



CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE



Issue 129

Summer 2018

Durham Drinker



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38th

Durham Beer Festival

New Venue

**Durham City Rugby Football Club
(Green Lane, off Old Elvet)**

30 Real Ales

8 Real Ciders and Perries

Put it in your diary!

Durham City Rugby Football Club

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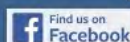
Wed 29th August 2018: 4pm - 10:30pm

Thu 30th August - Sat 1st September 2018: Noon - 10:30pm

<https://www.durhambeerfestival.org.uk/>



@DurhamBeerFest2



CAMRADurhamBeerFestival



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Durham Drinker

Hello and welcome to Issue 129 of Durham Drinker.

As usual, we've had openings and closings, with particularly galling losses being the Welcome in Bishop Auckland and the New Inn, Durham After being sold by Punch to Patron Capital, Welcome landlord Davey Scott left, and the customers looked forward to a seamless transition to a new licensee. What they actually got was a steel door, and the pub's been put back up for sale. That's business, I suppose, but not much fun for the locals. The Hardwick Arms in Sedgfield is the latest to close its doors, but hopefully not for long.

Several pubs have been refurbished, including the Smiths Arms at Brecon Hill, the Dun Cow at Bournmoor, the Head of Steam in Durham (which now has Handpulls upstairs), and the Seaton Lane Inn. All offer real ale, and it's always a relief when the doors reopen and the pumps are still on the bar.

There is also news from Sedgfield of a brewery being developed on a farm just outside of town, so it will be interesting to see how that goes when it opens later in the year.

Anyhow, as we say in every summer issue, the sun's out (or should be by the time you read this), so support your local beer garden and your local brewers.

Cheers, Paul Dobson

Hare & Hounds, Westgate

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Diary Dates

- Thursday June 14th, 7:30 Branch Meeting, the Station House, Durham
- June 15th-16th. Durham Amateur Rowing Club beer festival, Green Lane, Durham
- Tuesday Tipple June 19th, 7:30 The Woodman, Gilesgate, Durham, and then the chance to wander downhill to other pubs to be decided on the night. Or stay put!
- June 29th—July 1st, Chester le Street Masonic Beer & Cider Festival. Masonic hall, Station Rd, Chester le Street
- Monday July 9th, 7:30. Branch Meeting, venue to be arranged
- July 19th-23rd Woodman Inn Beer Festival, Gilesgate, Durham
- Tuesday August 14th, Branch Meeting, Head of Steam, Durham
- August 29th—September 1st, 38th Durham Beer Festival, Durham City Rugby Club, Green Lane, Durham

See our online diary for details at : www.camradurham.org.uk



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Minutes secretary: John Collinson

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tive advertising rates.***

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CAMRA Durham's Pub of the Year 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, & 2012. Town Pub of the Year 2014, 2017, 2018

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The Brews are Back

Same recipe, slightly different name. The **Merry Monk** in Bishop Auckland has been offering **Monk Beer Co. Blonde**, a 4% citrus blonde which has been selling very well. The recipe is from the **Fat Brewer**, late of Crook, and is being brewed locally as the Fat Brewer's core ales are re-introduced. Next up is the **IPA**, which should be available at the Merry Monk by the time you read this.

Welcome back!



Tie off at the Pollards

Landlord Chris Shaw of **The Pollards**, Bishop Auckland, has now escaped the Pubco tie, and is free to stock whichever real ale he wishes. While house favourites Hobgoblin, Wainwright's, and Banks's Sunbeam will still appear, there will be regular availability of Allendale beers, which are proving very popular, while other local brews are on the "to do" list.

Also on the list is a bit of a revamp of the rooms, although the bar will remain exactly that, reflecting Chris's desire to maintain "a proper pub bar."





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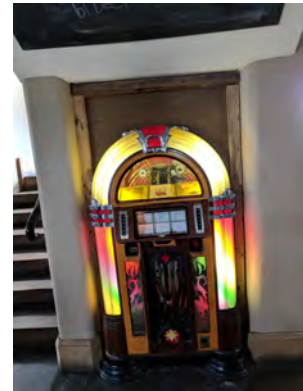


Village Green, Hawthorn, Seaham SR7 8SD

0191 5270778

Picture Quiz

Can you identify these County Durham pubs or clubs?



