Free

Amateur Issue March / April 2025

TYKE TAVERNER

Spring is here: Enjoy the out-doors on the way to the Pub



CAMRA Bradford

Skipton Beer Festival



22nd to 24th May 2025

Thu 11am - 10pm
Fri 11am - 10pm
Sat 11am - 8pm

68 cask ales, plus KeyKegs, cider, and more

in the Town Hall



CAMRA Keighley & Craven

skiptonbeerfestival.camra.org.uk

Editor:
David Boothroyd
26 Summerbridge Drive,
Eccleshill, Bradford. BD10 0ER
editor@bradford.camra.org.uk

Right hand person: **Josie**, as above.

Distribution: **Kate Ahern**
If you want to carry Tyke Taverner on your bar or in your shop, you can contact the Editor or Branch secretary. It will be organised behind the scenes.

New advertising:
To any of those listed here, please.

Financial Overseer **Colin Longden**
treasurer@bradford.camra.org.uk

Bradford Branch Secretary: **Kate Ahern**
secretary@bradford.camra.org.uk

Bradford Branch Chair: **Kerr Kennedy**
chair@bradford.camra.org.uk

Bradford branch website:
bradfordcamra.org.uk. Or national: camra.org.uk
Or try Malcolm Toft's: metrealbeernews.co.uk
We now also converse by facebook and X.

Webmaster: **Phyl Drennan**
webmaster@bradford.camra.org.uk
-o0o-
Much of the advertising artwork and design in this issue is by Phil Littlewood.
Layout is by the Editor.

Membership (local & regional): Adrian Mellow **regionalmembership@bradford.camra.org.uk**

SPRING IS HERE: GET OUT THERE

Yes, spring is sprung; the grass is ris; I wonder where the boidies is. Hmm, not many will recognise that old refrain - probably from Jimmy Durante. Who?

Anyway, back on topic: Yes, enjoy the outdoors when you can, revel in the beauty of nature, smell the flowers, listen to birdsong, go to the pub.

Many pubs are struggling after a poor winter and so many cost rises - they need our support. Give them it. Can't think of where to go? Well, assuming you picked up this in a pub, that's a very good start. Our advertisers are all worthy of the support your custom will provide. Thank you, advertisers.

Some pubs have closed because the big operators don't actually care. But several pubs in recent times have been bought by their local community and so are safe. This tactic does work well in villages or areas where pubs are few - and there are now arguably areas in major cities which could be considered as villages within a city. So, oppose all closures; back community sales. Be involved.

***** FOR BRANCH EVENTS SEE PAGE 34*****

Tyke Taverner is produced by the Bradford Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale Limited.

It is an open forum for views and opinions as well as facts and, as such, readers are reminded that the Editor, the Branch or the Campaign as a whole may not necessarily share the views expressed by the contributors.

Readers are also reminded that their thoughts on relevant matters are as valuable as any other contributor and the Editor will be pleased to receive contributions on appropriate topics such as whether a behemoth means big trouble for lepidopterists or whether coupling again is a repair job, by post or e-mail. Publication cannot be guaranteed, of course, as space will be at a premium in any free publication. Contributions may be edited, without altering the meaning, and certain grammatical errors, if spotted in time, might be corrected.

Well, we have this intention...

Copyright 2025, The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd., Bradford Branch.

Printed by Thistle Print Ltd. T:0113-2040600 E:sales@thistleprint.co.uk



The Daily Mirror is running a campaign aimed at gaining government support – and funding - for local action to save our pubs.

Its focus is on asking people to contact their MP about this. Of course, this campaign has CAMRA's full support.

And then there's this:

CAMRA calls for new Government fund to save community locals

CAMRA is calling on the Deputy Prime Minister and her Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to introduce a dedicated fund for community groups looking to take over ownership of their local pub.

The call comes after the existing fund which helped local people to take over their pub as a community owned business came to a sudden end before Christmas 2024.

The Community Ownership Fund provided funding for groups of local people to take over ownership and the running of community facilities that would otherwise be sold, converted or demolished, including pubs.

The Government announced on 23 December that the final Community Ownership Fund money had been awarded to successful bidders, including eight community pubs.

However, ministers also announced that no further funding or bids would be allowed.

The Government are introducing a new 'Community Right to Buy' for local groups looking to take ownership of a pub in their neighbourhood. CAMRA believes right to buy must come alongside a dedicated programme of advice, guidance and funding to make sure community pubs go from strength to strength.

Commenting, Chair of CAMRA's Planning Advisory Group Paul Ainsworth said: "Having thriving pubs at the heart of community life can be a key part of the Government's mission to have vibrant communities and thriving local economies. There are now over 200 community-owned pubs in the country, and this has proved to be a remarkably successful model, with previously struggling pubs now popular and successful enterprises - pubs for the people by the people.

"Ministers have already announced that they are going to introduce a 'Community Right to Buy' for local assets like pubs that are under threat of closure or conversion. This is very welcome and is set to be a game-changer for local people wanting to save their pub.

"However, it is vital that as well as a right to buy community assets, groups of local people can also access advice, support and funding to help make sure bids to take over pubs as community-owned businesses can be successful, securing the pub at the heart of community life for decades to come."

A PUB SAVING AWARD: HOORAY!

The Campaign for Real Ale has announced the Old Horn Community Pub Society who saved the Old Horn Inn in Spennithorne, North Yorkshire, as the winner of the prestigious Pub Saving Award 2024.

The Pub Saving Award recognises people that have come together to save a pub that would have otherwise been demolished or converted to another use. It aims to secure publicity for pub-saving campaigns to encourage others to save their local.



The Old Horn Inn, a pub over 200 years old, closed suddenly in 2022 with planning application submitted to convert it into housing. As a vital community hub for the people of Spennithorne and Harmby, plus surrounding areas of North Yorkshire, villagers banded together to form the Old Horn Community Pub Society to protect the pub from this fate.

The group approached Nick Love, Pub Protection Officer of the York CAMRA branch, who offered invaluable advice and support to fight the application. The local branch helped with drafting an objection to the planning application and assisted to make the pub an Asset of Community Value (ACV).

An epic campaign then began to bring the Old Horn into community ownership, raising £180,000 from over 140 investors in under two months. On 16 June 2023, the community became the proud owners of the Old Horn.

What followed was a mammoth renovation effort, enlisting a team of volunteers, ranging from teenagers to pensioners. Former Prime Minister Rishi Sunak even visited to encourage the team's endeavours.

The pub reopened to the public 21 May 2024, putting the heart back into the village, providing a community hub to combat social exclusion. The pub now hosts the village football, cricket, darts and dominoes teams, plus quiz nights, coffee mornings and a knit and natter group.

Richard Wortley, Chairman of The Old Horn Community Pub Society said:
"This is a perfect example of what can be achieved when a community joins together in a common aim. A lot of people said when the pub closed it took the heart out of the village, now it's back. Huge thanks go to our members, volunteers and committee for all their hard work."

Alan Cape, Treasurer of the Old Horn Community Pub Society added:
"We had tremendous support from shareholders, volunteers and wonderful local tradesmen who gave their time either at reduced rates or free of charge. We cannot thank them enough for their generosity."

Pub Saving Award Coordinator Paul Ainsworth said:
"When a pub closes, it is incredibly hard to open the doors again, with many losing the battle to conversion or demolition. That is why these awards are so important, the hard work and dedication shown by these campaigns to save local pubs deserve recognition. They are all inspirational stories, that will hopefully encourage more pub saving campaigns, so future generations can enjoy the wonderful sense of community that only a pub can provide.

"2024 marked the one-year anniversary of the wanton destruction of the Crooked House pub in Himley, serving as a grim reminder that pubs in the wrong hands can sadly disappear.

Members' Weekend – beers, brewery tours and other fun stuff - exclusively for CAMRA Members

Maria Freeman, South East London CAMRA member, gives her view:

CAMRA is well-known as a volunteer-led organisation that hosts beer and cider festivals, all round the UK. But, if you are a CAMRA Member, there is another event you can enjoy, that is free to attend - Members' Weekend.

This is similar to a weekend beer festival, but hosted in a different location every year, and it also includes CAMRA's AGM and Conference. The AGM serves as the opportunity to vote in new Directors and receive the accounts. Conference is when we hear the Chairman and Chief Executive speak, debate motions from members, and celebrate members' and Branches' achievements, as various awards are presented.

