

CAMRA Branch Magazine of the Year

559  
AUG 2026  
FREE

# BEER MATTERS

## WHY, ARE FOREST FOLK HERE?

Wyre Forest CAMRA head to Sheffield

## YOU'RE BEING LIED TO

Calls for investigation into UK beer market



CAMRA  
Sheffield & District



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# BEER MATTERS

559  
AUG 2026



BRANCH  
MAGAZINE OF  
THE YEAR  
2026

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Sheffield & District



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## YOU'RE BEING LIED TO

**The status quo needs to go: Beer and pub campaigners want Competition and Markets Authority to investigate the UK beer market**

A new report, published by CAMRA, shows how independent brewers are being excluded from bars across the UK, and sets out the case for the Competition and Markets Authority action.

**Beer in the UK** is the authoritative consumer view on how the UK beer scene actually works, or doesn't work, for beer drinkers and independent brewers.

The report lays bare the stark state of British brewing – that it is dominated by four international conglomerates with little affinity with our brewing heritage, or what beer drinkers want.

Other headlines from the report include:

- Seven of the top ten selling 'craft beers' in the UK are made by just four global brewing conglomerates.
- Many of the UK's favourite 'continental' and 'import' lagers are brewed in the UK.
- Data from the Society of Independent Brewers and Associates (SIBA) shows that the demand for independent beer is 280% higher than the share that they have of the pub market.

Ash Corbett-Collins, CAMRA Chairman said:

"Ordinary drinkers are being short changed when it comes to choice and quality at the bar. Our report proves how the global players are



exploiting the status quo to squeeze out independent brewers, to the detriment of ordinary publicans and beer drinkers.

"The Government needs to step up, start taking the issue seriously, and take action that matches up to their statements about supporting pubs and the communities they serve.

"Andy Burnham recently said that 'People need to be able to look forward to a night out'. The best way he can deliver on that is by ordering a proper market investigation to sort this mess out and deliver a fair deal for publicans and drinkers, and the independent brewers that they want to support.

"If this report makes you as angry as it makes me, that's good. CAMRA is fighting for changes to the status quo, and I hope you'll join us and get involved."

Tim Webb, Report Editor, said:

"The fact that a narrow clique of multinational corporations dominates the UK brewing industry is a national embarrassment. They only make beers that suit their production facilities, ignoring the types that beer lovers want to drink. They do not know how to reverse beer's downward spiral, make little profit, and brew nothing worth exporting. They cannot grow the UK economy.

"The way that better, independent, brewers are excluded from the on-trade beer market is scandalous. Brewing is a business that competition authorities need to investigate, take apart, and reassemble, so the UK can return to playing a leading role in the world of beer."



## Who owns what? Some examples

**Banks** – Carlsberg

**Bass** – AB-InBev

**Beavertown** – Heineken

**Boddingtons** – AB-InBev

**Brakspear** – Carlsberg

**Brixton** – Heineken

**Brooklyn** – Carlsberg

**Camden** – AB-InBev

**Dark Star** – Asahi

**Fullers** – Asahi

**Gale's** – Asahi

**Goose Island** – AB-InBev

**Marston's** – Carlsberg

**Meantime** – Asahi

**Sharps** – Molson Coors

**Wychwood** – Carlsberg

**Young's** – Carlsberg

Read the full report at  
[camra.org.uk/beer-report](http://camra.org.uk/beer-report)

# CHANGES TO BEER SCORING SYSTEM

**There are tens of thousands of pubs across the country serving cask beers, and many of those serve really good pints.**

For lovers of a decent pint, it's important to be able to find them. CAMRA's Good Beer Guide has been the 'bible' for finding the very best ones since 1974 and continues to be relied upon by tens of thousands of people.

CAMRA's pub guide ([camra.org.uk/pubs](http://camra.org.uk/pubs)) can also help because beer quality is indicated by the '3 Pints' symbols that CAMRA members can see when logged in.

Pubs and clubs that serve really excellent pints, and serve them consistently well, can be potential candidates for the Good Beer Guide.

To help identify them, CAMRA members score their pints whenever they have the opportunity. Their scores help local branches determine candidates for the Guide, and these can change year on year because the standards are high. Serving live cask beer requires skill in the cellar and attention by bar staff all the time. Competition for a place is stiff because only 4,500 places are available.

Up until now, the scoring system has used a numbering system of 0 to 5. But there are problems with this. It requires memorising the criteria for each score and using them consistently, but memories can be variable. Some people genuinely struggle with numbers, so they don't take part. It becomes open to individual interpretation with resulting inconsistency between

## How's your cask beer?

| Rating             | Description                                                                                          | Your reaction                                                                                   |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Excellent</b>   | Exceptional and clear (if intended to be) with fantastic aromas, flavours and ideal carbonation.     | Superb! You tell your friends and compliment the cellar manager.                                |
| <b>Very good</b>   | Satisfying and well-kept with a great appearance, good carbonation and enticing aromas and flavours. | You consider having another and may cancel plans to move to another pub.                        |
| <b>Good</b>        | Nice appearance, good carbonation, aromas and flavour.                                               | Pleasant but not memorable. You're happy to have another but might consider something else.     |
| <b>Acceptable</b>  | Unremarkable and ordinary, with no noteworthy characteristics.                                       | You're unlikely to have another unless it is all there is and there isn't another pub to go to. |
| <b>Poor</b>        | Noticeably imperfect.                                                                                | Drinkable with resentment, but you politely ask for a replacement.                              |
| <b>Undrinkable</b> | Unpleasant to drink, likely with a disgusting taste, incorrect appearance and off/foul aroma.        | You politely ask for it to be replaced and consider asking the publican to take it off.         |

scorers. There's also the potential for individual bias and a reluctance to 'award' high scores.