10



Answers inside back page

The Joiners Arms, Hunwick

- *Cask Conditioned Timothy Taylor's Landlord and Boltmaker, plus occasional guest ale*
- *Listed in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide*
- *Meals available Wednesday to Saturday evenings*
- *Traditional Sunday Lunch*
- *Recently refurbished restaurant*

South View, Hunwick, DL15 0JW

01388 605131



Grand Summer Quiz

1. What is the longest river in Canada?
2. In which northern English town was Rugby League formed?
3. In Morse code what is represented by five dashes?
4. Who in 1999 became the first First Minister of Scotland?
5. Which 1955 movie provided Marlon Brando with his only singing role?
6. By population, what is the second largest city in the following countries, [a] Germany, [b] Australia, [c] France, [d] Republic of Ireland and [e] Sweden?
7. Who patented his method for the mass production of steel in 1855?
8. The world's oldest surviving single arch railway bridge is in County Durham, what is it called?
9. Which Mexican dish is named after a small donkey?
10. What animal did Reggie Perrin think of every time his Mother-in-law was mentioned?



Answers inside back page



The John Duck

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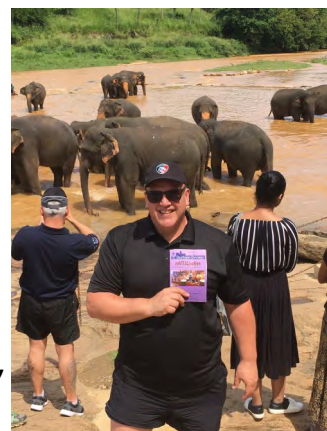
We get around...

Not only do we distribute the Durham Drinker across our home county, we always take the opportunity to drop some off further afield. CAMRA Durham chairman John Collinson left a few in Sri Lanka while touring with Durham City Rugby Club, and also did his beer research by looking beyond the generic lager which predominates there to find the **Lion Brewery**.



Established in 1881, amongst their beers are Lion Stout, at 8.8% a hefty but velvety smooth drink, and Lion Strong. Also weighing in at 8.8%, this, according to John, is also very smooth and highly drinkable, but with a kick that is not entirely unexpected.

RIP Howie and Baty



The fall and rise of the village pub.

In the current economic climate, stories of pub closures are so commonplace that they rarely merit more than a cursory mention in the local media. However, some of these stories have a happy ending

It wasn't a Happy New year on January 1st 2017 for the villagers of Hawthorn. The **Stapylton Arms**, ('The Staps') the only pub in the village, and a social hub, was closed by the then owners. Shortly following the closure a planning application was submitted for a change of use, converting the pub and its car-park into three houses.

A small residents group was formed and almost 200 objections were submitted to Durham County Council, as well as the pub being listed as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) with the help of the local CAMRA branch. The planning application was rejected, but the pub remained closed with no real prospect of it being reopened. A community buy-out for the pub was considered, but it never really took off. It was then that two families from the village stepped forward with an offer to take over the pub.



Dave and Joanne Irwing, and Steve and Sharron Marley, agreed a price with the then owner and after months of legal machinations finally took ownership of **The Staps** on 7th February 2018. There then followed an intense period of significant refurbishment, as the bar, lounge, kitchen, and toilets were all revamped before the pub opened again for business on March 26th. Locals turned out in force, and CAMRA Durham brought a busload.

Dave and Steve were clear that as a semi-rural pub, good food and beer were a must and at the pub's opening three cask ales were on sale. Since then they have maintained a policy of keeping three cask ales, focusing mainly on local suppliers. Despite reservations from several sources, real ale continues to sell well and a beer festival is being considered for later in the year. As they say, watch this space....

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PRESENTS



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A Landlord Writes...

Hello from pub land!

The latest craze to hit our bar is the shouting of "DILLY DILLY", from that now well-known advert for a particular beverage. It's actually a funny phrase that can be applied to most situations, and certainly is. I'm not a fan of that particular drink myself, but you can certainly praise the marketing team on coming up with such a recognisable hook. Reminds me of the old "WASSUP" advert from the same beverage company.

