

# PEEL ALE

Dronfield & District CAMRA

Issue No.12 : Spring 2023



# We're Back with a Bang!



[www.dronfieldcamra.org.uk](http://www.dronfieldcamra.org.uk)



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# FROM THE EDITOR



A lot of beer has flowed under the bridge since the last issue. So welcome again, fellow pub goers and beer drinkers to what will be issue twelve of North Derbyshire's premier CAMRA magazine - the thing that we have called Peel Ale.

I won't pretend it's been easy getting this comeback issue together but here we are again, with much of the content and features that will be familiar to those who picked up a copy prior to the pandemic. Future editions will be reliant on contributions from other writers and the support of advertisers... so a humongous thank you to all those who have helped support

this publication in the past and to those that continue to do so!

Despite the current financial difficulties most of us are experiencing and amidst the many changes affecting the world of beer and pubs, for me, getting out to a pub or beer festival with friends and family, either in our branch area or further afield remains a constant pleasure. If you've picked up a copy of Peel Ale or taken the time to read online, it's a fair bet that you'll agree with me. And that's kind of what CAMRA is all about.

Dronfield and District CAMRA remains a redoubtable unit and not so long ago celebrated its tenth anniversary. Several faces remain from that inaugural meeting at the Green Dragon, including my own and we have been buoyed recently by the addition of new members who have brought fresh impetus and taken responsibility for some of the key duties that each branch must carry out. Respect to them! Talking of new members, they will always be heartily welcomed so, if you fancy getting involved, do call in at one of the monthly branch meetings or socials displayed elsewhere in this issue.

*Pat Hancock - Editor*

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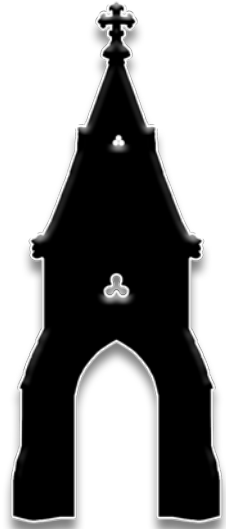
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## ISSUE 13 COPY DEADLINE

Any submissions for the next issue of Peel Ale must be received by 1st September 2023.

# PUB, CLUB AND BREWERY NEWS

As this is the first edition of Peel Ale for over three years, you'd think that there would be a plethora of pub news given we have all had to endure three separate lockdowns arising out of the global pandemic and various restrictions on meeting friends and family as they eased.

Some pubs just closed and braved it out whilst others attempted to do some form of trading even if it was just offering takeaway food, drink, or sale of provisions.

These would indeed be newsworthy at the time but as life returns to some form of normality, most of our pubs, clubs and breweries have thankfully survived and continue to trade, though the cost of living crisis and changing drinking habits present fresh challenges. That's not to say there haven't been any losses since lockdown.

The sad loss of the **Hare & Hounds** in Barlow has been keenly felt. This closed for the first lockdown along with all other pubs but never reopened and is now very unlikely to following the passing of landlady, Pauline Harris, widow of Ron whose own passing was recorded in Peel Ale No. 9.

A former Chesterfield CAMRA Pub of the Season in Summer 2002, we share the occasion of its presentation in much happier times to honour Pauline's memory and record the loss of this much loved community local. The late Mary Keast (then chair of Chesterfield CAMRA) is seen on the left at the presentation (pictured right).

On the plus side, the **Miners Arms** at Dronfield Woodhouse closed before Covid-19 but happily reopened in August 2022. A weekly street food cabin has been a regular feature. We wish them well.

The Thornbridge brewery operated **Coach & Horses** at Stubley Hollow is diversifying by operating a shop selling a full range of Thornbridge bottles, cans and mini-kegs plus a selection of gifts.

However the pub no longer offers food as the kitchen has now shut. Additionally they no longer open Mondays and only open Tuesday evenings if Sheffield FC are playing at home).

CAMRA members get a 20p off all Thornbridge beers and guest cask ales. They also accept the 50p CAMRA membership discount vouchers on cask ales.

After many years of success by Malc and Mandy Drewery, the **Angel Inn** at Holmesfield has been taken on by Clair Stokes and Adrian Arksey. The pub closed in the new year for a major refurbishment and reopened at the beginning of February, still offering excellent gluten free food and cask ale.

Reports from the last Peel Ale in 2020 about recently closed pubs can be updated as follows: The Barrack at Apperknowle has indeed been converted to a private dwelling after a planning appeal, The Talbot Arms in Dronfield Woodhouse has been demolished and new houses built on the site. The Blackamoor / Brook Inn at Troway is still under tarpaulins and without a roof, but the former Masons Arms / Hallowes / Three Tuns is in an ever worsening state of disrepair as it awaits the outcome of another planning application, this time for demolition and construction of two new houses on the site. The Three Tuns is the first major building you see as you enter Dronfield from the south and is an embarrassment to the town, reflecting very badly on all concerned.

In a surprise announcement in January 2022, it was reported in the local press that **Dronfield Contact Club** and surrounding land (approx. 1 acre) was on the market for £975,000. The estate agent stated that the site was "ideal for residential or commercial development subject to planning permission". As we went to press no planning



application had been received by N.E. Derbyshire District Council. It was hoped that a new smaller club would be built as part of any redevelopment.

We reported that **Dronfield Woodhouse Sports & Social Club** was due to close for the final time in March 2020 but we are delighted to report that after Covid lockdown the club reopened and is trading quite successfully with two cask ales in good condition available during our Branch social visit last year. Hosting regular live music and weekly pizza (Mondays) and fish & chip (Friday) vans in the car park, we hope this friendly club continues to thrive.

In our last issue of Peel Ale in 2020 we reported that it was all change at **Collyfobble Brewery** as "Bob The Brewer" had left for pastures new and had been replaced by "Ben the Brewer"! Ben has now also departed so we now welcome "Ash the Brewer" to Barlow from the well respected Black Iris brewery in Nottingham.

Since his appointment, a few processes have been overhauled to ensure the beer that is sent out into the world is the tastiest it can be. Far from the least of these is a commitment to source the highest-quality ingredients and to handle them in the best possible way to ensure that each and every pint is on top form.

Collyfobble Brewery is becoming renowned for producing exemplars of traditional beer styles. The range is kept small and tight but Ash is constantly tweaking recipes in the search for perfection. Back in August 2022, the range was expanded to include **Black Ower Bill's Mother's**, a take on an Irish Stout that plays with your expectations



of what an Irish Stout should be. Roasted barley delivers dark chocolate and coffee notes, which are tempered by a gentle creaminess, achieved by incorporating oats into the grist.

Having been well-received in cask, Black Ower Bill's Mother's was bottled and entered into the SIBA Midlands Bottle & Can Beer Awards 2022, and the brewery was thrilled that it achieved Gold in the Stout & Porter category! As a result, it moves forward to the national competition, which will be judged at the SIBA BeerX beer & brewing exhibition in March. Keep your fingers crossed!

Ash will be continuing to develop Collyfobble beers and, who knows, perhaps bring one or two new ones into being. Collyfobble are hoping to line up some collaborations with some of the excellent breweries we have nearby, and that's sure to result in something special. Watch this space!

No sooner had we reported on the exciting news about the proposed re-commencement of brewing at the **Dronfield Arms** by Gravity Brew Co. on the old Hopjacker kit when lockdown hit and kiboshed the whole thing.

## TEMPER

Luckily a new brewer – Chris Wigg – has since started operating as **Temper Brewing** (the name being derived from the hardening of steel rather than emotional feelings!). The Dronfield Arms showcases the beers as it now has up to three hand pulls dedicated to them with the ubiquitous Abbeydale Moonshine as a permanent.



The cover story of the last Peel Ale featured the scenes of devastation after a catastrophic flood in November 2019 which caused a great deal of damage to our community owned **Drone Valley Brewery** and the fact it would survive to brew again. After lockdown (which saw the team awarded Dronfield CAMRA's special 'Lockdown Hero' award to recognise their efforts in keeping us supplied with our favourite tippie during those difficult times.

After lockdown, the brewery's new outdoor marquee proved to be very popular during their weekend opening sessions but seemingly cursed by misfortune, the heavy snows in early March caused the marquee to collapse and structural damage meant that the brewery was closed to drinkers in the short term. However, as we were about to go to press, the damage to the marquee had been fixed thanks to the efforts of the volunteers and Gala Tents!

The brewery continues to produce its core range of beers with occasional specials, seeking to expand its availability to pubs near and far.

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**Welcome to the Dronfield & District branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale**

**About Us**  
We are a volunteer-run branch campaigning for real ale, real cider and drinkers consumer rights in the S18 area, covering both the Sheffield and the Chesterfield Districts. Our aim is to actively support the local pubs, clubs and craft breweries contributing to the local drinking scene.

**Membership voting is currently closed. Online voting will appear here when open.**  
**VOTE**  
Online voting is currently closed.

**Branch Diary**  
**AGM**  
Thursday 11 April 2023 20:00  
**43 Bus social to Healey**  
Friday 28 April 2023 19:00  
**Branch meeting**  
Tuesday 16 May 2023 20:00  
(click for more)

**WhatPub Pub Guide**  
A map and list of all the branch area pubs

**Branch Contacts**  
**Branch Secretary**  
secretary@dronfieldcamra.org.uk  
Please click here to contact members of the branch committee

**Peel Ale Magazine**  
Local news can be found in our magazine, "Peel Ale" our branch magazine

**Rate Your Beer**  
If you are a member, please enter a quality score for every beer you drink (click for more details) [Rate Your Beer](#).

