

Mild & Bitter

Keeping Derby CAMRA drinkers informed since 1975

Derby Hosts Prestigious National Winter Ales Festival

This month's National Winter Ales Festival at the historic Roundhouse, Pride Park, between 19th and 22nd, promises to be the best ever Derby beer festival. A full spectrum of beer, cider and perry is certain to please the most discerning of drinkers. All tastes will be catered for as old ales, porters and stouts are just part of the drinks' offering. On the entertainment front we have Kins of Leon (Kings of Leon tribute) on Friday evening and Antarctic Monkeys (Arctic Monkeys' tribute) headlining on Saturday night. In addition to the Roundhouse's hot food, food stalls will feature Pipers Crisps, Merry Berry Chocolate and Mr Morgan's cheese selection. The last time Derby CAMRA hosted a national CAMRA event was in 2000 when the branch received many plaudits for its professional organization of the Annual General Meeting at the Assembly Rooms. **With your help we can emulate that success and we require staff for all sessions**, particularly Saturday evening. Volunteer staffing forms can be found at <http://nwaf.org.uk/> so please do your bit by volunteering. **Festival Set-up starts at The Roundhouse on Friday, 14th February from 2pm.** We've changed the stillage this year and have more equipment arriving from St Albans than ever before so we need more volunteers to help unload it. Even if you can only help for a couple of hours, say from 5pm – 7pm, you will be welcomed wholeheartedly. Also, on the **Sunday and Monday after the festival** we need fit people to assist in taking everything down.

National Cooling Training

This is in 2 parts - a theory session on Friday 14th February (7pm – 9pm) at the Brunswick Inn, Derby plus a practical session on Saturday 15th February (9am -1pm) at the Roundhouse. Lunch will be provided for those that stop on for Saturday afternoon to try out their new skills. This course would normally be an all-day course held at the St Albans' warehouse. The training will be delivered by Steve Powell from the St Albans' Warehouse Team. There are 12 places available - please contact gillian.hough@yahoo.co.uk to book one for you.

National Winter Ales Festival – Final Meeting

The last pre-festival meeting will be held on **Thursday, 6th February, at the Brunswick, 730pm start.** For more details please contact **Gillian Hough 01332 677072 (home).**

Good Beer Guide Selection Meeting

The annual meeting to select entries for the 2015 Good Beer Guide will be held at the **Falstaff**, Silverhill Road, on **Monday, 24th February, at 8pm.** All members are invited to attend.

Derby CAMRA Branch Meeting, Thomas Leaper, Wednesday, 12th February

February's branch meeting will be at the Thomas Leaper, Iron Gate, Derby, on **Wednesday, 12th February, at 8pm.** The meeting will be held in the upstairs room and bring your Wetherspoon vouchers for discounted beer. Wheelchair access is poor.

POTY Winners Announced

The Furnace and Pattenmakers triumphed in the annual Pub of the Year competition. See page 2 for details.

Charter Festival Update

The principal committee has been appointed, but there is still a vacancy for **Publicity Officer. The next meeting will be on the 5th February at the Brunswick Inn, starting at 8pm.** Plans are well under way for this summer's Derby City Charter Festival taking place in the newly refurbished Assembly Rooms between **9th - 13th July.** In 2014, Derby Mountain Rescue is 50 years old and it is endeavouring to build new headquarters close to Derby; more information on this will follow over the coming months as we look to assist their fund raising activities. The beer list is looking promising and the usual cider stall & continental bars are all on board with the 'Mead' stall back by popular demand. Confirmed entertainment to date comes from "Ferocious Dog" who will headline on Saturday, 12th July. This 6 piece, contemporary folk rock band has proved very popular with a Levellers type of sound at many festivals including London's Great British Beer Festival. Thursday, 10th July will feature "Wille & the Bandits" who are another favoured band. To keep up to date will the latest festival announcements please 'Like' our Face book

