



KEEPING YOU INFORMED ABOUT YOUR BEER

ISSUE No. 74

WINTER 1999

FREE



Michael Thomas Bass to be Celebrated

The 22nd Derby Beer Festival (July 7th - 11th) will celebrate 200 years since the birth of Michael Thomas Bass who, apart from being Derby's longest serving MP (35 years) and part of the brewing family was a most generous benefactor to Derby.

He gave us the Free Library and Museum in the Wardwick, two open-air swimming baths and the recently controversial Bass's Rec amongst other things.

His statue (pictured above) stands in Museum Square outside the present day library in the Wardwick.

From the team that brought you the Flowerpot and the Smithfield

The Friargate

114 Friar Gate

(opp Carlton Casino)

tel: 01332 297065

Good Real Ale in the heart of Derby

Food Mon - Sat 12 - 2.00

Quality Counts!

Derby CAMRA - the Campaign for Real Ale - are calling on cellar staff to raise their quality standards in time for the new millennium. And they will be offering promotional support to pubs where serving a good pint is taken seriously.

Pubs who are prepared to give a "no quibble" undertaking to change a poor pint or top up a less than 100 per cent measure are to be offered posters to advertise that they offer a "HAPPY PINT". Local licensees will also be invited to a series of meetings with Derby CAMRA to discuss quality issues.

A survey of 80 beers in Derby in October found only 4 in superb condition. Thankfully only 3 were almost undrinkable. The quality of beer in Derby is at least average or slightly better. The school report would say "B minus, good, but with a little more effort could be outstanding."

CAMRA's National AGM will be held at the Assembly Rooms in

Derby in April 2000. Around 1000 of the most dedicated and discerning members from all over the UK will descend on Derby for a weekend of talking about and drinking real ale. Derby CAMRA, as hosts, would like those people to go home raving about the quality and choice available in Derby.

Ivor Clissold Award

Meanwhile, three pubs have been nominated to be surveyed by Derby CAMRA members to see if they qualify for an "Ivor Clissold Quality Award". Under the spotlight will be all aspects of quality and service - not just the beer. If successful they will receive the highest award Derby CAMRA can make.

Marstons & Banks's - the takeover fight gets ugly

Two midlands independent brewers are locked in a bitter battle which is unlikely to be resolved by the time you read this.

Wolverhampton & Dudley (Banks's) have upped their bid for Marstons and promise 200 jobs will go in Burton if they win. Marstons' counter bid aims at closing W&D's breweries in Wolverhampton and Hartlepool (Camerons - owned by W&D) and getting Bass to brew

Banks's and Camerons' beers at their Cape Hill Brewery in Birmingham. They would also sell 1,150 pub tenancies but keep the historic Burton Brewery - despite revelations that they approached S&N and Whitbread last year offering to sell it.

The only happy outcome will be a failure of both bids - or the Monopolies and Mergers Commission putting a stop to the whole shooting match.

Enjoy the finest range of QUALITY cask conditioned beers at the award winning

Brunswick Inn

Derby's only Traditional Brew Pub

- Home Produced Lunches
- Evening Buffets
- Non-smoking Room
- Function Room
- Family Parlour
- Conference Facilities
- Brewery Tours by arrangement

For details phone: 01332 290677

NEWS

Black Bull Closed

Fenny Bentley's Black Bull Brewery, producers of the wonderful Dovedale Bitter amongst others, is temporarily closed having suffered from a yeast infection. They hope they are back in production by Easter.

Burtonwood Choice

Warrington brewer, Burtonwood are offering their tenants up to 12 guest beers per year from a list of regional and independent brewers in addition to their own beers. Will other regional brewers follow their lead?

Closed/Open

Montagues in Derby was closed but has since re-opened whilst the Three Horseshoes at Yeaveley is reported to be closed.

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

Enter the Dragon

About six miles south-west of Derby and even closer to Burton-upon-Trent lies the village of Willington, in the shadow of the power station and the recent A50 realignment. Nestling in its heart is a gem of a pub which deservedly qualified for inclusion in the 1999 National Good Beer Guide only for editorial errors being responsible for its omission in the text.

The **Green Dragon** stands set back from the A5132 road and is backed by the Trent & Mersey Canal, where brightly-painted barges with names such as Whistling Swan and Peggotty Jar lap contentedly in the cut. At its front is a beer garden and car-park facing the reopened Willington railway station, on the Derby - Birmingham line, which has a

The White Swan at Littleover and the Green Dragon at Willington were inadvertently missed out of the 1999 Good Beer Guide.

The last issue featured the White Swan and now Pip Southall puts the record straight for the Green Dragon.

rather metropolitan look to it these days.

Pubs that remain in the same family for years and continuity of face behind the bar is becoming increasingly rare and it is both unusual and refreshing in these days of short-term occupation to report that the pub has been run for upwards of twenty years now by the licensee, Bill Grenville. During this time the Green Dragon has become a haven for

well-kept ales and very good value lunch and evening food. Marstons Pedigree, Tetley bitter, Morland Old Speckled Hen and Wadworth 6X are regular features but some more imaginative selections do appear and the likes of Brains SA and Fullers ESB have been recently available. The Dragon is also one of a dwindling number of venues to regularly keep the excellent Ind Coope Draught Burton Ale in the area and boasts genuine membership of the Guild Of Master Cellarmen.

