

Mild & Bitter

Roundhouse Ready to Roll Again

Not sure what to do in February? Why not come to Derby as the 11th Derby Winter Beer Festival promises to be a real treat with 300+ real ales which are new and rare to Derby showcased at The Roundhouse, Pride Park. Changes to improve on the success of the 2011 Festival have seen the range and selection increased to ensure we have lots of real ales and other products (ideally) right up to 11pm on Saturday night. So do NOT worry – there will be plenty. There is a varied selection of real ciders and perries which have been handpicked for your delight & a quintessential selection of continental beer. Some wine and soft drinks will also be available. The entertainment will start about 8pm each evening:

Wednesday – Acoustic - prearranged open mic sessions

Thursday – Merseybeasts & support

Friday – Coldplay Tribute & Supergrass Tribute

Saturday – UK Foo Fighters & support

The Festival is FREE to CAMRA Members at all times

Date	Opening Hours	Admission Price	
Wednesday 15 th February	4pm – 11pm	4pm – 11pm £3	
Thursday 16 th February	11am – 11pm	11am - 4pm £2	4pm - 11pm £4
Friday 17 th February	11am – 11pm	11am - 4pm £3	4pm - 11pm £5
Saturday 18 th February	11am – 11pm	11am - 4pm £3	4pm - 11pm £5

If you are aged 18 to 21 a Young Persons offer on admission price is available – see www.derbycamra.org.uk for more information. Why not work at the Festival as a volunteer? Just complete the staffing form found at www.derbycamra.org.uk – pre-registered staff will receive a free, limited edition Festival Volunteer Staff T-Shirt, sponsored by Derventio brewery. For more Festival information check out and ‘like’ our new Facebook page **Camra Derby Winter Beer Festival 2012**.

Gillian Williams, Derby Winter Festival Chair 2012

Derby Branch Meeting & Social – Wardwick Tavern, Derby Thursday, 9th February

The February Branch Meeting will be held in the historic surroundings of the Wardwick Tavern, Derby, beginning at 8pm. The agenda is printed elsewhere. The building was once integral to Alton’s brewery, most of which was demolished in the 1920s, and the meeting is upstairs in the former board room. It was granted an on licence only as recently as 1969 when it was named after Derby’s oldest thoroughfare. For further branch meeting information **contact the Branch Secretary, Ian Forman on 01332 882996 or email Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk**

Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year

Two pubs that have closed in recent times have bounced back in spectacular fashion to triumph in the **city category** of Derby CAMRA’s Pub of the Year contest. Graham and Janette Browett moved from the Black Swan, Crich, to Derby’s Five Lamps to kick start its revival under Everard’s Project William scheme. In a major turnaround of the pub’s fortunes, the Five Lamps now serves eleven handpulled beers, including many from Derby/shire brewers. The Lamps edged out runner-up, the Alexandra, which has been revived by the industrious Ralf Edge and Anna Dyson who are well known to Derby CAMRA members. In the **country section**, it was a story of two Royal Oaks, with the one at Ockbrook squeezing past Wirksworth’s to win the category. Our congratulations go to Steve Hornbuckle and the family who have run the venerable Oak for the last sixty years. The **overall** Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year is the Five Lamps, and a presentation will be made to Graham and Janette on Thursday, 15th March at 8pm.

GBG Selection Meeting

One of Derby CAMRA’s most important meetings of the year will be the Good Beer Guide selection meeting at the Falstaff, Silverhill Road, on Tuesday, 7th February. The meeting, which starts at 8pm, will be chaired by selection supremo, Stuart Marshall, who will have a wealth of NBSS statistical information at his fingertips. All members are welcome to attend.

Derby Drinker Distributors Required

Head of distribution, Joy Olivent, requires distributors in Derby city centre and 8 pubs from Cromford to Fenny Bentley, so if you can help, please contact Joy on 07766306985.

Urgent – Treasurer Appeal

Amber Valley CAMRA urgently requires a Treasurer in order for the third Ripley Rail Ale Festival to proceed in the last week of September. Should you feel that you would like to volunteer for this important role, then please contact Festival Chairman, Chris Rogers, threecatcider@gmail.com

Middleton by Wirksworth Pub Fighting for its Future

Dave and Lorraine Mountford have raised a 600 strong petition in protest against a huge rental rise being proposed by Punch Taverns who own the Rising Sun, Middleton pub. The savage 78% increase, which would be effective from June, has alarmed the couple, and the locals, who are rallying to the cause. Since taking over in 2007, Dave and Lorraine have done much to involve the local community, and their efforts were recognised by CAMRA when the old inn won a much coveted place in the 2012 Good Beer Guide. We sincerely hope that Punch will reconsider their excessive demand especially when much of the pub trade is struggling with ever rising costs and cheap, supermarket alcohol.