**East Midlands CAMRA Region**  
Please click here to see the Regional Website, and links to East Midlands CAMRA branch websites

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During the last 12 months, the Dronfield and district CAMRA website has gone through some much needed maintenance.

Out of date information has been updated or removed and the whole site now has a consistent look and feel.

It has details of all the local pubs and breweries in our area along with useful links. It's where you will find details of our branch award winners and a list of previous winners. It's also the place for members to submit nominations and vote for awards.

We've an up to date branch diary too, so if you ever want to join us for a social or a branch meeting, this is the place to look for the latest information.

You can also access all previous copies of Peel Ale. There's links to our social media accounts and contacts if you want to get in touch.

Scan the QR code with your smartphone to find out more – or just head straight to [dronfield.camra.org.uk](http://dronfield.camra.org.uk).

*Rich Taylor (webmaster)*



**SCAN ME**

# WHAT IS LOCALE?



Dronfield and District CAMRA participates in the LocAle scheme, which is designed to encourage pubs and clubs to stock at least one locally

produced beer at all times. The branch defines 'locally produced' as being within 15 miles of the pub. The following pubs and clubs have joined the scheme – why not pop in and see what's on the bar? Look for the LocAle logo!

For further information contact Peter Boitout on [locale@dronfieldcamra.org.uk](mailto:locale@dronfieldcamra.org.uk)

**Beer Stop, Dronfield:** Bottles and cans from various local brewers.

**Coach & Horses, Dronfield:** Numerous Thornbridge ales. Cross Daggers, Coal Aston. Drone Valley.

**Drone Valley Brewery Tap, Unstone:** Ales from on-site brewery.

**Dronfield Arms, Dronfield:** Abbeydale, usually Moonshine and the on-site Temper Brewery.

**George & Dragon, Holmesfield:** Abbeydale and Peak Ales.

**Green Dragon, Dronfield:** Bradfield (usually Farmers Blonde).

**Hyde Park Inn, Hilltop:** Bradfield (usually Farmers Blonde).

**Jolly Farmer, Dronfield Woodhouse:** Drone Valley and Bradfield.

**Manor Hotel, Dronfield:** Abbeydale Moonshine

**Miners Arms, Hundall:** Drone Valley.

**Peacock, Barlow:** On-site Collyfobble brewery.

**Pioneer Club, Coal Aston:** Drone Valley.

**Royal Oak, Coal Aston:** Drone Valley.

**Royal Oak, Millthorpe:** Bradfield (usually Farmers Blonde).

**Rutland Arms, Holmesfield:** Bradfield, Peak Ales.

**Tickled Trout, Barlow:** Peak Ales Chatsworth Gold.

**Travellers Rest, Apperknowle:** Bradfield (usually Farmers Blonde).

**Underdog, Dronfield:** Abbeydale Moonshine.

## BRANCH DIARY

### BRANCH MEETINGS:

**Tues. 11th April:** Pioneer Club, Dronfield (AGM).

**Tues. 16th May:** Collyfobble Brewery Tap Room.

**Tues. 13th June:** Miners Arms, Hundall.

**Tues. 11th July:** Angel Inn, Holmesfield

Branch meetings commence at 8pm and all are welcome to attend.

Check website for details and for future socials:

[www.dronfieldcamra.org.uk](http://www.dronfieldcamra.org.uk)

### BRANCH SOCIALS:

**Saturday 28th April:** Tour of south Sheffield pubs using the No.43 bus from Dronfield.

**Saturday 27th May:** Tour of Holmesfield, Barlow and Millthorpe using the No.16 bus from Dronfield.

**Saturday 24th June:** Trip by train to do a visit of the best pubs that Derby has to offer.

**TBC:** Apperknowle, Hundall and Unstone (for Drone Valley Brewery) walkabout.

Please check the branch website and social media accounts for further details or email Peter B. at

[socials@dronfieldcamra.org.uk](mailto:socials@dronfieldcamra.org.uk)

The Peel Ale production team welcomes any articles, letters and suggestions for future publication.

Submissions for the next issue of Peel Ale must be received by 1st September 2023

# THE HULL MONTY

## DRONNIES UNLEASHED IN THE EAST



The combination of international break and cheap rail tickets afforded a quartet of CAMRA members the chance to spend a whole day in Kingston upon Hull. A list of all the city had to offer was drawn up by yours truly and off we set.

Beginning our day near to the Waterside and Marina, we headed for the **Taphouse Brewpub** (pictured below) on Humber Street in the city's Fruit Market. This bar stocks a good range of keg beers including from the in-house Bone Machine brewery. We sat outside, taking advantage of the favourable weather and ordered four pints of Factory Pale Ale, a reliable session beer from Manchester Brewing Co.

The second venue of the day was one I'd visited a couple of times before, the **Minerva** (pictured above), a handsome old pub situated on the Marina itself with several different drinking areas and what is claimed to be the smallest pub room in Britain.



Equally appealing however was the outside seating area, a great place to enjoy a refreshing pint of Kirkstall Three Swords.

Heading back towards town, our next port of call was **Atom Brewing Co.** (pictured right) located in the old Corn Exchange building in the shadow of Hull Minster. After years on the townie circuit under several different names, local brewery Atom moved in during 2018 and the pub now serves a great selection of cask and keg. I perhaps regret not trying one of Atom's own beers but I was drawn in the moment to the 2015 Champion Beer of Britain, Cwtch from Tiny Rebel which I hadn't seen for some time.

Onwards, then to a superb old pub, **Ye Olde White Harte** (pictured opposite) on Silver



Street, a CAMRA National Inventory pub which hadn't changed since I visited sometime in the nineties. Beers here included Theakston Best Bitter and Old Peculier and my choice, Dark Star Hophead, another excellent beer. Of interest here was that rarest of sights, an old Yorkshire dart board which for those not in the know doesn't have a 25-ring or trebles.

From Ye Olde White Harte to the **White Hart**, a veritable phoenix from the flames which re-opened in 2018 showcasing ales from Yorkshire brewers such as North Riding and Crafty Little Brewery. It was good to





see the place so busy when we arrived in late afternoon. After ordering a pint of Frothingham Best from Hull brewery, Great Newsome (not the best pint of the day is must be said) from the impressive front bar it was time to move on once again.

What pub are we on now? Number six. The **Hop and Vine** (pictured below) back towards the station is a pub that I particularly wanted to return to, having enjoyed it so much before a gig by Nick Lowe at the Jubilee Central in 2019. This, small, characterful, one-room cellar bar decorated with hops and pump-clips had Pilsner Urquell on draught alongside real cider and ales from Brass Castle and Wold Top.

With a little more time before our train back to Dronfield, we were recommended a pub not on my itinerary. The **New Clarence** (pictured above) is a traditional backstreet pub just around the corner which was the surprise hit of the day. Having only re-opened in 2020, I'm sure this venue will have made it into the Good Beer Guide by the time this issue is published. I counted seven cask beers here including two Sheffield brews, Neepend Blonde and Abbeydale Black Mass.



A pleasant surprise and a good point to finish the day you might say. Well yes, but it would have been inconsiderate to have left Hull without calling for at least a half at **Brew** on Bond Street. I'm struggling to recall what beer I had here and I've since been reminded that Nick nipped out to buy a wok at some stage. And at that point, it really was time to head back to the station for the train back to Dronfield.

A splendid day out.

*Pat Hancock*



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



# MEMBERS' WEEKEND IN SHEFFIELD 2023

Sheffield & District CAMRA is proud to be hosting the national Members' Weekend, AGM & Conference from 21 to 23 April 2023 at the Octagon Centre, on the University of Sheffield campus.

The AGM is where, in addition to the mandatory business of an Annual General Meeting (AGM), CAMRA's volunteer National Executive is elected: and Conference is where campaigning policy is democratically formed and updated by members via debate and voting. Also featured are award presentations and fringe activities. All members are welcome to attend, you can register online at:

**[camra.org.uk/members-weekend-agm-conference](https://camra.org.uk/members-weekend-agm-conference)**

We will also be running a Members' Bar at the venue. This is a small beer festival featuring beers from around our local area, open exclusively to CAMRA members that have registered for the event.

Over 1,000 CAMRA members are expected to register and visit our area as "Beer Tourists", many coming for the social side more than the actual conference and looking forward to exploring the pubs, brewery tap rooms and

more around Sheffield and the neighbouring areas like Dronfield, Hope Valley, Rotherham and Barnsley. We'll be talking to many of our local brewers to put on an open day where you can visit and enjoy a beer in the company of the brewers, learning a bit more about their set up!

To help make this an amazing Members' Weekend we need a team of volunteers to help. Roles include meeting and greeting at the venue, working the Members' Bar, and Ushering.

We're also seeking local ambassadors helping with information both at the venue and on brewery visits. Help with setting up the venue before the event and packing it all away after will also be appreciated.

For neighbouring towns like Dronfield this a great opportunity to promote the local pubs and breweries and encourage visitors to take a bus or train ride down from Sheffield to explore.

We'll have articles on our website and in the Members Weekend handbook encouraging visitors to explore the area so do let us know if anything special is happening in the town!

## PUBS DISCOUNT SCHEME

The following pubs in the Dronfield & District CAMRA Branch area currently offer a discount to CAMRA members on production of a current membership card against real ales and traditional ciders:

***Coach & Horses, Dronfield – Accepts 50p CAMRA Members' Discount Scheme vouchers or 20p off per pint.***

***Jolly Farmer, Dronfield Woodhouse – 15p off per pint.***

***Miners Arms, Hundall – 20p off per pint of real ale and cider.***

***Peacock, Owlbar – 10% off per pint.***

***Pioneer Club, Dronfield – 10% off per pint.***

All these venues also give discounts for half pints.

