

# Mild & Bitter

19<sup>TH</sup>  
EDITION

MAY 1977

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DERBY BRANCH OF CAMRA

## 3...NEWS...NEWS...NEWS...NEWS

### GUIDE SOLD OUT

The National Beer Guide has sold out of 50,000 copies. There is to be a reprint of 7,000 copies.

### MILD GAIN ?

There are unconfirmed reports about the introduction, this month, of real Mild at the DOG AND DUCK at Shardlow.

### MILD FALTERING

The landlord of the BELL AND CASTLE, Burton Road states that he only keeps Mild for the benefit of a few elderly regulars. Perhaps it is worth a visit to encourage its retention.

### CAMPAIGN HALT

The Allied Campaign has gone into hibernation, mainly as a result of Nick Hawkins (Campaign and Regional organiser) leaving the National Executive.

### SALES UP

Sales of the Notts and Derby Drinker have gone well in the last month. In an effort to cut down on expenses, Rog Robinson, the Derby Editor (Tel Nottm. (97) 865007 Ext.35 ask for Joe) is appealing for advertisers - any chance of an advert gained should be snapped up.

### BEER GUIDE SURVEY

The Beer Guide Sub Committee, who are beginning to resolve matters, are commencing their annual survey this month.

### RADIO INTERVIEW

Reg Newcombe (BeerGuide secretary and Public Relations Officer. Tel Derby 45399 (home) or 42424 Ext. 4576 (work) ) was interviewed on Radio Derby concerning ghosts at Dronfield in the north of the county. See page 47 for full report.

### D.B.A. - A TEST MARKET

A reminder to all members that draught Burton Ale is still a test market product and that however expensive it may be, it still needs supporting.

## FIESTA Competition

Any one who still has Fiesta competition tickets which they have been unable to sell are requested to hand them to Derek Williamson (Derby 45253 (H) or 42424 Ext. 4576 (W) who will redistribute them to members wanting a few more.

As this is a branch effort members are also requested to hand sold ticket stubs and money to Derek for forwarding to the competition organisers.

# MAKE MAY A MILD MONTH





## THE BLESSINGTON CARRIAGE - CHAPEL STREET

This is a recently opened free house in Derby offering handpumped Ansell's and electric pumped Marston's Bitter. The only report on the ale so far is that the Ansell's was good while the Marston's left a lot to be desired. It was felt that it was possibly affected by cleaning fluid. Hopefully this is just a teething problem. Our member on the spot also reports that Double Diamond at 32p, Skol at 34p, and Löwenbräu at 48p are also available, but he could not afford to experiment with these brews.

There is no local significance in the name as it is only an extension of the Nottingham firm's coaching theme. In fact it would have been called the 'Crown and Cushion' if they had known about the demolished local nearby. The building is tastefully modernised, well furnished and well decorated. We are also told that the landlord does not want to encourage the 'young set', preferring to cultivate a 'balanced', respectable clientele. It is therefore not a good place for a couple of dozen CAMRA members to descend on the place en masse.

There is an excellent cold buffet in 'Betty's Bar' and full meals in the restaurant at the rear. Obviously this is a very important gain for CAMRA.

## JOHN THOMPSON - INGLEBY

From June the 'John Thompson' will be selling their own brew according to one of our members. The beer will be called John Thompson Bitter but it is not yet known if it is going to be traditional draught ale.

## BARLEY MOW - KIRKIRETON

Samuel Smith's on gravity has been introduced and was sampled by many of our members on the recent Wirksworth trip. The brew did not taste quite right and it was reported that it had been taken off a couple of nights later. Hopefully this again was just a teething problem and soon we should have three gravity ales at the Barley Mow.

## STANHOPE ARMS - STANTON BY DALE

The handpumps have been completely removed and both mild and bitter are being served by diaphragm type electric pumps.

## WILLIAM CAXTON - SINFIN

A good pint of Everards old Original is offered in this new pub according to the majority of our members who have tried it. An official visit has been made and several facts must be noted. Firstly, the handpump is obviously a fake. Secondly, the beer is apparently ejected by electrically controlled air pressure onto a 'pancake' diaphragm, forcing the beer (½ pint) into a meter fixed onto the wall. The whole system is enclosed and none of this machinery can be seen. We cannot be fully satisfied with this description by the landlord as it is too vague. It has been suggested that we ask the brewery through the Brewery Liaison Officer.

## RUTLAND ARMS - LOWER CARRINGTON ST.

All of our members who have been in the Rutland Arms recently agree that the beer is now served under pressure, and an official visit would therefore be pointless, as the truth is painfully clear.

## ISAAC WALTON - DOVEDALE AREA

Unconfirmed reports in the last issue have now been confirmed by one of our members. That is that the Isaac Walton is now selling the real thing.