page <https://www.facebook.com/derbybeerfestival> **Carla Johnson**

Pattenmakers' Latest

On Friday, 31st January, Duffield's Weston Centre was packed for a high energy meeting superbly chaired by Dave Mountford, local Secretary of the GMB union. In the presence of Pauline Latham MP and Stuart Bradford, leader of Amber Valley Borough Council, options were discussed for licensee, Claire Muldoon, who is facing a hefty rental increase which kicks in in April. Claire received a great deal of support and steps will be taken to list the Pattenmakers as an Asset of Community Value. Enterprise Inns were invited to attend the meeting but didn't. Editor's note: Enterprise Inns' business practise appears to be reminiscent of the big banks who have made the terms of some company loans so onerous that the companies become insolvent, leaving the banks to asset strip. Enterprise Inns' rental hike leaves the Pattenmakers in a similarly precarious position and only statutory legislation may assist other pubs in future.

GBG 2015 Candidate Pubs

40 candidate pubs for GBG 2015 have been chosen from surveys submitted by CAMRA members over the last year. 25 candidates will be selected for the next GBG. This is your chance help make sure the right pubs are chosen by visiting and submitting beer quality scores for these candidates at <http://whatpub.com>. Volunteers are required to survey and write GBG descriptions. To volunteer, email beersurvey@derbycamra.org.uk with a list of the pubs you wish to volunteer to for. All you need apart from being able to visit a pub is: internet access, email, Adobe Reader and a printer. A list of volunteers and status will be maintained at <http://tinyurl.com/derbycamragbg>.

1. Abbey, Derby
2. Alexandra Hotel, Derby
3. Babington Arms, Derby
4. Bar One, Derby
5. Bell, Smalley
6. Bell & Castle, Derby
7. Bell & Harp, Little Eaton
8. Blue Bell Inn, Melbourne
9. Tap, Derwent Street, Derby
10. Brunswick Inn, Derby
11. Bull's Head, Repton
12. Coach & Horses, Derby
13. Crompton Tavern, Derby
14. Exeter Arms, Derby
15. Falstaff, Derby
16. Five Lamps, Derby
17. Flowerpot, Derby
18. Furnace Inn, Derby
19. Green Man, Willington
20. Greyhound, Derby
21. Horse & Groom, Derby
22. Little Chester Ale House, Derby
23. Malt Shovel Inn, Aston-on-Trent
24. Miner's Arms, Brassington
25. Miner's Arms, Carsington
26. Nelson Arms, Middleton
27. New Zealand Arms, Derby
28. Old Talbot, Hilton
29. Olde Dolphin Inne, Derby
30. Olde Gate Inne, Brassington
31. Pattenmakers Arms, Duffield
32. Peacock Inn, Derby
33. Queen's Head, Little Eaton
34. Rowditch Inn, Derby
35. Royal Oak, Wirksworth
36. Royal Oak, Ockbrook
37. Smithfield, Derby
38. Swan Inn, Milton
39. Thomas Leaper, Derby
40. White Swan, Littleover, Derby

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.

Please Sign Pattenmakers' Petition

If you're in the Duffield area, please try to visit the Pattenmakers on Crown Street to sign the petition objecting to Enterprise Inns' 42% rental hike. Alternatively you can sign the petition on Yahoo. The Lord Scarsdale and the New Inn on Hazelwood Road have closed and Duffield can't afford to lose this, the most attractive of the remaining pubs in a village which once boasted 13 hosteleries. Dave Mountford, branch Secretary of the GMB union and licensee of the Boat, Cromford, has been prominent in campaigning for the rights of Pub Company tenants and he's written to Business Secretary, Vince Cable, highlighting the Pattenmakers' plight.

