

The Newsletter of
THE WEST RIDING BRANCH OF
THE SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION
OF BEERS FROM THE WOOD
(Issue 396 May 2022)

Founded 1963



Welcome to the SPBW West Riding Branch Newsletter for May 2022.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed articles this month.

Please let me know if you hear about any local beer festivals.

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

graham.cavaye@virginmedia.com

Charlie Cavaye

Pub and Brewery News

The Coach and Horses in Harrogate is due to reopen in June and will be run by Provenance Inns.

Husk Beer Emporium in Harrogate are to open a new pub in Station Square, opposite Harrogate Railway Station.

The Old Kings Arms in Horsforth reopened in April after refurbishment including a stage for

live music and a change to the food franchise to Slap & Pickle Burgers.

Kirkstall Brewery beers will be available on a regular basis.

The Stables Pub (formerly Stables Bar) in Weetwood, Leeds has reopened after a period of closure.

Craven Brew Co. Tap Room has opened in the former Cross Hills Brewhouse in Cross Hills, near Keighley.

There are 5 beers being brewed by Head Brewer, Dave Sanders.

Yeadon Cricket Club has opened a bar called the 12th Man which has two beers available.

The Star at Folly Hall in Huddersfield is temporarily closed due to flooding.

The New Headingley Club on St. Michael's Road in Headingley is now open to the public.

Beer Festival Update

Hucknall

I have removed Hucknall from the list as there isn't any information available.

It may well still happen, but hopefully there will be more information nearer the time at the end of July

Belper

Following on from my confusion in last month's newsletter, I can now confirm that there are two separate beer festivals taking place in Belper in June.

Belper goes Green is at the cricket club from the 10th to the 12th June.

Amber Valley Beer Festival (CAMRA) takes place from the 30th June to the 2nd July at the rugby club.

Trips Update

Firstly, may I say a big thank you to all who joined us on our first trip of the year to Durham and Richmond.

The weather was kind and we only had one spare place on the 53-seater coach.

In the past our annual trip to Whitby has been well subscribed whereas other destinations have not been as popular.

It has, therefore, been possible to welcome non-members, who are usually friends or family of members.

One of the benefits of West Riding membership is being able to participate in the trips and enjoy a day out at a couple of places that wouldn't be easy to access in the time by public transport.

We have had to increase the trip fee to £15 after the losses we sustained last year but I think this still represents very good value.

With our first trip being full, Gerv and I have decided that the fairest way to ensure

members are given the first opportunity to book a seat ahead of non-members is to have a cut-off date for expressing a desire to travel.

This date will be the monthly meeting prior to the next trip.

After this time, I shall continue to accept bookings until no further seats are available.

I accept funds for future trips on the coach, at meetings or on-line directly to the Lloyds bank account at sort code 30-96-26 number 47324560.

John Dyson
Joint Social Secretary

07843 898986

Durham and Richmond

St. George's Day, the 23rd of April was the date for our first West Riding SPBW coach trip of the year.

The coach was fully booked with 52 members and friends on board.

Durham is a lovely city full of good pubs which we have visited in the past, but this was our first trip to Richmond.

Richmond is one of those places that isn't too far from Leeds but is a difficult place to get to by public transport.

When they have their beer festival, they suggest getting to Darlington by train and then getting a bus.

Our group of six decided to head for the Colpitts Hotel which is a good 15-minute walk from the coach drop off point.

Durham is quite hilly, so there are quite a few steep climbs and then a downward slope to compensate.

The Colpitts Hotel is a Samuel Smith's house, with a historic interior and is included in the latest 2022 Good Beer Guide.

Unsurprisingly, most of us went for the Old Brewery Bitter, which is one of the few beers remaining that is regularly stored in wooden casks.

The staff were in good form with red, white & blue wigs and England football shirts to celebrate our patron saint.

The manager, Kate, was kind enough to let us have a look at the 18-gallon wooden casks in the cellar, which was very clean and tidy for a pub cellar.

We had a brief chat with John, who is a North East SPBW member and was enjoying a pint at the bar.

The next pub was the Old Elm Tree which had a good choice of beers, from which I chose the Maxim Swedish Blonde which was in good condition.

They did have Theakston's Old Peculier on draught, but upon our enquiry, we were informed that it was not "from the wood".

We managed to get a table outside in the busy pub garden where customers were enjoying the lovely Spring sunshine.

We then headed up towards the railway station, where we first visited the Station House, a medium sized, wedge-shaped pub which was opened by CAMRA members in 2015.

The handpumps are behind the hatch, where beer is ordered from, but the pump clips are displayed on the customer side.

Interestingly, the pump clips are displayed vertically with the lightest beer at the top and the darkest at the bottom.

There were 5 beers to choose from, and I had the Durham White Gold, which was excellent.

A few of us took the opportunity to have one of the snacks available, mainly pork pies and vegan sausage rolls, known locally as "Sossy Bites", and served in a teacup.

The next pub was the Waiting Room on the northbound platform of Durham railway station.

This is the former Ladies' Waiting Room, first opened in 1872 which had been closed and neglected for many years before being converted into this tastefully refurbished pub.

