

# Mild & Bitter

## Derby Winter-Fest is Back

Here it comes!! Yep the 10<sup>th</sup> Derby CAMRA Winter Beer Festival with a brand new festival venue – Derby College's Roundhouse (not the university as a lot of people assume) site on Pride Park, but to you fellow drinkers it's 'behind the railway station'. The dates are **24-26<sup>th</sup> February**.

**Transport** is easy, you've got a load of options but primarily you can walk or cycle via Siddals Road (or use an Arriva bus as far as the Brunswick) and a short section of path opposite the Alex' leading you into the site from the back, or if that's not your thing jump on the free shuttle buses we're laying on from Full St to the festival from opening until 21:00ish from the City Centre. After the buses stop you'll be able to cross the railway using the bridge and use the Arriva routes from outside the Waterfall (opposite the Railway Station) if you're heading for town or outside the station for Alvaston and beyond (inc Loughborough & Leicester).

**The beer**, let's not forget that!! We're sourced a huge range in terms of style and brewery location so PLEASE do pop down to try them. If you want to know about the beers they're 4 ways to learn: **a)** Look at our website closer to the festival [www.derbywinterbeerfestival.co.uk](http://www.derbywinterbeerfestival.co.uk) **b)** Read DD 138! **c)** Nip into the Alex and ask Ralf **d)** Come along and be surprised!!

But let's suffice it to say it's going to be far far better than Winter festival past, and the general verdict is they were pretty good.

Now for the other great thing – **food** to sustain you whilst you're working or just socialising we've got a range of things to tempt your palate the usual staples though nothing to radical, with a range of hot meals (not just with chips), sandwiches, snacks not to mention G Morgan & Sons (usually based in the city's Eagle Market) who will be providing our cheese stall.

**The bands**, another great line-up...tributes to Kasabian, Oasis, Stone Roses and sets from the girls who rock - the Alma Boobies and Punk favourites - Verbal Warning. NOW all this great beer, bands and food in an awe inspiring location with good transport links there's got to be a catch I hear you say?? Well not really BUT we do need a favour, a few hours (or a few dozen if you'd prefer) of **your help** both behind the bars and a heap of other tasks throughout the festival, in and out of the public eye. If you've never worked at the festival then believe what people say that it's the best way to see and enjoy the festival – and the staffing team will keep you sustained with some free beer tokens and a free workers thank you trip to Oxford on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March. **IF you can help at the festival please get in touch with Janette via e-mail: [winterstaffing@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:winterstaffing@derbycamra.org.uk), phone: 01332 347601 or by post: 49 Belper Rd, Derby, DE1 3EP**

Finally, don't forget in a new policy for Derby Winter Festival (due to the venue change) ALL beers will be available on Thursday night, as they sell out they'll become unavailable so if there's something in particular you're after try to come early to avoid disappointment – BUT the beer manager has tried to help by ordering a larger quantity of the beers likely to be more popular.

*Cheers, Anna & Ralf – Festival Chair.*

## Derby Branch Meeting & Social – Thomas Leaper, Irongate, Derby - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February

The February Branch Meeting will be held at the Thomas Leaper on Irongate in Derby beginning at 8pm and there will be a selection of Real Ales on.

The pub itself is quite easy to find being just a short walk from the Market Place or Cathedral along Irongate. The meeting will be held in upstairs bar area and the agenda is printed elsewhere. So why not pop along if you get the chance, as the meetings are usually good social occasions as well. For any further information **contact the Branch Secretary, Ian Forman on 01332 882996 or e-mail: [Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk)**

## Derby CAMRA Pubs of the Year 2011

The Derby Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale has selected its Pubs of the Year for 2011.

**The City Pub of the Year is the Old Silk Mill on Full St in Derby** with the runner-up being the Babington Arms on Babington Lane and third place the Horse & Groom on Elms Street.

**The Country Pub of the Year is the Royal Oak in Ockbrook** with the runner-up being the Barley Mow in Kirk Ireton and third place the Old Talbot in Hilton.