Conference can be quite interesting, although I have never got up early enough to catch the AGM. What is most interesting is the dedicated Members' Bar! This serves a range of fantastic local beers and ciders that you won't find in a lot of pubs; carefully curated choices by local experts where the drinks you buy are more likely to be supporting local brewers and small businesses. You can also get your beers/ciders in thirds and halves, thus offering the opportunity to try even more delightful drinks without a massive hangover.

But what Members' Weekend also offers is the opportunity to go on a trip/tour of a local brewery (Friday/Saturday evenings) as well as attend on-site "fringe" activities (just like other conferences), mostly on Saturday afternoon. These are usually on the theme of beer/cider education, such as tutored tastings, or support for development of Branches e.g. member recruitment. You can of course, just stay in the bar! Every year there is some-



thing different and this year, cider fans will be well catered for: not only are we in the West Country, but 2025 is the 50th anniversary of CAMRA campaigning on real cider and perry.

In April 2025, Members' Weekend is on the English Riviera, in Torquay. Not a place I've been to before, so for me this offers an opportunity to explore a new town as well. There's usually an excellent short guide to the area (prepared by CAMRA's hosting Branch) which points you to local hostelries, where the ale (and/or cider) is good! It's perfectly planned for a weekend away. Arrive on Friday, check into your hotel, then (from 4pm) you can sign in to the venue, get your member's bag and head into the Members' Bar.

On Saturday morning, there's the short AGM followed by Conference. The bar opens at lunchtime, and afterwards, Conference resumes, followed by fringe activities. It can be a very busy day. But if the weather is good, perhaps you'll take time to explore Torquay e.g. Torre Abbey, the beach and the harbour? Conference continues on Sunday morning with the Bar opening at lunchtime, so you can try a few more beers/ciders in the afternoon before travelling home, or perhaps checking out local pubs.

I've been to the last three Members' Weekends- in Eastbourne, Sheffield and Dundee - and as you may have gathered from my sales pitch, planning on my fourth! I can't say I have attended much of the official business, but each year, it is an opportunity to dip your toes into something different. Highlights of Eastbourne: a long walk on the Downs and a tour of the Long Man Brewery. Sheffield involved exploring the city, and pubs around Kelham Island. Dundee was mostly art and history (RRS Discovery, the Verdant Works Museum and the V&A).

And as for Torquay. Well, I'm not sure what we'll do yet, as at the time of writing, the full programme hasn't been revealed. But I am looking forward to it. The only catch is that you have to be a CAMRA member to come to the event and to visit the dedicated Members' Bar. So, if you're a CAMRA member, why not login and register to attend now? Remember, it's free to attend, and early registration means you'll be the first to be notified of the booking process for the trips and activities, some of which sell out quickly. You can also get more involved by volunteering – see the event page to be part of Team Torquay. If you want to bring your partner, you can add them to your membership for just £8. And if you're not yet a member, you can join at https://camra.org.uk/membership/membership-rates and get all the other benefits that CAMRA membership brings.

CAMRA Brands Crooked House Appeal an Insult

With the appeal hearing for the Crooked House case set to begin on 11 March, Gary Timmins, CAMRA Pub and Club Campaigns Director, said:

"The appeal requested by the owners of the Crooked House, ATE Farms Limited, was expected but no less insulting. Accountability must be taken for the complete destruction of this iconic pub, and this hearing undermines South Staffordshire Council's enforcement notice to rebuild it.

"The Crooked House in Himley was destroyed more than 18 months ago, and this appeal delays a much-needed outcome. The UK's wonkiest pub needs to be rebuilt, back to what it was prior to the fire, as ordered by South Staffordshire Council. If this appeal leads to this decision being reversed, it would be a complete mockery of pub protection and campaigning efforts from the local community.

"The Crooked House saga lifted the lid on the wider scandal of potentially unlawful pub conversions and demolitions across the UK, and we continue to demand tighter, stronger planning policies and a requirement in law to rebuild pubs brick-by-brick."

HALIFAX & CALDERDALE PUB OF THE SEASON

On Thursday 23rd January 2025, Halifax and Calderdale CAMRA Branch presented the Winter 2024 Pub of the Season to Sam Booth and the staff at the Old Gate Bar and Restaurant, Hebden Bridge.

The pub is situated in the heart of Hebden Bridge. It is a smart, modern and popular venue with a striking copper-topped bar. Serving a variety of drinks including nine real ales and always having a dark available.

On the day of the presentation, they had Triple Choc (Saltaire), Trying Your Luck (Pentrich), Make it Summit (Brew York), Jaipur (Thornbridge), Salvation (Blackjack Brew Co), Bundle Up (Vocation), Landlord (Timothy Taylors), Pint (Marble Beers) and Bread and Butter (Vocation).

In Richard's speech he commented on the continental-style patio space at the front of the pub and the fantastic variety of choice they provide.

The Old Gate Bar & Restaurant is well connected and is accessible by bus via the 590, 591 and 593 on the main high street and rail, a short 10-minute walk (the 596 operates from the railway station past the pub) into Hebden Bridge and is well worth the visit.



Richard Lee, Branch Chair with Sam Booth, General Manager with the POTS, Winter 2024 certificate.



Broad Acres Wanderings with Paul Davis

Another very warm welcome to Broad Acres Wanderings. This issue's jollies include two more trips north of the border to Glasgow and Dundee to indulge in some Scottish Cup football action, plus I visit a few old favourites in my home city of Bristol.

Friday 29 November and it's Scottish Cup Third Round action, with three new grounds to tick off in three days. The Friday and Saturday matches saw Dumbarton defeat Alloa Athletic, and Clyde Bank, located on the outskirts of Glasgow, emerge victorious over Buckie Thistle, who ply their trade in the Highland League. The latter match giving me a welcome opportunity to revisit one of my favourite Glaswegian real ale haunts, the Three Judges, located towards the west end of the city in Partick.

A jolly and friendly Saturday night crowd greets me upon arrival. This corner pub has brought some of the best real ales to Glasgow from all over Britain, with a healthy supply of local breweries being represented too. There is an impressive array of nine hand pumps, with a tenth being reserved for real cider as well. The walls are adorned with numerous CAMRA awards which have been won by the pub over the years, and posters above the bar for long-gone ales can also be spotted, for those of you who like to indulge in some real ale nostalgia. I content myself with a traditional dark amber pint of King Slayer Scottish ale from the Loch Leven brewery in Kinross in Perthshire.

The following day, I head north to Dundee, for more cup fever, and its Dundee North End from the Scottish junior league, the sixth tier on the footballing pyramid, who take on second tier Airdrieonians. The ground is a wonderfully ramshackle affair, and is packed to the rafters, with almost 2000 in attendance. Alas, the cup fairy tale ended here for the underdogs, who fall to a narrow one-nil defeat. A couple of spare hours before my train home gives me time to visit some pubs. First up is the Speedwell Bar. Built in



1903, it also goes by the name Mennies, after the family who ran it for more than 50 years. The pub was also Tayside CAMRA POTY in 2017 and 2023, and finished runner up in the Scottish POTY in 2023, and is also featured in a list of Scotland's true heritage pubs for good measure. I settle down with a pint of Ossian golden ale from the Inveralmond brewery in Perth before heading onto my next port of call. The Phoenix is one of Dundee's oldest pubs, and very much has the feeling of an olde worlde pub, the way they used to be, and has a very warm and cosy atmosphere upon entering. Located close to the city's theatre, there are five hand pumps showcasing a mixture of Scottish and national ales. I go for a pint of pale ale from the Orkney brewery which goes down the hatch nicely.

There was a further visit to the 'city of discovery' too in mid-January for more Scottish Cup action. This time it was fifth tier Brechin City v Scottish Premier League side Heart of Midlothian. And although the home side took the lead early on with a 35-yard thunder bolt, premiership class eventually shone through and Hearts scored four goals. A couple of spare hours before the match gave me ample opportunity to visit another fine ale establishment.

Bank Bar, located five minutes' walk from Dundee railway station. A former bank, as the name might suggest, the pub has proven real ale pedigree, having won the award of CAMRA Tayside Pub of the Year in 2022. The food is excellent and reasonably priced, and the chilli and chips go down a treat, washed down by a pint of superbly quaffable MòR Ticia!, a full-bodied Stout with a hint of Vimto and a perfect dark chocolate aftertaste, from the MòR brewery in Dundee itself.

