



Issue 133

Summer 2019

CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

Durham Drinker



CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

39th

Durham Beer Festival

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

48 Real Ales

NEW!

Key Keg bar with at least 10
taps for Craft Beer Lovers

NEW!

8 Real Ciders and Perries

Food and Soft Drinks available

£5 entry

(includes glass hire and 1st beer token*)

* CAMRA & DCRFC members receive an extra token with valid membership card

Join CAMRA at the festival and receive
4 free beer tokens

Durham City Rugby Football Club

Green Lane, Durham, DH1 3JU

Wed 28th August 2019: 4pm - 10:30pm

Thu 29th - Sat 31st August 2019: Noon - 10:30pm

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



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Tel: 01913741918



Diary Dates:

- Monday June 10th, 7:30pm Branch Meeting, Ye Old Elm Tree, Durham
- June 10th-16th, Station House Cider Festival, North Road, Durham
- June 14th-15th, Durham Rowing Club Beer Festival, Green Lane, Durham
- Saturday June 29th, social bus trip. Contact branch for details
- Wednesday July 10th, 7:30pm Branch Meeting, Grand Electric Hall, Spennymoor
- July 20th and 21st, Weardale Beer, Cider, and Gin Festival, Village Hall, Eastgate, Weardale
- Saturday August 3rd, 12 noon, Durham Brewery 25th birthday, Bowburn
- August 8th-11th, beer festival, Grey Horse, Consett
- Monday August 12th, 7:30pm, Branch Meeting, Baa, Edmundbyers. Bus provided
- August 28th-31st Durham Beer Festival, City Rugby Club
- August 31st, 1pm North East Regional Meeting, Durham City Rugby Club
- Wednesday September 11th, 7:30pm Branch Meeting, Colpitts, Durham



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Hello, and welcome to Durham Drinker 133, and a long, hot summer. We hope.

CAMRA Durham have been out and about presenting the Pub and Club of the Year certificates (see pages 10 and 11 for some nice photos of the presentations) and putting together the 2019 Durham Beer Festival. After 2018's successful change of venue, we're sticking with the Durham City Rugby club for this year's event. The smaller venue proved much more "user friendly", and with beer festivals happening on an almost weekly basis over the summer, much more sensible in terms of size. The nearby Rowing Club have theirs in June, Eastgate Village Hall hosts the Weardale version in July, and various pubs and clubs across our area are holding their own events. In CAMRA's Summer of Pub, there's another excuse for supporting your local, or not so local, hostelry.

Following on from the local awards come the regional ones, and big congratulations go to the Sunderland & South Tyneside CAMRA's the Avenue in Roker, which has been voted the Regional Cider Pub of the Year. While we're on the subject of congratulations, McColl's of Evenwood have been voted best brewery and best new brewery in County Durham by Ratebeer, so well done to them.

Finally, CAMRA Durham's AGM was held in April, and the new committee voted in. See their names on p6, and come and meet us face top face at one of our Diary Dates listed on p2. We'd love to meet more members, and hopefully encourage them to become more active in CAMRA.

Cheers!

Paul Dobson

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- ***Durham's only CAMRA national inventory listed pub***

- ***Whiskey and Whisky galore!***



CAMRA Durham's Pub of the Year 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, & 2012. Town Pub of the Year 2014, 2017, 2018, Runner-up 2015. City Pub of the Year 2019. North East Regional Pub of the Year runner-up 2018

**Free House, 86 Hallgarth Street,
DH1 3AS 0191 3865269**

So you don't have to...

As last year's CAMRA Durham chairman John Collinson started it, this year's chairman Paul Dobson decided he'd continue it. Travel the world and seek out decent beer, that is.

The Greek Islands aren't a place you'd expect to find real ale, but on day one of my recent holiday in Kefalonía, we wandered up to the hotel bar and there, amongst the sea of Mythos, the national beer of the country, and the Alpha, Fix , and Amstel lagers, were two bottles that caught my eye.



I can see you...

First was the Fix Dark, from Athens. Although not bottle conditioned, it had much less of the fizz generally associated with “holiday beers” and was refreshing with a hint of liquorice—and at 5.2% had a fair kick. Much more interesting was the Kefalonía Beer, mainly because it had the magic word “unpasteurised” on the label. Closer inspection revealed a thin layer of sediment at the bottom of the bottle. Result! Real Ale in Greece. It's brewed at Karavomilos, near Sami (of Captain Corelli's Mandolin fame) by Kyriakos and Nikos Moraitis and Giannis Polixronatos, using Greek barley and local water. The Premium Lager weighs in



at 5%, and is light, citrusy, and refreshing, while the harder to find Siora Red Ale, at 5.8%, has a bit more body and may be more familiar to your taste buds.

So there you have it—you don't have to

stick to the mainstream holiday beers.

Take a little time to look beyond the obvious , and you might just find something more to your taste. Yamas!