The Old Silk Mill takes the City title for the first time while the Royal Oak has been a previous winner of the Country award. Both will be presented with their certificates at the Derby CAMRA Winter Beer Festival trade session in the Roundhouse on Thursday afternoon 24<sup>th</sup> February. The runner-up in each category will also receive a certificate.

The competition as always was keenly fought with the shortlist of six pubs being drawn up by votes from the entire Derby Branch Membership. A team of 27 independent judges then visited each pub and marked the finalists over a six week period, visiting unannounced on different days of the week and at different times of the day. Each pub was judged in the following categories: - quality of the beer; atmosphere, style & decor of the pub; service and welcome; clientele mix; sympathy with CAMRA aims and whether it was a good value visit or not.

The end results were close but both the Old Silk Mill and Royal Oak proved more than worthy winners where good beer and atmosphere are guaranteed and congratulations must go to each pub.

**The Old Silk Mill has also been crowned overall Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year 2011** by virtue of having the highest overall mark and it will now go forward into the Derbyshire Pub of the Year competition. Here it will compete with the winners of other local CAMRA Branches awards from Amber Valley, Chesterfield, Erewash Valley, High Peak, Matlock & Dales, Mansfield, and Sheffield.

The winner of the Derbyshire round will be announced later in the year after a similar judging process has taken place.

## Derby AGM

Advance notice is hereby given of the Derby CAMRA Annual General Meeting

on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm. It will be held in the Flowerpot, King St, Derby.

## M&B Editor Bows out

This edition of M&B marks my 20 years as Editor, an appropriate time I think to step aside and leave it in the more than capable hands of Paul Gibson. A job I originally took on temporarily has lasted some 235 editions and involved an infinite amount of hours of long, hard work, burning the midnight oil on many, many occasions. And although the task has been arduous at times it has been enjoyable and it will be a wrench to pass it on as it has formed such a large part of my life. My proudest moment was the 14 page 300<sup>th</sup> M&B which took months to prepare and documents the entire history of the Branch and I hope I have now left a legacy for others to follow. The last long serving editor, Mike Meara stood down after 7 years and confidently predicted his time would never be beaten but of course it was so I now lay down the same gauntlet and predict my 20 years at the helm will never be beaten. So fond farewell M&B and thanks for the memories. *Gareth Stead.*

## Derby Branch Vacancies

We currently have the following vacancies for roles within the Branch:-

**Derby Drinker Editorial Team** to work alongside others in the team to put together 6 issues per year. If you have any experience in this field or are looking for an exciting new challenge then please get in touch.

**Derby Drinker Advertising Manager** to obtain adverts and thereby sustain a viable Derby Drinker. A full Job Spec is available on request.

If you are interested in any of these roles then please *contact the Branch Secretary, Ian Forman on 01332 882996 or e-mail: Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk*

## Derby Summer-Fest

The next Derby Summer Beer Festival will take place in the Assembly Rooms from **6-10 July, 2011**. Russell Gilbert has been elected as the new Chairman and the organisation is now under way. The next planning meeting is on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**. If you would like to take part in the organisation of next year's event then please pop along to the meeting or contact Russ on **07909 967142 or summerbeerfest@derbycamra.org.uk**

## Derby Website now live

Derby CAMRA's new website is now live. [www.derbycamra.org.uk](http://www.derbycamra.org.uk) Please have a look around it and let us know what you think. The site contains Beer Festival info, details of Branch socials, Branch contacts, etc. If you have any suggestions for the site then please e-mail the Webmaster, Richard Mackney at [webmaster@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:webmaster@derbycamra.org.uk)

## Derby Regional Meeting

The next East Midlands Regional Meeting will be held in Derby and members are encouraged to attend as it is so close by.

It will be held on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February** at 12 Noon at the Winter Beer Festival in the Roundhouse.

## Members Weekend & AGM

CAMRA's Members weekend & AGM will take place in the Octagon Centre in **Sheffield from 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April**. The event is not just about the formal business of the AGM but features a Beer Festival, Brewery Trips, Pub Crawls, etc. Pre-Registration is now available via the National website or by completing the form in What's Brewing.