## MARKEATON HOTEL - KEDLESTON RD

One of our members reports that this pub went back to real ale on Thurs 5th May. Hopefully some of our members will try the ale and confirm this report.

## KEDLESTON HOTEL - KEDLESTON (?)

Electric pumped Bass is now being served according to one report. Could we have confirmation of this.

## QUEEN'S HEAD - LITTLE EATON

The landlord has reverted to electric pumps for both bitter and mild after introducing handpumps as a result of flood damage. It seemed at one time that the handpumps were there to stay but the landlord is reported to have said that he was losing money by not serving measured pints.

Pub information continued on next page.



### THE CROWN - SPONDON

At the time of going to press No.5 Mild should be on sale here. It seems that this has been promised before and has never materialised but perhaps this time it will.

### THE KINGS HEAD - HILTON

The description in the local guide reads - 'Plush lounge to the fore but seek out handpumps in the back bar.' There are, however, handpumps in the lounge and the barmaid says they have been there all the time.

Inaccurate descriptions should be avoided at all costs and if anyone notices any they should report it at once.

THIS month has been a bumper one for pub information but it may not always be like this. The amount of information depends on you, YES YOU! Never mind looking at the person next to you. All information relating to pubs should be reported, no matter how trivial it may seem. If you have some news please do not take the attitude that someone else is bound to report it. You may have been the first to discover it. As well as this 50 reports of real ale being sold in a certain pub substantiates that fact. If it was only reported once it would have to be checked and confirmed by other people and another month would go by without the majority of members knowing what the situation was.

All pub news should be passed on to the Pub information secretary (myself), the phone number is Derby 43497. As Shaw Taylor says, 'Keep 'em peeled'.

## THE NOTTS AND DERBY DRINKER

There has been a lot of comment about the bias of the N&DD towards the Notts side of late. I must confess that some of it is my fault, although I'm at a disadvantage in that Spyke, the Editor lives in Nottingham and is more aware of their happenings than ours. He makes every effort though, to keep in touch with our news, and it's theoretically possible for us to get equal coverage. The fact of the matter seems to be that the Derby branch

are just not (with one or two notable exceptions) producing articles.

3.

I don't know by what method of bribery, torture, and / or coercion Key Phillips obtains the Notts items, but I know that they are also a bit thin on the ground from time to time. Perhaps zer cold Heineken is poured over certain organs or a pint of Twitbreads is allowed to effervesce under the nose. Whichever, the trend must be reversed.

Virtually any subject allied (sorry folks) to beer, pubs, brewing, or drinking can be used. Humorous, serious, controversial, if we have 'em at least we can re-write or scrap 'em - though that is extremely unlikely. Find some headline news, or, in true journalistic fashion - make some. I'm not suggesting that you set fire to a keg palace, or, persuade the local idiot to do his "human bomb" act inside Allied Breweries..... but it's a thought.

Seriously though, folks, in the near future we need articles on pub crawls, pub games, pub food, the impact of DBA, drink and driving, maybe some irate or delighted letters to the editor (we couldn't persuade you to threaten to sue us, could we?); and anything else you can think of. With a bit of effort we could make it the (Notts &) DERBYDRINKER - today, Nottingham; tomorrow, the world!!

## WIRKSWORTH TRIP

The arrival of a coach outside the Barley Mow at Kirk Ireton was somewhat of a surprise for the local villagers, especially when 40 CAMRA members made a dash for the pub door.

Inside the three roomed pub, each with an open fire, beers were, as always, drawn straight from the casks behind the bar. The newly introduced Sam Smiths OBB was, unfortunately, far from its best but the fine Bass and Marstons compensated handsomely.

An hour later the party left to invade the town of Wirksworth. After splitting up, the various groups of people sampled the beers of the Compleat Angler (OBB), the Blacks Head (kimberley) whose landlord is a CAMRA member, and the Hope and Anchor (Home).

The party gathered in the crowded bar of the Lime Kiln for a final couple of pints of Bass before rejoining the coach to return home.

More news of Sam Smiths at the Barley Mow appears on page 2.



# GHOSTLY GOINGS ON!

The Green Dragon in Dronfield, North Derbyshire normally sells both traditional draught and modern keg beers. Lately the flow of keg beers has been repeatedly and inexplicably cut off at the source, while the real ale continued to flow uninterrupted.

It is impossible for the taps to be turned off, accidentally and the landlord insists that no-one has been into the cellar but him and his staff, and it certainly was not them. The same thing has been happening at the nearby Chantry Hotel and some of the locals are convinced that the Dreaded Dronfield Drinker has returned from the grave to make a ghostly protest about the state of modern beer.

Being traditional beer drinkers we are not normally keen on spirits or anything else unnatural, but this ghost is evidently a departed CAMRA member, or a bygone toper turning in his grave at the ruination of so much beer.

