



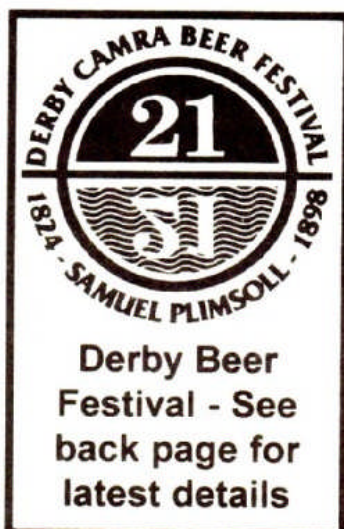
KEEPING YOU INFORMED ABOUT YOUR BEER

ISSUE No. 70

SPRING 1998

FREE

Pub Quality Award set for launch



Derby CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, are set to launch a Pub of Quality Award in memory of their late chairman, writer and quality expert Ivor Clissold. At their AGM in March members voted for this version of 'The Ivor Clissold Award' rather than devoting the beer of the Festival or the pub of the year to his memory.

Nominations will be open for any pub in the Derby branch area (Southern Derbyshire but without most of Erewash and the Swadlincote corner) and will be accepted from CAMRA members, brewers, licensees and the public. The pub will then be visited up to 15 times by members and the quality of beer and standards of service noted. Pubs will have to achieve consistently high

standards before an award is made.

Surveyors will note:

- the length of time taken to be served bearing in mind how busy the pub is,
- whether they were served in the correct order and how friendly the staff were,
- how much the staff knew about the products on sale and its dispense,
- whether a full pint was served, a top-up given or the response when one was asked for (if necessary),
- whether an adequate price list was displayed,
- general cleanliness and hygiene in rooms and toilets and
- beer quality

They will also be able to note any other aspect which was particularly good (or bad). A separate panel, who will not be given the name of the pub, will decide whether an award should be made or not.

There will be a presentation to those licensees who achieve high standards. Those who fail will be given copies of the survey forms. The awards will be valid for a year, will remain the property of Derby CAMRA and can be taken back if standards drop or there is a change of licensee.

celebrating while British pubs will pick up the tab. Mr Brown has offered no support for the 900,000 British jobs in the brewing and pub industry."

A massive 13% of beer brewed in France is now brought over to the UK by personal shoppers and smugglers. Without substantial duty cuts, the level of cross-border shopping is predicted to increase from 1 in 20 pints today to 1 in 5 pints by 2006.

Mr Benner added, "Pubs are closing as a result of high duty. Smuggling and related criminal activity are on the increase. The Chancellor has ignored the evidence that a cut in duty would benefit the industry, consumers and the government within two years."

The Chancellor's 1p on a pint of beer will almost certainly mean a 2p price increase (probably 4p for Bass) by the time you and I get to the pub on New Years Day.

Mike Benner, CAMRA Head of Campaigns said "This increase is very bad news for drinkers. French brewers and Calais beer warehouses will be

The Nags Head Inn
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Banks's Mild
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NEWS

Mansfield's Boundary

The **Boundary** at South Normanton was built by Mansfield brewery and not Banks's as reported in the last issue.

Obituary

The **Cross Keys**, Holbrook will carry the name no more, The **Dead Poets Inn** will be the sign on the door. So after death there's life - why are these name changes currently rife?

Barker Bounces Back

Nigel Barker, once of the Dolphin and Barker Inns has taken over at the **Silk Mill** after spending several years in West Midlands exile.

Friary Change

The Grade II listed **Friary Hotel** is being converted to a 'student' pub and training centre for managers of 'student' pubs by Bass at a cost of £1.5m.

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

What have the Romans ever done for us?

Well, through St. Augustine they have bequeathed to us a pub ancient and unique.

The only surviving part of Darley Abbey is the 13th Century building - **The Abbey** and unlike the rest of Derby's lost heritage it just escaped destruction with the narrowest of squeaks. Have a look at the photo in the upstairs bar.

Zoom the roof trusses, fondle the exact-replica medieval doors, and instead of staring at the wall in the Gent's toilet, spare a glance for the floor, it is tiled with copies from

the sister abbey at Dale. Don't splash!

You can read all about the restoration in the literature alongside the photos.

You will not find a dray-load of beers on offer, but your hosts Simon and Chris are proud of the fact that if you want a glug of nectarish Samuel Smiths in Derby, then The Abbey is where you'll be. And it comes out of a proper wooden barrel.

