

Mild & Bitter

Keeping Derby CAMRA drinkers informed since 1975

Stand Up and Be Counted

Wednesday, 12th December is the day that **you** can make the difference. I refer, of course, to the mass lobby of Parliament, where it is CAMRA's aim to make our elected representatives aware of the damaging effects of the wretched beer duty escalator. CAMRA is inviting everyone to join in on this momentous day and it is a rare opportunity to see inside the Palace of Westminster and to see how it works. It really is impressive! So what can you do? Register with CAMRA at www.saveyourpintlobby.co.uk or phone 01727 798 447 and arrange a meeting with your MP on 12th December. After an initial meeting at the Emmanuel Centre in Westminster, we take the short walk to Parliament. CAMRA is coordinating attendance as there are restrictions as to the number of people who can be in Parliament's lobby area at any one time. If you are planning to attend, please ensure you register on the CAMRA website and mail your MP for an appointment. Watch the list server for details of the bus or contact Stafford Burt stafford.burt@oracle.com For our area, the timings are: arrive at Emmanuel Centre between 11am and noon. Then meet with your MP between 1230pm and 130pm. Afterwards, there will be a debrief, and then a rally at 4pm accompanied by some beer courtesy of Fuller's, Shepherd Neame and Wychwood. **This is a major opportunity to change beer tax.** The latest attack on drinking comes from Alcohol Concern which is imploring us to have a Dry January. Perhaps Alcohol Concern could inform us of its estimation of the Treasury's tax shortfall should we answer their call for total abstinence in January, and which tax should rise to compensate.

Situations Vacant

Derby CAMRA currently has four very important positions that require filling, preferably sooner rather than later. So if you feel you can help, please don't hesitate to get in touch as we need to ensure the smooth running of our flagship beer festivals and fine newsletter. Steve Webster deserves great credit for redesigning **Derby Drinker**, making it an attractive, eye catching magazine. Unfortunately, however, Steve's work and family commitments mean he can no longer devote his time to DD. If you have graphic design skills which you could utilise from home without needing to attend CAMRA meetings, please contact Gareth Stead derbydrinker@derbycamra.org.uk **Publicity officers** are required for both of next year's festivals. These positions aren't particularly time consuming but necessitate liaising with the media and issuing well written press releases. Festival publicity, of course, largely dictates admission numbers. For February's festival please contact Gillian Williams **07847 504074** or gillian.williams1@yahoo.co.uk For the summer festival please contact Julian Tubbs tubbspubs@gmail.com A **Treasurer** is also required for the summer festival, someone who doesn't have to have professional qualifications, but an aptitude for figures is essential and familiarity with book keeping is desirable. Again, please contact Julian Tubbs, above, for further information.

Derby CAMRA Branch Meeting, Horse and Groom, Thursday, 6th December

Adam and Sarah Adkin of the Horse and Groom, Elm Street, look forward to meeting Derby CAMRA members at the branch meeting starting at 8pm on **Thursday, 6th December**. Further information from the **Branch Secretary, Ian Forman, on 01332 882996 or email**

secretary@derbycamra.org.uk

Christmas Show, Flowerpot, Thursday, 13th December

Have you ever wondered what it would be like if Derby CAMRA staged the Olympics? Well this is one of the many things you can find out at the Christmas Social, when our very own University of Spondon Footlights Club will be performing their comedy sketch show. It's a beer-related slant on life with no sacred cows left unturned. If you've not been before, you'll wish you had. **Tickets are available from Ian Forman on 01332 882996 or** secretary@derbycamra.org.uk for £7.00, which includes a sumptuous buffet. But don't delay!

Winter Festival Staffing

A form is attached for those wishing to work at February's festival.

Ashbourne Beer Festival

The inaugural Ashbourne CAMRA beer festival will be held at the Town Hall between 22nd and 24th March.

The Lucky Seven

The seven finalists in the Pub of the Year competition are: City-Alexandra, Exeter, Five Lamps, Furnace, Country-Pattenmakers, Duffield and the Royal Oaks of Wirksworth and Ockbrook. Winners and Runners-up will be announced in January.

An Apology

Derby CAMRA wishes to apologise to anyone who was misled by the advertisement in the current Derby Drinker which stated, incorrectly, the old, lower membership rates, and not the new, higher ones.

Derby CAMRA Good Beer Guide 2014 Candidate Pubs

Forty candidate pubs for GBG 2014 have been chosen using data from surveys submitted by CAMRA members over the last 12 months. From these candidates, 25 will be selected to represent the Derby Branch in the next edition of the GBG. From now until the end of January, it is your chance help make sure the right pubs are chosen by visiting and submitting beer quality scores for these candidates at <http://www.beerscoring.org.uk>.