Please note that pubs are within their rights to change promotions to suit their business and may not have got round to informing the Branch of any changes.

*If you find that any of the above pubs do not offer a discount or if any other pubs in the area are offering a discount for CAMRA members which are not listed above, please let us know.*



**CAMPAIGN  
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REAL ALE**

# ST. ANDREWS

## THE NINETEENTH HOLE

In summer 2021, we were able to get away and spend a very enjoyable five days north of the border in St. Andrews, in the county of Fife. As per usual, there was an opportunity to visit some unfamiliar pubs. The journey from Dronfield to St. Andrews clocks in at just under six hours, so a half-way stop was certainly required.

Most coastal pubs in Northumberland are seemingly named The Ship, with Good Beer Guide entries in nearby Seahouses and Eyemouth. This particular **Ship Inn** (pictured below) in the quiet village of Low Newton by the Sea came recommended by fellow CAMRA member, Graham Hall, who placed the pub in his all-time Top 10 in a previous edition of Peel Ale. High praise indeed as Graham has been in a lot of pubs! After checking out the opening times, it was agreed that this would be an ideal stopping off point for a pint and a bite to eat on route to St. Andrews.

Handy for the A1 and situated close to Alnwick and the imposing Bamburgh Castle, The Ship is placed in a delightful square of old stone cottages just a short walk from the sea. Due to local restrictions, the inside of the pub was closed at the time of our visit, so upon arrival, just after noon we were not the only ones keen to secure an outside table. Since 2008, the pub's beers have been brewed on site in a converted garage and two real ales were available - I tried both Spindrifft, a 3.9% pale ale and 4.1% porter called Sea Dog to accompany a rather excellent crab sandwich from the pub's interesting lunch menu.

After a short walk on the beach, we resumed our journey north and arrived in St. Andrews in the late afternoon. As everyone will surely know, the town is the birthplace of golf and visitors come from far and wide to play the seven courses, including the legendary Old Course which played host to the 150th Open Championship in July 2022.

There's plenty to do besides in this university town, some good shops, places to eat, a great beach right next to the course where I managed to get sunburnt on Sunday and the challenging yet highly recommended 'Himalayas' 18-hole putting course (bring your own balls!).

On the drinking front, there are at least twenty pubs and bars in the town including three entries in the 2021 GBG and a few more with decent write-ups that I'd made a note of. On Sunday, after a couple of hours around the town, I dodged into the **Criterion** (pictured below) on South Street which was proving popular with shoppers enjoying a liquid lunch in the sunshine - perhaps one of the pub's 'world famous' Cri-Pies which were advertised extensively throughout the pub. The four beers here were from Scottish breweries, one being Jack Back, an easy-drinking 3.7% session ale from Edinburgh's Stewart brewery.



Another St. Andrews venue that I was keen to visit was the **Central** on Market Street, a traditional family-friendly pub with its giant Wm. Youngers mirror, old town pictures and an impressive island bar along the lines of another favourite of mine, the Abbotsford in Edinburgh. At the time of my visit, the bar was busy and it's fair to say that the range of ales was disappointing with only Abbot Ale and the previously mentioned Jack Back available. The Central would be one I'd be keen to visit again when in St. Andrews.

Perhaps the best pint I sampled during our time here was at **St. Andrews Brewing Co.** on South Street. This long, narrow bar, with an upstairs beer hall not far away from the town's Brewdog outlet might be somewhere that you'd call into on a night out rather than for a family meal, but the food was ok and the beer, in the shape of the fruity 6.0% Yippee IPA was excellent. In addition to this, several other keg beers were available including an interesting looking oatmeal stout, all made by SABC at their Wallace Street brewery on the south side of town.



Glossing over the friendly but food-orientated Grange Inn on the outskirts and the unremarkable Whey Pat Tavern, mention should go to the first of two celebrated golf venues close to the Old Course. On our last evening in St. Andrews, I found myself in the famous **Dunvegan Hotel**, described as 'one of the best hangouts in the world of golf' by the Golf Channel, no less. I was pleasantly surprised by the atmosphere here and spent half an hour nursing a pint of Belhaven keg in the golfer's corner lounge bar

which is covered from floor to ceiling with photos of players including many who have paid a visit to the hotel. The hotel looks a class act and worthy of investigation by any golfer planning a trip to St. Andrews.

Thirty lashes for me for including another keg only establishment here, but how could I not include the **Jigger** (pictured above)? Yes, the Jigger Inn, occupying its unique position aside the Old Course. As I enjoyed my pint of Jigger Ale, brewed for the pub by Belhaven in the outside seating area adjacent to the course, it was great to see the golfers, at dusk making their way down the seventeenth fairway towards the famous clubhouse. Inside the inn, there are lots of small booths and the obligatory pictures of Victorian golfers.

We're hoping to return to St. Andrews soon. Definitely worth a look if you've not been and are seeking somewhere different to visit and prepared to drive. You don't need to like golf to visit, but it helps.

*Pat Hancock*





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# JUST FOR THE KRAK

## GETTING TO KNOW POLISH BEER IN KRAKOW

The Polish city of Krakow was always somewhere I had hoped to visit having almost made it there on one of our early nineties Interail trips. And so, last year we flew out from Manchester for a short break with the prospect of a few good quality brews along the way to provide relief from the soaring temperatures. The centrally located Yarden Aparthotel was well placed for visits to the Royal Castle, a relaxing boat trip along the River Wisla and Krakow's crowning glory, the wonderful Main Square and its ancient Cloth Market Hall.

Another venue within easy walking distance was the first of the pubs on my must-visit list, **Viva La Pinta** (pictured below) a comfortable bar set in a hidden courtyard just off the prestigious Ul Floriańska, famed for its array of shops, bars and restaurants. The bar, which has seating inside and in the courtyard is linked to the Browar Pinta brewery who were responsible for eight of the fourteen craft offerings. Pilsners, IPAs, fruit beers, stouts and



sours were all available and as it seemed appropriate to sample beers from the Browar Pinta stable, I ordered Hazy Morning, a 4.4% New England IPA and Modern Drinking, an American IPA at a more substantial 6.4%.

On our second full day, we tried the **Multi Qlti Tap Bar**, a stripped-down upstairs bar on the lively Szewska street. Despite the bar's awful name, there were over twenty beers of different styles from an assortment of burgeoning Polish breweries. Alongside these were a few non-Polish beers including Full

Guard from the Marble brewery in Manchester. Here I tried Galaktyka Piwnix, a nice Black IPA from a small craft brewery called Podgórz and Kazimierz Orange from Browar Kazimierz which wasn't quite to my taste.

Towards the end of our mini-break, I made a couple of visits to the excellent **House of Beer** (pictured above). Located in the Old Town, there's an extensive range of over two-hundred bottled beers here behind the attractive bar and a dozen more on tap. The main pub is spread over two rooms with further





space in the cellar. Seating is comfortable with leather sofas and there's a good, affordable pub menu which we tried on our second visit. Browar Pinta's Brett IPA (Brett is apparently short for *Brettanomyces*, a wild yeast strain) was sampled along with Gambit, a fruity IPA from Ziemia Obiecana (that's Promised Land in Polish).

My final beer destination in Krakow was the **Beer Gallery** (pictured opposite), a small corner house that specialises in Belgian beers. Whilst I'd have preferred to have sampled more Polish beer during my time in Krakow, this bar's proximity to House of Beer made it

difficult to avoid. The ten beers here included three from Grimbergen and two each from Petrus and St Darius. From the latter outfit I sampled Sour Pink which I enjoyed.

For anyone fancying a cheapish break to a European city, I can heartily recommend Krakow. As well as eating and drinking well, we enjoyed an evening carriage ride around the city, starting and finishing at the Main Square, visited the Jewish Quarter, Royal Castle and called in on the fire breathing Wawel Dragon Statue. Whilst missing out the city's Wax Museum, where no less than three wax popes can be seen, we did manage to



get to a Polish premier league football match in the shape of KS Crakovia v LKS Lodz. The Polish beer scene certainly seems to be on the up too and there's a great variety of beer on offer at affordable prices.

*Pat Hancock*



# RATE YOUR BEER!

## HOW YOUR BEER SCORES MATTER

### **NBSS - National Beer Scoring System, Good Beer Guide, and Pub of The Year.**

Have you ever wondered how branch pubs are selected for the CAMRA Good Beer Guide and our branch Pub of the Year? You will know of the Good Beer Guide, CAMRA's flagship publication which lists the best pubs for beer in the UK. What you may not know is how those pubs are selected to appear in the guide.

The answer is that in the Dronfield and District branch they are chosen via beer scores submitted by CAMRA members from our branch and other members visiting from all over the country. We apply criteria to make sure that the beer scores are representative (e.g. we only include pubs where there are at least ten different surveyors and exclude scores where we suspect that a regular scorer has a vested interest in a particular pub gaining entry) and then choose pubs where the average score is sufficiently high.

Based on branch size there is a limit to the number of pubs that we can include. Our current allocation is four. If you've ever wondered why your favourite pub isn't in the Good Beer Guide, this may well be because you, and others, haven't entered enough scores rating the quality of beer there. By beer scoring, you help your branch with the selection of pubs that go in the Good Beer Guide. The more scores that are submitted by members the more confident we are in the quality of beer in our favourite pubs.

