THE SCRIBE

ISSUE 029

AUTUMN 2023

THIS IS OUR NORTH, AND IT'S STUNNING

WELCOME TO THE DARK & WILD SIDE OF LIFE

TRYING TO BREW THE BEST Alcohol-Free Beer ever

FROM JOHN WICK TO NORTHERN MONK, MEET OUR NEW PATRON



CONTENTS

THE MONKS' PILGRIMAGE HOW THE MONKS TOOK ON THE THREE PEAKS

- **O8** DARK AND WILD 2023 PREVIEWING THE HEAVIEST BEER FESTIVAL GOING
- 12 PROPER BEER JACKETS WHAT LINKS BREWING BEER AND MAKING FLEECES?
- **18 QUIZ THE PATRON** WE SIT DOWN WITH NEW PATRON PROJECTS COLLABORATOR BILLELIS
 - 2 MONK CALENDER WHERE, WHEN, WHO & WHY?
 - BREW INFINITY How the hell do you rebrew one of our best ever beers but without the booze?

LAST ORDERS WE QUIZ OUR CO-FOUNDERS RUSS AND BRIAN ON TEN YEARS OF NORTHERN MONK

MONK FM It's our tenth birthday, so what were we Listening to in 2013?

NOTE FROM The editor

ACCORDING TO THE CALENDAR, IT'S AUTUMN, BUT GIVEN I CAN'T REMEMBER US HAVING ANYTHING YOU'D DESCRIBE AS 'SUMMER' I'M NOT SURE THAT'S RIGHT. THE ONLY THING THAT'S CONVINCED ME IS THAT DARK & WILD IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER.

D&W is our stout/sour-focused beer festival and we've got a preview of what you can expect this year with our festival supremo, Cal. Expect sharp sours, heavy stouts, and even heavier music.

Experts in keeping you warm and dry in the great outdoors, Craghoppers, have written an article with the surprising link between brewing and fleece making. Seriously. Speaking about Craghoppers, we've just launched a new campaign with them, THIS IS OUR NORTH, where you can win some amazing prizes, while enjoying some Faith in limited edition cans. Check out the article for all the deets.



TIM WARD

We were also proud to have been donated some kit for the Northern Monk Three Peaks Pilgrimage. Recently, an intrepid team of Monks conquered Yorkshire's Three Peaks to raise money for our local food bank. The following few pages document the hike and, as our legs are still aching, there's still time for you to donate to help us reach our goal of £5,000.

Autumn also marks the tenth birthday of Northern Monk. With that in mind, Last Orders this time is with our cofounders, Russ and Brian, and we've got a special 2013 Monk FM playlist to celebrate our birthday. It's a mixed bag of a playlist, I'll be honest.

We've also got a Q&A with Billelis, our latest Patrons Projects collaborator, whose series has just started and you are not going to want to miss a single beer of; incredible artwork and exceptional beers.

Hope you enjoy this edition! Cheers!

THIS EDITION IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY ...

Mythos. Republica Internationale. The Lionesses. Whatever Threads is. Eddie Stout-bart. The Monk Hike Challenge and every single person who sponsored us. Stuart Broad. Sup. Costco cookie trays. Elon Musk's midlife crisis. Sean Bean. Air Fresheners from the North. Bears in Chinese zoos that definitely aren't men in costume. Get Lucky (check it out, it's the sound of the summer). Really annoying people with the Aunt Bessie's beers. Frankie's Organic Jalapeno Clouds. Gianluigi Buffon. Surrealist product photography. 10kg of sand. I Think You Should Leave memes. Sarah and Ellie's tunes during Patrons box packing.

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AN INTREPID TEAM OF MONKS RECENTLY TOOK ON THE YORKSHIRE THREE PEAKS CHALLENGE TO RAISE £5,000 FOR OUR LOCAL FOOD BANK.

THERE'S STILL TIME TO DONATE , SO IF YOU CAN Please scan the QR code.