Volunteers are required to write GBG descriptions for these candidates. To volunteer, email beersurvey@derbycamra.org.uk with a list of the pubs you wish to volunteer to write the GBG description for. All you need apart from being able to visit a pub is: internet access, email, Microsoft Word and a printer. A list of volunteers and description status will be maintained at <http://tinyurl.com/derbycamragbg>.

Stewart Marshall, GBG coordinator

1. Alexandra Hotel, Derby
2. Babington Arms, Derby
3. Barley Mow Inn, Kirk Ireton
4. Bell, Smalley
5. Black Cow, Dalbury Lees
6. Blue Bell Inn, Melbourne
7. Brewery Tap – Derby's Royal Standard, Derby
8. Brunswick Inn, Derby
9. Coach & Horses, Derby
10. Coopers Arms, Weston-on-Trent
11. Dragon, Willington
12. Exeter Arms, Derby
13. Falstaff Tavern, Derby
14. Five Lamps, Derby
15. Flowerpot, Derby
16. Furnace Inn, Derby
17. Green Man, Willington
18. Harrington Arms, Thulston
19. Horse & Groom, Derby
20. Markeaton, Derby
21. Miner's Arms, Brassington
22. Mr Grundy's Tavern, Derby
23. Nelson Arms, Middleton
24. New Zealand Arms, Derby
25. Old Silk Mill, Derby
26. Olde Dolphin Inne, Derby
27. Olde Gate Inne, Brassington
28. Olde Spa Inne, Derby
29. Pattenmakers Arms, Duffield
30. Peacock Inn, Derby
31. Queen's Head, Little Eaton
32. Rose & Crown, Boylestone
33. Rowditch Inn, Derby
34. Royal Oak, Ockbrook
35. Royal Oak, Wirksworth
36. Spread Eagle, Etwell
37. Station Inn, Derby
38. Swan Inn, Milton
39. Thomas Leaper, Derby
40. White Post, Stanley Common

Motion for Debate

The following motion, proposed by Steve Crispin and seconded by Adrian Howell, will be discussed at the Horse and Groom branch meeting: Derby CAMRA members believe the budget proposed by the scrutinisers will reduce the commercial viability of the Winter Festival 2013. A Branch loan of £4000 will support the heated marquee entertainment plan, thus increasing year on year attendance and allow the Roundhouse and Carriage Room to accommodate the expanding beer and cider sales demand.

2013 City Charter Festival

The next meetings for the planning of next summer's festival are: **28th November and 2nd January** – at the Alexandra and Brewery Tap (Royal Standard) respectively, at 8pm. Please contact Chairman, Russel Gilbert, for further information russgilbert@o2.co.uk **Please note that the festival, 10th to 14th July, will be at the Assembly Rooms and in a marquee on the Market Place.**

Winter Fest Meetings

The next winter 2013 meeting is on **Thursday, 29th November** at the Brunswick, Railway Terrace, Derby, starting at 8pm. Staffing forms will be available from November's branch meeting onwards. Gillian can be contacted on 07847 504074 or gillian.williams1@yahoo.co.uk

Farewell Perry

M+B understands that the Crompton Tavern, Crompton Street, is to be de-licensed and converted into a private dwelling. Licensee, Perry Bailey's 22 year tenure included Good Beer Guide recognition and we wish Perry well as he calls time on serving the Derby public.

Last Tango in Ticknall

Survey trips are a bit like buses, there aren't any for a while, then three come in quick succession; or at least that's how it seems. Always enjoyable, the Western Boundary survey, aka Out of Town Pedigree Drinkers' Treat, saw us in territory that's difficult to access by public transport. The south Derbyshire trip took in Ticknall, Milton and Repton. The latter's Bulls Head was probably the pick of the bunch, beer wise, with two good Tower beers on offer in a packed pub reminiscent of the old days. It's been good to see John Kearney, Rob Gilvary and Gibbo, campaigners from the branch's formative years, together with some newer members.

CAMRA Launch What Pub

CAMRA has launched a new, national pub site which you can review and update yourself. Visit whatpub.com and log in with either the same details you use to visit the members' area of CAMRA's national website or, if you have not visited the Members' area of CAMRA's national website before, try your CAMRA

membership number and postcode when you joined the campaign (upper case, no space).

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.

