



KEEPING YOU INFORMED ABOUT YOUR BEER

ISSUE No. 61

SUMMER 1996

FREE

19th DERBY BEER FESTIVAL

See inside for full details

SQUEEZED TO DEATH

CAMRA has launched a campaign against swan neck beer dispense spouts - because they are ruining the flavour of many beers.

The swan neck is designed to fill glasses from the bottom with highly agitated beer. This flashes off hop aromatics, migrates bitterness into the head and reduces the taste by driving off CO₂, which transfers flavours to the tongue.

Swan neck spouts were designed to put thick heads on pints to match those featured in press and TV advertising campaigns. The marketing people - not among the world's greatest beer drinkers - decided to picture pale beers with big heads, even if it meant using silicone to withstand the heat from the studio lamps.

Using swan necks to dispense bland national products was understandable, though it didn't do much for the reputation of real ale. But now they have been installed everywhere and are being used for beers completely unsuited to the system. Tasty beers are having the guts thrashed out of them and end up tasting like nothing in particular.

There was a tradition of big heads in northern England, probably a spin-off from the Auto-Bak beer engine introduced around a century ago. These forced beer at high pressure through tight sparklers to produce flat beer with thick, creamy heads. The lack of CO₂ made the beer 'smooth' and easier to drink in the quantities required by workers in heavy industries.

The brewers compensated by over-bittering their beers, but didn't pay much account to aroma.

At CAMRA's AGM last year a resolution was considered calling for pubs with swan neck dispense to be excluded from the Good Beer Guide. Now each pub is being assessed on its merits, as some equipment is capable of delivering a decent pint if the sparkler is removed and the glass filled from the top. CAMRA are publishing a list of beer engine manufacturers, all of whom will supply traditional short spouts on request.

Boat Inn

Cromford

(near the Market Place)

Boat Inn Bitter, Bass, Old Speckled Hen plus guest & Addlestons Cider

Home cooked lunches and evening meals including authentic Indian recipe food

- Function Room -

Visit the new cellar bar at The Flowerpot

King Street, Derby
Tel: (01332) 204955

Try our continually changing range of real ales in the warm surroundings of a traditional town pub.

Hot food Monday to Saturday
Sunday lunches a speciality
LARGE FUNCTION ROOM

Wendy and Chris welcome you to the
Duke of Clarence
Mansfield Road, Derby

KIMBERLEY
Mild, Bitter, Classic and
CELLARMAN'S CASK
Piano singalong
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Quiz Night Monday

Play Beer Bingo

Join the Independent Brewers Beer Bingo Trail and win one of the dozens of prizes on offer. Pick up your card in any participating pub (most are listed on the back page) and enjoy a beer brewed by an independent brewer. Your card will be stamped in the correct square on your card.

When you have a row, column or diagonal of 7 stamps or four corners and the centre you can send off your card to claim your prize.

Alternatively you can collect all 49 stamps and go for a bigger prize such as a special VIP brewery visit.

SEE BACK PAGE FOR PARTICIPATING PUBS LIST

Enjoy Derby's finest range of quality cask conditioned beers at the CAMRA award winning

Brunswick Inn

D E R B Y

Purpose-built brewery
HOME-PRODUCED LUNCHES & EVENING BUFFETS AVAILABLE

NEWS

REGULARS FIGHT ARGOSY CARVE-UP

Locals at the Argosy on Manor Road, Derby, have organised a 1600-signature petition to protest at Bass's plans to turn it into a Harvester restaurant. The pub, which already has a carvery, will close in June for a three-month refit. Regulars are worried that it will no longer cater for those who use it as a neighbourhood pub, in favour of boosting the meals trade. Despite assurances from Bass, who bought the Harvester chain last year, that there will be a bar area separate from the dining facilities, locals fear that it will cease to be a pub as they know it, leaving darts, pool and cribbage teams searching for a new home.

LIVE DOLPHIN

Sunday nights at the Dolphin, Queen Street, Derby are now music nights, with various acoustic artists performing unplugged from 8.30pm. Admission is free.

The Nags Head Inn Hill Top Castle Donington

Marston's Pedigree and Headbrewer's Choice
Home-cooked food, lunch and evening
Bar Billiards, Darts, Petanque
Live Jazz band every Sunday
fortnight at 9 pm
Warm Welcoming Atmosphere
Tel: (01332) 850652

The Case Against Swan

Mark's Merit



Mark Robins, licensee of the Alexandra, Siddals Road, Derby is presented with an Exceptional Merit Award by Derby CAMRA chairman, Sally Winterton.

I Wish to Make a Complaint...

You walk into a pub, noticing there's no licensee's name over the door. Then the absence of ownership details and a price list. The 'Real Ale' blackboard lists Caffreys and Stella and, when you foolishly stop for a pint you get a drastic short-measure, a refusal to top it up and it tastes remarkably watery.

Apart from never setting foot in the place again what do you do? Write to Trading Standards, Derbyshire County Council, County Offices, Matlock, Derbyshire or 'phone them on 01629 580000 extension 6166

Jolly Sailor Hemington

Fine Ales — Fine Company

Eight Traditional Ales available

(01332) 810448

A TRUE FREE HOUSE

THE BELL INN



SMALLEY

Free House — beers from Bateman's, Ruddles, Marstons
LUNCH & EVENING FOOD

Ivor Clissold examines the case against having beer served through a swan neck attached to the handpump

Just about every pub in Derby (*not the Brunswick*) is using beer pumps with U shaped tubes which fill the glass from the bottom. Many people say they affect the taste. Is there any evidence for this?



