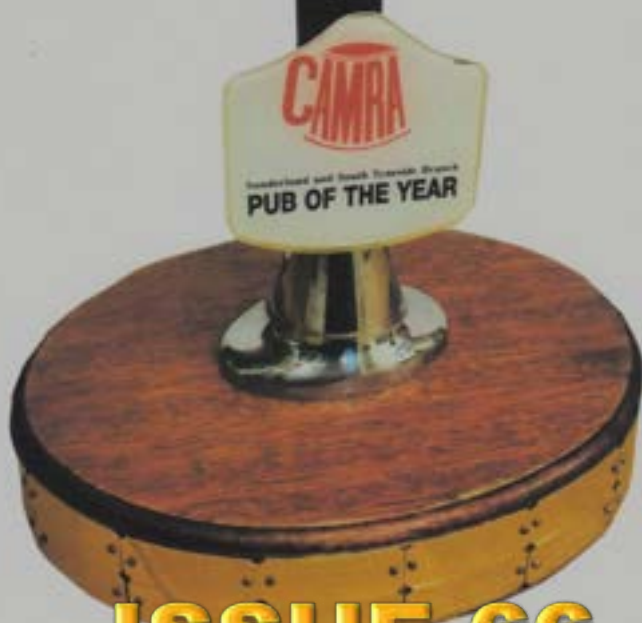




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# **CAMRA ANGLE SPRING 2024**



## **ISSUE 66**

## **FREE**

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## WELCOME TO THIS EDITION OF CAMRA ANGLE.

**On the front cover is our Pub of the Year Trophy.** The middle pages are taken up by our Pub and Club of the Year results.

At the end of January this year the Branch invited South Shields MP Emma Lewell-Buck to a lobbying meeting in The Marine. She kindly agreed to write an article, in what is a first for CAMRA Angle, about her private members bill working its way through Parliament. See pages 12 and 13 for more.

Also featured is a report from The Great British Beer Festival Winter, where your reporter had a good day out ! In the last issue, we featured an article about The Avenue in Sunderland. The owner was suitably impressed, as he asked for an A3 version, which now hangs framed next to the bar. This issue featured pubs are The Alum Ale House and, in the Tyneside & Northumberland Branch, the Ravensworth Arms. We also go back in time to remember The Westoe Brewery.

Let's not forget our chosen charity , the RNLI, who were presented with a cheque with proceeds from our Beer and Cider Festival. The usual pub, brewery and heritage news rounds off another packed issue.

This and previous issues along with CAMRA Angle Online can be found here :-

[https://sst.camra.org.uk/wordpress/?page\\_id=47](https://sst.camra.org.uk/wordpress/?page_id=47)

**Cover photo by Peter Tong.**

**Enjoy the read - Ken Paul**

**Contributors** :- Terry Ford, Emma Lewell-Buck, Mo Moseley, Ken Paul, Steve Thompson, Peter Tong, The Wandering Bear, Michael Wynne.  
All photographs are by the editor unless stated.

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**CONTRIBUTIONS** are welcome and can be sent to :- [magazine01@sst.camra.org.uk](mailto:magazine01@sst.camra.org.uk)

**BRANCH CONTACTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 27**

### ADVERTISING IN CAMRA ANGLE

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## DIARY DATES

### MARCH 2024

<b>Maxim Open Night</b>	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March 5pm -10pm Maxim Brewery, Gladwell Rd, Rainton Bridge, Houghton, DH4 5NL
<b>Brewlab Taproom Open</b>	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2pm- 8pm. Brewlab, Unit 1 West Quay Court, Sunderland Enterprise Park SR5 2TE
<b>Branch Meeting</b>	Wednesday March 20 <sup>th</sup> 8pm Blue's Micro Pub, 1a Percy Ter, Whitburn, Sunderland SR6 7EW
<b>Brewlab Beer &amp; Cheese Pairing Evening</b>	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March. Address as March 8 <sup>th</sup> above

### APRIL 2024

<b>Maxim Open Night</b>	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April Details as per March
<b>Newcastle Beer &amp; Cider Festival</b>	See poster on opposite page
<b>CAMRA Weekend AGM &amp; Conference</b>	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> April, Dundee

### May 2024

<b>Maxim Open Night</b>	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May Details as per March
<b>Gateshead Rugby Club Beer Festival &amp; SIBA North East Regional competition.</b>	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May . <a href="https://www.gatesheadbeerfestival.co.uk/">https://www.gatesheadbeerfestival.co.uk/</a>

Look out for announcements on social media or our online **FUTURE EVENTS** page  
[https://sst.camra.org.uk/wordpress/?page\\_id=42](https://sst.camra.org.uk/wordpress/?page_id=42)

**The Branch would like to thank The Avenue, Sunderland for hosting our last branch meeting and The Marine South Shields for hosting our Meet The MP event**



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## Jarrow

Pub group Amber Taverns have submitted plans to South Tyneside Council for a new pub in Jarrow Town Centre. If approved, it will be part of the Viking Shopping Centre on Grange Road. Nearby is The Ben Lomond pub and Jarrow Bus and Metro Station.

