

SUNDERLAND AND SOUTH TYNESIDE CAMRA

CAMRA's Summer
of Pub 2023



*Join us down the pub
this summer*

CAMRA ANGLE ONLINE SUMMER 2023

SST CAMRA Beer & Cider Festival 2023

Beggar's Bridge -

Next to East Boldon Metro

Sept 14th, 15th & 16th.

12.00 - 10.30 pm

Entry £3

£1 CAMRA Members



20 + Beers/Ciders

Music line-up coming soon.



**<https://sundfest.camra.org.uk/>
#SundFest23**



Welcome to CAMRA Angle Online. On the previous page is the poster for the branch's forthcoming **Beer & Cider Festival**. Planning is progressing and sponsors are actively being sought. If you are aware of anyone who may be interested there is more information on the next page.

Elsewhere in this edition, there is the usual pub and brewery news, Pub of the Year judging and feature articles about Ouseburn and North Yorkshire. Also included is a subject all members need to be aware of: - Duty Changes on August 1st.

Also a reminder that the **Branch Community Award Scheme** is still open. The aim is to recognise any pub, club or brewery that support their community. If you know of any in our branch area that fulfils the criteria opposite please go to this link and nominate them: <https://forms.gle/dmzCwZKtNFV59Rdy7>

The next printed issue of Camra Angle (Issue 64) is due around the beginning of September.

Thanks to all contributors and enjoy the read.

Ken Paul Magazine Editor

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<p>CAMRA ANGLE ONLINE is published by the Sunderland and South Tyneside Branch of CAMRA @ 2023. Views expressed in this publication may not be necessarily those of the Editor or of CAMRA.. All photographs by article authors or the editor unless stated .</p>	

**The Sunderland & South Tyneside
Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale
(CAMRA)**

will be holding their

Beer, Cider & Music Festival

**at Beggars Bridge , East Boldon from 14th -
16th September 2023**

**Are you are interested in supporting us by
sponsoring a beer or cider?**

**A package is £50. This relates to one beer
cask, key keg or cider, with a mention in the
online programme and signage with the
beer/ cider.**

**Please contact
ad01@sst.camra.org.uk**



**Campaign
for
Real Ale**

DIARY DATES

https://sst.camra.org.uk/wordpress/?page_id=42

JULY 2023

Beer Fest. Meeting & Branch Meeting- Wednesday July 19th	Fitzgeralds Sunderland at 7pm & 8pm
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AUGUST 2023

Maxim Open Night - Friday August 4th	Maxim Brewery, Gladwell Rd, Rainton Bridge, Houghton, DH4 5NL from 5pm.
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Durham City Summer of Pubs Wander - Saturday 5th August	Meet in The Station House, North Rd at 1pm. See branch chairs update for walking route.
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Durham Beer Festival - Wednesday 30th August - Saturday 2nd Sept.	Durham City Rugby Club, Green Lane Durham DH1 3JU http://www.durhambeerfestival.org.uk /?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=July+Update
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SEPTEMBER 2023

Maxim Open Night - Friday September 1st	Maxim Brewery, Gladwell Rd, Rainton Bridge, Houghton, DH4 5NL from 5pm.
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North East Regional Meeting Saturday 2nd Sept	At Durham Beer festival at 1pm
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SST Beer & Cider Festival - Thursday 14th - Saturday 16th September	Beggars Bridge , East Boldon. See poster on page 2.
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LOOK OUT FOR MORE DATES IN THE NEXT ISSUE

**SUNDERLAND & SOUTH TYNESIDE
CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE
CAMRA ANGLE
ISSUE 63 - SUMMER 2023**



**STILL AVAILABLE IN PUBS OR
ONLINE**

FREE

PLEASE TAKE ONE



INTERESTED in writing for the CAMRA ANGLE with real ale and cider related stories.

OR HELPING to distribute the magazine to branch pubs? If so please contact the editor :-
magazine01@sst.camra.org.uk

ADVERTISING. Do you know of anyone who would be interested in advertising in a printed issue of CAMRA ANGLE. If so please email
ads01@sst.camra.org.uk

BREWERY NEWS

Blockyard Brew Co have opened a new brewery tap micropub in Vine Place, Sunderland. Called **Mortal Hound**, it is named after one of its beers. There is more about the pub on the next page.