This leads me to what must be an idea for the CAMRA generals at HQ - why not devise a catchy, cool phrase for real ale? Furthermore, why not get someone really cool to shout it from our TV screens on a regular basis during high-density viewing times?

Food has such champions as Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall and Jamie Oliver - why shouldn't ale have such a champion? TV is such a powerful media, surely it could be used to get people off their sofas and into pubs (drinking responsibly!).

Come on CAMRA HQ, re-direct some of the funds to a media that everyone can see (only CAMRA members get the CAMRA mag, you don't need to convince them), commission a TV special or target the food shows, choose some well designed artwork, get in online to the social-media-masses and MAKE ALE COOL!

The hardworking, pub-running people of Britain will do all they can from their side!

Cheers!

Cheers! Alan

Alan Hogg is landlord of the Surtees Arms and head brewer at:

The Surtees Arms & Yard of Ale Brew Co. Ltd.

DURHAM CAMRA Country Pub of the Year Runner-Up 2018, 2017, 2016, 2014

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Pubs adjudicator news....

Here's DD's now-customary dig at the Pub Code, which is supposed to protect the rights of landlords to choose beer "free from tie". Here we go again....

The arbitration system, which is there to ensure fair pay in disputes between pub tenants and their Pubcos, is supposedly overseen by an independent ombudsman, but that person has done precious little to justify their position. The sad truth is that very little positive has happened because of it.

Apparently, because it's an arbitration rather than an adjudication, it has no real power – which means that Pubcos simply ignore it and continue to apply punitive rents and other charges which they're simply not supposed to do. This situation has led to calls for the government to rewrite the code so that it can actually do what it was designed to do, and help prevent the closure of pubs which would otherwise be perfectly financially viable but for those costs imposed by Pubcos. Sort it out, please.

News from The Station House

New Website

After two and a half years of a holding page – we’ve finally got around to building a proper website! Have a look and let us know what you think.

Public Knowledge:

We’re excited to announce the latest Station House project! As we have access to a lot of very interesting people, many working in academia, we’ve invited some of them to come and tell us about whatever it is that makes them excited.

Starting on the 1st of July, on the first Sunday of every month at 7pm in the upstairs room, there will be a short talk of 30-40 minutes, followed by a beer break and question time. No previous knowledge required! Free to attend.

The schedule is as follows:

1st July: Dave Errickson (*Forensics and 3D imaging*)– Station House CSI

5th August: Adam Robinson (*Marine geophysicist*) - Sea Hear: Using sound to map the seafloor... and beyond.

2nd September: Helen Knight (*Neuroscience*) – Attention, addiction and brain-zapping.

With many more exciting speakers lined up!

Beer Festivals:

Many of you will have attended our successful 3rd beer festival in March. This time we celebrated our local brewing heroes, with beers from Allendale, Al-masty, Big Lamp, Brinkburn St, Cullercoats, Durham, Errant, Hadrian Border, Mordue, Two by Two and Wylam. Even our cider list got in on the theme with them all being from the North East...of somewhere!



As ever, we got out the temporary bar, borrowed a few hand pulls, and confused all the regulars who have got used to our usual, unusual set up.

Previously we have donated festival glass deposits to our supported charity, RTprojects. However, for the March Festival, we asked Hadrian Border to supply us with a beer, which RTprojects named Creative juice and designed a pump clip for. All the profits from the two casks of Creative Juice were donated.

Future festival dates (details to be confirmed):

31st July – 5th August: Cider Festival Week

11th – 14th October: October Beer Festival

RTprojects:

We continue to support this wonderful local mental health charity wherever we can. We have a steady stream of sales of the prints displayed on our walls, have a book swapping library, sold Christmas cards and as described above, incorporate fundraising for them into the beer festivals as well as of course having collecting boxes for people's spare change!

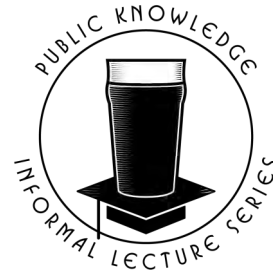
RTprojects are based in Gilesgate and provide valuable support to people experiencing poor mental health, particularly depression and anxiety, using creative activities. It's something 1 in 3 people experience at some point in their lives. While NHS mental health services continue to be underfunded the effective, cost-efficient support that charities such as RTprojects provide are vital and as a community pub we are proud to continue supporting them.