The next day, it's off for my last football offering, Broxburn Athletic, located close to Edinburgh airport, who took on Ayr United. I strike up a conversation with an excited Broxburn fan, who proudly told me that he had a bet on his team to lose seven-nil, and that if it came in, he would walk away with £1500. His team almost came up trumps for him but proceeded to lose eight-nil, rather than seven, meaning the gent in question walked away empty handed. And alas, there was no beer close to Broxburn's ground.

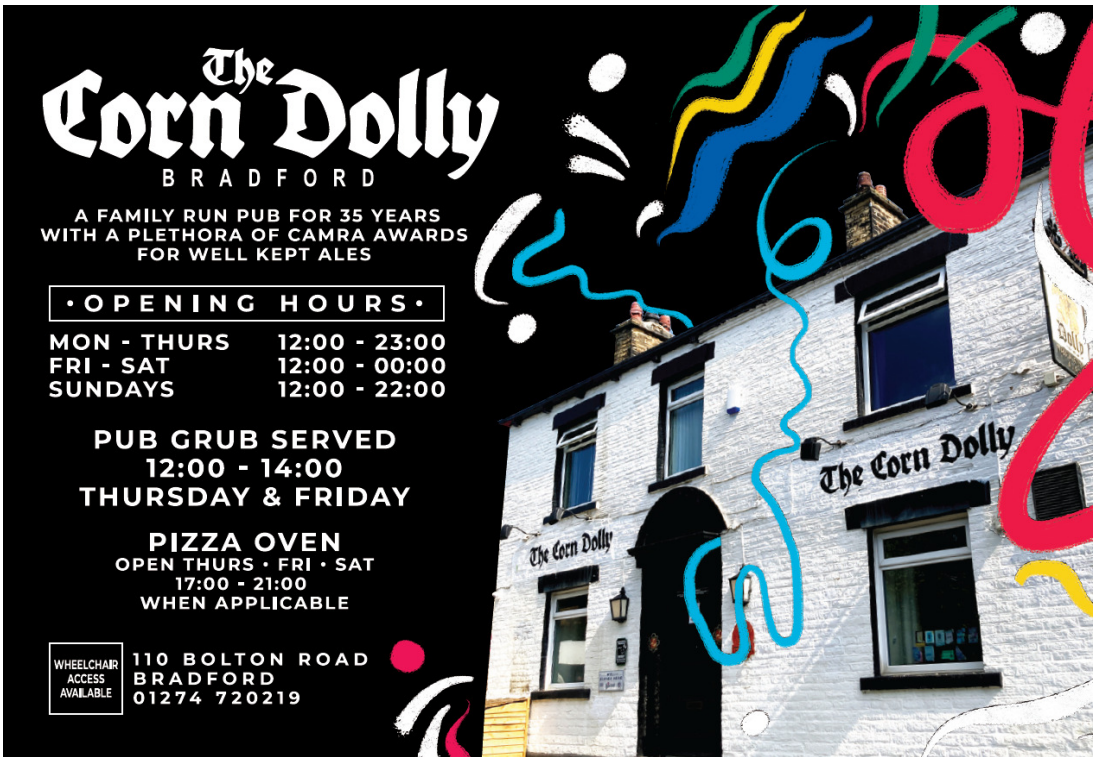


Cat As Trophy? Cat-In-A-Box? Cat-O-One Tail? In the Bag of Cats.

In early December, it was time for a visit to my home city of Bristol (although I have lived in Yorkshire for many years) where some fine pubs were visited. The Bay Horse, located close to Bristol bus Station was refurbished in 2015, and feels clean and modern. Owned by Greene King, I procure a special edition ale called Sit-In, in memory of the civil rights activist Paul Stephenson, who passed away last November, having spent most of his life in Bristol. In August 1964, Stephenson achieved national fame when he refused to leave the

Bay Horse, having been refused service due to his ethnicity, resulting in a trial on a charge of failing to leave a licensed premises. His campaigns were instrumental in paving the way for the first Race Relations Act in 1965, and he organised a boycott of the Bristol Omnibus Company, due to its refusal to employ black or Asian conductors. The boycott was supported by the local Bristolian people, forcing a climbdown from the bus company.

The following day, it's a visit to the Bag of Nails, or the Bag of Cats, as its nicknamed by the locals. Situated in Hot Wells, this is a small and quirky free house in a Victorian terrace, featuring not only its many feline residents roaming free, but also glowing portholes in the wooden floor and an eclectic music mix played on a record player. Six changing cask ales are served, both from local breweries and elsewhere. There is also a regular quiz night, board games, and a Lego collection available for customers, and the pub often holds tap takeover sessions too. It's fair to say this is a unique pub, and well worth a visit, but only, of course, if you don't mind cats. The pub is very small inside, meaning a cosy feel upon entering. I take in the unique atmosphere with a pint of Neotropic from the Bristol Beer Factory, based in Southville, Bristol. It's then onto the Three Tuns, just a couple of minutes' walk around the corner. The pub is handily located for those of you who want to see some of the major tourists sights that Bristol has to offer, as it is located close to Bristol Cathedral, College Green, and the harbour side too. This is a small corner pub, and free house too, with the emphasis on showcasing local breweries. The pub is another small cosy affair, with a roaring real fire, perfect for a cold December evening. There is a heated patio outside too, and dogs are welcome. I plump for a pint of Arbor pale ale from Arbor brewery in the Bristol suburb of Easton. Well, that's all for now folks, join me next time, when the cricket season and hopefully some summer weather will be upon us.



EST 2014

The Record Café

Independent vinyl record shop,
real ale, craft beer & charcuterie

Bradford CAMRA Pub of the Season Autumn 2015
Bradford CAMRA Pub of the Year 2017
Bradford CAMRA Pub of the Year runner up 2018
Bradford CAMRA Pub of the Year 2019
Bradford CAMRA Pub of the Year 2020
Bradford CAMRA Central Bradford Pub of the Year 2022

01274723143
45-47 North Parade, Bradford, BD1 3JH

@therecordcafe /therecordcafe therecordcafe.co.uk

REVIEWS with Russ Petcher

Taylor Mania
Katy Ellis as Taylor Swift
Huddersfield Town Hall

This is the second Taylor tribute I've had the pleasure of watching thanks to my 7 year old fully fledged swiftie of a daughter and today's delight came in the form of Katy Ellis and her amazing dancers and live band. The important thing to remember here is live band and the reason I say that is because it's far too easy to be a tribute act who just happily smiles and sings along to backing tracks but not this one. This is a pure team effort from everyone involved and the audience go nuts the second the show begins. Now I know Taylor Swift isn't everyone's cup of tea but she does have some pretty catchy songs in her cannon and she's not just another flash in the pan so you may as well embrace her because she's been around a long time and shows no signs of giving up just yet.

****

The Loft
Cleckheaton

The Loft in Cleckheaton (Formerly known as The Live Rooms) is an excellent little music venue with live music on most weekends and a wide variety of tribute acts.The venue is a popular place to be with a friendly atmosphere and a cracking selection of drinks available but it's what happens there on a Monday night at 7pm that I want to tell you about.

Every Monday night at 7pm The Loft becomes what is known as Andy Mans Club which is a safe space where blokes can meet up and talk to other blokes about storms they may be going through.

There are Andy Mans Clubs up and down the country and you've probably seen advertisements for the club plastered all over the place as it really is becoming more and more increasingly popular.
To find out where your nearest club is then visit the website.



FOX & GOOSE
CO-OPERATIVE PUB
HEBDEN BRIDGE

In the Good Beer Guide 2024

1st Co-operative pub in West Yorkshire
Locally brewed house beer
5 rotating guest ales, real ciders and keg beers.
Large range of bottled Lager and Ciders and alcohol-free beers
Lined glasses to ensure a full pint
Regular music events
Heated and covered beer garden

2022 Yorkshire CAMRA Pub of the Year

Open daily: Mon 4pm; Tue, Wed 2pm; Thur-Sun 12noon
www.foxandgoose.org
fb @foxgoosehebden
T: 01422 648052
7 Heptonstall Rd Hebden Bridge HX7 6AZ

AMITY BREWERY MOVES TO BRADFORD

Amity Brew Co. Expanding Production and Taproom

Amity Brew Co, the award-winning brewery based in Leeds, is set to relocate its brewing operation to Bradford, as the company outgrows its current manufacturing facilities at Sunny Bank Mills in Farsley. This move will support Amity's ambitious growth plans and increase production capacity to meet growing demand.

