

Mild & Bitter

Undermanned (and overwhelmed ?)

2009 was a difficult year, organisationally for the Derby branch. An under strength committee, further depleted by the loss of the chair mid term, struggled. The main activities, especially the re-scheduled 8th Winter Best Festival (the best yet) and the Good Beer Guide surveys (increased again to record levels) all happened, but social trips after a change of ownership virtually disappeared, the Mild Trail got lost and Pub of the Year contest was completed barely on time. In all it was a sometimes frantic year for those who had to make things happen.

Despite the loss of members with the creation of the Amber Valley sub branch, Derby still has one of the largest memberships in the country (1400+) and less than one percent of Derby members - who subscribe to what is supposed to be a campaigning organisation – actually get involved. We compare very poorly with our near neighbours Nottingham and Leicester, when it comes to the number of willing hands.

The effect of this is that Derby is unable to take on any new activities such as the Cask Week, as well as continuing to sustain several of its 'regular' tasks so inevitably we sometimes 'fall over'. Notwithstanding these hazards, we are campaigning for a recreational product and way of life, and, while there are challenges, campaigning can be fun.

The coming branch AGM is the opportunity for you, the branch members, to make a difference. We have no shortage of ideas, nor an unwillingness to experiment, just a lack of people to get the jobs, small and large, done. So we need more volunteers.

Derby Branch Annual General Meeting 2010

The 2010 Derby CAMRA Annual General Meeting will take place on **Thursday 22nd April at the Flowerpot, King Street, Derby - 8pm** followed by a shortened Branch Meeting if time permits.



The 2007 Branch Pub of the Year serves a wide range of guest beers and is quite easy to find being just up from the Cathedral around Clockhouse corner and lies almost opposite Chapel Street multi-story carpark.

The meeting itself will be held in the rear function room and the evening will include the election of the new Committee, presentation of

Branch Accounts and handing out of Branch Awards. Nominations for any Committee post (indicating your willingness to stand for election) must be in the hands of the Branch Secretary prior to the start of the meeting. Also, please remember to bring your membership cards, as they will be required to vote at the meeting.

The AGM is not just about Branch business though but is a great social occasion as well and there will be some free beer and sandwiches provided.

So, if you have yet to attend a Branch AGM then why not make this your first, I'm sure you'll enjoy it and you'll be made to feel most welcome. Further information can be obtained from the **Branch Secretary, Ian Forman on 01332 882996 or e-mail: ianforman@btinternet.com**

Election of the New Derby Committee

The AGM will see the election of a new committee and all current Branch members are entitled to stand for Chairman, Secretary and up to 6 Committee Members.

So if you feel as though you would like to get more involved this year and have a say in Branch affairs then why not put yourself forward for one of the posts. No experience is necessary, just a willingness and enthusiasm to get involved. Please contact any current Committee Member for an informal chat and pass on your nomination to the **Branch Secretary, Ian Forman on 01332 882996 or e-mail: ianforman@btinternet.com** prior to the start of the AGM. All nominations must have a proposer and seconder who must be current Branch members.

Current Chairman, Dan Cramp has indicated he is standing down as is Stewart Marshall from the Committee so there will be a few posts that need filling at the AGM.

Motion for Debate at the Derby Branch AGM

This branch applauds the work and enthusiasm of the editor and advertising coordinator over many years on the Derby Drinker.

This branch believes that to enhance the image and further the profile of the publication it should ban front page commercial advertising or seriously reduce it.

The front cover should be used to heighten the profile of Camra, the local branches & campaigning opportunities such as membership, volunteering, beer festivals & pub of the year. **Motion proposed: Terry Morton, seconded Ray Smith.**

Voting at the Derby AGM

Please note members should check that (a) your membership has not lapsed and, if it has, to renew immediately by contacting HQ if you wish to vote at the forthcoming Derby AGM, and (b), if you live in the Amber Valley area but wish to be active in Derby Branch and vote at the Derby AGM, you contact HQ immediately requesting a transfer.

