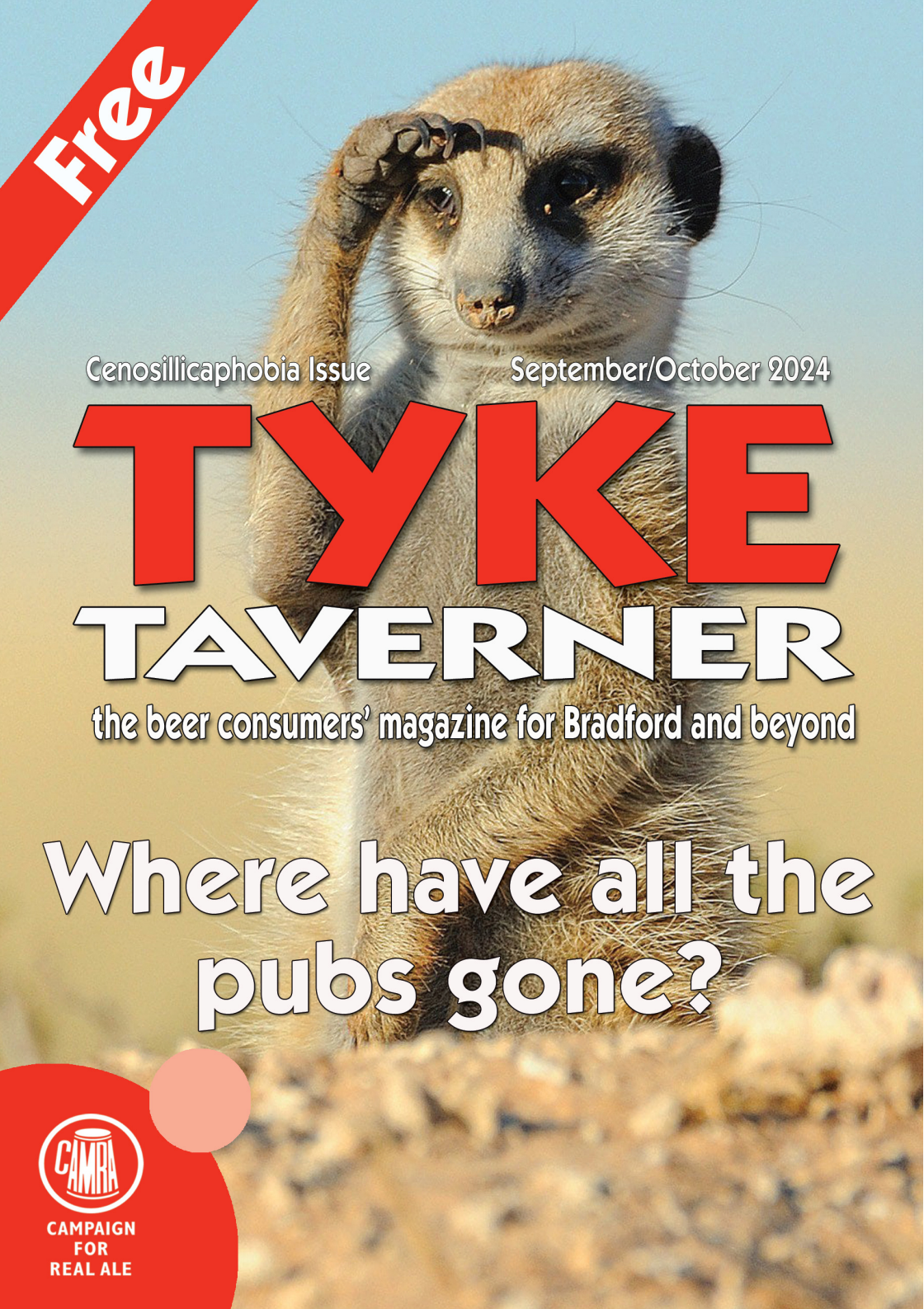
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Cenosillicaphobia Issue September/October 2024

TYKE TAVERNER

the beer consumers' magazine for Bradford and beyond

Where have all the pubs gone?

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Or try Malcolm Toft's: metrealbeernews.co.uk
We now also converse by facebook and X.

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-o0o-
Much of the good artwork and design in this issue is by Phil Littlewood.
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WHERE HAVE ALL THE BOOZERS GONE?

Long time passing? If you remember that old song from the flower-power generation you will also remember that we had far more pubs to choose from back then. Oh, so many more. OK, not so much choice of beers as now, but a pub seemingly on every corner - and some in between.

The lockdowns and other rules we had to follow, during the time when Covid was new and frightening, were the start of the current wave of closures. It had been happening gradually, of course, as people's habits changed, and going to the pub was not something that we just did anymore. It became something of a special occasion.

Well, those of us who love the pub and its traditions need to be its champion: use it; meet friends in it; enjoy it; appreciate it. And if government can release its grip a little when it comes to duties and other taxes, so much the better. City planners need to be more alert to the needless destruction being sought of pubs. And they should not hide behind that word "demographics".

***** FOR BRANCH EVENTS SEE PAGE 30*****

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 Pedants' Revolt would be led by Which Tyler, or whether Aaron Calder was a canal pioneer, 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...

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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 bradfordcamra.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. Sadly there is still no sign of a comprehensive monthly newsletter returning as many members have requested. 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.

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A Miscellanea

News, Rumour, Scandal, Other Stuff...

Wordplay:

Alison at Hooper Micropub in Wibsey has reintroduced some of us to a very useful word:

Cenosillicaphobia. Fear of an empty glass.

See? Pubs are great places of learning. Improve your erudition - get to the pub.

****

Burton Unions:

One union set has been saved by being taken on by Thornbridge.

That leaves nine to be found homes. Want one?

****

End of Days 1:

The Fleece, Clayton has been closed for a while. Permission has been granted for conversion to dwellings. Another one gone.

****

End of Days 2:

The Groove Pad in Shipley will serve customers no more. Another case of the inability to make it a viable and profitable concern. To quote the main man: "I haven't taken a holiday in six years." That says a lot.

Barkisland Cricket Club - Halifax & Calderdale CAMRA's Club of the Year 2024.

On Thursday 11th July Halifax and Calderdale CAMRA members attended Barkisland Cricket Club to present the branch's top club award - Club of the Year 2024.On the day of the event five beers were being served on handpump. It is not unusual for so many cask ales to be available making Barkisland Cricket Club one of the top clubs in Calderdale for selling and supporting real ale. The beers on sale on the day were Coach House Innkeeper's Special Reserve (4.5%), Abbeydale Moonshine (4.3%), Craven Blonde (4%), Moorhouse's White Witch (3.9%) and Saltaire Blonde (4%). In addition a range of wines, spirits, lager, snacks and sweets were also available.