Brewlab. Brewing courses and services to breweries continue, and we have seen a further two Brewlab Brews in Sunderland pubs. Session Pale was available in the Ivy House and Best Bitter was on sale in the Ship Isis.



Following recent courses, new beers are likely. As these beers are produced on the 100 litre plant, availability will be limited.

Darwin (See page 12)

The Lazy Lizard Brewing Co is a micro brewery that operates from **The Stables Micro Bar** in Cleadon. Check their Facebook page for updates.

Maxim Their latest beer was released at the beginning of July and is called Galaxy, which is an Australian single hopped pale ale.



Next up will be New Zealand Pale Ale, cask and bottled. Following that a new beer called Talus, a 5% American Pale Ale. For the next bar night Mosaic and Raspberry Porter

will feature. For the last two summers they have produced bottled Maxim Pils. They have no plans to brew any this year.

Vaux have the keys to their new brewery premises (location TBA) but haven't moved yet and work installing equipment at the new site is progressing slowly.

On Friday the 30th of June nearly all their key keg beers were Vaux's own, only one from another brewery. I had two nice IPAs, one British style at 6% (Loose Joints), the other (Gold Rush) 6.9% with American hops, both brewed by Vaux.

If you wish to share any news, please contact the relevant Brewery Liaison Officer below

Terry Higgins - blockyardBLO@sst.camra.org.uk	Michael Wynne - brewlabBLO@sst.camra.org.uk
Neil Walters- lazylizardBLO@sst.camra.org.uk	Ken Paul - maximBLO@sst.camra.org.uk
Mo Moseley- vauxBLO@sst.camra.org.uk	

PUB NEWS - MORTAL HOUND



pub is disabled friendly. Interestingly some of the seating has come from an old Frankie & Bennies and some chairs from The Jester in South Shields. There are music nights and it is planned to have food in the future.

As mentioned in the brewery news, a new micropub called Mortal Hound has opened in Sunderland. In a former Army recruitment office in Vine Place. It's named after one of Blockyard IPA's. on open day revealed three cask handpulls and 10 keg fonts.

The bar is mostly reclaimed timber with a front room with a large picture window looking towards Stockton Road and Park Lane Interchange. There is a room at the rear and the



More information can be found on Whatpub :-

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/SUN/6944/mortal-hound-sunderland>

Peter Tong

MORE PUB NEWS -

Closed Now Open

The Trimmers in South Shields reopened at the beginning of July. **The Woodlands** in Rickleton, Washington reopened last month after a brief closure. In Hetton the Brewers Arms has reopened as **The Davy Arms**. The first has been confirmed as no real. The other two ; TBA.

Open now Closed

The Lambton Arms in South Shields had reopened after previously been closed. Sadly its closed again.

In a further twist, owners Camerons have sold their tenanted pubs to FB Taverns. This same company has acquired pubs from The Tadcaster Pub Co and some from Admiral Taverns. Outside of town in Brockley Whins **The Jester** has closed. Moving to Sunderland **The Oddfellows** in Millfield and **The Fort** on Roker Avenue have suffered a similar fate.

See also the **Pub Protection report** on the next page.

PUB PROTECTION AND PUB HERITAGE

Most CAMRA branches have a “Pub Protection Officer” (PPO - previously known as “Pub Preservation”). I’m the current PPO, since January 2020 when Dave Craggs my predecessor stepped down.

Pubs in England are protected premises. Since 2017 a developer can’t demolish a public house or change its use from a pub without first obtaining planning permission from the local authority. In our case either “Sunderland City Council” (SCC) or “South Tyneside Council” (STC).

Since 2018 the national planning guidelines recognise public houses as community assets and several local authorities now include this recognition within their local plans.

SCC have such protection in their current plan “*Core Strategy and Development Plan 2015-2033*”.

STC aim to make similar inclusion in their new “*Local Plan 2021-2039*”. However this plan is still only in draft so currently objections to CoU (Change of Use) or demolition in the STC area have little local protection just that of the 2017 law and the 2018 national planning guidelines.

The role of PPO is varied and can be summarised as:

- Gathering information on threats to pubs in the branch area.
- Monitoring planning applications for pubs, especially those that involve CoU or proposed demolition.
- Offering support and assistance to those fighting to keep their local open, especially groups looking to take community ownership of the venue.