Membership of Derby and Amber Valley Branch

CAMRA branch areas are determined on the CAMRA membership system by postcodes, and by default a member belongs to the branch whose area includes the member's home postcode. Members can choose to be a member of any other branch of CAMRA with the approval of that branch. All normal CAMRA meetings are open to any member of CAMRA, especially the Derby branch AGM which is also a social occasion, but members can also serve on the committee and should only vote at meetings in their own branch.

The Amber Valley sub branch of Derby branch has been allocated postcodes in DE5, DE55 1, DE55 4, DE55 7 and DE56. If you live in those postcode areas you have been assigned to the Amber Valley sub branch, and if you are not already actively taking part in Amber Valley activities please do think about it. If you would rather remain as a member of Derby branch then please let the branch and the membership system know.

You can write but the easiest way is to send an email to committee@derbycamra.org.uk and membership@camra.org.uk quoting your membership number and asking to be assigned to the 'DER' - Derby branch.

Derby Summer-Fest Staffing Request

Delivered with this M&B you will find a staffing form for the **33rd Derby Summer Beer Festival**, which is coming up on **7-11th July**. We do hope you are able to help out this year, as the Festival couldn't run without it. If you can then please fill it in and return it to the Staffing Manager.

Derby Winter-Fest

New venue, team and dates !!

Anna Dyson & Ralf Edge have been elected as the Chair for the 10th Derby CAMRA Winter Beer Festival. The festival is very likely to see a radical change of venue and date - watch this space for more details. The first meeting of the team will be held in early May (*contact Ralf on 07506 330374 or ralf.edge@ralfedge.co.uk for details*) - whilst some of the roles have been filled there's still plenty of opportunities to help us revolutionise the Winter Festival. So come along and see what you can do.

Derby Survey Trip Organizer Required

Stewart Marshall has stepped down as Pub Surveys Officer and we therefore require somebody to come forward and volunteer. The job of Pub Surveys Officer has several roles:- Organise Pub Surveys; Collect Pub Survey Data; Organise selection of pubs for the GBG; Organise and edit pub entries in the GBG.

A brief description of the role is to organise pub surveys in the Derby Branch area by a variety of transport methods including walking, cycling, public transport and minibus. These surveys need to be planned about two months in advance to allow enough time for them to be published in Mild & Bitter, Derby Drinker, What's Brewing and the Derby CAMRA website.

If you are interested in this role then please contact Stewart Marshall or any committee member.

Derby CAMRA Pubs of the Year 2010

The **Green Man at Ashbourne** has been judged Country POTY and Overall POTY with the **Falstaff** winning the City award. Details of presentations, etc next month. Congratulations to both pubs.

Derby CAMRA Annual Beer Census Results 2010

More Real Ales per head than any other City

The recent Derby CAMRA Annual Beer Census saw the City try to recapture the title of '**Real Ale Capital of Britain**', which it has held on a number of occasions throughout the years. And although we don't claim to have the most number of different Real Ale



available on any one day (our bigger City neighbours, Sheffield and Nottingham have recorded higher) we do claim to have more different ones available than any other City in the Country per head of population. So does that make us the Real Ale Capital, well I'll leave that up to you to decide ?