The next major fund-raising opportunity will be their annual Run to the Sun – a 24 hour relay run held on the 16th-17th June. If you would like to be involved keep an eye out on our website or theirs for more details. There will be a Station House team running, which will include the Landlady!

Useful links:

www.stationhousedurham.co.uk

www.rtpjects.org.uk



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Shhh.... Want to Know a Secret?

Real Ale at Chester-le-Street Masonic Centre has been a popular seller for many years now, so much so that last year they decided to hold a Beer festival to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the Founding of the United Grand Lodge of England.

The event was such a success that they have decided to make the event an annual one and this year's will take place, at the Chester-le-Street Masonic Centre, from Friday 29th June to Sunday July 1st, with over 24 beers and ciders on offer.

Food will also be available all weekend and, if you have ever wondered what Freemasons get up to then there will be guided tours of the Masonic temple on the Saturday. All proceeds will go to their chosen charity - The Royal Masonic Trust for Girls and Boys - which helps underprivileged children - of freemasons as well as in the wider community. See the advert in page 31 for full details.

Put A Cork In It !

(your holiday, that is)

Recently, while staying a couple of days in Cork City, Ireland, I arranged a visit to the Elbow Lane microbrewery, in the heart of the city. The Elbow Lane Brew and Smoke House, the adjacent Market Lane restaurant and the Castle restaurant at Blackrock, form a small group with an enviable reputation for quality food.

Jerry (the owner), Russell (head brewer) and David (assistant brewer) kindly gave up their time to show me round the brewery. They have a German-made, stainless steel system which they use to brew 500 litre batches of beer in a total working area of 16m² – 'bijou' indeed. After mashing, sparging and primary fermentation downstairs, the beers undergo secondary fermentation upstairs and carbonisation occurs in the sealed vessels, with the beer being drawn off directly to the taps of the two restaurants. The beer is only produced for their restaurants and a pub at the end of the street.



Jerry's business philosophy is to serve food sourced locally, that is cooked in front of the customer, served with beer (brewed in a room behind the customer) matched to the food. This holistic approach means that wort is used to make syrups for desserts, beer is used in marinades and spent grain is used to make bread. The vast majority of spent grain is sold to a local pig farmer, whose animals end up supplying the restaurants.

Russell's brewing philosophy can be summed up by the German word 'reinheitsgebot'. He brews beer only from water, malt, hops and yeast. His lager

is lagered - for 6 to 8 weeks, his beers unfiltered. CAMRA members will understand that the product is not 'cask', but this is the case for the great majority of beers from the booming microbrewery scene in Ireland, and one can't argue about the quality of his ingredients.



Elbow Lane beers are named after different laneways (narrow streets) in Cork city.

Their **Elbow** lager uses German malt from Bamberg, with German bittering hops and Saaz aroma hops - it forms 40% of total sales.

Wisdom Ale is their Irish Red Ale. They use Irish malt, crystal malt and Fuggles and Pilgrim hops.

Jawbone Pale Ale uses Maris Otter malt and Cascade and Centennial hops.

Angel Stout is a distinctive Irish stout, certainly not a Guinness 'clone'.

Arrow Weisse is their wheat beer, with a distinctive flavour.

I tried all their beers and found them to be very good indeed, but the stand-out beer for me was the Arrow Weisse - an excellent (and medal-winning) example of the style. I wish it was available in the U.K., instead of just Cork, but that's the luck of the Irish. With typical Irish hospitality Russell pressed me to have pints instead of samples, but unfortunately I had a train to catch!

So the next time you holiday in Ireland, forget Dublin and come to the "real capital", as they say in Cork - you'll be sure of a warm welcome. While in Cork you can visit several microbreweries, but a must-visit is Elbow Lane (or their Market Lane restaurant next door), on Oliver Plunkett Street, for excellent food and beer.

Tell them CAMRA Durham sent you!

Phil Glass



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Pub closures- not a new phenomenon

Over the last 20 years well over 100 pubs have closed in Co Durham. The causes are legion, but not new – something similar happened towards the end of the 19th century.