Halifax and Calderdale CAMRA's Clubs Officer, Stephen Taylor, presents the Club of the Year 2024 certificate to Peter Elsworth, Chairman of Barkisland Cricket Club (left)

In his speech, Richard Lee, Halifax and Calderdale CAMRA's Branch Chair, congratulated Barkisland Cricket Club for achieving the award and stated that the Club of the Year award was the highest award presented to clubs by the branch. He praised the Club for its commitment to real ale, the range of other alcoholic drinks available, the friendliness of the bar staff and the welcome Halifax and Calderdale CAMRA members had received.



Chairman Peter Elsworth and the victorious Barkisland Cricket Club Staff Team display the Club of the Year 2024 banner

Barkisland Cricket Club is situated in beautiful surroundings and is well-supported by its members and local people of all ages. It can be reached by using the 561 and 562 buses from Halifax and the E4 service from Brighouse.

Barkisland Cricket Club will host its annual Beer and Pie Festival from the 8th-10th November 2024. Approximately 24 handpulled beers and plenty of pies will be available during the event. Last year's festival was a tremendous success with virtually all the beers being sold, plus 700 pies. This event is highly recommended by Halifax and Calderdale CAMRA.

TALES FROM A NARROWBOAT

Stafford and the Shropshire Union



From Tamworth we meandered up to the Staffs and Worcester Canal, and our first stop was Stafford, another favourite of ours. After a quiet night it started pouring down, but, we needed to get some shopping, so, trying to avoid the heavy rain, we had a bus ride into the centre of Stafford and called at M&S, (Michelle got a new top in the sale and we got something for tea), then we headed for The Sun Inn.

The Sun Inn is a Titanic pub which sells its own beers and always has many guest ales on as well. Beers on the bar from Titanic were Plum Porter, Cherry Porter, Steerage, True Stout, Anytime IPA, First Class, White Star, Iceberg, Raspberry Pale and Captain Smith. Guest ales were Everard's Tiger, Signature Brew's Backstage IPA. Lincoln Green's Marion Grapefruit IPA, Peak Ales Bakewell Bitter, Green Duck's Murder She Oat, (a beautiful oatmeal stout and Michelle's favourite), RedWillow Lil' Soul Black IPA and, to me, the best of the lot, Rural Brewings Pale Ale, which was so crisp and tangy, it was just fabulous. Quite a few of these were under £4.00 a pint as well, terrific value for money.



The place was busy, lots of regulars, (it is dog friendly, so, dog walkers as well), plus many shoppers just getting out of the rain, and everyone was enjoying themselves.

This is our sixth visit, and we have never been disappointed, the ales, the company and the staff have always been spot-on. In fact, the young lady who was serving behind the bar, has hidden talents, she was designing all the signs that took pride of place around the pub.



Then trying not to get too wet we caught the bus back to our mooring.

The next canal we used was the Shropshire Union and there were a couple of pubs that had changed owners since outlast visit, so, now was the chance to try them.

The first was The Hartley Arms at Wheaton Aston which hasn't changed much, the ales are slightly different, there are still Banks's Amber, Hobgoblin Gold and Wainwright, but no Jennings Cocker Hoop and no Banks's Mild, these have been replaced by two from Wye Valley – HPA and

Butty Bach, and there is one Craft Tap as well now which is Beavertown Neck Oil. Not a very exciting choice, but, the beers were in good condition and not overpriced.

We hadn't gone in for food, but the pub was also doing a roaring trade in lunches, and, we must admit, they did look and smell very nice. The menu also included various vegetarian dishes including a Nut Roast for Sunday lunch.

The Hartley is a nice pub, very popular with locals, boaters and visitors, both for food and drink, the staff and customers are always friendly, polite and helpful and everything works well, but, in our opinion, a bigger and better choice of ales would be a bonus, especially with so many new breweries about.

Our next stop was Audlem, and The Lord Combermere.

This pub closed down pre-Covid and has not been open for our last four visits to Audlem, so, we were looking forward to seeing what it was like now. The answer is, much as it was. There were only four handpumps working and these were dispensing Titanic Black Ice and three from Abbeydale - Moonshine, Daily Bread and Dark Mild, there were also some Craft Ales available in cans behind the bar. Michelle liked the Dark Mild whilst I favoured the Titanic Black Ice and the Moonshine. The place wasn't over busy at lunchtime but there were a few in ordering food and the ales seemed to be selling well, they were in great condition after all.

Hopefully as time progresses there will be more ales on sale, possibly a few Craft taps too, but, the new landlord is definitely heading in the right direction, so, good luck to him, or her.

Where to next? Watch this space...

Phil and Michelle











BRADFORD NOT VERY LIVE

This article appeared in the Telegraph & Argus and it says a lot about a contentious issue. Thanks T&A.

Organisers say a major festival planned to take place at Bradford Live during City of Culture year will now be held elsewhere - amid "stonewalling" from the NEC Group.

Senior members of Bradford CAMRA told the Telegraph & Argus the organisation's national Great British Beer Festival Winter was due to be held at the city centre venue in February next year.

But as silence from the NEC Group over its commitment to Bradford Live continues, CAMRA has had no option but to move the 2025 event to a venue outside the city, the T&A has been told.

Ricky Holden, a long-serving member of Bradford CAMRA, described the news as "disastrous" for Bradford, saying the festival would have brought large numbers of people to the city.

He said he hoped the event may be able to take place at Bradford Live after 2025, however.

Mr Holden said: "CAMRA's national Great British Beer Festival Winter - which was due to be held at Bradford Live in February next year - has been relocated to a venue outside of Bradford.

"Bradford Live was the first choice for this premium event. CAMRA had been negotiating its booking for around three years.

Despite having almost agreed terms with the NEC Group and obtaining full support from Bradford Council, the operator was not willing to make contractual commitments for the event. Everyone's being stonewalled by the NEC Group.

We couldn't wait any longer and we've now had to move to another venue elsewhere."

He added: "It's disastrous for Bradford. This big event would have brought thousands of people to the city. Local businesses, therefore, will lose out on lots of footfall. It's such a shame.

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

It would have been perfect holding this event at Bradford Live as part of City of Culture year. We can only hope we'll be able to hold the event there in future years."

Peter Down, another senior member of Bradford CAMRA, also told of his disappointment. He said: "With Bradford Live opening and Bradford being City of Culture, we thought it would be perfect holding this national event in Bradford in 2025.

We had our fingers crossed it was going to happen. Everything was going well until we started having issues with communication with the NEC Group. It got to the point where we needed enough time to organise things so unfortunately we ended up having to pull the plug on holding it at Bradford Live."

The news comes weeks after the first two shows announced at Bradford Live - a couple of tribute acts - were cancelled.

The Birmingham-based NEC Group - which was soon due to take over the building as operator before opening Bradford Live later this year as a major entertainment venue - has repeatedly declined to confirm its commitment to the project.

