

beertoday

Championing independent beer, pubs and bars



Brew York have announced the Nine Realms Ale Series, a limited-edition collection of 12 beers celebrating the brewery's ninth anniversary. Inspired by the legendary Nine Realms of Norse mythology, the series showcases nine exclusive collaborations, alongside three extra-special anniversary releases. The journey begins in this month, with the first four beers hitting the shelves. These are: Odin's Gaze, a 5.2% ABV NEIPA; Cosmic Coil, a cherry and pear sour (4.5% ABV); Celestial Steed, a chocolate and matcha parfait stout (8.5% ABV); and Fenrir's Howl, a whisky and bourbon barrel-aged spiced imperial stout (11% ABV).

The Newsletter
Friday, 11th April | Issue 12

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IN BRIEF

- Hops & Dreams (3.4% ABV) is a new session IPA from Powderkeg, made with new American hop Krush. "This brew brings a full fruit cocktail of aromas," says the brewer. "Think orange, mango, guava, and peach."
- Indie Rabble have collaborated with Vibrant Forest on Hold Your Horses, a 6.2% ABV NEIPA heavily dry-hopped with Krush.
- Koru (4.7% ABV) is a new fruity golden beer from Great Newsome. It takes its name from the Māori word for 'spiral'.
- Harvest Song (4.6% ABV), from Vocation, is inspired by vibrant Czech folk traditions and the spirit of spring. A strawberry, tropical, and citrus pale ale, it celebrates the Czech-grown Most hop.
- Southern Strong Ale (7% ABV) is Three Acre's rarest, thickest, and richest cask beer yet. There are "powerful yet smooth earthy flavours, a subtle sweetness, and endless depth".

SIBA: Young are getting the Indie Beer message

Almost a third of young people surveyed by YouGov recognise the Indie Beer campaign, established by the Society of Independent Brewers and Associates (SIBA).

The news comes as the inaugural Indie Beer Week gets under way, with many events planned around the country.

The YouGov research of more than 2,000 consumers, commissioned by SIBA, found that 18- to 24-year-olds were much more likely (31%) to be aware of the Indie Beer campaign, compared to just over one in 10 (11%) of beer drinkers nationally.

"What this research clearly shows is that the Indie Beer campaign is resonating with younger consumers, many of whom are drinking less but drinking better, choosing quality beers from local, independent breweries," said Neil Walker, of SIBA.

"The campaign is all about ensur-

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ing that every person who is trying to support independent beer is actually doing so and making it easier for people to make an informed choice."

A key part of the Indie Beer campaign has been to use social media and pub point of sale material to promote a brewery checker tool. This allows people to quickly look up any brewery and find out if they are genuinely independent or owned by a global beer company.

SIBA says the Indie Beer website has seen more than 52,000 brewery checker searches since launch and now has over 28,000 active users.

Indie Beer Week runs from today until 20th April and was launched at MaltingsFest, in Newton Abbot, which started yesterday and runs until tomorrow.

"The response to the first ever Indie Beer Week has been superb, with special events, beer festivals, tap takeovers, and meet the brewer events happening all across the UK," said Neil.

"We're really proud to be launching at the MaltingsFest in Newton Abbot, one of the longest running independent beer festivals in the UK, and a huge supporter of the campaign.

"Every glass at this year's festival, which features over 320 different independent beers, will carry the Indie Beer mark as a badge of honour."

WHAT'S ON

14th-20th April

Attic Brew Co's Big Beer Adventure, at various venues around Birmingham.

17th-21st April

Easter Beer Festival at the Old Cannon Brewery, Bury St Edmunds

Easter Beer Festival at the Doncaster Brewery Tap

Easter relaunch at the Five Points Brewery courtyard, London

Easter Real Ale and Cider Festival at Orington Liberal Club

18th and 19th April

Disruption is Brewing Spring Loaded Beer Fest at Ascot Brewing Co, Camberley

Wareham Beerex at the Masonic Hall, Wareham

18th-20th April

Emley Brass Band Real Ale Festival at the Band Room, Emley

Beer Festival at the Star Inn, Godalming

PLAN AHEAD

23rd-25th April

Birthday Bash at Windsor and Eton Brewery, Windsor

25th and 26th April

Chippenham Beer, Cider, and Perry Festival at Sadlers Mead, Chippenham
Brewery Bash at Brew York, Osbaldwick

26th April

St George's Day Beer Festival at Brentwood Brewing Co
Oxfordshire Real Ale Trail around West Oxfordshire pubs

2nd-4th May

Doncaster Beer Festival at Sir Nigel Grslesley Square, Waterdale.