This year's event saw 73 pubs visited during the evening. The idea was to determine how many different Real Ales were available in the City on any one given night and the results again proved startling beating last year's total by 12, quite impressive for a cold wintery night in February with less pubs being visited than last year. With no Real Ale available in 9 pubs and 8 Closed, the 249 Real Ales recorded (159 different ones) came from just 56 pubs, an average of 4.5 per pub. 9 Real Ciders & Perries were also found. Star pubs of the night included the Flowerpot with 26 Real Ales followed by Babington Arms with 17, the Brunswick with 15 and Old Silk Mill with 14. Marston's Pedigree is still the most dominant brand in the City available in 32 pubs easily beating its nearest rival Draught Bass whose decline continues and is now only available in 12 pubs, along way short of its heady days a few years back when most pubs stocked it. The average price of a pint on the night itself came out at £2.53 (10p up on the previous year) although in reality most City Centre outlets were far higher than this making Derby one of the most expensive places to drink in the East Midlands. The dearest beer was Hobgoblin at the Pitcher & Piano and Bass & Pedigree at the Waterfall all sold at £3 a pint with the cheapest being the discounted Greene King Ruddles Bitter at Wetherspoons for just £1.35. The beer quality throughout was generally found to be okay with a handful of pubs (mostly Derby's Good Beer Guide entries) serving really good quality ale. So there you have it, a few stats to bear in mind while crawling around '**Beer City**' sampling one or two of the many different beer styles and tastes available. Real Ale Capital or not Derby is still a haven for Real Ales and long may it continue.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DERBY BRANCH OF THE CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE HELD AT THE FLOWERPOT ON THURSDAY 23RD APRIL 2009

APOLOGIES. James Hepworth, A.Brett. **TELLERS.** David and Carl Brett were appointed as tellers for the votes at the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM AND EGM. Accepted as a true record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. Append Jok's report.

WINTER 2008 ACCOUNTS. Julian Tubbs introduced the accounts which were budgeted to make £5000. However, a

variety of factors conspired to make this not possible; the biggest reason was the theft of a sum of money, which had been the subject of a far reaching review headed by Chris Gale and Paul Gibson. £2000 had been lost due to this theft. Julian thanked the investigating team. No-one had been prosecuted despite being apprehended and the police being called and had not been charged or prosecuted after later thefts from other festivals. The report was available for members.

A vote was taken proposed by Kevin Hepworth Seconded by ?. Approved.

SUMMER 2008. Carl Brett introduced the accounts. It was very successful with well controlled costs with sales up on budget – beer sales up etc. Auditors report for members.

Vote proposed by Kevin Hepworth, Seconded by Tony Saworth. Approved.

BRANCH ACCOUNTS. Julian Tubbs spoke to members - 2007-2008 had seen lots more income from DD due to the sterling efforts of Jok Arguile. This had vastly improved from previous years. Julian also thanked Rob Davison for managing socials.

Amber Valley sub branch had been given £1400 budget for their area. Branch accounts were buoyant with more money need to be sent to HQ. Julian was stepping down as treasurer and subject to branch approval Jok Arguile was standing for new treasurer. Auditors report available. Prop Kevin Hepworth, Seconded Rob Davison and Approved.

NEW AUDITORS. All previous auditors were prepared to stand again.

Keith Normanton for branch, Marie Gibson for winter and Sally Winterton for summer.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE.

Proposed that branch committee be increased by one to six other members and the Chair, secretary and treasurer. Konrad Machej spoke in favour and spoke of labour problems and not having manpower to do jobs.

Reg Newcombe spoke against the motion suggesting that there had in the past been an "open ended committee," which was not needed and that the branch had voted against increasing the size of the committee. He felt that not every new volunteer had to be on the committee and that decisions could be taken by fewer members. Julian Tubbs took the view the situation had changed. Terry Morton felt that we needed more members because many things had changed since the previous vote restricting committee numbers. Pip Southall spoke for approval. Steve Crispin proposed an amendment that all committee members should hold a definitive post and function. Seconded by Gareth Stead. Vote for amendment took place. Amendment defeated. Amendment proposed that the quorate number be increased from 4 to 5 in order to make a majority vote. Rejected on grounds of procedure. Tim Williams.

Jok Arguile proposed that the original substantive motion be accepted, Seconded by Tony Saworth. A vote was taken – motion carried.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE.

Jok told member that an election was not needed as insufficient number had been proposed and that Rob Davison was the new chair with other committee members being re-elected.

BRANCH AWARDS. Vicky Sadler had received a tankard previously for her work for the campaign.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS. What's wrong with Derby CAMRA

Jok spoke about giving members a voice and read out responses to his posted questions.