The T&A approached the NEC Group and asked for a response to the concerns raised by Bradford CAMRA. No response was provided.

Bradford Council was also asked for a comment but no statement was given.

Last week, the T&A spoke to Bradford Live director Chris Morrell, who said the old Odeon building "certainly will" open as an entertainment venue.

Mr Morrell said there was "a lot of conversation going on" in the background and added: "The contract with the NEC Group is still in place and they're due to take over the building and commence a fit-out once we hand over to them within a few weeks' time."

Asked if Bradford Live would launch later this year as previously announced, Mr Morrell said he could not address that question "at the moment".

He did not comment on the events which had been cancelled.

Mr Morrell said the "finishing touches" were being applied to Bradford Live and added: "We're looking forward to showing it off to everyone. The scale and flexibility of the venue will make it the best of its kind in northern England. I think everyone will be astounded at how spectacular it is. It'll be a fabulous venue."



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BROAD ACRE WANDERINGS with Paul Davis

And a very warm welcome to this edition of Broad Acres Wanderings. With the summer finally upon us, your intrepid explorer has been indulging in some open water swimming and there are beer visits to Cheltenham, Knaresborough, Saltburn-by-the-Sea, Norwich, and Tamworth too.

A social engagement in early June took me down to Birmingham and whilst there was no chance to visit any of the city's hostelries, I did stop off at Tamworth and Derby en route back to Leeds for some real ale sampling.

Firstly, it's a visit to Sir Robert Peel in the former. This establishment has been highly recognised by CAMRA for its quality of ale for some years and has featured in every issue of the Good Beer Guide since 2005. It was also recognised in CAMRA's National 50th Anniversary Golden Awards too. It takes its name from the former Prime Minister, known for his role in the creation of the police force, and is a favourite haunt of the town's football fans on a match day, being just a ten-minute stroll or so from the ground. I venture to the large outdoor beer garden to soak up some mid-day June sunshine with a pint of Grave Digger's Ale from the Church End brewery in Nuneaton.

Blue skies, green grass, time for cricket



It's then off to watch the local cricket team, who are today competing in the ECB National Club Championship knock out early stages. They eventually run out narrow winners over Loughborough Town CC in Leicestershire. I am then given a lift back to Tamworth railway station by the very kind chairman of the club, who also gave me a free lunch due to being suitably impressed to my devotion to club cricket watching. It's then a train back to Leeds.

Due to the train passing through Derby, I feel I must disembark and pay a visit to another old favourite haunt, the Brunswick Inn, a few minutes' walk from Derby railway station, and a favourite of locals and home football fans on match days too. It's a welcome return for me as I've not visited since pre-COVID-19 times, and I'm delighted to say that very little has changed, with the excellent array of ales and affordable cooked home food on offer. The pub opened in 1987 as a real ale establishment, with the addition of the on-site brewery in 1991. The building is part of the original Midland Railway Village, threatened with clearance in the 1970s and saved as part of the Railway Conservation Area in the 1980s. A pint of White Feather, brewed on site along with a magnificent shepherd's pie goes down rather nicely.

With some long-awaited fine weather starting to arrive I thought a trip to Knaresborough Lido for some open water swimming would be a fine idea. Although I couldn't resist a couple of ale stops on my way home, purely for research purposes of course. First, it's the Brew York owned Mitre, opposite Knaresborough railway station. The pub boasts six hand pulls, serving the usual fine selection of Brew York beers. There's a spacious sunny outside terrace area too, where views of Knaresborough Church can be seen. I take in the long overdue rays of sunshine whilst enjoying a pint of Guzzler. It's then onto the independently owned Blind Jack's. This is a Grade II listed building, dating from 1741, and boasts the Trompe-l'oeil painting on the exterior which features the pub's namesake, Blind Jack Metcalf. It has been listed in the Good Beer

Guide since 1993 too and attracts a friendly mix of locals and visitors alike. I take in the warm and traditional pub atmosphere with a pint of Roosters Yankee.

Carrying on the theme of sea swimming I managed a brief jolly up to Saltburn for a quick three-day get away, and, of course, the obligatory real ale pubs were duly sought out. With Saltburn being a small town of Quaker origin, the first pub didn't exist until 1982, with any drinking in the town only being able to be done in hotel bars prior to this. First on the agenda was the Pillar Box micro pub.

Opened in December 2018, it's the town's first and only establishment of its kind, and has been converted from a tanning shop. In keeping with its name, the pub boasts a Victorian post box set into the wall of the main bar area and several toy post boxes on display behind the bar. The pub is very busy as it's the weekend of the first ever Cleveland Pride event taking place in the town and the drinkers are all in buoyant celebratory mood. There is a wide-ranging choice of ales, primarily sourced from local breweries. I plump for the Trilogy Blond Ale from the Three Brothers brewing company in nearby Stockton-on-Tees.



The place for first class tea.

Next on the agenda is a visit to Saltburn Cricket, Bowls & Tennis Club. It opens its doors daily, even if there aren't any sporting activities taking place, and has been a local CAMRA multi-award winner for the past 28 years, and was local CAMRA branch club of the year last year too. Imagine my delight when we arrive to find some bonus live cricketing action as the home side are taking on nearby Guisborough CC in an under-17s match, with the away side coming out victorious by eight wickets in a 20 over contest. There are three ales on tap and continuing the Guisborough theme I quaff down a pint of Sun Daze Summer Session IPA from the Guisborough Brewery located in the nearby North Yorkshire town.

There's even time for a trip down to Norwich for more sport and real ale. My adopted German football team, FC Magdeburg, from the former East Germany are embarking upon their pre-season preparation by playing a friendly against Norwich City. Norwich is considered, at least by the locals, to be the real ale capital of the country and there's therefore plenty of choice to go at. The two stand out pubs visited being The Murders and the Coach and Horses. The Murderers, so called because a former landlord from the nineteenth century was convicted of murdering his wife, although its real name is actually the Gardeners Arms. The pub has twelve hand pumps on show and despite having a rather sports themed air about it the pub still possesses a warm and traditional pub vibe. I content myself with a pint of Edith Cavell from the Wolf brewery located in the Norfolk countryside. It's then onto the Coach and Horses, located near Norwich Theatre. It's owned by the Chalk Hill Brewery, Norwich's longest running independent brewery, and a pint of Chalk Hill Gold is called for. The following day it's onto Great Yarmouth for the opening day of the non-league football season where Great Yarmouth Town FC, nicknamed Bloaters, take on Long Melford FC from Suffolk in the opening game of the season, following the home side's promotion last season. The Bloaters duly run out two-nil winners, in front of a crowd of 231. The venue is home to the world's oldest functioning wooden stand, dating back until 1892. Even better, there's some live cricket next door too, but alas no real ale was to be found. Well folks, that's all for now. Happy quaffing to one and all until next

SO WHY CAN'T WE HAVE A FULL PINT?

