

Mild & Bitter

Keeping Derby CAMRA drinkers informed since 1975

Rising Attendance Trend Continues

What an excellent year it has been for Derby City Charter Beer Festival! The event saw a total of 28696 pints of ale, Cider and Continental drinks sold. A terrific total of 142 new members signed up to CAMRA and, though not a record, it represented a considerable achievement by Konrad Machej, Gus and the membership team. It was the busiest EVER Saturday lunch time with 2035 visitors through the door! Total attendance was 9684, an increase of 11% on last year's attendance which in turn was higher than the 2010 figure, so it's possible to discern an upward trend in attendance. There were a few hiccups which will be addressed by the 2013 committee, and owing to the festival's popularity all the ale in the Darwin suite was sold out by Saturday tea time! Commemorative glasses sold out on Saturday lunch and there was a mad dash to get more hire glasses for the evening session. An expert panel of judges chose the East Midland Champion Beers as follows: Gold-Thornbridge, Jaipur. Silver-Great Oakley, Marching In. Bronze-Brunswick, Black Sabbath. Local charities, including Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, were thrilled to receive donations in excess of £3,500. **A huge thank you goes out to the 250 volunteers** who worked tirelessly to turn the festival into a huge success, and next year the committee will really have their work cut out with the increasing number of visitors!

Carla Johnson

Wrap-up Meeting

This will be on Wednesday, 15 August, 8pm at the Alexandra on Siddals Road, Derby, and all are welcome to attend. We would ask those who wish to comment to answer these questions: What went well for you? What didn't go well you? What ONE thing would you change? Please send comments to summersecretaryderbycamra@gmail.com no later than Sunday 12 August.

Thank you, Janie Marshall

Derby CAMRA Extraordinary General Meeting

July's EGM was postponed and it will now be at the Crown and Cushion, London Road, Derby, on Thursday, 9th August, starting at 8pm. This is to present the Branch & Beer Festival Accounts and Auditors Reports, as well as appointing new auditors for the forthcoming year. The EGM will be followed by a shortened Branch Meeting. Ian and Heather Smith are looking forward to meeting Derby CAMRA members who will benefit from a discount upon production of their membership cards. The Crown and Cushion is also a good place to eat, as evinced by the recent award of a five star hygiene assessment by Derby City Council food safety officers. For further information **contact the branch Secretary, Ian Forman on 01332 882996 or email secretary@derbycamra.org.uk**

2013 City Charter Festival Chairman Required

The dust has only just settled on this summer's festival but Derby CAMRA is already seeking a volunteer for this important role, so if you're interested, please **contact the branch Secretary, Ian Forman, on 01332 882996 or email secretary@derbycamra.org.uk** by Monday, 3rd September.

Second Winter Festival Meeting

A minutes Secretary, glasses manager and assistant publicity officer are required for the next winter festival, so please contact Gillian Williams if any of these positions appeal to you. The second winter 2013 meeting is on **Thursday, 6th September** at the Brunswick, Railway Terrace, Derby, starting at 8pm. The first meeting in July was well attended and very constructive. Gillian can be contacted on gillian.williams1@yahoo.co.uk or 07847 504074.

Ashbourne Update

Branch meetings in Ashbourne starting at 8pm: **Tuesday, 31st July**, Wheel, Dig Street. **Tuesday, 28th August**, George and Dragon, Market Place.

Copy Deadline Date

The copy deadline date for the next edition of Mild and Bitter is **Tuesday, 28th August**. Word document format please to maria.curl@hotmail.co.uk

Please Sign the Beer Tax e-Petition

If you haven't already done so, please sign the online e-petition today: www.camra.org.uk/saveyourpint. We need 100,000 signatures to trigger a high profile Parliamentary debate and pressure the Government ahead of Budget 2013. **Scrap the beer duty escalator!**

Local Coach to GBBF

On Friday 10th and Saturday 11th August, a coach will depart at 935am from bay X3, Full Street, to the Great British Beer Festival in the capital. Fares are £38 including £8 entry ticket or £34 for travel only. For more information please visit ticketandtravel.com or ring 01273 252488.

Micro Pub Gets Green Light

Scotsman, Walter Scott, has, after Derby Council received an equal number of objections and letters of support, been given the go ahead to proceed with his plans for a micro pub in the former cleaners at Chester Green. Majoring on real ale, the tiny pub will open Thursday to Sunday, closing at 10pm. With the Clarence and Coach nearby, and the Furnace just across the river, this attractive corner of Derby will have all the makings of a good pub crawl.