## Have you been a CAMRA member since the 1970's

Jane Whitaker would like to hear from people who have been members of CAMRA since the 1970s - not necessarily people living in Derby at the time, as she wants to get a picture of what the beer situation was like in the early 70s, and what motivated people to join. People can contact her at this e-mail address: [jawhitaker2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jawhitaker2000@yahoo.co.uk), ring her on 01332 342670, or see her at the Winter Festival. She would also like to know if anyone has early CAMRA photos, documents or ephemera she can photograph.

## E-mail User Groups

Did you know that Derby & Amber Valley Camra have a user groups which circulates info on social events, beer festivals, breweries, pubs, etc helping you keep right up-to-date with the current happenings on the real ale scene. They are open to all members, to join just send an email to the administrator with your membership number. For Derby contact, Stewart Marshall, [beersurvey@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:beersurvey@derbycamra.org.uk) For Amber Valley contact, Nathan Dilley, [NDilley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:NDilley@hotmail.co.uk)

## Minutes of the Derby Meeting at the Station on Thu 13<sup>th</sup> Jan

40 at the meeting.

**Apologies.** Julian Tubbs, Anna Dyson, Les Bayton, Pip Southall.

**Mins of last meeting.** Lamb at Melbourne should have read Castle Donnington. Kevin Hepworth had sent his apologies.

**Matters Arising.** None

The Osnabruk envoy Katherine spoke to the meeting about plans for the next visit, which will be by air not coach. Trip will be in May or August and cost about £400.

### Officers' Reports

**Chair.** VAT increases on beer are taking effect. Early day motions- please write to your MP. See WB for details. Winter Ales festival 19<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> Jan in Manchester. Camra members weekend is on 15<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> April in Sheffield. Pre-registration via internet now available. Christmas show had been successful. Vacancies still for DD editor, DD advertising manager and GBG coordinator. Rob Gilvary had offered to help with DD and another member had come forward with offer to help.

ABC. census imminent. Published routes are in M&B. There had been an enquiry from HQ for information on this with a view to publishing an article in the Campaigner. GBG selection imminent, keep info coming in.

**Campaigning goals.** Locale and discount scheme had been published in DD, more pubs signing up. Many discount pubs had signed up. Lamb at Melbourne 10p off a pint. Red Lion Hollington 20p off. Okeover Arms at Mapleton had expressed an interest. Dewdrop at Ilkeston has stopped the discount. Website- domain name had been registered with Graham Smith. This has been transferred so going live next week, hopefully.

**POTY** - Judging now closed. 27 different judges had made it very successful. Gareth had collated the results. City POTY - Silk Mill, Runner-up Babington. Country POTY - Royal Oak, Runner up, Barley Mow. Overall POTY - Old Silk Mill. Awards to be presented at the trade session of the winter festival. Also long service pubs to be honoured at the winter festival. Questions were asked about whether the announcement was embargoed before the pubs were told. No decision made.

**Secretary.** BLOs had been informed of BIS requirements & CBOB requirements. This information should be loaded over the web. We have a full set of BLOs in our area. Lincoln had been contacted re-certificates for long service pubs.

**Treasurer.** Treasurer's report – Jan '11 A detailed account of income and expenditure, since December's branch meeting, was given. There was also a summary of future (3 month) liabilities, and trading results relating to Derby Drinker, GBG 2011 and Amber Valley beer festival and Derby summer festival.

A standard festival account proforma will be introduced for coming festivals based on experience gained with the AV festival (and existing Derby practice). Notes: 1 The chairman's signature has been confirmed as valid at HSBC. 2 The Amber Valley request for membership funding admin costs (from Gus Manning) has been accepted and budgetted at £50- £100