Prior to the general election CAMRA was calling on political parties to give their backing to a change in the law to guarantee drinkers a right to a full pint.

Monday 17th June marked the 200th anniversary of the passing of the Weights & Measures Act 1824 which defined a pint in law in British and Irish law for the first time. CAMRA marked the occasion by calling on all political parties to commit to changing the law in the new Parliament to guarantee that punters get a full pint when they order one – meaning the head on a pint or half pint of beer wouldn't be included in the total volume.

Recent studies by the Chartered Institute of Trading Standards found that 86% of beer was short measured, and current laws leave consumers no recourse if they're refused a top up.

Commenting, CAMRA National Director Gillian Hough said:

"The pint of beer or cider is part of our culture and heritage across these islands and it is right that we mark the 200th anniversary of the pint being defined in law in Britain and Ireland for the first time by raising a glass to our great local pubs, social clubs, breweries and cider producers.

"But with too many consumers receiving short measures at the bar, CAMRA wants the new UK Government to introduce a legal right for pubgoers to receive a 100 per cent liquid pint each and every time they are served.

"This would give drinkers a guarantee of getting what they pay for when they are supporting local pubs and breweries and would be a fitting way to mark the 200th anniversary of the great British and Irish pint."

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The Hop Monkey, Hipperholme – Halifax and Calderdale CAMRA's Summer Pub of the Season 2024

On Wednesday26th June 2024 Halifax and Calderdale CAMRA members presented the Summer 2024 Pub of the Season Award to Doddy and his staff at The Hop Monkey, Hipperholme.

The pub is situated on the crossroads of the junction at Hipperholme between Halifax, Brighouse and Bradford and re-opened in a building previously occupied by The Whitehall Pub in August 2022.

The focus at The Hop Monkey is on real ale and there are ten handpumps on the bar. On the day of the presentation seven beers were served on handpump and the breweries represented were Nightjar (Rave Racoon), Phoenix (Wobbly Bob), Salopian (Port in a Storm), Vocation (Bread and Butter), Yorkshire Heart (two beers - Hearty and Blonde) and the Hop Monkey's house beer (Hoppy Pale Ale). The Hop Monkey also has 16 keg lines and serves a range of lagers, ciders, wines and spirits. Bar snacks are also available.

In his speech Halifax and Calderdale CAMRA Branch Chair Richard Lee praised the bar staff for their friendliness and welcoming attitude, the range of cask and keg ales (which always included pale ales, bitters and a dark) and the ambience and rustic feel of the pub. He stated that The Hop Monkey was a welcomed addition to the Halifax real ale drinking scene and a big asset to outer Halifax.



Halifax and Calderdale CAMRA Branch Chair, Richard Lee, presents the Summer 2024 Pub of the Season certificate to Doddy (right), owner of the Hop Monkey, Hipperholme.



Doddy and the victorious staff of The Hop Monkey, Hipperholme, displaying the Summer 2024 Pub of the Season banner.

The Hop Monkey is well worth a visit and can be reached by catching 548, 549 and 255 buses from Halifax, 548 and 549 buses from Brighouse and the 255 bus from Leeds. There is a spacious beer garden at the back of the pub, a quiz on Wednesday, music on Sunday (5-7pm) and music occasionally on Saturday evenings.

The Hop Monkey's sister pub, The Hop Monkey Music Bar, is situated in Dean Clough, Halifax and also has a focus on real ale, but please check opening hours before you visit.

COMMUNITIES ARE IMPORTANT - SO ARE THEIR PUBS

CAMRA calls for urgent action on Community Ownership Fund to save pubs

The Campaign for Real Ale is urging the Minister for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to ensure community groups' efforts to save pubs won't be wasted.

CAMRA has written to Angela Rayner, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (or whatever it is now) to ask for urgent action on the payment of grants from the Community Ownership Fund.

During the run-up to the General Election, unfinalised Grand Funding Agreements from the Community Ownership Fund have meant payments to community groups have not been made, despite the funding having already been agreed and announced by the previous Government.

Community projects up and down the country have been impacted by this, with bids to turn their local pubs into community-owned pubs now in significant danger. Owners selling the property may be put off by the delay and Assets of Community Value moratoriums could expire before community groups can finalise the purchase of their local.

CAMRA is urging Government to make this a top priority of their first weeks in power.

Commenting, Gary Timmins, CAMRA Pub & Club Campaigns Director said:

"We are supremely disappointed by this mix-up. Community groups with plans to improve their communities and rescue their local have been left in limbo and are now unsure what the future holds for their campaigns.

"Groups up and down the country have been working tirelessly, sometimes for years, to secure funding from various sources to save their local pubs. Securing Community Ownership Fund grants gave groups hopes of achieving their campaigns, this has currently been cruelly snatched away from them.

"Community groups are now unsure if they will be able to buy their local pubs, with years of work potentially wasted. I urge the Secretary of State to ensure that agreed funds are followed through and acted on urgently."

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Jacobs Well Pub
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Photo courtesy of Alex Mitchell

REVIEWING with Russ Petcher



Marc Gallagher
Bored Of Crying

Marc isn't just talented, he's super talented with an ear for catchy melodies and choruses that sucker punch you right between the eyes. Bored Of Crying is a pop master piece that took me back to bands from the 90's and early 2000's.I could compare it to loads of stuff but I'd rather you just see for yourselves.

This song stomps along and is sprinkled with summer felt goodness from start to finish which gets à big thumbs up from me.

Russ Petcher



CONSUMER ADVICE
Visit the Citizens Advice Website citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/
Or you can call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06.

STUFF KEEPS HAPPENING



Bradford CAMRA Pub of Year Overall Winner for 2024 is the Corn Dolly. Good weather was ordered so that Anthony could show off his legs. Dolly pub guru Neil and branch Chair Kerr could not be persuaded to do likewise. Probably a good job - nobody wanted Bolton Road to be brought to a standstill.

So it's the Corn Dolly - and not for the first time. Neil, and his father Peter before him have been central to holding the award over many years before Anthony took over.

Does this award make the Corn Dolly the best pub in Bradford branch area? Well, on paper - Yes. That's what the judges made it, and they work on national CAMRA criteria, which takes into account much more than the quality of the beer.

There are many rivals, and their turn might well come. Indeed, let us hope it does and that the quality of pubs in this city is maintained at a high level. And even improved upon. But for now: all hail the Dolly.

But wait! We have an Outer Bradford POTY too (the Corn Dolly having taken the Inner Bradford crown, of course). Who is it?

It's the Cracker Barrel at Greengates. It's just a few years on the scene now, but is pressing all the right buttons.

Opening hours are regular, the same every day, and maintained. This has meant a healthy band of regulars.

The beer choice is wonderful for a small pub (it used to be a Post Office), and there is usually a dark beer on the bar too.



