

Learning How to Crawl

In the spirit of good research, the MUSE team go to town to find out what York has to offer. Here's the highlights

Slug and Lettuce



Toby steps up, slightly wary of the raspberry shot



Growing in confidence, Tom makes a move on the lime



A little confused, James sniffs the vodka



Dan bravely knocks it back. Chilli. Blunder.

The only reason to visit this rather expensive chain of bars is the shots they serve. For a pound you can pick the flavoured vodka of your choice, complete with lurid synthetic colours.

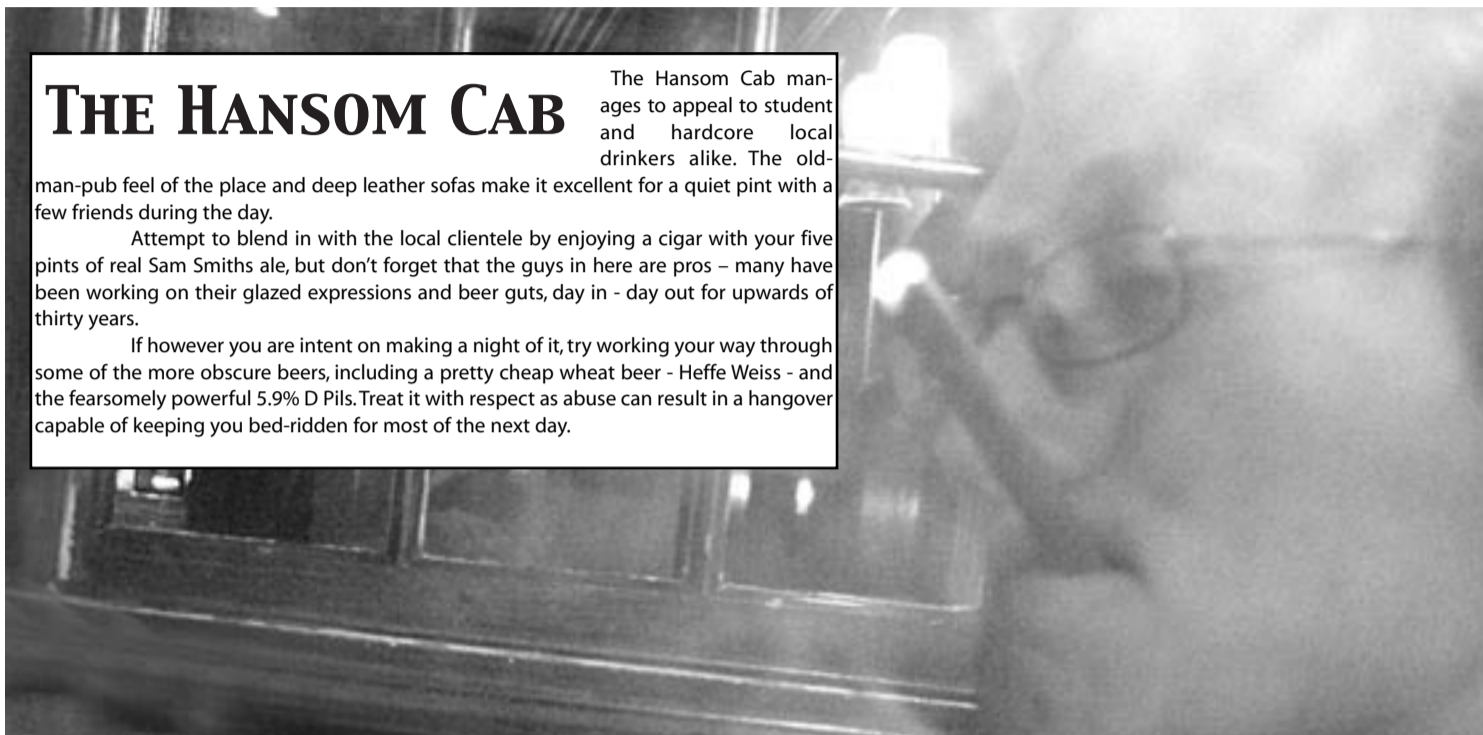
It's the perfect way to start the evening with a bang and get loosened up for later on. Our favourite was mint followed by chocolate. However heed the warnings and be aware that the chilli shots are only for the toughest characters, or alternatively as practical jokes on your friends...

THE HANSOM CAB

The Hansom Cab manages to appeal to student and hardcore local drinkers alike. The old-man-pub feel of the place and deep leather sofas make it excellent for a quiet pint with a few friends during the day.

Attempt to blend in with the local clientele by enjoying a cigar with your five pints of real Sam Smiths ale, but don't forget that the guys in here are pros - many have been working on their glazed expressions and beer guts, day in - day out for upwards of thirty years.

If however you are intent on making a night of it, try working your way through some of the more obscure beers, including a pretty cheap wheat beer - Heffe Weiss - and the fearsomely powerful 5.9% D Pils. Treat it with respect as abuse can result in a hangover capable of keeping you bed-ridden for most of the next day.



The Priors

Previously known as the Phalanx and Firkin, this pub on Micklegate is a firm favourite for students especially on weeknights. Chances are that if you are going to Ziggy's you will come here first for a few pints and a game of pool or two. That's if you can reach the bar or pool table as it can get very cramped, but this should be used as an acclimatisation process before entering Ziggy's.

Be aware that some beers are far cheaper than others, dropping as low as a pound for Worthingtons, so seriously cheap drinking is a possibility here.

Steer clear of the shooters though, as they are pretty pricey and not very good when staff are busy. Unless you fancy a 'bar staff's revenge' which makes the chilli vodka at the 'slug' seem pretty tame.

Reflex

Formerly Edwards, Reflex is attempting to covet the lucrative student market with this gaudy '80s themed late licensed venue.

Staff wearing ghostbusters t-shirts, along with hundreds of glitter balls and cheesy music show it up as somewhere to be only when severely uninhibited by alcohol. Fortunately, after surviving Micklegate most students are no longer capable of rational thought and the place is good fun.

Nevertheless, do not attempt to come here when stone cold sober, unless you really like Duran Duran.

