

The Newsletter of
THE WEST RIDING BRANCH OF
THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION
OF BEERS FROM THE WOOD
(Issue 382 March 2021)



Welcome to the SPBW West Riding Branch Newsletter for March 2021.

I hope that you all will have seen the news about the possible lifting of restrictions over the next few months.

Obviously, these are not “set in stone”, but it does give us all a little bit of hope that this nightmare could be over by late spring or early summer.

The main dates for your diary are:

12th April, when pubs can open their beer gardens for service outside the pub, with the “Rule of Six” restriction.

17th May, when pubs can open for service inside the pub again with the “Rule of Six”.

21st June, when all restrictions will be lifted.

Let’s hope there are no more delays, and these turn out to be the actual dates we can begin to get our lives back.

Thanks once again to Malcolm Townend for organising the March Zoom Meeting.

Thanks to Janet Dyson for letting me know about the Wetherspoons expansion plans.

Thanks to John Dyson for passing on the news about the postponement of Beertown in Malton.

Thanks to Richard Garvie for pointing out the details regarding next year’s Bradford Beer Festival and to Dave Fell for letting me know about the Nottingham Beer Festival change of venue.

If anyone has any news or information for next months newsletter that they would like to share, please e-mail me on:

graham.cavaye@virginmedia.com

Charlie Cavaye

Beer Festival Update

Unsurprisingly, beer festivals continue to be cancelled and postponed.

Beertown, Malton

The BEERTOWN Beer Festival in Malton, which was rescheduled to take place from the 20th to 23rd May, has been postponed.

It will now take place from the 27th to 29th August, which is the late summer bank holiday weekend.

Hopefully, the weather will be good, and the festival will be a great success.

They will have beers from the most exciting breweries in the UK and are currently arranging a great line up of live music.

Food will be provided by street vendors.

All tickets bought for the May event will be valid for August.

Anyone with tickets who is unable to make the new date will get a full refund (e-mail Chris at beertownmalton@gmail.com)

Those ticket holders who do make it to the festival on the new dates will be rewarded with a free Bad Seed or Brass Castle beer.

Bradford Beer Festival

Update from Bradford CAMRA

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel our next planned beer festival.

We left it as long as possible before making the decision, however, some aspects have a long lead-in time which is why we are notifying you now.

Under the constantly changing precautionary measures, we are unable to effectively plan for this event.

In addition, the severe restrictions on the numbers of people that can attend Victoria Hall mean that a festival will not be financially viable and is unlikely to be much fun for those who could attend.

We are hoping to do something else during 2021 and thinking of something that helps support our local pubs and breweries that have been massively impacted over the year.

If you have any suggestions of the type of event you would like to see, please e-mail. Whatever we do, it may be at relatively short notice and dependent upon how the situation evolves.

For some good news, we have contacted Victoria Hall, Saltaire and have provisionally booked 24-26 February 2022 for Bradford Beer Festival 2022.

Please pencil these dates in your diary.

Nottingham Beer Festival

This one is taking place, but at a new venue.

Update from Nottingham CAMRA

The Robin Hood Beer and Cider Festival, Nottingham CAMRA's flagship annual event, has secured a new home at Trent Bridge cricket ground.

Work has started on plans to host the event from Wednesday 13th October until Saturday 16th October this year in the hope that pandemic-induced disruption to the brewing and hospitality industry can be overcome in time for the safe staging of the iconic festival.

Diary clashes at the Motorpoint Arena and the redevelopment of Nottingham Castle sparked the search for a venue befitting the scale and prestige of the event which has grown considerably in recent years with up to 20,000 customers expected to attend throughout the duration of the festival.

"We are delighted to have been invited to stage the festival at Trent Bridge," said Nottingham CAMRA Chairman Steve Westby.

"I am sure customers will appreciate the opportunity to enjoy drinking quality beers and ciders in such historic surroundings.

"Of course, the event will only go ahead if the current pandemic restrictions are lifted and it is perfectly safe to do so, but we felt it was

important to allow our customers and volunteers to have dates to look forward to." Trent Bridge, the historic home of Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club, is ingrained in pub folklore with its founder, William Clarke, having married the landlady of the Trent Bridge Inn in 1837.

One year later, the adjoining field became the county's premier cricket ground under his stewardship.

Sustained investment has cemented the West Bridgford venue's position as one of six in England to host Test cricket.

"We can't wait to welcome Nottingham CAMRA to Trent Bridge and dearly hope that circumstances allow us to stage the event this year," said Trent Bridge Commercial Director Michael Temple.

"We all need something to look forward to and we're thrilled to be working with Steve and the team to progress their plans as soon as it's deemed safe to do so."

Wetherspoons

National pub chain Wetherspoons have announced plans to take advantage of falling property prices caused by the Coronavirus pandemic by investing up to £93.7 million to acquire new properties.

They are targeting central London, where retail and hospitality have been particularly hard hit due to the absence of office workers and tourists due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Meanwhile, the former boss of Greene King, Rooney Anand is leading a US backed private equity firm, Redcat Properties, which is investing up to £200 million to purchase small pubs and bars.

Both companies believe there will be a strong bounce back in the hospitality sector once all restrictions are lifted later this year.

March Zoom Meeting

Malcolm Townend is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Malcolm Townend's Zoom Meeting

Time: Mar 7, 2021 12:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79173415530?pwd=ZGZxR2QrU045Z2hMTctleGhjZHdMUT09>

Meeting ID: 791 7341 5530

Passcode: gr1s8g

Malcolm Townend