We all know when we are drinking a good pint that's been well-kept, and we also know when a pint is very good or excellent – and cannot resist telling everyone else about it! And likewise, a pint that is simply OK or, hopefully not often, undrinkable.

So, to make things easier for everyone, a new intuitive ratings system is being introduced, which is more descriptive of the beer being drunk.

Each of the new ratings has a description and a likely reaction to help you pin down the most appropriate rating.

Ratings can be recorded on CAMRA's online pub guide [camra.org.uk/pubs](http://camra.org.uk/pubs) by all CAMRA members so start rating your beer now.

# SCORE YOUR BEER

|             |
|-------------|
| Excellent   |
| Very good   |
| Good        |
| Acceptable  |
| Poor        |
| Undrinkable |

**CAMRA member? Score your beer today!**

- ✓ Share your experiences and help guide fellow beer lovers
- ✓ Play a part in the **Good Beer Guide** selection process
- ✓ Help power CAMRA's beer and pub data
- ✓ A quick and easy way to get involved

**Scoring your beer couldn't be simpler** – find the pub or club on our website and click 'Beer Score'

 [camra.org.uk/pubs](http://camra.org.uk/pubs)



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# INN BRIEF

The former Beer Central shop at the Moor Market is making a comeback as **Barrel & Anvil** – and the founder of Beer Central, who sold up to become a business adviser, is the guy that offered the advice to the guy opening the new shop! That guy is Vince, who had been working at Beer Central prior to its closure as well as a stint at the Beer House in Hillsborough. His craft beer journey started when he worked in Morrisons way back when the supermarket stocking BrewDog and Meantime was an exciting, eye opening development!

**Tram Stop** micropub at Hillsborough Park is now open and looking smart, although cask ale doesn't feature. There are however some local beers on keg and in bottle.

The upstairs seating area at **Hope Valley Tap & Bottle** in Hope has now opened, adding a drink-in option to the retail shop on the ground floor. A selection of local craft beers are available on keg as well as a wide range of bottles and cans.

The food shack outside the **Raven Inn** at Walkley is back in business for the summer with Freak Street Cafe taking a guest residency there serving their Himalayan inspired street food.



The **Red Deer** on Pitt Street in Sheffield City Centre, a Georgian building dating back to 1825 owned by Heineken's Star Pubs, has closed for refurbishment with work beginning on 20 July. It is due to reopen in late August with a new operator leasing the pub – Karl Seery and food once again available. The refurbishment work is to refresh the interior, upgrade the beer garden and renovate the building's exterior.

**Two & Six Micropub** in Sheffield City Centre are celebrating their birthday on 5 August with a tap takeover from Wensleydale Brewery and complimentary cheese pairing.

Following the closure of the Av It Bar in the premises on Wellington Street in Sheffield City Centre that was originally the Devonshire Cat, work is taking place to convert it into a new venue opening soon – **Alura Bar & Bistro**.

**Harlequin** held a Shandy Fest on 18 July including all sorts of exotic and imaginative beer & pop combinations!

The **Old Queens Head** by Sheffield bus Interchange continues to run a cask club promotion on Mondays.

**Chapeltown Tap** are holding a Pup in the Pub event on 23 August combining a dog show with their usual bar offering.

**Castle Inn** at Bradway has been closed for a refurbishment and reopened on the evening of 17 July.

**Royal** at Woodhouse has reopened following refurbishment with three real ales available – Bradfield *Farmers Blonde*, Ossett *White Rat* and Timothy Taylor's *Landlord*.

**Anchor Inn** in Tideswell is celebrating 10 years under the current management on 15 August with a mini beer festival and fundraiser for Ashgate Hospice from 2pm.

*5 Real Ales*

*14 Keg Lines*

*Over 30 Whiskies*



# The Crow Inn

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# SHEFFIELD CONNECT PUBS

There are two free bus services that circle Sheffield City Centre during the daytime and of course there are a number of pubs along the route! Buses run **until 7pm Monday to Saturday** and **until 4pm on Sundays**.

Bus **SC1** starts from Sheffield Interchange and goes to Fitzalan Square, Cathedral (High St), City Hall, Pounds Park (Rockingham St) and Moorfoot (Moor Market). This bus runs about every **10 minutes**.