Minutes of the Derby CAMRA Branch Meeting held at the Station Inn on 8th November 2012

Apologies. Stewart Marshall, Janie Marshall, Julian Tubbs, Gillian Williams, Mark Grist, Steve Crispin.

Minutes of last meeting. Accepted as a true record. **Matters arising.** None.

Chairman. Poty forms had been distributed for vote tonight. From the long list of pubs, a short list to be announced at end of meeting. Judges for full completion needed. Result in January. Parliamentary beer duty escalator debate backed a review before budget 2013. Pressure still needed. Please attend mass rally lobbying MPs on 12th Dec. Please nominate pubs for National cider pub of the year 2013-closing date 20th Jan. 23-26 Jan is the last winter ale festival in Manchester. 13th-17th Aug GBBF at Olympia again. Norwich members weekend on 19th-21st April. Our branch will self nominate us for membership award. New site What pub is online for members and ready for use. David Crofts has responded to pleas for branch auditor. Malcolm Kay who ran stalls at our festivals had sadly died on way home from Notts beer festival. Donations to national autistic society.

Secretary. Tickets for the University of Spondon Footlights Club Christmas show at the Flowerpot on Thurs 13th Dec on sale at £7 with buffet. **Treasurer.** Not at meeting and no report. John Arguile asked for financial summary in subsequent reports. **Winter Festival.** Chairman & Treasurer at budget scrutineer meeting tonight. They are waiting for budget approval. Publicity manager needed. Festival will be bigger and better so needing more volunteers. Staffing forms available and online. **City Charter Beer Festival.** Have started meetings. Need a treasurer and Publicity officer. Next meeting 28th November at Alexandra, Siddals Road. Looking at alternative venues. Massive Marquee? Mark Fletcher is secretary. Ask for minutes if you want them. Jok Arguile asked about the lack of treasurer having an impact on whether we

run a festival. Russell Gilbert thanked Dean Smith for his efforts in organising the beer festival thank you trip to Keighley. **Campaigning.** Pub map being compiled. Out of town surveys-progressing. Mild month- early preparations. **DD.** Had been late owing to new printer. We made a nett saving despite some out of date adverts. New printer may not be used again owing to many problems and we will look at options. Steve Webster will be stepping down as designer owing to work and family commitments so we will need someone else to take on the role, advert in Mild and Bitter. Branch thanked Steve Webster for all of his efforts. John Arguile asked a series of logistical questions regarding Derby Drinker. Derby Drinker stands available at meeting. Derby Drinker membership application form has the wrong rates. **GBG and Surveys.** Stewart Marshall not at meeting. Volunteers needed for Good Beer Guide descriptions. Same list as the long Pub Of The Year list. Concerns about high numbers of 5 scores being recorded onto NBSS, so is it being manipulated? Whole pub scores being recorded. Gareth Stead said 5 scores would be looked at carefully by Stewart Marshall. **M&B.** Key vacancies to be published in prominent position-action Paul Gibson. Copy deadline Tues 20th November owing to early branch meeting on 6th December. **Surveys.** As published in M&B **Locale.** Up to date. **Membership.** 19 new members this month. 10 lapsed. **Regional.** Next meeting Sat 24th Nov at Ramsey's Bar in Buxton at 12 noon. June or Sept 2013 Derby will host meeting. **Socials.** As published in M&B and on website. **Sub Branches.** **Ashbourne report.** 1st Beer festival March 22nd to 24th at Town Hall or other venue. Website updated. Organising POTY in their area. Town winner and country winner. **Amber Valley.** 29th Nov Annual General Meeting at Hunter Arms, Kilburn. New chairman needed. Debate about independence to take place. POTY AV pubs competition underway. Winter ales trail planned. John Arguile reminded members that independence had VAT consequences if not forthcoming (from 8% to 20% so serious implications if not carried). **Website.** Pretty much up to date. **Information Exchange Brewery and technical.** Assembly Rooms at Melbourne Pop up pub on 9th November. New micro pub Little Chester Ale House on Chester Green has got its licence and is open limited hours. Royal Oak 250 year celebrations on Sat 10th November. Smithfield open 30th November? Bridge Inn, Mansfield Road, reopened with increased range of real ale. Abbey, Darley Abbey, long serving licensee to go to Duke of Clarence, Mansfield Road. Crompton Tavern, Crompton Street closed. Sold as a house? Shakespeare, a former Home Ales house at Shardlow, to have new licensee. Holly Bush at Breedon has been sold at auction and is intended to reopen. **AOB.** POTY shortlist declared as