### **How do we pick a Pub of the Year?**

1. January: All Branch members are invited to make up to 3 nominations for their Pub of the Year.
2. February: Nominations for each pub are counted at the Branch meeting and the top 4 (or up to 6) are selected for judging.
3. Mid-February to mid-March: Judges visit the short listed pubs and complete the CAMRA Pub of the Year judging forms.
4. The scores on the completed forms are counted and the highest scoring pub becomes our Pub of the Year!

### **Scoring beer in pubs is easy!**

The National Beer Scoring System (NBSS) is a 0-5 point scale for judging beer quality in pubs. It is an easy to use system that has been designed to assist CAMRA branches in selecting pubs for the Good Beer Guide and monitor beer quality by encouraging CAMRA members from any part of the world to report beer quality on any pub in the UK. See the panel opposite.

### **How do I score my beer?**

You don't have to be an expert to begin scoring your beer. What you need to consider is the quality of that beer, how well the pub has kept it and served it and score it according to the general guide described below. You can score your beer online at home or on your smartphone in the pub. To submit your scores just visit [www.whatpub.com](http://www.whatpub.com). If you prefer you can make a note and score your beers once you are back at home.

Log into the site using your CAMRA membership number

and password. Once you have agreed to the terms and conditions and found a pub on the site, you can start scoring. You can find out more here:

[www.whatpub.com/beerscoring](http://www.whatpub.com/beerscoring)

If you have a smart phone you can also score directly from the Good Beer Guide app :

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

### **What do I need to record?**

The location and name of the pub (WhatPub mobile can work this out!) The date you visited the pub.

A score out of 5. The name of the brewery and beer. We will also need your name and membership number but once you have registered these are recorded automatically in WhatPub.

### **What do the scores mean?**

It is important to realise that the scale is not linear. Only 0.5 and 1 indicate poor beer. This allows a wider range of scores for beer that is anything from uninspiring to perfection in a glass. Most worthy Good Beer Guide pubs tend to score either a 3 or 4 for their beers. Bland, uninspiring beers score a 2 and a 5 is something given once or twice a year. It is always worth reminding yourself of the descriptions associated with each of the numbers. If you are not sure which score you want to award, half points (e.g. 2.5) can be given.

### **How do I score a beer I don't like?**

Ideally a beer should be scored to reflect how it has been kept. In other words, its condition. However, the ability to distinguish

between a beer that is in poor condition, is unpalatable to our tastes but is meant to taste like that or has been poorly made is going to be difficult for the

untrained taster. In these cases, it is better to score the beer as it honestly tastes to you.

For further information or help in scoring beers, please contact

our Pubs Officer: *whatpub@dronfieldcamra.org.uk*

or Secretary:

*secretary@dronfieldcamra.org.uk*

# CAMRA member?

## Please score your beer in this pub

### Scoring your beer helps to

- monitor beer quality in pubs
- identify pubs for the *Good Beer Guide*

- 0** No cask beer available.
- 1 Poor.** Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.
- 2 Average.** Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub but you drink the beer without really noticing.
- 3 Good.** Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub. You want to stay for another pint and may seek out the beer again.

- 4 Very Good.** Excellent beer in excellent condition.

- 5 Perfect.** Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.

Score your beer today at [WhatPub.com](http://WhatPub.com) or use the Good Beer Guide app.

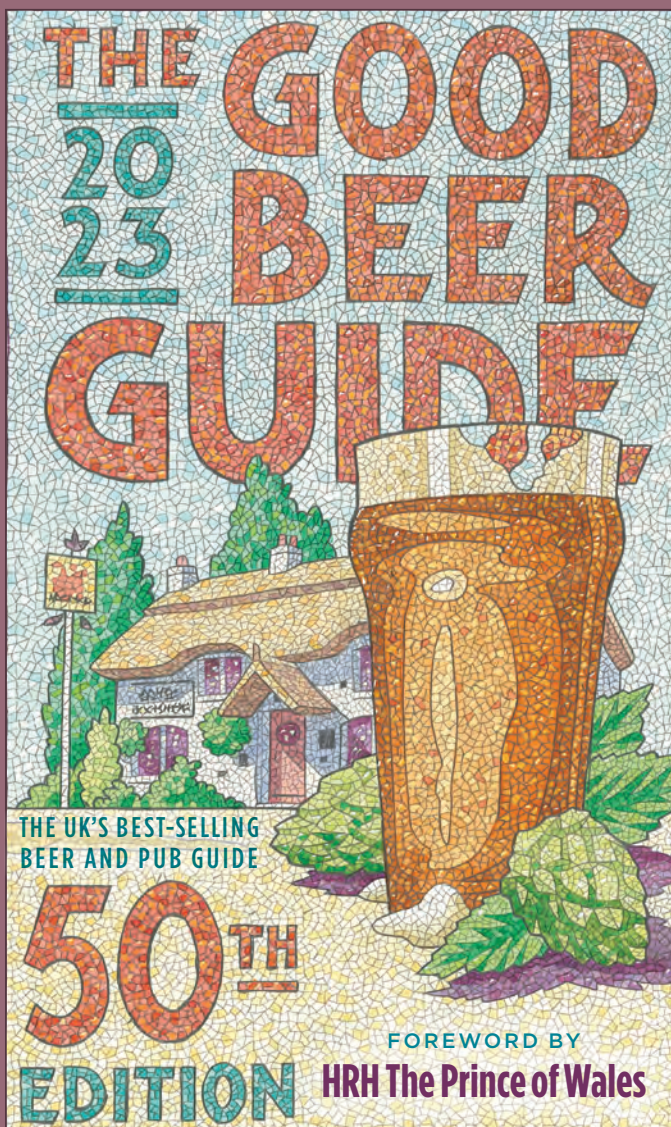
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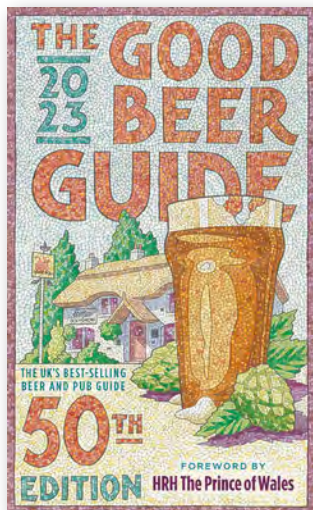
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# 50 UP !

## THE 2023 CAMRA GOOD BEER GUIDE



CAMRA's Good Beer Guide – the UK's best-selling beer and pub guide – is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

The Guide, which surveys 4,500 of the best pubs across the UK, is the definitive beer drinker's guide to the very best pints in the most picturesque and friendly pubs. Compiled by thousands of independent volunteers, it helps identify significant trends and themes across the pub sector.

The 50th anniversary edition features a new cover design by Neil Gower, a foreword by the then HRH The Prince of Wales (22 August 2022) and an introduction to each region by Laura Hadland – award-winning author of 50 Years of CAMRA. It brings together pub and brewery information for the first time, making it easier than ever before to find your next local brew

The first edition in 1972 was just 96 pages in length and listed around 1,500 pubs with a brewery section covering just 105 brewing companies. Today, the Good Beer Guide features 1,864 breweries across the nation.

Just five pubs across the UK have made it into each edition of the Guide – known as the “famous five”. These pubs include the Star Tavern and the Buckingham Arms in London, the Roscoe Head in Liverpool, the Square & Compass in Dorset and the Queen's Head in Newton, Cambridgeshire.

To be listed in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide is a fantastic achievement for a pub. The Guide is based entirely on personal recommendations made by local CAMRA members, which are rigorously reviewed by branches and editors.

Recommendations consider beer quality as well as the history and architecture of a pub and various aspects such as food, gardens, family and disabled facilities and special events. CAMRA does not take any fees for listings to ensure the guide remains independent and unbiased.

CAMRA's National Chairman Nik Antona said: “It is a huge achievement that we're able to celebrate 50 years of publishing the Good Beer Guide, and a real testament to

the hard work and dedication of our volunteers, who undertake the assessments.

*“What makes the Guide unique is that all the entries are compiled and vetted by a huge volunteer team based around the country. We work hard to ensure that all areas of the country are covered and, unlike some competitor titles, inclusion in this book is dependent on merit – not on payment.*

*“The last few years have been an incredibly difficult time for the industry, and we need more support than ever before to keep our nation's pubs open and thriving. I'd encourage everyone to use this year's Guide to visit the very best pubs across the UK and support them for generations to come.”*

The Good Beer Guide, sponsored this year by Cask Marque, was published on 27 October 2022.

Paul Nunny, Director of Cask Marque said: “Cask Marque has sponsored the Good Beer Guide for a number of years, because it is important that we recognise great pubs with a CAMRA endorsement. 50 years of actively supporting our industry is a great achievement and coincides with Cask Marque championing beer quality for 25 years!”.

THE MOST ATMOSPHERIC DRINK & MUSIC FESTIVAL OF THE YEAR!

# RAIL ALE

## 18<sup>TH</sup> - 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023



**THURSDAY  
18<sup>TH</sup> MAY**  
12 noon to 6pm

**FRIDAY  
19<sup>TH</sup> MAY**  
12 noon to 11pm

FRIDAY'S  
HEADLINE ACT  
FUNK & SOUL BAND  
HIGHWAY CHILD

**SATURDAY  
20<sup>TH</sup> MAY**  
12 noon to 11pm

SATURDAY'S  
HEADLINE ACT  
**FLASH  
QUEEN TRIBUTE**

**SCAN FOR  
TICKETS**



**OPENING NIGHT**

**BAD MANNERS  
18<sup>TH</sup> MAY**  
Doors open at 6.30pm



\* Prices are for advance bookings & may be subject to a booking fee.