New Beer Guide

Ecclesbourne Valley Railway, in conjunction with Derby CAMRA, has produced a guide to real ale pubs in Duffield and Wirksworth, and stops en-route. Go to

www.destinationwirksworth.co.uk

May Mild Month Awards

Derby's promotion saw the Alexandra, Siddals Road nominated as the winner for the pub serving the best kept mild. In Amber Valley, the Beehive, Peasehill, Ripley, was accorded best mild pub status. The Beehive's Honey Pot dedicated real ale bar will open lunchtimes and evenings from 4th August. Falstaff's Brian May was voted the best mild in the Derby area, and Holdens Black Country Mild, the best in Amber Valley. Congratulations to all concerned.

Festival Reward Outing

Those of you who worked at the Assembly Rooms beer festival can look forward to a free excursion to the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway beer festival on 27th October. Should be a cracker with a 51 seater bus complete with toilet booked.

Ian Forman

Our esteemed branch Secretary, Ian Forman, has broken his leg after slipping over during the July monsoon and we wish Ian a speedy recovery. Pubs in the Kilburn area may have experienced a drop in trade as a consequence.

Potfest Beer Festival

The popular King Street freehouse, the Flower Pot, is staging a 40 brew festival between 23rd and 26th August. The red and white rose counties of Lancashire and Yorkshire will feature alongside new beers from this county. It goes without saying that there will be musical accompaniment and the "Pot" has benefitted from improvements to its garden, together with Himalayan Gurkha curry nights on Tuesday evenings between 7 and 9pm.

Regional Director Required

Have you ever fancied taking on the role of Regional Director? If you have then this could be the opportunity you've been waiting for. For further information please get in touch with Julian Tubbs rd.eastmidlands@camra.org.uk Closing date for applications is September 9th.

Beer Festivals

Flower Pot, King Street, 23rd to 26th August. **White Hart**, Derby Road, Stanley Village, 24th and 25th Aug. **Peacock**, Old Nottingham Road, 31st August to 2nd September.

Beer Scoring

One of Derby branch's campaigning goals is to garner a greater number of score surveys for our rural, out of the way pubs. To this end please go to www.beerscoring.org.uk where you'll easily be able to register your score. It's important to be aware of the beer quality of all of our pubs for Good Beer Guide selection. Thank you.

Derby Cask Pubs Map

Derby CAMRA is designing a Real Ale Pubs Map and we require your help. If you have any current pub photos or are able to take any then please e-mail them to

photos@derbycamra.org.uk

Mild & Bitter on the Web

Mild & Bitter is now available to view in the Members' Area of the award winning 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.derbycamra.org.uk If you have any suggestions for the site then please e-mail the Webmaster, Richard Mackney webmaster@derbycamra.org.uk

Minutes of Derby CAMRA

Branch Meeting, at the Thomas Leaper, Derby on Wednesday, 4th July

Present: 23 attendees at start. GS opened the meeting at 8:20pm. **Apologies:** Ian Forman (Konrad deputised for Secretary).

(Apologies received after the meeting from Kevin Hepworth.) **Minutes:** Agreed.

There were no matters arising. **Chairman Report:** The meeting was sorry to hear that IF had a broken leg; the EGM scheduled for today was postponed; members should sign the e-petition against the beer tax escalator (it will be available at the Festival); CAMRA raffle in support of Pub is the Hub; members are encouraged to go to the GBBF.

Treasurer: JT apologised that the accounts were not yet ready; £7k had been received from the Winter Festival, part spent on printers bills and financing DD.

Charter Festival: Russ Gilbert (RG) asked for more staff - long discussion on lack of activism in Branch - neighbouring branches to be approached - **action Paul Gibson (PG) (Amber Valley), Jok Arguile (JA) (Burton);** help required to collect dishwasher from Nottingham; support for Carla needed for publicity event on Saturday; fliers and posters available; festival featured on *What's Brewing* front page; beer list on website.

JA has arranged festival T-shirt. Dean Smith (DS) reported that thank-you trip will be to the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway on 27 Oct. In 2013, RG losing three key members of festival team, Assembly Rooms to have temporary marquee in Market Place during renovations. **Winter Festival:** Gillian Williams reported that 2012 Winter Festival draft accounts prepared; first meeting for 2013 festival on 19 July, Brunswick; vacancies for Secretary and Hall Manager (Martyn Reek to be Deputy Hall Manager). **Campaigning Goals:**

Pub Map of Derby: GS said map should be ready for Winter Festival; Steve Crispin (SC) is in charge, and would like photos of pubs sent to photos@derbycamra.org.uk; **Mild Month:** DS reported that 35 pubs took part this year, serving 44 milds. 12 votes received; best pub was the Alexandra, and the best mild was Falstaff Brian May - certificates for Festival trade session ordered. GS proposed thanks to DS, observing that we can make improvements next year but the campaign had been a great success; **Out of Town Pub Surveys:** Stewart Marshall is preparing proposals; **CAMRA Discount Scheme and LocAle:** both campaigns progressing well. **Derby Drinker:** GS apologised for mix-up in Festival poster distribution with last issue.