Sub-Branch for Ashbourne?

Following the success of the Amber Valley sub-branch, Derby CAMRA is now seeking to establish a sub-branch in the Ashbourne area. An exploratory meeting will be held at the Smiths Tavern in Ashbourne town centre at 8pm on Thursday, 22nd March. All members are urged to attend, particularly those living in the Ashbourne area.

Pub and Brewery Tours

I was one of a group who thoroughly enjoyed the latest Derby real ale experience. First stop was Mr Grundy's where the brewing process in the gleaming, new vessels (made in Derby), was explained. They're currently brewing 13 firkins a week for this and other outlets. Next stop was the Brunswick and then the Falstaff where the Phoenix was in fine form. Our mini bus then took us across Derby to the Brewery Tap on Derwent Street where a Conwy beer and artisan sausages went down a treat. The tour finished off in the Rowditch and Silk Mill which were up to their customary high standard. Mine Host, Martin Roper, was an informative guide and the evening was enhanced by Martin setting us a written pub/beer quiz. So if you have a birthday or special occasion to celebrate, or just want a good night out, why not give the tour a go. As a CAMRA member you'll be eligible for 10% discount from the £29 charge, which includes transport, brewery tour, a half in each pub and snacks en-route. Groups of up to 16 are catered for. For further information on these Thursday and Saturday evening tours, please email info@realalederby.com or call 01332 340063.

Derby CAMRA Surveys
Contact **Paul Richards** on 07866 375560.

Committee Nominations Required for AGM

It's not long until the April 12th AGM at the Flower Pot, and Derby CAMRA will once again be seeking members to stand for committee positions. So if you want to play a part in determining the future direction of the branch please get in touch with branch Secretary, Ian Forman, whose contact details are at the foot of page 1. A proposer and seconder will be required.

Regional Meeting

Members are invited to attend the next one at the Canal House, Nottingham on Saturday, 3rd March. The meeting starts at noon and CAMRA national Chairman, Colin Valentine, will be present.

Inn Brief

The Smithfield's future looks assured as plans have been revealed for a conservatory fish restaurant to replace the toilet block. Parts of the existing pub are to be retained, with real ales being served when the Smithy reopens in the summer. The New Zealand Arms, Peel Street, which featured in the Good Beer Guide in the late 90s, should soon be the Dancing Duck brewery tap, as once again, Terry Holmes looks to restore the fortunes of a Derby pub. Derventio, the Darley Abbey brewery, is producing a series of Derby County themed beers for the Victoria, Midland Place. Across the road, the beautiful, former Railway Institute building now known as Waterfall has had Pedigree and the super strong Greene King Abbot Reserve on handpump.

Derby Summer Fest 2012

Next meeting:- **Wednesday 7th March**, 8pm at the Alexandra.
If you would like to take part in the organisation of next year's event then please contact the Festival Chairman, **Russ Gilbert** on 07909 967142 or summerbeerfest@derbycamra.org.uk

Mild & Bitter on the Web

Mild & Bitter is now available to view in the Members Area of the Derby Branch Website as well as a number of back copies in case you have mislaid previous editions. You will now have a choice to follow the link in the reminder e-mail straight to the Members Area or download the attachment.

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 For Amber Valley contact, Nathan Dilley, NDilley@hotmail.co.uk

Derby Website now live

Derby CAMRA's new website is now live. www.derbyscamra.org.uk If you have any suggestions for the site then please e-mail the Webmaster, Richard Mackney webmaster@derbycamra.org.uk

George Rennie

The Editor wishes to apologize for wrongly attributing the Derby City Council George Rennie award to a 19thC mechanical engineer. I'm reliably informed that the George Rennie in question was a Council conservation officer, with a particular interest in pub restoration, who sadly died ten or more years ago.

Minutes of Derby CAMRA Branch Meeting at the Alexandra on Thursday, 12th Jan 2012

Apologies. Dean Smith, Joy Olivant, Les Baynton, Carl Brett.