CAMRA Durham committee

Chairman & Public Affairs Officer: Paul Dobson

Vice Chairman: John Collinson

Treasurer: Sean Quilty

Secretary : Steven Spencer

Membership secretary: John McAninly

Durham Drinker, publications, & campaigns: Paul Dobson

Apple Rep (cider) & Wear Valley Pubs: Paul Dobson

Pubs officer: Dave Thornton

Website editor: Neil Shaw

Social Secretary: (interim) John Collinson

Technical Officer: Nick Young

LocAle Co-ordinator: Joe Davison

Pubs Preservation: Peter Jones

Social Media Officer: Neil Wakelam

Minutes Secretary: John McAninly

Club Campaigns: Dave Thornton

Brewery Liaison Officers

Durham: Neil Shaw

Consett Ale Works: John Collinson

Hill Island: David Thornborrow

Yard of Ale: Arthur Corner

Stables: John Collinson

Weard'Ale: Paul Dobson

Blackhill: John McAninly

Working Hand: Joe Davison

Sonnet 43: Peter Jones

Castle Eden: Arthur Corner

McColl's: Graeme Wade

Hopper House Farm: Peter Jones



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tive advertising rates.***

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members are visiting.***

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Find us at:

www.camradurham.org.uk

And Facebook, and Twitter

Hare & Hounds, Westgate

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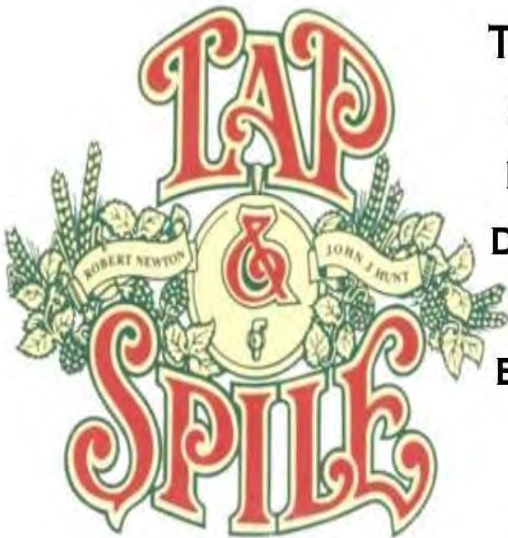


Happy Birthday The oldest of our
breweries,

Durham cele-
brates its 25th
birthday this

DURHAM
EST. BREWERY 1994

year. Since its inception in 1994, Durham has
received 75 awards, with beers such Even-
song, Magus, and Cloister recognised in the
Real Ale in a Bottle category by CAMRA locally,
regionally, and nationally. There's a celebratory
festival on August 3rd, when at least a dozen of
their ales—old favourites and newer brews—
will be on offer. Go to [https://
durhambrewery.com/shop/entry-to-25th-
anniversary-beer-festival/](https://durhambrewery.com/shop/entry-to-25th-anniversary-beer-festival/) for details.



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FRAMWELLGATE MOOR, DURHAM

YOU CAN'T MISS US!

Pub Signs and Names: a Brief History *Joe Davison*

Pub signs came to Britain at the time of the Roman conquest of our island. Wine bars in ancient Rome used to hang vines outside as a trading sign but the Romans found very little sign of vines here, so they hung out bushes to mark out the inns.

The name **Bush** or **Bull and Bush** still exists today.

It was many years before the first recognisable pubs appeared on the scene. The first true inns were run by religious establishments to cater for pilgrims and knights on their way to the Crusades in the Holy Land, and the early pub names reflect this theme. Supposedly the oldest pub in Britain is **Ye Olde Trip to Jerusalem** whose cellars are carved from the rock beneath Nottingham Castle. Other signs reflecting this theme that are still in existence include **the Turk's Head**, **Saracen's Head**, and **the Lamb and Flag** —the lamb representing Christ, and the Flag the sign of the crusaders.

Religious connections remained, even after the dissolution of the monasteries in the 16th century, with names such as the **Mitre**, the **Ship** (representing the Ark) and the **Anchor** (representing the Christian faith). However, many landlords thought it prudent to show allegiance to the king with such names as the **King's Head/Arms** or the **Crown**. Even though he ordered the dissolution, **Henry VIII** was the most popular name, and we've also seen the **Queen's Head/Arms**, and, more specifically, the **Victoria**. The **Dun Cow**, a name peculiar to the North East, refers to the tale of St Cuthbert.

Many pubs names have connections to Royal coats of arms. **Black**, **White**, **Red**, **Blue**, and **Golden Lions** have all featured on coats of arms since Norman times - Houghton le Spring once boasted all but the Blue version. The **Unicorn** was in the Scottish coat of arms, the **Red Dragon** in the Welsh coat of arms, and the **White Horse** in the Hanoverian coat of arms. The **Rising Sun** was the badge of Edward III.

Popular characters also get a mention - **Lord Nelson**, **Marquis of Granby**, and **Wellington** spring to mind, as do **Robin Hood** and **Dick Turpin**.

In the days when very few of the population could read, a sign was a way of advertising the type of entertainment offered inside the pub. Many of these names are self explanatory as in **Fighting Cocks**, **Cock Inn** and **Cock Pit**. The **Bear** denotes bear baiting, the **Dog and Duck** hunting, and the **Bird in Hand** falconry.

