

The Newsletter of
THE WEST RIDING BRANCH OF
THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION
OF BEERS FROM THE WOOD
(Issue 387 August 2021)

Founded 1963



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

Well, I'm pleased to say that most restrictions were lifted on the 19th of July.

As regard to pubs, they can now serve us at the bar, and there are no limits as to how many people can meet up as a group inside or outside pubs.

Although there are no restrictions, different pubs and pub companies will interpret the rules differently.

One of the biggest problems appears to be when a member of staff is "pinged" on the NHS App to say that they have been in close contact with someone who has subsequently tested positive for the Covid 19 virus.

In these circumstances they are usually asked to self-isolate for up to 10 days.

This can affect all of the pub's staff and result in the premises then being closed.

I walked past Brew Dog on North Street, Leeds, recently and that was closed due to the need for staff to self-isolate.

It will probably take a little while to get back to "normal", and some pubs may prefer to keep to mask-wearing when not seated and table service only, so please be patient and hopefully we can avoid any future reimposition of restrictions.

Most of the pubs I've visited since the lifting of restrictions are operating a dual system of table service ordering via an app or payment via debit / credit card and also accepting orders at the bar.

However, we can now have meetings and socials, and I'm pleased to confirm that the August Branch Meeting will go ahead at Jacob's Well in Bradford on Sunday the 1st of August (meet from 12 noon for a 12:15 start).

So, instead of our first meeting since lockdown being "Independence Day, it will be on Yorkshire Day!

An update on Socials from John Dyson appears below.

Minutes from our last meeting at Malt Brewhouse in Horsforth in March 2020 are attached.

If you have any items for next month's newsletter, please e-mail me at:

graham.cavaye@virginmedia.com

Charlie Cavaye

Trips Update

Within hours of sending my last update I received an email from Chris Waplinton at Bad Seed Brewery in Malton advising Beertown has had to be postponed for a third time.

This is disappointing but understandable and Chris has offered a couple of alternatives, so all is not lost.

We shall still be going to Scarborough on August 28th and stopping in Malton on our return.

The second trip will be to Nottingham and Hucknall a fortnight later on 11th September.

Both these trips will depart at 10am from the bottom of Kirkgate in Leeds.

Our third trip will be to Ambleside in The Lakes on 25th September.

Our itinerary will be guided by the small number of National SPBW Members who will be there for their annual beery weekend but I'm considering a couple of stops at The Watermill in Ings and the Hawkshead Brewery Tap at Staveley near Kendal.

This will give us the opportunity to take the motorways home.

Please note, after consulting Graham Hewitt, this trip will depart half an hour earlier at 9:30am as it is a few minutes above our usual maximum two-hour trip time.

I already have many bookings for the first two trips, but I shall be taking bookings for all three at the Yorkshire Day Meeting at Jacob's.

If you would like to book or aren't sure if you already have and can't make the Meeting just send me a message.

The trips cost remains at £12 with a £2 deposit securing your seat. Payments can be sent direct to the bank account at 30:96:26 47324560.

Please use the trip destination as the reference.

John Dyson

0784 389 8986

john.dyson15@ntlworld.com

Sheffield by Train

On Saturday 17th July I met Gerv, my fellow Social Secretary, for a leisurely Spoons full English at Leeds Station.

The date had been set before BoJo decided to postpone our day of freedom so I was unsure who would be joining us.

Heading for the 11:11 Cross Country train we met Ian Roper on the platform.

At Sheffield we realised John Robson had been in a different carriage and on settling down in the Station Tap Emma joined us with her partner John.

Our first port of call was the Triple Point Brewery Tap down Shoreham Street.

This had been suggested by Tony O'Brien, who was unable to join our group of six, and a good suggestion it was too.

We sat outside in the searing heat amongst the tubs of golden hop plants.

Gerv had compiled the attached map of CAMRA Good Beer Guide Pubs, and we stuck to these after leaving the brewery, heading round the corner to the Rutland Arms.

We decided to walk to the famous Kelham Island rather than catch the Supertram and stopped along the way at the Red Deer, Crow Inn and Bar Stewards.

This last one was new to me as I've always visited Shakespeares opposite in the past. The Fat Cat was its usual self but my favourite, as ever, was the Kelham Island Tavern with its wonderful garden in which to sample the equally wonderful beer in the evening sunshine.