The brewery, known for its innovative beers and award-winning brews such as the 2023 SIBA Independent Beer Award-winning Waterpistol pale ale, has submitted plans to Bradford Council to move its brewing operations to Albion Mills in Greengates, just three miles away from its current location. In addition to relocating production, Amity will also open a new taproom at the new site, offering an enhanced experience for beer lovers in the region.

"We've loved being part of the vibrant Leeds beer scene, but it's clear that Bradford offers exciting new opportunities for growth," said Verity Clarke, Director of Amity Brew Co. "This is an amazing time for the move to happen, especially with Bradford being named City of Culture this year. We're proud to be part of that energy, and we're excited to contribute to the revitalisation of this dynamic
city."

Amity Brew Co has outgrown its current brewing space at Sunny Bank Mills, where brewing can only occur when the bar is closed. The new premises at Albion Mills will allow Amity to expand production and brew round the clock, supporting its growing customer base and paving the way for future expansion on trade and exporting. The brewery has invested in new equipment, and the larger space will enable the team to increase
output significantly.

"We've been brewing at Sunny Bank Mills since the pandemic, and we've simply outgrown the space," Clarke explained. "When we saw the building at Albion Mills, we knew it was the perfect fit. It's an ideal location for our needs, and we're looking forward to creating more space for our brewing team and bringing our beers to even more people."

In addition to the brewing move, the bar at Sunny Bank Mills will remain open and will expand into the area previously used for brewing. This will allow Amity to continue serving its loyal customers in Farsley while ramping up production in Bradford.

The relocation will also breathe new life into a former furniture storage unit that had been vacant for years. According to Amity's planning application to Bradford Council, the redevelopment of this long-vacant space will make a positive contribution to the local economy and support the area's revitalisation.

CONSUMER ADVICE

If you have a complaint about goods or services, please contact Citizens Advice for information and advice:
Visit the Citizens Advice Website citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/
Or you can call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06.
Please note: National Trading Standards cannot help members of the public with specific complaints or advice about goods, services or specific businesses.

PUB OF THE SEASON

It's wintertime so just the right time to present Bradford CAMRA's Pub of the Season for Autumn 2024.

It's the Junction, Baildon. Blessed with a great record over many years, the current incumbents, Nathan and Beth, are doing a fine job. Indeed, Nathan picked up a lot of experience at the Cap & Collar before taking on the Junction.

There is no functioning brewery in the basement at the moment, but a sufficiency of different ales on the bar to keep most people happy. Many of the beers are from local, or relatively local, breweries, so that's good - as is the choice of beer styles.

Some might mourn the passing of the pool table, but many others will delight in the additional space now available for drinking and socialising.

*****

Top:
Branch chair Kerr presents the plague to Nathan and Beth. in the front room - the one now bereft of a pool table but still in possession of a view over the busy road junction that gave the pub its name.

Bottom:
Bar staff George & Matt join with Nathan and Beth n celebrating receipt of the award.

Pics: Peter Conkerton and Josie.





NEW WEBSITE FOR CAMRA

The Campaign for Real Ale has launched its new website, giving its 147,000 members and new users alike the tools to explore pubs, social clubs, brewers and cider makers across the UK.

Led by the campaigning for the best choice and quality for everyone who enjoys beer, cider & perry, and the mission to champion cherished pubs, clubs and festivals, the new CAMRA website has been built in-house with the input of thousands of answers to surveys, specially selected focus groups and extensive user testing. Built using a mix of open-source software and bespoke technologies, CAMRA's in-house development team joined up CAMRA's comprehensive data systems to create a truly compelling front-end.
Flexible new access options give website users the option to choose the right route for them.

For casual browsers who want access to a limited selection of new features, registering for a free user account includes access to the extensive database of pubs, clubs and pints; the ability to use the 'trip planner' feature and view suggested pub walks up to three times; and the latest on CAMRA news and events.

For those wanting to experience these features to their fullest, the option of becoming a subscriber is available at just 99p per month. This includes extensive tasting notes for beers, as well as unlimited trip planning to make the most of visiting pubs and breweries across the UK. Subscribers can also 'favourite' pubs and clubs, adding them to their personalised and easily accessible list for future trips.

CAMRA members are able to use the website and all its features, as well as provide their own input via beer scoring, improving the ratings and recommendations available to them, as well as which pubs make it into the Campaign's flagship Good Beer Guide publication.

AFFORDABLE COUNSELLING IN BRADFORD

Is the **pressure** of everyday life getting you down?

Do you feel **stressed, anxious** or even **depressed**?

Have you suffered a **bereavement** or a **traumatic experience** that you can't seem to get over?

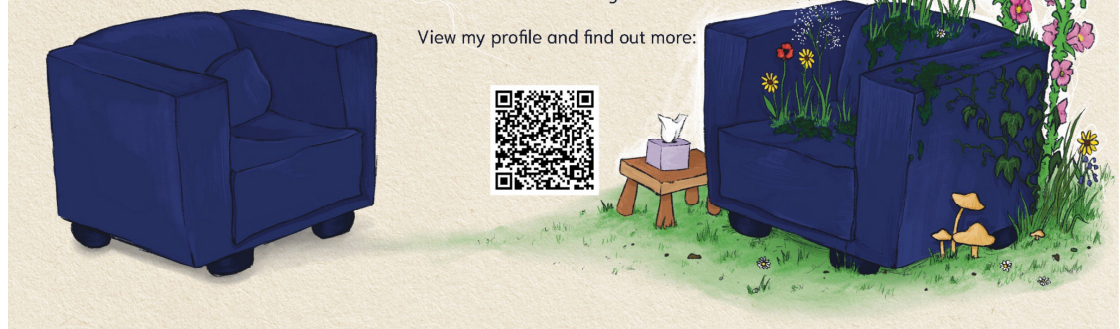
Do you sometimes feel **isolated**, that you don't fit in?

As a qualified counsellor I may be able to help.

I offer **confidential** in person (in Shipley) or on-line sessions at very reasonable and **negotiable rates**.

We start with a **free informal phone call** to explore how we can work together.

View my profile and find out more:



GETTING OUT AND ABOUT

Best Idea Ever?

It's January. Snow is on the ground. It's cold. So what do we do? We visit a brewery, knowing that such places are always cold.

Well, we had a job to do, and that was at Chin Chin Brewery, South Kirkby. One left-over plague from the 2024 beerfest had to be presented.

Trip organiser Ricky, being a shy type, declined to make the presentation, insisting that your editor do the job.

So it was that, on the closest that could be found to a platform or stage - a set of steps - the presentation was made for Between the Lines, the beer voted as best pale ale (5 to 6%).

After a rather convivial afternoon, the cohort repaired to Jolly Boys Brewery at the Mallard on Moorthorpe station. There we savoured ale and savoury snacks.

Pics by Julie Boyle, Kate Ahern and Josie.



David Currie accepting the plague after a stiff climb up a couple of steps.



Part of the party. Very few took their coats off.



The professional pair who run Chin Chin. A nice looking, functional, bar too. Fairy lights at no extra charge.

If anything was warm in that place it would have been the pump handles.



Ricky did make a presentation. It was a bit of a spoof, but nevertheless Barry Smith - Tiger Tops Brewer - was given a 51 year-old book on American Hops.

What! Already have a copy?

The Fighting Cock

Bradford CAMRA Pub of the Year 2008, 2011, 2013 and 2018



21/23 Preston Street, Bradford

Telephone 01274 736701

Visit Britain's Premier Ale House



Regular beers Taylors & Old Peculier.
5 guests always a stout or porter.
Erdinger Wiesse & Dunkel.
3 ciders & 3 lagers
HOT AND COLD LUNCHES SERVED MON-SAT

Bradford CAMRA Cider Pub of the Year 2014 and 2016
Joint runner up pub of the year 2024







Boar & Fable

CONTINENTAL BIER CAFE & DRINKING DEN

CASK ALES, KEG BEERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD,
WINES & SPIRITS - SERVED SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

30 NORTH PARADE, BRADFORD. BD1 3HZ

INDIAN STREET FOOD SERVED TO YOUR TABLE

www.boarandfable.com

Follow us on our social media: @boarandfable

PEACOCK
BRADFORD BINGLEY

REAL ALE HOLIDAY IN YORKSHIRE 2024

A Report by Brian Rodgers

In July 2024 it was, once again, time for the annual Yorkshire Real Ale Holiday, organised by Bradford CAMRA branch. This year's attendance was around fifteen 'visitors' from the UK and Europe, with most of the regulars there and the odd new face or reappearance of one from the past. As usual we were joined by Yorkshire locals and 'guests' throughout the holiday. The following sums up the 2024 event:-



Thursday

Two of us travelled from Loughborough, using open 'Off Peak' return train tickets and senior rail cards. Changing at Sheffield, we broke the journey with a visit to platform 1 and the ***Sheffield Tap***. I had the *Electric Works* beer from the *Tapped* brewery here before we continued the journey to Leeds and Bradford, Forster Square. The plan was then to get a taxi from the back of the station but the roadway in was closed off and there was no sign of one at the temporary taxi stop.