Beer Boffin answers your queries

Yes.

The swan neck is a long spout which reaches to the bottom of the glass. Sometimes the outlet has an adjustable - even removable - sparkler, but other patterns are fixed. Typical sparklers have 16 holes of 0.6 mm diameter. A tight head is formed by forcing the beer through the tiny holes into the bottom of the glass, causing considerable gas break-out. Because the bubbles are small the surface tension keeps them from collapsing easily. They also rise slowly, supporting the head for longer.

BRUNSWICK IS BRANCH CHOICE

The Brunswick Inn was voted Derby CAMRA's Pub of the Year at the April meeting of the Derby Branch. Members decided to put the pub forward for the East Midlands regional heats and, if successful there, the national Pub of the Year award after considering the merits of several excellent Derby hosteleries including the Flowerpot and the Alexandra. The Brunswick just swung it on the strength of its own brewery which keeps up a steady flow of new and interesting ales, such as Rams' Return, brewed to celebrate Derby County's recent elevation to the Premiership.

Don't suggest to landlord Trevor Harris that he might brew it again this time next year when the Rams return to the Endsleigh League - he's heard that one before!

The beer undergoes considerable changes in taste. Firstly, the beer becomes blander as the head takes up some 10% of the bitterness: try tasting a dollop of froth. Another effect is caused by the agitation whisking most of the dissolved CO₂ out of solution and replacing it with air. Although the beer looks lively, it is actually flat (smooth in PR-speak) and there is insufficient CO₂ left in solution to aid the transfer of flavours to the tongue. Finally, the aromatic hop fraction is driven off with the CO₂, robbing the beer of its bouquet and any floral character.

Brewers supplying the old Auto-Bak areas of the north corrected for the bitterness loss by over-bittering their beers. The classic example is Tetley's Bitter, which, if tasted un-agitated is offensively bitter, even metallic. Such beers tend to be unsuitable, as there is no point in wasting aromatic hops and brewing delicate flavours which will either be masked or driven off. Both beers and dispense system were designed for workers in heavy industries with big thirsts and short lunch breaks.

Swan neck dispensers are unfortunately not confined to dispensing the (few) beers for which they were designed. In fact those beers seldom feature on guest beer lists because of their familiarity and lack of flavour. But they are used to turn hundreds of distinctive beers into British Standard cosmetic pints despite the use of fine ingredients, expensive processes and the labours of their brewers.

John & Staff
welcome you to

The Furnace Inn Duke Street, Derby



Kimberley Mild, Bitter, Classic and Cellarman's Cask

DRINKER Comment

What is An English Inn?

"The main lounge bar has a 'news and view theme' ... The walls are covered in newspaper cuttings ... There is an assortment of wall-mounted machines dispensing nuts, gum balls and jelly beans, plus a neon Grolsch sign lighting up the wall ... Over the bar are six satellite TV screens (plus a further two large screens elsewhere in the bar) tuned into either sport or chart music.

"A state-of-the-art jukebox has also been installed with hundreds of CDs to listen to ... The choice of drinks available over the bar is endless ... an exciting range of cocktails is available. You can have 'Sex on the beach' or 'Sicilian kiss' ... complete with swizzle stick and all the trimmings. ... The skittle alley doubles as a function room and has been decorated with murals depicting Medieval knights on horseback and damsels.

"This makes it the ideal setting for the popular Medieval Banquets - you can feast on turkey legs and spare ribs, dip your hands in finger bowls and be entertained by a jester! ..."

From a West Country paper via the Daily Telegraph

CHARITY: The Lodge, Alvaston recently held a casino night in aid of sending terminally-ill kids on dream holidays and arranging meetings with their heroes.

The Olde Silk Mill Derby

Traditional Beers

Pedigree, Boddingtons, Abbot, Speckled Hen, Flowers plus others

Home cooked lunches available seven days

Tel: (01332) 342158

The Rules:

1. Each pub has a numbered stamp - so one pub and one purchase of an independent beer = one stamp. Only one stamp per pub per card, start as many cards as you wish.
2. Only beers from independent breweries count i.e. NOT Theakstons, Bass, Allied, Whitbread, Scottish & Newcastle etc.
3. A full line across, down or diagonally wins a prize. Prizes can only be claimed by post. Fill in your details in the box below and send to:
B. Graves, 153 Spinney Crescent, Toton, Beeston, Notts NG9 6GE
4. A full house wins a mystery VIP Brewery Tour for two adults.
5. Four corners and the middle also wins a prize.
6. There is no limit to the number of entries or cards completed.
7. Only one prize per card or entry.
8. Prizes will be posted within 14 days of finish date, Saturday 10 August 1996.
9. A list of winners will be published in the Autumn issue of Derby Drinker.

Name

Address

Post code

Telephone no.

Special thanks to:

Hardy & Hansons, Batemans, Everards, Lloyds, Leatherbriches, Townies, Burtonbridge, Marstons for their help & contribution to Rec Trail '96

Published by Derby CAMRA (The Campaign For Real Ale)
For further information about Derby CAMRA contact:

Dave George 01332 601258

Play the

Derby CAMERA

1996 Independent Breweries*

BINGO BEER TRAIL

**It's a fun way to get around
some good real ale pubs this summer**

Sats on Saturday 22 June for 7 weeks
Finishing on Saturday 10 August 1996

HOW TO PLAY

- 1** Match any 7 Pubs in a line (down, across or diagonal) to win a prize
or **2** Stamp all 4 corners (no's 1, 7, 43 & 49) and the
middle box (no 25) to win a prize
or **3** a full house (i.e. all 49 pubs) guarantees you win a
V.I.P. mystery brewery outing for two.