Really Uild (And Dark) Show

THE NIGHTS ARE DRAWING IN. THE PINTS ARE GETTING DARKER. THE WEATHER IS, WELL, PRETTY MUCH THE SAME AS 90% OF THE YEAR. AND THAT MEANS ONE THING TO US, DARK & WILD IS COMING. IF YOU'RE NOT UP ON DARK & WILD; FIRSTLY, WHAT THE HELL? SECONDLY, LET US TELL YOU. D&W IS OUR AUTUMNAL BEER FESTIVAL. THE HEAVY METAL SIBLING OF HOP CITY, WHERE WE INVITE THE BEST BREWERIES ON THE PLANET TO COME TO THE OLD FLAX STORE AND BRING WITH THEM THEIR MOST AWESOME STOUTS, SOURS AND WILD BEERS.

WE GRABBED OUR EVENTS AND FESTIVALS MANAGER CAL RICHARDSON AND BOMBARDED HIM WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT D&W AND WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT THIS YEAR.

SO, CAL, D&W 2023 IS NEARLY HERE, HOW ARE YOU FEELING ABOUT IT?

Everything seems to be moving forward in the right direction! All the breweries are confirmed, so I guess that's the hard part done! It'll be the third one back at The Old Flax Store, so we like to think we know how it's going to go by now. Fingers crossed there's no train strikes this time...



WE KNOW IT'S HARD WITH SO MANY CRACKING BREWERIES COMING, BUT WHO ARE THE THREE YOU'RE MOST EXCITED ABOUT ATTENDING?

Odd Colony, Messorem, and Third Moon, though that was really hard. Brian [Northern Monk co-founder and head brewer] and I met the Odd Colony guys back in April at Tripping Animals' Irie Jungle in Miami and they had this phenomenal mushroom wild ale. I haven't stopped thinking about it since. Messorem are new to me, but I've been following their socials for a while, so I'm really excited about that. Third Moon came over for Hop City a couple of years back, and we all fell in love with their beers and Bebo and Chris have really got something good going there. They left us some stouts to try, and they blew us all away. Honorable mentions for Old Chimneys, Balance & Pinta Barrel Brewing!

WHAT'S BIG IN THE WORLD OF DARK OR WILD BEERS AT THE MOMENT?

It's hard to say really. The stout season is upon us, so we'll see what's out there this year. As for Wild ales/sours in general, there still seems to be a lot of 'smoothie style' sours out there, though we're definitely focusing more on the traditional side of wild ales this year. Give me a Lambic over yoghurt any day of the week.

WHAT WAS THE BEST THING ABOUT LAST YEAR'S FESTIVAL?

Cheers for the easy questions mate! I'd have to say the outrageous quality of liquid poured at the festival. We had a few lesser-known breweries and blenders from around Europe that just blew my mind. Cyclic, Land & Labour, A Tue-Tete and Chien Bleu all brought some absolute fire to the fest. That, paired with a Slice Culture pizza, and Dead Bird playing, was pretty special.

DARK & WILD IS THE HEAVY BROTHER OF HOP CITY; WHAT SORT OF MUSIC CAN WE EXPECT?

Adam (from Barbarian Hermit) and I have been trying for a couple of years to get Hundred Year Old Man to play but our schedules have always clashed... until this year, anyway. The line-up is probably the best so far, in my opinion. Expect some doom, some sludge, some stoner, some psych... It's going to be loud and heavy.

OK, FINAL QUESTION DARK OR WILD?

Wild.

CHEERS CAL!