Mins of last meeting. Published in M&B. Mins had read that AR wanted more input about acts at beer festival. Not so. They might offer advice. **Matters Arising.** None.

Officers' Reports - Chair. Our next major event, the Winter Beer Festival was imminent. Annual Beer Census crawl is also coming up, please attend-see M&B for route details. POTY - 14 judges had picked Country winner - Royal Oak at Ockbrook with runner up Royal Oak at Wirksworth. City - Five Lamps winner, with runner up the Alex. Overall winner Five Lamps. We need DD distributor for Alvaston and the City. National Winter Ales Festival next week. CBOB voting is online. Please log your favourites. Motions for National AGM by 27th Jan. Members weekend in Torquay 30th Mar to 1st Apr registration is now live.

Secretary. Proposed Ashbourne sub branch. Meeting to be on 22nd March. Letter being sent to DE6 members.

Treasurer. We need to discuss beer festival accounts at next meeting to smooth over the AGM. Summer 2011 account audited with some funds transferred. Amber Valley monies handed over. Julian will be able to service all the bills now. Expenses needed tonight so he

can do branch accounts.

Beer festivals - Winter 15th-18th Feb.

Posters and flyers

available at meeting. Thurs 26th the keg run to publicise the festival. 7pm from Five Lamps. Volunteers needed. Staffing still needed please volunteer. Only pre registered staff will get free tee shirt. New format for staffing form to ensure efficiency. Take down volunteers needed with staff meal at the Alex as an incentive. Stuart Rayment bar at festival.

Summer.

Russ wished Gillian and winter festival success. Accounts have been audited. New budget to be in this month. Mins of meetings available, next meeting 1st Feb at Alex. Moving forward with AR with a 3yr deal in the offing. Derbyshire wildlife theme and logo. Hall manager needed still. **Campaigning.** Locale and discount schemes progressing nicely. Additions to be emailed to Stewart Marshall please. Mild Month- No movement because Dean has been in the US.

DD. Out shortly - Winter festival focus.

GBG and surveys. ¼ of descriptions complete deadline 22nd Jan. Tues 7th Feb at Falstaff for picking the entries. Tues 31st crawl 7.30 from Traveller's Rest. ABC members will be expected to submit scores. Yahoo group. Google calendar is up and running. See website.

Membership. 43 new members with 23 lapsed. Konrad to write to them.

M&B. Name error in last edition.

Apology to be printed in next issue. Copy date 26th Jan. 114 copies being sent out now with cost for ink, envelopes etc. When signing new members encourage a copy to save work? A discussion ensued. We could use a mail house.

Regional. Next meeting Mar 3rd at the Globe in Nottingham. 12 noon.

Socials. New programme in Dean's absence. Details in M&B.

Sub Branch. Auditor needed for accounts. Treasurer for beer festival needed. POTY- next year Amber Valley to judge our pubs then we judge theirs? Derby committee to investigate. AV pub of the year Hunter Arms Kilburn. Presentation on 27th Feb with dual social with Old Oak first then Hunter Arms.

Website. Facebook site live.

Pub Information. Duke of York now Polish Bar. Bell and Castle up for sale. Malin closed. Don at Derby brewing co has left. Richard, previously at Brunswick, will be returning. Imperial Vaults in Belper closing. Sun, Middleton Street and Victoria on Cowley St closed. Smithfield, sold to builders, and refurbishment imminent with upstairs being redeveloped with views! Caution needed? Derby Telegraph development site? Mitre closure imminent? Osmaston Park Hotel is up for sale.

AOB.

Cordell Jackson, a beer festival stalwart had died. Funeral Weds 18th at the Cathedral. Summer festival sending card.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm.

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

Black Bull's Head to Re-open

Later this month, the Black Bull's Head at Openwoodgate crossroads will re-open with Andy Horsfall and his partner Nicky taking on their first pub. The Edwardian inn was for many years a busy Kimberley house, particularly in the Bamford era of 1954 to 1978, but, like many pubs, it's fallen on hard times of late. It will be free of tie, serving beers that are of interest to the ardent ale drinker, and a micro-brewery is planned for the future. We wish Andy and Nicky every success in their exciting, new venture.