N.B. any combination of the above still wins the corresponding prize.
There is no limit to the number of entries per person

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE 49 PARTICIPATING PUBS

- ★ Bowling Green, Ashbourne
- ★ Old Kings Head, Belper
- ★ Queen's Head, Belper
- ★ Miner's Arms, Brassington
- ★ Old Gate Inn, Brassington
- ★ Burton Bridge Inn, Burton Bridge, B.O.I.
- ★ Cliffe Inn, Crich
- ★ Boat Inn, Cromford
- ★ Abbey, Darley Abbey
- ★ Alexandra Hotel, Derby
- ★ Brunswick Inn, Derby
- ★ Buck in the Park, Derby
- ★ Derby Beer Festival, Derby
- ★ Drill Hall Vaults, Derby
- ★ Duke of Clarence, Derby
- ★ Exeter Arms, Derby
- ★ The Flowerpot Inn, Derby
- ★ The Furnace Inn, Derby
- ★ The George, Derby
- ★ Jonty Farmer, Derby
- ★ Royal Standard, Derby
- ★ Smithfield, Derby
- ★ The King's Head, Duffield
- ★ Bentley Brook Hotel, Fenny Bentley
- ★ Coach & Horses, Fenny Bentley

- ★ Red Lion, Fritchley
- ★ Black Boy, Heage
- ★ The King's Head, Hilton
- ★ The Wheel Inn, Holbrook
- ★ Coach & Horses, Horsley Woodhouse
- ★ John Thompson, Ingleby
- ★ Three Horseshoes, Longlane
- ★ George Inn, Lower Hartshay
- ★ The Hollyhush, Makeney
- ★ Alma Inn, Melbourne
- ★ Honeycomb, Mickleover
- ★ King William IV, Milford
- ★ Swan Inn, Milton
- ★ Spanker Inn, Nether Heage
- ★ Sycamore Inn, Parwich
- ★ Prince of Wales, Ripley
- ★ Railway, Shottle
- ★ Fellers Arms, Sinfen
- ★ Bell Inn, Smalley
- ★ Boot & Slipper, Swanwick
- ★ Staff of Life, Ticknall
- ★ The Tiger Inn, Turnditch
- ★ Rising Sun, Willington
- ★ Blacks Head, Wirksworth

N.B. The list of pubs is not in numerical order

Some information about Independent Breweries:

CAMRA's first Good Beer Guide in 1974 listed 88 breweries which were still owned by either a family, a small company or a co-operative of working men's clubs. The great majority of Britain's pubs were in the hands of six huge combines: Allied Breweries, Bass, Courage, Greenall Whitley, Scottish & Newcastle and Watney. Although CAMRA objected to the dispense systems used by many independents, they were far more likely to supply a drop of something tasty than the big six.

Today, the names have changed but things are much the same beneath the new paintwork. The Big Six has become the Big Three with the merger of Watney with Scottish and Courage. Greenall's pulled out of brewing altogether. The government's Beer Orders pushed the big boys out of direct pub management and many of their old pubs are run by faceless pub companies.

But what happened to the independents? They're still here! True, a few have gone to the wall, and in Derby Shipstone's is especially missed.

But Banks, Burtonwood, Everard, Gibbs (Mew, Hardys and Hansons, Mansfield, Marston and Samuel Smith all have pubs in Derby. And beers from other independents like Bateman, Burton Bridge, Taylor and Vaux (Ward's) are permanently available in the city. We are lucky, too in having an excellent brew-pub (The Brinswick) which, together with three other busy free houses, ensure that Derby regularly sees a beer from just about every independent brewery in Britain - all 250 of them! The independents don't find life easy against the competition of the Big Three, who have enormous marketing muscle backed by national advertising campaigns and can offer huge discounts to free trade outlets.

But the independent brewers can still give the big boys a run for their money in terms of: tasty and distinctive beers; proper local pubs run by real people; prices that do not include half the cost of running ITV and doing over all their pubs every three years.

Quality doesn't come cheap, but at least with an independent you get what you pay for!

Ivor Clissold

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32	33	34	35
36	37	38	39	40	41	42
43	44	45	46	47	48	49

The 19th Derby CAMRA

Derby City Charter

BEER FESTIVAL

Featuring

**AT LEAST 90 BEERS FROM 40 BREWERIES
PLUS CIDER, PERRY & FOREIGN BEERS**
(Subject to availability)

OPENS

**WEDNESDAY EVENING JULY 10th
to SUNDAY LUNCH JULY 14th '96**

at the

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, MARKET PLACE DERBY
(DARWIN SUITE & MAIN HALL)

FREE ADMISSION

TO O.A.P.'s.
(ALL LUNCHTIME SESSIONS)
AND TO MEMBERS OF
CAMRA AND THE
EUROPEAN BEER
CONSUMERS UNION
ORGANISATIONS
(ALL SESSIONS)

