

BEER LEEDS

SUPPORTING REAL ALE AND CIDER IN LEEDS

SUMMER 2024

ISSUE 11



THE MAGAZINE OF LEEDS BRANCH OF CAMRA



Campaign
for
Real Ale



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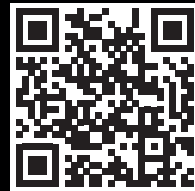
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BEER LEEDS

SUMMER 2024

ISSUE 11

Hello and welcome to the Summer issue of Beer Leeds.

By the time this magazine is being delivered the country will have elected the next Government. Let's hope they'll look to reduce VAT on beer and cider as well as undertaking a full review of business rates to fix the unfair overpayment by the pub sector.

Articles in this issue include reviews of pubs in north Leeds, Wakefield and further afield in Torquay. Leeds pubs that were in the first ever Good Beer Guide are described in article, those that still exist will be receiving a blue plaque from us, dates being confirmed.


News of the Tetley and the Grove Inn re-opening is good for Leeds as well as some outlying pubs going through take overs shows confidence in them. Investment in breweries is happening around the country and we are seeing it happen in our city.

Hope you enjoy reading this magazine .


Nigel Halton
Magazine Editor

Did you know?

**Pubs raise over £100 million a year
for charity**



Source: pubaid.com (accessed 2020)



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Real Ale

CONTENTS

PUB & BREWERY NEWS	Pages 4 & 5
LEEDS CAMRA ORIGINAL PUBS	Pages 6 - 8
SPRING PUB OF THE SEASON	Page 9
EN ROUTE TO OTLEY	Pages 10 - 16
THE NUMBER 22 TO DAWLISH WARREN	Pages 17 - 19
CLECKHEATON AND WAKEFIELD	Pages 21 - 25
APPOINTMENT WITH BEER!	Page 25
MEMBERSHIP	Page 26

BEER LEEDS

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PUB & BREWERY NEWS

PUB NEWS

You may know from previous issues that the **Victoria** pub behind Leeds Town Hall will be re-opening under the stewardship of a joint operation between Steve Holt, Kirkstall Brewery and Ed Mason, Five Points Brewing. They have formed a new company to expand this pub estate called All Points North Pub Company. Their next acquisition has been confirmed as The York, in Sheffield.

In mid March it was announced that Kirkstall Brewery were taking the lease on for **The Tetley**, which is great news for the scene in Leeds. It re-opened at the end of April with beers from Kirkstall and Leeds. The rooms are decorated with a range of memorabilia from Tetley's and other breweries. A choice of food available all day.



The Tetley

Coopers in Guiseley and the **Horse and Farrier** in Otley have been taken over by **Brew York** and after a few changes they re-opened at the end of April. They both sell 6 cask ales from the B.Y range and street food style is offered in both pubs.



Horse and Farrier, Otley

JD Wetherspoon are to transform the closed Sant Angelo restaurant in Wetherby into one of its own pubs. This is a resurrected project which began last year.

In Sep 23 the **White Cloth Hall**, a Grade II* listed building on Kirkgate was acquired by Ed Mason, co-founder of Five Points Brewing and managing director of Leeds pub, Whitelock's Ale House. Work is currently ongoing to re-open it as a food and drink hall, which will champion Leeds's independent food and drink scene. Details revealed are a main central bar, 3 different food kitchens, a deli & coffee shop and a wine & cocktail bar. It is due to open this summer, date TBC.

<https://www.instagram.com/whiteclothhall/?hl=en>

The Grove Inn in Holbeck was forced to close in November after being damaged in a fire. The blaze exposed asbestos in the building, which delayed repairs to the much-loved pub which was founded in 1832 and is well-known for hosting live music. The overall refurb is expected to cost in the region of £300k. It re-opened at the end of May showing a sympathetic refit of the bar and lounge. Beer range is as good as ever.



The Grove Inn, Holbeck

The Templar in Leeds has added another 4 hand pulls on the bar making a total choice of 12 cask ales. They have won our Spring Pub of the Season award, further news in this magazine.

BREWERY NEWS

NORTHERN MONK

Northern Monk are increasing their brewing capacity by 20% having injected £500k into its main brew equipment. This will mean an additional 8,000 hectolitres per year. Their cans are well represented in supermarkets and special release beers are in bottle shops. They are attracting new customers in locals with cask Faith.

SUNBEAM BREWERY

Sunbeam brewery have released 3 new beers, in April, Downpour a 4% blonde ale, a 4.2% English pale and Tidal Beer a 5% pineapple pale.

BOSUN'S BREWING CO

Bosun's brewing co are brewing a summer blonde with mango & grapefruit. They are looking to produce a "football special beer" for the Euros.

QUIRKY ALES

Quirky Ales taproom is open Thurs to Sun and each summer weekend will have food on and local bands playing once a month. Their 8th birthday Party will be on Sunday 25th Aug. Tombstone a 5.4% IPA will be on sale soon, check out the new 3D pump clips.

WILDE CHILD

Wilde Child have taken delivery of a 2,800 lt tank which will increase brewing capacity by a further 17.5% meaning a total capacity of 33,000 pints. Monthly open taproom days continue, check out their social media.

ANTHOLOGY

Anthology have some new beers due out, a lemon lime radler at 3.2% which is a collab with the team from Whitelock's Ale house, A bourbon barrel aged brown ale will be at the Amity Fest in July. The blueberry Berliner Weisse makes a return in the summer.

HORSFORTH BREWERY

Congratulations to Horsforth Brewery who had success at the recent SIBA Regional Cask Awards.

"By the hair of Ernie" won Gold for Pale Ale with Trinity and also Vice winning Bronze in their categories.

BINI BREW CO

Bini Brew Co have some new brew kit at their Leeds premises. A 3.4% cask ale called "To me you are purrfect" was launched in May.

Did you know?