## South Shields.

**The Steamboat** added another award to it's ever growing collection. This time it's the Society for the Preservation of Beers from the Wood North East Pub of the Year 2023.



*Kath Brain with her award.  
Photo by Peter Tong*

There has been a spate of pub closures in the town. All non real pubs, they are Chichester Arms, The White Horse ( Marsden) and Platform 33. Not far from the latter, Bar 52 in The Sea Hotel has reopened as the Adham Bar. Just up from there on Ocean Road there are

signs of life inside Kirkpatrick's.

## Sunderland



*Photo by Terry Ford*

**The Kings Arms**, Deptford (above) has been taken over by the team that run the nearby Ship Isis. It briefly opened for the Xmas and New Year festivities, then closed for essential maintenance then reopened on 14<sup>th</sup> February. Opening times and contact details are available on Whatpub.

The pub features in CAMRA'S Best Real Heritage Pubs. <https://pubheritage.camra.org.uk/pubs/3031>

In December 2023 **The Lighthouse**, below, held a



RNLI Fundraiser, raising £244 from a raffle and £316.50 from a blind auction; a total of £560.50.

For more news about the RNLI, see page 16

As briefly mentioned in the last issue of CAMRA Angle, **The Keel Tavern**, opened in November in the City Centre. Of the six real ales the house beer is Wylam Keel Gold.

Next to the Keel Tavern is a new venue, The Botanist. There is no real ale. Also in the City Centre, former real ale pub Yates has rebranded as the Barge & Barrel.

## Washington



**The Courtyard** is getting a new courtyard, with block paving being laid. The plan is to complete the work in time for their Easter Beer Festival. Real ale is back on at the **Wearside Farm** near the Nissan factory. There are two handpulls at this Farmhouse Inns pub, both with Greene King IPA pump clips at the time of a visit in early January this year.

If you have any pub news to share please contact Ken Paul :- [pubsofficer@sst.camra.org.uk](mailto:pubsofficer@sst.camra.org.uk)



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[keeltavernsunderland](https://www.instagram.com/keeltavernsunderland)

# Brewery News

## Reports by Branch Brewery Liaison Officers

### Brewlab

Phil Douglas, Training Manager at Brewlab, attended our January branch meeting at The Avenue to talk to us about new events planned for this year:

“Following the successful launch of Brewlab Brews (BB) Taproom last year, we’re looking forward to brewing even more beer in 2024 and keeping the open dates regular! WE thank you so much for your continued support.

An exciting new edition to the taproom is ‘**Brewlab Brews Presents**’ that will form part of the mid- month taproom opening. We’ll be arranging a variety of talks and specialist activities all focused on craft beer. They’ll range from talks about the brewing process to experimenting with different beer and food pairings. Drawing on exclusive materials used on Brewlab’s internationally recognised training, we’ll give you an insight into the life a brewer, and as a professional taster!”

The first ‘**BB Presents**’ was held on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February where our master brewer Phil spoke about his award-winning career as a professional brewer and life in the craft brew industry, sharing his thoughts about beer styles and an insight

into the Brewlab Brews recipes”.

Further Taproom events have been announced for **Friday 8 March and Friday 22 March**. The latter date will also be the second BB Presents event where the subject will be beer and cheese pairing. You can keep up-to-date with events at Brewlab at [www.brewlab.co.uk](http://www.brewlab.co.uk) or by following them on Facebook and Instagram. At the first Taproom event of the year, three new cask ales were available: Northern Nectar a 4.2% honey beer, Oaty; a 4.2% oat stout and Picky Pale; a 3.9% pale ale. The two keg offerings were BB Pilsner and Spire Session Pale.

*1 West Quay Court,  
Sunderland Enterprise Park  
Sunderland SR5 2TE*

### Maxim Brewery

Seasonal beers that appeared in January were Maverick, a 4.6% American style brown ale and Stampede, an Amarillo hopped 3.8% pale ale. Also available was a new 4.3% pale ale called Cashmere. This is not named after a jumper, but the hops that it brewed with. It was available at their February bar night, as was the return of Sour Cherry and Chocolate Stout. New for March will be NZ Hop

Revolution, a 4.4&5 Pale Ale and Eclipse, a 4.6% Dark Ale.

A one off Beer From The Wood in the form of Swedish Blonde was produced for The Steamboat in South Shields. One branch member commented that it was superb. ( See Pub News page 6)

Their call and collect drive thru continues (0191 5848844) and the popular open nights continue in 2024 - the first Friday of every month from 5pm-10pm.

*1 Gladwell Road, Rainton  
Bridge, Houghton le Spring  
DH4 5NL*

### Vaux Brewery

In 2022 the brewery received planning permission to turn the shelter on Roker Beach into a bar. (Pictured below)



The Sunderland Echo reported just before Christmas that work had finally started, ready for Summer 2024 opening.