**HOT & COLD
FOOD
Available
ALL SESSIONS**

**SOUVENIR
GLASSES
Available
PINT & HALF PINT**

FREE

**CRECHE FACILITIES
AVAILABLE**
(in the reception suite)
**SATURDAY & SUNDAY
LUNCHTIMES**
(Family room every other session)
Featuring
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Evening Entertainment	MAIN HALL		DARWIN SUITE	
WEDNESDAY	THE BOB WILSON BIG SWING BAND + SUPPORT		QUIET SESSION	
THURSDAY	R. CAJUN & THE ZYDECO BROTHERS + TONY B		JOHN WILLEY BROWN	
FRIDAY	THE NEW BUSHBURY MOUNTAIN DAREDEVILS + SUPPORT		THE RATTLERS	
SATURDAY	AMAZING BAVARIAN STOMPERS + SUPPORT		THE RATTLERS (lunch & evening)	
LUNCHTIME ENTERTAINMENTS IN THE MAIN HALL	THURSDAY Chicago Echoes	FRIDAY Chicago Echoes	SATURDAY Drowsy Maggie + Support	SUNDAY Three Wheel Drive + Benny Gardstein

OPENING TIMES

EVENING	WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY	6.30PM TO 11.00PM
LUNCH	THURSDAY	11.30AM TO 3.00 PM
LUNCH	FRIDAY & SATURDAY	11.30AM TO 4.00 PM
LUNCH	SUNDAY	12.00PM TO 2.30 PM

DARWIN SUITE OPEN EVERY SESSION EXCEPT SUNDAY LUNCH



ADMISSION PRICES	LUNCH	EVENING
WEDNESDAY	Closed	£2.50
THURSDAY	50p	£4.00
FRIDAY	£1.00	£4.00
SATURDAY	£1.50	£4.00
SUNDAY	FREE	Closed

THE MANAGEMENT RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ADMISSION AND WILL NOT ADMIT PERSONS WHO ARE OR WHO APPEAR TO BE UNDER 18

Here for the Beer!

As we go to press the beer order has yet to be finalised - those we know about are listed below. This year our truckers will be taking the lorry to Devon and Cornwall to bring back some delightful beers for your delectation. See the Festival programme and possibly the *Derby Evening Telegraph* for updated info.

The Beer Run - SW England

Beer Engine - *Newton St. Cyres, Nr Exeter, Devon.* Brew pub set up in 1983 next to the Barnstaple branch line. **Rail Ale** (1036 / 3.8%) Amber coloured beer with a malty aroma and a fruity, sweet taste. **Piston Bitter** (1042 / 4.3%) Mid-brown, sweet tasting beer with a pleasant bittersweet aftertaste.

Blewitts - *Churchstow, Devon.* Moved from the Ship and Plough, Kingsbridge, in 1995 and now supplies six other outlets. **Best** (1040 / 3.8%), **Wages** (1044 / 4.2%).

Blue Anchor - *Helston, Cornwall.* Historic thatched brew pub, possibly the oldest in Britain. **Middle** (1050 / 4.9%), **Best** (1053 / 4.9%).

Branscombe Vale - *Branscombe, Nr Seaton, Devon.* Two former dairy workers converted two cowsheds and dug their own well to set up the brewery in 1992. 30 outlets. **Branoc** (1040 / 3.8%) A well balanced bitter with a hoppy, bitter taste and aftertaste. **Pistol Knight** (1041 / 4.3%).

Mildmay - *Holbeton, Nr Plymouth, Devon.* Started brewing in 1993 for the Mildmay Colours Inn. Capacity tripled to 50 barrels per week in 1994. **Colours Best** (1040 / 3.8%) A pale brown beer with a good hop aroma. The initial taste is bitter and hoppy, but sweetness develops later. Bitter finish. **Starting Price Ale** (1045 / 4.5%) A mid-brown bitter with a malty, fruity aroma and taste, and a sharp, bitter aftertaste.

Otter - *Honiton, Devon.* Began in 1990 and expanded in 1994. Supplies 60 pubs with beers brewed using local malt and their own spring water. **Bright** (1039 / 4.3%) A summer ale. **Ale** (1043 / 4.5%) Mid brown coloured, well balanced beer with a malty aroma and a hoppy, bitter taste and aftertaste. **Head** (1054 / 5.8%) A mid brown beer with a strong malt aroma and taste. Pleasant, bitter, malty finish.

Sharp's - *Wadebridge, Cornwall.* Set up in 1994 and supplies free houses throughout Cornwall. **Cornish Coaster** (1037 / 3.6%). **Doom Bar Bitter** (1042 / 4%).

Sumerskills - *Billacombe, Nr Plymouth, Devon.* Brewed for two years from 1983 and relaunched by new owners in 1990 with plant from the old Penrhos brewery. 35 free trade outlets. **Best Bitter** (1042 / 4.3%) A mid brown beer, with plenty of malt and hops through the aroma, taste and finish. A good session beer.

Whistle Belly Vengeance (1046 / 4.7%) Red/brown beer with a beautiful malt and fruit taste and a pleasant, malty aftertaste.

Sutton - *Plymouth, Devon.* Built alongside the Thistle Park Tavern near Plymouth's Sutton Harbour in 1993. Supplies that pub and 30 free houses. **Plymouth Pride** (1039 / 3.8%) A pale brown beer, with a malty, hoppy aroma and taste and a bitter finish. **Gold** (4.4%). **Weetablitz** (5%) A wheat beer. **Knickadroppa Glory** (5.4%).

Locals and Old Favourites

Batemans - *Wainfleet, Nr Skegness, Lincolnshire.* **Salem Porter** (1049 / 5%), **XXXB** (1049 / 5%), **Victory Ale** (1059 / 6%).

Black Bull - *Fenny Bentley, Derbyshire.* **Best Bitter** (1040 / 4%), **Raging Bull** (1049 / 4.9%).

Burton Bridge - *Burton upon Trent, Staffs.* **Summer Ale** (1038 / 3.8%), **XL Bitter** (1040 / 4%).