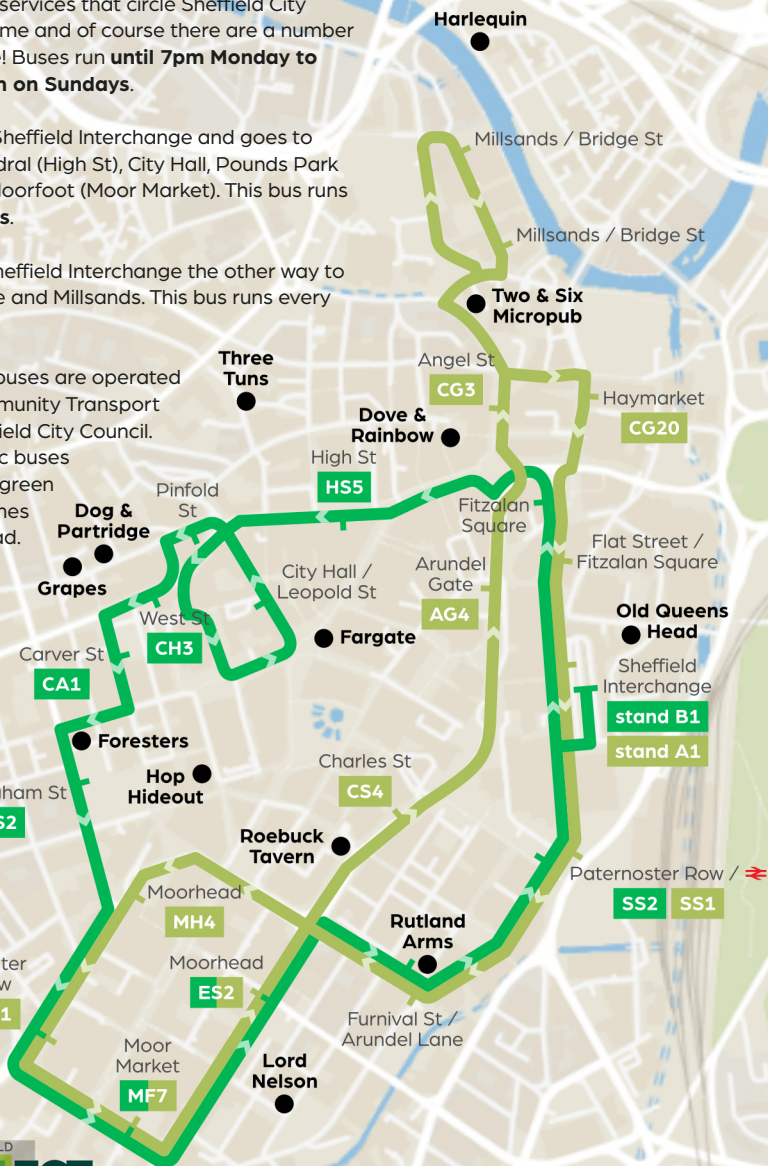
Bus **SC2** heads out Sheffield Interchange the other way to Moorfoot, Arundel Gate and Millsands. This bus runs every **20 minutes**.

The Sheffield Connect buses are operated by South Pennine Community Transport with funding from Sheffield City Council. They are usually electric buses painted in a dedicated green livery although sometimes a minibus is used instead. Other buses and trams also operate in the City Centre but aren't free!



SHEFFIELD  
**CONNECT**

Beer  
Engine



We've handpicked a selection of pubs of interest that are close to the routes to inspire an afternoon trip around town, a more comprehensive pub guide is available on the [camra.org.uk](http://camra.org.uk) website.





### Old Queens Head

🚶 Sheffield Interchange

SC1 stand B1 SC2 stand A1

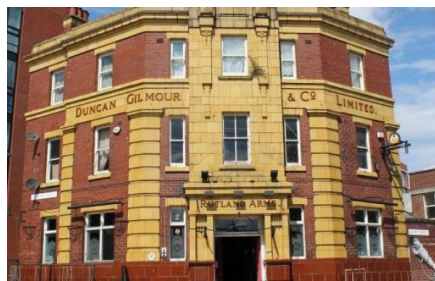
Originally the hunting lodge for Sheffield Castle, this Tudor building (with modern extension) has a fascinating history. The U-shaped lounge surrounds a central bar and adjoins a superb beamed dining room. Upstairs function room for hire. Owned by Thwaites and the cask beer range is typically four of their regular ales.



### Sheffield Tap

🚶 Paternoster Row / 🚶 SC1 SS2 SC2 SS1

Opened in 2009 this was originally the first class refreshment room for Sheffield Midland Station, built in 1904. After years of neglect the main bar area has been subject of an award-winning restoration retaining many original features. Further seating has been provided in the entrance corridor and to the right of the bar. Usually three beers are from the on-site Tapped Brewery, opened in 2013 in the impressive former dining room and which can be viewed behind the glass screen.



### Rutland Arms

🚶 Furnival St / Arundel Lane SC1 SC2

Traditional pub now made into a single room. Exterior retains features of the now defunct Duncan Gilmour Brewery. There is also a beer garden at the rear. Real ales selection always includes some from Blue Bee along with changing guest ales.

The food offering caters for all – whether it be chip butties or typical pub meals off the main menu or the bistro standard specials on the blackboard, all are freshly made by the Ruddy's kitchen team.

A jukebox also features but beware – the staff humour extends to a forbidden music board, ignore at your peril!



### Washington

🚶 Charter Row SC1 MF1 SC2 MF1

Two roomed corner pub with a music orientation, with regular DJ nights (Wed-Sat) and live music. The larger room has basic seating and a dance floor/stage and DJ box whilst the smaller room is comfortable, quieter and



more traditional. There is also a beer garden at the rear with some covered and heated smoking areas. The pub offers four mostly local cask beers. Very much a nightlife venue, remaining open until 3am most nights. Note it doesn't open in the daytime midweek, only on Saturdays and Sundays.



### Beer Engine

📍 Moor Market **SC1 MF7** **SC2 MF7**

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. Hot food is not served, but cold tapas style small plates are available whenever the bar is open. The large beer garden has a heated, covered area.



### Lord Nelson

📍 Moorhead **SC1 ES2** **SC2 ES2**

Popularly known as Fanny's after a former landlady, though much altered over the years, retains the feel of a traditional local.

Three separate seating areas, one with pool, around a central bar and an upstairs function room. Popular with Sheffield United fans on match days and the items on display around the pub reflect this!



### Roebuck Tavern | 📍 Charles St **SC2 CS4**

A large, tastefully decorated pub opposite the infamous 'Cheese Grater' car park, which can be admired from the popular beer terrace. Good value all day homemade food and at least four real ales mostly from local breweries.



### Dove & Rainbow | 📍 Angel St **SC2 CG3**

A one room pub devoted to rock and alternative music with a DJ or live music on most nights. Popular with all ages. Closing times may be later than those published if busy.



### Two & Six Micropub | 🚶 Angel St **SC2 CG3**

A micropub offering up to four cask ales, real cider and craft keg alongside a lager and selected wines and spirits. Also included is an adjoining room used as an art gallery, which is available to hire as an exhibition and event space.