### Beer Festivals.

**Winter.** Not much to report. Cider and continental orders had been done. Final meeting had taken place at the Roundhouse, with a successful festival anticipated. Please volunteer. NE coming to the festival with a view to staging National Winter Festival at the venue. **Summer.** Russ Gilbert and Julian Tubbs (deputy) were not at the meeting. There had been two meetings this week. Chris Sherratt spoke about the beer meeting. He spoke about branch committee's reservations on beer policy. Main hall to have 130 kils with 90 in Darwin. Beer type had been a discussion. Wish list had been compiled. Bigger range and bigger choice had been opted for. Two and one policy from a brewery will increase beer styles on offer. Jok asked a

question about if the main hall would be allowed to run out of beer. Chris said it was early days to comment. There was no intention to guarantee all beers on at every session. Hall manager or apprentice required. Trade session to be scrutinised at winter festival. Also cooling issues of Roundhouse to be explored in case we change summer venue. Security costs- (Kath Lilley-Team Tango at spoken at the meeting) Security had been looked at which had been a problem for the budget. Nick Riley spoke to the meeting on the issue. (Branch committee had required an additional opening reception.). Kevin Hepworth asked if Olympics dates had been taken into account when planning the dates of the 2012 beer festival.

**Derby Drinker.** Rob Gilvary and Jok are to produce an 8 page issue. Plans afoot. Copy to be produced to allow Rob to succeed once the Mac returns from Pip in York. We cannot take more adverts at the moment as Jok has stood down. The timing of next issue may slip. Rob may review the frequency of publication.

Copy to go to robertgilvary@hotmail.com Rob was congratulated on taking up the challenge. Stands for DD are available.

**GBG.** Stewart not at meeting. 16<sup>th</sup> Feb selection meeting at the Falstaff. Alex & Pot not eligible for consideration for GBG as there had been loss of licensee/cellar staff.

**Membership.** 11 new members, most from Wetherspoons magazine.

7 lapsed members. Konrad would be writing to them. New application forms available but other still valid.

**M&B.** Fewer failed e copies. Rejected email addresses are sometimes a problem. Tim Williams asked members to check their spam/trash folders and settings.

**Socials.** As published in M&B.

**Regional.** Next regional meeting will at the winter festival. Sat 25<sup>th</sup> Feb at 12 noon.

**Transport.** Next meeting in Bristol at Horts on 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan. Zig Zag had gone up.

**Information Exchange.** Jok Arguile gave a detailed appraisal of the current situation regarding pubcos. Pubcos a thing of the past? Most pubcos who own 80% of Derby pubs are in trouble. We might have a chance to dictate which beers go into pubs. Punch (UK and Derby's largest pub owner) are in trouble having now disposed of 1000 of their pub stock of 7500 and plan to reduce this down further to 5000. In Oct 2010 they announced they were £160m in the red for the year, 11% of their property is boarded up / trading on a temporary basis. Their borrowing is £3.1 billion (= 5 x their share value). JLA expects this will provide more free trade opportunities and an easing of Punch's attitude to beer ties. Already in Littleover the White Swan has reopened with 12 hand pumps, as before, but with three local ales. This is a change in attitude by Punch and more in line with Enterprise where the Old Silk Mill features a big range of beers. Molson Coors, uniquely for a major brewer, opened a new cask ale brewery at

Burton on Dec 15<sup>th</sup>. The new 22.5 brl brew length plant is brewing cask White Shield, M&B Mild and plans a number of seasonal beers. Changes at the Flowerpot may result in reduction of beer choice and increase in wine choice. Consultancy firm employed. Lol Stevenson and others had left Flowerpot's employ. GBG entry and resurrection of the brewery now in doubt. Green Man at Ashbourne was closed and up for sale. It has been sold to Wetherspoons with Leatherbritches to leave the site. Landlady of the Shakespeare at Shardlow had died. Melbourne Hotel still closed with Bespoke having applied for a licence. Smisby Brewery (owned by Roger Thompson- Brewer Paul Szuta) now open. Julian Tubbs has visited brewery. Swan at Milton is still free with same licensee, Roger Salt. RE expect a review of Derby pubs to be in the Guardian in February. Chesterfield beer festival 4-5 Feb. Roebuck Melbourne closed White Swan Spondon has real ale. Victoria new landlord Cavendish for sale and boarded up Alexandra reopened with good selection of beers. Dancing Duck on at the Metro. Yahoo email- Derby Brewing Co have got beer that doesn't show origin and badged Real Brewing Co. This has been the subject of many emails and discussions. Technically this might be against CAMRA policy. Committee to discuss and Kate Neale to clarify as BLO. AOB. Dave and Lynn thanked for the sandwiches.