Kelly's directory is a late Victorian/Edwardian version of yellow pages, which lists the names and addresses of prominent people and businesses in the towns and villages of the county - and of course, it includes pubs. It appears to have been published every year.

In the environs of Sedgefield the directories record seven pubs in the late 19th century which have long since closed, and in most cases it's possible to see the building they became on closure.

In Sedgefield town the directory records eight pubs - The Dun Cow, The Black Lion, The Golden Lion, The Hope, The Hardwick Arms, The Nags head, The Tenement beer house, and the Black Bull.

The **Tenement beer house** was on what is now Rectory Ro, but then called the Tenement. This was a pub that only had a licence to sell beer - no wine or spirits. In other words, a Beer House. It gets a mention in 1880 when the Landlord was John Ross, who was followed by Ian Iceton and finally Robert Bell, by 1900. It is last mentioned in 1906, after which it became a private house which was demolished in 1973 and rebuilt.

The **Black Bull** was opposite the Dun Cow and was closed by 1914, before which the landlord was Wm Walton and later Chris Metcalf. The building became the Co-op, but was demolished in the 70s and is now flats.

The **Nags Head** closed in 2016.

West of Sedgefield on what was the old A 689 lies the village of Bradbury. It once had a railway station, a church, and of course a pub, the **Plough Inn**. Last mentioned in 1890, the landlord being Thomas Bell, the pub is now a house but I recall it having a plough in a side garden.



One mile east is the hamlet of Sedgefield Station, which also had a pub. In 1856 it was called the Stag and Dragon, with landlord John Arthur, and later it was referred to as the **Station Hotel**. The building still stands, and opposite was the ticket office for Sedgefield station.



Black Bull, courtesy Sedgefield history society

Three miles south east of Sedgefield lies the village of Mordon, and its pub was the **Red Lion**. Unfortunately I have been unable to find where it was, as it isn't on either of the two C19 maps. Opposite where the road from Sedgefield to Darlington crosses the railway line lies a house called Mordon Lodge, also referred to as the Bread and Beer house. I wonder if this was the



Red lion, as I was told by an old chap in the early 80s it was a pub.

In the early C19 the road from Sedgfield to Hartlepool lay north of the A689 and led through the settlements of Butterwick and Embleton - and yes, they both had pubs

Butterwick in 1856 had a population of 51 and had a Beerhouse.

By 1880 the population had risen to 61 and the beer house became the **Red Lion** (right) the landlord being Anthony Fawell, but it had gone by 1890 and is now kennels.



More intriguing is the Village of Embleton, a mile north of the A689 near Wynyard. It's now only a handful of houses and a ruined church, but it had a population of 117 in 1880 and Thomas Tomlinson ran a pub called the **Hole House**. The building was only demolished in the 1990s and a new house built on the site.

So why in the late C19 did these pubs close? It wasn't due to a population decline, as Embleton's population in 1880 was 117 and in 1900 it was 114. Somewhat romantically I thought it the invention of the humble bicycle may have had a role, as people could cycle into Sedgfield where there was a greater variety of pubs.

However, the principle cause was probably the great agricultural depression which lasted from 1873 to 1896. This was caused by the repeal of the corn laws in 1846 (an import tax on foreign corn) and then the importation of cheap corn, initially from Europe then from the Americas. This was further compounded by cheap transport in the form of steam ships, and coupled with by a series of bad harvests in the 1870s kicked off the depression.

Corn prices didn't fall soon after the corn laws' repeal, as industrial growth and the railway boom kept them high. Later the Crimean war and the American civil war prevented large scale imports from Russia and the USA.

However, between 1870 and 1895 wheat imports had increased by 100%, meat by 300% and dairy by 115%. The price of wheat fell from 56/- a quarter to 27/-. You can still see, in what we would consider marginal land, evidence of cultivation in the form of ridge and furrow markings.

Therefore, the great agricultural depression led to the rural pub closures, but in Sedgfield village the two pubs mentioned didn't close until much later. Although an agricultural village the economy was boosted in late C19 by its new, burgeoning industry - County Durham's mental asylum, as it was known, aka Winterton hospital. I suspect the closure of the two Sedgfield pubs could be due to more subtle social changes including the temperance movement.