SCAN THE SPOTIFY OR CODE TO LISTEN TO THE OFFICIAL DARK & WILD 2023 PLAYLIST FEATURING BANDS SET TO PLAY THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL



TALK ABOUT A BEERJACKET

by Becky Brooks

As a leading global outdoor and adventure clothing brand, at Craghoppers, we're always looking at ways to bring our customers something new and exciting. It started back in the 1950s, in Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire, when the ambitious and intrepid Clarke Brothers came up with one of the first iconic outdoors products ever

S CRAGHOPPERS

developed - the "Craghoppers." A breech, lovingly known as "breeks", manufactured from the finest Derby tweed and worn for every outdoor pursuit of the era. Since then, we have introduced the Kiwi Classic in the 90s which soon became a staple in the hiking world. In 2002, we pioneered insect-repellent technology, and we remain leaders in adventure travel clothing to this day. Sustainability has always been key to us and our Guarantee for Life on all products is testament to that. We were also one of the first outdoor brands to create a fabric from recycled plastic bottles to utilise materials from algae biomass where you would least expect it (think hiking boots and hood peaks!) This year is no different, we're very proud to be introducing a new technology for the Autumn/Winter season which, in its early days of inception, was affectionately known to some as "the beer fleece". Confused? Well, as you may have guessed we're not making a fleece out of beer just yet, but the technology behind our latest capsule collection "CO2RENU" is not that dissimilar from the technology that has been used in the brewing industry for years. In a drive to constantly review our design processes and sourcing principles to reduce our carbon footprint we have turned to Carbon Dioxide and a ground-breaking new technology to create a hybrid fabric which is 100% recycled, 30% of which includes fibres made from captured CO2 emissions, the remaining 70% uses recycled plastic bottles. This innovative carbon-capture technology, stops carbon before it is emitted into the atmosphere.

Our CO2RENU technology has been created in collaboration with industry experts, LanzaTech. The process reshapes carbon waste by using CO2 emissions as the starting point to create some of Craghoppers recycled polyester blends. CO2RENU technology is an innovative way of recycling waste CO2 into a product, whilst helping reduce the carbon footprint of the manufacturing process. The carbon is captured from industrial sources where it is converted into ethanol via LanzaTech's naturebased process.

The ethanol is then converted into the chemicals needed to make polyester fibres, [similar to the fermentation part of brewing] which are then spun into fabric and sent to Cambodia, with all component parts, to produce the final garments. The new 4-piece collection features a full and half zip fleece for men and women in a variety of colourways including blue navy, black pepper, red and ecru. We're extremely excited to bring this product to market in the coming season, so keep an eye out for its upcoming launch.



And speaking of excitement, that brings us on to our latest collaboration which also begs the question, is there a more perfect union than a cold beer and the great outdoors? We can't think of one, which is why joining forces with Northern Monk felt like an ideal match. As two proud Northern brands, Craghoppers and Northern Monk share many of the same values and ideals, especially when it comes to appreciating the great outdoors.





To celebrate this, we have joined forces to create a limited run of Faith featuring four unique can designs. Alongside this, we will also be launching a reallife treasure hunt across the North of England and Scotland, with prizes worth up to £1000 to be won. With the help of some of our Ambassadors and friends, 20 prize tickets will be hidden in iconic Northern locations. Adventurers, and beer lovers, who embark on the challenge set by Craghoppers and Northern Monk will be aided with a trail of hints revealed on our Instagram channel, with What3Words locations to guide you through some breathtaking Northern scenery, and (if you're fast enough) to a prize.

Interested?

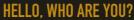
Make sure you're following both **GCRAGHOPPERS** and **GNORTHERNMONK** on Instagram to find out more about the limited-edition cans and be one of the first to know when the treasure hunt begins.

We are, and always be, hugely proud of our roots as a brand.

This Is Our North, Let's Celebrate It.



QUIZ THE PATRON BILLELIS



Hey, I'm Billy aka Billelis. I'm a Digital Artist creatively addicted to dark imagery and adorned artistry. Currently based in the city of Edinburgh, I like to spend countless hours experimenting, learning and expanding my artistic skill set to create a personal style that can be best described as a dark, yet elegant, romantic fusion.

HOW DID YOU GET STARTED AS AN ARTIST?

