

# LocAle®

## You'll find it here

In February York CAMRA launched our **LocAle** scheme, to promote local breweries and to help the environment at the same time. It's very simple; we offer accreditation, point of sale material and publicity to any pub which commits to selling at least one beer brewed within 25 miles; over 30 breweries are eligible somewhere in our branch area. The scheme has been well-received by licensees, both in the city and further afield. Here is our mini guide to the current participants; you'll find a colour version of this on our website, as well as more information about the campaign.

### BURN

#### WHEATSHEAF

This is a well-established, cosy, free house, famed for its food as well as its beer. It has a long standing commitment to selling local ales and it has been in the scheme right from the start. It always sells a beer from **Brown Cow** of **Barlow**, a mere three miles away, as one of its four guests.

### CLIFTON

#### BUMPER CASTLE

Set on the junction of Wigginton Road and Kettlestring Lane just south of the bypass and near to industrial and retail parks, the pub is a retreat from the hurly burly of modern life. It always tries to offer four cask ales, one of which is now a LocAle. It's a friendly pub which welcomes families, serving meals in a separate dining area, with a large grassed space at the side and rear.

### EASINGWOLD

#### GEORGE

This old coaching inn, overlooking the market square, dates from the 18th century. Popular with locals and visitors, its cosy, comfortable rooms are served from a central bar. **Black Sheep Best Bitter** from **Masham** is the regular LocAle here.

### GREAT BARUGH

#### GOLDEN LION

A two-roomed, friendly, family-run free house in the Vale of Pickering, featuring home cooked food. A minimum of three real ales are served, with at least one coming from **York Brewery**.

### HELPERBY

#### GOLDEN LION

A village centre pub with a community focus and an array of activities, run by a real ale enthusiast, who was among the first to join LocAle. He specialises in lighter session beers and makes full use of the range available through the SIBA Direct Delivery scheme. LocAle breweries represented so far include **York, Rudgate, Marston Moor, Rooster's, Daleside** and **Hambleton**, with **Leeds** a possibility for the future.

### KILBURN

#### FORRESTER'S ARMS

A cosy country inn at the centre of the village, with some lovely old wooden furniture from the Mousey Thompson workshop nearby. The LocAle here comes from **Hambleton Ales**, just over 10 miles away. The scheme has been so successful that a further handpump is likely to be added soon for another local beer.



### SUTTON UPON DERWENT

#### ST. VINCENT ARMS

Twice York CAMRA Pub of the Year, this is a family-run free house, with a cosy L-shaped lounge, separate dining rooms and large beer garden. It has always offered a good range of **Fuller's** beers and continues to do so, but LocAles are on the bar too, often from **Old Mill of Snaith** and **York**.

### THORGANBY

#### FERRY BOAT

Tucked away down a country lane which ends in the river, this family-owned free house offers a great selection. Choose from the intimate original bar, the more airy extension or the riverside beer garden. You could find a LocAle from any of the eligible breweries here – **Brown Cow, Rooster's** and **Rudgate** all feature regularly.

### WEST HADDLESEY

#### GEORGE & DRAGON

An excellent village local, with a tiny bar and larger side room, which doubles as a dining area. This pub joined the scheme on launch night and licensee Paul Torkington reckons 90% of the beers he sells are local. Among these is a **Brown Cow** house beer, **White Dragon**, which travels just over five miles to get to the bar.

### WIGGINTON

#### JACOBAN LODGE

This hotel, hidden away off the B1363, is converted from a very large farmhouse and has an olde worlde charm. Though its main trade is food and accommodation, it has it has earned a reputation for good beer. Usually two cask ales are on during the week with space for two more at weekends if needed. Well worth seeking out if visiting the Moorlands Nature Reserve, it welcomes families, cyclists and walkers.



### YORK

#### ACKHORNE, St. Martins Lane

A popular, characterful little gem hidden away off Micklegate. The partially open plan layout has several distinct areas and there's a pleasant outdoor drinking area; food is served at lunch times. **Rooster's Yankee** is a regular here and the guest beers can include other LocAles.

#### BRIGANTES, Micklegate

Our 2008 Pub of the Year and where the LocAle campaign was launched. One large, split level room, it is bare-boarded and light at the front and more intimate, with small booths, at the back. Part of the Market Town Taverns group, it usually has eight real ales; on the LocAle front beers from **Leeds** and **York** are regulars, with **Marston Moor, Rooster's** and **Rudgate** often appearing too.

#### COACH HOUSE, Marygate

This 300 year old hotel has a pleasant bar area, which has recently been remodelled, gaining real ale at the same time. It's friendly and welcoming, with two handpumps offering LocAles from **York Brewery**.

### GOLDEN LION, Church Street

The smart exterior leads to a busy, two-level bar, with several TV screens. Note the ornate wooden bar back, which was salvaged from a pub due for demolition. Among the nine real ales, **York** and **Daleside** often fly the LocAle flag.



### GUY FAWKES INN, Petergate

The pub reopened in late April after a sympathetic and classy refurbishment, which includes gas lighting. Several different drinking rooms have been created and there's an outside courtyard too. It joined the scheme straightaway; there are seven handpumps, with LocAles so far from **York, Old Mill** and **Hambleton** amongst the beers.

