

Issue 145

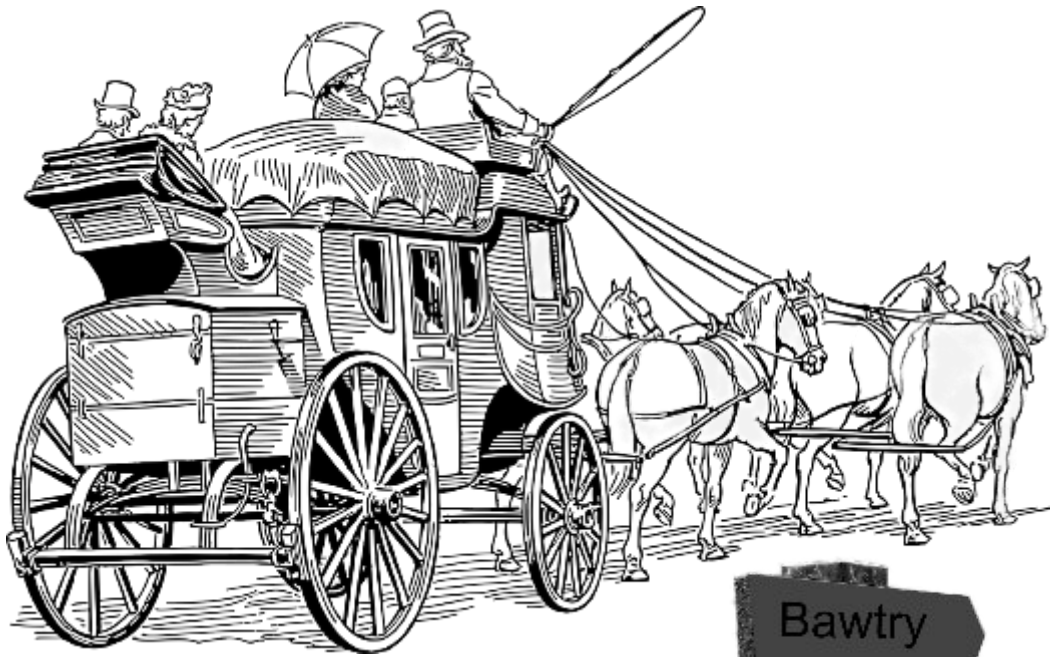


Donny Drinker

The magazine of the Doncaster and District Branch of CAMRA

Spring 2020

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Step out of your comfort zone

Many CAMRA members join because they believe in what it stands for or to go to the odd beer festival where they can enjoy some of the benefits of CAMRA membership. There is, however, much more to membership and through the branch there are so many opportunities to explore and enjoy the world of pubs and real ale.

Pubs offer more than just 'drinking holes' and it's good to take yourself out of your comfort zone and experience the broad range of pubs and clubs in our branch area. We work hard to keep you informed of what's going on. We work even harder through our socials to give members great opportunities to try new pubs and beers along with others.

The Doncaster and District CAMRA branch area is huge and covers parts of several counties. We've got your usual town centre pubs, pubs in former mining communities, rural pubs, pubs of all sizes and pubs with their own breweries, to mention just a few. If you look

hard enough you will find pubs with quizzes, pubs that have rock music, pubs that feature blues and folk music, pubs that have sing-along and play-along-sessions. You can even practice a foreign language in one, learn to play a musical instrument, find out more about how brewing is done, play poker, darts or dominoes and actually get the chance to talk to strangers who may become friends.

Is it time in your life to break away from the TV, computer or mobile? Is it time to replace the fictional world of the pubs in Eastenders and Coronation Street with something real? If it is, and you're feeling brave, go and explore pubs that are unknown to you. Do some research by reading CAMRA's Good Beer Guide or go on Whatpub on the internet where nearly all the pubs in our large area can be found. Look at our Facebook and website and, for a good list of varied social events, you can do no better than read the branch diary in this magazine.

**DONCASTER
BREWERY
& TAP**

**EASTER
BEER
FESTIVAL**

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CASK ALES**

10 KEG BEERS

**6 TRADITIONAL
CIDERS & PERRIES**

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BRATTYS

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SPRING PUBS OF THE SEASON 2020

DONCASTER - The Leopard, Town Centre

Over the last few years, The Leopard has become, probably, one of the most popular pubs in the town centre and well deserving of the Doncaster Camra 'Pub of the Season' for Spring 2020.

Situated on the corner of West Street and St Sepuchre Gate, the earliest reference to The Leopard is around 1821 but the present premises dates to a rebuild around 1909. The tiled exterior still bears the famous Newark-on-Trent brewery name of Warwick and Richardsons, which latterly became part of the John Smiths Group.

The pub was refurbished and reopened under the DCCE (Doncaster Conferences Catering and Events) umbrella in August 2014 after it was highlighted as part of the Star newspaper's 'Save Our Pub' campaign, something still very close to the heart of any Camra member. The aim was to "create a place where people could meet, drink, eat and relax", which I think, has certainly been achieved. The convenience of a location near the Interchange and town centre, and with excellent floral displays on the outside of the building, all go towards playing a part in attracting passing visitors.

The Leopard has a great musical history with a tradition of supporting up-and-coming bands, usually found performing in the upstairs function room. Playing an important role in the Doncaster music scene for many years, they have become one of the top venues for live music in the area. With a Facebook page and website at www.leopard-doncaster.co.uk, you are able to browse through the upcoming events on offer that may take your fancy. Otherwise, for a quieter visit, the two rooms as you enter through the main double doors are made up of a bar with pool table to the left and a lounge to the right. Both, I must say, very comfortable, with up-to-the-minute sport

accessible on the big screen televisions and food available to order throughout the day.

With a wide variety of real ales on offer, there are 3 hand pumps in each bar, and, being free of tie, always a good selection to choose from. Well-maintained by manager Adrian Smith, you will often find a good dark beer like Titanic Plum Porter (a firm favourite!), alongside bitters and pale ales. The beers are usually sourced locally from the likes of the many Sheffield and West Yorkshire micro-breweries, Ossett being one of the most popular. Adrian will occasionally introduce a beer from further afield, a popular choice being Oakham Citra from Peterborough. More recently, beers from one of the Leopard's sister venues, The Old Brewhouse at Cusworth, home of the 1086 Brewery, have graced the bar. Throwing in a traditional cider, along with gins and other fine beverages, results in a well-stocked bar offering, I think, something to suit everyone's taste.

With a warm welcome guaranteed from Adrian and his lovely staff, why don't you come along and join us on Wednesday, 15th April at 9pm for the presentation of this Doncaster and District Camra Spring Pub of the Season award.



Alison Bailey

DISTRICT - Tom Pudding, Goole

After featuring in the last edition of Donny Drinker as one of our 'visionary' pubs, the Tom Pudding has gone on to win our Spring District Pub of the Season award.

The history of the creation of the pub has been well documented but this award is more about the result of its achievements. Alan and Simon have worked hard to build up a reputation for running an excellent micro pub. It's not easy with limited space to build up sufficient custom to make it profitable. They are proud of the fact that since opening they have served enough real ale to fill over 1200 casks and this is made up of about 527 different real ales from 82 different breweries. About 97% of these real ales have come from Yorkshire breweries and they are proud to be members of CAMRA's locale scheme. They try to maintain a traditional bitter on one handpump, a dark beer or mild on one, and the two other pumps have golden, blonde or other types of beer on, so there is something for every type of real ale drinker. According to Alan, Stallion and Stud from Hambleton brewery were two particular favourites of the regulars.

Of the five hand pumps on the bar, four dispense cask beers and the other one is devoted to real cider. There are not many of our pubs offering a range of real ciders but they also have two or three boxed ciders.