**Continued**

## Brewery News continued

The next cask ale at the Vaux Taproom will be another one from their key keg range, Citra. This is a 5.3% pale ale featuring, obviously, Citra hops. Looking ahead there will be a two day event at the Old Fire Station in High Street West, Sunderland on **the last Friday and Saturday in July**. Full details in the next issue.

*Monk Street  
Sunderland North  
Sunderland  
SR6 0DB*

### **Wear Beer**

Now that the core beers have been established, the brewery will start pushing on one-off beers in 2024. A new 4.6% Hazy Pale has just been released. Its brewed with Centennial and Styrian Wolf hops. A collaboration was planned for February with Alnwick and Darwin Breweries. A traditional IPA will be available in March.

*26 Silksworth Row  
Sunderland  
SR1 3QJ*

**Lazy Lizard** are currently not brewing

*38 Front Street Cleadon  
Sunderland*

### **Other Brewery News .**

**North Pier Brewery**, based in Tow Law, County Durham announced on social media that they had been searching for premises in Sunderland and have been successful.

More news as it happens.

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

Michael Wynne - <a href="mailto:brewlabBLO@sst.camra.org.uk">brewlabBLO@sst.camra.org.uk</a>	Mo Moseley- <a href="mailto:vauxBLO@sst.camra.org.uk">vauxBLO@sst.camra.org.uk</a>
Neil Walters- <a href="mailto:lazylizardBLO@sst.camra.org.uk">lazylizardBLO@sst.camra.org.uk</a>	Steve Thompson <a href="mailto:wearbeerBLO@sst.camra.org.uk">wearbeerBLO@sst.camra.org.uk</a>
Ken Paul - <a href="mailto:maximBLO@sst.camra.org.uk">maximBLO@sst.camra.org.uk</a>	

## **Brewery Bus News from Michael Wynne**

### **Brewlab**

The settling of the dispute involving Go Northeast (GNE) and their drivers and the extended running of service 8 between Sunderland, Washington, Chester-le-Street and Stanley makes the events at Brewlab easier to access.

### **Maxim**

From the end of January GNE reinstated the faster X20 service from Sunderland to Durham via Houghton and Rainton Bridge This makes for easier access to Maxim Brewery for their open evenings.

Although the X20 runs Monday to Saturday daytimes only, a new service 20A links Maxim with Sunderland, Houghton and Durham with an hourly service that runs very late into the evening with the last bus to Sunderland departing midnight AND THE LAST BUS TO Durham leaves 23:04.

**As the £2 maximum fare** is extended to at least 30 June, why not give these a try. Full timetables can be found on the Nexus website, Go Northeast website, and app. Contact information for all public transport operators in our branch can be found on page 21.

# All Aboard The Alum Ale House - In Memory of Leyanne Dean

Words and Pictures by Peter Tong.

**It might be raining outside** today in South Shields, but inside the Alum Ale House the pub is warm and cosy and as I look out onto the River Tyne, my view is restricted by a long line of hand pulls and an extremely tidy bar which appears to have every single drink that you'd ever need including 12 Real Ales and a grand selection



pub closed and became a drawing office for Tyne Engineering. The Home Guard (Don't tell 'em Pike) was based here during the

Dean and his wife Leyanne came here in 2010. They had run pubs in the area, including The New Mill, Rosie Malones (now the Address) and the Cannon in Low Fell and those all at the same

time! Leyanne's Mum, also very much in the licensed trade ran the Brigantine and The Commando and she told Jeff and Leyanne to take on the Alum.

Jeff, definitely a workaholic but loving the licensed trade, (I can see that) , has worked at Nissan since 1988. He's an inspector, so I reckoned he's be good at spotting a good pint! I get the feeling that Leyanne and Jeff worked well together, she front of house and he beer inspecting and doing whatever had to be done to keep the cash till ringing and the drinkers happy!

But as things were going well came sadness. Leyanne became ill and

passed away in June 2018. Leyanne asked Jeff to promise him that he'd give the pub at least a year and that's what he's done.

"It's all about team work," says Jeff, "ten

**Continued**



at that.

It is a traditional pub with a cracking outdoor area with spectacular views along the Tyne which is rammed when the weather is warm.

The Alum Ale House, made me think back 324 years when this was the oldest licensed building in South Shields. At one point it was owned by the Wood brewing family for over 100 years. Sadly in 1937 the

war, and amongst other stuff it sold furniture in the 1980's.

In 1989 Vaux reopened the pub and here it is. Jeff



From left to right :-  
Jamie, Milly, Jeff Dean, Evie, Jess, Rose

staff and I are in this together and I'm very lucky, I do have a great bunch here" and there is no doubt in my mind chatting to Jeff, that Leyanne would be very happy to see what's been achieved.