We headed for the ***Exchange***, by the best route we could through the roadworks that were everywhere in the city centre, in preparation for next year when Bradford becomes the 'City of Culture'. Once we got there I had a pint of *Ilkley Joshua Jane EPA* and a half of Craven *VIP Porter*. We checked our bags into the Premier Inn where we were staying then got a taxi from the Interchange to the ***Fighting Cock***. We always like to visit here but don't always manage it so it was worth staying for a couple of pints of *Theakston's Old Peculier*.

We then walked back, via the ***Lord Clyde***, drinking *Stancill Mild*, before moving on to ***Jacobs*** to meet up with the rest of the holiday participants and locals. Here my beers were *Half Moon Dark Masquerade*; *Sunbeam Bright Days* and *Durham Berry Superstitious*. A vegetable curry had been put on for us there so I did not need to have another one on this first night.

Friday

Not far to travel today. We met up at Bradford Interchange for a train to Leeds. Not far from the Railway Station we were able to take the water taxi to the ***Royal Armouries***.

There were too many of us to fit into one taxi but there was an advance party with a second taxi soon picking up the rest. We had a pleasant trip with a running commentary of the places of interest as we traversed the water. My only criticism was, depending on where you sat inside the boat, it was difficult to get a proper view of what was there.



Another means of arrival

At the Armouries some of the party went directly to the café for something to eat and drink but others had a look

around at their own pace. There was plenty to see but, unfortunately, it was difficult to get away from the constant noise of the parties of schoolchildren. Still this was a good excuse to make an early departure for the drinking establishments.



A nice front lawn for a local pub. Bowls, anyone?

A few of us made our own way to the ***Tetley Building***. This was originally part of the ***Tetley Brewery*** and has been in use for art exhibitions and other functions. It is now leased by the ***Kirkstall Brewery*** and run as a pub selling food and beers. Unusually for me my first drink was an orange juice, although I did have the less healthy option of a bacon sandwich to accompany it. After this I had a couple of pints of *Kirkstall/North/Whitelocks Ruby 4X* (mild) and a pint of *Harrogate/Leeds Reunion Ale*.

The rest of the party were not far behind us but we split into smaller groups and went on to explore the other pubs in the area. Next port of call was ***The Grove***. They had recently had a fire here, but luckily the damage had been repaired and the pub interior had not been spoilt. My two beers here were *Rudgate Ruby Mild* and *Small World Twin Falls*.



Well, we told Brian to behave himself...

Next, we walked to the ***Cross Keys*** where I had a pint of *Acorn Barnsley Bitter* and a half of *Leeds Pale*. Some stayed on to watch a football match but others continued to the ***Scarbrough Hotel*** for a pint and a half of *5 Points IPA*. A few of us also visited the ***Lamb & Flag*** for some *Leeds Midnight Bell* and the ***Bankers Cat*** for some *Thornbridge Fonio*.

Back in Bradford I rounded off the evening with a Fish Pakora and an Ojri (Tripe) curry at the ***Jinnah***.

Saturday

We met up in the Square outside the City Hall. Here we split into two groups for a guided tour around the ***Police Museum***. We were given an informative talk as we were shown around the various cells and the courtroom and, as none of us had misbehaved, we were all let out again. We then headed for a bus to Brighouse. The 'advance party' managed to have a pint at ***Jacobs*** before the bus. In my case it was *Craven BYB*.

The walking party had a 3½ mile walk to ***Cromwell Bottom Nature Reserve*** along the canal and river. Non walkers were given the opportunity of visiting the ***Smith Art Gallery***; looking round town etc. or meeting up with the Halifax & Calderdale branch mem-



Still there searching for the new one.

bers for some pubs. During the walk a colleague told me that they saw a kingfisher. Of course we believed him but, unfortunately, if you don't look in the right direction at the right time you are unlikely to see it again.

We did stop briefly for a breather in an area for spotting birds but these turned out to be mostly grey squirrels. As we backtracked towards the centre of Brighouse we crossed a bridge over the river. I glanced to the right and did spot a flash of pale blue below us flying across the water. This made my day as it is the first time that I have actually seen a kingfisher in the wild.

We all met up in the Wetherspoon pub ***Richard Oastler*** and I had a pint of *Acorn Gorlovka*, a 6.5% Imperial Stout. Some of us called in the ***Red Rooster*** on the way for *Pennine Heartland* and a half of *Abbeydale Daily Bread*.

The rest of the afternoon and evening was spent exploring Brighouse's other pubs. These included the ***Market Tavern***–*Black Edge Dark Rum Porter* and *Goose Eye Pommies Revenge*; ***Mamil Café Bar***– a cycle themed venue serving key keg beers - I hada half of *Vocation Life and Death*6.5% IPA; ***Crafty Fox*** – *Wensleydale Zeitgeist* made using Dr Rudi, lemondrop and lemon peel.

In Bradford it was another visit to ***Jacobs*** for some *Craven PA* and some *Durham Tap & Unwrap* chocolate orange stout. The night's curry house was the ***International*** for a Fish Karahi and nan bread.

Sunday

No parsley, sage and rosemary but we had thyme to hire a coach for the day. Our destination, of course, was to ***Scarborough Fair***…oh no - that was 2023. This year we went to Scarborough itself, again using a hired coach.

Those who wanted had a 2 mile walk to the ***Old Scalby Mills*** pub with sea views and/or a ride on the ***North Bay Miniature Railway***. I joined a party visiting a few pubs by foot and bus. The first pub, ***Scholars Bar*** is one of my favourites. I started with a pint of *Theakston Old Peculier* as I tend to when I can find it.



Give Peas a Chance. Or a good home.

Next was my first visit to the ***Craft*** tap room for some *North Riding Chocolate Nut Porter*. Not far away was the ***Stumble Inn*** micropub for *Staggeringly Good Best Bitter* from Southsea, Portsmouth. £5 bought an open top day ticket on the Beachcomber bus service. We used this to get close to the ***North Riding Brew Pub***. Here I was pleased

to find their *North Riding Target Mild*, at least mild by name. Its ABV is 5%.

There was plenty more to go at but we had to leave around 4.30 for our next destination. We waited at the stop for our open top bus but found out that it was not going to come. Apparently the two Beachcomber buses had an accident and hit each other while one of them was trying to avoid a pedestrian. Luckily we managed to flag down a taxi to get to our departure point on time.



Old structures: gloomy and brooding. And a lovely viaduct.

As we waited for the rest of the party we saw another company's open top bus which we could have caught but it may not have stopped where we wanted it to. Never mind, we left Scarborough on schedule.

Our coach took us on to Malton and the ***Brass Castle Brewery Tap House*** where they were awarded a 'plague' for the best mild at the Bradford 2024 beer festival. This was *Brass Castle Hazelnut Mild*. I was hoping to try a dark beer there but the *Bad Kitty* had sadly run out. I settled for their *Best Bitter* and a half of key keg *Zing*. There was a little time left to look at some other pubs in Malton.

The ***George Hotel*** and the ***Omni*** in the Market Place were closed on Sundays but the ***Royal Oak*** was open for some *Ossett Blonde* as was the ***Spotted Cow*** where I drank *Taylors Knowle Spring*. We got back to Bradford around 9.30pm to finish off with a pint of *Small World Thunderbridge Stout* at the ***Turls Green***.

