



KEEPING YOU INFORMED ABOUT YOUR BEER

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FREE

VICTORY!



Britain's beer drinkers are celebrating a victorious campaign by CAMRA to fight off a legal challenge to the British guest beer law. In August the European Commission announced that it would take action against the British law, claiming that it discriminated against imports.

The Government has announced a proposed amendment to the guest beer provision. At the moment tenants of national brewers can buy one cask conditioned beer from a supplier of their choice as well as beers from their tied supplier. The proposal extends this to allow one bottle conditioned beer.

Commenting on the proposal CAMRA Campaigns Manager

Stephen Cox said. "This is a sensible extension of the existing rule. It will offer British and Continental brewers of speciality beers new markets for their products, and it will stimulate the production of these beers in the UK. The new proposal will be workable and it will ensure that the guest beer law remains fair to all brewers."

"The British beer market offers more imported beers than any other European country; British pubs offer the best choice in Europe. The current guest beer law does not discriminate against imports and no-one has produced convincing evidence that it restricts consumer choice or cross border trade. We welcome further improvement in the guest beer law, which can only strengthen the case for retaining it."

The commission have been satisfied by some relatively minor amendments to the legislation which will actually improve consumer choice. "It's time to thank all those who helped in our campaign and to draw a pint of high quality guest beer to celebrate!"

Cask conditioned beer continues to ferment in the cask - real ale and a number of Continental ales and lagers.

Bottle conditioned beer continues to ferment in the bottle - there are a number of British products and a variety of Continental speciality beers. Most of Europe's traditional speciality beers are sold in bottles.

CAMRA launches manifesto

The election campaign is in full swing, you've heard the debates, listened to the arguments and you're still undecided. Try asking your candidates where they stand on competition, choice, consumer rights and the future of our pubs.

CAMRA wants to see:

- ☒ takeovers and mergers blocked
- ☒ the tied house system supported
- ☒ the guest beer law extended to non-brewing companies

- ☒ owning 25% of pubs in one district declared a local monopoly
- ☒ reduced beer taxes and duty
- ☒ small brewers paying lower taxes
- ☒ responsible, social and moderate drinking encouraged - not penalised for the excesses of alcohol abusers
- ☒ short measures prohibited
- ☒ the listing of ingredients, place of brewing and whether drinks are real or processed
- ☒ pubs open to suit staff and customers
- ☒ accompanied children allowed in suitable pubs at the licensee's discretion
- ☒ licences only refused on specific, clearly drafted grounds
- ☒ customers consulted before pubs are closed or altered
- ☒ planning law strengthened to defend pubs
- ☒ publicans give 'right to buy' if ownership changes
- ☒ relief on business rates for some rural 'community' pubs

CAMRA has no candidates and doesn't support any party - it's your choice, use it!

Visit our unique 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

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

Brunswick Inn

DERBY

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

NEWS

Theme Changes

The Prince of Wales in Spondon is set to become the third Festival Ale House in the city. The first two - the New Zealand Arms on Peel Street and the White Swan at Littleover recently held a successful and novel two-centre beer festival. The Wardwick Tavern in the city centre may follow while the George, Irongate looks set to go Irish.

New Limb for Headless

The Headless Pub Co. Ltd, headed (sorry - Ed!) by John Evans have bought the Friargate and appointed Amanda Rogers as manager. Amanda has eight real ales on sale and will be listening to customer requests as well as what's available in the Flowerpot and the Smithfield.

Boom Continues

New pub mania is gripping Derby. Whitbread are said to be looking for sites, Greenalls have made a bid for the Victoria Street Post Office and Hardy and Hanson plan a new pub in Chellaston. The Fat Cat, Friar Gate and Babington Arms, Babington Lane have recently opened in the city. Yates' Wine Lodges, Regent Inns and Bass are set to open their respective venues later this year after massive investment.

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

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insisting
on full
measure
is fine, but
how do
you know
the
accuracy
of the glass? New



Beer Boffin
answers your queries

glasses are batch inspected (BS 6001) for capacity by Trading Standards Officers and approved if within the following tolerances.

| Glass Tolerance (ml) | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| type | Pint Half |
| Brim | + 34 ml (6%) + 20 ml (7%) |
| | -0 -0 |
| Lined | ±17 ml (3%) ±10 ml (3%) |

There are only two glass manufacturers still in business in the UK: Dema at Chesterfield and Pilkington at St Helens, and the latter imports a lot of glassware from France. These high-volume plants use modern quality techniques which monitor parameters against a target. If a parameter moves away from the target corrective action can be taken before the tolerance limit is reached, eliminating the need for scrap and rework.

The target - and therefore the average - glass size is 585 ml, being a pint plus half the allowable tolerance. So if you have a brim measure glass brim full you will almost certainly have 17 ml (3%) too much beer, if that is not an alien concept.