Jeff tells me that they hold an Irish Night on the 1st Sunday of the month and a Cheese and Wine afternoon on the 1st Tuesday and are busy, although he fully



understands that you can't take your eye off things these days, as, with

soaring costs the licensed trade has been hit hard.

Retirement from Nissan beckons and plans are afoot to turn upstairs into a Steak and Ale House, "a proper one" Jeff says.

Having been runner up in the Marston's pub of the year in 2023 (out of 18,000) the future seems extremely bright. Like me, give the Alum Ale House a try, you won't be disappointed.

**More Information:- Alum Ale House**, River Drive, South Shields NE33 1JR Two minutes walk from The Shields Ferry Landing and seven minutes to Bus and Metro Interchange.

The pub is a Grade II listed building ; - for more go to the Historic England website - <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1232320?section=official-list-entry>  
 Whatpub entry :- <https://whatpub.com/pubs/SUN/6023/alum-ale-house-south-shields>

## Branch Locale

**CAMRA LOCALE** promotes pubs stocking locally brewed ale in order to reduce the number of beer miles from brewery to cellar. Below is a list of those in our branch that sell beer brewed in Northumberland, Tyne & Wear and County Durham. If you have any updates please email the branch Pubs Officer, [sst.pubsofficer@gmail.com](mailto:sst.pubsofficer@gmail.com).

Cleaddon - Stables	South Shields	Sunderland Centre
<b>East Boldon</b>	Alum Ale House	Ship Isis
Boldon Cricket Club	Cask Lounge	Peacock
Grey Horse	Maltings	<b>Sunderland North</b>
Mid Boldon Club	Marine	Avenue
<b>East Rainton &amp; Houghton</b>	Steamboat	Blue Bell
Copt Hill Inn	Wouldhave	Brewlab
Highfield Hotel (E. Rainton)	<b>Sunderland Centre</b>	Grannie Annies
Houghton Rugby Club	Chaplins	Lighthouse
Maxim Brewery	Chesters	Promenade
White Lion	Cooper Rose	Vaux Brewery & Taphouse
Wild Boar	Dun Cow	<b>Washington</b>
<b>Hebburn - Lord Nelson</b>	Fitzgeralds	Courtyard
<b>Herringtons &amp; Doxford Pk</b>	Keel Tavern <b>NEW</b>	Sir William de Wessington
Board Inn	Kings Arms	Steps
Prior (Doxford Park)	Ivy House	Washington Arms
<b>Ryhope- Guide Post</b>	Museum Vaults	<b>West Boldon- Black Horse</b>

# Campaigning - Lobbying Meeting with Emma Lewell-Buck, MP for South Shields

*Michael Wynne reports.*

**On Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024** we held an event with the Member of Parliament for South Shields, Emma Lewell-Buck at our newly announced pub of the year, The Marine. We used the meeting to raise matters about brewing and pubs that we as a CAMRA branch are concerned about.

We were not looking for promises or commitments from our representative should there be a change of Government.

The matters raised were:

- Emma's Private Members Bill on pub opening hours. You can read more opposite.
- Protection for pubs in the planning system.
- Support for pubs and breweries from higher energy and rental costs
- Further duty relief for pubs on draught beer.
- Long- term solution to the high-level business rates.
- Issues surrounding the Pubs Code.
- Public transport and going to the pub.
- Ending of draught beer takeaways from pubs.

This was the first time we had arranged a meet the MP event and those who took part, pictured below , felt it was a good meeting. We will look at further events, ideally with some of our other MP's.

Thanks to Emma for agreeing to meet with us, to Peter Tong for making the arrangements and finally to Alex Chandler of the Marine for hosting the meeting and the unexpected snacks.

*Thanks to Michael for chairing the meeting.*



***From left to right :- Michael Page, Ian and Fiona Monteith Preston, Mark Callaghan, Peter Tong, Emma Lewell-Buck MP, Michael Wynne, Sid Dobson, Will Drennan and Mo Moseley. Photo by Robin Sanderson.***

# Licensing Hours Extensions Bill

By Emma Lewell-Buck MP

In January 2024 my Licensing Hours Extension Bill moved another step closer to becoming an Act of Parliament, passing its second reading. The Bill will ensure that we never again have a situation like last summer where many pubs weren't able to open earlier for us to show support for our Lionesses in the world cup final.

As readers may know our pubs and other licensed venues can only extend their opening hours by either individually applying to the local council at a cost of £21 and waiting up to five days at a minimum or having the Government issuing blanket relaxations for all premises.

The Government can only do this when Parliament is sitting, and



Photo By Robin Sanderson

best practice is for the Home Secretary to complete a public consultation and debate in both the House of Commons and Lords. This can take up to six months.

Under my legislation the Government would no longer have to go through this long process and Parliament would not need to be sitting. Instead, a Minister will have the power to grant blanket license extensions after brief

consultation with the relevant bodies.

I know how much the hospitality industry contributes to our economy and how hard those in the industry work, I worked in it myself. Many are still struggling recover after the pandemic where it is estimated in 2020 that £200 million was lost every single day.

