

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



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CAMRA 50TH ANNIVERSARY

GOLD AWARD 2021

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Community Pub 2022**

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WELCOME TO THIS EDITION OF CAMRA ANGLE.

In the last issue of CAMRA Angle we announced the winners of our Pub and Club of the Year 2023 competitions. Now the presentations have been completed, as is reported on the centre page. On the subject of awards, we have launched our Community Award Scheme, the aim being to recognise any pub, club or brewery that support their community. The 2023 scheme is now open for nominations - see page five on how to nominate. The SIBA North East awards took place in April and CAMRA were there.

Planning is progressing for our branch beer festival, which this year will be held in Beggars Bridge, East Boldon. We have a report from the CAMRA AGM and Members Weekend, visits to South Shields, Black Sheep Brewery, Bury, a new Public Transport page along with the usual news reports.

There is a major campaign issue, High Street Rental Auctions which is requesting action to contact your MP - See Page 5..

Finally, this and previous issues along with CAMRA Angle Online can be found here :-

https://sst.camra.org.uk/wordpress/?page_id=47

Ken Paul

Did you know CAMRA has it's own YouTube channel ?

<https://www.youtube.com/@CAMRAOFFICIAL/about>

This is the official channel for CAMRA and home to all free content from **Learn & Discover**, the online learning platform. This is the online home for any one who wants to learn more about beer, cider, perry and the venues we all love to drink them in.

CAMRA ANGLE is produced in house and published by the Sunderland & South Tyneside Branch of CAMRA © 2023 . Views or comments expressed in this publication may not be necessarily those of the Editor, contributors or CAMRA. Photographs are by branch members unless stated.

2000 copies are distributed across the branch and beyond .

CONTRIBUTIONS are welcome and can be sent to :- magazine01@sst.camra.org.uk

BRANCH CONTACTS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 27

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DIARY DATES

JUNE

North East Regional Meeting	Saturday 10th June 1pm, The Avenue, Zetland Street Sunderland, SR6 0EQ * 15 minutes walk from Stadium of Light Metro
Beer Day Britain	Thursday June 15th - UK's annual national beer day
Masham Trip	Saturday 17th June. Arrangements to be announced

JULY

Maxim Open Night	Friday 7th July Maxim Brewery, Gladwell Rd, Rainton Bridge, Houghton, DH4 5NL from 5pm.
Branch Meeting	TBA

AUGUST

Great British Beer Festival	1st - 5th August - Olympia London
Maxim Open Night	Friday 4th August. Details as per July

Thanks to The Steamboat, South Shields and Beggar's Bridge , East Boldon for hosting our last branch meeting and The Mid Boldon Club for Beer Festival committee meetings.

COVER STORY - SUMMER OF PUB IS BACK!



Summer of Pub aims to support and promote pub-going throughout the summer and getting involved is as easy as planning a trip down your local!

The past few years have presented an enormous challenge for the whole sector, and venues and producers need our support like never before. Pubs are at the heart of so many communities across the UK, serving a huge range of beers, ciders and perries and hosting events that cater for every taste.

Use the link below for more information :-

<https://camra.org.uk/pubs-and-clubs/current-campaigns/summer-of-pub/>

CAMRA CAMPAIGN ISSUE - HIGH STREET RENTAL AUCTIONS

In 2017 CAMRA helped win landmark planning protection for pubs in England, with the removal of permitted development rights that had allowed developers to convert or demolish venues without local communities having their say.

Now, this protection is under threat from a new Government proposal that could see developers gain permitted development rights for vacant high street pubs. Plans for **High Street Rental Auctions** are designed to bring empty buildings back into use, by letting Councils auction off the lease. These leases would allow pubs to be converted to other uses, divided up into multiple units, or gutted of their bars, cellars or other integral features. There would be no obligation to reinstate the pub fittings at the end of the lease – in fact developers would be able to apply to make the conversion permanent.

A small change to these proposals could see pubs keep their planning protection, and benefit from the High Street Rental Auction scheme, meaning community groups across the country would have the chance to save a local pub, while supporting their high streets. We have already written to the Minister and asked them to ensure that pubs won't lose their hard-won protections. CAMRA are asking you to take action as well, by **emailing your MP** (<https://camra.e-activist.com/page/128358/>) to let them know they need to stand up for pubs and oppose the plans in their current form. This link leads to a form that takes 2 minutes to complete. **You don't have to be a CAMRA member.**

This Government proposal will have a huge impact on high street pubs. Whether that impact is regeneration or devastation will depend on our campaigning, so please take part today.

CAMRA COMMUNITY AWARD SCHEME

The branch has again launched a **CAMRA Community Pub scheme**, running until October 2023. 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>

This includes support of community groups and charities and is not just

limited to those that sell real ale.