Ivor Clissold

When two becomes one

Marstons are planning to combine the **Etwall Arms** and **Blenheim Hotel**, Main Street, Etwall by knocking out the party walls. The new premises are likely to re-open as the **Blenheim Inn** after extensive refurbishment and decoration.

THE BELL INN



SMALLEY

Free House - beers from
**Bateman's, Ruddles, Marstons,
Whim**

LUNCH & EVENING FOOD

"totally unfitted"

A judge has declared a Bass pub "*totally unfitted and unsuitable to hold a licence*."

The **Granville** in Swadlincote has been the subject of a Crown Court appeal against Derby and South Derbyshire Magistrates' decision to revoke the licence.

The pub, run by a succession of Bass companies and a host of licensees in the past 10 years, has been the centre of violence in the town. Counsel for the police, Mr. Robert Crawford, said Bass had "*lamentably failed over many years to protect their licensees and the residents of Swadlincote*," he recalled:

• Doorman Keith Day being brutally beaten with a iron bar and later dying.

• Users of nearby shops being 'seriously frightened' by yobs.

• Shop staff being subjected to abusive language.

• An environmental health officer savaged by an Alsatian dog as he inspected the dirty kitchens and beer pipes slashed by previous licensees.

• Customers cheering on a broken bottle fight between two women, one of whom lost an eye.

• Licensees fleeing the town in fear of their lives.

Since the pub closed crime in the town has dropped 40%.

A former licensee, still in hiding, installed a panic button, wired to the police station via a dedicated phone line. On the night his doorman was attacked he was threatened with a knife and a shotgun. He hit the button, but Bass had discontinued the line without telling him. The police arrived 15 minutes later following a 999 call. He fled for the safety of his wife and children and

GLASS WASHER FOR SALE

Phillips glass washer with built in water softener. 5/6 years old with 6 month guarantee - £450. Tel. Kevin on 01332 360000

complained that Bass had given him no support.

After the last licensees fled, the pub was broken into, but police could not contact anyone at Bass for three days.

Bass Lease Company's business director, Andrew Thompson, announced £80,000 revamp plans, but the Bench were unimpressed. Judge Brian Appleby said the company wanted to re-open the pub "*on purely commercial grounds and not for the benefit of the people of Swadlincote. For many years this terrible place has been a blight on the community of Swadlincote. It is a terrible place with tenant after tenant leaving in terror. why is Bass suddenly doing something now?*"

The company has not admitted making a mistake, he added. "*Bass sat back and didn't care and just put in one licensee after another. That's the company you represent,*" he told Thompson. "*Bass must have known the situation through its district managers. They must have been aware of the disgraceful way the premises were being run and the consequent damage and injury offered to people in the town centre.*"

At the end of the two-day hearing Judge Appleby awarded costs against the company and said, "*I consider this appeal has been totally devoid of merit.*"

After the case Thompson said, "*We have presented our case and lost our case. Now we will have to decide the future of the premises.*"

Ivor Clissold

DRINKER Comment

Victory - and why YOU still need CAMRA

The magnitude of CAMRA's victory in our campaign to preserve Britain's guest beer law is as startling as a certain unmentionable football result in Teeside a few weeks ago.

Not only have we won, but we have managed to increase the choice of quality beers available to you. When the legislation is passed you will, possibly slowly at first, see all sorts of speciality bottle conditioned real ales from all over the EU available in big brewers' pubs.

That is just one part of our campaign - aims of increasing choice, quality and value for money for you - the customer. There is a long list (see front page) of campaigns waiting to be fought and won and a growing number of members (nearly 50,000) to fight them - but - we still need more **ACTIVE** members; foot soldiers to survey pubs and make deliveries, planners to organise and communicators to tell the world.

It could be you.

David George

The Old DOLPHIN INN



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Tuesday
Food served all day
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THE OLD OAK

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Home cooked food served
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Open lunchtimes.

Curry night - Wednesday,
Quiz night - Monday

The Village Freehouse
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John & Staff
welcome you to

The Furnace Inn Duke Street, Derby



Kimberley Mild, Bitter, Classic
and Cellarman's Cask

The Woodlark

Bridge Street, Derby

Paul & Debbie warmly welcome
customers old and new

Traditional ales include Bass,
Pedigree, Adnams, Salisbury

Quiz Thursday night and piano
sing-a-long Sunday

Tel: 01332 332910

Please send your remittance (payable to CAMRA) with this completed application form to: **Tim Williams, 39 Breedon Hill Road, Derby**

We're buying AIR!

Drinkers are buying nothing - for a million pounds a day.

Pints are getting rarer - and it's nothing to do with the EU. A CAMRA survey reveals 8 out of 10 'pints' are not pints at all, but something less. CAMRA asked every Trading Standards department in Britain for details of their surveys of local pubs and things are worse than anyone imagined.