Other names reflect the types of trade predominant in the area i.e. **Golden Fleece** (wool trade) **Smith's Arms** (blacksmiths) **Bricklayers**, **Joiners**, or the **Woodman**.

As the population became more mobile in the 18th century new names such as **Coach and Horses** began to appear, and later the **Railway Tavern** and the **Station**. Others simply refer to the pub's location, such as the **Bridge**, the **Stone Bridge**, the **Toronto Lodge**, the **Market Tavern**, the **Crossings**, and the sadly closed **Newton Cap**, while Durham's **Court Inn** is close to the prison and Spennymoor's **Winning Post** is close to the dog track.

More recently, most pubs in the Wetherspoon chain refer to a famous local person, such as the **Stanley Jefferson** (Stan Laurel) in Bishop Auckland, or give a nod towards the building's previous use, such as the **Water House** in Durham. And **Grand Electric Hall** in Spennymoor, a former cinema.

Sporting achievement is celebrated in South Church, where the **Red Alligator** is named after a Grand National winner, while famous beasts both real and fictional are remembered in Coundon's **Durham Ox** and Chester le Street's **Lambton Worm**. Meanwhile, micropub the **Infant Hercules** in Middlesbrough refers to Gladstone's description of a developing industrial town in 1862, and Stockton's **Golden Smog** is a tongue in cheek reference to the resultant Teesside atmosphere, while Durham's mining past is reflected in Seaham's **Coal House** and **Coal Face**, and the **Colliery** near Crook—now the **Copper Mine** - while the **Grange Foundry**, long gone from Belmont, is self-explanatory—as is the now demolished **Armstrong** in Newcastle, formerly the **Hydraulic Crane**.

No doubt pub names and signs will continue to evolve- but there's a story behind every name.

Pub and Club of the Year awards

The PHOTOS!



The Black Bull, Frosterley, the Black Lion, Wolsingham, and the Grey Horse, Consett



Caps Off Bishop Auckland, the Grand Electric Hall, Spennymoor, and the Station House, Durham



The Station House, Durham, (two awards, two photos) the Three Horse Shoes, Leamside, and the Victoria, Durham



The Surtees Arms, Ferryhill Station, the Butchers Arms, Chester le Street, and Durham City Rugby Club

For the record, the awards went to:

- **Town Pub of the Year:** Grey Horse, Consett. Runner up, Butchers Arms, Chester le Street
- **City Pub of the Year:** Victoria, Durham. Runner up, Station House, Durham



Tanfield Lea Club

- **Country Pub of the Year:** Three Horse Shoes, Leamside. Runner up, Surtees Arms, Ferryhill Station
- **Club of the Year:** Tanfield Lea WMC. Runner up, Durham City Rugby Club
- **Cider Pub of the Year (City)** Station House, Durham. Runner up, Head of Steam, Durham
- **Cider Pub of the Year (Town)** Caps Off, Bishop Auckland. Runner up, Grand Electric Hall, Spennymoor
- **Cider Pub of the Year (Country):** Black Bull, Frosterley, Runner up, Black Lion, Wolsingham

Congratulations to all our winners and runners up, and thanks to our members for casting your votes.



CAMRA has launched a national, summer-long event to encourage folks back to their local pubs. Licensees are encouraged to celebrate events over the summer months, such as the Women's World Cup (June 6th—July 6th) and Beer Britain Day (June 15th) by promoting them at their pubs.

Ben Wilkinson, CAMRA's national director said: "You don't have to go on a march or demonstration to be a pub campaigner - anyone can get involved. t's as simple as heading out for a pint this summer and encouraging your friends to join you."