There are quite a few pubs in the area whose regulars include a ghost and we are hoping eventually to get them all into membership. With their help this could be a phenomenal year for real ale - and, after all, it was not with keg beer that we celebrated the Queens Coronation 25 years ago.

## This Issue

The appeal in the last issue for a new Editor for Mild and Bitter has been answered. Tim Williams and I planned to jointly edit this issue in order to make an easy transition from one Editor to the next but apart from heaps of advice and the actual printing Tim has been able to concentrate his energies on the campaign itself.

If this issue looks slightly scrappy in presentation I hope you will bear with me and look for improvements in further issues. Should you wish to contact me I can be found at 60 Stone Hill Road, Derby Tel 43497 (H) / 26262 ext. 11/12 (W).

Dave George

Title piece & cartoon - Rob Gilvary  
Clarification - Notts (& derby)  
Drinker article was by Rog Robinson

## Home Brew Talk

Mr Albert Ryan explained how he first began home brewing many years ago when he became disillusioned with the declining standards of commercial beers. This very informative talk was highly enjoyed by the 25 or so people who attended. Time, however, passed too quickly and the lecture seemed to come to an abrupt ending - but not before the gathering were given a chance to sample the delights of Albert's own special 'Jubilee' ale.

## Tuesday Socials

Tuesday night socials now seem to be a regular habit for 25 plus of our members. While this is an encouraging sign there is still room for improvement. Try dragging your non-member friends along for conversion, as, while socials are for members there is still a need to get CAMRA across to the average drinker. There is still a tendency for CAMRA (in THE PUBLIC EYE) to be a clique.

## WHO'S WHO

TIM WILLIAMS (Chairman) 140 Dale Road, Spondon, Derby. Derby 676027 (H) / 61461 ext. 3152 (W)

ROG ROBINSON (Secretary and Derby Editor of the Notts and Derby Drinker) 30 Harrington Avenue, Borrowash, Derby. Nott'm (97) 865007 ext. 35 (ask for Joe)

NICK POTTER (Treasurer) 4 Eastleigh Drive Mickleover, Derby. Derby 511355 (H)

SAM KENNEY (Pub Information Sec) 60 Stone Hill Rd, Derby. Derby 43497 (H), Derby 61481 ext. 78 (W)

TERRY MORTON (Social Sec and Sales Sec) 23 Priestland Ave., Spondon, Derby. Derby 674025 (H)

REG NEWCOMBE (Beer Guide Sec and Public Relations Officer) 14 Vicarage Avenue, Derby. Derby 45399 (H), Derby 42424 ext. 416 (W)

DEREK WILLIAMSON (Membership Sec) 2 Queens Drive, Littleover, Derby. Derby 42424 ext. 1576 (W)



## Real Mild Pubs

The following, to the best of present knowledge, is a list of pubs in and around Derby selling Draught Mild. To save space it excludes pubs already listed in the local guide. In an effort to update this list Sam Kenney would like to hear of any additions or deletions.

BELL HOTEL, SAWLEY Shipstones H  
 BLUE BELL, KIRK LANGLEY Bass E  
 BRIDGE INN, SANDIACRE Home E  
 BRICK AND TILE, ILKESTON Shipstone H  
 BUTCHERS ARMS, LANGLEY H&H E  
 CHEQUERS, BREASTON Shipstone E  
 CRESCENT, DERBY Allied H  
 CRYSTAL PALACE, DERBY, H&H E (?)  
 COACH & HORSES, DERBY, M&B E  
 DOUGLAS BAR, DERBY, M&B E  
 DOG & PARTRIDGE, DERBY Allied H  
 FREEHOLD TAVERN, DERBY Allied H  
 GALLANT HUSSAR, DERBY, M&B E  
 GREAT NORTHERN, DERBY Allied H  
 GENERAL HAVELOCK, ILKESTON Shipstone E  
 LOCAMOTIVE, DERBY Allied H  
 LORD NELSON, LONG EATON Shipstone  
 LYNDHURST BAR, DERBY, M&B E  
 MIDLAND HOTEL, MATLOCK BATH Home E  
 NEW FLOWER POT, DERBY, M&B E  
 NEW INN, SHARDLOW, M&B H  
 NEW ZEALAND ARMS, DERBY Allied H  
 NOAHS ARK, DERBY Home E  
 PLOUGH, ASHBOURNE Bass E  
 QUEENS HEAD, LITTLE EATON H&H E  
 RAILWAY HOTEL, BELPER Home E  
 REFRESHMENT HOUSE, DERBY Bass H  
 SHAFTESBURY, DERBY, H&H E  
 SPINNING WHEEL, CHADDESSEN, H&H E  
 STEAM PACKET, SWANWICK Shipstone E  
 TIGER, DERBY Bass E  
 TURKS HEAD, LONG EATON Home E  
 WHITE SWAN, SPONDON Bass E  
 YE OLDE VAULTS, ASHBOURNE, M&B H

## Acidity Tests

Steve Wigley and Paul Anthony are currently conducting a series of experiments (at present with pH paper) to ascertain the correlation, if any, between acid content, various types of beers and their method of serving.. Steve and Paul would very much appreciate the use of a pH meter if anyone has access to one. Their results and conclusions will be published at a later date in M&B.