### Harlequin | 🚶 Millsands / Bridge St **SC2**

The Harlequin takes its name from another former Ward's pub just round the corner, now demolished. The large open-plan interior features a central bar with seating on two levels. Kirkstall Bitter is the regular cask beer, plus up to five changing cask beers from far and wide with the emphasis on microbreweries. Also three real ciders on handpump as well as ciders in bag in box. A range of boutique bottled beers are also available. Occasional events include live music, quiz nights, tasting nights, games nights and tap takeovers. Good, simple food menu. Reached from the SC2 bus stop via a footbridge over the river Don.



### Three Tuns | 🚶 High St **SC1 HS5**

A triangular shaped pub on a sharp corner with raised seating areas and lots of wooden and brass features (more character than Gérard Depardieu). The friendly staff serve up a choice of cask beers to an exclusively vinyl soundtrack.



### Fargate | 🚶 City Hall / Leopold St **SC1**

Following a £1m interior renovation, the Fargate opened on 22 October 2025. The pub is part of the regeneration of the street which saw three years of construction come to a close earlier in the year. Located in the City Centre Conservation Area, the venue brings together the storied elegance of the former bank with a carefully designed pub interior.

Dark polished wood, elegant leather seating, herringbone floors, brass accents, chandeliers, and curated artwork create the impression of a bar that could have stood here for more than a century. The striking horse-shoe bar serves ten cask beers and 16 keg lines. The ground floor also features screened booths, a snug, banquette seating,

and full-height glazing to the front, offering a light and inviting space.

The original spiral staircase leads to the first floor. Here, a pizza kitchen with an Italian corner oven, is visible through glazed screens. The design combines reclaimed timber walls, decorated ceilings, and original architectural details to create a brighter, more contemporary setting.

Branded, 'Thornbridge & Co,' the two-storey pub is a joint venture from Peak District-based Thornbridge Brewery and York-based importer and distributor, Pivovar.



**Dog & Partridge** | 🚶 Pinfold St **SC1**

Dating from 1796, a cosy multi-room Irish run dog friendly pub in the city centre. A menu of Irish bar food is available to soak up the range of mainly local cask ales, interesting craft beers and 'the best Guinness outside Dublin'. Welcoming to anyone that brings a nice attitude, they host regular events including a quiz night, games night and folk music sessions.



**Grapes** | 🚶 West St **SC1 CH3**

Centred around a tiled corridor drinking area, the three rooms comprise a snug, lounge and pool room. Sign outside reads "Flynn's" as a reference to the Flynn family who have owned the pub for over 40 years. A two star pub interior of outstanding national historic interest. Offers two cask beers, and bar food Monday to Saturday lunch times. Has live traditional Irish music in the back room six days a week, mainly folk sessions. Cash only, no credit/debit cards accepted.



**Hop Hideout** | 🚶 Carver St **SC1 CA1**

Hop Hideout is an award winning speciality beer shop and tasting room, founded in 2013 as a 'labour of beery love' by Jules Gray. One of the first 'drink in' beer shops in the UK, they have a range of chilled beers available to browse, enjoy there and then or takeaway – including seven fresh rotating draught taps. In addition from time to time they have a beer in their own wooden pin, meaning gravity poured cask ale is offered (but check socials to see when this is on). Owner Jules has a penchant for wild ales, funky beers, natural



wines and farmhouse cider and loves nothing more than helping you find something you love to drink. The current City Centre location in Leah's Yard is the third, having originally opened on Abbeydale Road and since relocated.



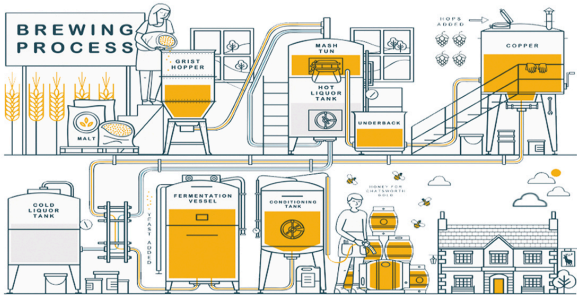
**Foresters** | 📍 Rockingham St **SC1 RS2**

A pub in the heart of the city. Part of the areas social scene since 1828. Consists of one main room with partitioned seating, a beer garden and an upstairs meeting room.



**Vocation & Co** | 📍 Rockingham St **SC1 RS2**

There are seating areas either side of the entrance corridor leading into the main bar area. Five handpumps, a 22 line keg wall and a display fridge showcase the Vocation beer range. A menu of burgers, wings and loaded fries is available Tuesday to Saturday.



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## PUB OF THE MONTH August 2026

Just a few minutes on foot from Edale station in the western reaches of our branch area is the Rambler Inn. Originally built as a farmhouse in the 19th century, the Rambler was subsequently converted to a pub. They have 9 en-suite rooms which are often used by walkers on the Pennine Way National Trail or Kinder Scout, and a self-catering cottage onsite too.

There are two fair sized snugs off the main bar, which have log fires during the winter. There is a larger dining area with a smaller room to the rear, which can also be used for dining – or for meetings, like our July branch meeting. We received a warm welcome from



the pub and it went on to win the pub of the month award for August, in our special summer 'Derbyshire' edition of the award.

The outside has superb views taking in hills and the Hope Valley railway line with lots of benches to the front and a large garden and covered terrace to the side. Dogs are welcome in the garden and bar rooms, though not the upstairs guest rooms – the Rambler operates a 'muddy boots and paws welcome' policy.

Operated by the Dorbiere Pub Group under the management of Jo and Chris Doyle, the Rambler features five handpumps in total. The permanent options are Timothy Taylor *Landlord Abbeydale's Deception*, and house beer Kinder Downfall (Theakston). At our July branch meeting these were complemented by Titanic's *Plum Porter* and Squawk's *Pavo*.