#### Derby Branch Meeting Agenda

1. Apologies. 2. Minutes of last meeting. 3. Matters arising. 4. Officers' reports - Chair, Secretary, Treasurer. 5. Other reports - Beer Festivals, Campaigning, Derby Drinker, Good Beer Guide & Surveys, LocAle, Membership, Mild & Bitter, Pubs Officer & Pub Preservation, Publications, Regional, Sales, Socials, Sub-Branch, Tasting Panel, Transport, Website. 6. Information exchange - Pub, Brewery, etc 7. Any other business.

## VALLEY VIEW

### News from the Amber Valley Sub-Branch

#### Hunter's is Pub of the Year

Less than two years ago, the Hunter's Arms stood forlorn, unloved and unwanted, in Kilburn's old village centre. The once popular Bass house had fallen on hard times and had become yet another pub closure statistic. In the summer of 2009, Mark Showers, a charismatic Canadian with keen business acumen, sold his Torquay hotel and moved north to buy the Hunter's. A new challenge and the beautiful Derbyshire countryside beckoned as Mark began restoring the Victorian pub's fortunes by introducing an exciting range of real ales. Oakham Bishops Farewell and four guests have been receiving rave reviews for a while now, culminating in it being voted Amber

Valley Pub of the Year, based on broad criteria, by eight judges.

Our congratulations go to Mark, and also to Roger, Francis and Tracey at the Old Oak, barely a mile up the road, in Horsley Woodhouse. The former East Mids Pub of the Year was adjudged runner-up with the RuRad bar continuing to be a big draw.

### Good Beer Guide Meeting

Everyone has their opinions on which pubs should feature in the Good Beer Guide. Amber Valley CAMRA has, therefore, organized a dedicated selection meeting on **Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> February**, starting at 830pm. All Amber Valley CAMRA members are invited to the Thorn Tree, Waingroves to have their say, and a welter of statistical information based on the National Beer Scoring Scheme will underpin our decision-making.

### New Webpage

Amber Valley CAMRA has now got its own dedicated webpage on the Derby CAMRA website

**[www.derbycamra.org.uk/ambervalley](http://www.derbycamra.org.uk/ambervalley)**

This will contain all the latest Amber Valley info, including social details and Branch contacts. If there is anything you would like to see on this page then e-mail the Branch Secretary, Paul Gibson at **[maria.curl@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:maria.curl@hotmail.co.uk)**

#### MINUTES OF THE AMBER VALLEY CAMRA MEETING AT THE OLD OAK, HORSLEY WOODHOUSE ON 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2011

Meeting started at 8.35pm with 17 attendees.

**Apologies for absence** Gus Manning

**Minutes of last meeting** Accepted as a true record.

**Matters arising** Derby branch had agreed to Gus' request for between £50 and £100 for mailing members.

**Committee reports** Chairman, Nathan, said the preparatory work for the second beer festival was going well. Should you have some spare time, please volunteer to work at the Derby winter festival.

Secretary had nothing to report. Social Secretary, Alison, announced that Riddings and Leabrooks would be our surveying destinations on 19<sup>th</sup> February. Alison then displayed a high degree of preparedness by detailing all of the monthly survey trips to the year-end.

These enjoyable evenings were now extremely popular. The membership officer was absent though membership has increased in AV.

**Branch boundaries** Nigel Heathcote opined that the interests of Heanor, Langley Mill and Marlpool, were not being best served at present although there was some concern expressed that, if these towns were ceded to us, we may be stretching our human resources too thinly. Paul to contact the relevant branch to get their view on this matter (action PG). A debate followed regarding the surveying of our pubs and it was suggested that we could augment the monthly bus trips with public transport outings (action AC).



**Pub of the Year** Judges were thanked for visiting the nominated pubs and returning the forms. Presentations would be made on 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> March subject to the licensees' agreement.