- When there is no local opposition to CoU or demolition it’s for the PPO to ensure the application is following the correct process and if not object on behalf of CAMRA, drawing the local planning department or planning committee’s attention to the issue.

Pub heritage is also a part of the PPO role! The PPO should be aware of local pubs with historic or heritage interest to the community and take steps to help protect and promote interest in them.

There are currently 87 pubs in Sunderland & South Tyneside we class as “heritage” due to being in the CAMRA National Inventory of Historic Interiors, or Historic England Grade 2 listed, or within a local “conservation area” or “locally listed” by the community!

The PPO works with CAMRA’s national planning officer and Pub Heritage Group (PHG) as well as other individuals and groups interested in pub



protection and heritage.

So what’s going on at the moment? In South Tyneside we continue to press the planning enforcement team to resolve an issue with **The Queen Vic (above)** which was converted to a shop and dance studio without any planning permission.

Continued

PUB PROTECTION AND PUB HERITAGE contd

Kirkpatrick's remains under observation. Our original report to enforcement that the venue (grade 2 listed) appeared to be under conversion without planning permission was closed after enforcement failed to find evidence of any conversion activity!! We've objected to the planned demolition of **The Simonside Arms**. The application makes no attempt to demonstrate the premises' unviability as a pub and contains factual errors.

In Sunderland we have objected to an application to demolish **The Cavalier**. (below) Again the application made no



attempt to demonstrate the premises' unviability as a pub. This application recently went to the planning committee and received some publicity in the local press.

Unfortunately all the above cases have no support to keep the pub within the local community and without any it is doubtful attempts by CAMRA alone will succeed.

The alternative is a recent case: CAMRA objected to an application to turn a local pub into a restaurant. This time members of the local community also objected to loss of the pub and as a result the developer made claim the CoU was "accidental" and agreed (if the objections were removed) to maintain

the venue as a pub. The premises' is currently open as a pub.

Recently SCC have run a consultation about demolishing **The Thorney Close**. There is no planning application at this stage but signs are that the local community don't want to lose their pub! So if the proposal continues any local campaign to oppose the development will be supported by CAMRA.

Heritage news are usually less gloomy! The current CAMRA book "*Heritage Pubs of the North East*" is undergoing a rewrite to a new edition which will actually be "*Heritage Pubs of Yorkshire and the North East*". The author, commissioned to produce the new book, Dave Gamston of PHG, has recently spent time in Sunderland and South Shields visiting the pubs to be featured. We had a debrief chat with Dave who was very impressed with all the national inventory pubs in question. STC recently invited nominations to be added to its "*Local List of Heritage Assets*" both CAMRA and local history groups nominated 13 pubs between us that have now been added.

In May CAMRA HQ asked branches to look at increasing their promotion of heritage pubs. As PPO I'm very pleased to see developments in this area. Our publications team lead, Ken Paul, is currently working on a "*Sunderland Heritage Pubs Trail*" booklet and we've already started discussing possibly working with other interested groups on a similar venture for South Tyneside. So watch this space!

If you're interested in any of this and want to get involved in pub protection or developing/promoting our heritage pubs get in touch at contact@sst.camra.org.uk

Ian Monteith Preston

MEMBERSHIP REPORT - JULY 2023

Here are the numbers, the figure in brackets is the last I reported :-

National 152,308 (152,511)
Sunderland & South Tyneside 561 (560)
Tyneside & Northumberland 1695 (1702)
Cleveland 656 (657)
Darlington 342 (342)
Durham 688 (690)

Overall the membership situation is slowly improving in that overall gains are coming, but slowly and the days of large losses month on month are hopefully a thing of the past.

New posters and membership forms (showing the new membership rates) will appear in pubs and clubs but each branch is only allowed a fairly small amount per order, so that could take several weeks to put them everywhere!

Meanwhile, please continue to tell your friends about us as we strive to get back to where we were pre-Covid.

Peter Tong, Membership Secretary

RNLI CHEQUE PRESENTATION

On Sunday 4th June 2023 a group of branch members assembled at the **Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)** in Roker Marina. They are our chosen festival charity and two cheques were presented. One was made up from unused beer tokens donated by the public at the festival, another from collections at The Mid Boldon Club. The total value was nearly £260.



Steve Drummond (left) and Ian Monteith Preston are pictured handing over the cheques to RNLI volunteers who had just returned from a training exercise.

