



# 'The Open Door'

at St Cuthbert's House

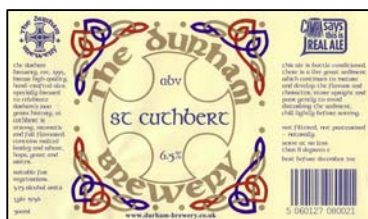
## Beer Menu

We're very pleased to be able to offer you such an extensive selection of wonderful bottled beers - every one of which is brewed in small craft breweries locally. We are blessed with a blossoming craft-brewing industry locally, and here are some of its fruits:

### From the Durham Brewery:

#### 1. Our 'House Special' beer: St Cuthbert's (abv 6.5%) £4.10

Colour: Light Golden Type: India Pale Ale

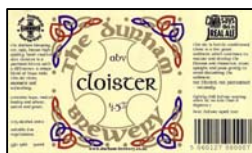


Origin: This is Durham Brewery's interpretation of the strong, highly hopped beer that was exported from Burton to India in the 19C. In the days before beers were filtered and sterilised, a live cask product had to be able to withstand the warm, mobile hold of a ship. A slow secondary fermentation, high alcoholic strength and a large quantity of preserving hops ensured that the cask reached its destination in peak condition. The strength and body of St Cuthbert are authentic, but because the original hop rates would probably be too high for the modern palate, bitterness levels in this beer have been reduced to an acceptable level.

Tasting Notes: As it matures in the bottle, (and thereby establishes a natural sediment) St Cuthbert becomes drier, allowing bitterness and alcoholic strength to come to the fore. A heady floral aroma is immediately apparent on pouring. Peachy fruit notes and a moderate bitterness linger on the palate long after enjoying a draught.

#### 2. Cloister (abv 4.5%) £3.65

Colour: Light Golden Type: Modern Bitter/Pale Ale



Origin: This style has its roots in the pale ale revolution of the 19C. But the term 'bitter' did not emerge until the early 20C, possibly to distinguish it from the equally popular 'mild'. This modern version has a much more complex hop blend than a traditional bitter, and (in this case) the specific style is derived from the distinctive hoppy and aromatic qualities of the Durham White beers.

Tasting Notes: A simple malt grist of maris otter pale malt and a small amount of crystal malt is bittered and aromatised through the addition of a complex and unique blend of hops. English, Czech and American hops mingle throughout the boil to give a heady flowery aroma, and a tantalising peachy flavour, offset by a refreshing degree of bitterness. Despite its complexity this beer is clean and thirst quenching..

#### 3. Evensong (abv: 5.0%) £3.80

Colour: Deep Ruby Type: Strong Bitter/Old Ale Awards: Gold Medallist in GBBF 'Real Ale in a Bottle'



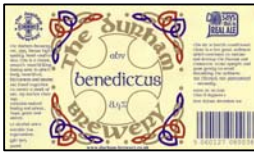
Origin: The term 'bitter' is a largely 20C invention, coined possibly to distinguish pale ale from 'mild'. An old ale was a strong keeping beer. Evensong is a cross between the two, having bitter qualities and the dark malty qualities of an old ale. The recipe is based upon an original beer made by Whitakers of Halifax in 1937.

Tasting Notes: A smooth well balanced traditional ruby bitter. Made with a complex malt grist of five different malts, combined with Goldings, Fuggles and Challenger hops. When young, the sweetness of malt sugars lends strong toffee notes, which give way to the gentle but full bitterness of the hops as the yeast consumes the sugars during maturation.

#### 4. Benedictus (abv: 8.4%)

£4.55

Colour: Rich Golden Type: Barley Wine



Origin: Although beers of this strength have been brewed since brewing began, the term 'barley wine' appears to be a 20C term for this type of beer. For centuries before sparging became the practice, the first runnings from the mash tun were fermented into the best and strongest beers and ales. The first appearance of the term for this genre appears to have been on a Bass No.1 label printed in 1903.

Tasting Notes: Historically, beers of this strength were normally sweet, the yeast not being able to process all the sugars in the wort. Benedictus uses an extremely active yeast, which renders the finished beer drier than would be expected. Even so, there are still enough unfermented malt sugars that fill out body and mouthfeel. The first draught is surprisingly energetic. Peach and pear drops mingle with the shear weight of alcohol. Bottle-conditioning and a unique blend of hops balance the caramel flavour of crystal malt. The overall impression is of a fully integrated, characterful richness. Aroma is decidedly alcoholic. The finish is long and paradoxically bitter sweet.

### From the Hadrian & Border Brewery:

#### 5. Farne Island (abv 4.0%)

£3.35

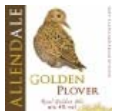


An amber coloured bitter, perfectly blended malt and hops makes this well-rounded beer balanced and refreshing.

### From the Allendale Brewery:

#### 6. Golden Plover (abv 4.0%)

£3.35



A top quality blond beer made using only Marris Otter pale malt to give a light and refreshing clean taste.

#### 7. Allendale Best Bitter (abv 3.8%)

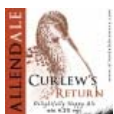
£3.25



A traditional amber coloured session beer with a difference. The strong flavour belies the relatively low alcohol content. A slightly spicy aroma comes from Goldings and Fuggles hops, with the bitterness from English Target.

#### 8. Curlew's Return (abv 4.2%)

£3.35

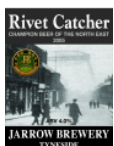


The first beer brewed by Allendale Brewery. The deep red colour and body comes from the use of Crystal malt and the flowery aroma from a late hopping of Cascade.

### From the Jarrow Brewery:

#### 9. Rivet Catcher (abv 4.0%)

£3.35



A light smooth satisfying gold bitter. A taste of light fruity hops give this beer its appeal.

## From the High House Farm Brewery:

### 10. Auld Hemp (abv 3.8%)

£3.75



The first beer brewed at High House Farm Brewery. This is a fine amber coloured traditional bitter with a fresh malty aroma.

### 11. Matfen Magic (abv 4.8%)

£3.95

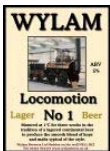


A brown ale produced using a combination of Fuggles and Brambling cross hops. The result: traditional brown ale with the beautiful aroma of blackberries and autumn fruits on the nose, and malty and chocolate overtones.

## From the Wylam Brewery:

### 12. Locomotion No 1 (abv 5.0%)

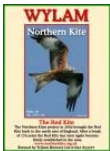
£3.35



Made with lager and Vienna malts, lager yeast and with the famous Saaz hop. This continental style beer has a distinctive lager style and the flavour of a classic hop.

### 13. Northern Kite (abv 4.5%)

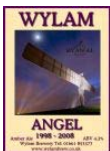
£3.35



A ruby "scotch" ale in the old style where the malts are balanced with subtle hops

### 14. Angel Best Bitter (abv 4.3%)

£3.35



Commissioned to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the iconic 'Angel of the North' sculpture, this pale copper ale is a well balanced bitter with a citrus character in the aroma and finish given by the Cascade hop.

## From the Northumberland Brewery:

### 15. Fog on the Tyne (abv 4.1%)

£3.45

A pale light hoppy session ale that's clear in the glass not like the fog on the Tyne. A pale light hoppy session ale that's clear in the glass - not like the fog on the Tyne.

### 16. Sheepdog (abv 4.7%)

£3.45

An old fashioned basic tawny beer. Fruit and malt throughout with a hoppy finish.

### 17. Northumbrian Ale (abv 4.5%)

£3.45

This is a light and quenching ale with a somewhat bitter edge and a hoppy flourish.