Special events are organised from time to time including folk music, quiz nights, themed dining and a family fun day is planned for 16 August with bouncy castle, tug of war and more!

Please join us at the Rambler Inn on **Tuesday 11 August** at 8pm for a few drinks and to present the team with their well-deserved certificate.

**Dan Rowe**

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# AWARD PRESENTATION



## PUB OF THE MONTH July 2026

**SHAKESPEARES** Kelham Island

Our branch Chairman Paul Manning presented Chris and the team at Shakespeares on Gibraltar Street with their well deserved Pub of the Month award certificate.

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## CHESTERFIELD GREAT HISTORIC PUB TOUR BOOKLET

11 July saw the Grade II listed, **Royal Oak**, host the launch of the Second Edition of the **Chesterfield Great Historic Pub Tour** booklet.

Put together by graphic designer, Chris Fox and (mostly) written by local historian Shaun Stevenson, this publication includes copious detail, and images, of several centrally-located pubs and other historically important buildings.

The Royal Oak, for example, dates back to the 15th century. It was purchased, and renovated, by Sheffield-based William Stones in 1897 and includes many features from that time.

The 40 page, full colour, A5 booklet is on sale at local outlets. Retail enquiries and copies by post: [greathistoricpubtours@gmail.com](mailto:greathistoricpubtours@gmail.com).



  
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BREWERY

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## ABBEYDALE BREWERY

### IT'S OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY MONTH!

We feel so lucky to have been part of the Sheffield beer scene for the past three decades, and to still be here doing what we do. We're celebrating with a new version of **Doctor Morton's Birthday Extravaganza**, which we first made for our silver anniversary in 2021. A classic 4.1% pale, the hop forward style we're best known for. Enjoy the power and beauty of your pint.

And Moonshine has been our most popular beer since our very beginnings, so we wanted to celebrate that too. **Lunar Moonshine** is a special 4.5% version of our flagship brew – it's designed to satisfy our regular drinkers, so it stays true to the original recipe, but with the addition of Luna hops for an extra layer of bright and vibrant tropical and citrus flavour.

Our returning seasonal special this month is **Harvested** (4.1%), an Australian hopped pale with a grapefruit bitterness and subtle spicy finish. And we have a new addition to our Restoration Series in the form of **Burton Pale**. Classic, smooth and well balanced with UK Fuggles and East Kent Goldings hops.

Thank you to everyone for your support over the last thirty years – here's to the next!



## THORNBRIDGE LION AND LIONESS

To celebrate 150 years of Sheffield Children's, Sheffield Children's Hospital Charity is embarking on its biggest-ever fundraising campaign by presenting the UK's most ambitious sculpture trail. This year, alongside their ongoing charitable fundraising efforts, Thornbridge are proud to sponsor both a lion and a lioness as part of the Pride of Yorkshire initiative.

This sponsorship forms part of Thornbridge's wider commitment to raise £15,000 for Sheffield Children's Hospital Charity throughout the year. Fundraising activities include individual initiatives, customer donations across their pub estate, contributions from pizzas sold at the Taproom and donations from meals enjoyed at their gastropub, the Cricket Inn in Sheffield, alongside support for the Pride of Yorkshire trail itself.

Simon Webster, CEO and Co-Founder of Thornbridge Brewery, said: "Sheffield Children's Hospital is incredibly important to the city and the surrounding region. We see first-hand the vital role it plays in the lives of so many families, and we are proud to support its fundraising efforts. Sponsoring two of these statues gives us an opportunity not only to contribute to a fantastic cause, but also to be part of a truly special project that will bring people together across Yorkshire."

One of Thornbridge's sculptures is located outside their flagship city-centre pub, the Fargate. Named Snooker Loopy and designed by Lisa O'Hara. Thornbridge's second sculpture, designed by Tom J Newell and called Dandy Lioness, can be found just inside the Hunters Bar entrance to Endcliffe Park, conveniently situated between the Stag's Head and the Greystones.

Both sculptures have already welcomed a steady stream of visitors, showcasing the creativity of their artists while helping to raise awareness and support for the vital work carried out by Sheffield Children's Hospital Charity.



## CHARITY BREW AND SKYDIVE

**Little Critters employee, and Steel City Beer & Cider Festival volunteer. John Starey, recently jumped out of a plane to raise money for Weston Park Hospital Development Fund. Luckily there was a parachute involved, and he returned safely to earth!**

After being diagnosed with stage 4 prostate cancer in August 2024, John was treated with chemotherapy and radiotherapy at Weston Park and has nothing but praise for their staff. "The quality of care and attention I have received is nothing short of incredible".

Little Critters themselves were only too keen to get involved to support John's efforts, and brewed a special beer, **Weston Park**

**Pale**, with a percentage of profits going to the charity.

The jump took place at Hildboldstow in Lincolnshire, and has raised over £2,500 so far.

Search 'John Starey' on [justgiving.com](https://justgiving.com) to donate.



## BREWERY BITS

**Blue Bee's** brew number 1,000 is an East India Porter, initially brewed with Columbus, Ekuanot and Chinook hops then dry hopped. Also recently brewed is the fifth iteration of their *Five Malt Mild* and a *Citra Pale*.

**Drone Valley Brewery** are hosting a music festival at their tap on Sunday 6 September from midday until 7pm. Tickets cost £12.50 and are available to buy online in advance. Meanwhile a new beer has been brewed – *Summer Fayre*, a refreshing pale ale at a sessionable 3.7% ABV brewed with Columbus, Harlequin and Jester hops.

**Eyam Brewery** have launched a new website and you can order their cans, bottles and merch on line for courier delivery. Meanwhile at their tap room they have new toilets!