Research commissioned by CAMRA found that people who have a 'local' felt they had more close friends they could call on for help and support



Source: Dunbar, R., "Friends on Tap" (2016)



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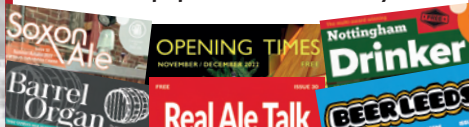
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LEEDS CAMRA ORIGINAL PUBS

As mentioned elsewhere it is our 50th anniversary this year. It is also the 50th anniversary of the very first Good Beer Guide published by CAMRA in 1974.

We have decided to combine the two by looking back to the very first pubs in that Guide.

The Guide was very much a slimmed down version of what it is today, and initially we were allocated just eight places.

Of those three are sadly closed, but the remaining five are still going strong, and are still serving real ale.

I am going to do a feature on each of the eight pubs over this, and a subsequent edition.

Also we have commissioned five blue plaques which we intend to present to the remaining pubs as part of a summer of social events. Please see our website for details of any arranged dates, and feel free to come along.

The pubs will be featured in no particular order.

FOX & HOUNDS, BRAMHOPE



The above is the only pub in the village, and is situated a stone's throw from the Leeds/Otley road. The building dates from 1728, and was originally the village school. It is not clear at what point the school closed, and the pub conversion took place. There is a more modern extension at the back together with a patio, and large car park.

In 1974 it was a Tetley pub, and served hand pulled bitter plus electric mild.

Nowadays there are up to five handpulls with Tetley cask usually still on plus Black Sheep bitter, and up to three changeable guests. On my visit the Tetley had run out, and a fresh cask was being prepared in the cellar. The Black Sheep bitter was on together with Black Sheep Burrows Blonde, Ossett Yorkshire Blonde,

and Leeds Pale. I had the Burrows Blonde which was in good condition.

The pub also have an excellent food menu, and I had the Gamekeepers Pie which was very tasty.

QUEENS ARMS, HORSFORTH



The above pub is situated on Long Row, Horsforth opposite a 'bus stop, and is even older than the previous pub. It is believed to have been built circa 1630 as a coaching inn, and has presumably therefore been a pub continuously since then.

The whitewashed exterior gives way to a series of small rooms with wooden beams, and low ceilings. The area

LEEDS CAMRA ORIGINAL PUBS

around the bar both sides is a mix of wooden and stone flooring, and there is a two tier patio outside at the rear with additional trestle tables outside at the front.

In 1974 this was a Bass house possibly courtesy of their takeover of Hammonds in Bradford?

(If there is any local reading this who remembers the pub in the 1960's perhaps they can write in, and confirm or deny this). Consequently the pub served Bass bitter, and not long after added Stones bitter as well.

On my visit I noted 4 regular handpulls, and a guest. The regulars were Kirkstall Three Swords, Saltaire Blonde, Timothy Taylor Landlord, and Tetley bitter with Rooster's Easy Going Assassin as the guest. I had the Saltaire Blonde which went down well in the sunshine on the patio.

OLD UNICORN, BRAMLEY



The above is situate at Stocks Hill 165 Town Street, Bramley, and has a date stone suggesting that the original stone building was erected in 1877.

There is a separate reference to an Old Unicorn in Bramley some 50 years earlier, but no evidence to suggest whether it was an earlier building on the same site or elsewhere in the area.

The pub consists of a long single room with a central bar against the back wall in the middle. To the left as

you walk in there is a metal clad extension. Close to the edge of the hill within maybe 50 yards of the pub is an old village pump and trough harking back to the days when Bramley was a separate village with no link to the (then) town of Leeds. There is also a blue plaque referring to the village green nearby, and the village stocks from which presumably the hill takes it's name.

In 1974 the pub had three hand pulled beers namely the common Tetley bitter and mild plus William Youngers Scotch bitter.

The pub became a Wetherspoons in 2014, and has up to six real ales on offer. At the time of my visit these were Butcombe Gold, Greene King Abbot Ale, Moorhouse Pendle Witches Brew, Rooster's London Thunder, Ruddles best, and Sharp's Doom Bar. I opted for the Butcombe Gold, which was in good condition.

Being a Wetherspoons they also do reasonably priced food.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN, KIRKSTALL



The first of the three original pubs that no longer exists.

The pub was situate at 19 Commercial Road, Kirkstall, and there is now an open area where it used to be along with other neighbouring buildings.

The pub was on the left hand side just in from the traffic lights on the A65 Commercial Road (heading towards Leeds) that intersects with the B6157 (leading down to Kirkstall Bridge Inn) .

LEEDS CAMRA ORIGINAL PUBS

In other words almost diagonally opposite the New George pub.

The pub is listed as belonging to the original Kirkstall Brewery in 1856, but by 1903 is no longer listed as owned by them. *(As an aside the same list shows the Bridge Inn as having been purchased by the said brewery in 1873. That pub now the Kirkstall Bridge Inn is of course currently owned by the new Kirkstall Brewery - no connection).*

At the time of the first Good Beer Guide it was a Tetley pub serving both bitter and mild on handpull. The pub was subsequently demolished in 1977, and I never got the chance to visit it.

There is a photograph of the pub in the above mentioned New George pub which itself has a good selection of real ale. The photo shown is a photo of that photograph taken by me with the kind permission of the landlord.

The next magazine will contain the final part of the article looking at the remaining two pubs that are still open, and the two that are now closed.

Keith Sunderland

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Spring 2024 Pub of the Season



The Templar in Leeds has been recognised for its extensive choice of cask ales (recently increased from 8 to 12) its loyal staff, the landlord Ian and others have been with the pub for 30 years and the fact that it looks after its customers with reasonably priced beers.

It is a traditional Grade 11 listed building with wood panelling dating back to 1928 and it was thankfully saved from demolition 8 years ago for the then planned Eastgate development.

The photo shows Wayne accepting the plaque.

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After a couple of articles exploring inner suburbs where pubs stocking cask beer have been in the minority, Warren Yabsley is pleased to have selected a route where it's served in the majority.

