

Thank You Wall, Solstice Cider Festival, New Directors' Profiles, 10th Anniversary Recap. New Management Plan & Collab Beer Update



## Fox & Goose Newsletter: Summer 2024

Summer is here and it is a time when our wonderful beer garden comes into its own. It was leaned upon pretty heavily too during our 10th Anniversary celebrations in March, even though the weather wasn't so kind then, but I'd like to thank everyone who worked, volunteered or just came along to make it such a special weekend. It reminded us all why the Fox & Goose is so special, and should make us proud of what we have achieved over the last 10 years.

Looking forward, at the recent AGM we have just approved a new management plan for the next 5 years and appointed a new Board of Directors. This includes 5 new faces, so there are profile features on all of these new Directors dotted throughout this issue. I am also hoping to pass the production of this newsletter on to a small team of keen members, so I can focus on other work that needs doing for the Fox & Goose. If you are interested in working on the newsletter, please email me at [cmgoddard@gmail.com](mailto:cmgoddard@gmail.com).

*Chris Goddard (Membership Secretary & Newsletter Editor)*

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## Crowdfunder Thank You Wall

In case you haven't seen it, the thank you wall has now been installed in the music room at the Fox & Goose.

It features peg people painted by the children from Castle Hill Primary School set within a mini Fox & Goose, beautifully crafted by Nigel Thurman and painted by David Kennedy. Inside it includes all the names of those who donated generously to our 2020 crowdfunder to enable the extension of the garden and building the

Once again, thank you to you all for your support and your patience.



## Director Profile: Doug Weir

**What is your history with the pub? How long have you been visiting and how has it changed?**

I've been coming to the Fox since moving to Mytholmroyd in 2009, although not as

that time; the extent to which almost all those changes have been positive is striking.

**How have you ended up getting involved as a director? What do you hope to bring to the role?**

I've wanted to get involved for a long time but family and work commitments limited that. It's always felt that it's something very positive for the community and something that I've wanted to make a contribution to - it's a brilliant boozery. What can I bring? For



now it's more a case of what can I learn. I'm a charity director in real life so I'd hope there's some transferable skills to contribute.

**What are your interests outside of work?**

Too few, quite frankly. Right now it's overconsumption of sci-fi books and competitive cookery programmes, with a bit of walking thrown in. I also like beer.

**What is your tippable of choice?**

That would be the precise beer for that given moment; I'm also partial to a spot of whisky.

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## Management Plan 2025-2030

It was great to see so many faces at the May AGM, including members old and new. It was exciting to vote 6 new Directors onto our Board and to all vote on the new Management Plan. Prior to the vote our Business Manager, Andi Butterworth, said a few words to introduce the plan, reiterating how special the Fox and Goose is.

'We have a staff team who are proud to work there and serve our community. Our volunteers take on the responsibility of protecting this community asset and maintaining the fabric of the building and keeping the garden looking lovely. Our dedicated bunch of musicians, DJs and creatives are committed to bringing fun and inspiration to our venue. And our loyal customers and members demonstrate their love and support of the place. We all share in the belief that the Fox and Goose is a welcoming place where community comes together. We're lucky to have this, aren't we?'



We now look forward to the next 5 years with a new management plan that builds on the previous aims and safeguards the Fox and Goose for the benefit of the community. Those key aims are as follows:

- A reputation for great drinks, snacks, and events
- A friendly, safe, and inclusive space
- A great team of staff and a great place to work
- An attractive and well-maintained venue
- Ethical and environmental
- Part of the community
- Financially sustainable
- Co-operative and democratic

We now need to prioritise different aims and objectives within the plan to agree a clear path forward. We will need help from our members to implement this plan and to make sure that it reflects what we want to achieve over the next 5 years and want the future of the Fox and Goose to look like. We hope that there are actions in our plan that inspire you to become involved. All of you will have great ideas, skills, useful employers and / or a network of contacts that will help us along the way. If you feel you can help in any way, please do consider getting involved in one of the sub-committees - please contact [info@foxandgoose.org](mailto:info@foxandgoose.org) or [businessmanager@foxandgoose.org](mailto:businessmanager@foxandgoose.org).

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## Director Profile: Jean Graham

**What is your history with the pub? How long have you been visiting and how has it changed?**

I first visited The Fox and Goose in spring 2023 when I was invited to Pennine

pub and enjoyed the warm welcome. After I moved into the area I was invited to the pub quiz and now enjoy the camaraderie of my team. I haven't noticed any changes in this short time, apart from the garden, which I briefly volunteered to tidy for the 10th anniversary.

**How have you ended up getting involved as a director? What do you hope to bring to the role?**

A friend was telling me about the opportunity over a pint and spotted some potential in me. I approached the Directors during the 10th Anniversary celebrations and decided to apply. I hope to be the voice of the patrons. I listen to people in the bar and take note of things that could help improve the pub, things that should benefit both customers and employees.

**What are your interests outside of work?**

I enjoy a range of activities from reading to walking or going to a gig, festivals, or dancing.