**Supported By:** - Ashover Cider, Blue Monkey, Oakham, Ossett, Purity Brewing, Thornbridge, Timothy Taylors, Titanic & Welbeck Abbey

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[www.railalefestival.com](http://www.railalefestival.com)

# GOSH IT'S... RAIL ALE 2023

## STEAM UP FATTY!



Rail Ale is back and it's time to get your tickets for the most atmospheric music and beer festival of them all!

Widely regarded as one of the must-do events in the North of England, the Rail Ale Festival has been taking place at Barrow Hill Roundhouse near Chesterfield for over twenty years. This year's Festival will take place on Thursday 18th, Friday 19th and Saturday 20th May 2023.

Combining the unique atmosphere of the UK's only operational railway roundhouse with an unsurpassed range of cask beers, craft ales, ciders, and gins and a wide-ranging musical line up has created a recipe for success that attracts thousands of people every year.

Three days of fantastic entertainment have been lined up for the 2023 Rail Ale Festival. Music lovers will be treated to a wide range of live music in the marquee and on the main stage from jazz and brass through acoustic, funk and soul to rock'n'roll.

Kicking off Thursday's Rail Ale Party Night are '80s Ska legends, Bad Manners, featuring vocalist

Buster Bloodvessel. Known for their bald, enormous-bodied frontman's silly on-stage antics and their 2-Tone tracks including UK hits such as "Ne-Ne Na-Na Na-Na Nu-Nu," "Lip Up Fatty," "Special Brew," and "Can Can", they are outrageous, enigmatic and one of the country's best loved live acts. Now in their 45th year and showing no signs of stopping, Buster and the Bad Manners boys are making an eagerly awaited first appearance at Rail Ale. So get your boots on, it's time to party Bad Manners style!

Friday's line up will feature headliners Highway Child, the hugely popular Sheffield-based soul, funk and blues band and a must-have fixture on the Rail Ale calendar. Saturday night will see Flash, one of the best Queen tribute bands in the country, taking to the main stage and bringing the 2023 Festival to a suitably Mercurial close!

As well as the music, there are all those beers and ciders, the renowned Rail Ale Gin Palace and, of course, the Rail Ale trains to look forward to. To quench the thirst there will be over

350 real ales from around the country including many brewed locally in Derbyshire and South Yorkshire, a great range of ciders and craft beers, an impressive line-up of gins from around the country and the world and a sprinkling of sparkle with the Prosecco & Wine bar.

The Street Food Court and Roundhouse Café will be on hand to provide a tasty range of food to suit every appetite from pork pies to pizza, bacon baps to burgers and hog roast to noodles, tempting snacks and complete meals.

Between 12noon and 5pm on Friday and Saturday, the popular Rail Ale train will be running for everyone to enjoy a trip on, beer or gin in hand, through the Roundhouse yard and up and down the Springwell Branch Line.

A bus service will operate between Chesterfield railway station and the Roundhouse on all three days of the Festival.

Tickets are now on sale from [www.seetickets.com](http://www.seetickets.com) and local outlets in Chesterfield, Sheffield and Derby. For more information on the event, including details of Rail Ale Party Night with Bad Manners, please visit:

[www.railalefestival.com](http://www.railalefestival.com).

Summary of Ticket Prices and Opening Times:

Date	Session Times	Ticket	
		Advance*	On the Day
18 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	12 noon to 6.00pm	£8	£12
19 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	12 noon to 11.00pm	£12	£16
20 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	12 noon to 11.00pm	£12	£16
18 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 Party Night	6.30pm to 11.00pm	£25	£30
2023 Three-Day Festival Pass including Party Night		£45	£62

\*Booking fees apply

Alexa Stott

## MY TOP 10

*Back in the mists of time, Claire Hancock, who may or may not have an association with your esteemed Peel Ale editor was tasked to decide on the first five of her ten favourite pubs, one of which she has since returned to and was something of a disappointment. But enough of that: here are the remaining five...*

### **6: Bush Inn, Morwenstow, Cornwall.**



We chanced upon this old pub when driving back from Tintagel to our hotel on Exmoor a few years ago. Tintagel had proved to be a bit of a disappointment with its King Arthur themed pubs and shops and a proliferation of wasps, so as dusk descended, the pub was a welcome detour off the A39. Located a short distance from the coast and the border with Devon, this welcoming multi-roomed pub dating from thirteenth century has a bustling atmosphere, a good value menu and St Austell beers plus changing guest ales from west-country micros.

### **7: Thornbridge Tap, Bakewell, Derbyshire.**



Something a bit different, the tap has become a popular choice for a meal and a drink - a family friendly place with an impressive selection of Thornbridge beers on both cask and keg and delicious handmade pizza which always goes down well with everyone. The tap is right next to the brewery in the Riverside Business Park and takes a bit of locating on your first visit. In summer, outside seating is popular and the tap also puts on regular entertainment evenings.

### **8: Falkland Arms, Great Tew, Oxfordshire.**



A superb, ivy-clad village pub that we were lucky enough to stay at several years ago on our way back from another of our west-country tours. The Falkland Arms is everything you'd expect a classic English country village pub to be with its rustic furniture, giant fireplace and tankards hanging from the low ceiling. It has a tidy beer garden too and food is served in the bar and in a small separate restaurant. Beer drinkers are well catered for with up to six hand-pulled ales from owners Wadworth including their flagship beer, 6X.

### **9: Anglers Rest, Millers Dale, Derbyshire.**



Another personal favourite that we've returned to a few times recently for a meal or just a drink. The location here is the main selling point but there's always a warm welcome and the food is excellent. Beers are generally from local breweries like Peak Ales, Bradfield and Abbeydale. Standing just across the road from the River Wye and easily accessible from the Monsal Trail, the Anglers, like the previous selection is also creeper-clad. The main bar is popular with diners and traditionally decorated, retaining a pubby atmosphere.

**10: Poechenellekelder, Brussels, Belgium.**



A unique place in bustling Brussels, right next to the internationally famous Manneken Pis. Poechenellekelder means 'little marionette puppet' and there are several of these hung up inside the pub which is also crammed with brewery memorabilia. The pub certainly is quirky but is big on atmosphere and has one of the largest beer menus in the city. All beers are expertly poured by the busy bar-staff in glasses that match the brewery. There's outside seating too which is a great place to watch fellow tourists posing next to the manneken.

Claire Hancock



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[www.dronevalleybrewery.com](http://www.dronevalleybrewery.com)

Facebook: Drone Valley Brewery

# ALL SORTS OF AWARDS

Since we last went to press, a number of our pubs and clubs have succeeded in winning awards, both at branch and county level. Congratulations to all – your commitment to high quality beer in comfortable surroundings is much appreciated!

## **Drone Valley Brewery, Unstone**

### **Dronefield CAMRA Lockdown Hero 2021**

Chris, Elaine, Lucy and Pete appear to be delighted with the "CAMRA Lockdown Hero" award, given for the brewery's heroic efforts during the Covid19 pandemic.



### **Pub of the Season Summer 2022**

A group brewery volunteers celebrate the award of "Pub of the Season" Summer 2022.



## **Miners Arms, Hundall**

### **Pub of the Season Summer 2021**

Former Chairman Rob Barwell presents the 2021 "Pub of the Season" award to the team at the Miner's Arms Hundall.



### **Pub of the Year 2022**

Rob again with the 'Top Brass' at the Miner's for the 2021 'Pub of the Year'. Matt Bradshaw, Geoff Fields and Natalie Edwards.



## ***Coach & Horses, Dronfield***

### ***Pub of The Season Winter 2022***

Dronfield and District Chairman Nick Wheat presents the Winter 2022 award to Mark and Maz at the Coach and Horses.



## ***Royal Oak, Millthorpe***

### ***Pub of The Season Winter 2021***

Nick again with landlord Pete Volli and his staff at the Royal Oak, Millthorpe for the presentation of the Winter 2021 Award.



## ***Pioneer Club, Dronfield***

### ***Club of The Year 2022***

Tony and Alison Hartigan of the Dronfield Pioneer Club celebrate the "Club of the Year" award for 2022.

The occasion was the One Valley Extra Festival of that year.



# BRANCH SOCIALS AFTER LOCKDOWN JUST LOOK WHERE WE'VE BEEN DRINKING!

Following the lifting of COVID restrictions, the Dronfield Branch of CAMRA also eased their way back into organising social activities, which as always are also open to non-members, friends and family alike, with many gatherings and trips being run over the last 18 months.

Many of these concentrated on visiting the pubs, clubs and bars within the Dronfield branch area including two Saturday afternoon trips out to Barlow, Millthorpe and Holmesfield by public transport. The most recent one took in a 'meet the Brewer' session at the Collyfobble brewery adjacent to the Peacock at Barlow with the new brewer, Ash Linnett, who held an interesting discussion on the brewery and brewing techniques (see below).

Other Dronfield based socials have taken in the Coal Aston, Dronfield main street and Dronfield Woodhouse areas usually visiting 4 to 6 pubs each trip, whilst we have enjoyed two visits to the current branch Club of the Year - Dronfield Pioneer Club - for the Sunday lunchtime carvery.



As well as local socials we have also embarked on visiting places further afield, a Nottingham trip was mainly to the many pubs and bars of Sneinton whilst we also had three separate trips to different areas of Sheffield on Friday evenings, firstly was to the numerous pubs along the Ecclesall Road going up to Banner Cross, then on another occasion it was to the Heeley pubs and the latest venture took us out to the variety of pubs in the Kelham Island

district where we were joined by members from Rotherham and Sheffield.