From the initial idea to fruition of this article has taken quite a while to say the least.

From Autumn 2018 to Summer 2019 I wrote four articles in New Full Measure (the previous name for Beer Leeds) covering all 25 pubs open in Otley during that period. The plan for the next missive was to feature venues between Far Headingley and Otley but then Wharfedale in Arthington closed as did Dyneley Arms in Pool Bank.

'I'll postpone the plan, I'm sure they'll reopen again soon.' That was my thinking.

Then Covid hit and many non-sensical and unscientific rules were enforced upon pubs post-lockdowns. For example, do you remember everyone having to be out the door by 10pm or needing to order a meal to have a pint? Scotch eggs had never been so popular!

Let there be no doubt Covid was the instigator of why so many pubs and breweries have closed in the last couple of years. Financial reserves were wiped out and, in so many cases, hefty losses incurred with punitive loans acquired.

Just as the world was starting to return to normality the massive cost increase of raw ingredients and energy combined with a squeeze to the public's disposable income further ravaged profit margins and turnover. This was the final straw for many – far too many.

And they won't be the last, there are many pubs and breweries, from micro to macro, teetering on the

edge. Anyone who is a member of CAMRA Members' Investment Club will know the share price of nearly all companies in the sector are substantially below pre-Covid levels and there's no optimism for a quick rebound.

Wow, only a couple of lines in and I've already gone off at a tangent. Best get back to what I'm meant to be writing about or the Editor will be having words.

With the two aforementioned pubs having never reopened, glorious evening weather and the sun setting at 9pm (allowing me to take a photo of each pub in decent light) the time was as good as it'll ever be.

Route summary: Weetwood, Holt Park, Adel, Eccup, Bramhope and Pool in Wharfedale.

VILLAGE HOTEL LEEDS NORTH



(Otley Road, 0.4 miles before Weetwood Roundabout. First 1, 6, 8 and 27, 4-minute walk. Refer to Stables below for X84 details)

EN ROUTE TO OTLEY

Cask beer was available here for a short while many years ago due to the infectious enthusiasm and passion of a former manager who instigated contact with the branch and then regularly attended events.

As an example, he convinced senior managers to finance a cask beer and music festival, which is extremely unusual for a 30+ venue hotel chain. It was extremely popular and successful though didn't achieve a large profit because so many bands were booked.

Not unsurprisingly, new opportunities arose having taken the hotel bar to its maximum potential. Sadly, cask beer was discontinued not long after his departure though it coincided with the post-zenith for cask; I consider the optimum period to be the early part of the 2010s.

Back to now, and although cask beer isn't available, the venue is light, airy and pleasant. The square island bar has stools alongside and tables and chairs around. Also, two large TVs have facing settees and a row of old cinema chairs making it a potential destination for watching sport on the big screen.

I was surprised how many people were present, far more than hotel guests. Nearby residents, families and on-site gym users were part of the clientele.

(Near Weetwood Roundabout. First 1, 6 and 8, 5-minute walk from Lawnswood School stop on Otley Road (Leeds side of the roundabout). First X84, 7-minute walk from Weetwood Police Station stop (Otley side of the roundabout). N.B. X84 does not **drop off** before the Police Station stop heading to Otley and does not **pick up** after the Police Station stop heading to Leeds. Squarepeg 9, Lawnswood School stop on the Ring Road, 2 to 5-minute walk)

The pub is part of the Weetwood Hall Estate, which has been owned by University of Leeds for over a century.

Although there are entrances on Otley Road and the Ring Road, the former provides a more impressive experience. Passing along the drive flanked by flowering rhododendron bushes leads to a 17th century manor house. To the rear is a courtyard and in the former stables building is the pub.

On entering, the room to the right retains what could be original stable partitions. The exposed stone walls contain hooks with saddles close to the ceiling.

The small, central area houses the bar complete with four cask beers – Black Sheep Burrow's Blonde, Kirkstall Bitter and Three Swords, and Ossett White Rat on my visit. I was very pleased with the quality of my half of Bitter.

The room to the left has many soft chairs and leather-style settees whilst in the courtyard are many benches that were all occupied, again many local regulars were present and I can see why.

I was a little too early to benefit from the daily 25% discount on 'all cask and draught' from 6.30pm to 7.30pm and couldn't stay for another due to the demands of article research!

STABLES



EN ROUTE TO OTLEY

HIGH FARM



(Farrar Lane, Holt Park. First 6 and 8, Squarepeg 31 and Connexions Buses 940, 3-minute walk)

In many ways this was a stark contrast from Stables despite being an old looking, stone-built premises. I wonder whether originally there it was a farm that has become surrounded by housing over the years, the closest being estates built after the Second World War.

A very large grassy area on two sides hosts many benches that were popular with families. Loud jukebox music was being piped from an outside speaker, recent popular dance music tunes suited me and fitted well given the balmy conditions but may not always be a welcome intrusion.

Inside, a spartan area contains a long, unused section of the bar with dart board and pool table beyond a semi-wall. Up a couple of steps brings you to the very busy yet tiny part of the bar that is in use but bereft of handpulls. Opposite are tables with many locals of various ages forming a large group sat around one. In the rear corner is another seating area with bright green painted walls.

On the building's exterior is a large Mansfield Brewery sign and although the brewery's name can still be distinguished on the separate, swinging pub sign the picture is completely worn. Given the brewery and its pub estate was acquired by Wolverhampton

and Dudley Breweries in 1999 with ceasing of onsite brewing in 2001, I expect the sign is from the last millennium, which would explain its weathered look.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries changed its name to Marston's in 2007. Tenuous evidence indicates it is still owned by the company: the location name on Google Maps of the pick-up parcel locker beside the pub contains Marston's.

FOUNDATION

(Otley Road, Adel. First 8 and X84, 1-minute walk. 13-minute walk from High Farm)

This small, intimate bar is the second offering from Meanwood Brewery – the other being Terminus Tap Room in Meanwood, which opened in 2018.