Type of thing we're looking for:

* Allowing a local group or club free use of the pub for meetings or social gatherings.

* Hosting a fund raising event (for a charity or community group)

* Use of the venue building to provide community facilities needed but not available locally.

Type of things not included:

* Groups or teams linked to the pub/club (i.e., a pool, darts or football team)

* An event held just for the pubs/clubs benefit or promotion (i.e., a pub quiz or music night)

* Hosting any CAMRA meeting or event.

All nominations will be reviewed by a "panel" of branch members.

PUB & CLUB NEWS

The Lord Nelson , in Monkton Village, Jarrow held a beer festival on 13th May in conjunction with Darwin Brewery. 10 real



ales featured , including four from Darwin as well as Maxim and Three Kings



Photo Sid Dobson

On the same day came the shock announcement that **The Mill House** has closed with immediate effect . Located just outside



Washington and just within the Sunderland City boundary, the pub is one of the oldest in the area, dating from 1851. There was a serious fire in 2018

and a year later reopened after a complete refit.

The Marine in South Shields now has eight cask handpulls, featuring Allendale Golden Plover and Draught Bass as permanent beers. A gluten free beer will always feature.



Photo Stan Johnson

The Trimmers Arms on Commercial Rd near South Shields town centre closed at the end of May 2023. The pub was principally a music venue.

It was reported in the last edition of CAMRA Angle that **The Lambton Arms** had closed. This news item was a bit premature as soon after printing, it reopened again. Real ale returned, and then, just a quickly the pub closed again. Then near the end of April, it reopened, but minus any handpulls.

The Broadway in High Barnes, Sunderland has reopened under its former name, **The Wavendon**, A recent visit confirmed

however that there is no real ale.

There is now no real ale at **The Oak Tree Farm** in Doxford Park. The handpulls will be removed.

The **Legacy Bar** close to Sunderland Park Lane Interchange closed nearly four years ago. It has recently become the **Sunderland Railway Club**. The club used to be on Holmeside but made way for a multi storey car park. There is no real ale.

Regional News.

The **North East Regional Cider Pub of the Year** is **The Station House**, Durham - they now join the other 15 regional winners into the super-regional rounds of the competition.



Photo Chris Mansfield

The runner up was the Free Trade, Byker with the other entries in order as follows; **Blues Micro Pub** Whitburn, Wor Local Prudhoe and **The Avenue**, Sunderland

BREWERY NEWS

Blockyard Brew Co has acquired premises in Vine Place, Sunderland City Centre for a micro pub. To be called **Mortal Hound**, it's named after one of their real ales.

Brewlab are running a huge range of courses at the moment. Students took part in a beer and food matching event and there are some interesting videos of this on their Facebook page. One course, the Spring Diploma finished and the students all passed their assessment. There was a local student on the course who has plans to set up locally, so watch this space !



The students beer was sold in Sunderland. One from India brewed a spring pale ale that was in the Ivy House. A another from Canada will have his best bitter in the Ship Isis.

Another, from France, had his 'Pintable' IPA in Fitzgeralds All went out under the Brewlab Brews name.

Lazy Lizard Brewing Brewing takes place at the Stables Micro bar in Cleadon. They currently brew occasional small batch keg beer for sale in the pub.

Maxim Brewery released a new beer in May - Nelson-Zappa, a 4.8% pale ale.



Coming up in June are Motueka/Rakau 4.2% NZ hopped pale ale, Banoffee Pie 4.6% golden ale and John Bull Stout. They are working flat out six days a week, with Samson and Lambton keg sales going well and picking up new customers. The brewery shop will be open as usual

Mon-Fri 10am-4pm. The next open night is Friday June 2nd. Finally **Maxim** featured at the **SIBA North East Independent Beer Awards**. See how they got on from page 16.

Vaux The Vaux taproom is now open on Sundays as well as Fridays and Saturdays. The opening times for Sundays will be 1pm - 7pm. There is live music from 5pm.

The brewery' are moving to larger premises nearby and should start soon and likely take a couple of months. ... Capacity will be doubled, so more beers will be brewed. There'll be eight ten barrel fermenting vessels instead of four. The new premises will be brewery only, the taproom will stay on its current site. The increased brewing capacity means that Vaux's excellent 1899, a 7% bottle-conditioned stout produced in Autumn 2021, should be brewed again.

Vaux will be selling their beers at the beer festival at Kirkstall Brewery in Leeds the weekend of 27th May.

If you wish to share any news, 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	

MORE BREWERY NEWS

Darwin. At the recent Newcastle Beer and Cider Festival, Darwin's Chocolate Vanilla Stout came third in the Battle of the Beers competition.

