads** and **Square & Compass**.

Getting there: bus 218 from Sheffield to Bakewell departing 10:40, changing onto bus 172 at 12:20 for Stanton in Peak.

Getting back: bus from the A6 road at 17:30 back to Bakewell, changing there onto the 218 bus to Sheffield.

Suggested ticket: Derbyshire Wayfarer all day bus pass costing £9.



Get there on bus 120k to Rowan Tree Road/ Maple Drive; the walk leader will be boarding this bus at Crystal Peaks bus station at 12:03 (departs Sheffield Interchange at 11:26).

We start the 2.5 mile walk from the **West End Hotel** by walking down Boiley Lane to the Transpennine Trail (track bed of the old Great Central Railway) which we follow as far as the site of the old Killamarsh Central station then transfer onto the Cuckoo Way, which follows a disused part of the Chesterfield canal.

We take a break at **Guzzle Micropub** before heading down Sheffield Road to **Fuggle Bunny Brew House** which has an open day on the last Saturday of the month with a bar open plus live music and a food trader.

Everyone is welcome to join us on these walks but please come suitably equipped for a walk that may be rough, wet and muddy in places. Please also come prepared for changeable and inclement weather.

In most cases you will also need to bring, or be able to buy (most pubs do food), sufficient food and drink for yourself for the day.

Contact the RambAles Coordinator on 07922 181306 or at rambale@sheffield.camra.org.uk

Regular buses and trams return from Halfway terminus.

Suggested tickets: single fares are £3, if you will be making more journeys on the same day check out the range of Travelmaster passes.

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FESTIVALS

Local beer and cider festivals we're aware of. Email the Editor if you know of any more! In **2026, all CAMRA festivals offer free entry to members (glass charges still apply).**

EVENTS

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

MAY



Sheffield Students' Union Fri 1 – Sun 3 May

The annual beer and cider festival featuring 150 drinks, street food and music across **Bar One, Raynor Lounge** and **Union Gardens**. Free public entry, 2pm to 11pm each day.



Hope Valley Fri 1 – Mon 4 May

Regular bank holiday weekend festival at the **Old Hall Hotel** in Hope. Marquee with festival bar, food stalls. This features a marquee taking over part of the car park with a festival bar, food stalls (in addition to the pub, restaurant and team room menus) and seating. There is also live music and DJs, in the beer tent during the afternoon and inside the pub in the evening. Buses 173 and 272 go past the pub or it is a short walk from Hope railway station.



Branch AGM 1:30pm Sat 9 May

At the **Two & Six Micropub** in Sheffield City Centre. All branch members are invited, to our review of the past year, confirming the committee for the year ahead (new volunteers welcome!), presentation of accounts and debating any motions submitted. The normal branch meeting then follows, with a beer or two along the way!



Cider Pub of the Year

8pm Wed 13 May

We present the award to the **Old Shoe** in Sheffield City Centre, which offers a range of high quality ciders on tap and in bottle.



RambAle – Bakewell, Stanton Moor & Darley Bridge

12:50pm Sat 16 May

Our RambAles are gently paced country walks that start and end at real ale pubs. See p26 for details.



Barrow Hill Rail Ale Thu 14 – Sun 17 May

A beer and music festival set in the fairly unique and atmospheric setting of a working railway roundhouse near Chesterfield. The bars feature a range of up to 400 beers plus cider, gin and more whilst outside there is a food court with a variety of street food traders. Live entertainment features every day and on Friday and Saturday afternoon train rides are included in the ticket. Shuttle buses operate from Chesterfield railway station or the local Stagecoach bus 90 serves the venue. More information and advance tickets at railalefestival.com.



Leeds Hop City Fri 15 – Sat 16 May

Hosted at **Northern Monk Refectory**. Regular trains and coaches run Sheffield to Leeds.



Festival planning meeting

7:30pm Tue 19 May

We continue planning our Steel City 50 Beer & Cider Festival upstairs at the **Gardeners Rest**. Bus 7/8 stops outside or 5–10 minute walk from Infirmary Road tram stop.



Furnace, Derby Wed 20 – Sun 24 May

Pub festival with 30 real ales, 12 craft kegs and 10 real ciders. Friday and Saturday also features live music and street food.