PUB OF THE YEAR JUDGING 8th JULY 2023

The Regional Pub of the Year Judging trip this year took in four pubs. **Quakerhouse** Darlington, **Golden Smog** Stockton, **The Grey Horse** Consett and **The Microbus**, Gateshead. 14 branch members had the arduous but envious task of judging. Note we don't judge our own entry into this competition, The Marine, South Shields. These are some images of the day.

Quakerhouse :-



Golden Smog :-



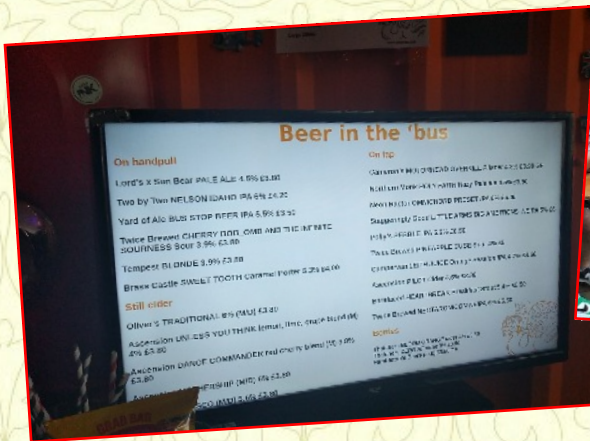
Grey Horse :-



Continued

PUB OF THE YEAR JUDGING 8th JULY 2023 contd

Microbus



TAKEN BY MICROBUS OWNER

Tipsy Turtle

We arrived at the Golden Smog before it opened so we all piled into the **Tipsy Turtle**, another Stockton micropub which was on the other side of the street.



The scores from our judging go forward and are added to the scores from the judges of Cleveland, Darlington, Durham and Tyneside/Northumberland CAMRA to determine the overall "North East Pub of the Year". The other branches will be judging our branch POTY, The Marine at some point, if they haven't done so already..

Information on the judging process can be found here

<https://www1-camra.s3.eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/30093215/POTY-Procedure-March-2023.pdf>

Thanks to Terry Ford for taking most of the photos, Ian Monteith Preston for organising the day and collating the scores, and to Karl, our driver for the day.

THE ENGINE ROOM SUNDERLAND

The Engine Room is inside the cultural venue in the old Fire Station on High Street West in between Pub Culture's other city centre outlets; the Peacock and Dun Cow. The Engine Room is more food orientated, so I have not visited as often as the other two.

Much of the interior of the old fire station has been incorporated into the design of the pub, My Dad used to be in the Auxiliary Fire Service and he told me he has not been inside for nearly 70 years. It is now open for lunch every day, so we went for lunch on a Tuesday afternoon. It is probably best to try and avoid days when there are matinee performances at the Empire Theatre.

There is a lunch and a sandwich menu, as well as a separate Sunday lunch menu. From the sandwich menu, I went for the slow cooked brisket on focaccia with wholegrain mustard mayonnaise and my Dad went for ham and peas pudding on a white bloomer. Both came with seasoned fries.



Service was quite speedy and the brisket was very tender and complemented by the mustard mayo. The fries too were very good, but as is often the case, the portion was a little too much.

Two cask beers were available: Maxim Nectar and Allendale Pennine Pale. I settled on the Nectar. I scored the beer as very good on *WhatPub*.

The cost for us was £28.10, with my pint coming to £4.60. I plan a further visit coming on. You can find menus and booking information here

www.pubculture.com/engineerom/

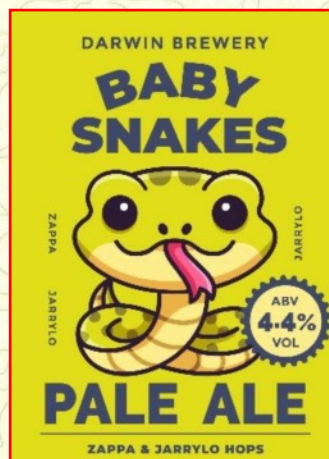
Michael Wynne

DARWIN BREWERY NEWS

The core range of beers: Beagle Blonde, Evolution, Rolling Hitch, Expedition and Chocolate and Vanilla Stout is regularly available, and is complemented by one off brews.