Holdens - *Dudley, West Midlands.* **Mild** (1037 / 3.7%), **Bitter** (1039 / 3.9%), **Special Bitter** (1052 / 5.1%).

Leatherbritches - *Fenny Bentley, Derbyshire.* **Light Summer** (3%), **Belter** (4%).

Maypole - *Eakring, Notts.* **Celebration** (1040 / 4%), **Mayday** (1046 / 4.6%).

Oakham - *Oakham, Rutland.* **Jeffrey Hudson Bitter** (1038 / 3.8%), **Hunky Dory** (1044 / 4.5%).

Springhead - *Sutton on Trent, Notts.* **Bitter** (1040 / 4%).

Titanic - *Burslem, Staffs.* **Best Bitter** (1036 / 3.5%), **Stout** (1046 / 4.5%), **Captain Smith's Strong Ale** (1050 / 4.8%).

Townes - *Chesterfield, Derbys.* **Sunshine** (1036 / 3.6%), **IPA** (1045 / 4.5%).

Whim - *Hartington, Derbys.* **Hartington Bitter** (1038 / 4%), **Magic Mushroom Mild** (1042 / 3.8%), **Black Bear Stout** (1062 / 6.2%).

This list is by no means final and other breweries and beers will be added including some notable locals.

German Beers

The brewers and beers list is still being worked out but is likely to include the following beer styles: Dunkel, Weissbier, Kellerbier, Alt Bier, Helles, Rauchbier. Er, yes - like me, try them and find out.

New Beers

As usual we'll be bringing you a selection of the newest beers from around the country. Please remember that only 2 or 3 will be available at any one session. Have a great time - enjoy, enjoy!

Join CAMRA now - and Save Money!

CAMRA members are admitted free to all sessions of the Derby Beer Festival so if you join now you could save as much as £17.50 in admission charges. Not only that, but CAMRA are offering 15 months membership for the price of 12 if you join at the Festival.

For your membership fee of £12 (£14 joint membership) you'll get CAMRA's paper, *What's Brewing* and, if you live locally, the Derby Branch member's newsletter, *Mild & Bitter*, in the post each month. Not only that but you get the chance to help organise next year's festival, survey pubs and take part in our social activities. Talk to Tim or Les on the membership and information desk and join our happy band.

Charity Begins at the Beer Festival

A donation of £400 to the Mayor's Charity Fund has been made by the organisers of the Derby Beer Festival from the surplus on last year's event. Rising costs meant that the festival didn't make as much as had been hoped, so tighter budgeting measures have been introduced this year.

Many people still think that the Derby Beer Festival gets its beer free or gets free use of the Assembly Rooms for a week. Not a bit of it. We have to pay commercial rates for everything, including VAT. It's only the dedicated work of unpaid volunteers that allows the festival to go ahead. Why not drink generously at this year's event to make sure we can give the Mayor a bigger donation next time round?



New Zealand Arms
Peel Street, Derby
6 Real Ales - Food Available
Open 11 - 11

Ripley's 1st Annual Beer Festival at

The Hollybush Inn

Brook Lane, Marehay, Ripley Tel: 01773 742558

At least 22 Real Ales and Ciders from around the country - while stocks last!

August Bank Holiday Weekend

FRIDAY 23rd; 6-11, SATURDAY 24th; 11-11, SUNDAY 25th;

11-10.30, MONDAY 26th; 12-11.

REAL ALE, LIVE MUSIC



Swamped in Cajun and Beer

R Cajun and the Zydeco Brothers, (photo - above) Derby's famous pioneering leaders of the cajun movement in Britain bring the Swamp Club feel to the Great Hall on Thursday night. Its impossible to stand still and those who know all the dance steps are almost as entertaining as the band. Pianist, **Tony B** warms up the proceedings. Alternatively, the antics of **John Willy Brown** will have you rolling with laughter in the Darwin Room. Get in early for a front seat - you could be in the show!

Big Swing Band Leads Beer Festival Music Parade

The **Bob Wilson Big Swing Band** debut at the Derby Beer Festival on Wednesday night playing the hits of Glen Miller, Benny Goodman and Buddy Rich to name a few. Guest vocalist will be James Selfridge, famed for his interpretations of the great Sinatra songs. Their maxim, "It don't mean a thing if it ain't got that swing" promises a big night.

Ripley Morris will be waving their hankies and tinkling their bells whilst in the Foyer British Barbershop champions, **Grand Central Chorus**, will be harmonising.

Roots Rock - Folk Friday

No band has more fun than the **New Bushbury Mountain Daredevils** (photo - right). Catch their energetic "urban / hillbilly / folk" in the Great Hall on Friday night and find out why they pack venues wherever they play.

Celtic Rock fans have a difficult choice - Derby's own favourites, **The Rattlers**, will be pounding out their powerful sounds in the Darwin Room. If you're torn, don't worry - Alan, Boz and company play an acoustic set on Saturday lunch and are back for another electric performance on Saturday night. The Stomp comes to the Beer Festival!



Laid Back Lunches

Chicago Echoes and their laid-back jazz lay a relaxing backdrop in the Great Hall on Thursday and Friday lunch whilst on Saturday old favourites, **Drowsy Maggie** bring us their magical Irish folk sounds.

Sunday Jam - Tribute to Benny Gardstein

Three Wheel Drive will be joined on Sunday lunch by musicians and singers who worked with Benny Gardstein in what promises to be a moving and enjoyable chance for those who knew Benny to remember the life, times and charisma of this well-loved local entertainer.