I know my Bill won't solve all the problems facing the industry, the VAT hospitality rate needs to be cut to 12.5% and business rates need an urgent review.

But it is something the industry has long been asking for, and if approved it will ensure that our locals, the beating heart of our community, are always able to welcome us through their doors at times of national celebration.

## CAMRA Calls on Government Support

<https://camra.org.uk/about/media-centre/press-releases/>

Adapted from a Press Release by CAMRA on February 12<sup>th</sup> 2024

To hear that Elland Brewery is facing liquidation just six months after their 1872 Porter was crowned CAMRA's Champion Beer of Britain 2023 is a major cause for concern. This, coupled with the reports that Adnams is exploring options to shore up its finances is a one-two punch at the heart of the UK brewing industry. The news raises the issue of fair competition, access to market and consumer choice. CAMRA does not want any brewery or cider producer to close for good, The news that two prestigious, award-winning breweries are both facing pressure to remain trading and survive is indicative of the wider problems the brewing and pub trade are experiencing. CAMRA is calling on the Government to increase Draught Relief to 20% from its current figure of 9.2% in the Chancellor's upcoming Budget.

CAMRA is encouraging everyone to email their MP's asking them to support the 'Make it 20%' campaign and call on the Government to show their support for pubs, social clubs, breweries and cider producers.

## And The Winner Is

# Sunderland & South Tyneside CAMRA Branch Pub and Club of the Year 2024

The results are as follows :-

### Pub of the Year :-

- 1st. **The Marine** South Shields
- 2nd. **The Steamboat** South Shields
- 3rd. **Cask Lounge** South Shields



*The Marine by Will Drennan*

### Club of the Year:-

- 1st. **Mid Boldon Club** East Boldon,
- 2nd. **Ashbrooke Sports Club**, Sunderland,
- 3rd. **Ryhope Catholic Club**



*Mid Boldon Club by Steve Drummond*

The winners now go forward to the next judging round later in 2024

### The Top Dozen Pubs for 2024 are :-

Position	Pub	Position in 2023/22/20/19/18
1 <sup>st</sup>	Marine, South Shields	1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Steamboat, South Shields	2 <sup>nd</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Cask Lounge, South Shields	5 <sup>th</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> - -
4 <sup>th</sup>	Dun Cow, Sunderland	4 <sup>th</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Fitzgeralds, Sunderland	3 <sup>rd</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Steps, Washington	- 7 <sup>th</sup> 11 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup>
7 <sup>th</sup>	Ship Isis, Sunderland	6 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup>
8 <sup>th</sup>	Blues Micro Pub, Whitburn	8 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> - - -
9 <sup>th</sup>	Avenue, Sunderland	11 <sup>th</sup> 10 <sup>th</sup> 6 <sup>th</sup> 8 <sup>th</sup> -
10 <sup>th</sup>	Harbour View, Sunderland	7 <sup>th</sup> 9 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup>
11 <sup>th</sup>	Guide Post, Ryhope	- - - - -
12 <sup>th</sup>	Peacock, Sunderland	- - - - -

Well done to all in the above list. With almost 80 “Real Ale” venues in the branch area it is an achievement to appear anywhere on this list.

**Our Cider Pubs** will be announced later, look out for news on social media.

Presentations for the winners will be announced in due course.



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*North Sea*

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SUNDAY 12 NOON-10.30PM

# RNLI Presentation - Roker

Ken Paul reports from Roker Marina ( and took the photo)

**Our Branch Beer and Cider Festival**, held in November 2023, again supported our local **Royal National Lifeboat Institute Branch** with a donation. As previously this was a mixture of beer token returns and cash donations.

The RNLI operate from Roker Marina, Sunderland doing vital work in the River Wear and the North Sea. The station have a training session every Sunday morning and so on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023 a small



*From left to right :- Peter Tong - Membership, Steve Drummond - Treasurer, Adam Stanton, Sarah Scrivenir, Adam Patterson, Lynn Dobson - Secretary*

contingent of branch members, wrapped up to keep warm, met at the Marina. **A cheque for £160** was presented to some of the crew by branch

treasurer Steve Drummond.

Below are the RNLI contact details if you wish to make a donation. Note if parking in the Marine Car Park register your car registration in the MAC office.

**See also pub news on page 6**

## Contact Information

Sunderland Lifeboat Station,  
Marine Activity Centre (MAC) ,  
North Dock,  
Sunderland SR6 0PW  
Tel 0191 5673536  
Email :-  
[Sunderland@rnli.org.uk](mailto:Sunderland@rnli.org.uk)

**THE AWARD WINNING MAXIM BREWERY**

*The home of Double Maxim*

DOUBLE MAXIM PREMIUM  
Swedish Blonde  
MAXIMUS  
SIBA  
BBI

## A look back at Westoe Brewery

*By Terry Ford and Ken Paul. Photos from Terry Ford*

**For just over 100 years** there was a brewery operating in South Shields called The Westoe Brewery. It was located in Dunelm Street which is just off Westoe Road and about five minutes walk from South Shields Town Hall. It is just outside the South Tyneside designated Westoe Village Conservation Area. The brewery dates from 1862.