Here we see Kerr discussion just where a plague of such enormity will go behind the bar. Let's take a breather...





When we have winners with the POTY we also have runners-up. Inner Bradford's were the Exchange and the Fighting Cock. Outer Bradford's were the Crafty Kernel in Shipley and the Peacock in Bingley.

Above left we see Reece and Zoe, with Kerr and evidence of their award at the Kernel.

Above right is a picture taken outside the pub. A popular thing to do. Note how Reece is scanning the area for even more customers for their two-level modern pub. Want to buy it?



... There's more room outside of the Cracker Barrel, on the street - to swing a plague - but watch out for the traffic. As it is on Harrogate Road it is so handy for several buses, such as the A2, the 60 and the 645.

Here, owners Paul and Kirstie flank chairman Kerr and Jamie. Not on picture duty were Gemma, Sammi and Chloe.

There is a small table and a few chairs outside the front of the pub, and a rear garden area of no small degree of quaintness.

Winners of POTS once before, this shows what is possible with dedication and skill.



The Club of the Year is the Caroline Street Club, Saltaire. The whole team is surrounding the plague, held with pride.

Mick Abbott (far right) is a CAMRA member and a club member too. He could not be persuaded from presenting the award.

So we let him do it. It seemed to go well





A more recent presentation was made by Chairman Kerr to Raj at the Peacock in Bingley. This was a double one, being the latest Pub of the Season and also one of the runners-up in the Outer Bradford Pub of the Year competition.

These are the first awards won by the Peacock in Bingley, although its sister pub on North Parade, Bradford has been honoured in the past.

So handy for the station, and just around the corner from the main road through the town, the Peacock offers a good range of beers and some cracking Indian food too.

This split level pub has much to offer and is quite an asset to this well-pubbed town.



And another one...

During the recent Real Ale Holiday in Yorkshire (the annual event organised by Bradford CAMRA) there was reason to call in at Malton on the way back from Scarbados.

This proved to be the ideal opportunity to present Brass Castle brewery with their plague for one of their beers winning a category at Bradford CAMRA's beer and cider festival earlier in the year.

Best mild was the category, Hazelnut Mild was the beer.

Josie presented the plague to Simon, and he was kind enough to smile for us.



A WHISTLESTOP TOUR OF NAVAL HISTORY with Rick Lamb

A bit grandiose the title. It should read, 'A whistlestop tour of naval history...a few selected pubs.' I had scarcely more than three hours in Plymouth, the largest city on the south coast of England, to explore the oldest part of the town and its connections to the sea. This part of town is known as the Barbican and I started my wanders on the street of the same name, (not helped by the fact that harbour was shrouded in thick fog.)

On this street is to be found St James Scallop, (a carved marble scallop marking the place pilgrims embarked for Santiago in Spain.) Further along is the Stella Maris, a statue of the patron saint of mariners and opposite the Admiral McBride inn the Mayflower Steps, where the Pilgrim Fathers set sail for America. The Barbican boasts the largest concentration of cobbled streets in England and also houses over 100 listed buildings, a large number Tudor and Jacobean, including the Elizabethan House on New Street, (which happens to be one of the oldest streets!) Also of interest is the Plymouth Gin Distillery on Southside Street. Worth seeking out is the leviathan, a sea monster sitting atop a pole on the West Pier, which is an amalgam of sea life. It has, 'cormorant's feet, a plesiosaurus' tail, the fin of a John Dory, a lobster's claw and the head of an angler fish.' After that, not a lot of time left for pubs.

So, across the road from the Mayflower Steps to number 1 Barbican, to the ADMIRAL McBRIDE, named after a sailor who rose to be Admiral of the Blue fleet. This is a two roomed inn that is divided by a substantial wood panelled bar. The main room has bowed windows, resembling the of a stern of a galleon. The whole building is wood throughout, with a mix of high and low tables, chairs and buffets. A wood burning stove is central. Three beers on the bar – St. Austell Tribute, Summerskills Shingle Bay and Dartmoor Jail Ale.

Further along The Barbican lies the CROWN & ANCHOR, a bright pub with two rooms, one ground and one first floor. The décor and furniture are blue and white, with the bar the same colour scheme. Although mainly a dining establishment, there were two beers, St. Austell Tribute and Salcombe Devon Amber.



The Admiral McBride; beer in at the top of the hill, satisfied topers out at the bottom. Ah, gravity at its most useful.

Onto the adjoining Southside Street and the MARITIME INN. This is a single room pub on two levels, with furniture a mix of benches, chairs and buffets in green leather or fabric. The walls are generally stone or wood clad and the floors stone flagged or wood. The large wood bar incorporated a barrel in one corner. In the rear corner of the room is an upright piano, adjacent to a blue anchor suspended by a chain. A decorated fireplace houses a wood burning stove. At the rear a cobbled drinking area

overlooks a dock. The two beers are both from Salcombe; Gold and Lifesaver.

Further up Southside Street and on the opposite side is the QUEENS ARMS, another historic pub serving mainly regional beers. On this occasion: Sharps Doom Bar, St. Austell Tribute, Dartmoor Jail Ale and Taylors Landlord. This is a well furnished pub with two rooms, nicely upholstered benches are chairs in green and burgundy carpets and drapes. Art deco lamps light the lounge. The pub is well named, the walls are covered with photographs of royalty.



Handy roof terrace at the Crown & Anchor.

Just a small smattering of inns of the area and from researching 'What Pub' and there are considerably more worth seeking out in the small concentration of streets that make up Barbican and Bretonside which surrounds Sutton Harbour.

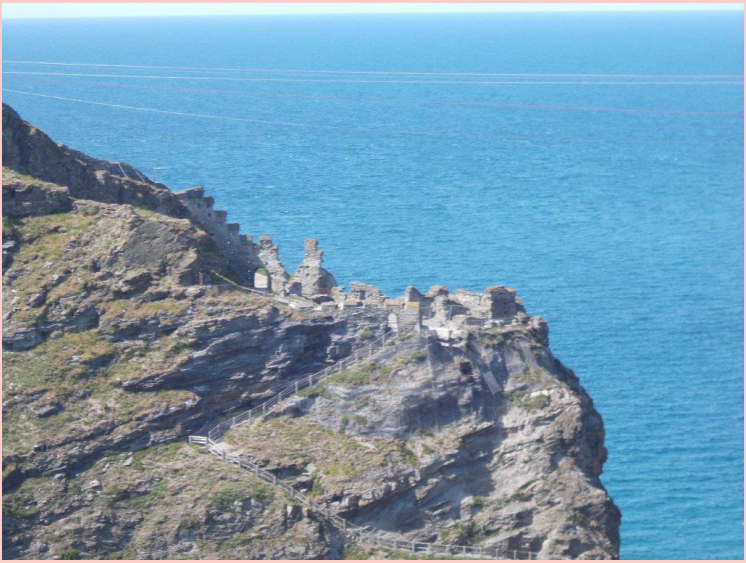
There is a tourist information office adjacent to the Admiral McBride which has a good street map of the area which will help to find the following: St. Andrews Street – Kitty O'Hanlons, Swan; Bretonside – Trawlerman, Kings Head Tavern, (Plymouth's oldest pub;) Looe Street – Minerva, (quaint pub in an older building than the Kings Head, though not always a pub;) Notte Street – Desire; Little Vauxhall Quay – Stable; Sutton Wharf – Marina Bar; Parade – Three Crowns; Southside Street – Gog & Magog, (Wetherspoons,) Navy Inn; Barbican – Dolphin Inn, (where the Tolpuddle Martyrs stayed on there return from Australia;) Castle Street – B Bar; Lambhay Street – Fishermans Arms; The Quay – Ship Inn; Quay Road – Rust & Royal; Lockyers Quay – Lockyers Quay.