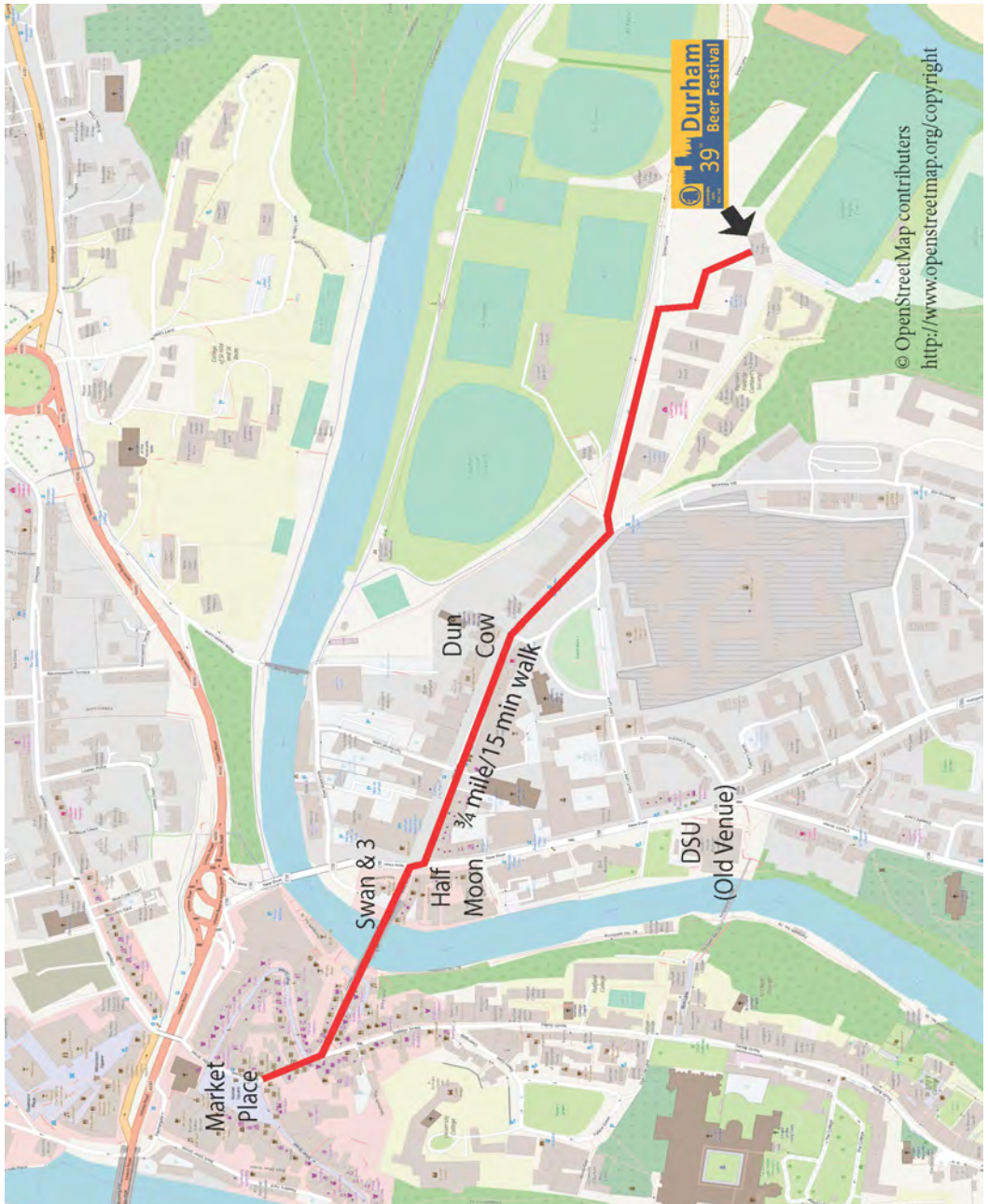


Ben added: "We want to remind the public what makes our nation's pubs so special."

So there you have it—an excuse to go to the pub, as if you needed one.

BEER FESTIVAL MAP

In case you're unsure of our location, turn the page around and follow the red line from the Market Place to the Rugby Club. See you there!



National Cider and Perry awards



CAMRA has announced the best Cider and Perry in Britain to be **Mayfayre's Cider** (Herefordshire) and **Cleeve Orchard's Perry** (Ross-on-Wye). The winners were revealed at the Reading Beer and Cider Festival, home of the National Cider and Perry Championships.

Mayfayre's Cider impressed judges for being well-balanced and more-ish, boasting distinct spicy and woody notes and a dry aftertaste. In contrast, **Cleeve Orchard's Perry** won the title for its floral and full-

bodied flavour, which had a hint of smoke in the aftertaste.

The competition follows more than a year of local tasting panels and regional heats that culminated at the Reading Beer and Cider Festival (2-5 May). Festival-goers have the opportunity to sample the winning drinks along with 150 ciders and perries, 550 beers, foreign beers, wines, and mead.

Andrea Briers, Chair of CAMRA's National Cider and Perry Committee said:

"Huge congratulations to both **Cleeve Orchard** and **Mayfayre** for their exemplary products. As we know, cider and perry flavours can vary significantly from year to year and harvest to harvest, so seeing such distinct quality is incredibly important.

"**Mayfayre**, which is based in Herefordshire, exemplifies the very essence of traditional cider right in the home of England's cider country. **Cleeve Orchard** also impressed judges with its West Country Perry. Owner Lewis Scott has worked with CAMRA to campaign for greater support for small producers, and is a great example of how a local producer of the area can gain national recognition with a quality product."

The winners were:

Cider

GOLD – Mayfayre's Cider (Herefordshire)

SILVER – St Ives Forager (St Ives)

BRONZE – Ampleforth Abbey (North Yorkshire)

Perry

GOLD – Cleeve's Orchard Perry (Ross-on-Wye)

SILVER – Ralph's Medium Perry (Powys)

BRONZE – Out of the Orchard Perry (Newent)



Aren't pubs great?

The value of pubs cannot be overstated, with the pub and beer industry supporting nearly 900,000 jobs in the UK and contributing £23.6bn to the UK economy annually.

CAMRA commissioned research from Oxford University which found that people who have a local pub are happier, have more friends, and feel more engaged with their local communities.