Furnace Forges Ahead to Take Top Award

The Furnace has improved on last year's runner's-up spot to win Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year 2014. 16 Judges found the Duke Street pub to be the best, based on broad criteria, with Pedro Menon and his side-kick, Luke Elston, cleverly tapping into the CAMRA psyche by offering an ever changing range of ales including those brewed on site and some rarities from elsewhere. Runner-up is the **Little Chester Ale House**, where Wentwell brewery has successfully captured the "front room" concept of a small public house. Wentwell is looking to open another micro pub on Utttoxeter Old Road. Mention should be made of third placed **Bell and Castle** at the town end of Burton Road. Owner, Alan Kilkenny, has transformed the former Bass house inside and out with an expensive, eye-catching refurbishment and landscaping of the garden. CAMRA discount is offered and, if asked, obliging staff will always give you a taster of the well-kept beers. Home cooked food has been added to the menu. In the country section, Duffield's **Pattenmakers' Arms** triumphed, which is brilliant news for the Crown Street pub that has a great beer and food offering. The ploughman's lunch is a veritable feast for a fiver. Last year's winner, the **Royal Oak**, Ockbrook, was second. The Furnace scored the highest marks of all the finalists and presentation dates will be announced in due course.

Help to Secure a Beer Duty Freeze

March's budget is looming large and CAMRA is urging you to contact your MP with a view to him/her joining our campaign by writing to Chancellor, George Osborne, requesting a much needed freeze in beer duty. Local MPs: Chris Williamson (Derby North), Margaret Becket (Derby South), Pauline Latham (Mid Derbyshire), Jessica Lee (Erewash), Patrick McLoughlin (Derbyshire Dales), Nigel Mills (Amber Valley), Heather Wheeler (South Derbyshire).

Derby, not Mickleover, Micro Pub Mooted

The editor wishes to correct last month's report in so much that the planning application for new, licensed premises refers to 1 Utttoxeter Old Road, close to the junction with Ashbourne Road/Friar Gate. The former post office will have a postal theme for its name, and Chaddesden brewery, Wentwell, is behind the project.

New Look for Derby Brewing Company Pub

Brewery Tap – Derby's Royal Standard, on Derwent Street, has had its name abbreviated to The Tap following a makeover, and now sells beers from all over the world.

Chellaston Cheer

A recent survey trip found some good watering holes in Chellaston, Derby's rapidly expanding southern suburb. The Corner Pin, formerly run by popular Derby licensee John Barnes, was rated as good and the Lawn, High Street, excelled. Dancing Duck 22, Adnams, Pedigree and a Christmas ale were all available together with CAMRA discount. The Lawn Hotel opened in 1978 when it had the distinction of being the solitary outlet for McEwan's real ale in the Derby area.

More Awards for Paul

Paul Walton, steward of the existing Derby CAMRA Club of the Year, the Nunsfield in Alvaston, is celebrating again after picking up two Club Mirror accolades. Paul has been judged Steward of the Year, and the club on Boulton Lane received the Best Refurbishment of the Year title.

Hot Summer Fails to Attract Pub Customers

Figures released by the British Beer and Pub Association for the period 1st July to 30th September 2013 show a slight fall in on-trade beer sales whilst off-sales increased by 12.5% compared to the third quarter of 2012. Just over half of all beer sales are off-trade, something which would have been unthinkable 20 years ago.

Photos Required for What Pub

CAMRA has a 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). **To enable Derby branch to provide a comprehensive online guide to all of its pubs, we are seeking your images of pubs from all over our area.** photos@derbycamra.org.uk

Minutes of the Derby CAMRA Branch Meeting held at the Alexandra, Siddals Road, Derby on 9th January 2013