I'd like to think the local CAMRA branch had a small part to play in the brewery's creation given the two brothers who established it participated in a Regional Young Members' Social that I organised quite a while ago now, which included a brewery tour. Having formulated plans to set-up a brewery they wanted to gain knowledge from, and ask questions to, established commercial brewers.

Foundation's doors can fold back thereby completely opening the front, a big boon during lovely weather. There are a handful of benches in the rear yard and at the front, alongside a differing street food vendor on most Friday evenings and Saturdays.

The interior is modern yet welcoming and there are seven tables to choose from. The small bar serves six keg and two cask beers from the brewery. These were a Bitter and West Coast Pale on my visit, the latter being a collaboration with PigLove.

LAWNSWOOD ARMS - CLOSED

This Greene King Wacky Warehouse closed last year and was due to reopen as a Hickory's Smokehouse in June whilst the magazine is in print. Perusing the website it seems that it will be primarily a restaurant

that also welcomes drinkers. Some sites have (or perhaps had) cask beer, for example, the one in Wilmslow (Cheshire) shows two handpulls with beer from Mobberley Brewhouse. No cask beer is mentioned for the Leeds site.

It's a large venue and in its former guise was somewhat uninspiring with its generic decoration, food offering and cask beer choice. On my couple of visits, I didn't feel there was anything wrong with the place but also nothing that would particularly draw me back.

NEW INN



(Eccup Lane, no bus. Nearest is First X84, 2.0 miles from Golden Acre Park stop)

A substantial diversion now from the direct route from Leeds to Otley but how else am I to include this isolated pub in an article?

If entering from the front, a small bar is ahead in a traditionally furnished, carpeted room with much fixed bench seating around the periphery. Here you will find the four handpulls and I'd advise venturing around to this side if you've used the back entrance having parked your car because the blackboard by the back part of the bar isn't the most comprehensive.

"Banks", "Wainwrights", "Yorkshire Blonde" and "Theakstons" were the four options, which equated to Carlsberg-Marston's Banks's Amber Bitter, Carlsberg-

Marston's Wainwright Gold, Ossett Yorkshire Blonde and Theakston Best Bitter.

I wondered whether this indicated a lack of understanding about cask beer, including its cellarmanship, but thankfully the answer was no because I was pleased with the quality of my half of the Best Bitter.

At the rear is an area for dining though this is very much a pub. There are a couple of benches at the front with more on the patio area at the back together with a grassed area that contains some children's play equipment. Music from 7pm on a Friday is a regular feature and whilst it is normally hosted inside can take place outdoors in favourable weather.

FOX AND HOUNDS



(The Cross, Bramhope. X84, 4-minute walk. Connexions Buses 940, 1-minute walk)

Another traditionally furnished pub, here you'll find a larger front room that has carpet near the entrance and large tiles nearer the bar with dark wooden tables and chairs throughout. The family owners also operate Royalty (Otley Chevin) and Chevin Inn (near Menston).

The bar offers four cask beers, which were Black Sheep Bitter, Carlsberg-Marston's Tetley Bitter, Ilkley Mary Jane and Wharfedale Blonde on my visit.

EN ROUTE TO OTLEY

A corridor leads to the toilets and simply furnished, red tiled smaller rear room. There are fewer handpulls on this side of the inter-connecting bar and it's not obvious more cask beers are available so it's best to ask about the full range if ordering from this room.

Bramhope is a regular starting point for 18–25-mile Saturday walks with West Yorkshire Long Distance Walkers Association and an occasional one for 10–13-mile Sunday walks with Huddersfield Ramblers. And yes, this is a shameless plug for both excellent, friendly organisations that I spend nearly every weekend with.

Both groups always call in for a drink, either alcoholic or non-alcoholic, after walks to accommodate full group conversations and we normally frequent the rear room where there has always been a convivial atmosphere at tea-time. If the weather has been favourable, we've made use of the large number of tables in the rear yard.

From here, access is provided to a private function room, The Loft, that can be hired and accommodates up to 60 guests.

emphasis on food. On entering at the rear (the front door is not used) – after passing through a pleasant, plant-lined, paved beer area – there is a sign stating to wait to be seated or (in smaller print) head to the bar for drinks. There is a dining area to the left whilst the main room, which contains the bar, is to the right and is suitable for drinkers and diners. Beyond is another area for dining.

Handpulls on the long bar offered Timothy Taylor Landlord and Kirkstall Leeds Pale (when Leeds Brewery ceased trading in 2023, Kirkstall Brewery bought the brand).

The main room has fixed seating against the long, roadside wall plus a row of tables and chairs between here and the bar. A low ceiling, two large modern fireplaces and new dark flagstone flooring add to the classy, comfortable feel though I wonder if there would be room for the drinker at peak times given there aren't any stools or other seating that is unsuitable for dining.

WHITE HART



(Main Street, Pool in Wharfedale. Transdev A2 Flyer and A3 Flyer, and 781, 923 and 940 Connexions Buses, 1-minute walk. Connexions Buses X52, 6-minute walk)

This upmarket pub (owned by Mitchells and Butlers and branded as a Premium Country Pubs) has a strong

HALF MOON – CLOSED

Sadly, there is now only one pub in the village. An application to convert Half Moon into residential dwellings was made in 2021 and approved despite vehement opposition from Greg Mulholland (former Member of Parliament) and numerous other members of the excellent Otley Pub Club (OPC).

OPC always organise one or two walks as part of Otley Walking Festival (usually towards the end of June) where a decent length jaunt is punctuated by a couple of pub stops. I last called in during one of their events in 2019 and felt the pub was suffering at the hands of an uninterested pubco.

High rents and stock prices combined with lack of investment made it commercially unviable for various tenants despite their best intentions, and sadly – as mirrored by pubs throughout the country – this results in a downward spiral until there are no mores lambs to the slaughter.