If you walk into the pub and want to quickly check what beers are on there is a blackboard with all the current beers/ciders and the price. The price of a pint is such good value for money that a customer from London queried whether it was for a pint or a half pint. There is also the ingenious use of a pole to which has been attached pump clips of the beers that are in the cellar waiting to replace the existing ones.

The pub offers a big range of drinks. Bottled beers are available including gluten free and low alcohol versions of well-known beers. Continental lagers are also available in bottled form. There is no less than forty gins plus flavoured tonics along with a selection of seven to eight single malt whiskies including 'Filey Bay', Yorkshire's very own single malt whiskey. For wine drinkers there is a selection of New World wines.

Other than what Simon refers to as 'Yorkshire Tapas' i.e. pork pies and scotch eggs, there is no food available although you will find nuts and nibbles. There are regular Thursday music evenings but you will find no Sky sports, TV or juke box. They survive on witty conversation in a convivial atmosphere. They also claim, following an upgrade, that they have the best pub toilets in Goole but the branch has yet to test this.

If all this sounds interesting to you, there are trains and buses from Doncaster that will get you to Goole. The pub is not far from the station. The branch will be visiting the pub on Saturday, 18th April to present the award to Alan and Simon at 8pm. See the branch diary in this magazine for further details.

Trevor Jones



BRANCH LINES: Information for branch members

Normally, at this time of year, I am writing to ask members to consider volunteering to help us as we finalise the arrangements for our next beer festival. We have received a number of enquiries on this subject and I want to assure everyone that we will let you all know as soon as we can. This year things are moving along at a different pace. We are currently considering a number of options and are in talks with those concerned, including CAMRA in St Albans. The outcome of these negotiations should be known soon and able to be announced. In the meantime, please bear with us and look out for more news on the website, social media, and through this publication.

I've also been contacted recently by members asking how they can obtain copies of Donny Drinker now that it's no longer posted. So, if you're a member who is missing their regular copy of the 'Drinker' and has just happened upon this edition in a pub, please note we have set up a number of collection points across the branch's area. We want to make it as convenient as we can in the circumstances, to pick up a copy and hopefully one of the pubs shown will be not too far from you. Please share this bit of info amongst fellow members who might be in a similar position and simply not know that they can pick up a copy from one of these outlets.

The collection points have been revised recently so I have included a new list below. It is our intention that the pubs listed will always

have a stock of magazines available. If the holder is empty, please ask at the bar. Why not have a swift half (or even a pint) whilst you're there. Who knows, they might have your favourite beer on, or one you've not seen for a while. If you find something unusual available during your visit, or learn of any other snippet of pub news, please let our pubs officer know. His e-mail address appears elsewhere in this edition.

Donny Drinker collection points:
 Doncaster Brewery & Tap, Young Street, Doncaster
 Draughtsman, Platform 3b, Doncaster Station
 Eagle & Child, Main Street, Auckley (Little) Plough: West Laith Gate, Doncaster
 Old Market Hall, Market Street, Mexborough
 Queen's Head, Queen Street, Epworth
 Tom Pudding, Pasture Road, Goole
 Wheatsheaf, Church Street, Armthorpe
 Windmill, Queen Street, Thorne

That's all for now, but don't forget that those with access to the Internet can access copies of this publication on-line, via the website. Back copies are also available. www.doncastercamra.org.uk
Ian Jones: Chairman and Membership Secretary

Ian Jones - Membership Secretary

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including brewdog & a wide range of
bottled beers.

 **LIVE SPORTS** - sky sports & bt sports
inside and out.

 **PATIO BEER GARDEN** - large walled
outside area.

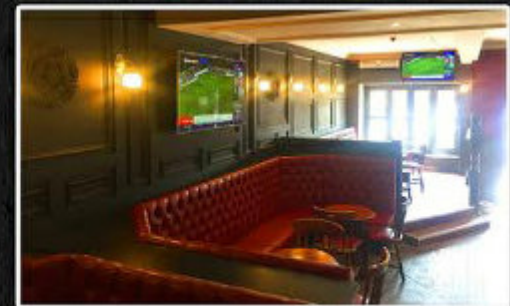
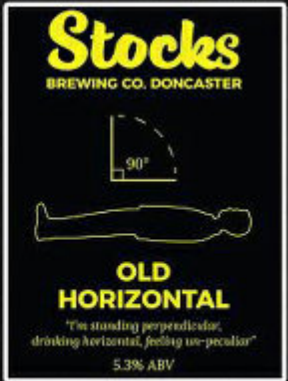
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Town Centre

The Hallcross no longer provides real cider but they continue to sell their range of Stocks real ale and an occasional guest beer.

The Rum and Rock in Cleveland Street is now closed.

The Doncaster Brewery & Tap is holding their annual Easter Beer Festival from the 8th April at 5pm until the 13th April at 5pm. There will be 20 hand pulled cask ales, 6 traditional ciders and perries and 10 keg beers. The Pizza Trail will be on site making pizzas to suit all tastes. Ian's bratties which will be unfeasibly large and may contain sausage. Volunteers are invited to contact Alison to put their name on the staff rota (payment in beer).

Doncaster District Area

At Thorne the **Windmill** had a good variety of 4 real ales on offer which were Kelham Island Pale Rider, Westgate Zest, Stancill Barnsley Bitter and Don Valley Bit o' That. **The Punch Bowl** also had 4 real ales from Old Mill which were Traditional Bitter, Jack's Batch, Southpaw and Blonde Bombshell. Finally at Thorne, the **Barge Inn** had Pennine Blackcurrant Porter as their ever-changing real ale. We are pleased to report that **The Old Vault** has reopened following a refurbishment. The place looks very different.

At Sprotbrough, the **Ivanhoe** has been reopened.

The **New Inn** at Stainforth now has Cask Marque accreditation.

The Mayflower at Austerfield is subject to a planning application to demolish it and replace it with a 12 appartments. It is being considered by the Parish Council.

The Plough Inn at Arksey is now under new management and seems to be doing very well. They are featuring beers from the Navigation Brewery in Nottingham. On a visit we found they had New Dawn and Patriot. They have recently had a 'Meet the Brewer' evening featuring the beers of Navigation Brewery.

The Oak at Tickhill is currently closed. We believe **The Millstone**, which has been closed for some time, has been subject to a planning application for a supermarket.

At **Hatfield Chace** a member was quite surprised at the selection of beers available. Wainwright's , Sharps Doombar and Sea Fury plus a Xmas ale. Lilley's Cheeky Pig Cider was put on for Christmas and if it proved successful they intended to retain it. He always finds Neil (the manager) and his staff friendly

and helpful plus the added bonus is they accept CAMRA real ale vouchers. The pub is also popular with live sports fans. Despite the many problems in their community, the **Hare and Hounds** at Fishlake is still open and featuring two cask ales. On a recent visit the ales in question were Bradfield Bitter and Bradfield Farmer's Blonde.

North Lincolnshire

At Haxey, where the fortunes of the three pubs seem to be constantly changing, we are pleased to report that 2 of the 3 pubs are now open. They are **The Loco** and the **Kings Arms**. **The Duke William** is currently closed. In December the Loco's featured cask ales were Fox Brewery's Grizzly Bear, Stockport Brewery's South Island Pale and 3 Piers Northern Gold. See elsewhere in this issue for details about the Kings Arms.

North Yorkshire

A planning application has been approved for change of use of **The Railway at Henshall**. We will be monitoring the situation. At Kirk Smeaton, the **Shoulder of Mutton** now has 3 handpumps with the regular beers of Black Sheep Best Bitter and Bradfield Farmers Blonde being joined by a guest beer which, at the time of writing, was Stancill's Barnsley Bitter.

At the **Jenny Wren** in Beal we found Old Mill La Bolsa and Jack's Batch on offer.

The Bay Horse at Great Heck were offering three Old Mill beers which were Traditional Bitter, Jack's Batch and Blonde Bombshell. In Norton at the **School Boy** a member recently had an excellent pint of Wychwood Hobgoblin Gold.