Apologies Les Baynton, Jok Arguile, Marie Gibson, Sue and Chris Rodgers, Stewart Marshall. **Minutes of last meeting** Printed in M&B and accepted as a true record. **Matters arising** Greg Clarke's mobile no is different to that published in M&B. **Officers' reports:** **Chair** Gareth spoke about the forthcoming events. ABC crawl on 31st Jan (180 beers last year) and a crawl leader is needed for Les Baynton's crawl. Details in M&B. NWAf in Feb. Pub of the Year judging taking place by 20th Jan with results soon after. Awards will be presented to the pubs, in the pubs, because of the national nature of the NWAf. Amber Valley CAMRA appealing for judges for the 8 pubs that are their finalists. Club of the Year be organised. Meeting heard of these nominations: Nunsfield, Alvaston; Conservative/Village Club at Spondon; Littleover Social Club; Mickelover RBL; Allenton RBL; Darley Abbey Club (formerly RBL); Liberal Club, Spondon. Subject to meeting criteria. No branch vacancies bar Summer festival publicity officer. Prices survey available for download from HQ. Nominations required for the national Campaigner of the Year: Paul Gibson nominated Dave Mountford who is playing a pivotal role in proposed pub company reform. Registration is open for members' weekend in Scarborough at end of April. **Secretary** Nothing to report, save thanks for coming to the Christmas show. **Treasurer** December was the year end. Please get any outstanding issues/invoices to Julian Tubbs ASAP. DD advertisements revenue may be difficult and invoices have gone out for last two issues. **Winter Beer festival** NWAf chair, Gillian Williams, had posters and staffing forms available. Things are progressing. Emails for Champion Beer of Britain and Champion Winter Beer of Britain had gone out. Gillian gave details www.NWAf.org.uk Details being put on Derby website. Entertainment details to be confirmed. Cooling training for 12 people to be arranged on 14th and 15th February. Tutored tastings on the Wednesday of the festival with Roger Protz and Christine Cryne. Champion Winter Beer of Beer taking place plus East Midlands round (10 judgings). Brew labs reviews available. Derby Mountain Rescue, and Rotary Club are the charities at the festival. Gillian thanked everyone for their hard work and acknowledged the joint nature of the effort. Trade session being worked on. We aim to staff this ourselves and not rely on outside help so volunteering is crucial. We are not accepting national staff and not paying accommodation costs, though there is a contingency plan that is being suggested for a few accommodation costs.

Opening half hour earlier at 10.30am this time but no beer served before 11am. Membership (who need help) will be in prominent position at entrance. Thank you trip for workers to be arranged. **City Charter Summer** 9th to 13th July. **Campaigning goals** Pub preservation officer, Tony Cooper, is monitoring planning applications. Little progress on pub map. Full map in the NWAf programme as compensation. WhatPub - progress being made towards "green" status. More work needs to be done. Missing photographs and information needed. We are lowest in East Midlands. **DD** Out now. Next issue copy deadline 20th Jan. Should be out the week of the festival. Progress being made on advertisements. **GBG Surveys** Stewart Marshall not at the meeting. Selection meeting at the Falstaff immediately after the NWAf. Target list in M&B. Surveys needed. Survey trips in M&B and on website. **LocAle and CAMRA Discount** Going well. **Membership** Quality of cards depends on how you pay your subscription. 13 new members with one transfer in. 4 cancelled. 4 transferred out with 16 lapsed. **M&B** Copy date 29th Jan. Distributor, Tim Williams, said some email addresses have expired. **Regional** Strutt Club, Campbell Street, Belper on Sat 1st March at 12noon. **Socials** As published in M&B. **Ashbourne Sub Branch** 7 pubs shortlisted for POTY. Talks with Green Man about beer festival venue, and it looks likely that the area formerly occupied by Leatherbitches brewery will house a pub. **Website** Up to date. **Information Exchange** Royal Standard closed for refurbishment. Magic Attic museum has brewery archive. Peregrine, Chaddesden is closed. Blue Boy on Wiltshire Road, Chaddesden, is being converted into housing despite previously having been the recipient of a £400,000 taxpayer funded grant for being a community asset. Pattenmakers' plight ongoing. Station Inn, Midland Road - problems ongoing. Committee to review actions. Old Post Office on Uttoxeter Old Road is to be called the Last Post. Brewery in Alfreton. **AOB** Next meeting at the Thomas Leaper on Wednesday, 12th Feb and not as published in M&B.

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.