**Thornbridge's** Year of Beer scheduled of monthly small batch releases continues, July's cask offering was *Twin Peaks* a 5% ABV Anglo American pale ale. August's cask is *Ravenna*, a Mosaic hopped pale ale then to look forward to in September is *Worker Bee*, a blonde bitter.

**Mallinsons Brewery** of Huddersfield had a topical beer at a festival recently called *Count Beerface*

July saw **Acorn Brewery** of Barnsley celebrate their 23rd birthday. Coming soon is a new 3.4% ABV pale ale in their decades series named after a song from the 2000s, which song will depend on suggestions received in a competition they have been running!

Seasonal beers from **Bradfield Brewery** available in July included *Farmers Elder-flower Ale* and *Farmers Cherry Beer* with others to look forward to including *Farmers Dust Settler* (3.4% ABV pale ale brewed with Styrian Dragon hops), *Farmers XX Best Bitter* and *Farmers Imperial Milk Stout* (7.4% ABV with speciality malts and lactose).



## OUT IN THE "DISTRICT"

The CAMRA Sheffield & District branch area contains significantly more than just the city of Sheffield, with the District part being in Derbyshire. This includes Kil-lamash and Ridgeway along with a huge chunk of the Peak District National Park such as the Hope Valley.

During the summer we're making an effort to hold members' socials and meetings in the area and our June social saw one of our pubs by bus trips take place. It was originally billed as pubs along the 257 bus route (which runs from Sheffield to Eyam and Bakewell via

Ladybower, Bamford, Grindleford and Calver) but having seen a beer festival advertised at the Red Lion in Litton along with a steam rally our plans were adapted!

The date was put in the diary early in the new year and we were lucky to get a hot sunny day, however it did end up being the same weekend festivals at the Sheaf View, Wise-wood Inn and Heeley City Farm plus Kelham Pride so it was just four of us on this one!

We started out on the midday 257 bus to the **Anglers Rest** in Bamford, a pub owned by the community but leased out to Atlantik Inns to operate. It also features a tea room and the village post office. There was a choice of five cask ales from Abbeydale, Eyam and Intrepid breweries on the bar. As it was lunch-time and we had an hour there some of us ordered food. As well as the main meals menu they also do lunchtime sandwiches and a bar bites menu that is available quicker!

The 257 bus then took us on to Eyam and the **Miners Arms**, this is a Greene King pub with lounge, restaurant and beer garden. Three cask ales were available including a guest beer from Eyam Brewery. It was also noted the village shop sells their bottles and cans! The brewery is no longer in this village, however, with production now up the road in Great Hucklow whilst the new tap room is in Tideswell.







Half an hour later bus 65 picked us up for the ride to Litton, via a slightly different route to normal as the road through Tideswell was closed for first day of the annual Tideswell Week celebrations. We also bypassed Great Hucklow, possibly because the steam rally touring the area was coming down the country lane the other way!

Litton has its own celebrations alongside this with the main event being Litton Night on the Tuesday and the **Red Lion's** beer festival is part of this. We were greeted by an outside bar featuring a dozen cask ales stillaged up and served on gravity pour. This supplemented a decent range inside on the normal pub bar. Many beers were enjoyed sat outside in the sunshine over the couple of hours we were there and at about tea time the pub started to prepare for a livelier evening with music and a BBQ. Some of us grabbed a burger before we left!

Bus 173 took us for the short ride down the hill to Wardlow Mires, although there was a slight delay due to the driver getting out to help a motorcyclist that had come off her bike on the junction after overtaking the bus – luckily nothing was hurt other than her pride! Our next stop was the **Three Stags' Head**, where we found the steam rally parked up and the groups riding on their trailers enjoying a beer outside! This is a proper museum piece of a pub, full of character that hasn't changed in years and has a selection of cask ales on the bar from Abbeydale, Eyam and Intrepid including the *Black Lurcher* strong stout

brewed specially for them by Abbeydale and named after the breed of dog that has been resident there for many years!

We had the time it took the 173 to get to Bakewell and back to enjoy our beer before rejoining it for a ride through to Bradwell. An uphill walk into a hillside residential area was then necessary to reach **Olde Bowling Green Inn**, a classic multi-room pub that also offers accommodation and food. There were just two cask ales available – Timothy Taylor's *Landlord* and Bradford *Farmers Blonde* – and these were enjoyed in the beer garden which offered a spectacular view over the valley.

Bus 272 then took us back to Sheffield City Centre offering another scenic bus ride, including the climb up into the hills from Hathersage, at the end of an interesting day drinking beer in the sunshine and travelling through some beautiful countryside.

Our next social in the Peak District part of our branch will be on Saturday 22 August, using the 65 bus which runs from Sheffield to Tideswell and Buxton. Our branch area stretches as far as Millers Dale, just short of Buxton, on this route and there are many pubs along the route plus Eyam Brewery's tap room. Meet on the bus leaving Sheffield Interchange at 11:35, a Derbyshire Wayfarer all day bus pass costs £9, you can buy this from the driver or on the TravelMaster app.

**Andy Cullen**



## HARROGATE, RIPON AND KNARESBOROUGH

**The Harrogate, Ripon and Knaresborough Ale Trail runs 1–31 August with 30 participating venues.**

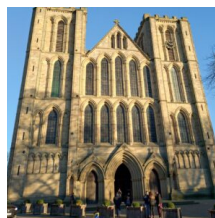
Harrogate and Ripon CAMRA branch covers an area of North Yorkshire to the north of Leeds stretching over 20 miles up into the Yorkshire Dales. They have a good number of rural pubs together with a high concentration of pubs and clubs in the three main centres.

Members wanted to support their pubs, clubs and breweries, and decided three years ago that an Ale Trail might encourage real ale drinkers to try new pubs and increase footfall into all of the participant venues.