80% of pubs sold short measure pints.

at least a quarter of pints were below the industry guideline of 95% of a pint.

Trading Standard officers are not taking action because of legal uncertainty.

There is widespread support for the introduction of lined glasses.

The Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association guideline says beer and froth should be at least 95% of a pint (19 fluid ounces), but this seems to be regarded as a maximum by unscrupulous retailers. J. H. Potts, Chief Trading Standards Officer for Lancs. County Council, says "In practice, many pubs in Lancashire have, perhaps, changed from line-measure to brim measure in order to take advantage of the 'legalised short measure' outlined in the industry code."

Paul Bostock of the Notts. Trading Standards office says the BRLA "guidance notes are not enforceable in law and therefore are of no use. ... This Authority along with many others have now ceased positive enforcement in this area of trade." The government lost us this consumer protection when they revoked Section 43 of the 1985 Weights and Measures Act in 1994. This "has resulted in the farcical situation that it is the customer who now has the obligation to ensure he receives a full pint of beer. One of the reasons put forward for not implementing the legislation was that the cost of changing all brim measures to lined measures would be exorbitant. Since that decision how many brim measures have been replaced due to Natural wastage?", asks a Carmarthen-shire Trading Standards Director.

Labour's consumer affairs spokesman Nigel Griffiths says a Labour government will restore Section 43. The brewing industry responded with the outcry that restocking with lined glasses will cost £19 million. They are too modest to mention how much they have saved since 1994 by selling people fresh air when they ask for beer, then pocketing the VAT and duty.

Ivor Clissold

PS How come Banks's and Camerons, who have a lined glass policy, sell their beer cheaper than their local competitors who use brim measures? The Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery who own both is a highly profitable company. It couldn't be that the industry is scaremongering again, could it?

The facts - supplied by Banks's in March this year and CAMRA's prices survey in July LAST year sink the "costs too much" argument once and for all!

Come and visit the largest pub in the world



Tues. 5th to Sat 9th August

Over 250,000 pints of Real Ale • Cider • Perry • Imported Beer • Seating for over 1000 • Varied food Stands • Games • Live entertainment including **Steele Span** on Friday night •

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Eight Traditional Ales available

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A TRUE FREE HOUSE

BEER FESTIVAL DIARY

Walsall Beer Festival

April 17th - 19th at Walsall Town Hall, Leicester Street, Walsall. 70 beers, H&C food, soft drinks. Thurs. eve - quiet session, entertainment Fri. night, Sat lunch and evening. Contact Rob Bentley on 01922 861626.

Mansfield Beer Festival

April 18th - 20th at Mansfield Leisure Centre, Chesterfield Road. 100 beers, ciders, perries and fruit wines. Entertainment - Sat night, Fri. night is quiet session. Meals and snacks available. Contact Kev on 01623 26072.

Cambridge Beer Festival

May 19th - 24th at Cambridge City Football Ground, Milton Road, Cambridge. 70 beers specialising in breweries

which have opened during the past year. Real food, family area and disabled access. Contact Bruce Law on 01223 364877.

Lincoln Beer Festival

May 22nd - 25th at the Drill Hall, Lincoln (nr Bus and Rail stations). 70 beers, entertainment all sessions except Thurs and Fri lunch. Contact Keith Dawson on 01522 575147.

Doncaster Beerex

May 29th - June 1st at the Dome Leisure Centre, Bawtry Road, Doncaster (buses 70, 73, 74 from Duke Street). 70 beers, cider, perry and Bavarian bottles, food, family room, disabled access. Entertainment Fri. and Sat evenings only. Contact Neil Worthington on 01302 738405

Beer urges beer ban!

Police are urging councillors to extend the city centre alcohol free zones to some Derby suburbs where there have been problems with teenagers on street corners. And the police spokesman urging the ban: Superintendent Bill Beer!

Glasses for sale

Derby Beer Festival glasses and programmes 1978 - 1983 plus a few odd years plus a 1977 glass and programme from the second beer festival held by CAMRA at the Bingley Hall, Birmingham. Phone Allan Hassall on 01332 514054 for details and prices.

From the team that brought you the Flowerpot

The Smithfield

Meadow Road - tel: 01332 370429

Derby's only Free House on the Banks of the Derwent

Quarter mile from Train Station
Quarter mile from Market Place

Hot food Monday to Saturday -
Sunday lunches a speciality

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Derby's only real ale house run by a woman
OPEN ALL DAY

Derby City Charter
20th

Derby CAMRA Beer Festival

at the

Assembly Rooms
Market Place, Derby
from

Wed 9th (evening) to
Sun 13th (lunch) July

100 Beers, Cider &
Perry including
foreign beer

Live entertainment

Wed - Bob Wilson Big Band •
Thurs - Sounds of the Blues
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Jackson Jailbreakers • Sat -
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Hot & Cold food • Creche/
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