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SEP 2026
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The results of our annual survey are in



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BEER MATTERS

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SEP 2026



BRANCH
MAGAZINE OF
THE YEAR
2026

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SHEFFIELD BEER CENSUS 2026

On Saturday 30 May, members of the Sheffield & District branch headed around the city and this year further out including parts of the Peak District to complete the Sheffield Beer Census (the last was at the same time in 2025). The purpose of the event was to take a snapshot of the range and cost of real ales and hopefully confirm Sheffield's rightful status as the 'beer capital' of the UK.

"A BRILLIANT START TO THE NEW PRIME MINISTER'S TENURE"



Ash Corbett-Collins, CAMRA chairman, said:

"This is a brilliant start to the new Prime Minister's tenure, living up to the statements that he's made before about pubs, pints and people.

"Our business rates system is grossly unfair to pubs and social clubs, bricks and mortar businesses that are also vital social institutions for their communities and desperately needs reform.

"As always we need to see the details at the Budget, but another year of rate relief will provide vital breathing space to publicans in England, while the work to review the rating system for hospitality businesses presumably continues."

Groups on various different routes set off at midday and met up at the Bath Hotel in the city centre. From here those that could still make it headed out to other areas and pubs which had not yet been surveyed. For the third time in a row, we were blessed with great weather.

As ever, a very special thanks goes to all the hard-working volunteers who went out to venues and gathered the data to make this survey possible.

Phil Ellett

Counts

191 pubs surveyed	692 beers surveyed	375 unique beers	155 breweries
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A total of 191 pubs were surveyed (33 more than last time), with a total of 692 beers recorded. From this data, 375 unique beers were identified from 155 different breweries. As we surveyed a wider number of pubs this year, we compared the number of beers on sale for the 120 pubs which were surveyed in 2025 and 2026. This came up with a figure of 4.36 beers available per pub, only slightly down from the 4.5 figure from 2025. We believe these figures maintain Sheffield's claim to be the 'beer capital', offering the widest choice of cask ales.

Prices

£1.79 cheapest	£4.46 average	£6.95 dearest
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Our comprehensive 2026 survey across 191 venues reveals that the headline average price for a pint of cask ale in our branch area now stands at £4.46 (an 8.0% increase over 2025). However, a quick breakdown by postcode area shows that surveying pubs further out of town played a massive role in pulling that headline figure up.

The inclusion of pubs in the Hope Valley and Peak District introduced a distinct 'tourist premium': S32 (Hathersage/Eyam) and S33 (Castleton/Hope) topped the scales with eye-watering averages of £5.69 and £5.35 respectively – with individual pints reaching as high as £6.95. Within Sheffield itself, S17 (Dore/Totley) led the city proper at £5.13, followed by the S7/S11 corridor at £4.52/£4.78, while traditional suburban strongholds like S6 (Hillsborough) and S8 (Woodseats) maintained more modest baselines around £3.92 and £4.16. Clearly, the days of the sub-£4 pint in independent pubs will soon be behind us.

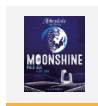
Looking strictly at established, urban Sheffield pubs returning from last year's survey, the like-for-like picture is far more measured: prices across our core city estate rose by between 5.2% and 7.2% (an average rise of 23p to 29p a pint). While this still outpaces general UK CPI inflation (2.8%) as publicans contend with rising wage floors and operational overheads, high-volume national chains kept their increases to just 3.2% (averaging about £2.60) – widening the gap between corporate value outlets and our independent trade. Beer is clearly going up in price at a far greater rate than general inflation.

Breweries

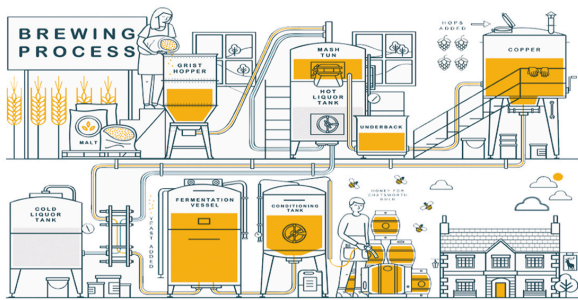


As usual, local breweries dominated the pumps with Abbeydale having 81 recorded beers, and Thornbridge overtaking Bradfield with 45 beers vs Bradfield's 41. This was no doubt driven by the opening of the Fargate tap.

Beers



As for individual beers on sale, the top spot this year was again Abbeydale's *Moonshine* available in 41 of the pubs surveyed. Timothy Taylor's *Landlord* (a Yorkshire-brewed but less local beer) came in second, on sale in 27 pubs, with Bradfield *Farmhouse Blonde* third in 24 pubs.



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HOW MUCH?