At lunch-times there is a varied and popular selection of food.



Directions: A6 towards Allestree past **The Broadway** then 1st right. Right at the Bluebell Gallery. 1st right and parking is on the left past the pub.

Neil Wilson

Guess who's representing Kent brewer Shepherd Neame in their court battle with the government over duty - Cherie Blair no less. Is this the subtle approach?

Dispensing beer - the method of transferring it from the barrel to your glass.

Keg beer, being under artificial gas pressure in its keg, is pushed out of the keg, through pipes and a tap into your glass using gas pressure from a gas bottle. The barman simply flicks the little handle on the bartop down starting the flow, so filling your glass.

Cask beer, not being under pressure in its cask must utilise some form of pumping method to lift it from the cellar to the bar, so into your glass, hence the familiar hand pump on the bar top. The only other way to transfer it from the cask into your glass is to pour it out. Enter your landlady disappearing down the cellar with a big jug at regular intervals.

Know your dispense?

After the article in the last issue we're now in a better position to understand 'real ale', which page 19 of the CAMRA handbook defines for us as follows: "A name for a draught (or bottled) beer brewed from traditional ingredients, matured by secondary fermentation in the container from which it is dispensed and served without the use of extraneous carbon dioxide". As you can see, the definition of real ale includes the method of dispensing beer into your glass, or more accurately the method of not dispensing it, i.e. using no additional gas (carbon dioxide). Therefore, the term 'real ale' very conveniently included all cask beers and excluded all keg beers, so differentiated between live beers and processed beers which was exactly what was needed at the time.

Until then, there was no real requirement to differentiate because there was no keg beer: beer was beer was beer. You can see now, there is a technical difference between cask or live pressure, or an electric pump, or

partially filtered, or chilled, or bottled? Is it still real ale? Well, that's where we're walking on broken glass. In strict terms, no, but the term 'real ale' has developed into a more generic term in your average drinker's eyes to mean cask or live beer, while CAMRA insists on the original strict definition, including the 'extraneous gas' bit.

Does it really matter so long as we are consistently served a quality pint of live beer to our liking? - after all the real enemy is keg and to discover if it's really 'real ale' you need a visit to the brewery and pub cellar - but with not much practice you can do it by taste. My Grandpop used to say when hi-fi recordings came about "Enjoy the music rather than listening for the scratches" If you can feel the gas scratching your throat and bloating your stomach try the real thing. At least we understand the terms 'cask', 'real ale' and 'keg' - hopefully. Until next issue, when we'll look at summat else, happy slurping:-)

Cardinal Jim

Fancy another one?

The last government held a consultation into whether pubs should be able to open an extra hour on Friday and Saturday evenings. CAMRA believes that they should. We would like pubs to open when they please, but with some local control over problem pubs.

The government wants to resurrect the issue but it needs to know how the public feel. Would you like to be able to stay in your local until midnight? Are you tired of being forced to go home at 11.20 on a Friday night? Do you long to be able to choose to have another drink in a pub you like rather than being forced into a nightclub or theme bar with a late licence?

If your answer to any of the above is 'Yes', get writing now. If the government sees real public demand for later opening on Fridays and Saturdays it might just move a review of licensing law up the political agenda. That would be good news for consumers and publicans alike.

In other countries later hours has reduced the strain on public services and disorder.

Get writing now to your MP and to:

George Howarth MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Home Office, 50 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1 H 9AT.

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Hospitality and Really
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NEAR JUNCTION 24 OFF THE M1
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TWO-DAY TICKETS £15 IN ADVANCE BY POST (BEFORE 22 MAY)
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Wetherspoons in Matlock

A former coaching inn in Bakewell Road, Matlock is being rebuilt by JD Wetherspoons. The pub chain which runs the **Standing Order** and **Babington Arms** in Derby will have 260 pubs before the summer.