Ashbourne CAMRA Minutes of the Ashbourne Sub-Branch of CAMRA Meeting at The Smith's Tavern on 17th December 2013

Present: Mark Grist (Chairman), Dave Leigh, Michelle Leigh, Kevin Woolley, Hannah Barton, Gareth Butterfield, Richard Bright, Kim Dorrington, Barry Wright, Pat Laughlin, Keith Palmer, David Coackley, Tony Beech, Lizzie Butterfield, Anthony Morland **Apologies:** Diane Grist **Minutes of November Meeting/Matters Arising** The Minutes had been circulated and were approved. The following Matters Arising not covered by the Agenda were discussed: Pub Trips and Walk: KP apologised that he had not been able to set up the proposed walks and pub visits. These would now be scheduled for early in the New Year. Marketing the branch - The ANT column was going well and the Branch had received some good publicity for the Pub of the Year campaign. The new Twitter account is still building followers. More work needs to be done on the proposed website – **Mark Grist to action.** Mark Grist reported that a meeting with the owner of the Green Man was still outstanding. No further information on the membership list. **Chairman's Report** No specific items to report. Dave Leigh and Mark Grist explained how members should use the WhatPub app and website to make pub reports and the CAMRA beer scoring system: this can be accessed from Smartphones. Members were urged to submit pub reports and beer scores as an increase in the reports received on pubs in the Ashbourne area, the more likely it is that the number of entries in the Good Pub Guide will be increased. **Secretary/Treasurer** No specific items to report **Pub of the Year** After debate the short list to be considered remained: **Best Pub:** Smiths Tavern, Bowling Green, Red Lion at Kniveton, The Sycamore at Parwich, Black Cow at Dalbury Lees, and the Black Horse, Hulland Ward. **Most Improved Pub** Red Lion at Kniveton, The Ketch, Okeover Arms at Mappleton. Ashbourne members were asked to attempt to visit each of the shortlisted pubs. A final decision would be made at the January 2014 meeting. **Pub Reports** No new reports received. Members had visited and recommended the Pattenmakers Arms at Duffield in the neighbouring Derby Branch. **Any Other Business:** Volunteers are required for the National Winter Beer Festival at the Roundhouse. **Dates for Diary: January Meeting** – Tuesday 28th January – start at Nags Head and finish at The Black Horse, Hulland Ward 50/50 agenda. **February** – Vernon Arms, Sudbury. **March** – Black Cow/Three Horse Shoes, Dalbury Lees 50:50 agenda.

Amber Valley CAMRA

Micro Pub for Alfreton?

Amber Valley Borough Council is considering a planning application for 55 Prospect Street to become the town's first micro pub. A decision is imminent.

Pub of the Year Finalists

The following pubs are being assessed: Holly Bush, Makeney; Black Bulls Head, Openwoodgate; Old Oak, Horsley Woodhouse; Beehive, Ripley; Talbot Taphouse, Ripley; Moulders Arms, Riddings; Thorn Tree, Waingroves; Hunter Arms Kilburn.

Club of the Year Finalists

These clubs are being assessed by judges: South Wingfield Social Club, Milford Social Club, Strutt Club, Belper.

Strutt Club to Host Regional Meeting

Belper's Strutt Club, on Campbell Street, will host a CAMRA regional meeting on **Saturday, 1st March** starting at noon. Campbell Street is off the bottom of King Street. The meeting will give you the opportunity to visit the specialist real ale bar known as Arkwright's, below the club, which we understand is coming on nicely.

Amber Valley CAMRA AGM

The Amber Valley CAMRA AGM will be on **Thursday, February 27th at the Hunter Arms, Kilburn, 8pm start**. Applications or nominations will be welcomed for the following positions: Branch Chairman, Branch Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Social Secretary, Pubs Officer. If you wish to apply for one of these positions, or nominate someone else, please contact Trevor Spencer at dedpoet702@yahoo.co.uk. The Branch Secretary, Membership Secretary and Pubs Officer will not be continuing in their present roles after the AGM, so applications/nominations for these posts are especially welcome.