The most recent are Baby Snakes brewed with Zappa and Jarrylo hops, and lastly Don Carlos brewed with Calypso and Centennial hops. Both beers are 4.4% pale ales.

Michael Wynne



1st AUGUST - D DAY

From 1st August The Government are introducing new rates and a new method for calculating beer and cider duty. Currently small breweries pay half rate duty on beers between 2.9% and 7.4% then pay the full duty on beers 7.5% and over. This rate is the same for cask, keg, bottle or can. A new sliding scale will come into force based on a previous year's output.

There will be a reduction in duty on cask/keg 3.4 % or under beers, ciders and perrys. Depending on output the rate will go up or down for beers and ciders in the range 3.5% to 8.4%. For 8.5% or above, duty will increase. Brewers annual output (in hectolitres of pure alcohol is multiplied by the average ABV of the brewery. This then results in a duty rate per brewery. So Maxim Brewery have calculated that prices will have to rise slightly, while Durham Brewery, being smaller will pay less duty fir their mid range beers.

Maxim have no plans to introduce a lower rate of beer. Durham Brewery however are planning a 3.4% pale ale to take advantage of the new rate. They have no plans to reduce their Temptation Imperial Russian Stout (10%) So that's good, except it will cost more !.

Will we see any price reductions ? I have a feeling not.

Unfortunately, the new legislation underpinning the new system bans any sales from draught duty-paid containers for consumption off the premises, which includes beer festivals. Therefore from 1 August it will be an offence for festivals to decant from a draught duty-paid container into another container for consumption offsite.

CAMRA have sent out an instruction for festivals to stop all draught takeouts (paid for free) until clarification is sought, perhaps in time for our festival. Takeaway sales of bottled and canned beers and ciders can continue as normal, provided the premises and any specific events licence allows sales for consumption off the premises. The bottled or canned beers and ciders must have been bought for the festival packaged as such, and not decanted from a draught-duty paid container. There is scope in the law to pay full duty rate on draft products to allow for decanting of draught beer/cider for off sales, however until we can fully assess the situation all takeouts of draught beer and cider at CAMRA events will not be allowed.

This also applies to customers decanting draught duty paid beer or cider from a glass to a bottle or other sealable container such as a growler. It is the licensee's and Festival Organisers responsibility to ensure this does not happen.

The CAMRA Campaigns Team, along with our campaigning committees and network of Public Affairs Officers will continue to campaign for changes to the new legislation. CAMRA have stated that appropriate literature will be available to be displayed at our festival.

There is more to read on this in the Branch Memos section of the CAMRA website.

https://camra.org.uk/volunteers-area/branch-resources/memos/?utm_source=sendinblue

OUSEBURN OUTING

The outing began with a metro train adventure to Byker station, From there it was a straight walk for about 10-15 minutes through the multi coloured homes and onto Walker Road, Our initial selection - Tyne Bank Brewery was closed to the public; they were only doing bookings for parties However, a very helpful gentlemen with a beer trailer suggested a new bar which we noted



After Full Circle we sought out a new bar, from earlier tip off. In St Michael's Row, it's call **The Grove**. We had made it to Byker Grove! Not the TV youth club of yesteryears but a fabulous multi level events bar. It had only opened in the spring with a pop up BBQ and courtyard - perfect for our summer afternoon. The beers were Titanic Plum Porter and

Two By Two Snake Eyes – (the latter's brewery tap was our next destination coincidentally) . There was a DJ in residence at the Grove (below) and



We were happy to take a short walk west to the **Full Circle Brewery** in Hoult's Yard (above) , just off Walker Road. I had Kiburi Session Stout - a perfect balance between coffee and chocolate. Divine! Bark side of the moon for my husband and yes, that's spelt right! Full Circle regularly has a quiz and a running club as well as the brewery tours. 11/10 for toilets, trendy staff and pizza made fresh to demand! Midas Touch was next ; more coffee in a Porter My significant other had Rotator, a hazy pale ale.

a live music room as well as a rooftop to enjoy. With blue skies and great beer the place had great atmosphere! Next up was Stone Never-ending Haze for my other half and a watermelon and mint by Schofferhofer for myself. With the band all warmed up , live music ensued.