I could have spent a good week here looking around the historic harbours and waterfront and the equally interesting watering holes. Another time perhaps?

Even less time in Dartmouth, the home of the Britannia Royal Naval College and the only remaining naval college in the country. An historic port and market town, founded around the 11th



New Street. Don't dare to park here.



Tintagel Castle. It's there somewhere.

century, and one of the foremost naval ports, providing ships for the Crusades, two ships to fight the Spanish Armada in 1588 and 400 vessels were assembled for the D-day invasions in 1944. Also a major merchant port with the predominant share of the Newfoundland trade and the major port for the export of tin. (The Pilgrim Fathers also called after leaving Plymouth - probably fancied a pint like me!)

After a 35 minute ride on the Dartmouth Railway from Paignton to Kingswear on the diesel engined 'Devon Belle,' it was onto the Dartmouth ferry for an hour's tour up the river Dart; passing Kingswear harbour, Greenway, (Agatha Christies home,) the village of Diddisham, the royal naval training bases, Kingswear Castle paddle steamer, Dartmouth waterfront, Boyard Cove fort and Dartmouth and Kingswear castles. After the tourist bit, scarcely an hour for pubs.

What turned out to be my sole port-of-call was the SEVEN STARS, Dartmouth's oldest inn. This is grade 11 listed, converted from two houses. A place of character with one narrow room, wood panelled and floored and having a very low beamed ceiling and leaded windows. The furniture was aged wooden tables, benches and buffets. A wood burning stove provided heating. It was very dimly lit and the electricity was augmented with candles. Choice of three beers: Dartmoor Jail Ale. Otter Amber and Salcombe Sea Horse. There is a function room upstairs.

My next choice, the CHERUB INN, turned out not to be open until mid afternoon. A shame, as on my previous visit I had enjoyed a nice pint of Dartmoor Legend. Other



Boscastle South Embankment. Rick's private launch glides past.

beers include St Austell Proper Job, Otter and other local breweries. It is a 14th century, medieval, former merchants house with half-timbered exterior. The bar has made use of old ship's timbers and the single downstairs room is low ceilinged. There is an upstairs restaurant. The exterior of the building is flower bedecked.

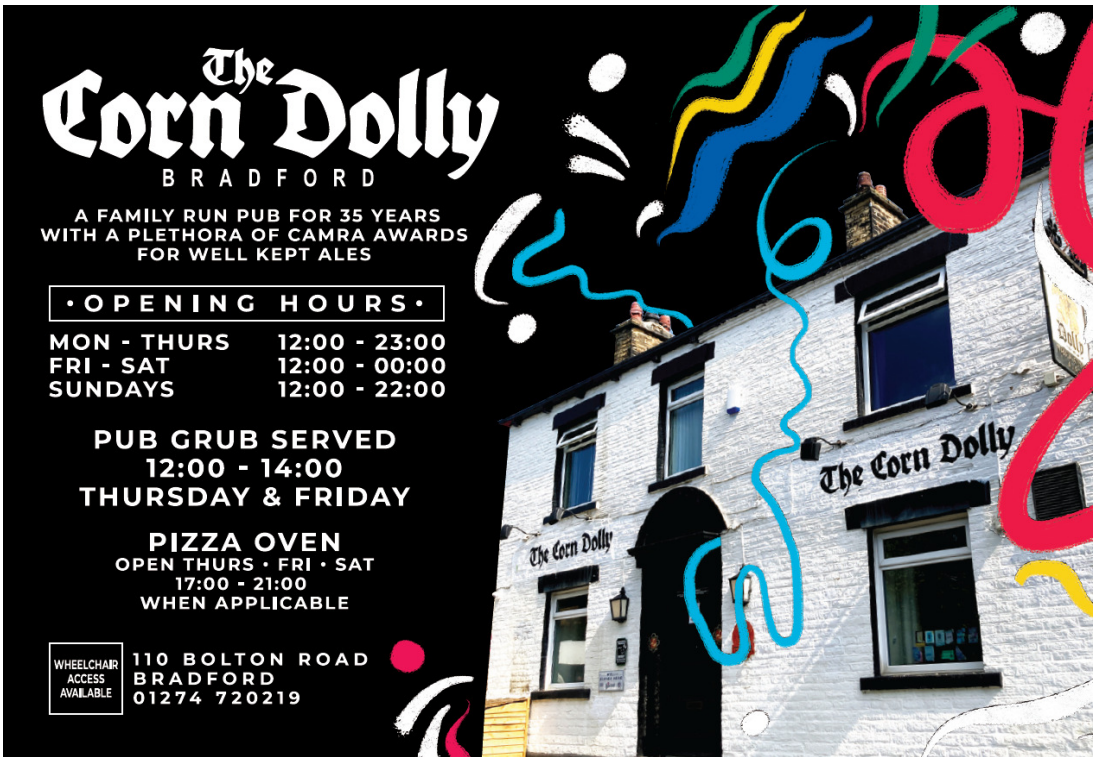
So, not much of a visit, but there is a good variety of other pubs in the town serving cask ales, which include: Crab, Royal Castle Hotel, Yarn, Market House Inn, Sail Loft, Dolphin, George & Dragon, Bayards Cove Inn, Dartmouth Arms and Ship in Dock. Across the river in Kingswear, connected by ferry, are the Steam Packet Inn and Ship Inn.



The Cobweb Inn. A cube of intrigue?

Plenty of history and architecture, plenty of old inn and taverns to view, little time for supping.

R.I.P.



HEY! CARLSBERG! LEAVE OUR BEER ALONE

CAMRA condemns flogging off of UK's cask brewing assets.
We are unhappy at UK's largest cask beer producer selling brewing operations to global brewer

CAMRA has said it is fearful about the future of UK beers, brands and breweries following the announcement that Marston's is selling all its remaining 'non-core' brewing assets to a subsidiary of Carlsberg, to focus on running pubs.