CAMRA is well-known for promoting great beer and pubs through various schemes including Pub of the Month/Year awards, Champion Beers at festivals and the Pub Design awards. But at its heart it is a consumer organisation; it campaigns for better – better quality, better choice, better service and, of course, better value (note that cheaper does *not* necessarily mean better value). *Beer Matters* writer Richard Hough decided to investigate. He writes:

In one wild week earlier this year, I undertook the *Jaipur* Jaunt, to compare the prices of Thornbridge *Jaipur* across the pubs of Sheffield. On the Monday, I found myself to the south of the city. First stop – **Woodseats Palace**, a JD Wetherspoon pub in the old cinema building. Ten handpumps dispense an array of ales, with *Jaipur* always a regular. The price was a very reasonable £2.35 a pint Mon–Wed, rising to £2.99 the rest of the week. CAMRA members can use their voucher for a further 50p off.

A short hop on a bus, and it was the **Hardy Pick** next. A large Greene King pub under the ‘Hungry Horse’ banner, where families, food and footie-on-the-screen are the order of the day (so not to everyone’s taste). The cask ales on offer were Abbeydale *Moonshine*, Titanic *Plum Porter* and *Jaipur*, with the latter at £4.60. Show your CAMRA membership card, though, and receive

10% off. £4.14 a pint – steady. A vicious swan-neck means you will likely need a top-up. The beer quality was fine.

Next on the list was the **White Lion**, a multi-roomed pub with bags of character. A number of handpumps adorn the bar, always featuring something brewed locally. The ‘strong pump’ may feature the likes of Abbeydale Absolution or Dancing Duck Abduction, but tonight it

was *Jaipur*, at £3.50 a pint (as was all cask). Prices rise through the week – to £3.80 Wed–Thu, and £5.10 Fri–Sun. That’s Monday done, and 3 pints for less than a tenner.

Tuesday. The **Sheaf Island** is another JDW pub, this one situated on the site of the former Ward’s Brewery on Eccy Road. In my opinion, one of the better ‘Spoons, with its high ceilings and large windows to let the light in. *Jaipur* is usually on, and today a bargain at £1.99. Again, prices rise later in the week (£2.49 Thu–Sun, don’t forget the 50p CAMRA voucher). While an enjoyable pub, and offering excellent value, I preferred it when it was the Brewery.

From there, the 82 bus drops you at The **Greystones** on Greystones Road. It is a Thornbridge-run pub with fantastic views from the garden, and also famed for the eclectic gigs in The Backroom. Among a wide range of the Brewery’s beers, *Jaipur* was chosen; the price was £5.60 a pint. Once again, a flash of the CAMRA card gets you 10% off. £5.04 – that’s better.

With a bit of time to spare, I decided to detour via the **Itchy Pig**, Banner Cross. An excellent micropub with an ever-changing line-up of cask from near and far. One feature of the pub is that all ales are the same price, regardless of strength (£4.80).

A pleasant walk along leafy Psalter Lane took me to the final destination of the day, the **Stag’s Head**. It is a traditional pub run by Thornbridge, with eight of their beers on handpump. £5.70 for a pint of *Jaipur* was the most expensive of the day. I will suggest that if you don’t like the prices charged in Thornbridge’s own pubs, don’t pay them. There are plenty of cheaper pubs around. With the day’s Jaunt over, I decided to stay for one more – a strong dark ale from ‘The Union’. In 2024 Thornbridge acquired the famous Burton Union Sets from Marston’s. They now use it to recreate ales from bygone days; the *Strong Dark Mild* (6.5% ABV) was a perfect end to a busy day.



I began Wednesday's Jaunt in the city centre. The **Benjamin Huntsman** on Cambridge Street is yet another JDW pub, named in honour of the inventor of the world-changing crucible steel process – you can read the history in the pub. While slightly more expensive than other 'Spoons, it still represents good value, and your CAMRA vouchers give you a further 50p off. Some steel-inspired sculptures are worthy of note.

With a nod to the Jess Ennis gold pillar box (was that *really* 14 years ago?) I headed to the **Waterworks**. It is a Lloyds (so Wetherspoons, then) in the old water pumping station building. The price of *Jaipur* matched that at the Ben Huntsman, and again prices rise as you approach the weekend. It will be interesting to see how great the exterior looks once the scaffolding is (eventually) removed.

I passed the statue honouring the Women of Steel on the way to the 95 bus. Next up, the **Hallamshire House** on Commonsides. The fine stained-glass windows point to its past as a Ward's pub, but these days it is run by Thornbridge. A multi-roomed establishment with plenty to recommend, including the increasingly rare sight of a full-size snooker table in the back room. *Jaipur* was £5.70 a pint, and yet again if you show your CAMRA membership card, you get a 10% discount on cask ales. The Hally completed the first three days of the Jaunt. I took Thursday off for a bit of respite, but the journey will resume next time...



INN BRIEF

WaterBear Green Room in Sheffield city centre opened for the first time under the new ownership over Tramlines festival weekend and was one of the fringe venues; no real ale was available. This was just a temporary opening and work is still ongoing with regular opening expected to launch in September.

Pig & Whistle at Gleadless Townend is holding a German Oktoberfest-themed event from 25 to 27 September.

Brothers Arms in Heeley held its summer bash music festival on 22 August.