A Robert Henderson first appeared in connection with the Westoe Brewery in 1887. In 1907 he sold the business to Joseph Johnson of The City Brewery in Durham. The two was amalgamated and the Durham brewery closed in 1924. After this, the name was changed to Westoe Breweries Ltd.

They had several pubs



in South Shields including the County Hotel, Vigilant and The Crown Inn (now the Harbour Lights). In

1960 Bradford based Hammonds Brewery acquired the brewery and its 83 tied houses. Then brewing ceased.

In 1962 Hammonds merged with Charrington's of East London. They in turn merged with Bass and Mitchells & Butlers to become Bass Charrington in 1967. The latter used the Westoe site as a bottling plant until the early 1970's when it closed. Planning permission was given to transform the area around the brewery into housing. No trace of the brewery remains.

The beers produced in South Shields included Dark Brown Ale and Extra Strong Ale. The latter could be seen on the side of the distinctive blue buses and trolleybuses of the town's Corporation Transport.

## Branch Heritage Pub Website

<https://heritagepubs.sst.camra.org.uk/>

The above article appears on our Heritage Pubs website along with a look at Westoe Conservation Area

[https://heritagepubs.sst.camra.org.uk/?page\\_id=11810](https://heritagepubs.sst.camra.org.uk/?page_id=11810).

There are several Conservation Areas in both South Tyneside and Sunderland Council Areas. The intention is to add

these Conservation Areas, that include pubs, to the website over the coming months. For the record there are 15 :-

### **South Tyneside**

Cleadon, East Boldon, Mill Dam, Monkton, West Boldon, Westoe and Whitburn

### **Sunderland**

Ashbrooke, Bishopwearmouth,

Houghton, Newbottle Village, Roker Park, Ryhope Village, Sunnyside and Washington Village.

If you wish to contribute or make suggestions for subject matter, please email

[admin.team@heritagepubs.sst.camra.org.uk](mailto:admin.team@heritagepubs.sst.camra.org.uk)

# CAMRA Angle - Suitably Framed

*Research by Ken Paul*

In the last issue of **CAMRA Angle** in December 2023 there was an article about **The Avenue** pub in Sunderland. The owner, Dave Graham, was so impressed he asked that the A5 one page article be converted to A3. This was duly done for him over Christmas. We held our January branch meeting there and hung proudly at the end of the bar was the neatly framed article (right)

This cast my mind back to only other time this has happened to the best of my knowledge. In 2015 my wife and I visited the North Lakes near Penrith and so I concocted an excuse to visit **The Old Crown** in Hesket Newmarket. The pub is famous for being the first co-operatively owned pub in the country, with Prince Charles having visited in



*Photo by the author*



*Old Crown Photo by Will Drennan*

2004 and Sir Chris Bonnington another supporter.

Having stood on the same carpet as the future king, there was enough material from the visit for a magazine article, which duly appeared in the Summer 2015 edition. Copies of this issue obviously made their way over the Pennines as the article was spotted framed, on the wall of the Old Crown in 2018 by visiting branch members Robin Sanderson and Will Drennan.

Both articles can be found online :-

<https://sst-arch.camra.org.uk/dl.php?id=206113> (Page 11)

<https://camraangle.sst.camra.org.uk/documents/lgsue40.pdf> (Page 18)

**The Inn Sign Society** . This group was founded in 1990 to raise awareness of the nations pub signs and to compile a record for future generations. Many pub names have links with past events or personalities and the Society provides a forum for members to research the history of inns and pub names.

Their website is [innsignsociety.com](https://innsignsociety.com).

Information provided includes a brief background to the top 20 used pub signs used in the country, as well an archive of their quarterly magazine. (Members only).

Even if not a member, this should encourage CAMRA members to take notice of signs when visiting pubs, as quite often they are just taken for granted



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<https://www.facebook.com/TheIvyHousePubSunderland>**



# Great British Beer Festival - Winter 2024

*Ken Paul was there, drank several beers,(thirds) wrote this and took the photos.*

**GBBF Winter**, as it is known, made a repeat visit to Burton Upon Trent Town Hall, having being staged there in 2023. It was held over three days from February 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>. There were 150 cask beers, 9 Key Keg beers and 36 ciders. All were gravity fed with not a handpull in sight. 50 of these cask beers were Champion Beer of Britain (CBOB) contenders and were judged as were part of a blind tasting session the evening before the first day.