EN ROUTE TO OTLEY

HUNTERS INN



(A658 between Pool in Wharfedale and Huby. Transdev A2 Flyer and Connexions Buses X52, outside)

Given there's no housing in proximity, I was surprised how many people were present on my evening visit though it is only 1 mile from the centre of Pool in Wharfedale so perhaps some Half Moon drinkers have relocated especially with it being the least expensive pub of the evening (£2.00 for a half of Wensleydale Black Dub stout).

It has always served a high number of cask beers and been a regular in the Good Beer Guide for many years. The 2024 entry provides an excellent summary: "A single-storey building on the main Harrogate to Bradford road with views across lower Wharfedale.

The large single-room interior incorporates a raised area with a warming fire during the colder months, while the windowed front wall gives views across to the southern ridge of Wharfedale.

The long bar houses an array of handpumps dispensing a varied selection of ales sourced mainly from Yorkshire breweries. There is a pool table and video juke box at one end. Children are welcome during the day."

On my visit the cask beers were Abbeydale Absolution and Moonshine, Ossett Blonde and White Rat, and Wensleydale Black Dub and Semer Water. Often eight handpulls are in use.

The pub is in North Yorkshire due to being on the 'other' side of the River Wharfe and falls within the Harrogate & Ripon CAMRA branch area.

Bear this in mind if you have a West Yorkshire Day Saver Bus ticket (refer to Transport below).

SOCIAL CLUBS

Adel Sports and Social Club, Pool Sports and Social Club, and West Park Leeds Rugby Union Football Club on the edge of Bramhope all serve cask beer according to WhatPub.

It's always difficult to know whether non-members popping in as a one-off are welcomed without cost, a small fee needs to be paid combined with signing in from a member or it's strictly members only. Given this unknown and with limited time to complete the route in daylight, I sadly didn't visit any.

CASK BEER QUALITY

I was extremely pleased with the quality of cask beer I had in all the pubs and very pleasantly surprised it was served at the optimum temperature of 10-14 degrees Centigrade despite it being such a hot day. I scored all beers 3.5 (very good) or 4 (excellent) on CAMRA's National Beer Scoring System, which influences pub selection for the Good Beer Guide.

TRANSPORT

Bus information – bustimes.org is a fantastic, accurate and easy to navigate website that has timetables, stops, maps and, where applicable, live trackers for all routes in the country. It is so much better than the website of any bus operator. It's here that I discovered some of the obscure, infrequent routes operated by smaller providers.

For example, who knew about the Connexions Buses 781 service (Meanwood-Harewood-Otley) that runs once a day in each direction from Monday to Friday?

EN ROUTE TO OTLEY

Tickets – A single journey on any bus within West Yorkshire (WY) costs no more than £2.00. Connexions Buses and Transdev, which operate the article's routes that extend beyond WY, are participating in the national fare cap meaning a single journey costs no more than £2.00 until 31st December 2024.

A West Yorkshire Day Saver Bus ticket allows unlimited bus journeys on all services within WY and costs £5.00. It can be purchased using the MCard app, Pink MCard or on the bus.

A First Day ticket, valid for 1 person, costs £4.50 at any time on any day. A First Day Group ticket, valid for up to 5 people, costs £8.75 Monday to Friday (not available before 9.30am) and £6.00 at any time Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays. All can be purchased via the First Bus app or on the bus.

Cycling – From Village Hotel to Hunters Inn via all pubs is approximately 11 miles or 13 miles if continuing to Weeton rail station (located in Huby). Omitting High Farm reduces the distance by 1 mile and New Inn by a further 3 miles.

Is your local pub
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camra.org.uk/saveyourlocal



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Shortly after harvest each year the best hop farmers in the UK journey to our brewery in Yorkshire. They bring with them carefully packed parcels of their finest crops. In what has become known as the *hop beauty parade* our expert brewers meticulously assess each batch, judging not just looks but also personality. The brewers rub each hop in their warm hands to feel the quality of the resins and release the delicate aromas that are vital to the signature flavour and balance of our beer. Only then are the *choicest* whole leaf hops selected to brew your *beautiful* pint of Landlord.

All for that taste of Taylor's



THE NUMBER 22 TO DAWLISH WARREN

Not unsurprisingly the sun didn't seem to rise this Spring morning. Par for the course. Conversely, the skies were a leaden grey, the rain was pretty much horizontal and the wind storm force. So my leisurely stroll on the South West Coast Path from Torquay to Maidencombe and a leisurely pint at the Thatched Cottage in that village was abandoned. An alternate plan was required.

Consulting local bus services I came up with the number 22, a picturesque coastal route that runs from Paignton, along the sea front to Torquay, up to the suburbs of Babbacombe and St. Marychurch, across the rolling coastal hills to the seaside town of Teignmouth and thence to Dawlish and Dawlish Warren. Having checked 'What Pub' in advance, in case of such eventualities, I decided upon Teignmouth.

Awaiting pub opening time I embarked on a somewhat soggy wander around the town. It is a pleasant town full of Georgian buildings, first established in 1044. Although a tourist destination fishing has been a mainstay the town. There is also an arts quarter full of galleries.

A number of streets abutting the river Teign were strewn with the flotsam, jetsam and other collected debris of recent storms that had battered the south-west. It seemed a pleasant town of parks and gardens, sandy beaches, a seafront promenade, churches, a Grand Pier, a small harbour on the river, attractive multi coloured houses and narrow streets. It would have been a sight nicer in sunshine.

On my peramble around the town I kept my eyes open for the 10 or so pubs I had noted in my book. Being nicely compact it didn't take long to find all of them. I made my way down Ivy Lane, avoiding the bits of driftwood, old ropes and seaweed that had washed up the street and along the riverfront houses of varying hues to my first hostelry, the NEW QUAY INN.

This unassuming, stone built inn, established 1661, sits adjacent to the small harbour. It has a mix of old wooden furniture and wood barrels, a colour scheme of grey and cream and a stone flagged floor. The very colourful bar has pictures of a variety of sea vessels inset into the front. The dimly lit front lounge is a much used music venue and a stage dominates. There is a small area to the front for drinking. Beers on offer: Dartmoor Jail Ale, St. Austell Tribute and Purity Pure UBU.