Unofficially it was through graffiti in my younger teen years, tagging, murals, and some train adventures - it was in Greece, please don't arrest me. Officially, I graduated uni here with a degree in coding and digital art, but I can't code for shit. However, my love for art was still there and digital mediums opened a whole new world for me. Starting with illustration, animation and eventually 3D art, I spent every spare minute I had just making shit and vibing. Then worked in some ad agencies etc doing general 3D design for motion graphics and when I had enough of that, I was fortunate enough to have created a "persona" of sorts with my own art and da base that made the move to full time artist much smoother.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

My work has often been described as hyper-real. An evolving love affair between the visual balance of life and death; I portray my own fears and beliefs through the medium of decorated digital sculpture.



billelis.com Ø@billelis





WHO WERE, OR ARE, THE BIGGEST INFLUENCES ON YOUR ART?

Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, all religions but Christianity in particular. Many many many tattoo artists and also fashion designers. People like Daniel Arsham, Alexander McQueen, Dom Brown Tattoo, Greek Orthodox paintings, runes, calligraphy and so much more - the list never ends.

WHAT'S YOUR PROCESS WHEN YOU Start to work on a new piece of Work?

To be honest, I just jump in and fuck around. Everything I create is through this process of playing around. I don't have a solid structure, mainly because if I over conceptualise something and it turns out shit, that is truly demotivating. However, if you start with no agenda and you make something sick then happy days.



YOU'VE WORKED WITH SOME HIGH-PROFILE CLIENTS, WHICH PROJECT HAVE YOU BEEN MOST EXCITED ABOUT?

Besides epic beer? I feel my work for John Wick and Blizzard were real turning points for my career. Given full creative freedom to express myself while paying respect to the source material was an epic experience. It felt like a true collaboration.

WHAT DOES 'NORTHERNNESS' MEAN TO YOU?

Resilience, banter, warmth. To me personally, coming from Greece and ending up in Scotland, the North is a true love affair. My whole life I moved more and more North where I finally found a place that feels like home.

WE'RE ALL ABOUT Collaborations; who would be Your dream collaborator?

Slipknot are up there, also I'm a huge fan of single malt whiskies and finally I reckon a jewellery collab could be cool.

THE FIRST BEER IN YOUR PATRONS PROJECT SERIES IS OUT THIS MONTH, HOW WOULD YOU SAY BEER IS BEST ENJOYED?

Well, it depends... in winter I'd a run a bubble bath, put some smoked almonds in a bowl, and watch terrible house renovation shows while sipping on a beer. In summer? Mates, sand or grass, fire pit or BBQ, sunset and vibes.





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NORTHERN MONK

REFECTORY LEEDS





BREW INFINITY & BEYOND

LET US TELL YOU A BIT ABOUT INFINITY VORTEX. IT WAS THE FIRST RELEASE OF TANKPETROL'S PATRONS PROJECT SERIES, WAY BACK IN 2021 AND MADE IN COLLABORATION WITH TWO OF THE US' BEST BREWERIES; OTHER HALF AND EQUILIBRIUM.

IT IS CURRENTLY, AT TIME OF WRITING, OUR HIGHEST RATED IPA EVER ON UNTAPPD. IT WAS, QUITE FRANKLY, BLOODY DELICIOUS.

SO, TO CELEBRATE OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY, WE WANTED TO PAY TRIBUTE TO IT, BUT WITH A COUPLE OF OTHER REBREWS IN THE PIPELINE, WE WANTED TO TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT. VERY DIFFERENT. ALCOHOL-FREE INFINITY VORTEX. AFTERALL, WHY SHOULDN'T PEOPLE WHO DON'T DRINK BOOZE MISS OUT ON AWESOME BEERS?

WE CHALLENGED OUR HEAD BREWER AND CO-FOUNDER BRIAN DICKSON TO REBREW INFINITY VORTEX, BUT MAKE IT JUST AS GOOD AS THE ORIGINAL, BUT WITH ZERO ALCOHOL. HOW THE HECK DID HE DO THAT? IN FACT, DID HE DO THAT?

WELL, DID YOU?