Due to queuing and over crowding on the first day last year a timed ticketing system was introduced this year; afternoon and evening. The friends I met opted for the first of two sessions of the first day. More beer choice ! The Champion Beer winners were announced from the stage during our session. The only North East beers I could find were from Cullercoats Brewery



*Elland 1872 Porter - Hopefully not the last time*



## **Overall Winners:**

**Gold** - Sarah Hughes - Snowflake

**Joint Silver** Elland Brewery - 1872 Porter and Muirhouse brewery - Magnum Mild

## **Brown Ales, Red Ales, Old Ales and Strong Milds**

**Gold** Muirhouse brewery - Magnum Mild

## **Session Stouts and Porters**

**Gold** Lancaster Brewery - Lancaster Black  
**Bronze** Cullercoats Brewery - Polly Donkin  
**Oatmeal Stout**

## **Strong Stouts and Porters**

**Gold** Elland Brewery – 1872 Porter

## **Barley Wines and Strong Ales**

**Gold** Sarah Hughes Snowflake

## **Speciality, Differently Produced**

**Gold** - Chapter Brewing - Dead Man's Fist

## **Speciality, Differently Flavoured**

**Gold** Purple Moose Brewery Elderflower Ale

GBBF Winter started life as the National Winter Ales Festival in Glasgow in 1997. Since 1999 the event has been mostly held at the same venue for three years, then moved to another location.

Manchester, Burton ( same venue as this year) , Derby, Norwich and Birmingham have all been visited. The latter was only for one year (2020) due to the Covid pandemic.

I've been to 5 festivals so far. Twice in Manchester, Birmingham and Burton in 2023 and this year. The second Manchester event in 2014 was special in that it was held inside the indoor cycle track of the National Velodrome. Team GB Olympic cyclists were training and whizzing past while drinkers enjoyed their beers.



*Snowflake - The Overall Winner -*



THE STATION HOUSE,  
NORTH ROAD, DURHAM,  
DH1 4SE

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- SUN: 4PM - 10:30PM • TUES - THURS: 4PM - 10:30PM,

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REAL  
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CRAFT  
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WINES  
& SPIRITS



29B FRONT STREET,  
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OPENING TIMES:

- FRI: 2PM - 10:30PM • SAT: 12PM - 10:30PM,
- SUN: 2PM - 9PM • TUES - THURS: 4PM - 10:30PM,



# The Ravensworth Arms

*The Wandering Bear recalls a visit to Lamesley, and took the photo*

**On a lovely sunny day in mid March** the Wandering Bear took his family to the wonderful Ravensworth Arms in Lamesley, Gateshead. It's just off the A1 at the Team Valley I have very fond memories



of this place, as my now-wife and I would often come here during our early courtship. 14 years and two beautiful children later, we excitedly parked up and walked in. It is fair to say that not a lot had changed. The layout was the same, the décor had probably been freshened up but still retained its cosy, warm and welcoming feel and all the memories came flooding back.

Part of the Greene King chain, I opted for a pint of Old Speckled Hen swiftly followed by a pint of Greene King Yardbird Pale Ale. Food was the order of the day and it was a good job we got there when we did as it soon filled up with couples, families and groups eager to get their Sunday dinner.

We were lucky to get a space in the corner of the large, sprawling pub near the door. There are several seating areas as one area seamlessly moves into another. The Lewis Carroll

Function Suite is also available (more on that later).

The pub is child and dog friendly, and accommodation is also available; and I have to say that the bathrooms were immaculate. The service was exemplary and the walls and ceilings had beautiful old wooden beams.

The food menu is varied and very reasonably priced, and most importantly of all the beer was very well kept (even being topped up once it had settled, without prompting). A bonus is that 10% Camra discount is available and well advertised.

There is a large outside area, and a car park. Old photos of horses and men with/on horses adorn the walls. I can't say for certain that they were local, however, I suspect they were as this little corner of Gateshead is very rural. I obviously have a soft spot for this place, but regardless of that, I can't

recommend it enough for a visit.

So, back to Lewis Carroll...this pub takes its name from nearby Ravensworth Castle, which was home to the Liddell family for over 350 years. Alice Liddell

was the inspiration for Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Carroll stayed at The Ravensworth Arms when visiting the family. It is thought that he may have written parts of the book at the pub.

Also of note, parts of our region are often referred to as Cookson Country'(mainly around the Tyne Dock area of Jarrow / South Shields) where celebrated novelist Catherine Cookson set so many of her novels. Cookson's mother, Kate Fawcett, worked as a barmaid at The Ravensworth Arms

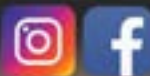
All in all, a wonderful historic pub with great food and fine ale, all reasonably priced and served with a smile. Perfect.

Ravensworth Arms  
Greenford Lane  
Lamesley  
NE11 0ER

<https://whatpub.com/pubs/TYN/4109/ravensworth-arms-lamesley>

07720 207553

# Alum Ale House



**07720 207553**



**alumalehouse22@gmail.com**



**50p off a pint of real ale !  
March 2024 - Monday to Thursday only  
Just present this tear off strip**

## CAMRA Discounts and Loyalty Cards

Branch pubs and clubs that offer either a discount scheme, loyalty card or accept CAMRA 50p vouchers. Loyalty cards are available to all regular customers, not just CAMRA members. If you have any updates please email:- [sst.pubsofficer@gmail.com](mailto:ssst.pubsofficer@gmail.com). For discounts, please show your Membership Card.