Monday

We met up at Forster Square station and were presented with Off Peak Day Returns to Ribblehead. Some stayed on the train to complete the Settle to Carlisle journey and joined up with us later in the day. The 3 mile walk had some nice views of the Viaduct and surrounding scenery but we had to travel at a fair pace to get round in time for a 1222 train to Settle. A couple of the party turned back in the early stages but at least they were able to have a good look at the viaduct and a visit to the ***Station*** pub.



Settle station, awaiting the next train. Hey! DON'T STAND FORWARD OF THE YELLOW LINE

As ever we could do what we wanted in Settle. The group I was with managed to visit 3 pubs here: At the ***Golden Lion*** I had *Thwaites Ribble Valley Gold*. My next choice was *Kirby Lonsdale Radical* (Ruby). Unfortunately this one was on the turn but the beer was changed

without fuss and was taken off sale. I settled for the *Thwaites Best Bitter* instead. My final beer here was *Dark Horse Night Jar*. At ***Bar 13*** I had a couple of pints of *Grasmere Dark*. At the ***Talbot Arms*** I had *Settle Mainline Bitter* and *Theakston Old Peculier*.

On the way back there was time for a pint of *Bingley Juxta Position* (Cascadian Dark) at the ***Fox*** at Shipley. In Bradford it was a *Milestone Black Pearl* (Stout) before another visit to the ***Jinnah*** to finish with Fish Pakora and a Brain curry.

Tuesday

My final day of the holiday started with a bacon sarnie and orange juice at the ***Turls Green*** followed by a couple of pints of *Wilde Childe Top of the Morning* Irish stout and, as usual, it wasn't long before I was joined by a few others.

We then moved on to the ***Corn Dolly*** to meet anyone else who was still around. Beers tried were *Orkney Wavebreaker*; *Moorehouses White Witch* and *Dark Land Paradise* (Coconut Vanilla Stout).

After our farewells we made our own ways home. A couple of us headed to Forster Square station for the15.30 train to Leeds. This left on time but was delayed at Shipley, apparently by a 'broken rail'. After leaving Shipley we stopped again in the middle of a tunnel before Apperley Bridge.

We eventually got to Leeds at around 1645 when the problem had been fixed which had been caused by movement of some of the rail fishplates. We decided to just visit the one pub in Leeds before continuing our journey home. This was the ***Leeds Brewery Tap***. I opted for *Leeds Pale* – brewed by Kirkstall and *Taylors Dark Landlord* – formerly *Ram Tam.*

The train journey back to Loughborough went smoothly and I finished the holiday with a couple of pints of *Fat Cat Bitter* from Norwich and a *Pentrich Meet the Meek* mild at the ***Needle and Pin***.

JACOBS WELL

BRADFORD'S ORIGINAL BEERHOUSE



Opening Hours

Monday - Thursday
4pm - 11pm

Friday - Saturday
12 noon - 11pm

Sunday
2pm - 10pm

For private bookings outside these hours, please call on 01274 395628

Jacobs Well Pub, Kent Street, Bradford BD1 5RL

Ad design by stewartappleyard.co.uk

CARLSBERG BRITVIC: WHO?

By Roger Protz

So, RIP Carlsberg Marston's Brewing Company. It didn't last long. Formed in 2020, like Monty Python's famous parrot, it is no more and has gone to meet its maker.

In January, the Danish giant bought the soft drinks company Britvic for £3.3bn. It's one of the biggest mergers in the British drinks business and gives Carlsberg control of Pepsi Max, 7UP, Tango, Robinson's and R White's.

That's Robinson's orange juice, not the family brewer in Stockport, you'll be relieved to hear. The merger has created Carlsberg Britvic, the UK's biggest supplier of fizzy drinks, including lager, to pubs and off-trade supermarkets and stores.



Marston's, a once-famous Burton brewer of fine beers, is now a pub company and just a sad footnote to British brewing history. In the short life of CMBC, Carlsberg – which chaired the company and controlled 60 per cent of the shares – closed or planned to close Banks's, Jennings, Ringwood and Wychwood breweries. In common with Heineken, which has shuttered Caledonian in Edinburgh, the reason for the closures is Carlsberg's mantra that sales of cask beer are in free fall.

The Danes and the Dutch should listen to Sir Tim Martin, boss of JD Wetherspoon, who said last month that "real ale was rocking" in his pubs. It's the same encouraging message when you turn to independent brewers. In Yorkshire, both Timothy Taylor's and Theakston say sales of cask have recovered from Covid and are on the increase. Taylor's says it's selling more Landlord and other beers than before the pandemic.

In the Peak District, Thornbridge reports that most of its production is cask and sales are strong, aided by the adoption of a Burton union fermenting system acquired from Marston's and axed by Carlsberg.

In Suffolk, Greene King has launched a series of Fresh Cask Releases seasonal beers for 2025 and is preparing to build a new brewery in Bury St Edmunds at a cost of £40m. It's now the undisputed biggest cask beer brewery in the country.

In a similar vein, Shepherd Neame in Faversham, Kent, has a monthly series of Cask Club beers alongside its regular ales Master Brew, Spitfire and Bishop's Finger. Both Greene King and Shepherd Neame have large pub estates, and they are supplying them with regular and seasonal cask beers as a result of genuine consumer demand – a concept lost on the likes of Carlsberg and Heineken.

The closure of Banks's brewery in Wolverhampton defies logic. It's capable of producing 100,000 barrels a year and is considered to be the giant of the Black Country, famous for its mild and bitter.

When all the closures are completed, Carlsberg will own just one brewery in Burton. Even with planned expansion, it won't be able to cope with all the beers once produced by the Marston's group, so many much-loved beers from Jennings and Ringwood will go down the memory hole.

Molson Coors, an American-Canadian conglomerate that owns Carling lager, has also wielded the axe. It has "rested" production of the famous bottle-conditioned Worthington's White Shield at a time when IPA as a style is enjoying a world-wide renaissance. It has no interest in the beer but refuses to sell it to independent brewers who would like to take it on. It has also pulled the shutters down on the National Brewery Centre, a museum that traces the history of brewing Burton and the wider country. Britain now lacks a museum devoted to the traditions of beer making, its deep roots in society and our unique styles of ale. The closure of the centre meant the Heritage brewery had to leave the site where it recreated old Bass and Worthington beers, including a cask version of Worthington E. It was keen to take on White Shield, but Molson Coors was obdurate in its determination to own the beer but no longer produce it.

Heritage has now merged with the Burton Bridge brewery and has found a new home.

Another victim of Molson Coors has not been so fortunate.

The Leinenkugel brewery in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, in the United States, is 157 years old. It was founded in 1867 by Jacob Leinenkugel from Germany who chose the site in Wisconsin as the soil was ideal for growing both grain and hops. The brewery produces traditional German-style lagers, including pale, dark and Oktoberfest, as well as a range of shandies.

In 1988, the family made the serious error of selling the company to Molson Coors on the assumption the group would continue production at the original site. But MC announced last month it was closing Chippewa Falls and would move the beers to its main plant in Milwaukee.

Jake and Dick Leinenkugel, the sixth generation of the family, contacted MC and said they were prepared to buy back the plant. They have not had the courtesy of a reply.

The global giants are on a mission to centralise production in a few large centres and to weed out any beers that are not mainstream lagers. In Britain we are losing not only cask ales but also vital elements of our brewing heritage.

I would remind the managers of the Marston's non-brewing pub company of the medieval saying: "He who sups with the devil hath need of a long spoon".



The
Milners Arms
Ale House

Manor Street Bradford BD2 3BU

We are open

Monday to Thursday – 4:00 till 11:00
Friday – 3:00 till 11:30
Saturday – 1:00 till 11:30
Sunday – 1:00 till 11:00

CAMRA pub of the season Spring 2016
Choice of four real ales rotating weekly
Quiz night Wednesday
Cask Marque accredited

NEWS: GOSSIP: SCANDAL:

The GBBF Winter at Magna in Rotherham saw 58 new members being recruited. Well done.

****

Keighley & Craven CAMRA's Pub of the Year is the Beer Engine, Skipton. To be awarded on March 15th

The Cracker Barrel, Greengates, was missed off the list of LocAle pubs in he previous issue. Now it has been properly registered and has taken its place on that list.

****

The George, Culingworth, has been fully refurbished - nay, transformed and Is looking splendid. Plenty of good ale is available too.

