

# A KEIGHLEY & CRAVEN ALESMAN



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LOVERS OF GOOD BEER & GOOD PUBS

Abstract Summer 2020

Covering Airedale from Sandbeds upwards, Wharfedale from Addingham, and Ribblesdale from Hellifield

## Supporting Pubs & Breweries

When pubs were forced to close on 20<sup>th</sup> March most had no alternative but to suspend trading. However, some have been able to introduce alternative or new activities, such as take away and delivery services of food & drinks.

The majority of these are village pubs serving members of their local communities. For example, several pubs in Grassington and surrounding area have been providing groceries, such as fresh veg., fruit, dairy, fish and meat, as well as take away meals. This has proved popular with local residents, since it has meant they have been able to obtain essential supplies locally without needing to go into Skipton.



Some pubs providing take away meals have been doing so on a daily basis while others have only been doing so at weekends. Friday fish and chips and Sunday lunches have proved particularly popular. A few pubs have offered breakfasts while the Black Bull in Haworth and Grouse in Oldfield have been selling afternoon teas. As well as providing a small amount of income to

keep themselves going, these pubs have been providing a valuable service. There have been a lot of favourable comments from customers posted on Facebook, so I think they have found it worthwhile.

Some pubs have been selling beer and other drinks, to take away, either with a meal or as a separate enterprise, often obtaining beer from a local brewery. It has also been possible to have beer from some local breweries delivered direct to the doorstep. In the Keighley area this has included beer from Naylor's (who also have their own scrumpy cider), Wishbone, Bridgehouse, Goose Eye, Bingley and Old Spot. This enables them to keep trading and saves them from having to throw away large quantities of beer that was already in production.

Another activity undertaken by some pubs, such as the Dickie Bird in Thwaites Brow, the Airedale Heifer in Sandbeds, and the Foresters in Grassington, has been the virtual weekly pub quiz.

I am sure they have appreciated the support of customers using their alternative services, but it has been a difficult time for pubs and breweries. Let's hope that communities continue to use their local pubs once they are able to reopen, and to buy beer from local breweries, in order to help them to recover.

For details of alternative services provided by pubs in the Keighley and Craven area click on the direct link on the home page of Keighley and Craven CAMRA website. Alternatively go to WhatPub <https://www.whatpub.com/> and use the search facility.

Jenny Baker

With thanks to our advertisers: **Bingley Brewery** (Wilsden), **Boltmakers Arms** (Keighley), **Brown Cow** (Keighley), **RLBS** (Keighley), **Flappit** (A629 near Cullingworth), **Goose Eye Brewery** (Crossflatts), **Timothy Taylor Brewery** (Keighley), **Wuthering Heights** (Stanbury), **Bar 13 (Settle)**, **Fleece Inn** (Haworth), **Talbot Arms** (Settle), **Boars Head** (Long Preston), **Counting House** (Silsden), **Fox & Goose** (Hebden Bridge), **Helwith Bridge Inn** (Ribblesdale).

# **PUB UPDATES ...**

From March 2020 to 6<sup>th</sup> June

The Hart's Head, Giggleswick, has been purchased by Daniel Thwaites' Brewery. In addition to the bar the pub has a restaurant and 7 letting bedrooms. Source: Craven Herald, 12.3.20

Kath Thornton, owner of Bronte Bars and Events, has obtained permission to convert a closed furniture shop into a micropub. The property, at 70 Haworth Road in Cross Roads, would be called the Burnt Bear. Source: Keighley News, 12.3.20

Wetherspoons is spending £millions preparing its pubs for reopening, including Skipton's Devonshire and Keighley's Livery Rooms. Each pub will have hand sanitisers, including at the entrances for customers and staff. Customer entry and exit will be marked out by floor stickers and/or barriers and there will be clear printed information providing guidance to customers as they enter the pubs. Screens will be provided at till points and there may also be screens between some tables. Staff will be provided with gloves, masks and protective eyewear if they want to wear it. Source: JDWetherspoon press releases

## **... and the Future of the Bronte**

An application has been submitted to Bradford Council for the demolition of the Bronte Hotel, in Lees Lane, Haworth, and the construction of six four-bedroom detached homes with integral garages.

Gary and Jackie Bailey, who run the Bronte Hotel, say the housing option is just one of several under consideration as they look towards retirement. They stress that whilst the hotel is currently closed due to the lockdown, it will reopen when Government restrictions are lifted.



Seeking to reassure customers, the Baileys say “Some of you may have heard rumours that we have sold the Bronte – I can confirm no discussions have taken place with regards to selling the property.

“A planning application has been put in for six detached houses, by us as a family. We are simply putting a plan in place to retire in the next few years. As a family we have run the business for 35 years and it is coming to a time where we are too old to carry on. Building houses is just one of the options we are looking into, as well as looking at options like leasing or selling as a business.