True North has sold two of its pubs to other operators – **British Oak** in Mosborough and **Old Grindstone** in Crookes.

Abbedale Tap micropub is hosting a weekly cask club Tuesday to Friday between 5pm and 9pm with rotating beers available for just £3 a pint or four for a tenner.

Fat Cat celebrated 45 years on 21 August with some special birthday beers on the bar.

The former Mesters Tap at Woodseats has had the decorators in and reopened as **Counter Micropub**.



Dove & Rainbow on Hartshead Square in Sheffield city centre has an upcoming celebration of 20 years in its current guise as a rock and alternative bar run by Dawn Gunther. The event takes place on Friday 6 November from 8pm.

Hammer & Pincers at Bents Green offers discounted beer on Mondays.

Princess Royal at Crookes is saying goodbye to Jane, the landlady of 18 years, next April.

Greenhill Tap on Westwick Crescent, Greenhill, has tried introducing a local cask ale at the weekend following customer requests, starting with Drone Valley Derbyshire Blonde, available Thursday to Saturday. The venue is a new small bar and tapas restaurant in premises that were previously Sarah's Kitchen.

The reopening date for the **Red Deer** in Sheffield city centre has been announced as 26 August. It is under new management and has had an internal refurbishment including a new kitchen, renovations to the outside of the building and some improvements to the outdoor drinking area too. The pub is leased from Heineken's Star Pubs company.

Closed Shop at Commonside is now open and has cask ale.

John Coyle, the manager of the **White Lion** at Heeley, has announced he is leaving. His replacement is moving down from another pub in the group.

Eyam Brewery Taproom in Tideswell is now also opening on Thursday evenings from 5pm to 9pm. There are plans to introduce a quiz night on Thursdays at some point. It continues to open 1pm to 9pm on Fridays and Saturdays, midday to 6pm on Sundays.

Horse & Jockey in Tideswell hosted a Timothy Taylor's tap takeover on 6 August. This saw four of its cask ales on the bar (*Landlord, Bolt-maker, Golden Best* and *Blonde*), spin-the-wheel competition with merch to be won and a representative of the brewery around to answer questions. This was followed by its regular quiz night and was well attended.

Foresters on Division Street in Sheffield city centre, which is operated by the Pub People Company, has temporarily closed for a refurbishment. An investment of £250k will see both the interior and the outdoor drinking area transformed.

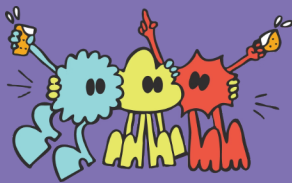
Angela and Glyn have finally closed the doors and retired at the **Queen Anne** in Great Hucklow after 19 years there and 38 years in the trade.

Mallard pub and cafe on Moorthorpe station, which was opened by Jolly Boys' Brewery, is changing hands in September and will become a tap for Chin Chin Brewing Co.

Canary bar on Waverley's Olive Lane pedestrianised shopping street continues to host a regular programme of events including DJs, live music, quizzes, game nights and street food pop-ups as well as a regularly changing range of craft beers on both cask and keg.

Blue Bell in Harthill is hosting 'Hartfest' on Saturday 5 September. This sees an afternoon of live music from 3pm with food also available.

Dronfield Arms celebrated 15 years under its current ownership over the weekend of 22–23 August with Abbeydale *Moonshine* reduced to just £2.50 a pint, and on Sunday there was a guest food trader and live music.



**Mind
Sheffield**

HALF PINT MARATHON

The list of venues for the 2026 Half Pint Marathon has been published, and it is quite a long one this time with 32 pubs, bars and taprooms taking part!

All of the venues will be serving at least one of the two special charity beers, brewed by Triple Point and Abbeydale, throughout September. It is expected that one will be cask and the other keg.

The venues are:

1. Hop Hideout
2. Dog & Partridge
3. Kapital
4. Three Tuns
5. Triple Point Brewery + Bar
6. Head of Steam
7. Pearl at Park Hill
8. Forum
9. Common Room
10. Wonky Labrador
11. Stag's Head
12. Botanical Arms
13. Two Sheds
14. Blind Monkey
15. Punch Bowl (Crookes)
16. Abbeydale Ballroom
17. Hallamshire House
18. Harlequin
19. Gardeners Rest

20. Alder
21. Hymn to Ninkasi
22. Riverside (Kelham Island)
23. Neepsend Social Club
24. Beer House S6
25. St Mars of the Desert
26. Two Thirds Beer Co
27. Over the Yardarm
28. Broadfield
29. Waggon & Horses (Millhouses)
30. Rising Sun (Nether Green)
31. Abbeydale Beer Works
32. Albion

For every pint sold, 25p will go to Sheffield Mind, a local mental health charity which provides vital services, information and advocacy across the city, helping people access support when they need it most.

The event, coordinated by True North Brew Co, also celebrates Sheffield's independent bars, pubs and taprooms, encouraging drinkers to explore the city, trying new places – you can do a bit of a crawl enjoying a half pint in each bar!