Festival Glasses for Sale

Trevor Spencer is offering, on behalf of a friend, the first seven Derby CAMRA beer festival glasses, 1978 to 1984 inclusive. Offers to: dedpoet702@yahoo.co.uk

Amber Valley Diary FEBRUARY

Mon 10th – Beer Festival meeting, Black Swan, Market Place, Belper-8pm.

Sat 15th – Free survey trip, departing from Ripley Market Place at 730pm - **FULL**

Mon 17th – Good Beer Guide selection meeting, Barnes Wallis, Maple Avenue, Ripley-8pm.

Thu 27th AGM, Hunter Arms, Kilburn-8pm.

Contact Jane Wallis on 01773 745966

Amber Valley Contact

Chairman: Chris Rogers 01332 880041

Ashbourne Diary

FEBRUARY

Tue 25th – BRANCH MEETING, Vernon Arms, Sudbury-8pm.

Ashbourne Contact

Chairman, Mark Grist m.grist2@sky.com

Derby Branch Diary

FEBRUARY

Mon 3rd – Committee meeting- 8pm.

Wed 5th – City Charter Festival meeting, Brunswick- 8pm.

Thu 6th – NWAf meeting, Brunswick (Parlour)-730pm.

Sat 8th – Survey of Duffield by public transport. Meet bus station for 735pm Trent 6.3 and congregate at White Hart 750pm. Multiple choice of return buses.

Wed 12th – BRANCH MEETING, Thomas Leaper, Iron Gate-8pm.

Fri 14th – NWAf set up commences. Young, fit persons required.

Wed 19th to Sat 22nd – National Winter Ales Festival, Roundhouse, Pride Park, Derby.

Sun 23rd and Mon 24th - NWAf take down. Young, fit persons required.

Mon 24th – Good Beer Guide selection meeting, Falstaff-8pm.

MARCH

Tues 4th – Shrovetide Football trip to Ashbourne.

Thu 13th – BRANCH MEETING, Bell and Castle, Burton Road (town end), Derby -8pm.

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

Derby Contacts

DERBY - Ian Forman on 01332 882996

DERBY COMMITTEE

committee@derbycamra.org.uk

Chairman: Gareth Stead

Chairman@derbycamra.org.uk

Secretary: Ian Forman

Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk

Treasurer: Julian Tubbs

Treasurer@derbycamra.org.uk

Membership: Konrad Machej

Membership@derbycamra.org.uk

Pubs Officer: Stewart Marshall

pubsofficer@derbycamra.org.uk

Committee Member: Sue Rogers

threecatcider@ymail.com

Committee Member: Sue Dudley

55@googlemail.com

Beer Surveys: Stewart Marshall

beersurvey@derbycamra.org.uk

Winter fest Chairman: Gillian Williams

gillian.williams1@yahoo.co.uk

Summer fest Chairman: Russell Gilbert

russgilbert@o2.co.uk

Ashbourne Chairman: Mark Grist

m.grist2@sky.com

NON COMMITTEE

Socials: Dean Smith

Socials@derbycamra.org.uk

Derby Drinker Distribution: Joy

Oliventdds@derbycamra.org.uk

Survey Trips: Dean Smith

surveytrips@derbycamra.org.uk

LocAle: Atholl Beattie

locale@derbycamra.org.uk

M&B Copy Deadline

Copy to mildbitter@derbycamra.org.uk by Wednesday, 26th February, please.

Derby Drinker Deadline

Copy by 20th March to derbydrinker@derbycamra.org.uk
Advertising: ads@derbycamra.org.uk

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- Expected M&B but it did not arrive
- Change your email or postal address

Please also tell HQ if you change address or other details. If you want to opt out of emails do so via emailoptout@camra.org.uk.

Tim Williams, 01332 381358;
MBdatabase@derbycamra.org.uk

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EDITOR: Paul Gibson - E-MAIL: mildbitter@derbycamra.org.uk

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