“We would like to thank all our customers for your support over the years. We are still here and will keep you updated. Hopefully we will see you all once the lockdown is over.”

Councillor David Mahon, chairman of Haworth, Cross Roads and Stanbury Parish Council, says it would be “a huge loss” for the community were the hotel to close.

Worth Valley district councillor Rebecca Poulsen says the hotel is a great amenity and a popular meeting venue for a lot of organisations and would be missed. She added “The hotel is the only facility of its kind in that part of the village and it would be great if someone took it over and built on the success that has been achieved.”

Source: Keighley News, 6.5.20

# A Message from the Editor

Due to the disruption caused by Covid-19 there will not be a printed edition of the Summer Alesman this year. We hope to issue a printed Autumn Alesman as usual. Since all pubs closed on March 20<sup>th</sup> we have been unable to visit them and so there is little in the way of pub news to report (though see Pub Updates article). We were able to distribute the Spring Alesmans to only a few pubs before the lockdown. When we are able to go to pubs again you may see some copies of these (regrettably now well out of date).

Skipton beer festival had to be cancelled this year but we now plan to hold the 2020 festival next year instead. We should not need a new logo for 2021 as the current one is inspired by the 2020 Olympics which are to be held in 2021 as well!

Branch events were cancelled during the Spring, for obvious reasons, but keep looking at our website for future events.

**Fred Baker, Editor, June 2020.**

p.s. The following are links to articles related to the future of beer and pubs, post lockdown, and may be of interest.

[CAMRA press release :](#)

[Cask Beer essential to pubs post-lockdown](#)

[From the Telgraph & Argus :](#)

[Bradford CAMRA : Save Pubs](#)

# PUB JOBS AT RISK

In a letter to Chancellor Rishi Sunak, the The British Beer & Pub Association (BBPA), British Institute of Innkeeping (BII) and UK Hospitality (UKH) called for furlough salary for pub and hospitality staff to be maintained at 80% until October.

Emma McClarkin, chief executive of the BBPA, said “The furlough scheme had been a lifeline to pubs and pub jobs. However, unless social distancing restrictions are reduced to the World Health Organisation’s suggested one metre, two-thirds of pub jobs could be lost. It is vital that the Government allows pubs to re-open under those safe conditions in July, so that they can operate at a sustainable level and become pillars of the community once more. Under the two metre rules, pubs will have less space to operate with so will need less staff”.

“Many pubs won’t even be able to re-open, yet they could be expected to cover part of their staff furlough costs from August without any money coming in. Such a situation would mean either pubs closing for good or jobs being lost.”

Kate Nicholls, chief executive of UK Hospitality said: “It is absolutely crucial that the furlough scheme is extended, in its full form, until the end of October. Some businesses will reopen in July, but many will be trading at far below full capacity. They will be operating with reduced income and will likely incur additional costs to ensure social distancing measures are in place”.

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CAMRA is asking that government considers the feasibility of pubs to function in the short-term, while protecting the intrinsic characteristics of pubs for the long-term, rather than campaigning for any specific distance measure:

[https://camra.org.uk/press\\_release/camra-calls-for-greater-financial-support-to-see-pubs-through-lockdown-and-beyond/](https://camra.org.uk/press_release/camra-calls-for-greater-financial-support-to-see-pubs-through-lockdown-and-beyond/)



## New Company Causes Concerns for Smaller Brewers

A joint venture between Carlsberg and Marston's breweries poses a threat to smaller brewers, says SIBA (the Society of Independent Brewers). Their chief exec, James Calder, said "This merger is the latest in a series of consolidating measure within the UK beer market. It has the potential to take the Marston's brand global and brings Carlsberg back into the distribution and porterage business after only a few short years of leaving it. This merger yet again has the potential to impact negatively on small independent breweries by further reducing the access to market they receive."

The new business, called Carlsberg Marston's Brewing Company, is 60% owned by the Danish company Carlsberg. It will offer a mixture of lagers and Marston's cask ales and will be able to supply Carlsberg products to around 1,400 Marston's pubs in the UK.

Small breweries have struggled to get their beers into pubs over the last decade and some have been bought up by megabrewers keen to take advantage of perceived changes in tastes. For example the modern brewery London Fields was taken over by Carlsberg and Camden Town fell to ABInBev.

Fred Baker

Source: The Guardian, 23.5.20

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/may/22/beer-brewers-carlsberg-and-marstons-announce-uk-merger>

# Marston's pubs in Keighley & Craven

Marston's has two pubs in the Keighley & Craven area - The Devonshire at Cracoe and Haworth Old Hall. The latter retains Jennings signage. A statement about the merger on Marston's website lists their key brands Marston's Pedigree, Hobgoblin, Wainwright, Young's, Courage, Banks's and McEwan's. The statement does not mention Jennings as a key brand, (nor Lancaster Bomber which is now a Marston's brand). It is to be hoped that this is not a portent of future neglect.