Pick up a Half Pint Marathon card and get a stamp in each venue where you order a half of the special beers. When you collect 13 stamps, you can exchange the card for a limited-edition print.



TAP & BARREL

A disused Sheffield city centre pub is set to be reopened as a live arts and community media centre following acquisition for Sheffield Live!, the city's community radio and television operation. The neighbourhood is undergoing major renovation including plans for a new urban park to open next year.

The plan is for the former Tap & Barrel (42 Waingate S3 8LB) to be renovated to accommodate radio, TV and podcasting studios, a public cafe and bar, and performance space for local artists and promoters. Sheffield Community Media, which hosts Sheffield Live! radio and TV, has purchased the former public house with the support of social investment lender Key Fund. It plans to raise further investment from a community shares issue to refurbish the bar and performance spaces.

Steve Buckley of Sheffield Community Media said: "Acquisition meets our long-held ambition to find a space for live performance, community arts and social enterprise that can integrate with our broadcast media facilities. We are inviting people to get involved and we welcome expressions of interest in use of the space and contributing to the project."

Sangita Basudev, co-founder of Sheffield Live!, said: "We are excited to be moving to this iconic location, on the site of Sheffield's former castle and opposite Lady's Bridge, the first bridge across the River Don. With Castlegate now part of the City Centre Conservation Area, we look forward to developing our role in promoting local heritage and connecting communities."

Sheffield Community Media has benefited from support with concept design from the University of Sheffield School of Architecture and has been assisted by Co-operatives UK in developing the investment model. It looks to build on these and other partnerships as the project progresses.

The pub has had several previous names: Boulogne Mouth, Bull & Mouth, Boulogne, and Tap & Spile. The pub opened in 1790, and it is believed the original name was a reference to the town and harbour of Boulogne which was besieged by Henry VIII in 1544–1546. Over time, the name became the Bull & Mouth.

In March 1854, it was acquired by Sheffield brewery Thomas Marrian & Co Ltd. It was rebuilt in 1914 as the brewery tap for local brewery Duncan Gilmours. Plans show a multi-roomed pub with a Central Bar. The building retains a Gilmours doorstep and has the name 'Bull and Mouth' in the mosaic floor of the vestibule adjacent to Waingate. 1973 saw an opening out of the pub: the servery was moved to the right side, with the Hall, Public Bar and Smoke Room becoming a large Lounge. The Concert Room remains at the rear of the pub. The pub was refurbished in the early 1980s and again in 2015. It was renamed the Tap & Spile in early 1992. The Tap & Spile brand was launched in the mid-1980s by Allied Lyons (later Allied Domecq) as a traditional-style concept, focusing on cask ales. Interiors often had bare floorboards, sawdust on the floor and wooden benches. The pub became the Tap & Barrel in 1998, closing on 4 July 2023.

Dave Pickersgill



5 Real Ales

14 Keg Lines

Over 30 Whiskies



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HALLAMSHIRE HOUSE

The Hallamshire in Commonsides has just been reunited with a long-lost sign last seen in the late 90s.

It's a fascinating story of how it happened, although how it disappeared in the first place is still a complete mystery. The pub was contacted by a couple from Leeds who were offering to return one of their old pub signs.

Landlord Doug Simpson was obviously intrigued, if somewhat baffled by the call, and keen to know more.

Apparently, the couple had lived in Brooklyn for many years, and around 25 years ago had visited a neighbours' apartment where they were amazed to find the sign hanging on the wall. They instantly recognised the sign from their days as university students in Sheffield in the late 1970s.

The neighbour had bought it for a friend, as a wedding gift, but the wife didn't like it, so he ended up getting it back! When the couple returned to Leeds in 2009, the neighbours kindly gave them the sign, where it sat for the next 17 years, leaning against a wall due to the weight.

After a recent house move, they decided the sign should return to its rightful home, and a call was made to the pub to see if they wanted it back. Doug jumped at the chance, and when the couple said they didn't want anything for it, but would like a donation to charity, Thornbridge Brewery readily agreed and Sheffield Children's Hospital was the happy recipient.

The sign is now on display in the pub, proudly hung over the fireplace in the back room. Of course, the question of how it got to New York in the first place is still unresolved, so if anyone knows anything about it, the Hallamshire would be keen to talk to you.

Paul Crofts



BARREL & ANVIL

Following the recent demise of Beer Central in Moor Market, it looked like Sheffield had lost one of its longstanding bottle shops. However, ex-employee Vince Cooper has now taken over the premises and opened as Barrel & Anvil. We're glad to say that Vince has been exceptionally busy since opening, but he found time to answer a few questions about setting up the business and his plans for the future.

First of all, Vince, congratulations on opening Barrel & Anvil. Can you tell us a bit about your background?

I started at Pangolin in 2020, having never poured a pint, and spent a year there while working for Morrisons. This was my job for 5 years; I spent more time down the beer aisle and tried hundreds of beers over the years. I did a little stint at Beer House S6 as manager, which I loved. When Beer Central started looking for staff when reopening I got a job.