Continued

OUSEBURN OUTING (continued)



TYNESIDE & NORTHUMBERLAND CAMRA

Our next stop - above - was only a few minutes walk away to Albion Row for the **Two By Two brewery tap** with a pop up pizza van - Trigo on the day of our visit, MnM's Porter had just gone off but Signature Porter was on its way to redeem the situation. Hubby was spoilt for choice for hazy beers. This place has a cracking bar and a sun trapped courtyard – it was scorching



KEN PAUL

By now it was time for a food stop – the excellent locally sourced food menu at **Brinkburn St Brewery**. I had a Take a Walk on the Dark Side stout and my partner in crime had a Cushty NEIPA. Geordie Pagoda was next for me - a mango and coconut concoction ; with a Raspberry Imperial Stout at 10%+ so a teeny tiny 1/6th tankard sufficed. There was garden seating available here too but it was an indoor stop at this one for us.

Heading along the revellers filled Quayside to the city for our return journey home, we bypassed the Tyne Bank, Free Trade, Head of Steam and Newcastle Arms in favour of a sun kissed sobering mile long walk to **Brewdog** (below).



Ace of Spades milk stout and a Hazy Jane Guava welcomed us. Still a super warm summer night at 24°.

It would be rude not to mention the Four Quarters on the same Dean Street bank, a basement bottle shop multi roomed venue with a vast selection of arcades and games from your childhood, or indeed the Newcastle Tap, opposite the Central station, which is consistently ace for beer selection however we will have to call it a day. About 7 miles and as many hours outing.

Mena Fernandez

Photos by Mena unless stated

PUBLIC TRANSPORT NEWS

The £2 bus fare cap to encourage bus use has been extended again, this time running up to 31st October 2023. Thereafter the cap will rise to £2.50 till November 2024. Sounds like good news? The problem is that councils are reporting that they do not have enough in their budget to support the English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS) ; ie Free Bus passes , but are legally obliged to do so.

A couple of our local bus companies have since announced some cuts in services such as reductions in frequencies or curtailing evening services. Stagecoach North East, covering South Shields and Sunderland have carried out some service frequency reductions. They are all detailed here.:-

South Tyneside :-

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/regional-service-updates/north-east/south-shields>

Sunderland :-

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/regional-service-updates/north-east/sunderland#>

Arriva have reduced some service frequencies, although our branch is much less affected - there are only two services that run from Sunderland Park

Lane to Ryhope and beyond ; they are reduced to hourly each.



Next some better news. Nexus are still taking delivery of the new Stadler trains and have been carrying out night time testing for a few weeks. The early hours of July 1st saw the first test train run on



the Sunderland line. Thanks to Michael Page for this photo at the depot.

Ken Paul

PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Some useful contact details for Metro and local bus services.

Arriva - 0344 800 44 11	www.arrivabus.co.uk /north-east/
Go North East - 0191 420 5050	https://www.gonortheast.co.uk/services
Nexus (Metro & Buses) - 0191 2020747	www.nexus.org.uk/
Stagecoach - 0191 566 0231	www.stagecoachbus.com/about/north-east
Traveline North East 0871 2002233	www.travelinenortheast.info

TRAVELLERS REST SKEEBY

This pub in Darlington CAMRA Branch is their first community pub. It reopened on May 26 2023 after being closed and derelict for 15 years. The pub is owned by 250 locals who raised £320000 to re-build it.

The pub is on the left as you travel through the village from Scotch Corner. There is a small car park at the front which is very tight for space. It was unclear at the time of my visit whether other spaces were available. If its mainly for resident use the the village is small enough for walking there.

On entering, the immediate smell of fresh wood and new carpets hits the nose. It hadn't been open that long and sense of



newness was evident. To the left is a small bar with three handpulls. Two were from Richmondshire Brewery and one from Mithril Ales; both breweries within ten miles of the pub. The beer quality of both pints I had was excellent. To the right on walking in is a large seating area which , when a chef is appointed (soon I'm told) will be the

main dining area. There is a staircase which leads up to a garden room, which has full length doors which lead onto some decking and a large an very



impressive garden. This garden can also be accessed from the bar area. A nice touch in the garden room is a pair of Laurel & Hardy statues on the window



sill.

The staff were both very friendly and we were made to feel very welcome. The pub has free wifi with possibly the longest password I have ever encountered. Ask at the bar, don't try and guess.

Ken Paul

MORE NEWS FROM NORTH YORKSHIRE.