The **George and Dragon** at Whitley Bridge had Eagle Young's Original. The 2 pubs at Kellington were visited. The **Red Lion** featured Brown Cow White Dragon, Sharps Doom Bar and John Smiths Cask while **Kellington Manor** had Saltaire Blonde.

East Yorkshire

We are sorry to report that **The McIntosh** at Goole has been closed for some time.

The **Jemmy Hirst at the Rose and Crown** is now displaying its new signs featuring their new logo. They have had a successful Xmas featuring a number of events which the locals and some CAMRA members all enjoyed.

December found a group of Doncaster CAMRA members in Sheffield for three presentations for awards from our 2019 Beer Festival in June.

The train we intended to catch had been cancelled but, because we are enthusiastic real ale drinkers, we got the next train to Paradise. The first of which was at The Albion, a Stancill pub. During the tasting session at the beer festival, Stancill's Hopollo 11, a 4.3% pale, was voted the winner in the golden ale category. Adam from Stancill was there to receive the award and while we were there it gave us an opportunity to sample their Shelby, India, Stainless and Ginger Pale real ales. Adam gave us the history of Stancill Brewery while we enjoyed the great beers on offer.

Our next presentations were at Triple Point Brewing. Triple Point celebrates its first anniversary in March this year. They are brewing where Sentinel Brewing used to be. This is also where their Tap is. Triple Point won their first award in the IPA category with their aptly named Debut IPA, as it is their first IPA. It is a 5.5% brew using Citra, Chinook, Simcoe and Mosaic hops. This IPA was also the runner-up beer of the whole festival. We were pleased to present both awards to George who had them hanging on the wall within minutes of

receiving them. On the bar we had a choice of 5 Triple Point brews, S IPA, Cryo, Gold, and Debut IPA, which had just sold out! They also had Wisewood 7 from Lonely Brewery.

We were also doing another presentation while we were there, to Little Critters Brewery. Their Nutty Ambassador was also on the bar for us to enjoy! Mark from Little Critters was there to receive his award for his Raspberry Blonde, a 4.5% fruity session blonde. It was the runaway winner in the speciality beer category. It was a great day out. I for one will be returning to both these pubs, as well as all the other fantastic real ale pubs on offer in Sheffield. Hope you will try them too!
A week later members then visited Yorkshire Ales at Snaith where we had yet another brewery award to give to Spotlight Brewery which is based at Snaith. Ric and his staff were presented with 2 awards. One was for best Porter at the festival with Fragile X which went on to win the best beer at the festival award. We enjoyed a great evening and thanks to Yorkshire Ales for hosting the event.

Kate Hadfield



1. Presentation to Little Critters Brewery
2. Presentation to Stancill Brewery
3. Presentation to Triple Point Brewery
4. Presentation to Spotlight Brewery



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PUB AWARDS



**Doncaster Winter
 Pub of the Season
 The Wheatsheaf,
 Armthorpe**



**District Winter Pub
 of the Season
 Baxter Arms,
 Fenwick**

KINGS ARMS, HAXEY REOPENS

In these times of pubs closing down it's nice to report of one re-opening. I am pleased to inform you the King's Arms in Haxey opened in mid-December.

Talking to some of the customers on a recent visit, the pub had been closed for a year and was starting to look a little run down. With hard work and a lot of TLC the pub is now back looking as good as new.

The new owners Bill Hanson (the licensee) and his partner Jim Pinder are both local to the area. Bill having recently returned to Haxey from London where he worked in several pubs/bars and worked as a magician, so he should be able to pull something out of the hat ! (Sorry) Jim is a builder and, so I'm lead to believe, a talented singer., He tells me they have one or two ideas for the Kings Arm's!

Now for the good news - Bill is a real ale lover and at present they are serving Moorlands bitter, Green King IPA and Doombar. This could all be changing soon as he hopes to source his beer from a new micro- brewery opening shortly in Haxey. I will keep you updated when I know

more. Bill and Jim have hinted that they will be offering a CAMRA members' discount so ask at the bar. Bill has already worked some of his magic with a little help from his customers. They won this year's Haxey Hood. Congratulations to all concerned.

Mel Downe



BREWERY NEWS

Spotlight Brewery

They have had a busy few months at Spotlight Brewery starting with November when they teamed up with Wild Card Brewery from London as part of 'The Social Brew Collective', a collaboration project uniting six of the UK's most exciting and innovative craft breweries. They have created a series of beers proving how brewing can be inclusive and accessible to all. The campaign created three eclectic tasting beers, each brewed in collaboration with a different Social Enterprise brewery. They brewed up a hazy, juicy pale ale full of Citra and Mosaic which they launched in London at the beginning of December, followed by a launch at the Doghouse in Selby a few days later.

They also received their first-ever awards which were from our beer festival last year. They celebrated with a little tap takeover at Yorkshire Ales in Snaith where the branch members, with a little help from the regulars, managed to polish off a full cask of the award-winning Fragile X and their session pale, One More, in one night!

After a busy Christmas selling their hand-bottled beers, they are looking forward to their plans for this year. With Tryanuary, followed by February they hope to sell more beer. If you haven't tried their beers get down to your local and tell them about Spotlight.

In February they held their second beer festival at Pollington with a selection of their beers alongside ales from other favourite breweries. The next big project for later in 2020 is their first taproom. Hopefully, more details on that will be in the next Donny Drinker.

Doncaster Brewery

Doncaster Brewery continue to brew every other week. Some beers are new brews and others are back by popular demand. Brews since the last Edition of the Donny Drinker include numerous brews of Sand House Blonde and ...

- First Aviation Pale - a 5% Pale ale
- AD71 Pumpkin Porter. This was brewed in October and the casks have already been drunk so you will now have to wait until Oct 2020.
- Town Fields Winter Ale was brewed in November and is a very tasty 6.6% Belgian-style pale ale. A proper winter warmer.
- 305 SQDN is a bitter brewed with Polish Hops. It is named 305 SQDN after the Polish SQDN who flew Wellington and Lancs during the war out of Lindholme Air Base.
- Green Oak is a 4% pale ale and was brewed 4 years after its first appearance. This beer is named after the Morris Group who have their home at Doncaster Brewery.

Don Valley Brewery

The current beers are:

- Gongoozler 4.5% 5-malt stout
- Bit o' That 4% Yorkshire session bitter.
- Atomic Blonde 4.3% Pale ale with a citrus nose.
- Green Go Your Own Way 5% IPA

There are also seasonal beers being brewed of which the last two were a ruby red ale called Rock 'n' Roll Ruby and a tiramisu porter called Brown Sugar.

Their beers have been seen recently at the Cadeby Inn and Restaurant, Jack Hawley at the Grange, White Swan and, of course, the Don Valley Tap in the wool market in town.

LATE NEWS: Old Mill Brewery have raised £300 for Save the Children Fund through their Christmas Jumper Day activities just before Christmas. Well done.



Don Valley Brewery Tap

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Housed in the original brewhouse of Cusworth Hall, The Old Brewhouse serves ales direct from the 1086 Brewery, so you can enjoy a choice of IPA, Pale Ale or Bitter.

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and can be enjoyed at discerning venues across the borough of Doncaster and Cusworth Brewhouse.

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SATURDAY 10AM - 11PM
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- Sports fans well catered for.
- Awarded on numerous occasions Doncaster CAMRA's Pub of the Season.
- Listed on CAMRA's National Inventory of Historic Pub Interiors.