When did you first think of starting up?

As soon as the previous owners made Ciara and me redundant I messaged the market team about taking on the unit myself. The seeds were planted before that as the owners were looking to sell and unfortunately for them we were way apart in terms of valuations.

Has anyone in particular been helpful while setting up that you would like to mention?

I guess the main person is Sean Clarke, the original owner of Beer Central. He's been very helpful the last 4 months, always there for me and still is. Debbie from Neepsend Brew Co has been a good ear too. Matt from The Bear also gave me some wise advice that'll stay with me.

Why take over the Beer Central site, rather than looking for new premises?

Moor Market still has fantastic footfall; there are 70,000 students around the city centre, lots of city workers who are interested in beer, and the traditional ale fans flock to the market for their beer if supping at home.

Everyone was gutted when Beer Central closed its doors; you ask some of the other traders and one of the most popular questions was "will it reopen as a beer shop?"

I spoke to family and they were like "give it a shot", so here we are.



What will you do differently to the previous owners?

Have beer on the shelves and try to cater to as many folks as possible. I'll be doing it all myself, mostly, then come October time I'll employ someone else for Saturday, and we'll just see where we go from there. I should hopefully have a fully functioning website by Xmas time. The socials interactions are great at the moment.

Hopefully it'll be more like how it was when Sean was in charge, but with my little spin on it.

Any particular suppliers or beers you want to mention?

Courier Brew Co has been fab, Thistly Cross Cider, Adam over at Track, the guys at Distant Lands have been fantastic. I'm excited to have Ashover Brew in the shop... the list is endless.

Will you be doing the box saves? It feels like half of Sheffield must have typed "One please Sean" at some point in the past, so we know it's a popular option.

I've just started doing box saves. Once the website is up and running, there should be an option to pay for products, build a box etc.

Great. So it'll be "One please Vince" in future!

Finally, what are your opening hours?

Currently Mon – Sat 9am – 5:30pm. These may be subject to change, but we'll announce them on our socials if they do.

Barrel & Anvil is located at Outlet MS3, Moor Market, Sheffield, S1 4PF.

Find them on Facebook as @barrelandanvilshedd.



PUB OF THE MONTH September 2026

The Crow Inn is our members' Pub of the Month winner for September. Originally a Rawson's pub, it first opened in 1797 as the Crown Inn. The pub has been part of various local historic events, some of which can be read about in books by local historian John Stocks and our own heritage officer, Dave Pickersgill.

Reopening in 2019 in its current incarnation, the Crow sports a logo of its namesake holding an 'N' in its talons. This, along with the Crown mosaic in the entryway, are the main reminders of its former name.



The Crow has two main rooms, one either side of the entryway, both with banquette seating on three sides. The bar is central opposite the entrance, and there are seven en-suite rooms available upstairs. To the side and rear is a small courtyard for outside drinking.

On the bar is a selection of 17 keg lines and three real ales. They also have a St Bernardus font, which may have been the first in the UK, so there's always good draught Belgian beer available. There is a large selection of wines and spirits, and sausage rolls and pork pies are available in the fridges.

Join us for a drink to celebrate the Crow Inn's award on **Tuesday 8 September** from 8pm. We'll present them with their certificate at around 9pm.

Dan Rowe

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AWARD PRESENTATION

PUB OF THE MONTH August 2026
RAMBLER INN Edale

We were at the Rambler Inn on 11 August to present Jo, Chris and their team with a well-deserved Pub of the Month award. A fantastic range of cask beer was on the bar. The pub was busy with a mixture of locals, guests and visitors, and a delicious buffet was laid on!



EAST MIDLANDS PUB OF THE YEAR

All the CAMRA branches that have a Pub of the Year winner in the East Midlands region enter their winner into this competition, which initially gets judged in a county round, with the county winners judged against each other to name an East Midlands regional winner, which goes forward into the national competition.

Sheffield & District branch is spread across South Yorkshire and Derbyshire, as our winner (Kelham Island Tavern) is in Sheffield, ours went into the Yorkshire competition rather than East Midlands this year. In the past before the system changed, we've had success in Derbyshire judging with the Red Lion in Litton, which was our branch's area pub of the year for the 'District' (Derbyshire) part this year.

The East Midlands winner is the Railway at Ketton, in Rutland near Stamford. This is a Grade II listed traditional village local in the shadow of the impressive church and is described as serving good wine and beer in a welcoming and friendly atmosphere.

The runners up were Final Whistle (Southwell, near Newark), Dead Poets Inn (Holbrook, Derbyshire) and Crown Hotel (Holbeach, Lincolnshire).

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

As part of Heritage Open Days 2026, we're leading two pub heritage walks. Both are on **Friday 11 September**. These walks will encompass both aspects of industrial and social heritage and of the 'beer capital' status held by the city of Sheffield. Full details and the booking links are available online.