Many pubs help provide space for the local people to meet, tackle loneliness, and strengthen the local community, and we're currently losing fourteen of them every week.



Therefore, in order to bring happiness, friends, and engagement with your local community, go to the pub. Better still, join CAMRA and help protect and preserve this great British institution, then go to the pub.



THE BONNY MOORHEN

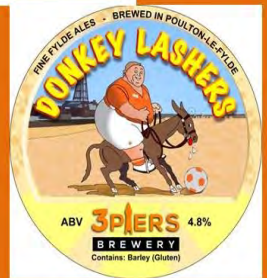
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County Durham's latest Brewery

Hopper House Brew Farm

Yes, it's a new brewery and real ale outlet, but in some ways it's a blast from the past. Hopper House brew farm is a brewery and bar in old milking parlour on a farm one mile south of Sedgfield race-course on what is called Racecourse Road, or Darlington Back Lane.

The dream of two real ale rugby enthusiasts, Ian Grieve and Steve Brown, it was conceived in the spring of 2018 and work started on converting the semi-derelict milking parlour in July of the same year.

The brewery, which you walk past on entering the bar, is a 4.5-barrel plant, with the new equipment manufactured in Germany. They currently brew four beers, all with dairy cow inspired names. Ian is the brewer, but the first brew and equipment purchasing/assembly was helped by Shaun White, late of Wetherby brewery.

Their first brew is **Gudders Gold** a 3.8% session beer, and is golden with slight bitterness, which was quickly followed by **Me and the Farmer** - a light blonde



*Before and after
the tap room
"repurposing"*

*Photos by P.
Jones & B.
Clasper*



ale with citrus undertones and a crisp finish, also at 3.8% . Thirdly was the porter, **Dark side of the Moo**, a chocolate infused brew weighing in at 4.6 % , and last but by no means least, the beer with no name. A double hopped citrus IPA at 4.2% that was served on the opening night at Easter, with several names suggested. While I voted for **Herd it on the Bovine**, the winning suggestion was **Pasture Bedtime**. Let's see if that one sticks!

At the moment, the bar has only got a temporary licence for a few weekends pending a permanent one, but on its first weekend, Easter weekend, it sold all its beer bar the porter, and received help from the Three Brothers Brewery in supplying ale for the Sunday.



Farm pubs were common in the past, but probably the best known existing one in the North East is the **Sun Inn** in Bilsdale on the North Yorkshire moors, about four miles south of Chop Gate. It is sometimes referred to as the **Spout House**, as that was the name of the older pub that stands inactive next door - but can be visited. The Sun sold real ale in the past but no longer does, although it's still worth a visit - if you're going down Bilsdale towards Helmsley, it's on the left,

close to what is often described as the world's most improbable cricket ground. As Mike Amos explained in the Northern Echo, hitting a passing motorcyclist might be a six, hitting Madge Ainsley's clothesline - well within the boundary - counted for nothing, and Prince Harry played there twice (2007 and 2009), under the name of Spike W.

On our home patch, and closed over a decade ago, was the **Dun Cow**, also known as the **Cow Tail**, or **Doad's** in deference to consecutive landlords of that name (Old Doad and Young Doad, obviously) at Old White Lea, near the hamlet of Billy Row, north of Crook. A notoriously difficult place to find, it was an unspoilt rural gem that was also a farm pub. It was a frequent GBG entrant that had been a pub since 1830, and was famous for its hand-fed coal fire, and kitchen range in the front room.



Just over the border in Northumberland, and close to Hadrian's Wall, **High House Farm** opened a brewery some years ago, and while it remains a 200 acre working farm, the brewery side has expanded to include a wedding venue and restaurant. In theory, you could have the hen do, the stag do, and the wedding without leaving the premises! They brew a range of 18 beers, all with farming names such as Nel's Best (Nel being a sheepdog) or Lizzie's Dimples (to celebrate the owners' daughter turning 21), and are open every day but Wednesday, from 10:30 until 5pm.

There were several other farm pubs in the area, but the details on them are very sketchy as they generally converted to single use (either a farm or a pub) many years ago, so let's got back to the present.

For the time being, the **Hopper House Brew Farm's** current limited hours are best discovered through their website at <https://www.hopperhousebrewfarm.co.uk/beers>

OUR HERO

Consett Ale Works has launched a new beer to celebrate the fact that it's almost 30 years since Glenn McCrory became the very first person from the North East to hold a boxing world title

Labelled **Our Hero**, the 3.8% traditional English Pale Ale was launched by Consett Ale Works at The **Grey Horse** pub, in Sherburn Terrace, Consett, with a talk by McCrory on Monday, April 8th.

The boxer's historical feat took place on June 3, 1989, when he landed the Cruiserweight title at the Louisa Centre in Stanley, in front of 1,500 spectators and a live international television audience. With him at the launch was North East playwright Ed Waugh, who has written ***Carrying David***, a one-man comedy-drama outlining McCrory's dramatic rise and the role the boxer's terminally-ill brother David played in that historic feat. ***Carrying David*** is touring the region in May and June.