Area Pub of the Year (East Sheffield)

8pm Thu 21 May

We present the award to the **Chantry Inn** at Handsworth – and have a beer or two of course! Buses 30/30a, 52/52a, 70/70a, 73, 95 and X5 go there.



Skipton (CAMRA)

Thu 21 – Sat 23 May

Keighley & Craven CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) is delighted to present the 18th Skipton Beer Festival. The event will be held in the historic **Skipton Town Hall**, on the High Street at the following times, with payment on the door: Thursday/Friday: 11am to 10pm, Saturday: 11am to 8pm. Entry £4 (free for members). The event will feature 10 real ales on handpumps, plus 50 on traditional gravity, a selection of real ale on KeyKeg, and a range of real cider and perry. The choices will reflect the local area, the wider county of Yorkshire, and a few carefully chosen gems from further afield. More details on their website.



Lincoln (CAMRA)

Thu 21 – Sat 23 May

the 44th Lincoln Beer Festival will again be held in the atmospheric **Southside**, formerly St Katherine's Church, offering a range of real ale, cider and perry.



Hope Valley

Fri 22 – Mon 25 May

The regular bank holiday weekend festival hosted at the **Old Hall Hotel** in Hope. See earlier listing for details.



Social – local area pub tour

12pm Sat 23 May

Hope Valley: We head to the **Old Hall Hotel** in Hope for their regular bank holiday weekend beer festival along with a number of other venues in the valley. We start by taking the train to Edale (departs Sheffield 12:14) for a visit to the **Rambler Inn** before head-

ing to the Old Hall's festival. There is also the option of stopping in Hathersage on the way back. An off-peak day return from Sheffield to Edale is £11.50 or a Derbyshire Wayfarer all-day bus and train pass is £17.



Cow Shed, Millers Dale

Sat 23 – Sun 24 May

The event space at the farm shop, café and bar on **Beltonville Farm** hosts a beer festival.



Committee meeting

8:30pm Tue 26 May

The monthly business meeting for the committee at **Dog & Partridge**. We also aim to have the new issue of *Beer Matters* from the printers ready for distribution volunteers from the afternoon onwards.



Mallard, Worksop

Thu 28 – Sun 31 May

Celebrating the pub's 25th birthday. Details TBA.



Red Lion, Matlock

Fri 29 – Sat 30 May

The Red Lion at Matlock Green (X17 bus from Sheffield), home to Moot Ales microbrewery, host their annual festival in the beer garden. Real ales and other craft beers, cider, gin, street food and music. Open 12–8pm both days with the pub open until 11pm.



Sheffield Beer Census

12pm Sat 30 May

We survey as many pubs in Sheffield as possible to record the cask beer range. You can do that by joining one of our social survey crawls or by simply visiting a pub and recording the beers on our app. Details on page 4.

JUNE (full diary on our website)



Branch meeting

8pm Tue 2 Jun

Venue TBC.



ABBEYDALE LIVE

Many of you will look forward to the Abbeydale Road Beer Festival initiative, which this year takes place from 30 July to 2 August, when 12 venues along the run from the Broadfield into Sheffield City Centre hosting beery attractions such as tap takeovers.

However that's not the only event venues down Abbeydale Road participate in and over the weekend of 18 and 19 April Abbeydale Live took place, with 20 independent venues hosting bands, DJs and performers with outdoor stages and family areas featured. This was all co-ordinated by the Abbeydale Traders Association.



FESTIVAL RETRO

With our **Steel City 50 Beer & Cider Festival** this October, one of our very long standing members, John Beardshaw, has provided this photo from the early days featuring (left to right) John Beardshaw, Mike Hodgson and Alan Gibbons in the Students' Union Lower Refectory.

THE COMMITTEE



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Committee Meeting Secretary

Pub of the Year Coordinator

Good Beer Guide Coordinator



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Vice Chair

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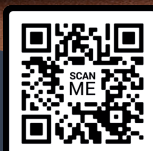
Discover benefits, discounts and tools that make it quick and enjoyable to find the beers you love and the great pubs that serve them. You also save on entry to over 160 CAMRA festivals.

Your membership supports the campaign to preserve quality beer, cider and perry, along with cherished pubs and clubs that bring us together.

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