Opening Hours

Mon - Thu 11am - 11pm

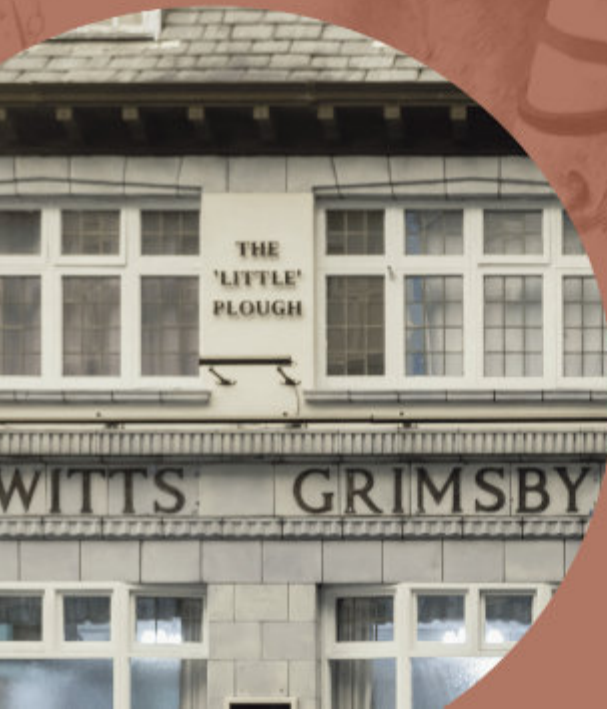
Fri/Sat 11am - midnight

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REAL ALE PUBS IN THE BRANCH AREA

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 Adwick upon Dearne
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 Percy Arms
 Arksey
 Plough L
 Armthorpe
 Castle Park *
 Horse & Groom
 The Sportsman
 Wheatsheaf LDCW
 Auckley
 Eagle & Child WL
 Austerfield
 Mayflower
 Balby
 The Spinney
 Balby Carr Bank
 Woodfield farm
 Balby (Woodfield Pltn)
 Maple Tree
 Barnburgh
 Barnburgh WM Club L
 The Crown Inn
 Barnby Dun
 The Olive Tree
 Bawtry
 Ship W
 Turnpike
 White Hart
 Bar and Brasserie CDL
 Beal
 Jenny Wren
 Belton
 Crown
 Wheatsheaf
 Belle Vue
 Town Moor Golf Club L
 Bentley
 Bay Horse
 Bentley Town End
 Three Horseshoes L
 Bessacarr
 Flying Childers
 Toby Carvery
 Blaxton
 Blue Bell W
 Braithwell
 Butchers Arms
 Branton
 Three Horse Shoes

Burghwallis
 The Burghwallis Pub
 Cadeby
 Cadeby Pub & Restaurant
 LDCTG
 Clayton
 Clayton with Frickley Club L
 Conisbrough
 Hilltop L
 The White Lady
 Cusworth
 Old Brewhouse G C L D
 Doncaster
 Ballers Sports Bar
 Black Bull L
 Corner Pin
 Doncaster Brewery Tap LC
 Don Valley Tap LDCWG
 Gatehouse LW
 Horse & Groom
 Leopard DL
 Marketplace Alehouse &
 Deli LC
 Hallcross
 Little Plough L
 Masons' Arms
 Queen Craffhouse C
 Railway D
 Red Lion WL
 Salutation LC
 Social
 The Angel and Royal
 The Courtyard
 The Draughtsman Alehouse
 The Lockwood
 The Mallard
 Town Field Sports Club
 Tut 'n' Shive D
 White Swan L
 Yates
 Yorkshire Grey C
 Dome/Lakeside
 Beefeater Lakeside
 Cheswold
 Edenthorpe
 Eden Arms D
 Beverley Inn
 The Ridge Wood
 Epworth
 Old School Inn
 Queen's Head
 Red Lion

White Bear
 Fenwick
 Baxter Arms W
 Finningley
 Harvey Arms W
 Fishlake
 Old Anchor Inn
 Hare & Hounds
 Goole
 City & County LD
 Goole Town Cricket Club*
 Macintosh C
 North Star Marina Club
 The Drake
 The Viking
 Tom Pudding L
 Victoria Hotel
 Great Heck
 Bay Horse L
 Hatfield
 Bay Horse
 Hatfields
 Hatfield Chace
 Ingram Arms
 Jack Hawley at the
 Grange DL
 Haxey
 Kings Arms
 The Loco
 Hickleton
 Hickleton Village Hall
 Club*
 Hook
 Blacksmith's Arms
 Hooton Pagnall
 The Hostel L
 Kellington
 Kellington Manor Hotel
 Red Lion
 Kirk Sandall
 Glasshouse
 Kirk Smeaton
 Shoulder of Mutton
 Marr
 Marr Lodge D
 Mexborough
 Imperial LTG
 Old Market Hall LW
 Pastures Lodge
 The Falcon

Micklebring
 The Grazing Harts
 Norton
 The Schoolboy
 The Royal Hotel
 Owston
 Owston Hall & Golf Club
 The Owston
 Owston Ferry
 Crooked Billet
 White Hart
 Pollington
 King's Head L
 Rawcliffe
 Jemmy Hirst at the Rose
 & Crown LC
 Rawcliffe Bridge
 Rawcliffe Bridge Club*
 Reedness
 Half Moon Inn
 Rossington
 Styrrup
 Sandtoft
 Reindeer W
 Scawsby
 Mallard
 Scawsby Mill
 Sun (Inn)
 Snaith
 Bell & Crown
 Black Lion
 Brewer's Arms L
 Plough
 Yorkshire Ales
 Sprotborough
 Boat Inn W
 Ivanhoe
 Newton
 Stainforth
 New Inn
 Sutton
 Anne Arms
 Swinefleet
 The Ship Inn
 Sykehouse
 Old George Inn
 Thorne
 Barge Inn
 Canal Tavern
 Punch Bowl L
 The King's Chamber
 The Old Vault D

Windmill L
 Thorne High Levels
 Black Bull
 Tickhill
 Carpenter's Arms
 Scarbrough Arms L
 Tickhill Cricket Club
 Wadworth
 White Hart
 West Cowick
 Ship W
 Westwoodside
 Carpenter's Arms
 Wheatley
 Strawberry Island Boat*
 Club (Private Club)
 The House Martin
 Ukrainian Club * L
 Wheatley Hotel
 Wheatley Hills
 Cumberland
 Whitley Bridge
 George & Dragon
 Woodlands
 Highwayman
 Woodlands Snooker Club
 Wroot
 Cross Keys

We try to provide correct information. If it is inaccurate or there are details missing then please contact the pubs officer at pubsofficer@doncastercamra.org.uk.

Abbreviations

L	The pub is Locale registered and regularly serves at least one beer from breweries within 30 miles of the pub.
D	CAMRA member discount available
C	Traditional ciders and perries are available
W	Wheelchair access may be possible but no disabled toilets.
T	Wheelchair access and disabled toilets
G	The pub allows dogs inside to all or part of the pub (Please ask)
*	Pub/Club may have restricted opening times

BOTTOM OF THE BARREL

It's a tough life running a pub in the modern era. You'd think that at least the pub companies would be on the side of their tenants and licensees – but unfortunately, that's not always the case as Ed Anderson found out.

In 2017 Ed, the tenant of a pubco pub, objected to a practice carried out by his parent company by which, according to the beer tie, he was forced to buy barrels of real ale which nominally contained 72 pints. He was being charged on the basis that all those pints can be sold. Now, as most real ale drinkers are aware, not all of that beer is drinkable. On average, 4 pints of the content of a barrel is actually sediment. After getting hold of a list of sediment amounts from company, Ed calculated that he was guaranteed to lose at least 4% of all draught drinks a year, based purely on sediment and losses while cleaning out lines.

Ed was given a 2.5% allowance by the pubco to cover sediment and wastage from beer not sold. Using that figure the pubco then gave him a profit forecast and a rent based on that forecast. Ed considered both those figures to be unrealistically high and decided to launch a legal challenge. The result of that challenge was issued in July last year but was not made public until recently.