Live at the Flowerpot King Street, Derby

April
11th Lenahan
18th The Fold
20th The Albion Band
25th The Crack
May
2nd Sid Griffin & the Cole Porters
5th Nick Harper
8th China Crisis
9th Whisky Before Breakfast
11th Waterson & Carthy
14th Wilko Johnson
16th R Cajun & The Zydeco Brothers
17th Nils Lofgren
18th Eliza Carthy
23rd The Men They Couldn't Hang
29th Ian McNabb (TBC)
30th Edward II
June 5th Chicken Shack
Tickets: Raw Promotions Tel: 01332 834438, BPM Records, 36 The Strand, Derby Tel: 01332 382038 or the Flowerpot

Del's railway ambitious

Next time you are in the vicinity of the South Derbyshire town of Melbourne a call at the **Railway Hotel** on Station Road is well recommended.

The owner, Del Tilling formerly of the Hillsborough Barracks, one of Sheffield's premier real ale pubs has ambitions are to lift this somewhat out-of-the-way watering hole to similar standards. It was neglected a little by the people of Melbourne - perhaps the walk from the town centre was too much.

In the early 1990s Bill Poynton of Cap & Stocking, Kegworth fame and licensee Dave Rogers attempted to make a fist of the place but failed despite best efforts. This time, however the signs are that Del is on the right (Railway) lines. He has Pedigree on at all times and a rapidly-changing selection of guest beers. Recently there has been **Greene King Abbot Ale**, **Hadrian Centurian**, various **Burton Bridge** offerings and the 1997 **Champion Beer Of Britain Mordues Workee Ticket**. Del aims to increase his array of choice if the demand is here and has six handpumps at his disposal. He says it is difficult to compete with say the Brunswick or Alexandra, given the rural location, but the aspirations are there.

A very traditional atmosphere prevails inside with wooden and

tiled flooring and memorabilia of the days when the arteries of British Rail still stretched out to the country town. Accommodation is available here with seven rooms and the restaurant is at the quality end of the market but not too pricey. At the rear of the pub a cottage and barn have been demolished and work is hoped to start here soon on Del's own micro-brewery.

A competition to design the pumpclip has been run in the pub and at the moment the house beer, **Melbourne Bitter**, is being brewed by Townes Brewery of Chesterfield.

The pub is to the east of Melbourne town centre and is best approached from Derby via Kings Newton. Pass through the village and turn right onto Station Road. If you fancied a walk or cycle ride then the path running mainly along the old Derby Canal runs under the bridge near the Railway Hotel en route to Tonge and Worthington. Public transport - is restricted to the bus service - number 68 and 69 from Derby at 10 past and 20 to the hour respectively Monday-Saturday. Last bus back however is 21:45. All journeys 37 minutes. All in all the Railway is not the easiest pub to find but ventures of this nature are welcome and here is one country issue that is worthy of urban support. **Pip Southall**



And all because of a price list...

A highly vocal argument, people thrown out of a pub, one of them down some steps. "A bunch of football hooligans" you might think. Not a bit of it, just some friends out and about in Ashbourne on Shrove Tuesday. Ah ha, I hear you say - drunk as Lords and couldn't see the ball let alone run with it. Again not (quite) true.

So, what was the cause of this altercation? It was all because some pubs in Ashbourne decided to raise their prices during Shrovetide football but failed to amend their price list or put up any notice whatsoever. If you were sober enough to notice being charged two pound something when the price list said one pound seventy something wouldn't you object?

Ashbourne take note.

The Railway Hotel

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Full range of food served
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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 £..... Rates are Single £14, Joint £17, OAP and Under 26 £8 (£11 Joint), Overseas £18 (joint £21) Under 26 please add date of birth

Name(s)

Address

Post Code

Signed..... Date

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

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**21st GREAT BRITISH
BEER
FESTIVAL**
**LONDON
OLYMPIA**
4th-8th AUGUST 1998

Festival line-up takes shape

We'll have all the beer details for the bumper 21st Derby CAMRA Beer Festival in our special 8 page edition to be published in June. The organising goes on and more entertainment has been booked.

Wednesday night is **World Cup** semi-final action on a giant screen. Our attempt at booking Lindisfarne for the Thursday failed - they couldn't make it. Friday night sees **Skaboom** in the Great Hall and **Blue Horses** in the

Darwin Room. In addition to the **Rattlers** in the Great Hall on Saturday we have **Midnight Pumpkin Trucks** in the Darwin.

Skaboom are modelled on the Madness/Specials Coventry Ska scene whilst Blue Horses would rival our very own Rattlers as England's top folk-rock band - except they're from South Wales. Midnight Pumpkin Truck's pop-rock always goes down a storm locally.

What about Thursday? Watch this space!