Here endeth today's history lesson. *Dr Peter Jones*

*The former Plough,
Bradbury*



Our Durham Beer Festival Hosts....

Durham City Rugby Club

An introduction

Just in case you were wondering about the new venue for the Durham Beer Festival, here's a potted history. Durham City Rugby Football Club is the second oldest Rugby Club in County Durham, having been formed in 1872, nine years after Darlington Rugby Club. The Club has produced several International players, with, in the modern era, Mike Weston, Stan Hodgson, John Ranson and Gareth Archer playing for England, and Richard Cramb for Scotland. Mike Weston and Stan Hodgson also played for the British & Irish Lions, while the club has fielded three England Captains in Mike Weston, Will Carling and Phil De Glanville – the latter pair played for Durham City while attending the University.

City have won the Senior Cup second most times of any club, and twice won every county trophy (1953 and 1958) and previously fielded six Senior Teams. Although that has now dwindled, our Mini and Junior Section is going great guns which augers well for the future.

This last season City 1st XV team just missed promotion to North One East League remaining in Durham and Northumberland One for another year, playing local sides at quite a high standard. City, a totally amateur Club, has its clubhouse at Hollow Drift, Green Lane, overlooking two pitches owned by Durham University, and itself owns two pitches near Shincliffe.

The club's third Clubhouse, and current home, was opened in 1992 by Mike Weston, Stan Hodgson, and President Ian Smith, and features a large bar and kitchen, with a smaller lounge upstairs.

The club prides itself on the choice of beers, lagers, and especially real ales, and has been recognised in local CAMRA "Club of the Year" awards.

*Many thanks to club member **Malcolm Rolling** for the information*

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*Price for paying by Direct Debit and correct at April 2017. Concessionary rates available.
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**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**

THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY



Good news—new outlets, re-openings, more beers, other nice stuff....

- The Stapylton Arms, Hawthorn has reopened with three ales on offer. See elsewhere in DD for the full story....
- The Seaton Lane Inn has reopened after major refurbishment, and real ale is still available
- The Dun Cow at Bournmoor has reopened with real ale
- The Bonny Moor Hen at Stanhope has reopened with three ales available
- Cask Marque accreditation has been received by the Cross Keys, Hamsterley
- The Hop Knocker bottle shop on Gilesgate has opened, offering all sorts of bottles
- The Station Hotel in Bishop Auckland has reopened after a refit and promises real ale soon



Bad News—no more real ale

- Queens Head, Crook
- Shildon Football Club
- Wheatsheaf, Barley Mow—now Nonna Molfada's Kitchen, an Italian restaurant
- The Langley Park, Langley Park



Ugly news—closures

- The Welcome, Bishop Auckland—for sale again.
- The New Inn, Durham, being converted to a coffee shop
- The Pemberton Arms, Cold Heseldon
- The Hardwick Arms, Sedgfield



BEER

B

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OCKTAIL



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Festival



Thursday 19th – Tuesday 24th July

30 Real Ales, Ciders & Perries

Plus a great selection of flavored sausages and a prosecco cocktail bar too

Entertainment

Thursday Evening: Award Winning Vocalist - Mea Deen

Friday Evening: Stand Up Comedy Night

Saturday Afternoon: Larry Page - Acoustic Session

Saturday Evening: Mr Q's Karaoke

Sunday Afternoon: Larry Page - Acoustic Session



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Town and Country

As reported in the last issue, our annual Pub and Club of the Year award-winners have been chose, and we've been out and about presenting certificates. Naturally, we took the opportunity to make a night of such presentations.

The **Three Horse Shoes** at Leamside, our Country Pub of the Year, marked the occasion by having a special brew from the adjoining Working Hand brewery on tap. Produced to celebrate a 60th birthday, Angry Baby IPA weighed in at 6% and went down very well, with some of the visiting CAMRA party doubting its stated ABV! With the range and quality of ales on offer, this could well be the first of many CAMRA awards for the Three Horse Shoes.



Daryl Frankland of the Three Horse Shoes

The Victoria, in Durham, took the Town Pub of the Year prize, and the fires in



the snug were stoked up to keep us warm as Chairman John Collinson and Pubs Officer Dave Thornton handed over the certificate to landlord Michael Webster. This was the umpteenth CAMRA award collected by the Vic over Michael's 40-odd years at the helm.