JA observed that time-sensitive adverts should not be accepted unless publication on time is guaranteed; GS agreed but added that under those circumstances no fee was collected for the advert. Quotes from other printers being collected, and Colourstream is being consulted. 20 July deadline for next issue. **Membership:** KM reported that 36 letters were sent this month, of which 15 were to lapsed members; dispensers and a new leaflet about CAMRA volunteers available; more help needed on the Membership Desk at the Festival. **M&B:** PG reported 25 July

as deadline for next issue. **Pubs Officer:** SC reported that the Foresters in Scropton faced potential closure and needed support. It was noted that CAMRA cannot save a pub from closure, but can help, for instance by offering publicity through the Yahoo group. Scropton in Branch area? *(KM subsequently checked - it is.)*

Regional Meeting: JT - next Regional Meeting at Highcross, Leicester, on 8 Sept. **Social Secretary:** DS reported that 36 attended Dancing Duck Brewery, and hoped to run one weekend social per month; DS organising surveys within social calendar. **Amber Valley:** PG said festival preparations going well. KM mentioned recent AmbeRamble to Amber Ales Brewery. **Ashbourne & District:** no report from last meeting; no response to requests for news and information. JT said Branch Committee should send representative to A&D meetings.

Information Exchange: Ram closed again; Aston-on-Trent White Hart licensee left after dispute with Marstons (communication between CAMRA and Marstons Brewing Division is good, but not so good with Pub Division); Smithfield may not re-open as a pub; Alderwasley Bear bought by Keith Clark who wants to restore its reputation; Derby Brewing Company buying Kedleston Hotel; Pump Hill Brewery at Shirland ready to brew; Wetherspoons purchase of Park Farm is less certain due to asbestos problem; Heage White Hart has uncertain future; micro-pub in Chester Green awaiting permission following mixed responses to consultation; beer festival at Elton at end of the month including camping facility; beer festival at Little Eaton Queens Head. **AOB:** GS repeated request for Summer Festival volunteers. **Meeting closed at 10:05pm.**

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-Branched, Tasting Panel, Transport, Website. 6. Information exchange - Pub, Brewery, etc 7. Any other business.

Amber Valley CAMRA

Pear Tree Problems?

As M&B went to press, disturbing news was reaching the Editor regarding Greene King's superb Ripley pub, the Pear Tree. Long serving licensees, Simon and Annie, are understood to have had an unreasonable rent demand that could result in a ruinous 50p a pint increase on their impeccable Abbot Ale. Amber Valley CAMRA has been alerted to this unwelcome development.

Belper Sell Out

The Derby City Charter Festival wasn't the only festival where demand outstripped supply, as on Sunday 15th July I visited the Belper Food and Beer Festival, arriving at the Cross Keys late on, only to be told that there was just one beer left in the outhouse (the pub had been drunk dry of draught ale). Fortunately, however, Wyre Piddle, Piddle in the Hole, was in great nick, a 3.9% brew fulsome in flavour and body.

Inn Brief

The **Swan and Salmon**, Alfreton, has been renamed the **Ashwood Inn**. The **Waggon and Horses** in the same town continues to showcase some cracking small breweries on a regular basis. Also in Alfreton, David Ashley Developments is lodging a planning application with Amber Valley Borough Council, which, if successful, could see the **White Hart** on Inns Lane reopen. The **Codnor Inn**, Jessop Street, Codnor, always has Bradfield, Gundog and Heanor brewed Coppice Side beers available. The **Railway**, Peasehill, Ripley is for sale at 145k. The nearby **Beehive** will have opened the Honey Pot real ale bar in an out building by the time Derby Drinker is published. It's understood that it will open lunchtime and evening. Trust Inns is seeking a new licensee for the Good Beer Guide listed **Horse and Jockey**, Somercotes, following the death of licensee, Ken Hallsworth. Let's hope the multi-roomed interior is preserved. **Hop Inn**, Openwoodgate is closed and the Steampacket, Swanwick is for sale. The beautifully refurbished **White Hart**, Bargate, now has five cask beers. The **Thorn Tree**, Waingroves, Ripley, has gained LocAle accreditation. The **Strutt Club**, Belper, has three guests from micro-breweries in addition to Pedigree.