"WELL... IN ABOUT TWO YEARS OF BREWING AND REFINING OUR AF BEERS, MOST REGULARLY HOLY FAITH, PERHAPS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE HAS BEEN ACHIEVING A HOP PROFILE IN LINE WITH OUR CORE BEERS WITHOUT CREATING A ONE-DIMENSIONAL PRODUCT OR UNPLEASANT LEVELS OF ASTRINGENCY OR HOP BITE. ONLY RECENTLY HAS IT FELT LIKE WE'VE ACHIEVED THIS, AND NOW WE HAD THIS NEXT LEVEL CHALLENGE TO TRY AND ACHIEVE THE HOP SATURATION LEVEL OF A DDH IPA LIKE INFINITY VORTEX? WONDERFUL.

"OF COURSE, WE TRIED TO STAY AS TRUE TO INFINITY VORTEX AS WE COULD. WE UPPED THE WHEAT AND OAT LEVELS IN THE GRIST CLOSER TO VORTEX LEVELS TO ADD FURTHER DEPTH AND ROUNDNESS TO THE MOUTHFEEL AND ALSO LIMITED OURSELVES TO WORKING WITH THE SAME FOUR HOP VARIETIES - CASHMERE, CITRA, EL DORADO AND MOSAIC.

"THE TIMING AND FORMAT OF THESE HOP ADDITIONS IS THE MOST CRITICAL ASPECT TO ACHIEVE WHAT WE WERE LOOKING FOR. HOP BITE RESULTS FROM THE POLYPHENOL MATERIAL FOUND IN THE HOP FLOWER MATERIAL WHICH MEANS LIMITING THE AMOUNT OF CLASSIC 'TYPE 90' PELLETS WE USED (SOME POLYPHENOL IS STILL CRITICAL TO DEVELOP THE SIGNATURE NE IPA HAZE) AND INSTEAD UTILISING THE OTHER PELLET TYPES AND HOP PRODUCTS AVAILABLE TO US THANKS TO THE MANY TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS MADE BY HOP SUPPLIERS IN RECENT YEARS.

"FOCUSING MUCH OF THE HOP ADDITIONS ON BREWDAY, IN PARTICULAR AT THE WHIRLPOOL STAGE, ALSO HELPS TO MINIMISE ASTRINGENCY AND BOOST HOP SATURATION, AS WE MAXIMISE THE LEVEL OF ESSENTIAL HOP OILS EXTRACTED INTO THE LIQUID AT AN EARLY STAGE.

"WE THEN MANAGED OUR LARGEST DRY HOPPING RATE TO DATE FOR AN AF BEER, UTILISING HEADLINE VARIETIES CITRA AND MOSAIC FOR MAXIMUM AROMA IMPACT.

"DID WE SUCCEED? WELL I RECKON IT'S OUR BEST, PUNCHIEST AND TRUEST ALCOHOL-FREE 'IPA' TO DATE BUT IT'S NOT UP TO ME TO DECIDE..."

LAST ORDERS SHINES A SPOTLIGHT ON THE PERSONALITIES AND PEOPLE BEHIND NORTHERN MONK. IN THIS EDITION, TO MARK OUR TENTH ANNIVERSARY WE'VE GOT A VERY SPECIAL LAST ORDERS WITH NOT ONE BUT TWO MONKS, OUR CO-FOUNDERS **RUSSELL BISSET** AND **BRIAN DICKSON**, HEAD BREWER.





RUSSELL BISSET

BRETHERN #001 BRIA

BRIAN DICKSON

BRETHERN #002

LAST PINT OF CASK?

It was up in Edinburgh actually, a couple of immaculate pints of Swannay Brewery's Island Hopping in the Stocksbridge Tap. **BD**

Just listening to Brian's answer, given we both live in the Leeds, somewhat incredibly my last cask beer was also from Swannay who are from Orkney. I was recently on the Orkney Isles and enjoyed a pint of Scapa Special at Robertsons bar in a little fishing village called St. Margaret's Hope. **RB**

LAST NORTHERN MONK NIGHT OUT?