JENNINGS RESURRECTED

Following the news that Jennings brewery in Cockermouth, Cumbria, has been bought and brewing will restart at the site, CAMRA national chairman Ash Corbett-Collins said: "When the historic Jennings brewery was closed in 2022 by Carlsberg Marston's Brewing Company [now Carlsberg Britvic], it was yet another victim of the global brewer's consolidation quest that has seen regional brewers shuttered, and classic cask beers pulled from bars.

The casualty list including the likes of Banks's, Ringwood and Wychwood is a rotten reminder that large companies do not care about our brewing history.

"To hear that Jennings will make a comeback is fantastic news, but it should have never been closed in the first place. It will be great to see nearly 150 years of brewing heritage return to Cumbria, which can only benefit the local community and economy. I wish the new local owners the best of luck and look forward to having a pint of Jennings."

NEWS: GOSSIP: SCANDAL

Brewdog, Gt Horton Road / Morley Street BD1, and Brewdog King Street HD1: Both franchise outlets of the Brewery, under the Tokyo Industries group both closed in January.

*****

Also in Huddersfield, Magic Rock Brewing has entered the pre-administration process.

Magic Rock has been precarious for months, maybe even since the first selling to Lion. It's a shame but it's what happens of course when a great local brewery becomes a commodity to people who know nowt about the brewery business, or even the locations, and care even less

*****

Barker Bridge Brewery has closed. It seems likely that the lease on the old Old Spot brewer has not been renewed.

It was good while it lasted; let's hope it arises again somewhere.

*****

MULTINATIONALS DOMINATE PUB CASK SALES

By Timothy Hampson

Keighley's Timothy Taylor's Landlord, is the top-selling cask ale by value in the annual Morning Advertiser Drinks List.

Sharp's Doom Bar retained the title of best-selling cask ale by volume, but Landlord has now overtaken it in value.

Landlord has consistently been one of the strongest performing cask ales in the market, placing eighth in 2018, fifth in 2019 and 2020, third in 2021, second in 2022 and 2023 and again in 2024 by volume, but first by value.

In a list dominated by breweries now owned by multinationals – Sharp's has been owned by Molson Coors since 2011 and Greene King were acquired by CK Assets in 2019 – Timothy Taylor's stands out as one of the few regional, family-owned, and still independent breweries in the top 10.

Taylor's chief executive Tim Dewey said: "Here at Timothy Taylor's, everything we do is designed to achieve the best and consistent quality.

"The ongoing success of Landlord can be put down to our uncompromising brewing process, the very finest ingredients that we use in our beers, and the relentless hard work and commitment of our team.

"From the brewery team to the sales team, office staff and our drays, and of course the dedicated pub and wholesaler teams responsible for looking after our beer once it's left our brewery.

"Landlord's success rests on all our shoulders, and to see it become the top-selling cask ale by value in the UK, and top independently produced cask ale, is testament to that hard work. All for that taste of Taylor's."

Top 10 by volume

Sharp's Doom Bar
Timothy Taylor's Landlord
Greene King IPA
Fuller's London Pride
Wainwright Gold
Greene King Abbot Ale
St Austell Tribute Ale
Marston's Pedigree

A Vicious Circle for Keg Bitter in the 1970s

Taken from an historical blog by Boak & Bailey

In the early 1970s no-one was buying Younger's Tartan keg bitter which meant it kept sitting around in pubs until it went bad. The brewery's response? Mix it back in and send it out again.

This story leapt out at us from the pages of a new acquisition for our library, Good Company: the story of Scottish & Newcastle, written by Berry Ritchie and published in 1999. As is the case with many brewery official histories the most interesting stuff isn't the wigs and genealogy in the opening chapters, it's the material on the post-WWII period. That's because there were people around who remembered the events well but at the same time were no longer obliged to toe a corporate line because they were retired; and plenty of surviving paperwork, too. This passage, covering a vague period from around 1970 until the middle of the decade, seems remarkably frank:



Unfortunately, the popularity of Tartan turned out to be less than robust. Compared to English bitters, it was on the sweet side; the post-war baby-boomers to whom [board member Tim] Lewis had appealed so successfully liked this to begin with, but as their palates matured, they switched back to more traditional southern bitters. The big swallowers in the Midlands were never keen; Scottish & Newcastle's salesmen made huge efforts to get its kegs into the large working-men's clubs in and around Birmingham, only to see them thrown out again after a month or so.

Worse than that, falling sales resulted in many tapped kegs being left on sale for too long, so their contents went off. That meant returns, which had to be sent all the way back to Edinburgh, because that was where Customs and Excise checked they were were bad enough to warrant a refund of duty. If not, the rejected beer had to be reblended, which did nothing for the flavour of the new brews. So much returned Tartan had to be recycled that it began to affect the reputation of the group's premium beers.

Isn't it amazing that this, which reads like CAMRA propaganda, is from a brewery sponsored publication? It's funny to think, too, that 'it's all slops' was for so long a standard criticism of cask ale, and mild in particular, when in fact the supposedly clean, space-age keg bitter was subject to just the same commercial pressures.

When people talk about the dangerous influence of 'accountants' on the quality of beer it's just this kind of thing they have in mind.

Why 'had'? They could presumably have just written off the duty payments and thrown the bad beer away. The decision to do otherwise seems remarkably short-termist but perhaps — very likely, in fact — at these volumes, on tight margins, the choice was between this or going immediately bust, or being taken over.

We'd like to think this kind of thing doesn't go on so much today but with beer duty being yet higher than the 1970s we wouldn't be surprised to find some 21st Century variant in play.

Funnily enough, Ron Pattinson has just posted about the use of 'reprocessed beer' at Younger's in this period with reference to some archive paperwork. That makes us wonder if perhaps, rather than being mixed with itself, the comparatively light, bland Tartan was hidden in the folds of dark, even sweeter stout and brown ale where it would be harder to spot.

It's also interesting, by the way, to see further confirmation of the idea that Midlands drinkers in particular were considered to have different tastes, as did young and older drinkers. We can't help but think again of those soft, sweet New England IPAs.

Who are Boak & Bailey? They say: We're geeks in general, but especially about beer and pubs. We write under the names Jessica Boak and Ray Bailey. We live in Cornwall, and have been blogging about beer since 2007.

Email: contact@boakandbailey.com
X: @boakandbailey
Facebook: /boakandbailey

HERE WE GO AGAIN

One of the most famous pubs in London has closed.

Campaigners are hoping Ye Olde Swiss Cottage can be saved after its operator, Samuel Smith's Brewery, closed the pub at the end of January.

The brewery has not responded to enquiries over the fate of the uniquely designed pub.

Joanne Scott, from the CAMRA, said its closure was a "real loss for the local community and also for London".

Swiss Cottage Tube station and the local area both took their name from the pub which has stood on the site since the 1830s.

It is not known why it was designed in the style of a Swiss chalet but has become a local landmark.

Malcolm Toft reacts to recent features.

The Churchill Hotel, Barkerend Road, featured in Richard Holden's mystery pub page in the January/ February 2025 Tyke Taverner. It replaced the original Church Hill Hotel which was situated on the other side Barkerend Road. Council flats were built to the rear of the old pub site. The new Churchill Hotel opened on the 25th March 1957 but sadly after a short period of Vaux ownership it was converted into an office building.

A picture of the Chellow Grange Hotel was another mystery pub. Now a private house a provisional licence was granted for the pub on the 15th of February in 1940. It was said it might be years before a public house was completed (due to the 1939-45 war) and only with government permission.

A newspaper report of 13th May 1946 referred to the newly built Chellow Grange Hotel. The Melbourne Brewery pub had unusual windows, the company's trade mark courtier emblems on them were within squares instead of the usual circles.

NEWS: GOSSIP: SCANDAL

The Rose & Crown, Westgate, Bradford, had been sold and was due to close on 4th March. Than means there's nothing left up that way now.

****

Hooper Micropub, Wibsey, is being sold - to a good buyer, we are promised.

****

The Upper George, Wibsey, is working well with a policy of regularly changing real ales.

****

A newly-opened place in Bingley is Mulligans - on Chapel Lane. Real ale is promised.

****

The Old Bank, on Market Street in Bradford, has finally reopened. The offering is likely to include one real ale. This pub is run by the same outfit that has the nearby Drumwinder and the Wine Lodge.

****

The Malt, by the bridge in Harden, has been refurbished. So has its name: it is back to being the Malt Shovel.

****

What was the Beerhuis on North Parade is becoming an Indian restaurant.