Not 25 yards away, on the other side of the quay, in front of the New Quay Inn, stands the SHIP INN.



This is a riverside inn overlooking the Teign, with an outside seating area. It is multi-sectioned and recently refurbished with comfortable fabric covered bench seats and buffets and a brick built bar with polished wood top. On this cold, damp day, the roaring log burning stove, in the river facing lounge was a distinct bonus. The walls were covered with maritime memorabilia and pictures. The rear lounge was equally comfortable and there was a further drinking and dining area on a rear balcony. Good range of beers: St. Austell Tribute and Proper Job, Salcombe Sea Horse and Otter Amber and Rockin Otter.

Around the corner on Northumberland Place, set back in its own courtyard is the OLDE JOLLY SAILOR. This is the oldest pub in the town and is thought to date back to 1166. It certainly has the feel of antiquity

THE NUMBER 22 TO DAWLISH WARREN

with its three separate rooms, an abundance of wood and stone, wooden floors, stone and brick walls, low beamed ceilings and leaded windows. The small snug at the rear is a cosy drinking area. Although mainly an eatery it does have a dartboard in the large rear room and serves three beers: Fullers



London Pride, Sharps Doom Bar and Dartmoor Jail Ale. There are two outdoor drinking area; the courtyard at the front and a patio to the rear.

Continuing along Northumberland Place you come to the DEVON ARMS HOTEL, an elegant cream fronted, residential hotel, with a pillared porch. The windows are opaque and leaded. The main lounge is very plush, the walls being decorated cream and light green, the comfortable fabric furnished bench seats, chairs and buffets covered in red and green fabric, the carpets burgundy. In a secluded corner there is a dartboard. The second bar, the Sand Bar, contains a pool table. To the rear is a beer garden. The two beers on sale are from the local Teignmouth brewery, Portside and Deckhand.

Left from the Devon Arms, then right onto Bank Street and Regent Street and left onto Holland Road and five minutes later you come to THE BRASS. This is a single room, micro pub, very light and airy with large, clear windows. Pine is the order of the day with pine floors, half pine clad/half cream painted walls, pine tables and blue leather buffet and seats. The bar is a combination of iron and packing case. There is a small library on one wall and a wood burning stove provides heat. Two beers on offer: Sharps Doom Bar and Teignmouth Deckhand.



Retracing my steps back along Regent Street and Bank Street I came to Teign Street. At number 1 Teign Street stands Molloy's, an entry in the 2023 'Good Beer Guide,' but on my visit just one beer on sale, Doom Bar. I declined and made my way to the far end of this short street and the BLUE ANCHOR.

This is also a 'Good Beer Guide' entry for 2023 and was much more to my taste. This is a very homely one room pub with an enclosed bar and didn't open until 2pm. The furnishing and furniture are slightly primitive and the colour scheme generally blue. At one end of the room darts are played and a stage highlights it as a music venue. The wood stove nicely warmed the pub on this coldish day. I decided to extend my stay and have a couple of drinks here as the previously empty bar started to fill up and conversation rose. A very good range of unusual beers: Dartmoor Legend, Bristol Beer Factory Paradise Lost, Twisted Wheel Fall from Grace, Parkway Black Forest and Teignworthy Mad Hatters. (The last two very pleasant.) On the end of the pub is an enclosed beer garden.



The weather improved slightly on the return journey, not 'cracking the flags' weather, or even warm enough to remove my jacket, but it had stopped raining. I decided to break my journey and alight at St. Marychurch. Turning onto the pedestrianised Fore Street I immediately came to MOLLOYS.



This is a large single room pub, with distinct individual sections. The room is dominated by a large pillared bar that is inset with tiles. The flooring is a mix of stone and wood and the walls are half wood

panelled/half cream painted. The furniture is a very eclectic mix. Old photographs of the building cover

THE NUMBER 22 TO DAWLISH WARREN

the walls. Four beers: Sharps Doom Bar, Bays Topsail and St. Austell Tribute and Surfin USA.

Further along Fore Street is the DOLPHIN and judging by the number of customers very much a locals pub. This is a modern, L-shaped single room pub with a chunky wooden bar. The colour scheme was blue and white throughout

and furniture a mix of modern wood and leather sofas and benches. A large beer garden is to the rear. Reasonably priced bar meals seemed



to be doing a good trade. Choices of beer were: Otter Head, St. Austell Hicks and Hanlons Yellowhammer.

Continuing along Fore Street and past the parish church brings you to the CROWN & SCEPTRE at the corner of Petifor Road. This is a traditional, two room street corner local with lounge and taproom. Both rooms were simply furnished with stone and emulsioned walls and stone flagged floors, furniture benches, buffets



and high seats and rustic tables. Fishing and Maritime pictures adorn the walls and in the Tap Room a wood burning stove sits in a large fireplace. Three beers: Sharps Sea Fury,

Dartmoor Jail Ale and Butcombe Gold.

The neighbouring district of Babbacombe was a short walk down the road and frankly, disappointing. A goodly number of pubs, some with no cask beers, or limited to just one beer. One or two were just lounges within residential hotels and lacking atmosphere. The first I entered had been in the 'Good Beer Guide' in 2022, (the only one in Torquay that year,) was the BUCCANEER INN.

This is very large, cream fronted pub, multi roomed and spacious. Furnished with modern wood and leather seats and tables and with a large pale blue and



wood bar. It has a nautical theme with ships wheels, anchors and pictures of naval battles. The two beers on offer were from St Austell; Tribute and Proper Job. The pub sits atop of England's highest cliff promenade, with extensive and spectacular views of Lyme Bay from the lounge and patio.