Darwin continues to produce their core range of beers with regular specials.

No new beers have been reported since the last issue.



BLACK SHEEP BREWERY VISIT - MAY 2023



After the shock announcement of Black Sheep Brewery in Masham N. Yorks going into administration recently, and the subsequent news that a buyer is being sought, I was keen for a revisit having been several times before.

The town is also home to Theakston's Brewery. It was good to see the brewery appeared busy and the shop & bistro were open for business. A brewery tour was also underway. The staff were friendly and helpful. (See Diary Dates)

CAMRA PUB HERITAGE GROUP WEBSITE

This is the definitive guide to the nation's most important historic pub interiors.

Since the 1960's few pubs have escaped major changes but this website helps you seek out the best historic examples we have left. They range from simple unaltered village pubs to glorious late-Victorian extravaganzas. Each is very special in its own way.

The entries have been compiled by CAMRA's Pub Heritage Group and is the product of over thirty years of careful research. It identifies pubs with intact traditional interiors or which have features and rooms of national importance. The Group recently introduced a new grading system :-

Three Star pubs are those of exceptional national historic importance. In our branch **The Dun Cow**, Sunderland and **The Mountain Daisy**, Millfield fall into this category.

Two Star pubs are of outstanding national historic interest. **The Kings Arms**, Deptford and **The Stags Head**, South Shields have two stars.

One Star pubs are of special national historic interest. **The Jolly Sailor** in Whitburn falls into this category.

Regular bulletins are issued . For more details visit the **CAMRA Pub Heritage Group website** . <https://pubheritage.camra.org.uk/>



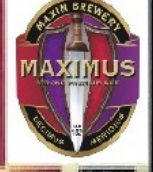
BRANCH **LoCAle**

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, ssst.pubsofficer@gmail.com.

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

**THE AWARD WINNING
MAXIM
BREWERY**

The home of Double Maxim

Alum Ale House



07720 207553



alumalehouse22@gmail.com



PUBLIC TRANSPORT UPDATE

BRANCH REAL ALE GUIDES , NOW WITH TYNE & WEAR METRO GUIDE !

A new bespoke guide to **The Tyne & Wear Metro** within our branch, and the pubs and clubs that are served has been produced to help visitors in Sunderland & South Tyneside.

This complements our **Real Ale Guides** that cover every real ale pub/club and taproom in this branch.

All guides can be downloaded by using the link below :-

[https://sst
arch.camra.org.uk/viewnode.php?id=
65182](https://sst.arch.camra.org.uk/viewnode.php?id=65182)

SUNDERLAND & SOUTH TYNESIDE - GUIDE TO PUBS SERVED BY TYNE AND WEAR METRO



The Tyne & Wear Metro was introduced in stages from 1960 and now comprises two lines and 60 stations. Both lines (Green and Yellow) serve the branch : Yellow running to South Shields and Green to Sunderland. They both converge at Pelaw (not in Sunderland & Sth Tyneside), which can be used as an interchange between the two lines.

There are 19 stations in the branch and the following pages show which of those serve local real ale pubs. The criteria used is a maximum of 15 minutes walk from station and indicated in italics. These are just suggested stations and it may be if visiting more than one, in particular Sunderland, another station is preferred.

The original metrocars are due to be replaced by new trains later this year.



The £2 single journey limit on bus fares in England has been extended until the end of October, then from November 2023 to October 2024, the maximum fare will be £2.50

Speaking after the Department for Transport announced an extension to the capped £2 single journey , CAMRA Chairman Nik Antona commented:

“£2 bus fares have helped to make getting to and from the pub more affordable. At a time when the beer and pub trade needs as much support as it can get, the decision to extend the cheap fares scheme until the end of October is undoubtedly good news. “Our local pubs, social clubs, breweries and cider producers are vital parts of community life up and down the country. That’s why CAMRA’s Summer of Pub campaign is encouraging as many people as possible to head down to their local this summer to enjoy the community spirit that only a pint of real ale or cider down the pub can bring. “We hope that the extended £2 bus fare scheme will help more people to support their locals over the next few months in an affordable and environmentally friendly way.”

Campaign For Better Transport.

[#BetterTransportWeek](#)

As part of it's **SUMMER OF PUB CAMPAIGN** , CAMRA will join in celebrating **Better Transport Week**. a national celebration of sustainable transport, happening 12-18 June.

Pubs, social clubs, brewers & cider makers grappling with the cost-of-business crisis can benefit from people being able to get to the pub in an affordable and environmentally friendly way.

SHEFFIELD FOR CONFERENCE WEEKEND

April 22nd/23rd marked this year's "**CAMRA AGM and Members Weekend**". It's an annual event I've considered for years but for various reason this year was the first time I was able to attend!