## Real Ale Tour of Lincolnshire

Trent are running a tour of Lincolnshire on Wednesday June 1st and, if it is a success, they will run tours of other counties at later dates. The cost is £1.95 and seats (bookable in advance) are beginning to fill up.

The coach leaves the bus station at 8.15 for the 'White Hart' at Spilsby (hand-pumped Stones and Bass Worthington). At 12.45 the trip continues to the 'Three Tuns' at Ingoldmills for some Batemans served by gravity. After a 2½ hour recovery session in Skegness the coach continues to the Bull at Horncastle (Handpumped Bass Worthington). At 7.15 the outing moves on to Wragby for handpumped Youngers in the Adam and Eve.

The last stop is the Kirrages in Newark (handpumped Ruddles) before leaving for home at 10.45 and arriving in Derby at 11.30.

Apart from ensuring other similar trips by Trent, a full coach should provide an ideal situation for a mini membership drive.

## Miss Celanegewants

Gill Burgess would like all press cuttings (local or national) passed on to her for inclusion in the CAMRA scrap-book.

For those puzzled by the title of this column it derives its name from a child's spelling of miscellaneous!

MAKE  
MINE  
REAL  
MILD





# DERBY DIARY

TUESDAY SOCIALS start 9.15

## TUESDAY 17th MAY

The Navigation - Shardlow (DAV)

## TUESDAY 24th MAY

The Maypole, Brook St, Derby  
(HOME)

## TUESDAY 31st MAY

The Bridge Inn - Duffield  
(HOME)

## TUESDAY 7th JUNE

The Vine Inn, Whittaker St  
(BASS)

## TUESDAY 14th JUNE

The Wilmot Arms - Chaddesden  
(DBA)

## THURSDAY 19th MAY

Local Good Beer Guide Sub Committee  
meeting at the Sir Robert Peel,  
Park Street. Starts 8.00pm

## FRIDAY 20th MAY

Joint social with Sheffield and  
Nottingham branches starting at  
8.30pm at the TIGER, LONG EATON.  
A bar extension has been applied  
for and food will be available.  
Barton busses leave Derby Bus  
Station for Long Eaton Green at  
7.30, 8.00 and 8.30pm and a coach  
has been booked for the late return  
to Derby.

## WEDNESDAY 25th MAY

Visit to the Bass brewery at  
Burton on Trent. The coach leaves  
Derby Bus Station at 7.00pm. Book  
your seat with Terry Morton.

## SATURDAY 28th MAY

MAY MILD crawl starting at the

THE GLOBE, SACHEVERAL ST and working its  
way to the ALEXANDRA HOTEL, SIDDALS RD.

## MONDAY 30th MAY

Committee meeting

## WEDNESDAY 1st JUNE

Trent real ale tour of Lincolnshire see  
page 5 for details.

## MONDAY 6th JUNE (Bank Holiday Monday)

A trip to London, sharing a coach with the  
Nottingham branch, to visit the NAGS HEAD  
(a CAMRA Investments pub) and the  
ALEXANDRA PALACE JUBILEE BEER EXHIBITION.  
The coach leaves Derby Bus Station at  
9.30am. Seats are bookable from Terry  
Morton.

## WEDNESDAY 15th JUNE

Branch meeting at the CROWN, SPONDON  
Starts at 8.00pm.

## Agenda

1. Minutes of the last meeting and  
matters arising.
2. Branch News
3. Social and other notices
4. Beer break
5. Pub contact scheme and Beer Guide  
compilation
6. Any other business

## SUB-COMMITTEE CONTACTS

BELPER AREA - Ian Grimshaw Belper 3270

MATLOCK AREA - Trevor Peacock, 62 Dale  
Rd, Matlock.

RIPLEY & HEANOR AREA - Mick Chamber Belper  
5160 and Tim Burgess Derby  
880656.

BEER EXHIBITION - John Griffiths Derby  
702372

HANDPUMP - John Broadbent

HISTORIC PUBS - Chris Gale  
PUB CONTACT SCHEME - John Kearny  
PUB SALES - Dave Johnson

## STOP PRESS

THE REV. BELLOW'S REPORTS THAT THE  
'NAGS HEAD' AT BELPER SELLS HANDDAIMED  
MANSFIELD BITTER - THE ONLY PUB IN THE  
COUNTRY TO DO SO!