The Pubs Code adjudicator ruled that the company had broken the Pubs Code by failing to provide Ed with information about the amount of saleable beer in the barrels he was forced to buy. The standard 2.5% allowance could be "both inadequate and inappropriate" so the pubco was ordered to issue Ed with a compliant rent order. The pubco has since agreed a "market rent only" tenancy with Ed which means he can now buy

cheaper beer on the wholesale market. At the time of writing the company still hasn't issued the corrected rent order which would confirm how much rent Ed has overpaid. He thinks that could be in excess of £15,000.

Ed is by no means the only tenant of a pubco to face this problem. And other pubcos are just as guilty in not reporting sediment. It's just that the company is the first to be challenged in this way. The Pubs Advisory Service is considering a PPI-style action against the company on behalf of tenants. Until that happens, and the pubco is forced to pay out, this problem will continue.

The situation faced by Ed Anderson is only one of the many issues facing our pubs and licensees on a daily basis. When the pub companies, which own so many of our pubs, present obstacles like the one described here, it's no wonder pubs are struggling.

In the early 1990s the government of the day thought it would help the pub industry if the power of the "Big Six" breweries of the time was diminished. However, some of the pubcos which replaced those breweries own more pubs than their predecessors ever did. And at times they don't seem to have an empathy with the licensed trade. They're as much property companies as owners of a great British institution. Before the recent general election all CAMRA members were encouraged to ask their parliamentary candidates to commit to supporting pubs, beer and customers. I'd like to think this new intake of MPs would do that – but I won't hold my breath.

Dave Bartley

BOOKS FROM CAMRA

Forthcoming book titles to be sold on the CAMRA website include:

- *New heritage books to link up the north and south*
- *A new title to help you plan your Beer Breaks across Europe and beyond*
- *Celebration of the last 500 years of British brewing with Family Brewers of Britain by award-winning beer writer and CAMRA expert Roger Protz*



BEER FESTIVALS ARE DEAD or is it LONG LIVE THE BEER FESTIVALS?

It has been a well covered story over the last few years that the attendances at beer festivals are down. This much is fact but it will inevitably lead to the more vexing question of why? This is a much harder to answer and has led to all manner of explanations. As always, people have their own agendas and points to prove and are keen to blame the decline on their own personal hobby horses. I've heard it blamed on, no craft beer, too much craft beer, unimaginative beer ordering, over-imaginative beer ordering, market over-saturation, and not attracting enough women/young people/old people/traditional drinkers/new drinkers amongst a lot more. So what is the answer?

Personally, I think you have to start by looking at why people started going to beer festivals in the first place. Beer festivals go back almost as long as CAMRA. When the first determined campaigners set out to extol the virtues of the drink they loved, they were almost always hit with the same question. This real ale sounds fantastic, but where can I get some? In those days real ale pubs were few and far between and free houses even rarer. Almost all pubs were owned by breweries. The 'Big Seven' national brewers were doing their best to remove it from their pubs and whilst real ale was being championed by the traditional family brewers, they too operated on a tied system. As a result you could only find one brewery's beer in any one pub.

The result of all this was a total lack of choice. Even in areas where real ale was strongest you could only get a couple of brewery's beers. Very often a brewery would only brew a couple of beers with very few changes. Youngs, in London, brewed a 'Bitter' and a 'Special' which was supplemented in Winter by a stronger 'Winter Warmer'. And that was it. Week after week, year after year.

The regional breweries were, by definition, regional so you could only find them in one part of the country. Here, though, they could have a near monopoly. For instance, the village I grew up in in Cheshire had 14 pubs, 10 of which were Greenall Whitley. They sold a 'Bitter and a Mild'. There were two Sam Smith's pubs, (Old Brewery Bitter) a Burtonwood (Bitter) and a Thwaites (Bitter and a Mild). That was it. 14 pubs and 6 different beers never changing.

With this landscape in mind the first beer festival organisers booked a hall with a licence, contacted a few breweries from outside their local area and ordered 40 or so different barrels of beer. All of a sudden people were exposed to such exotic delights as Theakston's Old Peculiar and Marston's Pedigree. It's no wonder the idea took off and expanded so rapidly.

As time moved on the number of beer festivals grew. It seemed every town and city wanted one. New ideas were brought in to make them more interesting. Festivals offered real cider, local wine, street food, music and entertainment. Existing breweries expanded their range and new breweries opened to meet the demand for different beers. This resulted in more beer festivals and more choice.

Brewers and publicans alike could see how popular a choice of beers was. As a result this started to affect the overall market place. After seeing the success of local beer festivals pubs started to introduce guests, then two guests. Real ale 'themed' pubs developed with 8, 10, 12 or even more beers available as the trend for choice continued.

Move forward forty years to where we are now. Beer choice is everywhere. Back in my village the Thwaites pub is now a free house with 11 hand pumps serving a constantly-changing selection of beers. This pub alone sells twice as many different beers in a week than the whole 14 pubs used to sell in a year. In a town like Doncaster on a normal weekend you can find upwards of 50 different real ales available in the various pubs. If you visit a week later about 40 of them will have changed.

Modern beer festivals have changed from those first ones 40 years ago. They are generally more people-friendly, have more products and good entertainment. However they are still essentially just a big hall full of barrels of beer. When this sort of choice is available on people's doorsteps week after week it's then easy to see why people are choosing not to come to beer festivals. In the pub the beers are all served through hand pump by people who do the job week in and week out. There's plenty of comfortable seating in a very pleasant environment. Food if you want it. Entertainment too or a nice quiet pint.

In my view what has happened isn't that the beer festival hasn't died. It is just that it is now available in every town centre in the country every single week of the year. It is the ultimate example of something that is a victim of its own success. There are literally hundreds of permanent beer festivals running continuously. I may be wrong and it could be because there aren't enough aubergine-flavoured black IPAs or live Peruvian nose flute mood music to bring the punters in but I do think this is the main

reason for the declining numbers. However, CAMRA shouldn't be bemoaning this but should, instead, be very proud of what it has achieved. This is exactly the result those early pioneers would have wanted. Rather than having to organise, promote and work at the festivals themselves all CAMRA members need to do now is sit back and enjoy the beer.

Julian Clarke

Editors Note: There has been considerable discussion at the branch about this subject and there is no doubt there are a few contributing factors to decreasing attendances at some CAMRA beer festivals, although there are still many CAMRA festivals that are very successful. The Doncaster branch is not enjoying the luxury of sitting back at the moment while real ale and pubs are under constant threat. We are proud of the original CAMRA pioneers and hope to continue the tradition of our larger scale festivals in Doncaster to compliment the good work pubs do.

THE WHITE LADY

We read of many pubs closing every week so it's pleasing to be able to report the opening of a new pub.

On 25TH Of September 2019 Donna and Clive Aitken opened Conisbrough's new micro-pub, the White Lady, at 6-7 Excelsior Court, Church Street DN12 3HQ. They acquired the keys to the building on August Bank Holiday and started conversion work straight away, creating a ground-level cellar, a serving area and a drinking area. Three handpumps, mounted on the back wall of the servery to reduce lineage, dispense cask beers and eighteen different brews were served in the first eight weeks of opening. Two traditional ciders are also available.

The building was previously occupied by Greathead's funeral directors and is situated in a 1992-built courtyard off Church Street which is a conservation area in a historic town with a castle. Donna had worked for a solicitor and, with Clive, ran a Prosecco bar from a converted horsebox trailer as a hobby. Bottled beer from Chantry was also served from the horse box and the brewery has been very supportive of the new venture. When Donna was made redundant by the solicitors they decided to open a micro-pub supporting local breweries. Clive has connections with Surrey and occasionally brings beers from that county for the bar; customers now recommend brews to try. Hairdressers from the salon next door often call in for a half between cuts, returning the glasses afterwards

The name comes from local legend which purports that a lady was thrown from the castle and now haunts that edifice.