A discussion ensued with many points being raised. It was felt that the branch needed to be more welcoming and that socials should have a higher profile with visible committee members at meetings. Better and more notice and that M&B to be published a week before meeting. A discussion took place. Rob Davison felt that late publication was not acceptable but Kevin Hepworth felt we were all volunteers and had commitments.

More interactive meetings. Jok felt it was down to Chairman's style? More transparent POTY, surveys etc. Jok gave responses. Postal nominations to all members? (Telford do) Survey forms to be made more readily available. Stewart preferred the national scoring system. Ideas were exchanged. Marketing for nbss? Avoid Camra jargon. Yes we should? Meet with friendly licensees? We do talk to some and have made improvements. Terry Morton felt that we didn't make enough of awards to pubs or licensees. Licensee of the month?

Local issues. We should do more for landlords and issues. We are often called in now for comment or advice. Pub trails planned (in early stages). BLO officers roles in meetings? Programme of BLOs speaking is in operation sporadically. Rob Davison addressed members and spoke of Jok's last meeting as chair. He read out a minute from Eastbourne which awarded a special award to Jane and Jok Arguile. Jok was presented with a tankard and Jane a voucher for a garden centre. He spoke endearingly about Jok's time as chair. The branch thanked Jok and Jane for their work for the campaign. **Meeting closed at 22.04.**

VALLEY VIEW

News from the Amber Valley Sub-Branch

Next Meeting

The next Amber Valley Sub-Branch Meeting will take place on **Thursday 29th April** in



the **Thorn Tree, Waingroves** and all interested members in the region are encouraged to attend. It will begin at approx. 8.30pm. The area the Sub Branch covers includes: DE5, DE55 1, DE55 4, DE55 7 and DE56. For further information contact *the Chairman, Pete Hounsell on 07830 308533 or the Social Secretary, Nathan Dilley on 01773 570675*

Hunters Heading In The Right Direction

Kilburn, six miles north of Derby, was, before the 20thC, largely owned by the Hunter family of Kilburn Hall. The gabled pub across the road from the hall was named after the family, and the Hunter Arms now seeks a restoration in fortune that saw it feature in the Good Beer Guide between 1983 and 1986. In July 2009, London born Paula Showers and her charismatic Canadian husband, Mark, sold their Torquay hotel and headed north to buy the Hunters. On the evidence of a recent visit, the Church Street pub is certainly worth frequenting with hand drawn Blue Monkey Original, Oakham Bishops Farewell and Leatherbritches Roasted Stout vying for attention. Meanwhile, on nearby Chapel Street, the Travellers Rest celebrated National Cask Ale Week with a Buffy's bonanza. No fewer than five of the Norfolk's brewery's beers were served direct from the cask.

Ripley Rail Ale Festival



It's looking increasingly likely that Butterley station will stage the first CAMRA beer festival in Ripley from Thursday, 30th September to Sunday, 3rd October. A marquee serving beer and traditional cider will reverberate to the sound of live music, whilst two railway carriages will serve additional ales in a quieter environment. In total, 50 real ales should be available together with food. It's hoped that the dual attractions of a beer festival and a gala diesel weekend will be a successful combination.

Flourishing Membership

CAMRA's membership, which now exceeds 110,000, received a further boost recently when five new members signed up at the Talbot Taphouse, Ripley. We welcome Paul and Elaine Coope of Heage, Stuart and Anne Cassidy of Ripley and also John Haynes of Ripley. We hope to meet them at a meeting or social. There are now 337 members in Amber Valley.

Discounted Beer

Declan Nixon, the enterprising licensee of the Fishermans Rest, Broadholme Lane, Belper, has joined the growing band of Amber Valley pubs offering discounted real ale to card carrying CAMRA members. 10p a pint or 5p a half pint is available in this case. Declan has been running a series of "meet the brewer evenings" on the last Friday of the month. The George and Dragon, Belper, Talbot

Taphouse, Ripley, and the George, Ripley, all offer reductions.

An Open and Shut Case

John Warren, Loscoe has reopened but the Butchers Arms, Langley has closed.