Good Beer Guide Selection Meeting

This year's annual meeting will be at the Holly Bush, Brook Lane, Marehay, Ripley, starting at 8.15pm on Monday, 13th February. All members are invited to attend to enjoy the micro-brewery beers and to air their views regarding our best pubs. A welter of NBSS statistical information will be at our disposal to aid us in our choices.

Pub of the Year Presentations

Make a note in your diary of Monday, 27th February, when Amber Valley CAMRA members will be raising a glass to the branch's Pub of the Year winners. First up is the Old Oak, Horsley Woodhouse, where the framed, runner-up certificate will be presented at 8.30pm. Later on, at 10pm, the Hunter Arms, just down the road in Kilburn village, will be the

recipient of the winner's accolade. It should be a memorable Monday night.

Social Scene

We at Amber Valley CAMRA are a social bunch as can be seen from February's packed calendar on page 4. Please try to attend one or more of these events as we attempt to build on the success we've enjoyed since our inception in September 2008.

Minutes of the Amber Valley CAMRA

Meeting, at the Pear Tree, Ripley 29th

Meeting commenced at 8:40 with 8 attendees. **Apologies for absence:** Bob & Sally Bramson, Jane Wallis, Mark Little, Anne Kennedy **Minutes:** Accepted as a true record **Matters Arising:** Alison has passed the bus driving forms on to Chris Burke. **Officer's Reports:** **Chairman;** Nathan discussed Jane's report on the last Survey trip on 17th December, when the 6 pubs visited had over 30 beers on between them. The recently-opened Holly Bush at Marehay was especially busy, and very good. Jane's list of proposed trips for 2012 has been circulated, but the mini bus company we use wishes to increase the price per trip to £120, a rise of £20. It was suggested that we could charge members a nominal fee to help cover the increased costs, but the decision was that trips should remain free, and Derby CAMRA contacted re price increase. **Secretary:** Trevor confirmed that he had booked the Old Kings Head, Belper for the Branch Meeting on 26th January 2012, and the Wheel, Holbrook for the February 23rd Branch Meeting. **Membership Secretary:** Phil had nothing to report, but mentioned that he had not yet heard from Gus Manning. Regarding the AV section of the Derby CAMRA website, he will email Julian Tubbs, Gareth Stead and Stewart Marshall regarding access. Alison commented that we need to be more prominent on the website, so the sooner Phil is able to gain access the better. **2012 Beer Festival:** The major Committee positions have been filled, with Chris Rogers as Chairman, while Nigel Heathcote will once again be the Deputy Coordinator. Trevor said that he will probably be able to take on the role of Minutes Secretary from February onwards, but is unavailable for the January Meeting, so Alison will take minutes then. Phil, who is responsible for ordering the beer, spoke of the necessity to make as early a start as possible in the role, especially concerning special beers unique to the AV Festival. In particular, smaller breweries need to be approached early so that they can schedule the brewing. Phil felt that he may need some assistance in his role due to possible future work

commitments, and Nora said that she may be able to help. Alison suggested contacting Church End Brewery, as they brew a wide range of one-off special beers using ingredients few other breweries would consider. **Future Meeting Dates:** Trevor had been informed that the licensee of Thorn Tree, Ripley is keen to host an AV Branch Meeting, so it was decided to have the March 29th meeting there. As for the April 26th meeting, Alfreton was suggested as a potential venue, with the Bluebell a possibility. However, as the next survey trip is to Alfreton, it was decided to wait for feedback from it before booking anything. Trevor said that he is open to suggestions for Branch Meeting venues, and would like to work 3/4 months ahead regarding these. He was of the opinion that should a pub open serving excellent beer in the next year, it would be good for the Branch to be in a position to support it by holding a meeting there, an opinion shared by the other attendees. **CAMRA Pub Prices Survey 2012:** Trevor distributed forms, but surveys could be submitted online via the Members Area on CAMRA's website. All 8 attendees agreed to take part in the survey, which needs to be completed between January 16th and February 29th. **AOB:** Paul Gibson has completed the **Beer Festival accounts**, and had them with him. The nett profit, with all bills now paid, is higher than had been expected. Paul also spoke about the **AV page in Nottingham Drinker**, which he has been writing. However, due to other commitments he is no longer able to do this as the ND editor has asked for a different article rather than the same one that appears in Derby Drinker. After asking for a volunteer to take on the role, Trevor said he would write the next article, which needs to be submitted by January 4th, while the Branch will discuss a successor to Paul at a future meeting. Phil said that pub news needs to be included, while Nathan said it should continue to include Branch Diary events such as survey trips, along with contact numbers. Trev's **birthday** crawl of Nottingham is on Saturday February 25th. All are welcome and we're meeting in the Lincolnshire Poacher at 1pm. Paul then discussed the **Pub of the Year** judging, having spoken to Gareth Stead regarding AV coming to a reciprocal arrangement with Derby – they survey our finalists while we survey theirs. Alison commented that this is a good idea as it would mean more people judging, as the 10 judges we had this year are not entirely representative of the 400+ members in the AV Branch area. Nathan felt that more time would be needed, perhaps 2 months, but the judging itself may be fairer as judges would have no preconceived notions of the pubs they