The pub opens at 4pm on Tuesdays to Thursdays and noon on Fridays to Sunday. It doesn't open on Mondays. There are plenty of buses between Doncaster and Conisbrough. First X78 and Stagecoach 220 and 221 serve Church Street and stop almost opposite the pub but, in true railway fashion, the station isn't near the town.

We wish Donna and Clive all the very best with their venture. Please give it a try - you'll be made very welcome.

AEC Regal



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JACK'S BATCH 34

Jack's Batch 34, created with Yorkshire cricketer Jack Leaning in support of The Three Bears Foundation, is now available in bottles!

Jack said "I'm really pleased that Jack's Batch 34 will now be accessible to everyone. I think we've created a beer that can be enjoyed at home or in your local."

Head Brewer Ryan Truswell added, "We'd be foolish not to bottle this fantastic ale. Demand has been high since it went national with Heineken UK, and we are also raising even more money for the Three Bears Foundation, moving towards a cure for pancreatic cancer."



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CAMRA VOUCHER SCHEME

This pub offers CAMRA members a discount.
Find out more:
www.camra.org.uk/discountscheme

From the 1st July CAMRA replaced the Wetherspoon vouchers with a new CAMRA-owned and operated voucher scheme. All new and renewing members will receive £30 worth of vouchers comprising of 60 x 50p individual real ale, cider and perry vouchers, which are time-stamped with a start and end date.

All existing Wetherspoon vouchers you may have will still be valid during the periods they cover and the new vouchers are in addition to any real ale discount offered to CAMRA members by individual pubs.

The vouchers are accepted by over 1,470 pubs nationwide, including J D Wetherspoon, Stonegate, Brains and Castle Rock managed pubs. At the time of writing CAMRA indicates that the following pubs in our area will accept the vouchers.

Town Centre – Red Lion, Gate House, Yates, Yorkshire Grey
Hatfield – Chace
Airport (Air side) – Running Horse

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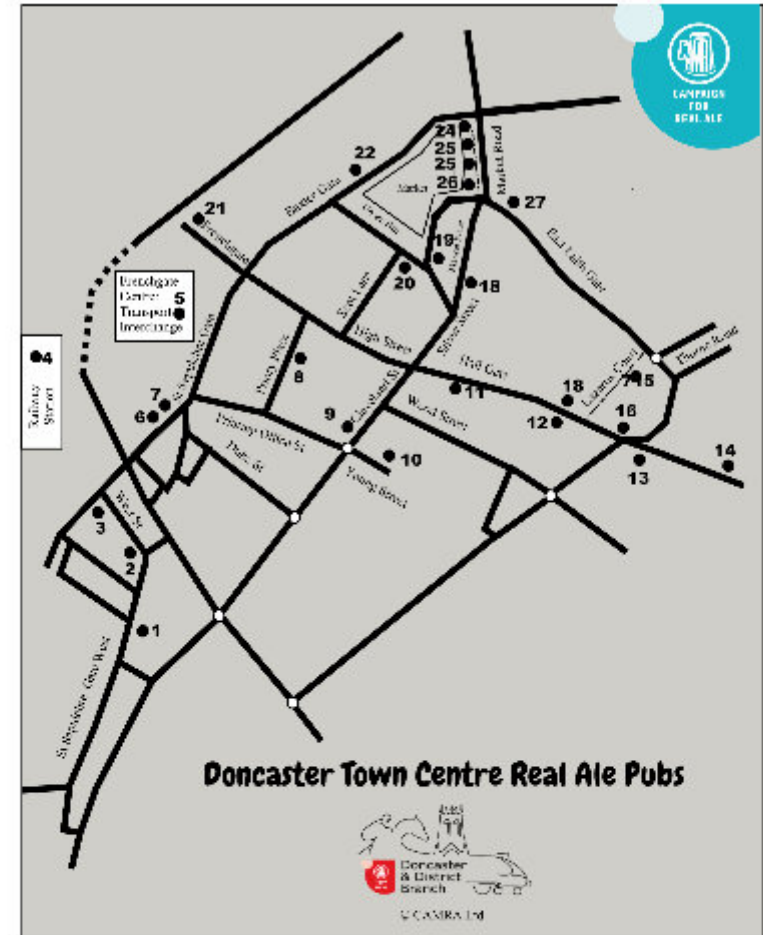
Traditional Pub Games

Real Fire

We are in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide 2019

01405 785635

DONCASTER TOWN CENTRE PUBS & CLUBS



- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Corner Pin | 14. Town Field Sports Club |
| 2. The Leopard | 15. Social |
| 3. The Railway | 16. Hallcross |
| 4. The Draughtsman | 17. The Yorkshire Grey |
| 5. The Mallard | 18. Ballers Sports Bar |
| 6. The 'Little' Plough | 19. The Courtyard |
| 7. Tut 'n' Shive | 20. The Red Lion |
| 8. The Gatehouse | 21. White Swan |
| 9. The Angel & Royal | 22. The Black Bull |
| 10. Doncaster Brewery & Tap | 23. Don Valley Tap |
| 11. Yates | 24. Market Place Alehouse |
| 12. Lockwood | 25. Masons Arms |
| 13. Salutation | 26. Queen Crafthouse |
| | 27. Horse & Groom |

THE COACHING INNS OF DONCASTER

My knowledge of coaching inns stems initially from my school days and then from my keenest to know more about the history of our pubs.

Over the years Doncaster has benefited from being strategically positioned on the old Roman Great North Road. In the time of Henry VIII the first steps to creating a national postal service were taken. The Great North Road, in modern times designated as the A1, was to become a major route for postal services between London and the north. Small coaches and waggons were used to carry the post and in order for the system to work, relays of horses were required to cover the journey and places for the drivers to get refreshed.

To support these requirements inns were either adopted or built to provide stabling for the horses and accommodation with food for the drivers. In the 17th century there was increasing development of this route to enable passengers to travel from London to the north and vice-versa. In that century you could expect to take up to 6 days to travel the whole route.

These journeys were very arduous for passengers. The early coaches were very uncomfortable, the roads, in places, quite primitive by modern standards and, of course, highwaymen were an additional risk.

This article starts with the Blue Bell, now known today as Ye Old Blue Bell at Barnby Moor. I start here because it was the last staging post before reaching the Doncaster boundary and I've been at functions there several times. On one occasion a local man noticed me inspecting the building and kindly told me a bit about its history. It had, indeed, been a coaching inn and he told me that at one time it was well-known for the quality of the horses that were stabled there. It was originally a private dwelling house, but it was turned into an inn to support the many coaches that went by.

The next coach stop would be just into the Doncaster area at Bawtry. One of the oldest



coaching inns was The Swan. The Swan was situated in Swan Lane but eventually it was closed, and the business transferred to nearby Scrooby Top. The Crown, which was opposite The Swan, had started to become a significant post house and replaced it for providing horses. If you look at the front of the Crown there is a large archway which is often the sign of a former coaching house.

In my schooling days in Rossington there were some lessons on The Great North Road and one explained that there was a local coaching house known as the Rossington Bridge inn. We were told that this was also the site of an old toll road and travellers would have to pay a fee to travel along this stretch of road. These tolls were very unpopular and eventually the concept was abandoned and other means found to pay for road maintenance. The inn was part of a row of terraced houses and was converted to other uses, eventually morphing into what we know today as the Miller and Carter Steak House. It was probably not a major coaching inn but gave an opportunity for some coaches to change horses.

The next stopping places were in the town of Doncaster. The oldest inn connected with coaching was The Old Angel. This inn was originally called The Bear. Members of royalty have been known to stay here. Many years ago I had a conversation with a veteran councillor who was well-versed on the history of the old corporation. He told me there were at least 2 occasions when they got into trouble for their drinking habits. One involved the Old Angel when the ratepayers noticed that the corporation members were charging them for their drinking habits at the inn. A few weeks later he gave me a slip of paper with the following rhyme on it

The Doncaster mayor sits in his chair,
His mills they merrily go,
His nose doth shine with drinking wine,
And the gout is in his great toe.