The two beers were Pagan Queen and Trade Star, both from Firebrick Brewery.

We were able to sit outside on a trestle table and watch the customers getting on and off the trains, many dressed up to go out on the town in Durham for pre wedding parties.

Back down the slope to the Bridge Hotel, a more traditional style pub.

The beers available were Greene King Spring Break, Marston's Wainwright and Ringwood Fortyniner.

We then headed for the Head of Steam which was extremely busy.

They had some interesting beers including Coco Porter, a collaboration beer from Roosters & Ossett.

They also had Cameron's Strongarm, Three Brothers Riverside IPA and Vocation Bread & Butter.

I had the Cameron's Strongarm which was very good.

With time running out before we needed to catch the coach on to Richmond, we headed for the Hill Island Brewery pop up bar, which was there to celebrate St. George's Day.

This was outside the Hill Island microbrewery with four beers on handpump served in plastic glasses.

The outside space was mainly filled with members from our coach trip.

I managed to sample two of the beers in the time remaining, Daffadillo, a refreshing light beer and Flaming Ale, a fierce ginger infused ale, which was lovely.

When we arrived in Richmond, some of our group headed down to the Richmond Brewery, which is a little way out of town, but was due to close at 6pm.

Unfortunately, when our contingent arrived, the brewery had closed early.

Richmond is a pleasant market town with a large number of pubs for its size.

Quite a few of those which do serve real ale seem to concentrate on Doom Bar, Timothy Taylor's Landlord and Black Sheep beers.

We decided to try No. 29 Alehouse which had three interesting beers, Rudgate Toom to Tango, Mithril Black Elf and Wensleydale Bohemian Saaz.

The pub was fairly busy, and many of the tables had been reserved for diners later in the evening.

The beers we tried were in excellent condition, and the staff were very friendly and enthusiastic.

We then headed to the local Wetherspoons for a bite to eat.

The Ralph Fitz Randall was quite busy, with the staff behind the bar mainly filling orders from those that had ordered via the app.

Even though I was the only customer at the bar, the four staff were too busy to serve me.

I guess that is the way things are going, a legacy of the post lockdown era when table service was mandatory.

However, I had very nice pint of Mauldon's Black Cherry Stout to go with my Pasta Alfredo.

The final pub was the Castle Tavern which is run by Richmond Brewing Co.

The pub was, once again, very busy, mainly because it was full of SPBW members.

Another great day out with West Riding SPBW, well researched by our joint social secretaries.

Charlie Cavaye

Postal Auction of Rare Books for Charities

Barrie Pepper is auctioning some of his rare brewery, pub & beer related books for charity:

1. The Whitbread Library

A set of eleven books published around 70 years ago and now the full set is difficult to find.

All the books are in reasonable condition for their ages, complete in every way and all the colour prints are in excellent condition.

All books are hardback, size 150cm x 260cm.

The intention is to sell the complete library as one lot by postal auction with a reserve of £100.

1 Whitbread's Brewery 1947

2 Your Local 1947

3 Inn-Signia

4 The Brewer's Art 1948

5 Whitbread Craftsmen 1948

6 Inns of Kent 1948

- 7 Inns of Sport 1949
- 8 Receipts and Relishes 1950
- 9 Your Club 1950
- 10 Inn Crafts & Furnishings 1950
- 11 Word for Word 1953

2. Good Beer Guide 1974 (Unpublished edition)

The first edition of the Good Beer Guide was printed and published by John Waddington of Leeds.

In the guide a list of British brewers included brief opinions on their beers.

For Watney's, readers were advised to 'Avoid like the plague'.

The publishers took fright at this and overnight CAMRA, agreed to a reprint with 'Avoid at all costs' in place of the offending phrase.

A few copies were not pulped and one of these rarities is to be auctioned with a reserve of £50.

Bids for both lots can be made to Barrie Pepper preferably by email at barrie.pepper@gmail.com or at 58 Elmete Hill, Leeds LS8 2NT. Bids must be received by 31st May.

The total amount raised from the sale of both lots will be shared between the St Aidan's Church Food Bank in Leeds and the Red Cross Appeal for Ukraine.

[SPBW West Riding Branch Events](#)

Sunday 1st May

[Branch Meeting](#)

Leeds Brewery Tap
18-24 New Station Street

Leeds
LS1 5DL

Meet 12 noon for a 12:15pm start

Saturday 14th May

[Branch Trip to Chorley and Clitheroe](#)

Meet 10:00am at bottom of Kirkgate, Leeds

Sunday 12th June

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

[Branch Meeting](#)

Town Street
16-18 Town Street
Horsforth
Leeds
LS18 4RJ

Meet 12 noon for a 12:15pm start

Saturday 18th June

[Branch Trip to Everards Beer Hall and Leicester](#)

Meet 10:00am at bottom of Kirkgate, Leeds

Sunday 3rd July

[Branch Meeting](#)

Venue to be advised
Probably in Harrogate

Meet 12 noon for a 12:15pm start

Saturday 16th July

[Branch Trip to Liverpool & New Brighton](#)

Meet 10:00am at bottom of Kirkgate, Leeds