MINUTES OF THE AMBER VALLEY CAMRA MEETING AT THE WAGGON AND HORSES, ALFRETON ON 25TH MARCH 2010

Meeting started at 830pm with 13 attendees.

Apologies for absence. Bob and Sally Bramson.

Minutes of last meeting. Accepted as a true record.

Matters arising. Nigel Heathcote was introduced to assist us with a beer festival.

Committee reports. Chairman had nothing to report. Membership Secretary not present. Social Secretary, Nathan, said that survey trip on 17th April would visit Somercotes and Leabrooks. There's a joint social with Derby at Duffield's Pattenmakers on Tuesday, 15th June. Secretary, Paul asked if we should have survey trips on Saturdays only as Friday seemed to be less popular. April and May's will be Saturdays. Paul added that a press release regarding Pub of the Year, to the Ripley and Heanor News had not been published. The same newspaper had run a major feature on pub closures and Paul's response would include a reference to National Cask Ale Week.

May mild month. Insufficient Amber Valley pubs selling mild, so we'll have a Nottingham mild crawl starting at the Vat & Fiddle noon, Saturday, 8th May.

Cask ale week crawl 1st April.

Sustainable Communities Act. Pete reported that it was about to hit the statute books. Also, there was a newly appointed Pubs Minister and Pete would circulate details on our google group.

Beer festival. Time is of the essence and Nigel will speak to the Midland Railway post haste. Meeting at Talbot Taphouse on Wednesday, 31st March to discuss progress. In addition it was agreed to staff the real ale tent at the Party in the Park, Alfreton, on Sunday, 5th September. In return, J D Wetherspoon would make a donation to branch funds. Pete will liaise with Holly of Waggon and Horses regarding Party in the Park.

Pub information. Hunter's, Kilburn free of tie since July 2009-good beer on. 26th March would see another "meet the brewer evening" at Fishermans Rest, Broadholme (Spire brewery). Atholl Beattie requested details of LocAle pubs-we would inform Gus Manning, our officer. Beer festivals: 2-5 April, Talbot Taphouse; 22-25 April, King William, Milford and Steam Packet, Swanwick.

Future meeting dates. Branch meetings: 29th April, Thorn Tree, Waingroves; 27th May, Queens Head, Chesterfield Road, Belper (tbc); 24th June, Eagle, Heage (tbc).

AOB. Carl Brett suggested a final Friday five-pub crawl and he would talk to

Charisma re this. The opening night of the Talbot Taphouse festival would offer a free half pint to women. Thanks went to Holly for the buffet.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

May MILD Month Events

May has traditionally been the time of year when CAMRA has celebrated Real Mild with the promotion and support of this unique beer style and this year is to be no exception with Branches up and down the country organising special events throughout the month and we as usual will be supporting the cause.

On **Saturday 1st May** there will be a **Mild May Tour: The Derby 360 – degrees not pubs!** Meet midday at the Brewery Tap for a tour around the city to seek out the best Mild.

Join us anywhere around the route; we will be heading out towards the Brunswick & Falstaff before returning into town to the Babington (meal stop) between 5 & 6pm. Then we're off up to the Rowditch, Mr Grundy's and back into town, finishing at the Silk Mill. As you can see there is a modest amount of walking involved to get around all the GBG listed pubs Derby has to offer. **Social Secretary, Dean** will be contactable on the day on **07703 458623** if you want to join us on route.

Also don't forget Nottingham CAMRA will be holding their highly successful Mild Trail again from **24th April until 5th June**. The idea is that you visit one of the pubs on the trail and try a half or pint of Mild and be given a sticker in return which you place on the trail cards which can be

picked up at each pub or from the current Nottingham Drinker. 8 different pub stickers qualifies you for a bronze certificate, a free pint of Mild at Nottingham Beer Festival in October and entry into a prize draw for T-Shirts & beer. So please support the campaign during May and help keep this traditional beer style alive & kicking. Real Mild is a great drink, which can be light or dark in colour, low in bitterness and usually low in calories as well. Most of the current crop of Derbyshire micro-breweries have brewed one or two especially for the Month so look out for them in pubs around the Branch Area.