****

Trafalgar Entertainment Group has been appointed Bradford Live operator. Now we should get some action in this wonderful space. Perhaps beer festivals?

GO ON: TELL THE WORLD

(well, a part of it anyway)

Get your business noticed among these pages.

Over 4100 copies of Tyke Taverner are printed, and distribution is really quite wide. Clearly the majority of magazines will find a home in the Bradford branch area. However, significant numbers do cross the borders to the likes of the Leeds, Halifax & Calderdale, Wakefield, Keighley & Craven, Harrogate & Ripon, Huddersfield and Woollen branch areas.

Contact the Editor for rates etc.

Don't put it off to tomorrow.

DON'T MISS OUT

Keeping In Touch

Are you a CAMRA member? If so, please check your membership marketing (contact) preferences via the national website.

CAMRA wishes to keep in touch with more members both locally and nationally. You can find Bradford Branch activities listed in this magazine and also on the Bradford CAMRA website (Bradford.camra.oirg.uk).

Many members have not given their contact details to CAMRA or in some cases updated them with changes of address, email or telephone numbers. All three options are available for getting up to date news from CAMRA.

You can also opt to have the quarterly publication Beer posted in hard copy if you wish. Members may be able to get help with updating their preferences at branch events, please ask if you need such assistance. Online you can take such action via account.camra.org.uk/marketing .

Bradford CAMRA hopes to get as many people into our contact sphere as possible. Our membership officer Adrian Mellow is ready to help if required. See his details on page 3.



Attention CAMRA members in the Bradford area:

The Bradford branch is fully aware of the extent of the branch area, and that it is good to spread its activities evenly around it.

However, there is a diminishing stock of pubs / clubs with a good private room for meetings.

We are pretty well served in that regard in north Bradford, but poorly so elsewhere - even the centre. Can you help? Ideas and suggestions to the branch secretary, please. Details on page 3.

JOHN HARTLEY

Halifax & Calderdale Branch are devastated to announce the sudden death at the age of sixty-eight of long-standing committee member and festival organiser John Hartley.

John was a knowledgeable and passionate campaigner for traditional pubs, ales and in particular beers matured in the wood and was an enthusiastic supporter of the Society for the Preservation of Beer from the Wood. This was a topic very close to his heart and even went so far as to buy his own wooden beer casks to ensure a great selection of beer in the wood at the Halifax and Calderdale Beer festival.



He was recognised nationally by CAMRA last year for his campaigning activities and - under his guidance - Calderdale Beer & Cider Festival grew rapidly to become one of the best and most popular in the North of England.

John was a strong contributor to the Friends of Sowerby Bridge Railway Station group, being one of the founding members. His father had been a Station Master there, John researched and wrote the information boards displayed on the station. As a retired teacher, he enjoyed and was proficient at researching local history. He gathered considerable information on those from the Yorkshire & Lancashire Railway that lost their lives during war time. This work was also published and sold as a book with the proceeds being given to the Friends group. John also looked after the sponsorship of their planters on the platforms, bringing in much valued financial support.

John liked his pubs, becoming a paid-up member of the Fox & Goose Community pub at Hebden Bridge and the Puzzle Hall at Sowerby Bridge following its resurrection from dereliction.

His interests were many, but he will be best remembered for his love of strong beers and in particularly Imperial Stouts.

He will be sadly missed by all his friends, and members of SPBW, CAMRA and Friends of Sowerby Bridge Station.

****

Every organisation needs a few people of extra talent and enthusiasm. People who will go that bit further and do that bit more.

John did more than go one step further - he was out of sight. If John Hartley believed in something, he gave it everything. He gave CAMRA so, so much. Thank you, John.

DB

CAMRA LOCAL BRANCH CONTACTS :

Halifax & Calderdale :
Harry Pogue
branchcontact@hxcalderdale.camra.org.uk
Harrogate & Ripon:
Steve Fairweather 07985-412486
harcamra@hotmail.co.uk
Huddersfield & District :
Bob Tomlinson 01484-654062
Keighley & Craven :
Jenny Baker -
socialsec@keighleyandcraven.camra.org.uk
Leeds :
Nigel Halton - contact@leeds.camra.org.uk
Wakefield:
Mark Gibson - otok@wakefield.camra.org.uk
Woollen District :
Paul Dixey 01924-420029

PUBS NO MORE Can you put names to them?

Ricky Holden provides the pictures; you provide the answers.



Two of the three pictures last time showed: Churchill, Church Bank; Chellow Grange, Haworth Road; and another one.

Nowthen, the thought was that the third picture showed the City Hotel on City Road, but this has been disproved. So it is shown again here, as pub no. 1 - with this minimal info: Adjacent to the meat market on Hammerton St. Er, that's it.

Centre:

Once prominent on a busy T-junction, it has now completely gone.

An 18th century house that claimed to have had a licence since 1746.

The Melbourne windows were a fine feature.



Bottom:

Another one on a main road out of the city, in a northern suburb.

Gloried in the addition of the initials T and J to its name in its later stages.

Basically a two-roomed affair - one for games and one for entertainment or relaxation.



Bradford CAMRA socials / events Jan / Feb All start at 7.30pm unless stated.

Wed 5 Mar	Social Wallers Bar, Sunbridge Wells	
Wed 12 Mar	Branch Meeting at the Peacock.	North Parade
Wed 19 Mar	Ling Bob; Villager & New Inn, Wilsden	616 Eldwick at 1845 from N2, Nelson St.. Ret 2120.
Sat 22 Mar	Social at Goose Eye Brewery Tap, Cross-flatts from 2pm	
Wed 26 Mar	Winter POTS presentation Cap & Collar	
Wed 2 Apr	Omnibus & New Dolphin, Queensbury	576 Halifax at 1849 from N1 Nelson St.. Ret 2124 or 2154
Wed 9 Apr	Fanny's & Salt Cellar, Saltaire	
Wed 16 Apr	Branch Meeting at Caroline St. Club	Saltaire
Wed 23 Apr	Black Rat & Commercial, Thackley	
Wed 30 Apr	Flying Duck & Ilkley Brewery Tap	6.46pm Ilkley train from Forster Sq
Wed 7 May	Symposium, Brewery Tap & Alex, Idle	
Wed 14 May	AGM Venue to be announced	

Note: Bus times correct at time of compilation. Do check.

HALIFAX & CALDERDALE CAMRA

Thu 6 Mar	Hogs Head Brewhouse & Bar 1 Stanley Street, Sowerby Bridge	Open Branch Meeting
Thu 13 Mar 7.30 pm	Rochdale Social	Starting at Flying Horse, then on to Hoochi Koochi, Our Gracie's, Pint Pot, Baum, Regal Moon
Thu 20 Mar 7.30 pm	Grayston Unity 8 Horton Street, Halifax	Open Committee Meeting
Fri 28 Mar 3pm	Eagles Cragg Brewery 28 Halifax Road, Todmorden	John Hartley Memorial Social
Wed 2 Apr 7pm	Wainhouse Tavern	Irish Whiskey Tasting
April 26th TBC	John Hartley Memorial Games Night	Charity event in aid of British Heart Foundation
TBA	Fox & Goose Games challenge	Annual Pub Games Challenge Fox & Goose v. CAMRA

For more details, contact our Social Secretaries at social@hxcalderdalecamra.org.uk or see *https://hxcalderdalecamra.org.uk/branch-diary/*

Be part of the CAMRA story

Real ale is just the start...

Our story is your story.
So join us in supporting everything from pubs and drinkers rights, to licensees and breweries, uniting us in the story we all love.

To thank you for being a hero in our story, you receive great membership benefits, such as **£30 of beer vouchers, quarterly BEER magazine,** access to the online news platform What's Brewing, **partner benefits and discounts...** just a few perks of joining us.

Join the CAMRA story
camra.org.uk/join

CAMRA



Real stories, real people, real ale

MILL VALLEY TAPROOM

WOODROYD MILLS, CLECKHEATON, BD193AF

mill valley BREWERY (NORTHERN)





6 ROTATING REAL ALES

OPEN

THURSDAY 5pm-10pm
FRIDAY 3pm - LATE
SAT - SUN 2pm - LATE

WWW.MILLVALLEYTAPROOM.CO.UK

MILL VALLEY BREWERY

Bitters, Pales, Darks, And Seasonal Specials

FOR TRADE SALES CONTACT US
Tel: 07565 229 560
Email: sales@millvalleybrewery.co.uk