**What is your tippie of choice?**

I would say it has to be Kraken! Kraken on the rocks, with lemonade, with ginger ale, or even mixed in a Radler. However I'm usually seen at the Fox and Goose with an alcohol free beer in my hand. I really enjoy the alcohol free beers that we have on tap.



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## **10th Anniversary - What a Great Party!**

We had a wonderful weekend back in March to celebrate our 10th Anniversary as a cooperative - here's a few of the best photos from that event. Many thanks to Nigel Plant for being our official photographer for the weekend and taking the majority of these snaps for us.







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## Director Profile: Kay Boardman

**What is your history with the pub? How long have you been visiting and how has it changed?**

I visited the pub soon after I moved to Hebden Bridge nine years ago. I didn't really connect with it at that time. Last year a friend invited me for a drink at the pub and I loved it, and wondered why I had never returned since that first visit. I've been



since I first visited, soon after the pub became a co-operative, but I do know that every visit has been a nice experience – it's such a friendly pub!

**How have you ended up getting involved as a director? What do you hope to bring to the role?**

I saw the call for new Directors and having had a break from a long stint on the Board of Directors at the Trades Club, I felt I was ready to be involved in another incredible co-op and community venue. I hope to bring my love of the co-operative ethos, my experience as

Secretary at the Trades Club and my enthusiasm for being part of a good team to the role. I am also keen to build on the great work that has already been done on making the Fox and Goose a vital community venue.



**What are your interests outside of work?**

I love reading, walking, yoga, meditation, music and the arts generally. I write poetry for children and the child-centred approach to the world keeps me grounded and happy (that's the theory anyway).

**What is your tippie of choice?**

At risk of being voted out before I've started, I must confess I am not a fan of real ale! However, I like a good lager and am currently enjoying Teuton from Wishbone Brewery in Keighley. My favourite tippie has to be wine though.

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## Beer Update

In our efforts to deliver 10 collab beers in 10 months to celebrate our 10th Anniversary, cellar manager Andrew Brown has already brought us Cohopped (a hoppy pale brewed with Mallinsons) and Fox & Joose (a black IPA with Nightjar). Next up is Good for the Goose from Pictish in Rochdale, which should be hitting our pumps in a couple of weeks. Andrew has been arranging the remaining collaborations and has been really enjoying spending time with the brewers, seeing how they work and learning how they make such great beer. If you'd like to join him on one of these brewery outings, message him at [buyer@foxandgoose.org](mailto:buyer@foxandgoose.org). Coming soon are beers from Eagles Crag and Bingley, while Andrew will also be travelling to Udders Orchard this month to blend a special cider that will spend the summer conditioning before being served at our Apple Festival in the autumn. Keep an eye on



This month we also have three casks from a relatively new brewery in Colne. Look out for King Amarillo pale, Decker DDH IPA and Dark Pixel session stout from Unbound Brewery.

## Director Profile: Paul Neill

**What is your history with the pub?  
How long have you been visiting  
and how has it changed?**

We moved to Hebden Bridge (Blackshaw Head) nearly 10 years ago and visited the Fox early on. To be honest, at that time I wasn't too keen on the pub, but in the past year I started going again and love it. I don't know if the pub changed or I did - from my experience and from speaking to other local people, I think it's more the former, but I'm happy to be corrected by long-standing customers who know the Fox better than I do. Whatever it is, the Fox is a cosy, welcoming, community pub that serves great beer - what more could you want?



**to bring to the role?**

I responded to a share offer and became a shareholder and then saw in the newsletter that the Fox was looking for new Directors. Having recently stood down after 6 years as a Director of the Trades Club, I really fancied getting involved in another local co-op, as I am a big fan of the co-operative ownership model. I hope that my experience of being a Director of a co-op (including 4 years as Treasurer) will also be of benefit to the Fox.

**What are your interests outside of work?**

I am a big hiker, and usually do two or three hikes a week in the local area. How can you not love walking when you live here and I'm very fortunate to have a choice of countless hikes from our doorstep in Blackshaw Head. I'm also a music fan and regularly go to gigs at the Trades and other venues.