David Wilkinson of the award-winning **Grey Horse**, said: "Glenn is a sporting superstar hailing from north-west Durham, so it was a no-brainer to celebrate his brilliant achievement to link in with the 30th anniversary of his victory and ***Carrying David***."

Consett Ale Works brew beers to celebrate the region's industrial heritage of shipbuilding, coal and steelmaking which have forged the backbone of our proud northern landscape. Glenn is a product of that wonderful heritage. His father was a Consett steel worker and his four uncles were miners in local pits."

Glenn said: "I joined Consett Sports Centre boxing club aged 12 and my amateur boxing debut took place on October 6, 1979, in Witton Gilbert working



men's club - a fortnight after my 15th birthday. Great memories. I trained in Consett for the world title fight - running the Consett moors every day with my wonderful trainer Alan Walker who still lives in Castleside. I even ran a pub



there. I'm delighted Consett Ale Works are brewing a beer to commemorate the world title. It's a canny pint, as well."

Gone but not forgotten

The demise of **George Samuel** brewery of Spennymoor means that there's no more of its famous **Harvey** beer. Just to remind you of what you're missing, here's a picture of one of the last pints pulled, at the **Station House** in Durham. Brewer Andrew Ferriman has kept the recipe, so perhaps one day we'll see **Harvey** again...please!



If you've read Durham Drinker over the last year, or so you'll know we're no fans of the Pubs Code and its Adjudicator, who has proved to be as much use as (insert your own wisecrack here). The Government must have read DD as well, as they've recently announced a public consultation on the Pubs Code. CAMRA believes this legislation should be reformed in order to help safeguard pubs across England and Wales

The Pubs Code was established in 2016 and regulates the tenancies of large estates of tied pubs in England and Wales. It is enforced by a



Pubs Code Adjudicator. Information on the Code and the Adjudicator can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pubs-code-and-adjudicator/pubs-code-and-adjudicator> Since its introduction, CAMRA has raised concerns about the failure of some pub companies to act within the spirit of the Code, and has drawn attention to ways in which it believes the legislation could be improved. CAMRA's observations about the Code, as it currently exists, can be found in the document here: https://www.camra.org.uk/campaign_resources/policy-submission-to-the-beis-select-committee-on-the-pubs-code-and-adjudicator/

In summary, CAMRA believes that when Parliament brought in the Pubs Code, its intention was for "Market Rent Only" arrangements to be a realistic option for publicans – but in reality, the number of pubs which have been able to adopt such an arrangement and break free of supply ties has been very small. The Government is required to review the Pubs Code and the Adjudicator's performance regularly and the first review, covering the period to 31 March 2019, has just been announced. The government is seeking views and evidence which will inform its statutory review of the Pubs Code and the performance of the Pubs Code Adjudicator.



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Steven Robertson
ON STAGE FROM 2PM

Sunday 21st July
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ON STAGE FROM 2PM

Saturday 20th July
Sophistrio
ON STAGE FROM 2PM

Saturday 20th July 12 pm - 11 pm
Sunday 21st July 12 pm - 9 pm

Ticket Information at www.facebook.com/eastgatevillagehall



Picture Quiz

can you name these local hostelries?

1



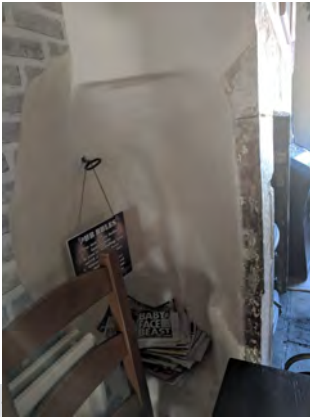
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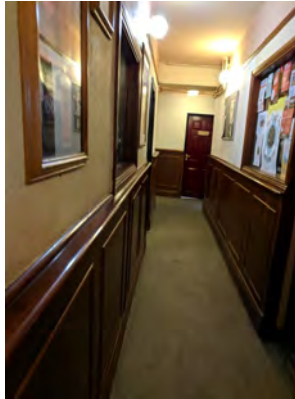
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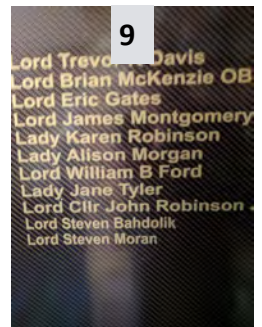
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8



9



10



Answers inside back page

CAMRA members get discount here....