The Devonshire at Cracoe used to sport William Younger's branding. Youngers merged with McEwans back in the 1930s to form a precursor to Scottish & Newcastle, in turn taken over by Heineken before the Wm Youngers and McEwans brands were sold to Wells & Youngs of Bedford (another merger). Marston's bought the Wells Brewery and various brands such as Bombardier in 2017, that brewery is now called Eagle Brewery. (Charles Wells built a new brewery to supply their pubs but that's going off at a tangent.)

Carlsberg closed Tetley's brewery in 2011, the last of a group of acquisitions, which started with a merger nearly 20 years earlier. Carlsberg paid Marston's to brew Tetleys for them in Wolverhampton.

History tells us that brewery mergers tend to reduce the range of beers produced and can lead to 'dumbing down' of recipes. What isn't always obvious is which mergers have saved beers from companies that would have simply folded, nor where mergers created opportunities for independent breweries.

Jeremy Brooksbank



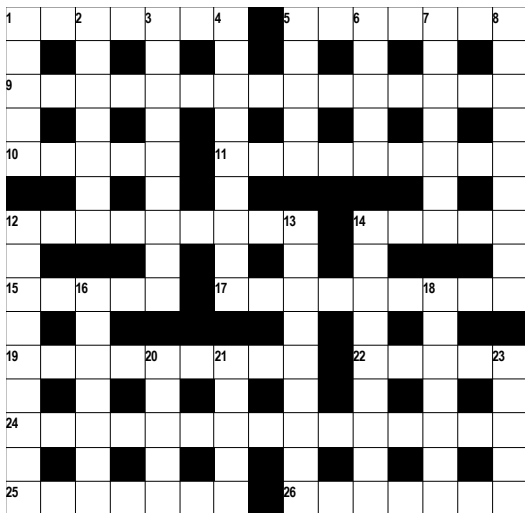
# CRYPTIC COVIDWORD

which may become CROSS*Hills*WORD 54  
in any on-paper edition of Autumn's Alesman

**Click here to download a single page version to print out**

THE PRIZE will be a T-shirt from either Naylor's brewery or our own stock from previous beer festivals, depending on circumstances. Send entries by 5th November to the editor at [fred\\_baker50@hotmail.com](mailto:fred_baker50@hotmail.com), or to 170 Long Lee Terrace, Keighley, West Yorkshire BD21 4TU.

Any legible copy will do, in grid or list form.



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## ACROSS

- 1** Return of stolen property to container in which repairman may carry equipment (7)
- 5** Forcibly move strong drink towards the left for Meanie (7)
- 9** Misplaced joy felt for TU, huh? Not all pubs could reopen on it (3,6,2,4)
- 10** Small addition to drink, lacking P but getting pee... (5)
- 11** ... and poo somewhere in the Down clues (6,3)
- 12** Could this Cumbrian brewpub be an on-paper spoonerism of "Mum is going to..."? (9)
- 14** Don PPE for the Cricketers! (3,2)
- 15** Murderer's confession in Scottish brewery and source of whisky(5)
- 17** In dew, dart excitedly for just one of those breezes from Cairngorm (5,4)
- 19** Giving title to couple of points, no flashy stuff (9)

**22** Support for work when treacherous person is beheaded (5)

**24** Shambolic CID needed a penny for 9 in the USA (12,3)

**25** So, Little Richard fails to finish describing process that in time will affect all around (7)

**26** Opening that aids breathability in chinos, trilby etc. (7)

## DOWN

**1** Salt, perhaps, when you and I objectively go after small songbird (5)

**2** The late Ms Lynn in Autumn sometime briefly showing what ham may do (7)

**3** Fraternal British railway shortly incorporating those not already mentioned (9)

**4** 18th-century French republican rising Dot misinterpreted (9)

**5** Biblical prophet, to some extent in a humane way (5)

**6** Blunder initially getting a few feeling embarrassed (5)

**7** A large cask senior journalist briefly was next to and maybe touched (7)

**8** Subjected to Prohibition, jumped having lately added extra flavouring to beer (3-6)

**12** Middle-of-the-road feature of Kildwick pub bearing 45° not on (5,4)

**13** The shade of possibly a free glen (4,5)

**14** Before past and present, it may be said these aren't for real (9)

**16** Yearn to closely follow a Basingstoke brewery (not named after a dachshund!) (7)

**18** Privily informed person saying where appley flavours may be experienced (6)

**20** Man, for instance, primarily balances in positions elephants don't (5)

**21** Classical order causing wry amusement but no rib-tickler at first (5)

**23** Showing constant support, pub near you exchanges the first bit of curry for the last (5)