They looked at members' beer scores in the three main towns and chose the best 30 pubs, clubs and taprooms in terms of beer quality, most of which also had a good selection of ales. This included most of the *Good Beer Guide* pubs in the three towns but also some that didn't quite make the grade for the *Guide*.

Local breweries Daleside and Rooster's were approached for help and they have been very happy to support us for the last three years of running the Trail.

In order to ensure a good offering of prizes to incentivise people to undertake the trail every venue is asked to offer a prize of a bar/food tab between £20 and £50 or a gallon of real ale. This means that there's a good selection of prizes and all venues benefit by receiving return visits from Ale Trailers.



## So how does it work?

The Ale Trail is open to everyone, not just CAMRA members.

Each participating venue is supplied with Ale Trail passports which include details of the 30 pubs, clubs and taprooms, and maps to assist with navigation. Ale Trailers pick up a passport and buy at least half a pint of cask ale (or real cider) in each venue entitling them to collect a unique sticker which is placed on the relevant page of their passport.

Ale Trailers visit as many venues as they're able in the three towns during the month of August collecting stickers along the way, and subject to a minimum of 15 stickers, then complete their name and email address, tear out the sticker page and submit to one of the 'core' pubs named in the passport for entry into the prize draw.

The draw takes place in September when members draw entries from a hat. The first three entries drawn win a £50 prize and thereafter prizes are awarded in order of value.

## Want to join in the Trail?

The Ale Trail runs 1–31 August.

All venues can be reached by public transport. Harrogate and Knaresborough both have train stations and Ripon is reached via a regular bus service (36) from Harrogate. Please see the website for more detail.





# WYRE FOREST FOLK VISIT SHEFFIELD

Over a dozen people, mainly from CAMRA's Wyre Forest branch in Worcestershire, chose Sheffield for their annual spring trip. Recent destinations have included Liverpool, Nottingham, Oxford, Scarborough and York.

The weather was kind, and the publicans of Sheffield extended a very warm welcome over two to three days towards the end of May. Between us, we must have visited several dozen of the city's renowned pubs, both traditional and modern, enjoying many beers that are rarely if ever found in our own area.

Among the pubs to stand out as highlights – for different reasons – are the **Bath Hotel, Dog & Partridge, Fargate, Fat Cat, Grapes, Harlequin, Head of Steam, Kelham Island Tavern, Perch, Shakespeares, Sheffield Tap, Two & Six, Vocation & Co** and **Wisewood**.

Of course our spring trip is not just about beer and pubs, not quite anyway. The Kelham Island Museum was a highlight for many, and people also enjoyed Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet and the Botanical Gardens. The 7 Spices Balti hosted us for an excellent group meal.

We would like to thank our colleagues from CAMRA Sheffield & District – including Paul

Manning, Mike Cook and Dave Pickersgill – who gave invaluable advice while we were in the planning stage. Even better, they and other locals joined us in the garden of the **Brewery of St Mars of the Desert** for a social afternoon.

Now that connections have been made, several from the visiting group are intending to return to Sheffield for the Steel City Beer Festival in October. We extend a cordial invitation to the ale drinkers of Yorkshire to visit our own (rather smaller) **Kidderminster Beer & Cider Festival**, which is taking place **12–14 November**, a well loved event at a time of year when few festivals are held.







## INTRODUCING THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL CHARITY

### Support Dogs is our charity partner for Steel City 50 Beer & Cider Festival

CAMRA Sheffield & District is delighted to announce Support Dogs as its charity partner for our 50th Steel City Beer & Cider Festival, being held at the atmospheric Kelham Island Museum from 21–24 October.

It's a huge honour to have this pioneering and life-saving national charity, which is homegrown having been founded in Sheffield 34 years ago, as our beneficiary.

Support Dogs (charity number 1088281) is dedicated to providing life-changing health and social care for children and adults living with challenging medical conditions.

With a new national headquarters on Herries Road South, Hillsborough, it provides, trains and supports specialist assistance dogs to achieve this.

It offers three training programmes – autism assistance, disability assistance and epilepsy seizure alert – to help people live safer, more independent lives.

Disability assistance dogs are trained for people with physical disabilities. Here, the client's own pet dog is trained to perform tasks both in and out of the home, which are specifically tailored to their individual needs, including dressing and un-

dressing, opening doors and loading and unloading the washing machine.

Autism assistance dogs are trained to provide safety and to facilitate a more independent and socially inclusive life for both the autistic child and their family.

These wonderdogs can reduce stress for family members, provide safety and positive changes in behaviour, comfort when the child is upset and also help to reduce behavioural outbursts.

Epilepsy seizure alert dogs are trained to provide a 100% reliable warning up to one hour in advance of an oncoming seizure.

They give time for their owner to find a place of safety and privacy as they have their seizure. Support Dogs is the only organisation in the UK to provide and train seizure alert dogs.

Around 1,000 people with epilepsy die each year and research suggests that most of these deaths are sudden and unexpected.

The warning provided by a seizure alert dog means that a client can remove themselves from any danger and have a seizure in safety and privacy, giving them control over their seizure and allowing a much more independent life.

It can take over two years to train a support dog and each dog costs the charity around £29,000 to train and at least a further £3,000 a year to support throughout their eight-year working lives.

Yet the charity receives no government funding and relies solely on donations.

It's not just Labradors who are trained – the charity has managed to turn breeds including sausage dogs, King Charles Spaniels and miniature Labradoodles into life-changing assistance dogs.

As well as its workforce of just over 40 staff members, Support Dogs relies heavily on its loyal army of 200 volunteers, which are deployed in roles varying from puppy socialisers, doggy foster carers and holiday cover carers to volunteer drivers and volunteer office admin.

Its amazing volunteers donate over 100,000 hours each year to help change lives across these roles.