Camramble

Cromford to Matlock

A walk has been planned on **Saturday 24th April** of either 4 miles taking in Cromford, Bonsall, Matlock Bath or 7 miles also incorporating Matlock Town. All Derby and Amber Valley CAMRA members are welcome.

From Derby Bus Station catch the 6.1 service at 12:50pm to Cromford, a £4.60 zig zag ticket will cover all transport.



We will meet at The Bell in Cromford, then take a path around an old quarry into Bonsall (Barley Mow and Kings Head). Heading along a track and some woodlands to the Temple Hotel, then dropping further to the A6 at Matlock Bath (options include: The Fishpond, The

Princess Victoria, Riva, The Midland and County & Station.) Here the 4 mile walk ends with various bus options returning to Derby.

The longer route heads out of Matlock Bath to Starkholmes (The White Lion), the remainder of the route is on tarmac, dropping down to Matlock Town and heading up Matlock Bank (The Sycamore and The Thorn Tree). The last bus back to Derby arrives at 22.38. If you are interested then **contact Jenny Rowland on jendave01@tiscali.co.uk**.

Derby CAMRA Social Info

New Social Secretary, Dean Smith has been busy sorting out the socials and there have been a few changes from those published in the last M&B. Please note that the social on **Thursday 29th April** will now be at the **Old Silk Mill** in Derby for the 1st Anniversary of its re-opening by Terry & Nina Holmes. It will also be a charity night in aid of the Endoscopy Ward, Royal Derby.

On **Tuesday 25th May** we shall be travelling out of our area to visit the

Sheffield Tap on Sheffield Railway station Platform 1B



for a Thornbridge Extravaganza! If travelling by public transport, meet at the Brunswick 6 - 6.15pm or Derby station for the 6.44pm train. There is also a train at 7.11pm. Suggested train back is 10pm gets back into Derby for 10.44pm (There is a later one if people are really keen!). For the rest of the social info see below.

Derby Branch Diary

BRANCH MEETINGS - 8pm

Thu 22nd Apr – Flowerpot, Derby – AGM.

Thu 13th May – Horse & Groom, Derby.

COMMITTEE MEETING - 8pm

Mon 26th Apr – Brunswick Inn, Derby.

WEEKLY SOCIALS – 8.30pm

APRIL

Thu 22nd – Flowerpot, Derby – AGM - 8pm.

Thu 29th – Old Silk Mill, Full St, Derby.

MAY

Sat 1st – Derby Mild Crawl – Noon at Brewery Tap.

Wed 5th – Bell Inn, Smalley.

Thu 13th – Horse & Groom, Derby – 8pm.

Thu 20th – Nunsfield House/Blue Peter, Alvaston.

Tue 25th – Sheffield Tap – Sheffield Railway Station.

TRIPS

Sat 24th Apr - CAMRAMBLE – Cromford to Matlock.

Meet Derby Bus station 12.50pm for Trent 6.1 bus.

Contact Jenny Rowland on jendave01@tiscali.co.uk

Amber Valley Diary

BRANCH MEETINGS– 8.30pm

Thu 29th Apr – Thorn Tree, Waingroves.

SURVEY TRIPS

Sat 17th Apr - Ripley Market Place - 7pm.

Sat 15th May - Ripley Market Place - 7pm.

For Alfreton and Belper pick-ups **contact Social Sec, Nathan on 01773 533637**.

MILD CRAWL

Sat 8th May - noon - mild trail in Nottingham.

Meet at Vat and Fiddle, near rail station.

Mild & Bitter – (C) 2010

Derby & Amber Valley CAMRA

We do our best to ensure that the information in M&B is accurate but no responsibility can be accepted for errors or omissions. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Editor, nor of the Campaign

For Real Ale Ltd.

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