Friday 21st:

I registered prior to the event via website, and made a smooth train journey direct Newcastle to Sheffield on Friday 21st. Arriving mid-afternoon, my first stop was the Sheffield Tap off the station platform. Here Sheffield CAMRA members awaited new arrivals with advice on getting to hotels and conference (The Octagon Centre, Sheffield University.)

A swift half then a bus to my hotel. (Sheffield has excellent public transport and although the trams went near the conference centre it was easier for me to get a bus that stopped outside my hotel). A couple of minutes in the hotel before heading to the conference centre stopping for a pint and late lunch at Wetherspoon's on the way. Arriving at the Octagon Centre I was signed in, badged and handed my conference bag of "goodies" and assorted "freebees"!

Then next door into the students union, the site of our exclusive "Members Bar" - A complete (63

beers, 8 ciders) beer festival supporting conference weekend. Over 40 beers from local Sheffield brewers, many rarely seen in the north east!

I dropped a pile of "CAMRA Angle's" onto the "Magazines Table" and grabbed a pint before being intercepted by Ade Gray, Tyneside and Northumberland CAMRA's editor of "Canny Bevv" magazine, and steered to the table "occupied" by fellow North East delegates.

Lots of fringe events were planned for both Friday and Saturday of conference. Starting immediately after my arrival with a "Meet the Brewer" session by Thornbridge Brewery. They set up yards from our table with free samples of new and seasonal beers. Well it would have been rude not to!

Sheffield CAMRA did an excellent job organising the 2023 AGM/MW and members soon disappeared onto numerous brewery trips, pub heritage walks or just out to Sheffield's numerous pubs. I was happy spending my first evening in the members bar enjoying local Sheffield ales and meeting up with other members whom I only knew from online events or just from email etc.

Visiting a couple of bars that lay between the

conference centre and my hotel found me arrive back just after midnight....The main event still to come!

Saturday 22nd:

The AGM started at 9.30 but the student's union opened at 8.00 serving breakfast and coffee. I've little to say about the CAMRA AGM, it's the same as any other big organisations AGM, handled quickly and efficiently and all over and done with by 10:15!

On to Conference Day 1: This article is about my experiences at the members weekend rather than details of conference itself but rest assured there were speeches by senior campaign officials, guest speakers, presentations and passionate debate of conference motions!

Day 1 closed at 15.30 and the members bar and shops/stalls opened. There were however several workshops just starting and I'd booked onto one of them. These smaller groups lead by "subject matter experts" lasted a couple of hours covering several subjects of interest to the campaign. I found mine useful and once it ended about 17:30 returned to greet colleagues in the members bar. A pint and quick meal from the union café. Rather than join an organised trip to local breweries I popped out to

visit a couple pubs in the city centre, returning to the members bar for last orders at 23:00 then back to my hotel!

Sunday 23rd:

Early checkout and breakfast at the nearby Wetherspoon's. Then stronger coffee in the student union before Day 2 of conference opened at 9:30. There was more debate, presentations, speeches and reviews of yesterday's workshops until conference ended at 12:30.

A last session in the Members Bar at our "North East" table before goodbyes and off to the station. An hour before my train so the Sheffield Tap once again for a final pint. Then homeward, my train again on time!

Final thoughts:

Did I enjoy Sheffield and was it time well spent?

Yes to both questions. As a branch chair I'm involved in CAMRA more than others but I thought the weekend held much for every member to enjoy. It was well organised and the local branch did excellent work organising interesting fringe activities and the superb "Members Bar".

Did I enjoy AGM and conference itself?

Yes I did. It's a major policy making event in the campaigns calendar and it was interesting to see how things work both in the conference room and outside. Like any organisation there is politics, horse trading and networking which was very interesting to observe and

be part of!

Will I go again?

Conference 2024 is in Dundee. I already have my hotel booked!

My view of Sheffield?

The "Steel City" is a "Beer City" with many pubs and breweries several with heritage. I hardly scratched the surface, a full week is needed to do it justice. The local branch are very active and provide several resources for visitors. If you plan a visit check out <https://sheffield.camra.org.uk> and definitely download a copy of "Sheffield's Real Heritage Pubs".

My final thought?

Sheffield has a lot of hills!!

Ian Monteith Preston



SST CAMRA Beer & Cider Festival 2023
Beggars Bridge -
Next to East Boldon Metro
Sept 14th, 15th & 16th

#Sundfest2023 on tour in
East Boldon

Cask ales, keykeg & real cider plus music
<https://sundfest.camra.org.uk/>

CAMRA Campaign for Real Ale

Planning is progressing on our next Beer Festival. Look out for more news on social media and the next CAMRA Angle Online, This will include how to volunteer to help in setting up and taking down, and working at the festival.