**What is your tippie of choice?**

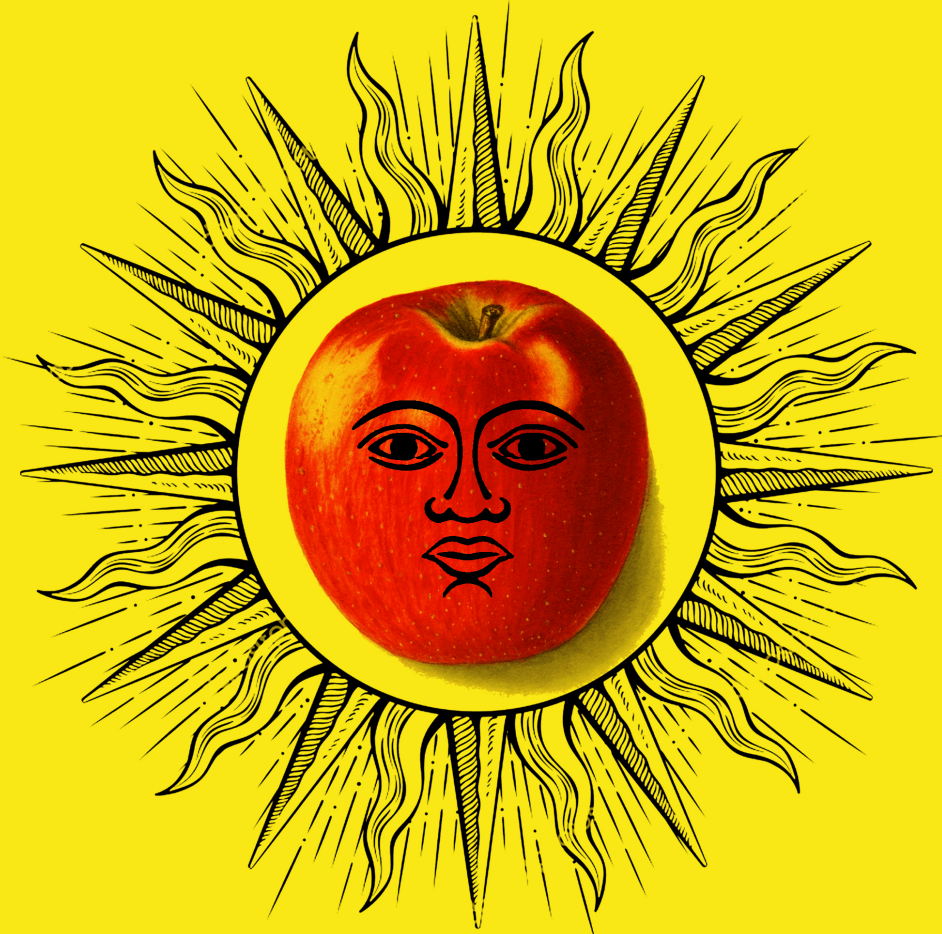
I'm not a member of CAMRA, but I'm a real ale fan. I particularly like juicy, fruity, hoppy IPAs, but I'm not that fussy and am happy to try any ale on offer.

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## Solstice Cider Festival

Join us from Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd June to celebrate our annual cider festival to coincide with the summer solstice. A selection of traditional ciders will be available on the main and garden bars all day Friday to Sunday. There will be live music on Sunday afternoon and music from What the Folk DJs on Saturday afternoon, as well as a cheese and cider tasting session on Sunday afternoon. Hope to see you in the midsummer sun!

THE FOX & GOOSE PRESENTS  
**SOLSTICE CIDER  
FESTIVAL**  
21st-23rd JUNE 2024



A Selection of Traditional Ciders  
Cider Cocktails | Cider Blending  
Sunday Cider & Cheese 4pm (tickets available on the day)  
Live Music (Sun 4pm) | Snacks & Food  
What the Folk DJ's (Sat 3-8pm)  
All weekend | Garden Bar 12-10pm Fri/Sat | 12-4pm Sun

**AT THE FOX & GOOSE**  
HEBDEN BRIDGE | @foxgoosehebden

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## Director Profile: Mark Simmonds

**What is your history with the pub? How long have you been visiting and how has it changed?**

I have been a Fox and Goose regular for nearly 20 years and was one of the founding members of the Fox and Goose (Hebden Bridge) Limited, helping to write the original business plan and share offer.

**involved as a director? What do you hope to bring to the role?**

I am returning to the Director role after being involved early on, and bring experience from serving on many other co-operative boards, including Co-operatives UK and Heptonstall Community Assets.

**What are your interests outside of work?**

Outside being a professional co-operative development worker, I have a keen interest in orchards and cider-making and have recently taken up running.

**What is your tippie of choice?**

I'm a big fan of the range of vegan beers at the Fox and would love to see my current favourite brewery Cloudwater represented.

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## Regular Events & Sessions

**Quiz Night:** Every Monday from 8.30pm

**Poetry Writing Group:** Every Tuesday 2.15-4.15pm

**Hebden Bridge Birders:** 1st Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm (Get together to share knowledge about birds and other wildlife spotted around Calderdale)

**Hebden Bridge Ukulele Group:** 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month (All welcome to join in at this brand new session with Nigel P and co)

**Town Folk:** 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month, 8pm (Bring along an instrument and join in, or just turn up to listen)

**Pennine Piperholics:** 2nd Thursday of the month, 8pm

**Irish Session:** Last Thursday of the month, 8pm (Open session with Marc and Fran)

**Blues Jam:** Last Sunday of the month (Come along and enjoy our Blues Jam hosted by Mike Palmer - sit and watch or join in)

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## Keep in touch on social media

what's happening at the Fox & Goose via Facebook, Instagram and the website. If you're not already a shareholder, you can also subscribe to receive our regular newsletters via email - just contact [info@foxandgoose.org](mailto:info@foxandgoose.org)



[Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Website](#)

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