### LAST DROP INN, Kings Square

The first of York Brewery's tied houses in the city, which opened in 2000 after its conversion from offices. A single, split-level bar, it has a small outside drinking area and plain glass windows, giving good views out onto the street. Like all of the brewery's pubs, there are no games machines, music or children, so the atmosphere is very relaxing. No prizes for guessing where the LocAles are from!



### **MALTINGS, Tanners Moat**

Arguably York's most individual free house, Shaun and Maxine Collinge have been doing their own thing here since 1992. Idiosyncratic decor, friendly, wise-cracking staff, huge portions of quality food and an ever-changing range of guest beers all add to the unique atmosphere. A **Rooster's** beer has long been a permanent fixture, joined more recently by **York Guzzler**, and other LocAles are frequently on the bar.



### **SWAN, Bishopgate Street**

A traditional street corner local, with two different rooms (the one with the TV is popular for live sports), a drinking corridor and an excellent beer garden. Its only permanent LocAle is **Tetley's Cask Bitter**, still brewed in the centre of Leeds, although it frequently includes another among its guests – it was the first York outlet for **Great Heck Brewery**.



### **PIVO, Patrick Pool**

An excellent conversion, on three floors, in an old building with exposed beams and brickwork. Up to three varied real ales are available at a time, with LocAles usually from **York** or **Hambleton**. There are also nine quality continental and US draught beers and an impressive range of about 50 foreign bottled beers – handy when you want a change from LocAles!

### **PUNCH BOWL, Blossom Street**

A busy, open all hours Wetherspoons venue with a manager interested in real ale. There are several comfortable drinking and dining areas, a conservatory and small garden. At least two LocAles are usually available, one from nearby **York Brewery**, plus four other real ales, all at reasonable prices.

### **ROOK & GASKILL, Lawrence Street**

With 11 handpumps devoted to beer and one to cider, this **Castle Rock** pub has York's largest range of real ales and a relaxed ambience. Great care goes into ensuring a balance of styles, including a mild and a porter or stout, is always available. The same care has been applied to ensuring one of these is a LocAle, with beers from **York, Leeds** and **Marston Moor** among those regularly represented.

### **TAP & SPILE, Monkgate**

An imposing, Flemish-style house which dates from 1897. The spacious, split-level interior comprises a separate bar area and library-style lounge with an elegant fireplace. Four guest beers are sourced using the SIBA scheme. A regular folk night is hosted on Friday and the annual pork pie festival in September is a highlight – local pies to go with your LocAle! **Rooster's Yankee** is a regular beer and the guest beers can include other LocAles.

### **THREE-LEGGED MARE, Petergate**

York Brewery's second city pub, named after a triangular structure for hanging three criminals simultaneously and known locally as the Wonkey Donkey. It has a very modern feel, with bare boards, a mix of seating and a conservatory at the back. The range of nine real ales includes, naturally, LocAles from the owning brewery.

### **WAGGON & HORSES, Lawrence Street**

Batemans first tied house in the city, it reopened in June 2008 after a thorough refurbishment, which has left the pub transformed beyond recognition. With four distinct drinking areas, a garden, food and accommodation, it is well worth a visit. As well as the core Batemans beers, there are four guests; we were there on the opening night to persuade Paul and Mandy that one of these really ought to be a LocAle, and they have enthusiastically taken up the scheme.

### **VICTORIA, Heslington Road**

York's only **Old Mill** tied house, it's been with us from the launch of LocAle. A single, spacious room, well-decorated and appealing throughout and attracting locals and students alike. It sells **Bitter** and **Bullion**, as well as a third beer from the **Snaith** brewery's seasonal range.



### **YORK BREWERY CLUB, Toft Green**

They don't come much more LocAle than this – the beer has only to travel yards, not even miles, to the bar, for the club is on the first floor of the brewery premises. It's a members' only club, with reasonable rates, or you can take a brewery tour to get access. The visit takes place on a gallery overlooking the brewery floor and this bird's eye view provides a very clear picture of the brewing process.

### **YORKSHIRE TERRIER, Stonegate**

Hidden behind the **York Brewery** gift shop, this is an excellent conversion to pub use, which deservedly won a CAMRA national award. There's an intimate bar area downstairs and upstairs a spacious sitting room which overlooks the bustling street below. (Thanks to BB/HB/AC/KK/JP & MR for their help with this guide)

Are you interested in joining LocAle?  
Contact Melissa or Heather

# LocAle®

## Latest news

Pubs continue to commit to the scheme at a steady rate. The **Punch Bowl** on Blossom Street joined in July. Following a phone call from shift manager, Ross Laidler, Heather and Brian Barber visited the pub with a LocAle pack and spoke to the recently appointed manager, Mark Rinder (below with the LocAle poster). Real ale sales have increased by 35% since he took over and he is keen to do even better; it's great to see a Wetherspoons manager with such enthusiasm for cask beer. **Hambleton Nightmare** and **York Pure Gold** were the two LocAles on that day.



When we started 30 breweries were eligible somewhere in our branch and this is increasing all the time. **Garton** has stopped brewing (the owner has moved abroad), but **Great Heck, Bird Brain** at **Howden, Richmond, Morrissey-Fox** at **Marston-cum-Grafton** and **Redscar** at **Redcar** have all started.

See page 34 for an interview with Sam Franklin of **Rooster's**, one of the LocAle brewers and page 17 for an account of our Young Members' visit to another, **Rudgate**.

Keep an eye on our website; the information includes an up to date list of participants and a chart showing which breweries are eligible where. We are also planning to add more detailed pub profiles soon.