Marston's is selling its 40 per cent stake in the Carlsberg Marston's Brewing Company joint venture, ending almost 200 years of brewing heritage which began with Banks and Company at the Park brewery, Wolverhampton in 1875.

The sale comes after Carlsberg Marston's Brewing Company introduced its 'Fresh Ale' concept earlier this year. 'Fresh Ales' are kegged versions of cask beers, served through traditional handpumps at the bar reserved for cask conditioned beer.

CAMRA has slammed the move as misleading to consumers and damaging to traditional cask ale, while also reporting the brewing giant to Trading Standards.

Commenting on Marston's selling the remainder of its brewing operations, CAMRA Chairman Nik Antona said: "This is a worrying development for Britain's brewing heritage with Marston's remaining brewing assets being transferred to a global brewing business which has already presided over the closure of historic breweries like Jennings in Cumbria and Charles Wells Eagle in Bedford, stopped selling cask ale in Scotland and has introduced an extremely damaging 'fresh ale' concept which is misleading to pubgoers and threatens the future of British cask conditioned ale.

"CAMRA fears that this announcement could lead to a further erosion of the UK's rich brewing history for the benefit of conglomerate global brewers – and particularly the commitment to brewing cask. The consolidation of the brewing industry into just a few large, international players erodes our brewing heritage, consumer choice, the diversity of beer in pubs across the country and the access to market for small, independent producers.

"Having Marston's pubs continuing to be subject to an anti-competitive supply tie by Carlsberg Marston's Brewing Company is also a cause for concern, limiting choice for customers of great locally produced beer and cider from independent producers nationwide. Marston's and CMBC bosses must commit to the future of brewing cask, improving consumer choice at the bar, protecting Britain's brewing heritage and scrapping their damaging fresh ale concept once and for all."

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Nigel Halton - contact@leeds.camra.org.uk
Wakefield:
Mark Gibson - otok@wakefield.camra.org.uk
Woollen District :
Paul Dixey 01924-420029

Upcoming beer festivals not too far away:
York CAMRA 18 - 21 Sep.
St Lawrence Church Community Hall
Yorkbeerfestival.camra.org.uk
***
Saltaire Brewery 13 - 14 Sep

Sheffield CAMRA beer festival
16-19 October
Kelham Island Museum.
***
Otley Beer Festival. Rugby Club.
22-23 November.

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A Miscellanea

News, Rumour, Scandal, Other Stuff...

End of Days 3:

The Black Swan, Frizinghall: Planning has been granted for conversion to a restaurant. Acting Pubs Officer, Ricky Holden says:

"Another pub allowed to die. Justified yet again by the council planning officers 'demographic changes' line. This despite the councils own heritage expert pointing out the value and history of the establishment."

"It is time our politicians and their charges woke up to the real issue closing pubs. That is cheap supermarket beer. Home drinking is killing pubs NOT demographics."

"This drinking is uncontrollable and therefore dangerous for some. Supermarkets are allowed, in England, to sell at loss leading prices too."

"We need a huge tax reduction for sales in pubs. That is the only way to save the industry. The big brewers of course would be resistant to increasing off sale prices. They don't care where their profits are generated."

MORE MYTHS AND LEGENDS

The latest CAMRA's quarterly magazine for members, "Beer", has a little article by the erudite and eminently readable writer Roger Protz. It deals with the current situation regarding "continental" lager and the like, and how it is marketed compared to where it is produced.

There are several newish "!agers" available in our pubs, most of which have names that invoke Spanish or Italian origin, for instance. But the rest of ther world makes a showing too.

Here, in brief, are the facts:

Madri is made in Tadcaster by Molsen Coors.

Amstel, Foster's and Moretti are brewed in Manchester.

Carlsberg and San Miguel are created in Norhampton.

Beck's, American Budweiser and Stella Artois hail from Magor in Wales.

Kronenberg is made at one of the plants owned by Carlsberg Marstons Brewing Company.

Peroni is actually imported.

A Miscellanea
News, Rumour, Scandal, Other Stuff...

End of Days 4:

9th August saw the plans for demolishing the Prospect of Bradford, Bolton Road, finally passed by the Council. Residential properties will take its place.

This process has taken a remarkably long time. And it is a shame that there was no way to include the frontage of the old pub as part of the scheme.





Malcolm Toft has a comment:

I have lost count of the number of times I entered the Prospect Hotel, latterly Prospect of Bradford, Bolton Road, Bradford, and never noticed these magnificent stone carvings above the pub's entrance. They have been pointed out to me by pub historian Paul Jennings. Unfortunately it is not known if the male and female 'heads' were made to represent people who lived.

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NEW OWNERS FOR SALTAIRE

Family-owned investment firm, Paramount Retail Group, has acquired Saltaire Brewery.

The Sheffield-headquartered group says it will use its expertise and resources to support the Saltaire Brewery brand. Its product range already has regional listings in Tesco, Asda, Sainsbury's, Morrisons, Co-op, Marks and Spencers and Booths.

Nick Helliwell, sales director of the brewery, said: "Saltaire Brewery has been long celebrated for its regional popularity in Yorkshire but now has the opportunity to become a category leader, expanding its reach and influence in the craft beer market."

Paul Taylor, chairman of Paramount Retail Group, said: "Acquiring Saltaire Brewery is a strategic step to enrich our portfolio with another esteemed UK heritage brand.

"We are committed to preserving Saltaire Brewery's unique identity while using our resources to expand its market reach.

"This acquisition aligns with our strategy to offer high-quality, iconic products that resonate with consumers in the UK and beyond, as well as allow us to leverage strong relationships with the mass retail sector and enhance our ability to quickly meet evolving consumer demands.

"By incorporating Saltaire Brewery into our extensive distribution network, we expect to achieve significant operational efficiencies and enhanced market reach."

Sunny Sharma, director at Paramount Retail Group, added: "Saltaire Brewery's outstanding craft beers are a perfect complement to our existing range of heritage brands.

"With the increasing global demand for UK-made products, particularly in the USA and Asia, we see tremendous growth potential.

"This acquisition enables us to introduce the best of British brewing to a broader audience, underscoring our commitment to quality and innovation.

"We are excited about the opportunities this acquisition presents and are confident it will significantly contribute to our growth strategy to pursue further acquisitions of prominent brands, strengthening our market presence."

A Miscellanea

News, Rumour, Scandal, Other Stuff...

End of Days 5:

The Flappit at Flappit Springs, on the way to Haworth from Wilsden, is no longer open for business. The Wright Pub Group, which has operated it for some time has finally given in. The lease is up for renewal and it seems that he sums do not add up.

A brave effort has been made, without doubt, but to no avail. So, another one gone, but you can buy the place for half a mil, if you want.