Ripley Rail Ale Festival

This year's festival at Butterley Station between 27 and 30th September, should have, in addition to special festival brews, some newer breweries that will be unfamiliar to many, including Hop Fuzz, the Kentish brewer. Chilli Pepper Events will be the main caterer and they come with many commendations. Steam trains will be running during Saturday and Sunday daytime. **Staffing** If you are able to spare some time in helping us to staff the event, our staffing Officer, Phil Marshall, would like to hear from you. Please contact Phil at avbstaffing@gmail.com or 'phone/text Phil 07828 197795. **Advance tickets** for Friday and Saturday evenings are available from: Butterley Station, Talbot Taphouse, Hunter Arms, Victoria, Alfreton, and main sponsors, the Black Bulls Head, Openwoodgate. Online ticket purchases may be made with credit/debit cards www.midlandrailwaycentre.co.uk Alternatively, telephone 01773 570140.

Minutes of Meeting, Cross

Keys, Belper, June 28th

The meeting commenced at 8:35pm, with 12 members. **Apologies:** Nathan Dille, Alison Cox, Bob & Sally Bramson, Nigel Heathcote, Anne Kennedy, Mark Little **Minutes of last meeting:** Accepted as a true record **Matters arising:** None **Officers reports:** **Chairman** on holiday. **Social Secretary** - Jane distributed a copy of her report, informing members of the results of the Belper walking survey on June 4th. 9 pubs surveyed by 5 members. Beer quality generally good, with wide selection of Ales available, particularly at the George & Dragon and the Black Bulls Head. 13 on bus survey on 16th June including two on their first survey trip. 17 different beers were on offer, plus 14 and 3 ciders at the Strutt Festival, Belper-excellent, hopefully the first of many. Amber Ramble on June 30th and the walking survey/Beer Festival poster distribution is on July 7th, and Jane requested that future submissions to ND and DD be checked as there had been some inaccuracies. Paul commented that submissions to both magazines are made well in advance of publication. **Membership Secretary** - Phil reported 10 new members, with 7 lapses, 4 transferred in and 0 transferred out in the last month, and that a card had been sent to Richard Lomas's widow following his sad death. Website progressing. **Secretary** - Trevor ordering GBGs late July, and New Inn, Riddings booked for August Branch Meeting. **Beer Festival:** Phil said everything is in hand, with beer list virtually done, flooring and wristbands being dealt with and posters available. Muirhouse Brewery had mentioned the possibility of a brew day about 5 weeks before the Festival for members to brew a festival special ale. There are still cellar positions to fill, but Phil has sufficient support on the staffing team. Jane said catering sorted out, and Paul said that he had booked a half page Festival advertisement in DD, and that he has invited the Mayor of Amber Valley to the reception at the Black Bulls Head, Openwoodgate, on September 10th. Paul writing a Festival article for DD, and Trevor had done one for ND. **Mild Month 2012:** Trevor said that 13 pubs serving 33 different milds was a testament to the success of AV's first foray into Mild Month. Having received much positive feedback, he felt that AV could build on this year's success, with possibly 15+ pubs next year. May be a rethink on how crawls are arranged if more pubs take part as 13 pubs proved a challenge this year! **AOB:** The Swan and Salmon (Alfreton) has been renamed the Ashwood Inn. The Steampacket (Swanwick) which has had no real ale recently, is up for sale, while the Horse and Jockey (Leabrooks), whose landlord passed away, has a Trust Inns "to let" sign. The Hop Inn (Openwoodgate) is closed, and the George & Dragon (Belper)

has a Summer Solstice Beer Festival starting 29th June. The White Hart (Heage) is unlikely to reopen- change of use? Jane asked that future Branch Meetings be held in quieter areas as the Keys had been full with music playing in one room and football fans in the other. Trevor said this was unforeseen when the venue was fixed, and said that the next venue, the Beehive, had a separate room. In future he would try and ensure more privacy for meetings. Phil spoke of the Annual Beer Census, and it was agreed that this needed to take place after the Beer Festival, in October, on a date to be arranged. **Meeting closed at 9:15pm**

Ashbourne CAMRA

Minutes of Meeting at

Smiths Tavern on 26th June

5 members present. Due to unforeseen circumstances the meeting was moved from the planned venue at The Horns in Ashbourne to the Smiths Tavern.