Time for a quick Jaipur back at the Station and home after an enjoyable afternoon.

John Dyson

Concept Taverns

Following on from my article last month, I received an e-mail from Janet Ward and Dave Robinson regarding Concept Taverns' pub in Huddersfield.

[Williams Beer & Gin House is on John William Street.](#)

[It has 4 handpumps - when we visited it had:](#)

[Abbeydale Deception](#)
[Vocation Bread & Butter](#)
[Concept Summer Ale](#)
[Concept Blonde Ale](#)

[We had Deception and it was excellent.](#)

[The pub is very modern, and the bar staff are very friendly.](#)

[If you are walking towards the Sportsman before you go under the bridge look across to the opposite side of the road and you will see it.](#)

[It has tables & chairs outside.](#)

[Dave says there is also a 'William's bar' in Sowerby Bridge, and he wonders if it is part of the same group.](#)

Zoom Meetings

On behalf of the branch. I would like to say a big "Thank You" to Malcolm Townend for setting up the monthly zoom meetings when we were unable to hold our usual pub (or club) meetings.

I managed to join in most of the meetings and generally speaking, I usually managed to have a beer or two to hand.

All of the meetings were fairly well attended and enjoyable, and a great way to keep in touch during lockdown.

Hopefully, they will not be needed in future, and we can get together to socialise in person.

Thanks again Malcolm.

Cross Keys, Siddal, Halifax Beer Festival

Thanks to Richard Garvie for letting us know about a forthcoming Beer Festival at the Cross Keys.

The dates are 13th to 15th August, and they are open from 12 noon.

After a testing 16 months, this is their first beer festival since 2019.

There will be an array of more than 26 excellent ales from a selection of breweries and live music from several bands.

There will also be food available in the form of a burger van.

Great news that local beer festivals are starting up again.

I did have a look at the CAMRA website, and there was nothing on the events page with regard to any future beer festivals.

This may be because they are having another upgrade to the website, and it is still being tested.

I did pick out a couple of beer festivals from the beer festival calendar website, which are shown below in Dates for your Diary.

If anyone does hear of any local beer festivals, please let me know and I will include the details in future newsletters.

Magic Rock from the Wood

On a recent visit to the Magic Rock Brewery Tap in Huddersfield, I noticed that a section of the Tap Room had been “caged off” and was full of wooden casks.

I asked whether they had any beer in them and was informed that those with labels were indeed full of beer.

One of the beers that was being aged was an Imperial Stout.

I managed to find a bottle of Magic Rock Holy Oak Bourbon Barrel Sour Beer 7.7% 650 ml for sale on the internet for £14.95, so it is obviously something they are pursuing.

The visit to the tap was very good with three beers on cask, Ringmaster (Pale Ale 3.9%), High Wire (Grapefruit Pale Ale 5.5%), Common Grounds (Coffee Porter 5.4%).

There were also about 10 beers available on keg.

It was a very wet rainy evening, so we remained inside, but there is plenty of outside seating for the better weather.

Charlie Cavaye

Pub & Brewery News

Blind Jacks in Knaresborough reopened on Friday 23rd September with six cask ales. The temporary pop-up pub has now closed.

Roland Wadden

Whilst on a recent trip to Scarborough it was noted that the North Riding Brewery and Magic Rock had collaborated to produce a peanut butter stout which was well received by members of our party.

The area’s pubs were offering a wide range of local ales at reasonable prices averaging £3.40.

Janet Dyson

Dates for your Diary

[1st August Branch Meeting at Jacobs Well, Bradford](#)

[13th to 15th August Cross Keys, Siddal Beer Festival](#)

[27th to 29th August Galloways Beer & Banger Festival, Walmer Bridge Village Hall, Gill Lane Preston PR4 5GN Over 40 ales, lager, gin & wine](#)

[28th August Branch Trip to Scarborough and Malton](#)

[5th September, Branch Meeting, Venue to be confirmed](#)

[9th to 11th September Rail Ale Festival, Chesterfield CAMRA , Barrow Hill Roundhouse, Barrow Hill, Chesterfield S43 2PR 350+ real ales, ciders, perries, craft and world beers](#)

[11th September Branch Trip to Nottingham and Hucknall](#)

[25th September Branch Trip to Ambleside](#)