End of Days 6 ?:

Will the Fishermans at Dowley Gap, near Bingley, be next? This canal-side pub has been leased by Bridgehouse Brewery for a while, but now the lease is due for renewal and it seems quite possible that the agreement will not be continued with Bridgehouse.

Can another local brewery take it on? Could a consortium do the same? We can only ask.

Malcolm Gardner reports:

Ilkley Brewery was due to be opening the Ilkley Tap on The Grove in Ilkley in early August.

There will be 20 beer lines including 8 hand pumps. Open 7 days a week and will also be serving food.

It does seems that the opening date might have slipped a little.

Also on the August Bank Holiday there was a 15th birthday party at the brewery with beer at 2009 prices.

A bit more local news - The Wheatley, Ben Rhydding. Not gleaned directly from The Wheatley but from a reliable source - it was to be closing for refurbishment around the end of July. Re-opening in time for Christmas.

****

A Miscellanea

News, Rumour, Scandal, Other Stuff...

David Fell reports:

There is a new pub in Yeadon ~ **Against The Grain**, at the bottom of Regency House which is next to the Robin Hood.

Well that's certainly against the grain right now. - a pub actually opening.

****

More positive news. Yippee!

The Pineberry, Queensbury way, has been closed for ages but there have been plans for its future for a while.

The planning application has finally been passed. This means that the old building is to be demolished, and a new one built.

Bradford CAMRA Pubs Officer, Peter Down, has commented:

"The situation with the Pineberry has been watched for quite a while now. It has been reported at numerous branch meetings over the last year with not much happening in relation to a planning decision. It is actually a good thing as a pub will be reinstated in the process and should be better supported with the accommodation included in the overall development. Whilst it would have been nice to keep the old building, the current issues regarding the structural condition are appreciated, given how close it is to a major road, so major reconstruction or replacement may be the only viable options.

"As a recent T&A article indicated, there is substantial support for the development. To be honest, I am surprised it has taken City of Bradford MDC this long to make a decision when they have passed other more contentious applications much more speedily."

****

Well Done Both:

The **Three B's Micropub** in Bridlington and the **Beer Engine** in Skipton, have been named Joint-Winners in the CAMRA 'Yorkshire Pub of the Year 2024' competition.

One To Keep An Eye On

The Crafty Kernel *in Shipley is for sale. These are word from the mouth of the horse itself (paraphrased a little):*

We had a dream - that dream was to own our very own little bar. Boy oh boy, we did just that and, my word, did a fantastic job of it too. Two CAMRA awards, The Good Beer Guide, to name but a few.

Anyway, we are always setting our sights on new adventures and dreams and trust us, we always get there.

So we now plan to purchase a small holding in Portugal and also a little place in Whitby (just in case). That means for the foreseeable future, we're going to channel all of our energies in to the hoop jumping we need to do to make this happen.

We will keep our public updated, obviously BUT in the meantime, we thank you all for your continued support. We wouldn't have been such a success without you all.

We feel blessed that we are able to set our sights so high - we will be forever thankful. Obviously, for now, business will carry on as normal.

Much love, Reece & Zoe

****

And here's another one: **The Fox** in Shipley is for sale. A snip at £75k. Form an orderly queue. After a number of years, the Bees are moving on. Great work during those years, by the way.

This is a very recent announcement and no more detail is to hand.

****

How Does Your Garden Grow?

The **Lord Clyde**, Thornton Road, Bradford has had a nice outside drinking area for a while. Now? It's huge. Worth taking a look.

****

End of Days 8:

Al's Star Bar, Bradford Road, Saltaire, is another bar apparently to cease trading.

****

End of Days 9?:

The **Ring O' Bells**, Thornton is closed, but is this a permanent situation?

PUBS NO MORE Can you put names to them?

Ricky Holden provides the pictures; you provide the answers.



Top:

The sign indicates that Hammonds ale was on sale. Was it a Hammonds tied house?

It was situated on Wakefield Road.



Centre:

Not long since gone (it seems), and situated on a bust main road out of Bradford.

Described as a large stone-built pub with a log central bar serving four distinct areas.

The conservatory was a summer sun-trap.



Bottom:

A pub with the same name as the one shown in the middle of this page, but clearly much older.

It's a moot point whether one directly replaced the other. If so it would have been when the road was widened.

The three pictures last time showed: Bulls Head, Bradford; Junction, Manningham / Girlington; Oddferllows, Wibsey.

Bradford CAMRA socials / events Sep / Oct. All start at 7.30pm unless stated.

Wed 4 Sep	Greedy Pig & Royal Oak.	Eccleshill Social.
Sun 8 Sep afternoon start	Huddersfield: Will involve Sportsman, King's Head, Head of Steam, Star, Rat & Ratchet, Grove.	363 bus from H11 @ 1219. Join in wherever you wish. Buses back are 21 past the hour.
Wed 11 Sep	Chapel House. Low Moor, then...	Black Horse, Oakenshaw. Social. 1845 Wakefield bus from N1.
Wed 18 Sep	Crown, Horton Bank Top. Meeting.	1849 or 1907 576 bus from N1.
Wed 25 Sep	Malt Shovel, Angel and Bulls Head.	Baildon social: 1826 626 bus from B2.
Wed 2 Oct	Ainsbury and Black Rat, Thackley	(both close at 2100)1827 614 from Z.
Wed 9 Oct	Burley-in-W'dale social: Social Club; White Horse; Tap: Red Lion, Queens (choice of).	1846 train from Forster Square.
Wed 16 Oct	Flying Duck, Ilkley. Meeting (to finish by 2100).	1846 train from Forster Square.
Wed 23 Oct	Highfield and Lane Ends, Idle/Ecc	1857 613 Shipley bus from Z.
Wed 30 Oct	Peacock, N. Parade, then Castle.	Bradford centre area
Wed 6 Nov	Martinez then Chip 'N' Ern, Bingley	Social.

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

Bradford centre is changing so much, and bus stops are different.

HALIFAX & CALDERDALE CAMRA

5 Sep 1930	Crafty Fox, Brighouse	Open branch meeting
12 Sep 1930	Head of Steam, Huddersfield	Huddersfield town centre tour
14 Sep 1430	White Lion, Hebden Bridge	CAMRAmble - Midgehole etc.
18 Sep 1900	Wainhouse Tavern, Halifax	Whisky tasting 11
19 Sep 1930	Kobenhaven, Halifax	Open Committee Meeting
25 Sep	Shrewsbury Beer Festival trip	Contact branch to book.
27 Sep 1500	Rastrick Cricket Club	Autumn Beer Festival
3 Oct 1930	Stod Fold (TBC), Halifax	Open Branch Meeting
11 Oct 1200	All Saints Church, Elland	Elland Beer Festival
17 Oct 1930	Three Pigeons, Halifax	Open Committee Meeting
31 Oct 1930	Flying Horse, Rochdale	Rochdale central pub tour.

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

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