Meanwhile, Kay Drummond collected the Club of the Year certificate on a charity fundraising night at **Tanfield Lea WMC**, at which a packed club raised over £6,000 for prostate cancer research. Buying raffle tickets from someone doing a sponsored silence was interesting....



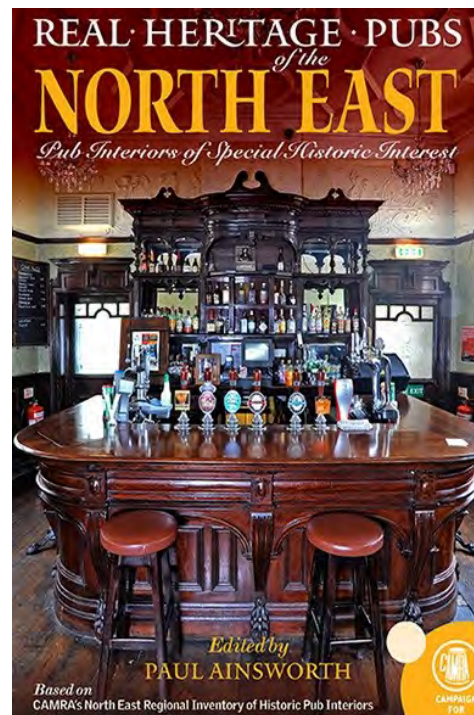
Heritage Pubs of the North East

If you like your pubs to look like pubs used to, this guide is available as a book - but the CAMRA heritage pubs group has now made it available free online, and it is a valuable guide to heritage pubs in North East England (defined in the guide as Co. Durham, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear and part of North Yorkshire) which has some 3000 pubs.

The guide covers the 40 pubs with interiors of national or regional historic or architectural importance plus a further six whose interiors are of some regional interest. These 46 pubs make up less than 2% of the total.

John Holland

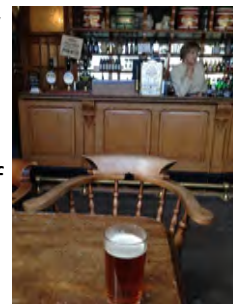
The first, hard-copy edition of this guide was compiled in 2006 by the late John Holland, who died in July 2017. John was a tireless campaigner for CAMRA over many years and held many important posts, including North East regional director for many years, followed by nine years on the National Executive. He had many passions within CAMRA but was a noted champion for clubs, chairing CAMRA's Clubs Working Group right up to his untimely death.



However, pubs, and especially heritage pubs, were also hugely important to him and his encyclopaedic knowledge of north-eastern hostelry greatly assisted the initial compilation of



this guide. He is greatly missed and this new edition of the guide is fondly dedicated to him.



<https://pubheritage.camra.org.uk/rhp/NorthEast>

The revitalisation vote

Well, we asked you to use your vote, and you did. The various motions proposed have been yea'd or nayed, with the following outcome, in a nutshell.

Approved:

- To secure the long-term future of real ale, cider, and perry, by increasing their quality, availability, and popularity.
- To promote and protect pubs and clubs
- To increase recognition of the benefits of responsible social drinking
- To provide information, education, and training to those with an interest in real ale, cider, and perry
- To ensure that wherever possible producers and retailers act in the best interest of the customer

New diversity and equality measures were also called for, and it was agreed that beer festivals should not be restricted to offering just real ale, cider, and perry. Members should not demand or expect discounts, as these are entirely at the discretion of the retailer. A controversial motion to reduce tax relief for small breweries was defeated by a large majority. This was a fairly sneaky attempt by larger companies such as Marston's, who own various breweries across the country (Banks's, Wychwood, Thwaites, Jennings), and can thus use the power of bulk buying to reduce costs, to eat away at the margins of their much smaller competitors, and its defeat thankfully means that the small producers can continue to be competitive.

Perhaps the most discussed motion called for CAMRA to represent drinkers of all beer, cider, and perry, and this was defeated as the campaign's members narrowly decided to stick to the "real" part of its title—the Campaign for Real Ale.