Creche Magic

Magician, **Ian Young**, will be captivating your kids in the free creche (with fully qualified staff) in the Reception Suite on Saturday and Sunday lunchtime.

The Full Line-up at a Glance

Wednesday Night

Great Hall - The Bob Wilson Big Swing Band, Ripley Morris. **Foyer** - Grand Central Chorus

Thursday Lunch

Great Hall - Chicago Echoes

Thursday Night

Great Hall - R Cajun and the Zydeco Brothers, Tony B. **Darwin Room** - John Willy Brown

Friday Lunch

Great Hall - Chicago Echoes

Friday Night

Great Hall - The New Bushbury Mountain Daredevils. **Darwin Room** - The Rattlers

Saturday Lunch

Great Hall - Drowsy Maggie. **Darwin Room** - The Rattlers (unplugged). **Reception Suite** - free creche with magician, Ian Young

Saturday Night

Great Hall - the Amazing Bavarian Stompers, ZZ Birmingham Blues Band. **Darwin Room** - The Rattlers

Sunday Lunch

Great Hall - Three Wheel Drive plus guests (jam session tribute to Benny Gardstein). **Reception Suite** - free creche with Ian Young.

Quiet Sessions

For those of you who prefer to drink without the distraction of entertainment **The Darwin Room** will be music-free on Wednesday night and Thursday and Friday lunches (closed Sunday lunch).

Family Room

When the **Reception Suite** is not being used for the free creche (Saturday and Sunday lunches) it is a family room complete with TV for kids programmes (and Test matches!)



8th Off The Tracks

MUSIC & BEER FESTIVAL

AUGUST 30th 31st and 1st SEPTEMBER

PARK FARMHOUSE, MELBOURNE ROAD, CASTLE DONINGTON, NEAR JUNCTION 24 OFF THE M1

35 REAL ALES & A WEEKEND OF ECLECTIC MUSIC

CAMPING, CARAVANS, SHOWERS, TOILETS, CAR PARK, ON SITE HOTEL

WEEKEND TICKETS £20 IN ADVANCE BY POST (BEFORE 23/8/96) FROM:

OFF THE TRACKS, PO BOX 68, DERBY DE1 3XY (SEND SSAE)

INFORMATION HOTLINE: 01332 384518 / 833673

The **Hollybush Inn**, Brook Lane, Marehay - just south of Ripley -

has an ideal setting. The french windows and patio at the rear overlook the village cricket ground (pictured, right) and bowls green. On the weekend of the **August Bank Holiday** there may be cricket but, more importantly, around 22 real ales plus cider for the first annual beer festival to be held in Ripley.

Opening hours are 6 - 11 Friday 23rd August and all day Saturday

Hollybush Holiday Heaven



24th, Sunday 25th and Monday 26th - while stocks last. Those stocks range from Cains **Dark Mild** (3.2%), McGuinness **Feather**

Plucker (3.4%) and Bunces **Pigswill** (4%) at the lower

strength end to the mid-range Banks and Taylor **Dragon Slayer** (4.5%), Palmers Tally Ho (4.7%) and Burtonwood **Buccaneer** (5.2%) to the brain bashing Gibbs Mew **Bishops Tipple** (6.5%), Marstons **Owd Roger** (7.6%) and Robinsons **Old Tom** (8.5%).

FESTIVALS AROUND BRITAIN

June 28-29 8th Surrey

Leatherhead Leisure Centre, Guildford Road, Leatherhead, Surrey (note new venue). 70 real ales & ciders plus foreign beers. Admission £3 Friday eve, £2 other sessions, includes 1pt souvenir glass (£2 & £1 to CAMRA members), no music. Contact John Norman, 0181 546 0506.

July 10-14 Derby Beer Festival - but you knew that anyway.

July 16-20 Essex

Student Union Bar, Anglia Polytechnic, Park Road Chelmsford. Over 100 real ales in two big bar areas, ciders and Belgian beers. Live acts at all sessions. Admission £2 evenings after 7pm, CAMRA members and other times free. Call Alan Kuhnell, 01245 464130.

August 6-10 GREAT BRITISH BEER FESTIVAL

Grand Hall, Olympia, London. The largest selection of real ales, ciders, perries and imported beers under one roof anywhere in the country. Live music every session. Prices £3.50-£4.50 eves, £1 off for CAMRA members.

August 16-17 Portsmouth

Guildhall, Portsmouth (3 min. from BR Portsmouth & Southsea). Ticket only. Over 100 ales and "umpteen" ciders/perries. Details on 01705 753031. All-in ticket £5, covers glass, £1 beer, entertainment and programme. Tickets must be ordered in advance, as sold out in '94 and '95. Extra £1 beer to CAMRA members.

August 20-25 Peterborough

The Embankment, Bishops Road. 200 real ales in three massive marquees. Live music every evening. Food. Free to CAMRA members and at lunchtimes. Evenings £2-£3.50. Contact Harry Morten, 01733 64296.

Trip Organisers

Run a coach trip to the Wednesday Night of the Derby Beer Festival and the first drink is on us - any other time and the organiser gets a pint. Contact Duncan Crabtree on 01332 834658 to book your coach in.

Trevor's Premier Points & Pints

What? Can't afford or can't get hold of a season ticket to watch the Rams at the Baseball Ground next season?