Our chosen Festival Charity is **The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)** in Roker Sunderland.

On Sunday 4th June 2023 CAMRA branch members will be visiting them to present a cheque for nearly £260 ; made up from returned beer tokens from our 2022 Festival, as well as donations made at The Mid Boldon Club. Look out for more on this story in the next online edition of CAMRA Angle

PUB AND CLUB OF THE YEAR 2023 PRESENTATIONS



The Sunderland & South Tyneside Pub of the Year is third time winner The Marine. Branch Chair Ian Monteith Preston presents Alex Chandler and Steph Oliphant- Chandler (with son Reuben looking on) with a certificate and trophy.



Pub of the Year Runner up is The Steamboat, South Shields. Kath Brain is presented with the award by Robin Sanderson. Have a look at page two to count the awards the pub has now won.



Mid Boldon Club is the Branch Club of the Year 2023. Steve Drummond is presented with their award by Branch Chair Ian Monteith Preston.



Blues Micro Pub in Whitburn is South Tyneside Cider Pub of the Year 2023. Branch Cider Rep Steve Clough presents owners Callum and Alice Watson (and their dog it would seem).



The Avenue, Roker is the Sunderland Cider Pub of the Year 2023. This is their certificate next to the beer and cider board. Note the number of ciders.

With thanks to the photographers :- David Brazier, Steve Clough, Stan Johnson, Claire Parker, Robin Sanderson and Peter Tong.



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North Sea

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MONDAY - THURSDAY 11AM-11PM • FRIDAY - SATURDAY 11AM-MIDNIGHT
SUNDAY 12 NOON-10.30PM

SIBA NORTH EAST INDEPENDENT BEER AWARDS

On Friday 28th of April the **Society of Independent Brewers North East Independent Beer Awards** were held as usual at the Gateshead Rugby Club. This coincided with their annual Beer & Music Festival. The festival beers were the ones we were to judge and were from the North East and Yorkshire. Five CAMRA branch members and myself volunteered once more to take part in the blind tasting judging. The handpulls in the festival area were turned round so we didn't know which beers we were tasting



Presentations for Gold only would be made at the end of proceedings.

First to be judged was Cask British Bitter up to 4.4% which included Bitter, British Golden Ale, Pale Ale, Amber and

“Welsh Pale Ale” which no one had heard of! There were nine beers in this class and our group largely agreed on the scorings for the beers. We all were in complete agreement when one beer approached

the table and it looked like a foaming kiddies drink and when we tasted it we all said it was in the wrong class.

Next was Cask Session Pale Ale up to 4.4%, this group could include Session IPA, IPA, American Pale Ale, New Zealand Pale Ale and rather curiously (I thought)

Black IPA in a Pale Ale class? Oh well! As this was a very broad class nothing was rejected because it was out of class.

The final round, for which I was the lead judge, Cask Imperial and Strong Beer 6.5% and over, which



included: Barley Wine, Imperial Stout, Strong Ales and Wee Heavy. They saved the best till last, but unfortunately they were not many entries so we had to savour our drinks and ask for extra samples just to be sure we made the right decision (honest Guvnor!)



I had to be there at 10.00 as I had been promoted to a lead judge due to my great age! There was a lead judge on each of the nine tables and my job was to ensure that we agreed a common score for the beers. Similar to last year there were nine classes to judge and beers were to be scored as either no medal, Bronze, Silver or Gold.



Half time was called so we were off to the catering

tent for a meal of pie, chips and peas and a chance to listen to the Low Fell Ukes and sample the delights of the rugby club bar. The beers were Osset Yorkshire Blonde, Exmoor Ale and Allendale Pennine Pale.



At about 3.30 prizes were awarded. **Maxim Brewery** achieved gold for their **Maximus** in the cask British

Dark beer class, and Bronze for **Sour Cherry and Chocolate Stout** in the Cask Speciality Amber to Dark beer class. The overall champion was **Barnsley Bitter from Acorn Brewery**.

After the judging ended then the festival was thrown open to the general public. What a wonderful sight to behold 50 hand pulls and 142 beers for the beer



festival!, Presumably next year this beer festival will be on at the end of April I can highly recommend going it is a superb beer festival.

Terry Ford

For those who are curious, the full list of winners can be found here :-

http://beercomp.barsbank.com/?page_id=6086



The Great British Beer Festival (GBBF) 2023 is being held at Kensington Olympia from 1st - 5th August. Tickets are now on sale :-

<https://gbbf.org.uk/>

The GBBF volunteering application portal is now open The festival attracts CAMRA volunteers from all over the UK and there are many benefits for those taking part -.