Alexandra, 5 Lamps, Exeter Arms, Furnace, Pattenmakers, Duffield, Royal Oaks of Ockbrook and Wirksworth. **Meeting closed at 21.36. Thanks to Dave and Lynn Lalor for the sandwiches. Next meeting at the Horse and Groom, Derby, on Thursday December 6th.**

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

Amber Valley CAMRA

Winter Ales Trail

December 15th sees the start of the first-ever Amber Valley Winter Ales Trail, which will run until January 12th. There are at least 30 pubs on the Trail, from pretty much the whole of the Branch area, so there are plenty of places where a winter ale or three can be enjoyed! Look out for dark delights such as Beowulf Smoke Dragon Stout, Summer Wine Teleporter and Dancing Duck Dark Drake. A scoring system will identify the two best outlets and certificates will be awarded at a future date. The following pubs will be taking part:
Beehive, Ripley
Black Boy, Heage
Black Bulls Head, Openwoodgate
Codnor Inn, Codnor
Cross Keys, Belper
Denby Lodge, Denby Village
George, Lower Hartshay
Grapes, Belper
Greyhound, Belper
Holly Bush, Makeney
Holly Bush, Marehay
Hop Inn, Openwoodgate
Hunter Arms, Kilburn
King Alfred, Alfreton
King William, Milford
Midland, Ripley
Moulders Arms, Riddings
New Inn, Riddings
Old Oak, Horsley Woodhouse
Pear Tree, Ripley
Seven Stars, Openwoodgate
Spanker, Nether Heage
Steampacket, Swanwick
Talbot Taphouse, Ripley
Thorn Tree, Ripley
Thorn Tree, Waingroves
Victoria, Alfreton
Waggon & Horses, Alfreton
Wheel, Holbrook
White Hart, Bargate

Inn Brief

Steve and Becky have reopened The **Hop Inn**, Openwoodgate, with 8 real ales plus two traditional ciders and 10p discount is offered on pints sold to card carrying CAMRA members. The pub, situated across the road from the rejuvenated Black Bulls Head, is open all day, every day and features live music on Saturday evenings. The **Old Oak**, Horsley Woodhouse, has its traditional beer festival between Christmas and the New Year, running from 27th to 31st December. Paul, the steward of Belper's **Strutt Club**, on Campbell Street, has been presented with the runners-up award in the CAMRA Derbyshire Club of the Year competition. This is just reward for offering one of the best selections of real ale in the town. Better days lie ahead for **The Wheel**, Holbrook, as Blue Monkey has been spotted on the bar and further changes are mooted.

Minutes of the Amber Valley CAMRA Sub-Branch

Meeting held at the Strutt Club, Belper, on 25th

October 2012

Meeting commenced at 8:40pm with 7 attendees and apologies from Karen Guest, Nigel Heathcote, David & Norah Harper, Anne Kennedy and Mark Little. **Minutes:** Accepted as true record. **Matters arising:** GBGs collected which sold out at the Beer Festival. The Horse & Jockey, Leabrooks has been internally renovated. No information regarding the Red Lion Fritchley whether it is for sale or if the Stables Bar is still open. The Canal, Bull Bridge is still closed. **Officers Reports:** **Nathan** said that the Beer Festival had been a success, with several new members signed up. There had been enough volunteers including several AV members who volunteered for the first time. **Jane**, Social Secretary, said the 20th October survey trip to Denby, Kilburn and Horsley Woodhouse had been a success, with 13 members enjoying a selection of 25 different ales. 12 members went to Sheffield Beer Festival but while the festival had few interesting beers on, a walk around city pubs was great. Next trip on Nov 17th outskirts of Ripley, while on December 15th it will be around Belper. No bus trip in January, instead members will meet at the Waggon and Horses, Alfreton at 1pm for a walking survey of the town. A joint social with Ashbourne was also discussed, perhaps in Wirksworth next year. **Trevor** said there will be no meeting in December, so the next meeting after the AGM will be on Jan 10th at the Waggon & Horses, Alfreton, then on Feb 28th, Black Bulls Head, Openwoodgate. **Phil** said website not yet updated but would be ASAP. 19 new members had signed up, with 4 lapsed, 2 transferred in and 0 out. **Pub of the Year:** Finalists: Black Bulls Head, Holly Bush Makeney+ Marehay, Dead Poets, Beehive, Old Oak,