Never mind... not only is Trevor Harris celebrating the **Brunswick's** elevation to Premier status as Derby CAMRA's nomination for *Pub of the Year* but he's also celebrating with a 4% black bitter called **Rams Return**. Its black (with a white head) and the pump clip and bottle label feature Derby County's Ram logo facing left instead of the

normal right - at the suggestion of Ram's executive, Keith Loring. The bottling (*not a limited edition*) has been done by Burton Bridge Brewery and the draught beer will be brewed again for the start of next season. A cask has gone to Lionel Pickering's pub - the **Yew Tree** at Ednaston.

Those on tight budgets can now drink 2, and sometimes 3 beers at £1 per pint - **Recession Ale**, Batemans Best **Dark Mild** and, when he brews it, Brunswick Best **Dark Mild**.

Off The Tracks - Again!

The 8th OTT Music and Beer Festival gets underway at 7.30pm on Friday 30th August with informal acoustic sessions and, in the beer hall, comedy from **Waldo The Magnificent** and **Maynard Flip Flap**.

The event, held at Park farmhouse, Melbourne Road, Castle Donington (near junction 24 of the M1) runs until 3.00pm on Sunday 1st September and features 35 real ales spread over 2 bars. There are 2 covered concert areas, a camp site (with improved facilities) and a courtyard of mayhem and merriment with jugglers, a fire-eater, the Sealed Knot and a morris team as well as a mini bazaar.

For the Saturday session (12 - 12) OTT have kept their folk roots ideals but have included some of the more experimental bands around. Guests include **Chris Lesley** and **Kevin Dempsey**, **Mirandas Sex Garden**, **Ed and Denzye Alleyne-Johnson** (ex New Model Army), **Blue Horses** (catch the ambidextrous guitarist!), **La Cucina** (Latin American folk), **Wholesome Fish**, **Dark Lantern**, **Ponchas Poison**, **The Dunns**, **Pete Oakley**, **Jayne's Red House** (Jayne - ex No Right Turn), **Spokane** (Delta Blues), **Prego** (mainly French influenced), **Midland Classic Cajun**, **Dean Manning**, **Cross o' th' Hands**, plus many more.

The Sunday lunch 'hair of the dog' session features the **Landau Forte Classical Ensemble** - 12 to 16 year olds playing a selection of chamber music to soothe the sore heads - and a rousing Celtic finish from **F.O.S. Brothers**.

Advance weekend tickets, priced £20 are available from PO Box 68, Derby DE1 3XY. Cheques payable to O.T.T. More information on 01332 384518 / 833673. As they say, *Miss it and Weep*.

SAD LOSS

Derby's leading rhythm and blues pianist, **Benny Gardstein**, died on May 17th after a long battle with cancer. Well-known on the local pub and music scene, he had become practically a fixture at the Derby Beer Festival over the years and was an inspiration to many fellow musicians.

Despite his illness, Benny never gave up playing and, only a few days before his death, rocked a packed Pimms Bar Jazz Club with an impromptu display of his keyboard skills. A real character and a man of great style, he will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

(see *Beer Festival Entertainment*, Sunday lunch)

Indie's Latest Specials

Hard on the heels of Raging Rooster, **Hardys and Hansons** have brought out **Grasshopper** - described as a thirst-quenching summer ale. At 3.6% ABV it is, apparently, hoppy, dry and quaffable.

Meanwhile, **Marstons** are planning another 17 beers in their Head Brewers Choice range. The first of these is **Ditchingham Ale** (4.8% ABV), described as a premium pale ale with sharp hop bitterness from Fuggles and Goldings.

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New Zealand Festival

Paul McCarthy of the **New Zealand Arms**, Peel Street, Derby is planning a summer beer festival. Dates are not yet fixed for the festival so keep your eyes peeled for flyers and local press information.

Snackers Derby 678357

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A Better Quaff of Offilers

When I started drinking in the all-too-distant past there was an Offilers pub on every other street corner and the town was awash with Offilers Best Bitter. It was not a bad beer but not one to go out of your way for, not that you had to. The beer we went out of our way for in those days was Draught Bass, when it was only to be had in half a dozen houses in this town, the ones we favoured being the **Derwent Hotel** on the Spot, the **New Inn** in Bridgegate and the **Saracen's Head** where it still is (but renamed).

So it seems a nice irony to see both these beers side by side on the bar of the newly re-opened **Smithfield**, which last sold Offilers in the sixties when the pub was called the **Cattle Market Hotel**. The irony is that this 'Offilers' - which was not, of course, brewed in Derby but in the Museum Brewery at Burton - is actually better than the original Offilers brewed in Ambrose Street, Derby, while the Draught Bass, now brewed in a tower

fermenter, is nothing like as good as that brewed in the Burton Union Room when Draught Bass truly was 'The Great Ale of England'.

Despite every effort, the old Offilers could never really be re-created. In the years between, both barley and hops have changed, carefully cultivated to produce higher yields and resist viral infection, and Burton water was always better than Derby's for brewing bitter. There have also



been considerable advances on the hygiene front, both in the brewery and down the cellar (though you may not suspect this in all cases).

So this new Offilers is not so much a re-creation of the old but something better - something of a retrospective tribute to Derby's last brewery until the advent of the Firkin and Brunswick breweries, pulled down in 1966. There will, no doubt, be those who cherish the golden memories of their early drinking days and associate that pleasure with Offilers, but what they really cherish are their youthful memories.

The truth is that Offilers Best Bitter was never this good, but there's nothing like a drop of nostalgia for gilding 'the good old days'.

Cheers, Offilers! I, too, was in arcadia.
Reg Newcombe

More Price Hikes!