Kelham Island

12:00 Fri 11 Sep

tinyurl.com/j5fubk9



Little Chicago

15:30 Fri 11 Sep

tinyurl.com/24p89n8p

If you can't wait until September, you could try the latest edition of *Sheffield's Real Heritage Pubs* and our *Sheffield Pub Heritage Walk* booklets. They are available as free downloads from: sheffield.camra.org.uk/rhp





SHAKESPEARES

(c.1564-1616)

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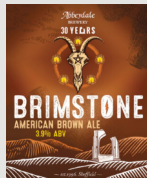
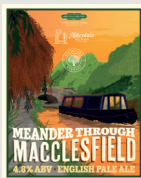
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ABBEYDALE BREWERY

Returning from our Mythical Creatures-inspired series this month, we have **Erking** – a flavourful 3.9% pale ale single-hopped with Sabro, from the wild Neomexicanus hop family. Expect sweet citrus fruit flavours and a creamy hint of coconut in the finish.

In exciting collaboration news, we've had the amazing RedWillow Brewery here after brewing *Deceptionless* at their place earlier in the year. For the return leg, we've created **Meander Through Macclesfield** – a 4.8% UK-hopped pale ale showcasing Olicana and Harlequin, including innovative Harlequin Abstrax Quantum 'hop juice'. A burst of floral character is joined by vivid mango and pineapple notes, with a subtle herbal finish.

And we hope you'll all be as excited as we are for the next in our Legacy Series, bringing back classic beers from the archives to help us celebrate our 30th anniversary – this time, it's the turn of our much-loved American brown ale, **Brimstone!** This is an Amarillo-hopped American brown ale. Expect aromas of malt loaf and marmalade giving way to flavours of toffee and liquorice, followed by a lingering, pleasingly bitter finish. It won't be around for long, so don't miss it!

Finally, we've teamed up with hop suppliers Hopsteiner to create **Dreamlike**, a 5.6% IPA featuring Alora and Solero hops, both of which are new to us! They promise vibrant tropical notes, from mango to aromatic yuzu, alongside sweet peach and passion fruit. The beer of your dreams?

BREWERY BITS

Chantry Brewery has brewed a special beer to mark Rotherham Hospice's 30th anniversary. The beer is a 4% ABV pale ale.



The latest in **Acorn Brewery's** Musical Decades series of beers, currently celebrating the 2000s, is a 3.4% ABV session pale called *Mardy Bum*.

Recent output from **Blue Bee Brewery** includes *Chinook Centennial IPA* (6% ABV), *Five Hop Version 91*, *One in a Millennium East India porter* (5% ABV) and *Moteuka Pale* (5% ABV).

Fuggle Bunny Brew House continues to host tap events on the last Saturday of the month. The one on Saturday 29 August runs from 3–9pm with food from Nico's Pizza and live music at 5pm from Drew Biggin.

Thornbridge Brewery has been honoured with the Corporate Special Recognition Award (Company) at this year's Charity Awards, in recognition of its outstanding support for Sheffield Children's Hospital Charity. In July 2025, the brewery pledged to raise £15,000 and is proud to announce it has now exceeded that target. Reaching this milestone has taken hard work from people across the whole business, with funds raised through a range of activities. These include individual fundraising initiatives, customer donations across the pub estate, proceeds from pizzas sold at the Taproom and contributions from meals enjoyed at the Cricket Inn, the brewery's gastropub in Sheffield, alongside support for the Pride of Yorkshire Trail itself.

Drone Valley Brewery will be once again taking their outside bar to the Bradway Family Fun Day on Saturday 5 September. This community event is organised by Bradway Action Group as a fundraiser with the biggest project being the ongoing refurbishment of the kids' play area on the village green. The event takes place on the village green by the shops on Bradway Road/Twentywell Lane, from 1:30pm to 4:30pm. Bus 25 and M17 go there.

Post-Smodfest, look out for **St Mars of the Desert's** collab with Torrside Brewery – a Rotbier using cherry-wood-smoked malt.



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Bridlington's Real Ale Destination has a new home... and garden

ooo, it's quite the suntrap! -

Oh yes? -



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SMODFEST

Dann and Martha at the **Brewery of St Mars of the Desert** held their annual Smodfest over four weekends in July and August. Their Attercliffe taproom was full to bursting, with booking essential to guarantee a seat.

The beer list was excellent, with the usual Smodfest, Hopenfest and Smokeyfest beers plus the excellent *The Dream*, a collaboration

with Manchester-based Blackjack Brewery and Lukas from Thornbridge.

Jules of Hop Hideout fame supplied the food with her Camembert Voltaire cheese and savoury plates.

A great time was had by all, with branch members Paul and Bev Manning, Dan Rowe and Dave Pickersgill all enjoying the festival.

Paul Manning


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21½ MPH REAL ALE FESTIVAL

In recent years, events where multiple venues collaborate seem to have really caught the imagination of drinkers with the likes of One Valley, Abbeydale Road, Ecclesall Road, Ridgeway, Eckington and Tramlines Fringe all proving popular. All have similar principles – you can visit a number of venues in one day each offering different beer, food and music.