- Free entry for festival volunteers
- Free festival glass
- Free or subsidised accommodation
- Subsidised canteen
- Discounts on selected stalls
- Free staff bar

You can sign up here and the Staffing team will let you know what's involved and more about the role/s you've selected

<https://volunteer.gbbf.org.uk/>

HARTON AND WESTOE, SOUTH SHIELDS

This article is a continuation of one featured in the last CAMRA Angle Online issue published in April 2023.

The little villages of Harton and Westoe played host to the Wandering Bear over a few days between October 2021 and January 2022.

Westoe has been around for approx. 1000 years according to Google, Harton not quite so long but both areas have a rich history of coal mining. The Westoe Brewery operated between the late 1800's until the 1960's or beyond, under various guises.

You may recall from an earlier issue that I enjoyed my time at the Ship Inn and the Vigilant Inn in Harton, and I now venture north to Westoe Village looking for real ale and good pubs.

First up, **The County** which dates from about



1830 and was originally called The Westoe Tavern. Rebuilt in 1893 as The County Hotel and subsequently The County. I used to come here a lot when I was in my late teens as my friends were students at the nearby College, and I remember it to be a very

lively and enjoyable place to be. Times, and people, change however and it has been a number of years since I last visited.

Nevertheless I rocked up one afternoon in the run up to Christmas and due to there being no real ale I had to settle for half a Stones for £1.40. It was as you would expect.

The pub itself is pleasant enough, large and roomy with plenty of space to sit. The staff were very good, and everything was clean and tidy, if a little bland. It is part of the Mitchell & Butlers Sizzling Pubs chain, meaning food was the order of the day. I had a look at the extensive menu and it looked good, with very reasonable prices.

There were high tables and low tables to choose to sit at, there was a dartboard and bandits to help fill your time in and the place is child-friendly (with a child-free zone near the bar). A large screen tv was playing sports and a few regulars and students were in enjoying themselves.

Strictly speaking in Horsley Hill, was my next pub - **The Fountain** which was nearby so I popped.

This was the first time I had visited and I was very impressed. It had a poster advertising its 'excellent' Cask Marque rating and to my delight I had some real ale to buy, choosing Anarchy Blonde Star for

£3.45. There were 2 other ales to choose from however, I forgot to write them down. I would guess they were from the Greene King range as the pub is part of the Greene King / Flaming Grill chain.



As such, food took a leading role and the pub was very busy with diners. I managed to find a little corner and sat to watch the world go by. There were old photos on the walls and the décor was pleasant enough, food offers were plentiful and loyalty cards were available. There is also a 10% Camra discount. The pub has always been popular amongst locals, and it was great to see it so busy.

Next up, **The Westoe**. Some unusual opening hours caused me to make a couple of journeys to this place, but I finally made it inside between Christmas and New Year 2021. It was early afternoon and the weather was dreadful so there wasn't much going on but I am very pleased I persevered and visited for the first time in my life.

The Westoe is situated on Horsley Hill Road, near to

the one-way road system and roundabout in the village.

I visited with my mam and dad, and a pint of Scotch cost me £3.40. Sadly, no real ale available but the usual selection of Amstel, Guinness, Carling etc were available together with the usual spirits. The pub is large and open plan, in a sort of L-shape and to my surprise it had quite a modern décor. For some reason I was expecting a more traditional feel but I was greeted with blue neon lighting. It appeared to have been recently refurbished but I can't say



THE WESTOE

for sure.

A jukebox played nicely, and there was a pool table and some televisions to bring some life. It was fairly busy and not surprisingly, despite not being from the area and not having ever visited before, my mother managed to bump into an old friend of hers!

The pub was very clean and tidy, and the staff were friendly. I liked the traditional industrial nature of the heavy wooden chairs and tables, which were in contrast to the blue uplighting!

A warning to any Sunderland football supporter, the Westoe has certainly nailed its colours to the mast as an Newcastle United (NUFC) pub, with a huge picture of the Tyne Bridge across one wall and with other NUFC related photos dotted around.

My final pub on this Wander, **the Bamburgh** on the sea front. Again, located in Horsley Hill, however, looking at a map of pubs in the area and potential other routes, I thought that I was best to include it on this Wander as I don't think it would fit easily into others that I have planned.

Real ale was available and there was also 10% Camra discount advertised as well (student discount also advertised). Beautiful. Also beautiful was my pint of Timothy Taylor Landlord for £3.83. Abbott Ale and other Greene King ales were available.

Again this was a first visit for me, despite having driven past it countless times along the coast road. It is a large pub with plenty seating options and I found a quiet corner to relax. I'm lying here, sorry, as I had my two year old son with me and so any hope of either a) being quiet or b) being relaxed were dashed immediately.