Special beermats

Three special souvenir beermats are being produced to commemorate our 21st, 21 years of city status for Derby and the anniversary of the death of Samuel Plimsoll. You'll find them in pubs between now and the Festival and at the Festival itself.

Twin Peaks Booze & Blues

The **Bentley Brook Inn**, home of Leatherbitches Brewery at Fenny Bentley just north of Ashbourne are to hold two beer festivals this summer. The first is May 22 - 25 and will feature 50 beers from micro breweries around the country and live music on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

A weekend ticket is £5 including a glass and half a pint. There's a barbecue, pig roast, skittles, boules, barrel

rolling and brewery visits. Camping is free, the caravan site is 100 yards away and children are welcome.

The second event is from July 24th - 26th and probably of a similar nature but we'll bring you details next issue.

Dolphin Festival Dates

The Dolphin, Queen Street, Derby hold their annual beer festival from 22nd - 26th July. There will be about 40 guest beers, a breweriana auction and music galore. More details next issue.

Queens Head

Chesterfield Road,
Belper

April

Thur 16 - Arthur Ebeling
Band £3.50
Sat 18 - Isaac Gillory £4.50
Sat 25 - Leon Russelson £4.00

May

Sat 2 - Tony Hall £3.00
Sat 9 - The Rattlers £4.50
Thurs 14 - Dai-si-belle £4.00
Sat 16 - Robin Williamson
£6.00
Mon 25 - ZZ Birmingham
FREE
Sat 30 - Kate Rusby £4.50
may be subject to change
01773 625525

8.30 start

Bass reveal all

At the start of this year Bass declared their combined brewing capacity in Burton-on-Trent to be the biggest brewery in Britain. But at what cost?

Derby Drinker went to view the newly acquired ex Carlsberg-Tetley brewery in Burton and hear what they had to say. We are worried - not only are they closing breweries in Sheffield and Cardiff in January 1999 and 2000 respectively but also are now openly declaring that Real Ale will be treated as a niche market product in the future. Bass appear to be quite happy to withdraw Real Ale from many of their outlets leaving just Smooth Flow, Lager and Caffreys.

Two directors - whilst both declaring themselves Real Ale drinkers - saw it as a declining part of Bass's plans for the future. It was put to them that a lack of

advertising particularly amongst the younger drinkers was partly to blame. Their incredible response was that they didn't believe advertising influenced young people even though they boasted of spending over £100 million per year on product marketing with £10 million of that being concentrated on Worthington "Draught" Bitter.

The astonishingly straight-faced spokesman for Bass claimed that advertising a beer in canned form or even Smooth Flow would lead to the Real Ale version being chosen by the customer when this is available.

Bass and real ale no longer fit together - illustrated by the fact that the brand information list handed to journalists does not even contain Draught Bass!

Duncan Crabtree

Paul, Wendy & Staff
welcome you to



New Zealand Arms
Peel Street, Derby
an excellent range of real ales
from Land's End to John
O'Groats

Jolly Sailor

Hemington

Fine Ales - Fine Company

Eight Traditional Ales
available

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A TRUE FREE HOUSE

the 21st Derby CAMRA Beer Festival

at the

Assembly Rooms

Market Place, Derby

Wednesday 8th - Sunday

12th July 1998

put it in your diary

Off The Tracks springs up early

To celebrate their tenth the Off The Tracks Music and Beer Festival will be held twice this year! The first event at the Park Farmhouse, Castle Donington will be held on Friday 29th and Saturday 30th May. The Friday evening features **Andy Martin** in an informal session on the concertina and the best of 25 real ales.

On Saturday the music gets going with **Cross o'th Hands**, **Jayne's Red House**, **Spokane**, **Prego**, **Carline Anglim & Ali**, **Vulcheva Jenkins Incident** and **Whisky Before Breakfast** headlining. See advert for ticket details.

Not Another Bloomin' Beer Festival

That's the title of the 5th Beer Festival to be held at the **Queens Head**, Chesterfield Road, Belper from 23rd to 25th May. There will be 18 guest beers - all with a floral theme and entertainment.

From the team that brought you
the Flowerpot and the Smithfield

The Friargate

114 Friar Gate

tel: 01332 297065

**Derby's only real ale
house run by a woman**

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From the team that brought you
the Flower Pot

The Smithfield

Meadow Road

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Quarter mile from Train Station
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