In a similar vein, Sheffield also has its annual Sheffield Beer Week with many venues across the city celebrating good beer, coordinated by Jules from Hop Hideout.

The festival is being led by Mark Simmonite of the Perch Bar and attached Dead Parrot Brewery, inspired by the one-off Steel City Beer & Cider Festival on Tour, organised just after Covid. The inaugural event takes place 24–27 September across 16 venues around central Sheffield, including Perch. The intention is that each of the 16 venues will offer a different selection of cask ales and all are within walking distance of one another.

The festival circuit begins at Perch, where you can pick up a leaflet featuring a map of all the participating venues (while stocks last!)

LIMITED-EDITION HENDO'S

Steel City Beer & Cider Festival has teamed up with local legends Henderson's Relish for a limited-edition run of Steel City 50 bottles.

Only 500 bottles have been produced, with over 300 sold even before delivery, so they won't hang around for long.

At the time of writing, Pangolin Craft Beer of Hillsborough, Craft & Berry on Ecclesall Road and Hop Hideout in Leah's Yard have taken orders and will have stock available. Check our website as we announce new outlets. A number of bottles will be held back for sale at the festival.



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BEERMAT SET CHARITY SALES

Three limited-edition mint sets of fourteen beer mats promoting Steel City 50 Beer & Cider Festival are to be auctioned on eBay. On one side of each mat is the festival design, with the reverse carrying the sponsor. The first set went live on 21 August; two other sets will follow at monthly intervals. Search eBay using SCBF50.

A total of 75,000 beer mats will be distributed in Sheffield, the surrounding area and further afield. However, a full set is very unlikely to be seen in one place at any one time.

The fourteen sponsors include local pubs, breweries and other businesses.

Profits from these eBay sales will go to the official festival charity, Support Dogs. This small local charity relies heavily on the support of volunteers to make its life-changing work possible. The charity trains autism assistance dogs, epilepsy seizure alert dogs and disability assistance dogs for those affected by a wide range of physical conditions including MS, cerebral palsy, fibromyalgia and many more. The money raised will contribute to its vital work.



SPONSORSHIP DEALS

There are still three sponsorship packages available for our Steel City Beer & Cider Festival at Kelham Island Museum this October. The event runs for four days attracting around 6,000 visitors in total.

The deal includes having the name of your business on display along with some free ticket packages that include entry, souvenir glass, printed programme, games voucher and a free pint of ale or cider.

Stillage

£125 + VAT

An A2 board with your logo displayed on the stillage (the racking that holds the beer barrels behind the bar) along with three sponsor tickets.

Banner

£100 + VAT

Your advertising banner (up to 3 × 1 m) displayed in a prominent location in the festival venue along with two sponsor tickets.

Handpump or cask

£60 + VAT

Your logo attached to either a cask end label (for a beer poured on gravity direct from the cask) or a handpump. Cask end labels are A4 sheets, cards attached to a handpump are A6. This also includes two sponsor tickets.

For more information, please email: sponsorship@sheffield.camra.org.uk.

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LIVE MUSIC

To celebrate our 50th festival, we've lined up some excellent music for you and brought back three of our absolute favourites from previous years.



Highway Child 8pm Thu 22 Oct

Formed in 2004 and boasting a classic rhythm section and a dynamic brass ensemble, the band's sound is as big and as polished as the songs they play. With an extensive repertoire of classic songs from artists such as Otis Redding, Wilson Pickett, Stevie Wonder, Ray Charles and James Brown to name but a few, Highway Child will get you dancing and keep you having fun.

highwaychild.org.uk



Soul Battalion 8pm Fri 23 Oct

Soul Battalion delivers a world-class tribute to the golden age of Soul & Motown. This dynamic eight piece band presents a fully live show with powerhouse female vocals, a blazing horn section and a dynamic rhythm section. Experience 32 dance-floor classics from The Supremes, Martha Reeves, The Four Tops, The Temptations, Gloria Jones, Frankie Valli, Tina Turner and more. Get ready to dance, sing and relive the magic!

soulbattalion.com



The 88s 6:30pm Sat 24 Oct

The 88s are a classic rock covers band, influenced by 70s and early 80s rock, delivering a high octane performance. Their sound is soulful and accessible in equal parts, featuring songs from the likes of The Faces, Bad Company, Howlin' Wolf, Bruce Springsteen, Tom Petty, The Rolling Stones and many more.

Muscular vocals, bluesy riffs and all your classic rock favourites. A barnstorming close to the festival.

facebook.com/rocket88uk

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Find local places to stay during the Weekender.



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News, announcements and everything you need to know for the event.



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REAL PUBS**



**LOCAL BREWERIES
INDEPENDENT SPIRIT**



**ONE WEEKEND
ONE CITY**

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.

AUGUST



Peterborough (CAMRA)

Tue 25 – Sat 29 Aug

Large tented festival.



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 and 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.

SEPTEMBER



Branch meeting

8pm Tue 1 Sep

All our members are welcome to come along, share pub, club and brewery news, discuss campaigning updates, get involved and, more importantly, enjoy a beer with us! The venue this month is the **Wisewood Inn**, the home of Loxley Brewery. Get there on bus 52a or 61/62.