Nonetheless, I gave him some snacks and looked around. The tv's were on mute, but some gentle music played in the

background and there were diners and drinkers chatting away ; the ambience was lovely. The outside seating area is nice, however, it was a bit windy to fully



THE BAMBURGH

enjoy during my visit.

Child-friendly and dog-friendly, the Bamburgh ticks a lot of boxes for me.

There was a good food menu and the bar was well stocked, and my pint was delicious. There is a nautical theme running through the building, as you may expect from its proximity to the coastline. So a rather disjointed Wander comes to an end. Harton and Westoe are now ticked off and some new pubs have been visited. It's now time for the Wandering Bear to research some new locations.

The Wandering Bear

Part One of this article can be found here :-

<https://sst-arch.camra.org.uk/magazine>



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).

East Boldon	South Shields	Sunderland Centre
Grey House - 50p off voucher & loyalty card	Maltings - 10% discount	Cooper Rose - 50p off voucher
East Herrington	Marine - loyalty card	Dun Cow - 10 % off
Board Inn - 50p off voucher	Wouldhave - 50p off voucher	Fitzgeralds - loyalty card
Hebburn	Sunderland North	Ivy House - 10% discount
Longship - 10% discount & loyalty card.	Avenue - 10% discount	Peacock - 10% discount
Houghton le Spring	Blue Bell - 50p off voucher	Ship Isis - 20p off a pint.
Wild Boar - 50p off voucher	Harbour View 10% off Mon-Fri before 7pm.	William Jameson - 50p off voucher
Ryhope	New Derby - on Friday, buy a pint , get a half of another pint free	Washington
Guide Post- loyalty card	Sunderland Centre	Sir William de Wessyngton - 50p off Voucher
South Shields	Chaplins - 10% disc & loyalty card	Steps - Loyalty Card
Bamburgh - 10% discount	Chesters - 50p off voucher & loyalty card	Washington Arms - 50p off voucher
Fountain - 10% discount		

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 :-

SOUTH TYNESIDE	https://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/68067/Make-a-complaint
SUNDERLAND	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	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

REAL ALE IN SUNDERLAND



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CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR REGULAR CASK UPDATES



PUB QUIZ (answers on page 27)

- 1 In which country is Serengeti National Park?
- 2 Who wrote the novels War & Peace and Anna Karenina?
- 3 In which city did Lech Walesa found Solidarity?
- 4 Name the 1976 film about the Watergate scandal, starring Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman?
- 5 Who is taller, Greg Davies or Richard Osman?
- 6 How many keys on a piano ?
- 7 Name the Oscar winning film from this anagram :- Frog had teeth
- 8 What kind of men spoke Oddle Poddle on TV in the 1950's ?
- 9 Brno is the second largest city in which European country?
- 10 Which North East football team in this branch, are known as the Mariners?
- 11 Name the two island nations in The Mediterranean that drive on the left hand side of the road.
- 12 Name the cow in The Magic Roundabout.
- 13 Which pop group named themselves after a character in the 1968 film Barbarella?
- 14 In which city was Celtic supporter Rod Stewart born?
- 15 What was the alter ego of Sir Les Patterson ?
- 16 In which city was Norwegian and Man City footballer Erling Haaland born ?
- 17 Which singer songwriter's signature song is " Piano Man" (1973) ?
- 18 What does the L stand for in Samuel L Jackson? '
- 19 Who played MP Jim Hacker in Yes Minister?
- 20 In which town is this pub sign ?





CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

41st

Durham Beer Festival

Wednesday August 30th 16:00-22:30

Thursday August 31st 11:00 -22:30

Friday September 1st 11:00-22:30

Saturday September 2nd 11:00-22:30

25 ales, 8 ciders and perries

Durham City Rugby Club
Hollow Drift,
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THE STATION HOUSE,
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DH1 4SE

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- SUN. 4PM - 10.30PM • TUES - THURS. 4PM - 10.30PM,



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DH1 5EE

OPENING TIMES:

- FRI. 2PM - 10.30PM • SAT. 12PM - 10.30PM,
- SUN. 2PM - 9PM • TUES - THURS. 4PM - 10.30PM,

A DEAD NIGHT IN BURY?

A trip on the East Lancs Railway meant a day in Manchester and then a Friday night in Bury. My cousin who lives there said it was deathly and was well named Bury! However a quick look at Google maps showed 15 pubs in 300 yards! Surely one of them must be lively!

Obviously Wetherspoon's was the first



ART PICTURE HOUSE

port of call for some scran. **Called the Art Picture House** I was not expecting it to be housed in a gorgeous Art Deco cinema and I certainly wasn't expecting it to be heaving at 6 o'clock! It was rammed and we just got a table, the inside of the building was beautifully

preserved, well worth a visit.