Hunter and King William. Plenty of volunteer judges. Closing date for judging is 5th January, and result announced at the Waggon & Horses Branch Meeting on January 10th. **Any Other Business:** *Paul Gibson, aka Mandrake Root*, told the meeting that he was relinquishing his AV column in Derby Drinker, and it was decided that Trevor would write the November column, and volunteers would be sought for future columns. Gareth Stead to be informed. The members thanked Paul for the work he has done on AV's behalf. No nominations have been received for the position of Branch Chairman, so the role will be advertised again on the website, newsletter and Google group. Paul was very dubious about the prospect of no chairman. Trevor will check the position with Gareth Stead and RD. **Trevor** mentioned a Winter Ales Trail in Dec and Jan, and Nathan commented on the success of Mild Month, so a similar Trail in winter could be successful. Trevor said several pubs had expressed an interest, and had written a letter for sending to pubs regarding the Trail, which the meeting decided should go ahead. Paul commented that if the closing date for entries were changed from the 30th to the 23rd November, then the pubs on the Trail could be included in the December M&B, so this was agreed. *Jane* commented on problems with the new NBSS system, and Stewart Marshall had been contacted. Paul felt the new system was quite good. Trevor commented on the What Pub site, which is not being updated. Nathan said we need a pubs officer. Trevor has been collecting some information.

Meeting closed 945pm.

Ashbourne CAMRA

Minutes of the Ashbourne CAMRA Sub-Branch Meeting held at The Bowling Green, Ashbourne, on 30th October 2012

Meeting started at 8pm with 8 members present, plus visitors from Derby branch - Konrad & Stewart. **Apologies** received from David Coakley & Kim Dorrington. **Chairman:** Re-iterated the wish to get all pubs in our region surveyed by Christmas. Would still like to instigate a Pub of the Season/Quarter, but this can't really happen until we've completed the initial surveys. **Secretary:** Requested confirmation of full list of pubs in our area to circulate to all members, so that they could visit at will and notify chairman of visits. Branch activities: Chairman still looking to set up a survey bus run to some of our pubs, plus a trip further afield, even if just into Derby, as a social gathering.

Pub reports: Green Man continues to flounder, not selling at the second auction. A couple of parties were reported to be interested after the auction, but no news since. The Shire Horse at Wyaston has apparently sold and will continue as a going concern. **Beer Festival:** Meeting with Town Clerk, Town Hall planned for tomorrow am (Wed 31st October) to survey facilities and layout. Dave contacting the preferred beer supplier, who will be able to supply all stillage/cooling as required and will assist with set-up/take-down. The date has been publicised to the local paper and as one of our members works on the paper, we anticipate some good coverage and publicity. As Konrad was present, he was asked if he could organise the Membership stall at the festival, which was agreed. **AOB:** Callow Top brewery - still hoping to visit before end of camping season. Increased capacity of brewery planned. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 27th November, The Sycamore at Parwich, 8pm. **Meeting closed: 9.30pm**

Ashbourne Diary

DECEMBER

Thu 27th – SOCIAL MEETING, Smiths Tavern, Ashbourne- 8pm.

Ashbourne Contact

Chairman, Mark Grist m.grist2@sky.com

Amber Valley Diary

NOVEMBER

Thu 29th – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Hunter Arms, Church Street, Kilburn – 815pm start.

DECEMBER

Sat 15th - Free survey trip – Belper and its environs. 730pm from Ripley Market Place.

Please note there is no branch meeting in December.

For all Amber Valley Socials contact Jane Wallis on 01773 745966

Amber Valley Contact

Chairman: N Dilley on 01773 570675

Derby Branch Diary

NOVEMBER

Thu 29th – Winter Festival meeting, Brunswick-8pm.

DECEMBER

Sat 1st – Free survey trip to Smalley/Stanley Common area. Bus leaves Cathedral green at 630pm.

Thu 6th – BRANCH MEETING, Horse and Groom, Elm Street-8pm.

Thu 13th – Christmas show, Flowerpot.

Thu 20th – Social, Falstaff, Silverhill Road, Normanton-8pm.

JANUARY

Wed 2nd – City Charter Festival meeting, Brewery Tap, Derwent Street - 8pm.

Fri 4th – Free survey trip to Dalbury Lees area. Bus leaves Cathedral Green at 730pm. Names to Dean Smith please.

Mon 7th – Committee meeting - Dolphin-8pm.

Thu 10th – BRANCH MEETING, Brunswick-8pm.

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

Derby Contacts

DERBY - Ian Forman on 01332 882996

DERBY COMMITTEE

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M+B Copy Deadline

Copy to *mildbitter@derbycamra.org.uk* by Monday, 24th December, please.

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
MBdatabase@derbycamra.org.uk*

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

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