Bolsover

Thu 3 – Sat 5 Sep

The annual beer festival, organised to raise funds for the local scout group, also features food, live music and a family fun day with a bouncy castle and face painting for the kids. Bus 53/53a runs to Bolsover from Sheffield.



Barnsley (CAMRA)

Thu 3 – Sat 5 Sep

The annual beer and cider festival at **St Peter's Church** on Brinckman Street, just outside Barnsley town centre. Open 4pm to 10pm on Thursday, midday to 10pm on Friday and Saturday with free entry. The venue is walkable from the railway station, or bus 2 from Sheffield stops nearby on the main road (Worsborough Common).



Western Park, Leicester

Fri 4 – Sat 5 Sep

Charity event, TBC

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Social: Shuffleboard tournament

3pm Sat 5 Sep

Now an annual tradition, this is an opportunity for members to get together for a social in the Kelham Island area the month before our beer festival takes place. The games take place upstairs at the **Gardeners Rest** and the knockout tournament has prizes to play for! Afterwards we'll head on to a few other local pubs. If you fancy joining us please let Paul Crofts know to book a place by emailing: festival@sheffield.camra.org.uk.



Pub of the Month

8pm Tue 8 Sep

Our members voted the **Crow Inn** on Scotland Street, on the edge of Sheffield city centre, as our September Pub of the Month winner. Join us for a beer or two as we present their certificate.



Tamworth (CAMRA)

Thu 10 – Sat 12 Sep

At **Tamworth Assembly** on Corporation Street featuring over 75 real ales, including a number of festival specials and new beers plus ciders and perries.



Mapplewell

Fri 11 – Sun 13 Sep

At a new venue this year – **St John's Parish Hall** in Staincross, Barnsley. The beer festival is a fundraiser for the Friends of Mapplewell & Staincross, a community organisation that organises for the villages to have things like Christmas lights, flower displays, defibrillator etc. Entry fee is £5 and gets you a festival glass. Bus number 1 from Barnsley gets you there.



Festival planning meeting

7:30pm Tue 15 Sep

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



York (CAMRA)

Wed 16 – Sat 19 Sep

Held at **St Lawrence Parish Church** with over 200 beers and ciders to choose from. Advance tickets advisable; free CAMRA members entry requires booking online.



Great Central Railway

Thu 17 – Sun 20 Sep

A festival spread across various stations on this preserved railway, which runs from Loughborough to Leicester.



Old Hall Inn & Paper Mill, Whitehough

Fri 18 – Sun 20 Sep

The bars in these two adjacent rural pubs, located a 10–15-minute walk from Chinley station, are supplemented by pop-up festival bars both in the **Old Hall Inn** and its beer garden to offer a large range of cask ales along with food and music. An engine or two from Buxworth Steam Festival will also be dropping in!



Social:

Local area pub tour

2pm Sat 19 Sep

With autumn arriving, we are back in the city of Sheffield for our pub tour socials and this month we'll be taking a wander around Crookes and Walkley, starting in the **Old Grindstone** (bus 52/52a).



Derby
Market
Hall



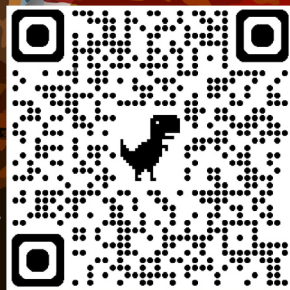
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BUY TICKETS HERE:



**Committee meeting****8:30pm Tue 22 Sep**

Monthly business meeting. **Dog & Partridge** on Trippet Lane. We also aim to have the new issue of *Beer Matters*.

**Calderdale (CAMRA)****Thu 24 – Sat 26 Sep**

Now held at **Arden Road Social Club** in Halifax, featuring around 60 beers plus a dozen traditional ciders.

**RambAle: Worksoep to Ranby****11:30am Sat 26 Sep**

We return to the Chesterfield Canal with a 5.5-mile walk from **Mallard Inn** at Worksoep station (1pm) to the **Chequers Inn** at Ranby, mostly on the towpath. We return to Worksoep by bus for a train back to Sheffield. The recommended train from Sheffield is at 11:38, to allow for about 40 minutes at the Mallard to relax before the walk.

**Sheffield 2½ mph****Thu 24 – Sun 27 Sep**

Perch and a number of other city centre pubs team up for this event.

**People Award: Mark Simmonite****Tue 29 Sep (TBC)**

Join us at **Perch** for a drink as we present Mark with his award.

**Brunswick, Derby****Wed 30 Sep – Sat 3 Oct**

Regular pub beer festival.

**Branch meeting****8pm Tue 6 Oct**

The venue this month is the **Old Shoe** in Orchard Square.

THE COMMITTEE

**Paul Manning****Chair**

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Pub of the Year Coordinator**Phil Ellett****Secretary**

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press@sheffield.camra.org.uk

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cider@sheffield.camra.org.uk

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