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2021 festival

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Hey there CAMRA members! Here's yer discounts!

- ◆ Clarence Villa, Coxhoe: 20p off a pint of Sonnet 43 beer for CAMRA members.
- ◆ Court Inn, Durham: 30p off a pint of real ale for CAMRA members.
- ◆ Duke of Wellington, Durham: 20p off a pint of cask ale for CAMRA members.
- ◆ Hare and Hounds, Westgate: First two pints of Weard'Ale beer half price with an evening meal or Sunday carvery. Table must be booked in advance.
- ◆ Lambton Worm, Chester le Street: 20p off a pint of Sonnet 43 beer for CAMRA members.
- ◆ Market Tavern, Durham: 10% off real ale for CAMRA members.
- ◆ Pelaw Grange Greyhound Stadium: Free entry to race meetings for CAMRA members.
- ◆ The Library, Durham: 10% off real ale for CAMRA members.
- ◆ Red Lion, North Bitchburn: 20p off a pint, 10p off a half on production of CAMRA card.
- ◆ Woodman, Gilesgate, Durham: 20p off per pint on production of CAMRA card.
- ◆ Bay Horse, Bishop Auckland

- ◆ Durham Brewery: 10% discount for CAMRA members in their shop.
- ◆ Green Tree, Bishop Auckland: 10p off a pint, 5p off a half on production of CAMRA card
- ◆ Chilton Country Club now offers 15% CAMRA discount on real ale and food
- ◆ Head of Steam, Durham. 20p a pint discount for CAMRA members
- ◆ Church Mouse, Chester Moor
- ◆ William Hedley, Durham—10%
- ◆ Ram's Head, Langley Park
- ◆ Merry Monk, Bishop Auckland
- ◆ No 17, Bishop Auckland

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Judgement Day

Nothing to do with Terminator, all to do with Regional Pub and Club of the Year judging. Each year, it falls to the various CAMRA branches in the North East region to visit nominated pubs and clubs in other branch areas. In CAMRA Durham's case, this is Darlington & the Dales, Cleveland, and Tyneside & Northumberland.



It's one of the more enjoyable tasks we have to carry out, so we hired a bus and visited a few such pubs and clubs—unannounced, of course, but I think they soon work out why we're there. On May 20th, we nipped into Darlington to visit **The Quaker House** and the **Snooker Club**, taking time out to have a swift game of doms—because we're crazy like that.

From there, it was a quick trip along the A66 to Stockton's **Golden Smog**, taking the opportunity to check out the nearby **Looking Glass** before we

headed up the A19 to the **Steamboat** at South Shields. While there, we hand a wander across the road to the **Alum House**, just because it's there, to complete our survey forms in the sun. Four venues, plus a couple of extras, and 47 beers to choose from.....57 if you started in the **Stanley Jefferson** and finished in **Caps Off** as the Bishop Auckland contingent had to, thanks to our bus pick-up and drop-off points. I expect those alighting in



Durham had similar choices.



There will be other survey trips, by all the local CAMRA branches, over the next few weeks, and once they're all complete, the scores for the nominated pubs and clubs will be collated, and from this the winners of the regional awards will be decided.



Watch out for future trips with CAMRA Durham being announced on our Facebook page, and in our online diary. We'd love to take you along and for you to contribute to the process.



<https://www.camradurham.org.uk/diary>



The Answers Bit

Grand Summer Quiz

1. Mackenzie, 2. Huddersfield, 3. Zero, 4. Donald Dewar, 5. Guys & Dolls,
6. [a] Hamburg, [b] Melbourne, [c] Marseille, [d] Cork, [e] Gothenburg,
7. Henry Bessemer, 8. Causey Arch, 9. Burrito, 10. A Hippopotamus

Picture Quiz

- 1 Ye Old Elm Tree, Durham, 2 Hamsterley Social Club, 3 The Red Lion, North Bitchburn, 4 The Victoria Inn, Durham, 5 The Waiting Room, Durham, 6 The Travellers Rest, Consett, 7 The Grey Horse, Consett, 8 The Stanley Jefferson, Bishop Auckland, 9 The Wicket Gate, Chester le Street, 10 The Merry Monk, Bishop Auckland



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North East Cider Pub of the Year 2013

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