**Pub information** Steam Packet, Swanwick shut. Holly Bush, Marehay, new licensee. Bulls Head, Openwoodgate is open again and holding mini festival and hog roast on 4<sup>th</sup> February. Festivals at Pattenmakers 17-20 Feb, George and Dragon 18/19 March, Holly Bush, Makeney 24-27 March, Grapes, Belper 7-10 April. Moss Cottage, Ripley had no real ale. Terry at the Red Lion, Fritchley opening his new weekend real ale bar at the start of April and he sought publicity. Cricketers, Kilburn to be renamed with emphasis on food and real ale. Green Man, Ashbourne to be a Wetherspoon's house. Good reports of the Greyhound, Whitemoor Lane, Belper.

**Future meeting dates** 10<sup>th</sup> Feb festival at Hunter's, Kilburn, 17<sup>th</sup> Feb GBG selection at Thorn Tree, Waingroves, 24<sup>th</sup> Feb branch at King Alfred, Alfreton, 31<sup>st</sup> March branch at Beehive, Ripley, 28<sup>th</sup> April branch at Greyhound, Belper (Andy Pearson to book). All start at 830pm.

**AOB** It was acknowledged that a problem existed with members visiting pubs and not recording their scores on the NBSS system. Nathan to remind bus surveyors to complete AND return/record their scores (action ND). Pete Webb said a short cut could be used whereby "beer scoring" was typed into google search. Gus to mention NBSS on his mail-out (action GM). Richard Makeney had launched a new web page, which will aid pre-festival publicity: [www.derbycamra.org.uk/ambervalley](http://www.derbycamra.org.uk/ambervalley) Alison distributed the scoring statistics for GBG selection. We have to choose 10 pubs on the 17<sup>th</sup> February and, with the quality of our pubs improving, competition is bound to be keen. Minimum selection criteria are 15 surveys on 5 different dates. Alison to approach Derby's Stewart Marshall regarding an update prior to 17<sup>th</sup> February (action AC). Steve at the Beehive, Ripley will sell brand new Blue Monkey brew next weekend. Thanks were due to Paul Eydon for sourcing the excellent Dancing Duck beer, and the Old Oak for the nice spread. Ged Swallow will email Alison in order to join the growing google group. **Meeting closed at 10.05pm**

## Amber Valley Diary

**Thu 10<sup>th</sup> Feb - BEER FESTIVAL MEETING** at Hunters Arms, Kilburn. 8.30pm start.

**Thu 17<sup>th</sup> Feb – GOOD BEER GUIDE SELECTION MEETING** Thorn Tree, Waingroves 8.30pm.

**Sat 19<sup>th</sup> Feb- FREE SURVEY TRIP** to Riddings and Leabrooks. 7.30pm from

Ripley Market place. For Alfreton and Belper pick ups, ring Alison.

**Thu 24<sup>th</sup> Feb – BRANCH MEETING** – King Alfred, High St, Alfreton 8.30pm.

**For all Amber Valley Socials contact Alison Cox on 01773 570675 or [alisonhcox@hotmail.com](mailto:alisonhcox@hotmail.com)**

## Amber Valley Contacts

**Chairman: Nathan Dilley on 01773**

**570675 or [NDilley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:NDilley@hotmail.co.uk)**

**Membership Secretary: Gus**

**Manning on [gusinthepub@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gusinthepub@yahoo.co.uk)**

## Derby Branch Diary

### FEBRUARY

**Wed 9<sup>th</sup> – BRANCH MEETING** – 8pm. Thomas Leaper, Derby.

**Sat 12<sup>th</sup> – Nottingham Caves and Ale** (by public transport). Hosted by our very own Pete Elliott – Can't tell you the itinerary because it's a secret (You could also read into that, that I just don't know!)

Meet at the brewery tap at **12 Noon** and we will catch a Red Arrow to Nottingham.