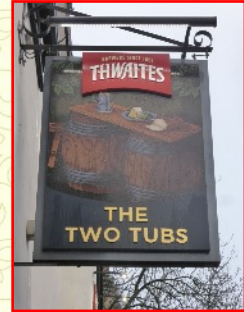
Next stop was **Broad Street Social** a small micropub with 6 hand pulls on, again it was full I asked the landlady if there was anything special on but she said it was always like this at the weekend

Next a traditional pub with a National Heritage Interior, **The Two Tubs. A**

Thwaites establishment dating from about 1750, this was a lovely pub full of small rooms and militaria on the walls. The Thwaites original I had was gorgeous, though the pub was not very full.



THE TWO TUBS



We then went to another couple of pubs all lively. Then onto our final destination was the **Trackside Bar** which as its name suggests was part of the railway station. Ten hand pumps on and the place was lifting! We decided to go outside to see the track, imagine my surprise when there was "The Flying Scotsman" just about to pull out of the station, the icing on the cake!

Tons of life in Bury!
Cheers
Terry Ford

SOUTH SHIELDS LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

<https://southshieldslocalhistorygroup.co.uk/>

South Shields Local History Group, *writes Terry Ford*, have set up a website to record the history of the town The website is still under construction at the moment. The clubs of South Shields however are listed (see below). The vitally important element of South Shields pubs are not yet featured but will be in the future.

<https://southshieldslocalhistorygroup.co.uk/index.php/buildings/clubs/>

If anyone has any articles or information then please get in touch, there is a contact form on the website.

REAL ALE

at
wetherspoon



The Sir William
De Wessington
Washington

The Cooper Rose
Sunderland

The Wild Boar
Houghton-le-Spring

The William Jameson
Sunderland

The Wouldhave
South Shields

Ales from

£2.10
per pint

Accepted at all above locations

CAMRA
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All ales available on the
Wetherspoon app



BRANCH CONTACT INFORMATION

General Contact		contact@sst.camra.org.uk
Chairman	Ian Monteith-Preston	chair@sst.camra.org.uk
Secretary	Lynn Dobson	secretary@sst.camra.org.uk
Treasurer	Steve Drummond	treasurer@sst.camra.org.uk
Membership	Peter Tong	members@sst.camra.org.uk
Magazine Editor	Ken Paul	magazine01@sst.camra.org.uk
Advertising	Peter Tong	ad01@sst.camra.org.uk
Webmaster	Ian Monteith-Preston	webmin@sst.camra.org.uk
Social Media	Stan Johnson	Socialmedia@sst.camra.org.uk
Public Affairs	Michael Wynne	publicaffairs@sst.camra.org.uk
Pubs	Ken Paul	pubsofficer@sst.camra.org.uk
Clubs	Sid Dobson	clubs@sst.camra.org.uk
Pubs Protection	Ian Monteith-Preston	ppo@sst.camra.org.uk
Cider Rep.	Steve Clough	cider@sst.camra.org.uk
Social Secretary	Keith Lakeman	social@sst.camra.org.uk

BRANCH SOCIAL MEDIA DETAILS

Twitter: @SST_CAMRA
Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/SSTCAMRA>
Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SSTCAMRA/> (Discussion Group)
Instagram:
https://instagram.com/sst_camra

PRESS & MEDIA CONTACTS

Michael Wynne, Ian Monteith-Preston, Stan Johnson, Ken Paul.
press@sst.camra.org.uk
 For more details see
https://sst.camra.org.uk/wordpress/?page_id=32

QUIZ ANSWERS

1	Tanzania	11	Cyprus and Malta
2	Leo Tolstoy	12	Ermintrude
3	Gdansk	13	Duran Duran
4	All The President's Men	14	London (Highgate)
5	Greg Davies is 6ft 8in, Richard Osman is 6ft 7 in.	15	Barry Humphries
6	88	16	Leeds
7	The Godfather	17	Billy Joel
8	The Flowerpot Men	18	Leroy
9	Czech Republic	19	Paul Eddington
10	South Shields FC	20	Houghton le Spring (The Wild Boar)



10 great reasons to join CAMRA

1 CAMPAIGN
for great beer, cider and perry

2 Become a
BEER EXPERT

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

4 GET INVOLVED
and make new friends

5 Save
YOUR LOCAL

6 Find the
**BEST PUBS
IN BRITAIN**

7 Get great
**VALUE FOR
MONEY**

8 DISCOVER
pub heritage and the
great outdoors

9 Enjoy great
HEALTH BENEFITS
(really!)

10 HAVE YOUR SAY

What's yours?

Discover your reason
and join the campaign today:
www.camra.org.uk/10reasons



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for
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