We have also participated in the two days of the Chesterfield Branch 'Walkabout' event held in February and taking a trip 'over the hill' to Matlock visiting six very different hostleries.

All of us at Dronfield & District CAMRA would like to thank all the venues that have hosted our monthly branch meetings; Blue Stoops, Coach and Horses, Gate Inn, George and Dragon, Green Dragon, Gosforth Fields Sports & Social Club, Miners Arms Hundall, Pioneer Club, Royal Oak Millthorpe, Tickled Trout and the White Swan.

Details of forthcoming Social events are listed on the branch website:

[www.dronfield.camra.org.uk](http://www.dronfield.camra.org.uk), our Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Everybody will be made very welcome.

*Peter Boitoult*





# The Angel

at Holmesfield



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# PEELING BACK THE YEARS

## GOOD BEER GUIDE: 1983



The 1983 edition of the Good Beer Guide was the tenth printed edition of the guide and the last to be edited by Roger Protz until 2000.

### BREWERIES

One of the major names in Sheffield brewing history is that of Duncan Gilmour, a Scotsman born in 1816 who set up business in Sheffield and began brewing initially at the Furnival Brewery. After handing over to his son, Duncan, the company went from strength to strength and in 1900 moved to the Lady's Bridge Brewery. The brewery owned around 150 licenced houses at the time it was acquired by Joshua Tetley in 1954.

Fast forward to 1981, and Tetley launched a revived version of Gilmour's Bitter, described as having a clear body, a creamy

head and a distinctive full-bodied flavour. By February 1983, Tetley had pulled the plug on the beer which had failed to catch on with the region's drinkers. Sales had fallen so low that it was deemed no longer viable to carry on brewing with many customers finding the beer to be thin and sweet tasting. After its demise, Tetley trialed another real ale, Falstaff Best, which had sold well in Halifax and Bradford, in 23 Sheffield pubs for an initial three-month period.

### PUBS

Dronfield CAMRA area representatives included the much-missed Yellow Lion on High Street, Apperknowle which at the time served hand-pulled Tetley Bitter and the aforementioned Tetley Gilmour's Bitter. The pub, described as a '*popular village pub with restaurant*' continued its high standards and commitment to real ale for a further twenty years until converting into private residences.

In Dronfield, Stones Bitter was on offer via electric dispense at the Green Dragon on Church Street and there was a mention for the nearby Blue Stoops which sold Wards beers.

At Holmesfield, Home Bitter was available at the Travellers Rest, a '*friendly village local*' whilst down the hill at Millthorpe, the Royal Oak was a '*300-year-old village pub serving excellent fare*' that served Wards Sheffield Best Bitter and Darley Thorne Bitter. Out at Barlow, the same beers were on offer at the Barlow Huntsman

(now Ticked Trout), yet another Wards establishment and a '*busy, friendly, village centre pub with guest beers*'.

Another entry just outside our branch boundary on Prospect Road at Bradway, opposite the bus terminus was the Old Mother Redcap, an '*impressive newly built pub, stone farmhouse style*'. The Redcap, which has been closed for long periods in recent years was opened in May 1981 by Sam Smiths at a cost of £250,000 and designed to resemble an old Derbyshire cottage. The pub served Old Brewery Bitter from a wooden barrel as well as Sam Smith's usual keg lagers and stouts. The pub's name was taken from a pub in Camden which as The World's End now incorporates the well-known gig venue the Underworld. Old Mother Redcap herself was a witch who was burned at the stake around 1612.

Elsewhere in the country, the 1983 guide was notable for the inclusion of the first JD Wetherspoon pub. Following their formation in 1979, the Watford based pub group opened its first venue in Muswell Hill, north-east London bringing real ales from the likes of Adnams, Greene King, Shepherd Neame and Timothy Taylor to a wider audience. Other pubs were soon opened in the locality including Dick's Bar on Tottenham Lane which whilst having not traded as a pub for some years holds the distinction of the first 'Spoons GBG entry.

Pat Hancock

# TICKETS PLEASE !

## 2023 GREAT BRITISH BEER FESTIVAL



Tickets for the Great British Beer Festival are now on sale, as Britain's premier beer festival returns to Olympia London from 1-5 August.

The Great British Beer Festival, now in its 46th year, will once again feature quality live beer served from across the British Isles. Visitors can try brews from over 500 different breweries from the UK and beyond. Real cider and perry will also be on show, along with the return of our successful gin and wine bar.

Festival-goers can also sample some of the very best cask beer America has to offer, as well as European beers from Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany. The festival will also boast a wide range of street foods to suit all dietary requirements and tastes.

The Champion Beer of Britain competition returns this year after the pandemic. The competition runs over a two-year calendar, thanks to the dedication of thousands of CAMRA members who vote for their favourite beers across 12 beer styles each Autumn. These beers are judged regionally, and the top brews are then judged and the overall winners announced on GBBF Trade Day (1 August).

Festival Organiser Catherine Tonry said: *"We're incredibly excited for the Great British Beer Festival this year, and the return of the Champion Beer of Britain award. We look forward to*

*inviting beer lovers from across the UK to London to sample some of the best beers in the country. Come and experience the natural magic of grain to glass, while enjoying delicious street food and our incredible selection of only the finest beers, ciders and perries."*


The Great British Beer Festival wouldn't be possible without the hard work of dedicated volunteers from across the country who converge on London to organise the best beer show in the country. Nearly a thousand volunteers take part in the event on behalf of CAMRA, a not-for-profit consumer group that campaigns on a range of issues to support the beer, cider, pubs and clubs, and ultimately, the consumers. All festival proceeds go directly back into CAMRA campaigning activity.

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# LAWNMOWER MAN BREWDAY AT COLLYFOBBLE



brewery, housed in an impressive building at the side of what is arguably one of the most picturesque backdrops in the region. The brewery supplies the pub with its core range of beers and in recent months this range has been extended to supply other venues.



The brew itself went through the brewery and transferred to the fermenter without a hitch, Ash showed his depth of brewing knowledge and experience at key points on the journey. As the hops were added, the brewhouse was filled with delicious fruit aromas of grapes, passion fruit and gooseberries exactly as it does at my home.

I am proud to say that the beer fermented well and initial samples were nearly identical to previous batches brewed at home. I couldn't wait to see it at Steel City Beer Festival on an actual bar.

The beer received a favourable reception from the festival attendees and was enjoyed by many.

Lawnmower has subsequently been renamed **Grindleford Grit** and has proved to be a hugely popular in both bottle and mini cask with continuous demands for it to be re-brewed!

*Rob Barwell*

During the COVID pandemic and the lockdowns, lots of people turned their hands to a wide range of additional skills and pastimes, be it baking, gardening and in my instance, a renewed interest in home brewing. I've been brewing on and off at home for a good number of years and the pandemic gave me a huge incentive to get going again.

This passion for brewing ale has subsequently flourished and a number of recipes have been repeated time and time again. One recipe in particular is a pale/blonde ale hopped with Nelson Sauvín, that I christened 'Lawnmower'. It started life as a brew to sip in the garden during lockdowns where there was so little to do other than mow the lawn.

At a local CAMRA meeting, Sheffield's Steel City Beer Festival was mentioned and a germ of an idea was formed. Would the Festival like a cask of *Lawnmower*? As a home brewer, this is a real test of brewing skill – to be judged amongst professional brewers and the ego boost of seeing a pump clip on a bar was just too tempting to miss out on.

I had met Ash Linnett (pictured right), the brewer at Collyfobble at a previous CAMRA meeting and after a few telephone conversations, a date was set to brew a batch of *Lawnmower* on a full size brewery kit. Collyfobble Brewery is based at the Peacock pub in Barlow. The brewery itself is a beautiful showpiece example of a small scale commercial







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# LOST PUBS OF DRONFIELD

## CRICKETERS ARMS, HILL TOP, DRONFIELD



However the pub had closed in 1914, although this was a heated and drawn out affair. Renewal of the license was refused in May 1913, and an appeal went before Derby Compensation Authority, but closure was upheld.

It was reported in January 1915 that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue advised Derbyshire County Licensing Authority that £325 compensation for closure was being claimed, but recommended £186. In the end £270 was awarded (Tenant Frances William Faires £55, Tomlinson Ltd £215)

In May 1915 it was reported that Mr J.E.T. Ducker, appearing for the tenant and owner, suggested that as that year had seen the welcome revival of Derbyshire cricket, it was scarcely the time to close a house so designated. The chairman of the committee dismissed the "pathetic plea" saying it had no weight with the committee.

In March 1918 H.N. Lucas applied for eviction order against licensee Dorothy Pedley - five months after the serving of notice and she was given two weeks to go.

It is believed that the building still survives as Hill Top House although no photographs of the building from its days as a beer house are known to exist - please contact the editor if you are aware of one!

*Nick Lister*

This is one of the lesser known lost pubs of Dronfield. It stood in an area of open fields, spoil heaps and small coal mines, and presumably got its name from the game being played on the adjacent recreation ground,

Research suggests that the pub was at Hill Top close to The Hyde Park Inn and came into the hands of the Brookhill Brewery of Sheffield in the 1870s. It never got beyond the status of a 'beer house' meaning it wasn't licensed for wines and spirits.

Brookhill Brewery was a modest venture that never really got off the ground and changed ownership every year or so. Its owners were a series of Lincolnshire maltsters who seemed to buy into many struggling Sheffield breweries in order to secure payment for their supplies. In 1881 Brookhill Brewery was taken over by Hewitts who had breweries in Grimsby and Retford. In October of that year the pub was let with 2½ acres of land.