are surveying. Alison said that more time for judging would enable each pub to be surveyed on the same night of the week, ie Saturday. Phil expressed the opinion that adopting such a scheme could pose some problems, but in general the attendees were in agreement with Paul's proposal. Paul then moved on to the **Good Beer Guide Selection Meeting**, which needed to be confirmed. It was decided that the meeting should be held on Monday 13th February from 8:15pm, at the Holly Bush, Marehay, Ripley. TS to book. Alison said regarding GBG selection, she is awaiting data from Stewart Marshall. Paul also said a date and time for the **Pub of the Year presentation** needed to be fixed, and Monday 27th was agreed for this event. Regarding **Pub discounts** for CAMRA members, Alison was unsure whether the George, Ripley still offered one, while the Midland, Ripley and the King Alfred, Alfreton operate a token scheme by which a free pint can be earned by collecting 10 tokens, which are given upon purchase of a pint of beer. Alison also said that **Pete Hounsel may provide us with a special beer**, and will check with him. Paul suggested that perhaps he could brew a special for **St George's Day** in April, and we could stage an AV Branch Social at the Talbot Taphouse, and Mick said he would contact Pete regarding this. Action MW. **Meeting closed 9:50pm**

Amber Valley Diary

FEBRUARY

Thu 9th - Beer festival meeting – Beehive, Peasehill Road, Peasehill, Ripley, 8pm.
Sat 11th – Survey. Free bus trip surveying pubs in Holbrook and Heage. 730pm from Ripley Market Place. For Alfreton and Belper pick-ups, please ring Jane.
Mon 13th – Good Beer Guide selection meeting – Holly Bush, Brook Lane, Marehay, Ripley, 815pm.
Thu 23rd – BRANCH MEETING Wheel, Holbrook, 830pm.
Sat 25th – Trev's Treat – Branch Secretary, Trevor Spencer, is celebrating his birthday in traditional style with a Nottingham pub crawl. Meet in the Lincolnshire Poacher, Mansfield Road between 1 and 2pm.
Mon 27th – Pub of the Year presentations – 830pm, Old Oak, and 10pm, Hunter Arms.

*For all Amber Valley Socials contact
Jane Wallis on 01773 745966*

Amber Valley Contacts

Chairman: Nathan Dilley on 01773 570675

Derby Branch Diary

FEBRUARY

Fri 3rd – ABC crawls. See page 1 of Mild and Bitter edition 431.

Tues 7th – GBG selection meeting, Falstaff, Derby, 8pm.

Thu 9th – BRANCH MEETING – Wardwick Tavern, Derby. 8pm start.

Wed 15th – Sat 18th WINTER BEER FESTIVAL – Roundhouse, Pride Park. 320 beers.

MARCH

Wed 7th – Summer Fest meeting – Alexandra, 8pm.

Thu 8th – BRANCH MEETING – Station Inn, Midland Road, Derby.

Thu 15th – Pub of the Year presentation, 5 Lamps, Derby. From 8pm.

*For all Derby Socials contact
Socials@derbycamra.org.uk*

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DERBY - Ian Forman on 01332 882996

DERBY COMMITTEE

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M&B- PLEASE NOTE

Please tell me if you:

- ♦ Don't want to get M&B
 - ♦ Don't want other stuff from Derby CAMRA
 - ♦ Expected M&B but it did not arrive
 - ♦ Change your email or postal address
- Also tell HQ if you change address. The M&B database is kept on my home PC and is entirely separate from the CAMRA membership database.

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**Mild & Bitter – (C) 2011 - Derby & Amber Valley CAMRA
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