- Italian Farmhouse, 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.
- 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.
- Chilton Country Pub & Hotel, Fencehouses: 15% off real ale and food for CAMRA card carrying members
- The Woodman, Durham: 10% off a pint of real ale for CAMRA card carrying members
- Green Tree, Bishop Auckland: 10p off pint, 5p off half cask ale on production of valid CAMRA membership card
- Durham Brewery, Bowburn: 10% discount for CAMRA members in their brewery shop on production of card
- Head of Steam, Durham: 20p off a pint of cask ale for card carrying CAMRA members
- Church Mouse, Chester Moor: 20p off pint of cask ale to card carrying CAMRA members
- Merry Monk, Bishop Auckland: 25p off pint of cask ale to CAMRA card carrying members—and there's a loyalty card
- Bay Horse, Bishop Auckland: 20p off per pint cask ale to card carrying CAMRA members
- Langley Park, Langley Park 20p off a pint of cask ale to card carrying CAMRA members
- Three Bridges, Durham 10% discount on cask ale for CAMRA members
- The Waiting Room, Durham 5% discount on cask ales (not keg) on production of valid CAMRA membership card
- Miners Arms, Medomsley, 20p a pint on production of valid CAMRA membership card PLUS Mon-Fri and Sunday, 10% off food
- Packhorse, Burnopfield, 10% off real ale on production of valid CAMRA card
- Grey Horse, Consett, 10p a pint on production of valid CAMRA card

Please let us know if you find anywhere else being nice to us, as we might have missed some

New light through old windows



We hear a lot of news concerning pub closures, and the negative effect this has on communities, but sometimes things are the other way round. In CAMRA Durham's area, for instance, there have been a number of pubs which have reopened, and also premises changed into pubs. Think back four or five

years to some of the pubs that were closed then, but have since re-opened and are doing well. In **Bishop Auckland**, the **Merry Monk**, formerly the Sportsman, in the Market Place, was sitting empty and unloved but since being taken over by Christian Burns in late 2016, it has had new life



breathed into it and is now an established part of the local pub scene. The **Stapylton Arms** in **Hawthorn** was closed and a conversion to residential use was imminent until the application of an ACV (Asset of Community Value). It's now been a bustling village local for over a year, with real ale a firm favourite.



The Hope Inn in **Sedgefield**, closed for several years, reopened as the **Impeccable Pig** in 2018.



There are also several examples of pubs which didn't used to be pubs. Look at **Durham city**, for instance. The **Waiting Room** on the northbound platform of the railway station used to be...the waiting room. At the foot of the road down from the station, under the viaduct, is the **Station House**,



which was previously an interior design office, while the **Holy Grale** on Crossgate was, until recently, a shop specialising in comic books. Two gin bars have opened in former retail units – the **Tin of Sardines**, on Elvet Bridge, and **Old Tom's** on Milburngate, while on the outskirts is the **Hop Knocker** bottle shop, on Marshall Terrace, **Gilesgate**.

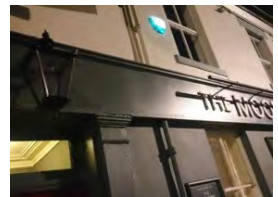


Over in **Seaham**, the **Coalhouse** opened in 2018 in a former betting shop on Church Street, and more recently the **Coalface** opened on the same street. Both offer at least three real ales. Between those two, the **Oddfellows Arms** has reopened after a lengthy closure and refurbishment, and is offering real ale for the first time.



Back in **Bishop Auckland**, the former driving test centre has thrived as **Caps Off** for the last few years, while a nearby fast food restaurant is now the **Smokehouse**, which offers food and real ale.

Elsewhere in this issue are some words about the **Hopper House Brew Farm**, near **Sedgefield**— its bar was, until recently, a milking parlour. Again in **Bishop Auckland**, Amber Inns are in the process of converting the former Marks and Spencer store on Newgate Street into the **Tap & Tun**, to add to a portfolio which includes Ferryhill's Dean and Chapter, Consett's Whistle Blower, and Spennymoor's Brewers Arms. Just around the corner from the Brewers Arms, the Salvin Arms lay dormant for a few years before reopening as the **Moors Tavern**, closely associated with nearby Spennymoor Town football club, and offering three real ales.



It would be wonderful if we never lost any pubs, but the examples above show that if there's a demand (and that's crucial), then pubs can, and do, thrive.

The Good—Real Ale now available, and other nice things

- The Smokehouse, Railway Street, Bishop Auckland
- The Oddfellows, Seaham—real ale for the first time in a generation
- The Travellers Rest, Crook, has a new landlady who is looking to increase the range of real ale
- Hopper House Brew Farm, near Sedgfield has opened with a tap room
- Ram's Head, Langley Park, after refurbishment
- Dun Cow, Bournmoor, after refurbishment
- Sticky Wicket, Chester-le-Street (formerly Austin's, inside the Emirates Riverside cricket ground)
- No real ale, but new bars: Blue Eye, Durham. Holy Grail, Durham. Bishops Tavern, Bishop Auckland



The Bad—real ale removed



- White Swan, Crook
- Elliot's, Crook
- Coach & Horses, Butcher Race (Croxdale)
- Manor House, Ferryhill



The Ugly—closures & stuff



- Plans to convert the closed Punch-bowl at Satley to residential use
- Blacksmith's Arms, West Auckland
- Old Fleece, Bishop Middleham





Whats On - Summer 2019

June Old Faves - a selection of the brews that have proved most popular

July Tap Takeover
Hadrian Border Brewer



Aug Tap Takeover
High House Farm Brewery

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Guest Ales
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Market Tavern, Durham