Last Monk night out would be celebrating the wedding of two of the team. My brother Fraser and his now wife Marianne had their wedding party at the Old Flax Store. We had a ceilidh, Fraser made a bunch of mead for the occasion, shapes were thrown. **RB**

A collaboration brew and tap takeover at Heist Brew Co in Sheffield, including an excellent [EDITOR'S AMEND] embarrassing performance in the corn hole competition. **BD**

LAST NORTHERN MONK BEER THAT YOU THOUGHT REALLY BANGED?

I've been up in the Highlands, which explains the Swannay, and I can highly recommend a cold can of Faith straight from the fridges of the Kingussie Coop. Also Roast Dinner Brown Ale, obviously. **RB**

Sunday Roast Brown Ale, obviously. **BD**

LAST NORTHERN MONK BEER THAT YOU'D RATHER NEVER SPEAK OF AGAIN?

Sharknado was great but Tara Reid filing a law suit for a \$1m because the UK distributor apparently didn't have the rights to license it was interesting. **RB**

Let's never try and package glitter beer again, yeah? **BD**

30 LAST ORDERS



COPENHAGEN

OFS TANKS

OFS BLANK CANVAS

EST



ADAM LYLE



BRIAN

BREAKING IN TABLES



pyps



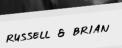
OLD FLAX STORE



DARTH



MODELLING







PACKING



TEAMS NEW KICKS

LAST BREWERY YOU WERE EXCITED ABOUT COLLABORATING WITH?

I enjoy them all but working on a recipe with one of my brewing heroes in Sam Calagione (Dogfish Head) is going to be a hard one to beat. **BD**

For sure Dogfish Head is a big one. Sam has been stellar to work with throughout. Some heroes are worth meeting... We're lucky though, we've ticked off a lot of the bucket list. Great Notion have been rad. We had a load of their beers at Firestone Festival this year. They were all excellent. We've got a few irons in the fire too but we'll save them for a future date. **RB**

LAST TIME YOU ORDERED A PINT OF FAITH?

Not actually sure (Little Faith is the go to). Pretty sure it was in Whitelocks though. **BD**

Yeah, it was in Whitelock's with Brian! **RB**

LAST LOCATION YOU WERE SURPRISED TO SEE A NORTHERN MONK BEER? Kirkwall, Orkney. RB

Stockbridge Tap again, actually. Eternal Juice was pouring (and yet I didn't have it!) **BD**

BRIAN, LAST TIME YOU COULDN'T BELIEVE AN IDEA FROM RUSS' TEAM? It's a daily occurrence. BD

RUSS, LAST TIME YOU HELPED BRIAN BREW A BEER?

We've always had a bit of an unwritten agreement that Bri would bring the beer to life and I'd look after the rest. Having said that, the pub snack beers were Brian's idea, so I probably owe him a shift or two.

BD: The correct answer is never.

This is a long-winded way of saying never, yeah. **RB**

THE LAST TEN YEARS IN THREE WORDS OR LESS? Holy Shit. **RB**

What. The. Fuck... ok, brethren approved answer – 'Keep The Faith'. **BD**





Water Barris

FAITH IN FUTURES STAGE POWER TRIP EDITORS RIHANNA MUNGOS HIFI ROCK INNA DANCEHALL" DAFT PUNK ALICE IN CHAINS PASSENGER "LET HER GO" QOTSA "I SAT BY THE OCEAN" "IF I COULD CHANGE YOUR MIND" THE LUMINEERS MILEY CYRUS "WRECKING BALL" DEFEATER THE DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN STREETLIGHT MANIFESTO YEAH YEAH TEAHS THE SATURDAYS AVICII WAKE ME UP NAILS **ARCTIC MONKEYS**

SCAN HERE TO LISTEN



NORTHERN MONK

COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION ARE AT THE CORE OF OUR BUSINESS. WE FOCUS ON WORKING WITH ANYONE WHO SHARES OUR PASSION, AND OUR VALUES. WE REGULARLY COLLABORATE WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BREWERIES, BUSINESSES AND CHARITIES TO HELP STRENGTHEN THE NORTH FOR POSITIVE CHANGE, AND TO CONTINUALLY DIVERSIFY OUR OWN OFFERING.

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