Brewers have recently announced yet another round of price increases, this time blaming last year's hot Summer for poor crop yields which have pushed up the price of malting barley.

You'd have thought they'd have made enough profit last Summer with us all swigging the stuff like it was going out of style to subsidise it a bit. But no, hard on the heels of the cost of Sky Television, washing up half-pint glasses, increased feed costs for the pub dog and any other

excuses they can think of, up goes the price again and it's the poor (and getting poorer all the time) drinkers who have to stump up.

Price increases average around 6p a pint. If the breweries are really honest about enticing more people to come out to the pub instead of sitting at home with a cheap supermarket six-pack, surely three or four price rises a year isn't the way to do it?

I shall have to start taking in washing again.

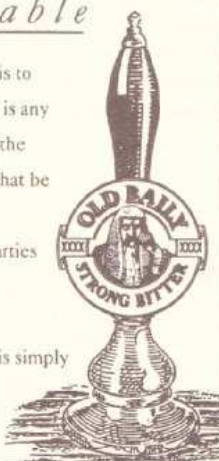
Nick meakin

Tales from THE BAR

That's understandable

Counsel My sole purpose in this little monologue is to record that understanding on the record, and if there is any disagreement with my understanding by counsel for the defendants, which I believe there is not, to ask that that be recorded so that there be no misunderstanding subsequently by any party to this case or any third parties as to what we intend to provide.

The Judge My problem with what you have said is simply that I am not altogether sure that I understand what you have said.



4.8% ABV.

Judge it for yourself

Protect YOUR Pleasure Join CAMRA NOW!

Application Form

I/We wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale Limited and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. I enclose a cheque for £12 (£14 for joint, £16 for overseas membership).

Name(s)

Address

Please send your remittance (payable to CAMRA Ltd) with this completed application form to:
CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St. Albans, Herts AL1 4LW.

Survey these Prizes

Have you ever wondered how a pub is selected (or not) for the Good Beer Guide?

Now you can take part in the process and enter TWO free draws. All you have to do is fill in the beer survey form (right) and send it to **Beer Survey Draw, 72 Meynell Street, Derby DE23 6NH**. The first entry out of the hat on 6th July will win a gallon of ale at the Derby Beer Festival. Then, on 1st August another five will be drawn from all the entries. These lucky people will each win a pair of tickets to the Great British Beer Festival on Saturday 10th August.

All year round CAMRA members locally fill out a form similar to this one each time they visit a pub. The beer they drink is rated on a scale of 1 to 5 as follows;

- 1 - undrinkable (take it back and leave)
- 2 - poor (take it back and complain)
- 3 - average (not strikingly good or bad)
- 4 - good (mmm, nice, I think I'll have another)
- 5 - excellent (that's wonderful, I'll stop here all night and come back again!)

When the survey form information is collated all those with an average score of more than 3 are

Pub name

Address

.....Date.....

Beer.....Rating.....

Your name

Address.....

.....

Telephone.....

re-visited several times to check quality and consistency and meetings are held to discuss and decide which pubs locally will fill our quota in the Good Beer Guide - usually about 37 in the Derby Branch area.

So, its local information and local CAMRA members who decide which of your locals are in the top 10% of when it comes to beer quality - **now its your chance to have a say in that process.**

Beer Bingo Trail - Participating Pubs

See page 1 for details.

As we go to press there are 38 confirmed participants. All 49 are listed on the bingo card so pick up your card and start playing beer bingo!

Derby - **Derby Beer Festival**;
Abbey, Darley Abbey;
Alexandra, Siddals Road;
Brunswick, Station Approach;
Buck in the Park, Curzon Street;
Drill Hall Vaults, Newlands Street;
Duke of Clarence, Mansfield Road;
Exeter Arms, Exeter Place;

Ferrers Arms, Sinfen;
Flowerpot, King Street;
Furnace, Duke Street; Royal Standard, Derwent Street;
Smithfield, Meadow Road.
Belper - Queens Head, Chesterfield Road; Old Kings Head, Days Lane, Brassington - Miners Arms and Old Gate, Burton - Burton Bridge, Crich - Cliff Inn, Cromford - Boat Inn, Duffield - Kings Head, Fenny Bentley - Bentley Brook Inn and Coach and Horses, Fritchley - Red Lion, Hilton - Kings Head, Holbrook - Wheel Inn, Horsley - Coach and Horses, Milford - King William IV, Milton - Swan, Nether Heage - Spanker, Parwich - Sycamore, Ripley - Prince of Wales, Shottle - Railway, Swanwick - Boot and Slipper, Ticknall - Staff of Life, Turnditch - Tiger, Willington - Rising Sun, Wirksworth - Blacks Head.

DERBY CAMRA DIARY

Branch Meetings

are usually fairly informal, light-hearted and informative. We start at 8.00 and there is sometimes a guest speaker or social activity.

Thursday 4th July - Brunswick Inn, Station Approach, Derby

Thursday 8th August - Royal Standard, Derwent Street, Derby

Thursday 19th September - Flower Pot, King Street, Derby

Tuesday Socials

start from about 9pm and are informal gatherings. We don't necessarily talk about beer - it could be football, music, sex or even philosophy. If you'd like to join us for a jar or three call David George on 01332 601258 for more details - you'll be made very welcome.

From the team that brought you the Flower Pot

The Smithfield

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further details

Tues-Thu eve: 5pm-10.30pm: £4; Wed-Thu lunch: 11.30am-3pm: £1
Fri: 11.30am-10.30pm: £4.50; Sat: 11am-7pm: £3.50

REV

BY ROB