Cask ales and traditional food

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10% discount for CAMRA members

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Grand Summer Quiz

Answers inside the back page

1. Which four football league grounds and former football league grounds can be seen on the closing credits of East Enders?
2. Who wrote the novels The Great Pursuit and Vintage Stuff?
3. Which is the only property on a standard Monopoly board which lies south of the Thames?
4. With which solo Artist did Queen have a number one in 1891 with Under Pressure?
5. What name connects the 1970 and 1998 winners of the Eurovision Song Contest?
6. What is the only anagram of the word "English" ?
7. How many men have walked on the moon?
8. How many pairs of chromosomes does a human have?
9. What sort of nuts would you find in a Waldorf salad ?
10. Which is larger, Brazil or Australia?

THE STAPYLTON ARMS HAWTHORN VILLAGE – SR7 8SD



**North East Region Parliamentary
Pub of the Year Winner 2019**

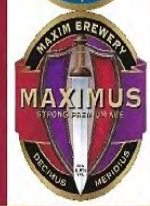
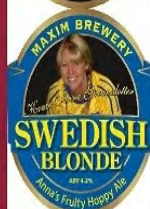
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Save UK Pubs

Ever wonder how national campaigns start? Then read on....

The licensees of two *Good Beer Guide* listed pubs in St Albans have been named CAMRA's top campaigners. The award, announced by CAMRA director Nick Boley at the Member's Weekend, recognised the campaigning work of the Boot's Sean Hughes and Christo Tofalli of Ye Old Fighting Cocks against punitive levels of business rates imposed on the city's pubs in the 2017 rates review. Nik said the pair's local campaigning efforts, which included an online petition against the rates rise, had now become a national campaign against punitive business rates. Hughes and Tofalli launched **Save St Albans Pubs** as a result of fears that many of the city's 50 pubs could close as a result of the rates increases. The pair faced a combined rates rise of more than £80,000, which they calculated would mean they would have to sell an additional 180,000 pints to pay for it. **Save St Albans Pubs** started as an online petition in the two pubs and was taken up by other pubs in the city. Following a meeting between the licensees and St Albans MP Anne Main, she arranged a meeting with publicans and Treasury officials where the publicans argued the case for a review of business rates for pubs.

Treasury minister Robert Jenrick asked the publicans to provide an analysis of the national impact of business rates for pubs, and as a result, **Save St Albans Pubs** has broadened out into a national campaign called **Save UK Pubs**.

The pair were nominated for the award by South Herts branch using information supplied by St Albans resident and What's Brewing contributor Roger Protz, who said: "The Campaigner of the Year award is fiercely contested and the fact it has gone to Sean and Christo is recognition of their passionate determination to save pubs as hubs of their communities."

The award was received by South Herts branch secretary Steve Bury who said the award was well deserved as it has now become part of a national campaign. From little acorns.....





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~ TO THE WORKERS ~

**Please
score
your beers!**



WhatPub

0. No cask ale available.
1. Poor. Beer that is anything from barely drinkable to drinkable with considerable resentment.
2. Average. Competently kept, drinkable pint but doesn't inspire in any way, not worth moving to another pub
3. Good. Good beer in good form. You may cancel plans to move to the next pub.
4. Very Good. Excellent beer in excellent condition.
5. Perfect. Probably the best you are ever likely to find. A seasoned drinker will award this score very rarely.

data.beerscoring.org.uk

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why we joined.
[camra.org.uk/
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Join us, and together we can protect the traditions of great British pubs and everything that goes with them.

Become part of the CAMRA community today – enjoy discounted entry to beer festivals and exclusive member offers. Learn about brewing and beer and join like-minded people supporting our campaigns to save pubs, clubs, your pint and more.

Join the campaign today at
www.camra.org.uk/joinup

*Price for paying by Direct Debit and correct at Jan 2018. Under 26 concessionary rates available. Please visit camra.org.uk/membership-rates



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~ **TO THE WORKERS** ~

The Answers Bit...

Picture Quiz. 1 = Three Bridges, Durham. 2 = Black Bull, Frosterley. 3 = Colpitts, Durham. 4 = Tap & Spile, Framwellgate Moor. 6 = Swan and three cygnets, Durham. 7 = Wicket Gate, Chester le Street. 9 = Moors Tavern , Spennymoor. 9 = Court Inn, Durham. 10 = Queens Head, Cockfield

Grand Summer Quiz.

1. Upton Park/Boleyn Ground (West Ham United), City of London Stadium (West Ham United) , the New Den (Millwall), and the Valley (Charlton Athletic)

2. Tom Sharpe

3. Old Kent Road

4. David Bowie

5. Dana and Dana International

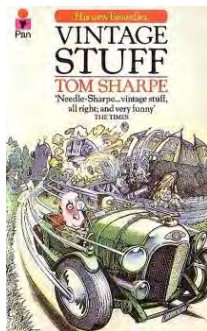
6. Shingle

7. Twelve

8. 23

9. Walnuts

10. Brazil



12

23





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