Chairman's Report The Chairman gave a short report from the May meeting held in Wirksworth. The meeting had been held to publicise the sub-Branch to CAMRA members living in Wirksworth. Officers from the Derby Branch had attended. As there was little interest from Wirksworth members, it was agreed that this area would remain with Derby Branch. The inclusion of the DE6 3 area in the Ashbourne sub-Branch catchment had not been resolved. **Appointment of Officers** Keith Palmer agreed to act as Social Secretary. Pat Laughlin will continue to act as Secretary. **Actions from the 26 June Meeting:** Agreed that the Branch should extend its remit from 'Social' to include 'Campaigning'. Members to attend Derby Branch meeting on 4 July to seek resolution to DE6 3 issue. **Action: DL** As the 'ownership' of DE6 3 is still uncertain the Secretary to write to Derby Branch asking for their intended actions to support pubs in Brailsford, Ednaston and Hullan Ward all of which face uncertain futures. **Action: PL** Meetings would continue to be held on the **last Tuesday of every month** at a venue in Ashbourne. Full members list for the Branch to be prepared and all notified of meetings and events. **Action: DL/PL** All pubs in catchment area would be visited. Branch to aim to achieve at least **one** listing for the area in the GBG. Branch would plan to hold two trips per month; one evening and one weekend. The weekend event to be focused on a local market town. Initially the level of interest would be tested with a weekend event. The Group would use Ashbourne Community Transport. As the Derby CAMRA Beer Festival is held in July the July trip will be to the Derby Beer

Festival. Ashbourne should begin to plan for an annual Beer Festival. CAMRA recommends a 6-month planning period. The following considered: Timings - Easter to link to Shrovetide or mid-Autumn. Venue: Town Hall. Links to a Ceilidh or Folk Event and/or Local Produce market. Engagement with local shops and pubs. Discussions to be held with Town Council to gain support. **Action: PL** Monies raised for charity-further discussion with members at next Branch meeting. **Diary: Thursday 12 July** Derby Beer Festival 1900 from Smiths Tavern. Return 2200h **Saturday 4 August** Buxton & A515 Venues (Duke of York, Jug & Glass, Sycamore at Parwich, Coach & Horses in Fenny Bentley) 1400h from Smiths Tavern. Return 2030h Open to Members and Non-Members. **Transport-Action: KP** Posters-**Action DL** Derby Drinker-**Action: PL** *Next Branch Meetings:* **Tuesday 31 July**, The Wheel, 8pm **Tuesday 28 August**, George & Dragon, 8pm. Chairman to arrange. **Action: DL** Marketing & Publicity The formation of the Branch and its planned events will be publicised through: The Ashbourne News Telegraph **Action: DL** Ashbourne Radio **Action MG**

Amber Valley Diary

AUGUST

Thu 16th - Beer festival meeting – Marquis of Ormonde, Codnor-Denby Lane, Codnor. 8pm start.

Sat 18th - Free survey trip – Shottle, Turnditch, Windley, Belper. 730pm from Ripley Market Place. For Alfreton and Belper pick-ups, please ring Jane.

Thu 30th – BRANCH MEETING – New Inn, Riddings. 830pm start.

For all Amber Valley Socials contact Jane Wallis on 01773 745966

Amber Valley Contacts

Chairman: Nathan Dille on 01773 570675

Ashbourne Diary

JULY

Tues 31st – BRANCH MEETING, Wheel, Ashbourne. 8pm.

AUGUST

Tues 28th – BRANCH MEETING, George and Dragon, Ashbourne. 8pm.

Ashbourne Contact

Interim Chairman, Dave Leigh, on 01335 300809 or daveleigh707@hotmail.com

Derby Branch Diary

AUGUST

Thu 2nd – Social, Furnace Inn, Duke Street, 9pm.

Thu 9th – EGM, Crown and Cushion, London/Midland Roads. 8pm.

Sat 11th – Survey by free mini bus, Brassington, Carsington area. Bus leaves

Cathedral Green 630pm (note earlier start). Names to Dean to secure place.

Wed 15th – Charter Festival wrap up meeting, Alexandra Hotel. 8pm. This will include a presentation of the Derby Branch Best Pub during Mild Month Award.

Thu 23rd – Social, Flower Pot beer festival. 9pm.

Fri 31st – Survey by free mini bus, Willington, Findern, Stenson area. Bus leaves Cathedral Green at 730pm. Names to Dean to secure place.

SEPTEMBER

Thu 6th – Winter festival meeting, Brunswick, 8pm.

Thu 13th – BRANCH MEETING, Harpurs, Melbourne. 8pm. Coach provided.

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

Derby Contacts

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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.

Tim Williams, 01332 381358

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Mild & Bitter – (C) 2012 – Derby, Ashbourne & Amber Valley CAMRA

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