Further down the same road sits the BABBACOMBE INN. This is a large, modern, brick built pub on top of the downs. The furniture is equally modern, benches and seats in peachy, plastic material. It seems to be mainly a diner throughout the day, though it has a large stage to one side for live entertainment. The bar serves three beers: Sharps Doom Bar, Dartmoor Legend and Bays Devon Dumpling.

The final pub of the afternoon was, virtually, at the foot of the steepest hill I've descended in search of a pub. Not really a pub, but a boutique hotel with restaurant and spa set just above Oddicombe beach. The CARY



ARMS is furnished to a very high standard, though disappointingly the beer range was limited to a single choice - Bays Sammy's Ale, (re-badged Topsail.)

The view from the extensive gardens took in the beach and Babbacombe Bay. The return climb up the hill was heart attack inducing and facilitated a slow return to my hotel for a serious lie down.

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A REAL ALE PARADISE

CLECKHEATON AND WAKEFIELD

Started my day in Cleckheaton, a town in the Heavy Wollen region of West Yorkshire that became well known for its production of heavy woollen cloth. Started here by visiting Steve at Mill Valley Brewery before heading into town to visit 4 more pubs. A bus onto Wakefield, known for being the birthplace of world-renowned sculptors Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth. Also being well known for coal mining, rhubarb and its cathedral. Lots of great pubs were visited here working from one end to the other.

CLECKHEATON

MILL VALLEY BREWERY

Started my day off with a bus from Wakefield Bus Station. The 268 runs between Wakefield and Bradford every 15 minutes during the day. Just over an hour journey to Cleckheaton. A short 15 minute walk out of town brings me to "Mill Valley Brewery". Had the pleasure of meeting owner and brewer Steve Hemingway here, starting with a look around the brewery setup. The brewery was started in his garage in 2015, quickly outgrowing that and moving to a new location (where the taproom is now). The name coming from where he lived "Valley Road", hence the name "Mill Valley Brewery".



The brewery was moved to Liversedge as they outgrew the current premises. When covid hit the brewery was moved back to its current location at Woodroyd Mills

in a building next to the Tap Room. A really nice setup with brewery, taproom and kitchen all next to each other.

Into the taproom next, this is where the brewery used to be located and a pallet bar was used for taproom openings. Now it hosts a range of events including singers and comedy nights and more. A great covered seating area outside at the front and very quirky seating around the taproom with walls dedicated to different local football teams.

A fantastic line up on the bar of 6 of their own cask beers, alongside a number of keg and lager options, including their own lager. Great to see local links with the beers, the panther range inspired by local motorcycle manufacturer "Phelon & Moore" who were well known for producing the "Panther" motorcycles. Other beers being a nod to the local Speedway club. "Luddite" is related to the secret groups that were formed in the area who they tried to save their livelihoods by attacking mills to destroy new machinery. I went with a pint of "Panther", named as their flagship beer, a great crisp and refreshing beer, very sessionable.

A huge thankyou to Steve for giving up his time to show me around and giving me an insight into his beers, where the names come from and the local links surrounding them.

THE CHAIN BAR

A short walk back down into town brings me to my next calling point in Cleckheaton which is to "The Chain Bar". This had a change of ownership in August 2023 and the new owners seem to be doing really well. The premises used to be a hairdressers before being converted into this pub. The name has 2 local links, the first being the nearby motorway roundabout "Chain Bar", and the second being linked to local motorcycle manufacturers "Phelon & Moore", linking to the chains they produced for them.

CLECKHEATON AND WAKEFIELD



A really warm welcome here from the owner, a nice one room pub with the bar at the back. A small beer garden and sun trap is also located outside at the rear of the pub.

A line up of 3 cask beers on the bar, alongside 8 keg lines (4 being permanent and 4 rotating). I went with "Buckwild" from Golcar, Huddersfield based Lords Brewing Co. A delicious copper coloured extra special bitter, a really tasty beer.

SPEN TAP

A walk around the corner brings me to "Spen Tap", run by Halifax Steam Brewing Company who I visited a couple of weeks back in Hipperholme, Halifax. This opened in May 2022. A nice small pub with downstairs and upstairs seating, along with a nice small beer garden to the rear of the pub. Great warm welcome again in here.



A choice of 3 cask ales on the bar, all 3 being from Halifax Steam Brewing Company alongside a keg selection, some of their own alongside other beers. I

went with "Dreamy", a scrumptious Strawberry Pale Ale, lovely fruity flavour to this and very refreshing.

ROSE & CROWN

Another couple of minutes walk brings me to the "Rose & Crown". A plaque at the front explains that this is one of the oldest pubs in Cleckheaton built in the 17th Century. It used to have its own microbrewery in the rear using the pubs old stables. A great historic pub, warm welcome and some delicious smelling food. A nice courtyard beer garden at the rear of the pub.



A really good range of cask ales on the bar here with 5 to choose from with a number of different styles and strengths. I went with one from York based Yorkshire Heart Brewery, "Scarbados", a tasty and crisp East Coast Pale Ale. Nice to have Scarborough's nickname as the beers name.

THE MARSH



My last call in Cleckheaton is a short walk past Cleckheaton Bus Station to "The Marsh". An unusual triangular shaped pub which has a conservatory

CLECKHEATON AND WAKEFIELD

added as an extension. It is run by Snaith based Old Mill Brewery. A popular pub and a great warm welcome from the bar staff in here. Very traditional looking inside, with the conservatory being used for diners and a beautiful outdoor seating area both covered and uncovered.

A line up of 3 cask beers on from Old Mill Brewery. The Bitter and Blonde Bombshell being permanent lines alongside a rotational special beer. I went for this one, today being "Yorkshire Pearl" a lovely zesty and light pale ale.

A bus stop over the road here gets me back to Wakefield on the 268 (or a minutes walk to the bus station for other connections).

WAKEFIELD

THE OLD PRINT WORKS

Having got off the bus near Wakefield Westgate Railway Station, I headed to my first call here down a side street to "The Old Print Works). A one roomed pub with a outside area to the front. Interestingly the bar in here was rescued from The Union Pub on Horbury Road and the Last Orders bell was rescued from a Paddy Train on the Selby Coalfield.