CAMRA Sheffield & District has a toy support dog mascot whose name is Beer 26 who will be located in the Staff Office and on tour during the festival.

Collection buckets will be located around the festival if you'd like to chuck some cash in, alternatively you may wish to donate your refund on unspent beer tokens or returned souvenir glass.

Find out more at [supportdogs.org.uk](http://supportdogs.org.uk).



## FABULOUS FESTIVAL FOOD

Visitors to this year's Steel City Beer & Cider Festival will have a great range of options for satisfying their hunger pangs whilst sampling some equally great beers. Here's a rundown of what you can expect.

### COURTYARD

The courtyard by the Marquee features four hot food stalls.

Festival favourites **Sunshine Pizzas** will be serving up their usual mouth watering fresh pizzas, using organic slow-proved dough, cooked in a wood-fired oven. Vegetarian and vegan options available.

**Yuleys Bratwurst** need no introduction. These regular vendors at the festival offer German pork bratwurst, smoked ham Krakauer or cheese and ham kaiserwurst, all cooked over charcoal.

Get the bold soulful flavours of Jamaican street food from **Caribbean Fusion**. Favourites such as jerk chicken, curried mutton, fried dumplings, and of course rice & peas are all cooked to traditional family recipes. Vegetarian curry also available.

Expect all your traditional chip shop favourites at **Smith Fish & Chips**. Cod, haddock, chips, fishcakes, sausages, mushy peas, gravy, curry sauce, bread cake. With plenty of salt & vinegar obviously!

### UPPER HALL

**Fairfax Distillers & Chocolatiers** will satisfy your sweet tooth with their range of high quality, hand-made chocolates. Try pairing them with one of their spirits, available to drink at the festival or to take home in bottles.

**The Cheese Factor** have a wealth of experience in selecting, sourcing, storing and serving the best of English and continental cheeses, available in sandwiches, ploughman's lunches, and cheese and biscuit platters.

Sheffield Legends **Henderson's Relish** will have a stall selling their new range of crisps and other snacks all flavoured with their much-loved relish. Dedicated fans will also be able to buy t-shirts or bobble hats to display their love of the famous spicy table sauce.

### STONE GARDEN

At the back of the venue accessible through the Engine Room, is the Keg Bar and the Stone Garden.

**Taco Trailer** will be serving proper, flavour packed tacos with a focus on quality, bold flavours, homemade fillings, and fresh tortillas.

The Steel City Beer & Cider Festival is at Kelham Island Museum in Sheffield 21-24 October. Visit [sheffield.camra.org.uk/scbf](http://sheffield.camra.org.uk/scbf) for full details

## 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, RambAles and other activities. Email our Social Secretary for more info and bookings.

## JULY



### JD Wetherspoon

**Wed 29 Jul – Sun 9 Aug**

Sheffield branches are participating in this festival that celebrates Yorkshire Day with seven Yorkshire breweries – Fuggle Bunny, Small World Beers, Kirkstall, Yorkshire Heart, Acorn, Wilde Child and Stancill.



### Abbeydale Road

**Thu 30 Jul – Sun 2 Aug**

Numerous venues along Abbeydale Road stretching from the **Broadfield** to the **Bear** team up with a varied beer offering with a different brewery showcased at each bar.



### Festival planning meeting

**7:30pm Tue 18 Aug**

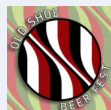
We continue work planning our 50 Steel City 50 Beer & Cider Festival. The meeting is held upstairs at the **Gardeners Rest**. Get there on bus 7/8 which stop outside the pub, alternatively it is a 5–10 minute walk from Infirmary Road tram stop.



### Social: 65 bus pub tour

**11:30am Sat 22 Aug**

The 65 bus: This bus runs from Sheffield to Buxton via Grindleford, Stoney Middleton, Foolow, Tideswell and Millers Dale. We'll be using it to visit a few of the country pubs along the route. Bus departs Sheffield Interchange at 11:35. A Derbyshire Wayfarer all day bus pass costs £9, buy from the bus driver or on the Travelmaster app.



### Old Shoe

**Sat 22 Aug**

Annual in-house festival with brewery bars spread across the **Old Shoe** and **Sheffield Plate** food hall's function room. Advance tickets required.



### Committee meeting

**8:30pm Tue 25 Aug**

The monthly business meeting for the committee. The venue is the **Dog & Partridge** on Trippet Lane in Sheffield City Centre. We also aim to have the new issue of *Beer Matters* from the printers ready for distribution volunteers to come and collect.



### Peterborough (CAMRA)

**Tue 25 – Sat 29 Aug**

Large tented festival.

## AUGUST



### Branch meeting

**8pm Tue 4 Aug**

All our members are welcome to come along, share pub, club and brewery news, discuss campaigning updates, get involved and enjoy a beer! The venue this month is the **Lord Nelson** in Sheffield City Centre. Nearest bus stops are on Eyre Street (behind Moor Market).





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### Seven Hills

**Fri 28 – Sun 30 Aug**

30 cask ales plus food, music, rugby and more at **Sheffield Tigers Rugby Club**, Dore Moor. This year entry is free but you can save money by buying beer tokens and a programme online in advance. Buses 65 and 272 go past the venue or bus 81 is a short walk away.



### Hope Valley

**Fri 28 – Mon 31 Aug**

The regular bank holiday beer & cider festival hosted at the **Old Hall Hotel** in Hope. Festival bar, food stalls, live music and DJs. Buses 173 and 272 go past the pub or it is a short walk from Hope railway station.



### Cow Shed, Millers Dale

**Sat 29 – Sun 30 Aug**

The event space at **Beltonville Farm** hosts a beer festival with live music. Advance tickets required. Camping available.



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#### Committee Meeting Secretary



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### Sarah Mills

#### Real Cider Champion

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