<b>East Boldon</b> - Grey House - 50p off voucher & loyalty card	<b>South Shields (contd)</b>	<b>Sunderland Centre (contd)</b>
<b>East Herrington</b> - Board Inn 50p off voucher	Wouldhave - 50p off voucher	Dun Cow - 10 % off
<b>Hebburn</b> - Longship - 10% discount & loyalty card.	<b>Sunderland North</b>	Keel Tavern - 10% discount <b>NEW</b>
<b>Houghton le Spring</b> - Wild Boar - 50p off voucher	Avenue - 20p off a pint	Peacock - 10% discount
<b>Ryhope</b> - Guide Post-loyalty card - buy 8 pints, get 1 free.	Blue Bell - 50p off voucher	Ship Isis - 20p off a pint.
<b>South Shields</b>	New Derby Ask about loyalty card	William Jameson - 50p off voucher
Alum Ale House - See advert on page 23. <b>NEW</b>	<b>Sunderland Centre</b>	<b>Washington</b>
Bamburgh - 10% discount	Chaplins - 10% disc & loyalty card	The Courtyard 10% discount
Fountain 10% discount	Chesters - 50p off voucher	Sir William de Wessyngton - 50p off Voucher
Maltings - 10% discount	Cooper Rose - 50p off voucher	Washington Arms - 50p off voucher
Marine - loyalty card		

### TRADING STANDARDS

If you have any complaint about your beer or cider, such as poor quality, short measures or no price list displayed, you should mention it to the pub management in the first instance. If you need to pursue the complaint further, we recommend contacting the local Trading Standards Office. Contact details are given below :-

<b>SOUTH TYNESIDE</b>	<a href="https://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/68067/Make-a-complaint">https://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/68067/Make-a-complaint</a>
<b>SUNDERLAND</b>	Citizens Advice consumer helpline: 0808 223 1133

### PUBLIC TRANSPORT INFORMATION

#### Some useful contact details for Tyne & Wear Metro and local bus services.

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

## Pub Quiz ( Answers on Page 27)

- 1 Edale in Derbyshire is at the southern end of which long distance footpath ?
- 2 In 2001 a Space Odyssey, what was the name and model of the computer ?
- 3 Which band had a hit with " A Brimful of Asha" in 1997 ?
- 4 Who starred as Inspector Clouseau in the film A Shot in the Dark ?
- 5 Windsor Davies played Battery Sergeant Major Williams in which TV sitcom ?
- 6 Name the mission in San Antonia Texas , the scene of a siege in 1836.
- 7 Cosmo Smallpiece was a character played by which comedian ?
- 8 Name either of the first two presenters of BBC's The One Show.
- 9 What is Canada's national summer sport ?
- 10 Who won the light heavyweight boxing gold at the 1960 Olympics under his original name ?
- 11 Who played Inspector Raymond Fowler in the sitcom, The Thin Blue Line ?
- 12 What was the former name of Radio 4 ?
- 13 How many attempts at getting a five letter word in Wordle ?
- 14 Name the town where Lewis Hamilton was born.
- 15 Which town's football team has the nickname The Terriers ?
- 16 When Bill Clinton was US President, who was his Vice President ?
- 17 Travelling due east from mouth of River Wear, which country is reached first ?
- 18 Pointless question - Where was Alexander Armstrong born ?
- 19 In which North East town is The Bagpipe Museum ?
- 20 Name this "disguised" pub.



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THE WILD BOAR  
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**Branch Heritage Pubs Website**      <https://heritagepubs.sst.camra.org.uk/> -

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## Quiz Answers

1 The Pennine Way	11 Rowan Atkinson
2 HAL 9000	12 The Home Service
3 Corner Shop	13 Six
4 Peter Sellers	14 Stevenage
5 It Aint Half Hot Mum	15 Huddersfield
6 The Alamo	16 Al Gore
7 Les Dawson	17 Germany ( who said Denmark ? )
8 Christine Lampard and Adrian Chiles	18 Rothbury
9 Lacrosse	19 Morpeth
10 Cassius Clay	20 The Guide Post Ryhope



# 10 great reasons to join CAMRA

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**3** Enjoy CAMRA  
**BEER FESTIVALS**  
in front of or behind the bar

**4 GET INVOLVED**  
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**5** Save  
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**6** Find the  
**BEST PUBS  
IN BRITAIN**

Get great  
**7 VALUE FOR  
MONEY**

**8 DISCOVER**  
pub heritage and the  
great outdoors

Enjoy great  
**9 HEALTH BENEFITS**  
(really!)

**10 HAVE YOUR SAY**

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and join the campaign today:  
[www.camra.org.uk/10reasons](http://www.camra.org.uk/10reasons)



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