In 1810 The New Angel opened opposite the Old Angel in Frenchgate and it became the major coaching and posting inn. The Old Angel was eventually demolished to make way for The Guildhall. After Queen Victoria stayed at

The Wheatsheaf



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**Doncaster CAMRA Winter Pub of the Season
2019/20**

The New Angel in 1851 it became The Angel and Royal. In 1962 the pub was demolished to make way for the Arndale Centre (Today known as The Frenchgate Centre). The name of the pub, however, lives on at The Angel and Royal in Cleveland Street, which is a modern building that has certainly never seen any coach and horses.. Other Doncaster pubs that supported the coaching business were:

The Salutation – Provided stables and many St Leger winners were stabled here.

The Black Boy – Situated on Frenchgate and had 15 rooms with stabling for 30 horses. Very popular with racegoers during the St Leger. This was demolished in 1959 to make way for the new by-pass.

Reindeer Hotel – Situated in Hall Gate and demolished in 1962. Many coaches were scheduled to leave from outside the hotel.

The Ram – On the corner of Cleveland Street/High Street. This was demolished in 1909.

Red Lion ~(see photo) – Still in the Marketplace and best known for being the birthplace of the St Leger.

On leaving Doncaster for destinations such as Wakefield, Pontefract and York the next coaching inn was The Red House which was situated close to what is called the Red House



Roundabout today. The final inns associated with coaching, before leaving Doncaster for the north, were 2 minor ones in the area of Robin Hood's Well or Barnsdale Wood. These were The New Inn and The Robin Hood.

The line of the Great North Road deviated in places from the original Roman road and today it has deviated further as by-passes and new motorways were created. Many Doncastarians find it difficult today to visualise a major road going through the centre of the town. If you look at the black and white photos in Esquires café on Wheatley Hall Road there is a photo taken from clock corner where the A1 road sign can be clearly seen. The modern equivalent of the coaching are motorway service stations, the power of the horses have been replaced by cars and fuel pumps, and the accommodation

Steve Pynegar

FURTHER READING

Historic Coaching inns of the Great North Road

Taking in the history of these buildings (including a chapter on highwaymen, who often concealed themselves in secret rooms and tunnels in these inns,) as well as the literature that has celebrated them. Roger Protz describes these coaching houses with an expert and discerning eye. A gazetteer of the history and culture that are draped along this iconic road.

Available from the CAMRA bookshop for £9.

The Old Coaching Days in Yorkshire

Written by Tom Bradley and first published in 1889. Very detailed account and available on Amazon.

Doncaster Pubs

Written by Peter Tuffrey this book gives you the opportunity to see what some of the long lost coaching inns of Doncaster looked like.

Available in local bookshops.

Adventures of Captain Sprotno'

www.frazzledcat.com



DRAG RACING AT WROOT

Anyone visiting Wroot on December 27th could be forgiven for thinking that there had been a massive influx of stars, celebrities and royalty. It was in fact the annual Wroot Drag Race and it had nothing to do with cars (Although one or two did screech to a halt at the sight that greeted them).

Madonna, Dana International, Elsa and a host of other local gentlemen dressed in drag took the starting line outside the Cross Keys, raced to the war memorial, downed a bottle of beer and raced (I use the term loosely) back to the pub to be greeted by cheering crowds and flashing cameras – well, a few family members with mobiles. It was a lovely, crazy afternoon full of laughs in this very friendly pub (A former CAMRA Pub of the Season). However, I'll never see landlord Dave Dixon in the same light again. And never before have I been served by royalty!

Margaret Bartley-Zukiel



RAMBLES WITH ROUND Town Centre GBG Pubs

In the last issue of Donny Drinker I featured a walk of approximately 10.5 miles. Sadly, I have nothing so impressive to offer in this issue. The weather has been appalling, I have been attending Christmas concerts to see performances by my grandchildren, and Christmas itself has taken up much time in preparation for the festivities – not to mention all the shopping! Consequently, I've had little time to go on rambles. So, instead of a proper ramble, how about a gentle stroll round the town centre to sample the pubs?

My rambles tend to be in the countryside and usually feature village pubs, so the town pubs rarely get a look-in. Admittedly, last time's long ramble did end up at the Hallcross on Hallcross – in contradiction of my last statement! Anyway, there are many good pubs in the town centre and, as I can't feature them all, I'll concentrate on the six pubs which appear in the current Good Beer Guide.

Let's start off with the Queen Crafthouse & Kitchen on the corner of Sunny Bar near the market place. After a brief period as a restaurant, the Queen has emerged once again as a popular alehouse with five ever-changing real ales. The beers on offer are often unusual ones for our area making this pub well worth a visit.

Having sampled the first pub's delights we can now continue with our town "ramble". Go along Sunny Bar and turn right to proceed up Silver Street. At the crossroads turn left and walk up Hallgate until reaching the Hallcross. I featured this pub in last time's article but you can't have too much of a good thing! The words "a good thing" can certainly be applied to the Hallcross with all real ales costing £2.50 a pint. A bargain! In the dim and distant past Stocks Brewery was located here and the Stocks beers have now been resurrected and are contract-brewed by Welbeck Abbey Brewery. Marvellous!

From the Hallcross turn left and then right and walk along Waterdale until reaching Wood Street on the right. Go down Wood Street to the end. Turn left along Cleveland Street and then left up Young Street where you will reach Doncaster Brewery & Tap on the left. At this point I'd better mention the Tap's opening hours. It's closed on Monday, open from 5pm Tuesday to Thursday, and from 12 noon Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Also, it closes at 5pm on

Sunday. If you're making this a daytime ramble you would be advised to do it on Friday or Saturday because this is a pub not to be missed! It's received numerous CAMRA awards – including local Pub of the Year and local Cider Pub of the Year and also Yorkshire Cider Pub of the Year. Several Doncaster Brewery beers are on offer along with guest beers, ciders and perries. It's worth coming here for the friendly atmosphere, the beers, the ciders & perries, and the landlady's welcoming smile.

Well, that's three down and three to go. For the next pub retrace your steps down Young Street, cross over Cleveland Street (be careful of the traffic) and walk down Printing Office Street towards the Frenchgate Centre. Turn left along West Laith Gate to the "Little" Plough. This is a traditional unspoilt pub. It is so unspoilt that it has been unchanged since 1934 and is featured in CAMRA's National Inventory of Historic Pub Interiors. There is a front public bar and a comfortable lounge to the rear. Up to four real ales are available here – including Acorn Barnsley Bitter. Leaving the pub turn right down West Laith Gate until you reach the ring road. Cross over using the pelican crossing and reach the Leopard on West Street. Just look at the superb tiled frontage before entering the pub. Inside, there is a public bar to the left and a lounge to the right. Several excellent real ales are available in this award-winning pub.

Next, leave the Leopard and turn left down West Street and head towards the railway station. No, you're not about to catch a train and leave town. The final pub is in the railway station and can be found on Platform 3b. This is the Draughtsman Alehouse which has been converted from a former Victorian buffet bar and waiting room. Admire the superb Victorian tiled walls and enjoy the beers. There are three ever-changing real ales on offer here. Impressively, the pub has received a special commendation in CAMRA's National Pub Design Awards. You can imagine how popular the pub is with rail travellers. It's small in size but big in ambition.

So that's the town ramble around Good Beer Guide pubs. This ramble may be short on mileage but just think of the excellent pubs to enjoy!