Theakstons in Masham has collaborated with Newport based Tiny Rebel. The collaboration, involved a brewery-swap to invent each beer So Tiny Rebel brewed a new take of Theakston's Old Peculier to create Chocolate Old Peculier and Theakston's brewed their version of Cwtch to create Cwtch Gold.

A FRUSTATING DAY IN THE DALES

I didn't intend writing this but it is a cautionary tale of the state of pubs these days. A few weeks ago Look North featured The Bainbridge Screw. Based on the Archimedes screw principle, it is intended to generate power for over 40 homes :-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxY3jHLcyrC>

It is in the village of **Bainbridge** in Wensleydale, not far from Hawes. Thinking that would make a great day out I researched the Good Beer Guide and in the nearest village, **Askrigg**, two of the village pubs are in the guide ; **The Crown** and **The King's Arms**. The village was used for external scenes in the original TV series of All Creatures Great and Small. The latter pub featured as The Drovers Arms on TV. So that seemed to me another reason to visit.

We set off one Wednesday at the beginning of the month and arrived in Bainbridge, with both of us needing the loo. The only pub was closed that afternoon. Luckily there was a tea room so we shared a pot of tea and made use of the facilities. The screw wasn't working as the river level was too low. So we then took the five minute drive to



Askrigg. Whatpub had indicated that The King's Arms was closed on Wednesday but the Crown was open. Wrong ! We drove to the village car park near the pub and saw a sign on the door as we passed. Parking

up, we walked to The Crown - it was closed !.



So we trudged down to the Kings Head (left) . Although the main door was open this led to a courtyard and a

notice on the bar door at the end said, closed till 5pm (it was now 3pm). Directly opposite was a third pub, which didn't open till 5.30pm.

Muttering "sod this" , or something a bit stronger, we set off for a walk along a stream to take in some views of the dales, then headed back to the car, and home. On our drive, ironically we passed the open Travellers Rest (see page). Their car park was full however. .

When we got home I filled in Whatpub feedback forms for each pub and the CAMRA Whatpub Coordinator for North West Yorkshire got back to me expressing his frustration at keeping country pub hours up to date. This will be especially the case for the 2025 Good Beer Guide when opening hours will return, as agreed at the CAMRA AGM. An impossible task.

A final thought. The only refreshment venues open in each village were the tea shops, which were kept busy. So why hadn't the landlords of the three pubs in Askrigg (and Bainbridge for that matter) got together and agreed an opening time schedule so at least one pub was open on a particular lunch time or day? Would at least have encouraged more tourism.

End of rant. **Ken Paul**

PUB QUIZ (answers on page 25)

- 1 What is the capital of North Korea?
- 2 Mount Kosciuszko is the highest mountain in which country ?
- 3 Little Rock is the capital of which US State?
- 4 In which year did Carole King have a hit with "Its Too Late"
- 5 And name the album it came from
- 6 What is the day after Mardi Gras (Shrove Tuesday) called ?
- 7 Name the actor who played the title role in The Curious Case of Benjamin Button ?
- 8 Inhabited since app 2500 BC, what is the oldest capital city in the world ?
- 9 Mud had a hit with the best selling single of 1974. Name it
- 10 Transport :- what does the initials ENCTS stand for ?
- 11 Billy Bremner was captain of the Scotland team at the 1974 World Cup and of which league team from 1966-76?
- 12 What is the longest side of a right angled triangle called ?
- 13 Mount Ida is the highest peak on which Greek island?
- 14 On which Scottish Island is Fingal's Cave?
- 15 In which county are the towns of Braintree, Billericay and Brentwood?
- 16 What does ESB, one of Fullers beers, stand for ?
- 17 The process of separating the wort from the solid remains of the mash is called what ?.
- 18 Lone Star Is The Official Beer Of Which U.S. State ?
- 19 Which beer brand is featured in The Simpsons?
- 20 In which town is this pub?



PUB QUIZ ANSWERS

1	Pyongyang
2	Australia
3	Arkansas
4	1971
5	Tapestry
6	Ash Wednesday
7	Brad Pitt
8	Damascus
9	Tiger Feet
10	English National Concessionary Travel Scheme
11	Leeds United
12	Hypotenuse
13	Crete
14	Staffa
15	Essex
16	Extra Special Bitter
17	Lautering
18	Texas
19	Duff Beer
20	Morpeth

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