**Tue 15<sup>th</sup> – WINTER-FEST MEETING** – Alexandra, Derby - 7.30pm.

**Wed 16<sup>th</sup> – GBG SELECTION MEETING** – Falstaff, Derby – 8pm.

**Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> – SUMMER-FEST MEETING** – Smithfield, Derby - 8pm.

**24-26<sup>th</sup> Derby Winter Beer Festival – Roundhouse, Derby.**

**Sat 26<sup>th</sup> – REGIONAL MEETING** – Roundhouse, Derby – 12pm.

**Mon 28<sup>th</sup> – COMMITTEE MEETING** – TBA, Derby - 8pm.

### MARCH

**Thu 3<sup>rd</sup> - Loughborough Beer festival.**

The Polish Club, True Lovers Walk off William Street, Loughborough. [http://www.loughboroughcamra.org.uk/beer\\_festivals.htm](http://www.loughboroughcamra.org.uk/beer_festivals.htm). Suggested timings – Train at 19.18 from Derby Railway Station, return 22.38 or 23.13.

**Sat 5<sup>th</sup> – Winter Festival Thank You Trip – Oxford.** A big thank you to all the festival volunteers, and if you're not too tired from working at the festival we have free coach trip to Oxford the following weekend. A great social occasion.....which is also open to none-workers, places permitting. 'The City of Dreaming Spires', world famous for its University as well as Inspector Morse and punting on the river (not after a couple of beers please!). It is also another great city for beer, with 10 GBG listed pubs including such classics as the Bear Inn (claims to be the oldest pub in Oxford) and the Turf Tavern (winner of the Publican Perfect Pubs award in 2007). The date has been picked to coincide with the 'DERT' that's the Dance England Rapper Tournament (sword dancers). For those that can't

remember, the competition was held in Derby in 2010 and provided us with some excellent entertainment and our local team Stone Monkey also performed for us at the Falstaff POTY award. If that isn't enough to entice you have a look at the following websites as well.

<http://www.dert2011.co.uk/index.html>

<http://oxfordcamra.org.uk/index.php>

<http://www.oxfordcity.co.uk/>

**Now for the boring bits :-**

**Cost;** Free to all festival workers confirmed by the festival staffing manager, (so please make sure you fill in a staffing form). £10 to none workers but priority will be given to workers until Saturday night of the festival. **£5 deposit** will be required from **everyone** to secure a place (refunded on the day to workers). Payment can be made in tokens.

**Time and place;** Meet at the Cathedral Green Coach Stop, Full St, Derby for a 10.30am departure. Return by 11pm. Hope you can make it. Bookings to be made through the Social Secretary.

**Tue 8<sup>th</sup> Ashbourne Shrovetide football.** (mini bus) Contact Les Williams.

**Thu 10<sup>th</sup> – BRANCH MEETING** – 8pm. Alexandra, Derby.

**Thu 17<sup>th</sup> – 32<sup>nd</sup> Burton Beer Festival, Town Hall, Burton.** Whether you are working or socialising, don't forget this excellent festival. I'm sure I don't need to tell how to get to Burton. Regular trains, Trent Villager bus or X38 (X38 only runs late Fri /Sat) - Have a good one!

**Tue 22<sup>nd</sup> – Brewery Tap (Derby's Royal Standard), Derby.** 8.30pm onwards.

**Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> – SUMMER-FEST MEETING** – Smithfield, Derby - 8pm.

**Thu 31<sup>st</sup> – Suburbeer!** A bit of a gimmick maybe, but an idea I would like to try. Often seen as a City Centre based group we need to branch out into our suburbs a little more. As a campaigning and social organisation we owe it to all our branch area's public houses to pay them a visit (or at least those with the potential for some good real ale). Please support these evenings and if you have any suggestions please let me know. **Littleover.**

**White Swan,** Shepherd Street. ~ 8.30 till 9.30pm. **Half Moon,** Burton Road. ~ 9.30 to 10.30pm. Suggested buses are - Trent V3 from the bus station at 8.10 PM return bus 10.30 PM. The Arriva 32/33 will also get you there but not back.

**For all Derby Socials contact Dean Smith on 07703 458623 or [Socials@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Socials@derbycamra.org.uk)**

## Derby Contacts

**Secretary - Ian Forman on 01332 882996 or e-mail: [committee@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:committee@derbycamra.org.uk)**