Ian Round

HARE AND HOUNDS A True Community Pub

"Our business has been affected because so many people have had to leave the village". That quote by Scott Godfrey describes just one result of the devastating floods which hit the village of Fishlake in November. Scott and his wife Angela are licensees of the Hare and Hounds, the village's only remaining pub. They've played a big part in keeping the community together in the most distressing time Fishlake has experienced in living memory.

Several places in our area were flooded when the River Don burst its banks following heavy rain but nowhere had it worse than this small community to the north of the town. About 50% of Fishlake's 700 households were affected. Many of the locals are now in temporary accommodation in surrounding towns and villages and it could be months before they can return to their homes.



Fortunately for Scott and Angela, the floodwaters didn't reach as far as the pub which, along the nearby St Cuthbert's church, became the lifeline for the community. The pub has its own gas and power supply and it was able to heat up food for up to 70 people who came every day. It also provided temporary accommodation for a few who couldn't go back to their homes. Scott said he was "inundated with calls" from people without electricity who wanted a hot meal. And on Christmas Day, despite their own problems, the pub laid on a Christmas dinner for 41 people who were unable to cook at home. Times of adversity often produce heartening stories like this.

The pub's carpets and upholstery were damaged with so many mud-stained feet coming and going. And of course, the pub is naturally feeling the strain after losing so many customers. If you're anywhere near the Hare and Hounds why not call in and give Scott and Angela some support. Fishlake's other pub, the Old Anchor, had closed before the floods came so it's important that this pub remains to serve its community.

Real ale drinkers will be pleased to learn they have two cask ales – when I called in recently Bradfield Bitter and Bradfield Farmer's Blonde were on offer – and it's a cracking community pub. After what they've done, they deserve all our help and goodwill. Please pay them a visit.

Dave Bartley

Brewery Liaison Officers

As well as pubs the branch likes to support real ale breweries in the branch area. To enable us to keep in touch with them we have a number of BLOs (Brewery Liaison Officers) who regularly keep in touch with the brewers and brewsters. They act, not only as a link with the branch, but are responsible for keeping CAMRA nationally and regionally aware of developments. We currently have a few vacancies and if you are a member interested in this role please get in touch with the chairman.

Doncaster: Trevor Jones
Don Valley: Ian Jones
Great Heck: vacant
Hill Top: Carole Leonard
1086: John Edwards

Imperial: Chris Harrison
Old Mill: Margaret Bartley-Zukiel
Spotlight: Steve Pynegar
Stocks: Julian Clark

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

A warm welcome to those who have joined CAMRA since the last edition, and also to all existing members who have recently renewed, or moved into the branch area.

Your membership does matter, and I would like to introduce the following new members: Richard Broadley, David Fennell, Karen Hellen, John Hocking, Rick Hotchkiss, Tony Kelly, Harry Key, Philip Kimber & Jarina Chadbourne, Robert Lockwood, Andrew McKechnie, John Milan, Peter Milic, Trevor Reasbeck, Howard Rimmer, Stephen Robertson, Graham Robinson, Paul & Susan Taylor, Andrew Wake, John Whitehead, Steven Wood, and Ken Woodrow.

Thank you for your support, you should have received a membership pack from head office by now, along with an edition of What's Brewing. CAMRA's monthly newspaper. This provides news and information on a variety of subjects involving real ale, and also includes details of national and local activities, such as beer festivals, campaigning socials and other special events. We hope you will be able to come along to one of these occasions in the near future and look forward to meeting you.

More information about local events and the Doncaster Branch can be found on our web-site; simply visit www.doncastercamra.org.uk for details, or turn to the Branch Diary section of this publication.

New members and visitors are always made welcome to our events and socials, so why not come along? Your input is something we value as new people bring in new ideas. Don't forget that new members attending their first social event or branch meeting can claim a free pint of guest beer from me. Yes, that's right! Just show me your membership card and I'll get you one in and CAMRA pays! Hope to see you all soon, in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any membership enquiries. Simply e-mail membership@doncastercamra.org.uk

Jan Jones - Membership Secretary

Single Membership by Direct Debit (DD)	£26.50	No DD	£28.50
Joint Membership by Direct Debit (DD)	£31.50	No DD	£33.50
Concessionary single (retired/under 26)	£18.00	No DD	£20.00
Concessionary joint (retired/under 26)	£23.00	No DD	£25

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Protect the traditions of great British pubs and everything that goes with them by joining today at www.camra.org.uk/joinup

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BRANCH DIARY

FEBRUARY

Sunday 16

Doncaster 28th Beer Festival award, presentation in Derby. It is to Black Hole Brewery for their beer ALEien Invasion, which won the Best Mild category. Award to be presented at Mr Grundy's, which is a pub serving their beers! The presentation is to take place at 14:30. Catch the train at 10:32, return 20:09, unless other trains are cheaper, Keep in touch by mobile!

Wednesday 19

Take part in The Hilltop General Knowledge Quiz night. Catch bus X78 at 19:10, last bus back is 22:48. Quiz starts approx 21:00. Cost is £2 per team entry & includes a supper!

MARCH

Monday 9

Branch meeting at The Hallcross. Starts at 20:00.

Saturday 14

Social to The Little Plough Spring Beer Festival., Meet from 19:30. The festival runs from 12-15 March.

Thursday 19

Town social - meet at The Brewery Tap from 20:00.

Thursday 26

Social to The Glasshouse in Kirk Sandall. Catch bus 84 at 19:35 or the train at 19:42. Last bus back is 22:03, last train at 22:18

APRIL

Monday 6

Branch Meeting at The Railway. Starts at 20.00.

Thursday 9

Social to The Brewery Tap beer festival. Meet from 19:30. The festival runs from 09 – 13 April.

Wednesday 15

Pub of the Season presentation to The Leopard. Meet from 19:30. Presentation to take place at 21:00.

Saturday 18

Pub of the Season presentation, to The Tom Pudding at Goole. Catch the train at 17:05. Visit other pubs first. Presentation is to take place at 20:00. Catch train back to Doncaster at 21:53.

MAY

Saturday 2

Doncaster 28th Beer Festival award presentation to The Rat Brewery at The Rat and Ratchet in Huddersfield. They won this award in the best stout category for their beer called Rasteroid. The presentation is to take place at 14.00. Catch the train at about 10.30 with return at about 20.00. Actual times will be confirmed on our website, Facebook site and twitter nearer the time.

Thursday 7

Social to The Sun Inn at Scawsby. Catch bus 54 from the Interchange at 19:25.

Saturday 9

Social to Thorne. Catch the train at 18:05 or 18:25. Meet in The Punchbowl. Train back is at 21:25 from Thorne North or 22:08 from Thorne South.

Monday 11

Branch Meeting at Doncaster Brewery Tap. Starts at 20:00.

Thursday 21

Doncaster town Pub of the Year presentation to The Doncaster Brewery & Tap. Meet from 19.30 with the presentation taking place at 21.00.

Thursday 28

Town social. Meet at The Railway from 19:30

Bus/train times can be confirmed at TRAVELINE on 01709 515151 or at www.travelsouthyorkshire.com

Visitors and members are always made welcome

Alterations and additions to the above events will be announced at branch meetings or through our Facebook and twitter accounts or on the website.

www.doncastercamra.org.uk

For more information or to book coaches and meals contact Carole Leonard (details below) or use the contacts system on the website.

Phone 07973 969046

eventssec@doncastercamra.org.uk

GONE, GONE, GONEGOING?

Over recent years the pubs in Armthorpe seemed to be disappearing at an alarming rate. Fortunately there are still several left but for how long?



The site of the former Plough pub. Now a supermarket car park.



The site of the former Tadcaster Arms. Recently been demolished and the site currently being developed for shops and flats.



The site of the former Miners Welfare Club. Club has been demolished and now the site of another supermarket..



The Acorn is still standing but is now boarded up. Many rumours about its future including possible site for flats or houses. Watch this space.



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
Real Ale