In August 1883 William Crandall was listed as landlord, but all did not go well. Eckington Petty Sessions heard in "Offences Against the Licenses Act" that on

7th August 1883 Stephen French of Dronfield Hill Top and Thomas Charlesworth of Farwater Lane were on the premises the night after William Crandall had been refused transfer of the license by Justices on 6th but sold intoxicating liquor on the 7th. The charge against Crandall was dismissed, but the others were fined 19s6d.

Hewitts closed Brookhill Brewery in 1885 and the Cricketers passed to Henry Tomlinson Ltd of Anchor Brewery, which was sited alongside Sheffield United's football ground. Tomlinsons also took ownership of Gomersal Colliery, but the colliery had gone before the century was out. Old maps show the area dotted with disused mine shafts and spoil heaps.

The rural nature of the pub is emphasised by advertised sports including pigeon shooting matches, rabbit coursing, and on at least one occasion a steeplechase with 2-300 people in attendance in 1906.

The following landlords are listed for the premises:

August 1906 John Henry Flint  
 May 1913 Frances William Faires  
 March 1918 Dorothy Pedley

# WOODHOUSE WANDERINGS

## EXPLORING AN OLD DRONFIELD VILLAGE



Following the Winter Pub of the Season presentation at the **Coach & Horses**, Dronfield CAMRA members made the climb up Stubley Hollow to Dronfield Woodhouse for a Saturday teatime crawl. In recent years, this area has seen the closure of the Hearty Oak and more recently, The Talbot. New houses now occupy the land where these pubs once stood.

The first of four venues was the **Miners Arms** on Carr Lane. This was the first time that most of the contingent had visited the Miners since it re-opened in August after a lengthy break, and for some, their first ever visit. The pub is under new management but visually unchanged. The pub was busy enough when we arrived with a large group seated at one end of the bar and another couple making good use of the pool table as the final scores poured in on Sky Sports. On the bar, Timothy Taylor Landlord was joined by Yorkshire Blonde from Ossett Brewery. It is of course, pleasing to see the pub back open after a period of uncertainty and we all wish the new venture all the best.

Across from the Miners is the **Dronfield Woodhouse Sports & Social Club**. Set back off the main road with a large carpark, this club has across the board appeal but is especially popular

with families. Local readers will be aware that the club is the venue for the hugely popular Great Fire of Dronfield which I attended again last year. The large back room where regular live music and functions take place was busy enough and a comfortable place for our party to get together. Real ales have always been a feature here, although one of the two offerings was unavailable. Iceberg, a 4.1% pale ale from Titanic was a pleasant surprise and found to be in good condition.

From here, it was back along Carr Lane and down Pentland Road to the **Jolly Farmer**, which was clearly doing a roaring trade, so much so it was initially impossible to locate a spare seat. Whilst food is a considerable draw, it retains a pubby atmosphere and drinkers of real ale and cider have always been

well catered for. I think I counted five real ales on the bar including local ones from Little Critters and Stancill. Pacific, from North Yorkshire brewery, Pennine was a good choice, and I was able to enjoy at the table that we had acquired in the games room. I even remembered my CAMRA card for my discount.

Before we headed home, there was time for some of the group to call at **Gosforth Fields** club, taking the shortcut in darkness over the rugby pitch from Pentland Road. Dronfield CAMRA has used the club several times over the years for branch meetings and it's a good place to take in live sporting events on the big screen. The balcony overlooking the all-weather pitch is nice in summer. It's fair to say that it was disappointing on the night that both hand-pulled beers were turned around – generally Peak Ales Bakewell Best and Bradford Farmers Blonde are the choices. So, a pint of Beavertown Neck Oil on keg it was to end the night. Hopefully, the cask ales will return for my next visit.

*Pat Hancock*



# ISLAND LIFE STEEL CITY BEER FESTIVAL 2022

After two years away, the Steel City Beer and Cider Festival returned in October and Dronfield CAMRA members were again on-hand to serve customers and sample the unique atmosphere of the Kelham Island Museum venue. Over three hundred different beers and forty ciders were available across several different bars and the festival was busy on all four days. We arrived on Wednesday and were diverted towards the Crucible Room at the rear of the museum which was home this year to the Key Keg bar which became busier as the night wore on.

Resplendent in our blue beer festival t-shirts, we served a selection of over thirty beers from local names such as St Mars of the Desert, Neepsend, Lost Industry and Heist and others from further afield. Whilst this was a school night and percentages were kept sensible, there was an opportunity to sample a few of the more exotic beers, all of varying descriptions



and strengths. As usual, there was good food available on the evening and the cask ales

from neighbouring bars were not neglected either. This included the champion beer of the festival, Devika IPA, from Sheffield's own, Triple Point.

In my experience, serving at a beer festival is much more fun than it looks. It was nice too to bump into a few familiar faces over the course of the evening.

I occasionally meet drinkers who've not quite got themselves together and taken in the festival. At the time of writing, you have several months to arrange a visit the 2023 festival, which I'm sure will be just as good as last year's.

*Pat Hancock*



# THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

## EXPLORING HEBDEN BRIDGE ON THE CHEAP

It all started out so innocent, really! Mindful of Northern Rail's occasional 'flash sale' of discounted rail tickets, myself and good pal Andy Cullen from Sheffield CAMRA (although he hails from the lost Derbyshire village of Bradway, he's an aspirational Dronnie if nothing else!) pre-planned where to visit on a pub odyssey. You have to look slippy when the discounted tickets are announced as there are limited ones available for the cheapest 10p each way fare. It boiled down to a choice between two bridges - Hebden or Sowerby.

As it turned out, Hebden Bridge was to be the call as it was slightly closer to the change station of Leeds and I was interested in seeing the railway station's historical architecture and signage.

So we headed north on 1st February 2020 and we eventually decanted at Hebden Bridge where our first port of call was the **Nightjar** (pictured below) which was a cracking little brewery tap for the Mytholmroyd based brewery of the same name situated in the Picture House at the bottom of the hill from the station and offered 3 hand pulls, a few comedy kegs on the sports fonts, plus well stocked fridges with bottles and cans.



The house beer was a 3.9% citra hopped pale ale which was the perfect starter for ten.

Suitably refreshed after the 2½ hour train journey we headed to the **Vocation Brewery Tap** which in truth was the real draw for our visit as I'm a big fan of Vocation beers. Slightly clinical in its minimalist appearance, you are drawn to the wall of beer down the side (pictured below) offering 20 fonts which will appeal massively to the craft beer cognoscenti with a style of beer for everyone. There are no handpulls on display for the cask ale offerings as they are seemingly relegated to the first four taps to maintain the bar's clean lines. It is nonetheless a 'must visit' though you should be aware it can get very busy!



Next on the agenda was **Calan's** (pictured below), the first micropub to open in Calderdale in 2015 which my dog found very welcoming as she soon found a comfortable lap of one of the regulars to sit on! Calan's has since been sold and is now known as just **The Pub**.



Our next visits were to well established town centre type boozers that are more traditional in their style and beer choices.

The **White Swan** is just by the bridge over Hebden Beck (which feeds in to the Calder a few hundred yards down river) and offers the standard fair of Black Sheep Bitter and a Robinson's seasonal. Just over the road is the **Shoulder of Mutton** which offered a more modern and vibrant feel though still a traditional stone built pub with similar types of beer on offer.

With fading light as the day turned to dusk it was time to walk out of town to the Good Beer Guide stalwart, the **Fox & Goose**, the first community owned pub in West Yorkshire, a crown it wears well. The atmosphere was fantastic as its diverse clientele mingled and enjoyed great beer in great company in this gem of a community local.

As the late afternoon turned to evening, we headed back towards town for our last couple of visits before the walk over the Rochdale canal and up the hill to the railway station and the journey back to Dronfield.

First off was **Drink?** which is ostensibly a bottle shop but with a spacious quirky bar and tasting room. With 2 sticks offering Siren Pale Ale and Brass Castle Malton Amber it proved to be the



perfect way to kick start our taste buds back into life after a few more 'traditional' beery offerings.

However the star of the show was the young lady doing the serving (pictured above) who's quick wit and brilliant raconteurism was pure box office! And the beer was mighty fine, too!

Our final port of call was the **Old Gate** (pictured below) which is a very modern food driven outlet yet offers up to 9 cask ales in good nick and is well worth a visit for a nightcap if not longer.

Our visit to Hebden Bridge 'on the cheap' was a fabulous day out though the relatively lengthy train journey can be gruelling for some. However since our jolly in February 2020 fate has not been kind to this lovely little town. Just a week after our visit, the flood siren sounded at 8.00am

on the morning of Sunday 9th February, the morning of Storm Ciara. Soon after, Hebden Bridge, Mytholmroyd and the Upper Calder Valley were cut off as a sea of water covered the area for the second time in five years. Then on 23rd March the first Covid lockdown hit all of us.

Researching this article has shown that all these pubs have survived two catastrophes so Hebden Bridge is still well worth a visit, though the recent Northern Rail flash sale bargains are less generous than when we visited. Saturday tickets are now very much at a premium with far more restricted destinations on offer and the cheapest fares are now £1 each way instead of 10p!

But don't let that put you off!

*Nick Wheat*



# THIRST PAST THE POST

## PUBS NAMED AFTER RACEHORSES

Hundreds of pubs across the country owe their name to a connection with sporting culture. Several local pubs bear names such as the Sportsman, Cricket, which unlike football, was popular at the time when numerous inns and taverns came into being is reflected in the names of many pubs, which were often built close to land where matches were contested.