Gateshead Beer and Music Festival at Gateshead Rugby Club

3rd May

Vibrant Spring Gathering at The Purlieu Centre, Hardly

There are more — many more — listings, with maps, at beertoday.co.uk/events

The biggest beery events guide in the UK? Could be...

Climate change threat to brewing

The future of Britain's traditional supply of brewing ingredients, from both home and abroad, is at risk of being severely diminished by climate change unless brewers, farmers, and the government work together, the BBPA and the Zero Carbon Forum (ZCF) have warned.

Their call for urgent collaboration to protect domestic production of British barley and hops from climate change is outlined in a new report commissioned by the BBPA and Zero Carbon Forum, written by specialist sustainability consultancy 3Keel. It warns that Britain's unique brewing heritage is at risk as changes in our climate will put supplies of home-grown ingredients under stress, potentially increasing brewers' reliance on imported crops.

Among the report's key findings are:

- Wetter autumns and drier, hotter summers are putting UK and international malting barley and hop cultivation at increasing risk of diminishing yield and quality.

- Adaption measures are required, including switching to climate-resistant crop varieties, plus using irrigation and regenerative farming techniques.

- Government support is required to help fund climate-adaption measures.

- The British brewing sector and stakeholders across the supply chain must take collective action to build resilience.

The UK Brewing Sector Risk and Resilience report highlights the potential impact of domestic and global supply disruption and shortages as a result of the changing climate, which could lead to price volatility.

In the future, crops may be prioritised for food rather than brewing, which would risk livelihoods across the supply chain.

Traditional British hop varieties, which are vital to the cask beer industry, could be at risk if — as the report projects — flooding increases and spring and summers become hotter.

Campaign aims for beer equity

Social enterprise and advocate for gender equity in beer, Women On Tap, is launching the BEER 50/50 campaign and Changemaker, a community for those who want to help shape a more inclusive industry.

By becoming a Changemaker, supporters will help Women On Tap to:

- Run campaigns that challenge bias and champion inclusion, including International Women's Collaboration Brew Day

- Create new resources and development opportunities for women in beer

- Build toolkits and training programmes to support breweries in taking practical action

- Bring back WOTFEST and host other events that celebrate women and inspire industry-wide change

- Grow a consolidated movement of



people committed to progress.

To find out more and become a Changemaker, visit womenontap.co.uk/join

A tale of two historic cask milds

Turning Point Brew Co, of Knaresborough, are teaming up with Hackney's Five Points Brewing Co to celebrate heritage beer.

Pubs have seen cask beer grow again in popularity, with demand leaning to sessionable ABVs and classic British styles. The 2024 SIBA Independent Beer Report cites a 10% year-on-year growth in cask production from small brewers since 2020.

Each brewery will create a mild, Turning Point's from an 1895 Rose's Brewery recipe and Five Points from a century later, 1995. The beers will launch at Five Points and Turning Point venues on 24th April.

Mauldons' brewing milestone

Mauldons will hit a remarkable milestone this month as head brewer, Steve Birch, celebrates brewing 25,000,000 pints. Having dedicated nearly 45 years to perfecting the art of brewing at Mauldons, Steve is believed to hold the record for the longest tenure at a single brewery in the UK.

Since joining Mauldons in the early 1980s, Steve has been instrumental in shaping the brewery's reputation for quality and consistency. "Reaching 25 million pints is a huge milestone, but I'm not done yet!" he said. "I'm excited to keep pushing the boundaries with new brews while staying true to the traditional techniques that make Mauldons' beers what they are."