A range of 6 different cask ales on the bar to choose from. 5 being from Yorkshire as well as one from further afield. I went with "Farmers Blonde" from Sheffield based Bradfield Brewery. A favourite of mine, a delicious easy drinking blonde beer.

ELEPHANT & CASTLE

Back onto the main road to my next calling point which is to the "Elephant & Castle". A beautiful Grade II Pub. The front is a beautiful façade from Warwicks Brewery of Boroughbridge. The pub in the 19th Century doubled as a Magistrates Court and was also used for public floggings in the 1800's. Inside split into several small rooms with a great outdoor area to the rear.



2 cask ales on the bar for me to choose from today. The first being from local Ossett Brewery, the other which I went with is from Parkway Brewing Co based in Somerton, Somerset. "Norwegian Blue" is a delicious traditional English Bitter, named after a famous Monty Python Dead Parrot sketch.

HARRY'S BAR

A short walk back down past The Old Print Works and onto "Harry's Bar". A well known one roomed pub (with a new added outdoor extension) with a focus on real ale. A lovely setting inside with bare brick and wooden interior and a real fire for the colder days. Looking out of the side of the pub gives a great view of Wakefield's 99 Arch Viaduct which was constructed in the 1860s by the Great Northern Railway.



CLECKHEATON AND WAKEFIELD

A great line up of 8 cask beers alongside a cider and a couple of keg beers. Always have a great range on here varying in styles and strengths. I started with "Spring Back" from Nottingham based Lincoln Green Brewery, a tasty and easy drinking pale ale. I then went onto "Waikaha" from South Kirkby based Chin Chin Brewing Co. Another lovely crisp and fresh tasting pale ale.

THE BLACK ROCK

A short walk towards the Cathedral brings me to my next call in Wakefield which is to "The Black Rock". A lovely Grade II listed building which is a mainly unspoilt Melbourne Ales house which opened in 1842. This pub was well known for its Christmas Decorations which are very traditional and unchanged which have recently being sold off for charity. [CLICK HERE](#) to read more about this.



A blue plaque on the front of the pub shows that John Potter, Bishop of Oxford and from 1737 Archbishop of Canterbury lived here as a boy upstairs when his fathers drapers shop was downstairs.

A great selection of 6 cask beers on the bar here to choose from as well as the usual keg/lager selections. I went with "IPA" from North Yorkshire based Pennine Brewing Co. A crisp golden pale ale packed full of flavour.

WAKEFIELD LABOUR CLUB/THE RED SHED

A walk down to the bottom end of Wakefield for my next call to "The Red Shed" otherwise known as Wakefield Labour Club. It is housed in an old Army hut which has managed to survive redevelopment of the area over many years. A well known place to get served a great ale in Wakefield. The walls have lots of trade union plates and badges as well as numerous CAMRA awards.



A selection of 5 different cask beers, alongside a couple of keg beers and a number of bottles to choose from. I went with "Brewers Gold" from Rochdale based Pictish Brewing Company. A delicious hoppy pale ale with lots of good flavour.

THE HOP

Back to the top end of Wakefield again, this time visiting "The Hop", run as a joint venture by local Ossett Brewery and Mike Heaton, drummer with chart-topping band Embrace. A lovely old converted Victorian Building. A large indoor area split into a couple of different rooms, with a huge outdoor beer garden. Inside bare brickwork, fireplaces and other original features still remain around the pub.



A great line up of 5 cask beers all from Ossett Brewery alongside a large number of keg beers, some of which being from Ossett Brewery. "White Rat" for me in here,

CLECKHEATON AND WAKEFIELD

a favourite of mine I have had all over the country. A delicious pale hoppy ale, always delicious.

THE POLKA HOP



A short walk from The Hop brings me to "The Polka Hop". Used to visit here years ago when it was The Bull & Fairhouse run by Great Heck Brewery. Since the brewery closed, this was refurbished and opened in the Autumn of 2018 as The Polka Hop. The "Bull Fair House" being the pub's original name

back in 1874. The bar being on the left as you enter with a couple of small roomed seating areas giving it a really cosy feel. Nice warm welcome from the owner behind the bar in here.

A choice of 3 real ales, 1 cider and a number of keg options for me to choose from in here. "Baby Boa" from Keighley based Recoil Brewery for me. A crisp and light session pale ale.

LUIS BAR @ FERNANDES BREWERY

My last call is down towards Wakefield Kirkgate, this being to "Luis Bar @ Fernandes Brewery". Fernandes Brewery opened in November 1996 situated in the old



Malt House of the Fernandes brewery, which closed before World War II, from which it takes its name. The brewery was taken over by Ossett Brewery in Spring 2007. The bar itself is on the first floor of the building,

with an open plan second floor overlooking the first floor. Looks really great since its refurbishment a couple of years ago. Lots of old pub memorabilia around the pub and a very traditional feel to the place.

A great line up of 8 cask beers, 1 cider and a wide range of keg beers to choose from on the bar ranging in style and strength. I went with one of their own beers "Jockin'", a very refreshing and tasty lemondrop and chinook pale ale. Lots of great flavour from this beer.

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



APPOINTMENT WITH B.E.E.R!

JULY

Wednesday 3rd - 7:30pm

Open Branch meeting at the Grove Inn, city centre.

Saturday 20th

Leeds CAMRA Blue Plaque presentation to the Chequers Inn, Ledsham from 2pm

AUGUST

Tuesday 6th - 7:30pm

Open Branch Committee Meeting at the Fox and Hounds, Bramhope.

Sunday 18th

Date & details TBC check social media. Leeds Beer Census.

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 3rd - 7:30pm

Open Branch Committee Meeting at the Editors Draught, Leeds.

September 18th to 21st

York Beer Festival

Times, dates and venues are subject to change. Check the website and social media for confirmation of events.

<https://leeds.camra.org.uk/diary>

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