Hunting and other country sports feature as does horse racing. Many readers will have downed a pint in a pub called the Horse & Jockey and might have visited a Turf Tavern, Running Horse, Winning Post, Racehorse or Starting Gate.

Locally, we have our own Horse & Jockey on Sheffield Road at Unstone Green which was built to replace a previous pub of that name further along the main road. The current pub serves the local community and offers real ales, often from the nearby Drone Valley brewery.

As well as the more generic examples above, some names commemorate individual racehorses, often with a

connection to the local area. Many of these are from the Victorian era but there have been more recent examples. Another of our local pubs, the Travellers Rest at Apperknowle was known as the Reference Point for a short time in the late eighties.

In 1988, after a £50,000 refurbishment, licensees, Colin and Sandra Frost re-named the pub in honour of the Henry Cecil-trained colt that won the previous year's Derby and the St. Leger at Doncaster. The Frosts took over the pub in 1987 and were joined for the official opening by a trio of footballers with local connections, Alan Birch, Alan Warboys and the late Len Badger. After a few short years the pub reverted to its original name.

Here's a field of twenty other racehorses that have given their name to pubs....

**Altisidora:** Bishop Burton, Beverley. Yorkshire trained winner of the St Leger in 1813 who was a granddaughter of the famous Eclipse. She died in 1825 at her owner's stud. The local village inn was re-named in her honour.

**Amato:** Epsom, Surrey. Formerly the Hare and Hounds, it was named after the 1838 Derby winner, who unusually only raced once. Five minutes-drive from Epsom racecourse, the Amato serves real ale and now houses the Grumpy Mole restaurant.

**Arkle:** Ashleworth, Gloucs. Legendary Irish chaser of the 1960s. In 1981, an attractive village local, the Queen's Arms was re-named in his honour. It reverted to its original name in the nineties and is now a private house.

**Beeswing:** York, North Yorks. Famous mare of the 1830s that won the Doncaster Cup on four occasions and a one-time John Smith's pub on the outskirts of York that still has a picture of a horse on its sign and now trades as the Beeswing Ale House.

**Best Mate:** Cheltenham, Gloucs. Rough estate pub that began life in the sixties as the Railway Inn. It was re-named after the three-time Cheltenham Gold Cup hero in 2004 but by 2006 it had closed. It was demolished in 2009.

**Blink Bonny:** Christon Bank, Alnwick. Celebrated racehorse



that unusually, for a filly, won the Derby in 1857 and then followed up in The Oaks just two days later. Two of her hooves are displayed in a glass cabinet at the pub.

**Brigadier Gerard:** York, North Yorks. Smart pub belonging to Sam Smith's brewery opened in 1985 on the site of a former boys' home. Dick Hern's colt of that name won seventeen races in the early seventies including the 1971 2000 Guineas.

**Brown Jack:** Wroughton, Wilts. Village pub near Swindon which retains sporting connections. Built in 1902, it was given the name, Brown Jack after the success of the racehorse that found success on the flat after his win in the 1928 Champion Hurdle.

**Cremorne:** Sheffield, South Yorks. Long-standing real ale and music pub on London Road, formerly owned by Tetley's. Takes its name from the winner of The Derby in 1872 whose other wins included the 1873 Ascot Gold Cup.

**Dante Arms:** Middleham, North Yorks. Old pub in the market place of this horse racing village which was the Black Swan until 2018. Won The Derby in 1945 and was the last northern trained

colt to do so. Also gave his name to a leading race at York.

**Dawn Run:** Cheltenham, Gloucs. A town centre Whitbread pub. The Irish trained mare famously won the Champion Hurdle in 1984 before embarking on a chasing career culminating in her win the 1986 Cheltenham Gold Cup. Closed in 2007, it is now a restaurant.

**Flying Childers:** Stanton-in-Peak, Derbys. Attractive free house in a seriously steep village out towards Matlock. One of a handful of pubs named after the unbeaten mare of the 1720s who has a race at Doncaster named after her. Always worth a visit.

**Foinavon:** Known as the Compton Swan until 2019, this Berkshire village pub is owned by Greene King. Foinavon, the 100-1 winner of the 1967 Grand National after a 27-horse pile-up is buried in the grounds of his old yard in Compton.

**Gimcrack:** York, North Yorks. Fulford Road pub near the racecourse that was a private villa until 1936. It closed in 2002 and converted into flats. Gimcrack won 27 races in the 1760s. The Gimcrack Stakes is run yearly at York's Ebor meeting in August.

**Golden Miller:** Cheltenham, Gloucs. Whitbread estate pub named after the five-time Cheltenham Gold Cup winner of the thirties. Closed in the early 2000s after a short-time as Cotterill's Bar, named after ex-Cheltenham Town manager, Steve.

**Little Owl:** Charlton Kings, Gloucs. Amateur-ridden 1981 Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, trained by Peter Easterby. Whitbread pub, the New Inn, near Cheltenham was re-named after him in the 1980s. It closed in 2013 and has since been demolished.

**Red Rum:** Grimethorpe, South Yorks. Three-time Grand National winner trained in Southport by Ginger McCain whose name endures to this day. The Sam Smith's pub of this name in the mining village was featured in *Brassed Off* and continues to trade.

**Voltigeur:** Spennymoor, Durham. Unremarkable pub close to the town's football ground and another racing pub, the Winning Post. Known locally as the Volti and named after the Lord Zetland-owned winner of the 1850 Derby and St Leger.

**Why Not:** Sheffield, South Yorks and elsewhere. Won the Grand National at his fifth attempt in 1894 for jockey, Arthur Nightingall. Ran in the race for the final time as a fifteen-year-old in 1897. This long lost Sheffield pub was on Clun Street, Burngrave.

**Young Vanish:** Glapwell, Derbys. Primarily a food-based pub on the A617 road to Mansfield currently specialising in carveries and pizzas. Its name derives from a local racehorse that won numerous steeplechases in the 1820s.

Pat Hancock

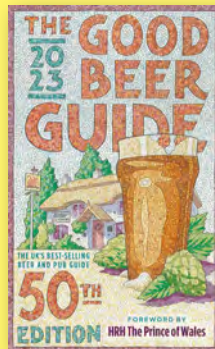


# COME ON PEEL THE NOISE

A further veritable hotchpotch of pop posers spanning several decades for you to contemplate.

- Which teenage Los Angeles born vocalist recorded the theme song for the James Bond film, *No Time to Die*?
- Neil Peart who died in January 2020 was the drummer in which Canadian rock band?
- What song provided The Communards with a UK number one single in 1986?
- Which singer who died in 1965 was known for the songs, *Nature Boy*, *When I Fall in Love* and *Mona Lisa*?
- Name the Bryan Adams song which was number one for sixteen consecutive weeks in 1991?
- Complete the names of these Johnny Cash songs: *I Walk The ....., A Boy Named ....., Ring Of .....*
- Together Forever*, *Whenever You Need Somebody* and *She Wants to Dance with Me* were late eighties hits for who?
- Which American singer was backed by the Mothers of Invention during the late sixties and early seventies?
- The 2013 hit, *Happy* which featured in *Despicable Me 2* was recorded by which U.S singer/rapper?
- Guitarist John Squire, bassist, Mani and drummer, Reni were members of which band?
- Which song provided A-ha with their sole UK No.1?
- Axel F was an instrumental hit in 2005 for Crazy Frog but who originally recorded the song in 1984?
- What was the name of the music venue on Mathew Street in Liverpool forever associates with The Beatles?
- Which Big Audio Dynamite track reached the UK Top Twenty in 1986?
- Name the popular sixties band fronted by Peter Noone whose songs include *I'm Into Something Good*.
- Put these Queen albums in order of release: *Innuendo*, *Jazz*, *A Kind of Magic*, *A Night at The Opera*.
- Singers Bill Medley and Bobby Hatfield were better known under what collective title?
- What is the closing track on The Beatles' album, *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*?
- Russian female duo, t.A.T.u.' had a 2002 number one single. Can you name it?
- Eric Clapton's song *Layla* was released in 1971 by which group?
- Which artist whose songs include *Only the Lonely*, *It's Over* and *Oh Pretty Woman* later joined the Traveling Wilburys?
- What surname is shared by DJ Calvin, Iron Maiden guitarist Steve and American singer/songwriter, Emmylou?
- Name the electronic music duo responsible for the 1990s singles, *Setting Sun*, *Block Rockin' Beats* and *Hey Boy, Hey Girl*?
- Which R.E.M album features *The Sidewinder Sleeps Tonite*, *Drive*, *Man on The Moon*, and *Everybody Hurts*?
- One hit wonders MARRS reached No.1 in 1987 with their only release. What was it called?

ANSWERS: 1. Billie Eilish 2. Rush 3. Don't Leave Me This Way 4. Nat King Cole 5. (Everything I Do) I Do It for You 6. Line (I Walk The), Sue (A Boy Named), Fire (Ring Of) 7. Rick Astley 8. Frank Zappa 9. Pharrell Williams 10. The Stone Roses 11. The Sun Always Shines on TV 12. Harold Faltermeyer 13. The Cavern Club 14. E=MC<sup>2</sup> 15. Herman's Hermits 16. A Night at The Opera (1975) Jazz (1978) A Kind of Magic (1986) Innuendo (1991) 17. The Rhythous Brothers 18. A Day in the Life 19. All the Things She Said 20. Derek and the Dominoes 21. Roy Orbison 22. Harris The Chemical Brothers 24. Automatic For The People 25. Pump Up the Volume



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