The white painted pub has a drinking area akin to a bar to the right on entry with the left-hand side largely given over to food and including a no-smoking area. There are large collections of brassware and cigarette cards. The pub has intimate low beamed ceilings and is adorned with prints and drawings of the Burton brewing industry including the Union Systems, perhaps to become merely a distant memory for future generations?

WILLINGTON

GREEN DRAGON

The Green

☎ (01283) 702327

11-3, 6 (5 Fri) -11,

12-3, 7-10.30 Sun

Ind Coope Draught Burton Ale; Marston Pedigree, Tetley Bitter and guest beers H

Smart and popular village pub set back from the road and close to the Trent & Mersey Canal in a quiet location. Much favoured by diners.

Outdoor drinking area; lunchtime & evening meals; near Railway station; own car park.



MUSEUM BREWING COMPANY



The Flavour Of Our Heritage

Speciality cask beers and heritage ales from the Bass Museum archives.

Included in our portfolio are:

No. 6 Mild Ale	3.9%
Victoria Ale	3.5%
Offlors	4.0%
"E"	4.8%
Masterpiece IPA	5.4%
P2 Imperial Stout	8.0%
No. 1 Barley Wine	10.5%

Contact Chris Voyce
Sales Manager ext. 3565
Museum Brewing Company
PO Box 220, Horninglow St,
Burton upon Trent DE14 1YQ
Tel: 01283 511000
Fax: 01283 513509
www.bass-museum.com
E-mail: brewery@bass-museum.com



The Falstaff

Silverhill Road,
Normanton

**Genuine Free House
Independent Guest Ales
continually changing**

Tel: 01332 342902

OPEN ALL DAY

Wardwick Tavern

The Wardwick, Derby Tel: 01332 332677



Wide choice of handpulled ales
Diane and Tuch welcome you to the
city centre's only Festival Tavern
**Food served all day Sun - Thurs. and
until 5.00pm Fri./Sat**
Steaks from only £6.50

NEWS

Story anger

Derby Drinker has been taken to task following the story in the last issue that locals at the **Malt Shovel** at Aston had been angered by proposed alterations to the pub. Communication from the licensee, staff and customers tell a different story. Following consultation with customers the plans were slightly altered and everyone now seems happy - *except perhaps the source of the story. If only more pubs bothered to consult their customers - my apologies to the Malt Shovel. DG.*

New Chairman

The Derby based **Heritage Pub Company** have appointed ex-Mansfield brewery property director Hugh Wilson as their new chairman. Heritage run 35 pubs and hope to expand to 70 in the next 18 months.

Burton Gloomy

Burton upon Trent, already reeling from the **Marstons** takeover battle has been hit by further bad news. **Bass** are to axe 200 office jobs following their purchase of the Carlsberg-Tetley brewery last year. On top of that **Allied Domecq** announced a decline in sales over the Christmas period which sent their shares tumbling. Then it was announced that the **Burton Festival** would be scrapped unless £30,000 could be found. Thankfully the **Burton CAMRA Beer Festival** will not be affected and **Burton Bridge Brewery** is thriving. *No wonder Burton Albion are not performing well.*

Steve & Betty
welcome you to
Pattenmakers Arms
Duffield

Tel: 01332 841114
**A choice of real ales
handpulled and straight
from the jug**

Derby Drinker

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Guests at White Swan

The White Swan at Ockbrook now serves guest beers while the Rocket, Breadsall and It's a Scream, Friargate, Derby have stopped selling real beer.

Live Poet found in Holbrook!

Derby pub poet, Les Baynton has refuted suggestions that his talent is inn-versley proportional to the quantity of ale he has consumed by publishing a third book of pub poetry entitled - "Inn Verse"

It features 20 comic poems reflecting on the diversity of pub goers and their pubs. There's a tanner to the first person who can tell me who this was written about:

Connoisseur

It was what he'd always wanted
A small pub, a chance
To keep his beloved beer
In perfect condition,
He nurtured each new beer
With a midwife's care,
Rolled it lovingly
Round his expert palate...
Often his mouth would tighten
And his eyes would close
In a kind of alecy ecstasy
Only when each cask was
precisely ready,
Would he put it reverently on,
Sometimes his wife would shake
her head
As he savoured another glass of
near perfection,
Not comprehending the intensity
of his ardour
And in the regular drinkers eyes
Was gratitude and just a bit of
envy...
I WOULDN'T MIND THE
GOVERNOR'S JOB
JUST LIKE A BIG KID
LET LOOSE IN A SWEET
SHOP.



Les Baynton pictured with Dave and Chris Brown at the Dead Poets Inn, Holbrook.

"Inn Verse" is sponsored by the Dead Poets Inn, The Rowditch Inn, Derby and West Street Contracts Ltd. and is available from Les at £3 - telephone 01332 206734.

Cask Marque for Malt Shovel

The Malt Shovel, Shardlow has been awarded the Cask Marque - the brewing industry's equivalent of the quality charter mark - after a series of random visits and rigorous inspections.

Exeter alterations delayed

Alterations to the Exeter Arms, which, we are informed, will be in keeping with the pub's history have been put on hold until the Marston's takeover situation has been settled.

Landord's merry-go-round

Mark Jones has left the Standing Order to take on the Park at Chaddesden whilst Paul Needham has left the Dolphin. Nina and Terry Holmes who have previously run pubs in Hull and Doncaster are promising a beer festival at Easter as well as the normal Dolphin festival in July.

There have also been new licensees at the White Hart, Stanley, the Punch Bowl, Kirk Hallam and both the Traveler's Rest and Station Inn at Kilburn. We wish them all well at their new pubs.

The Old Silk Mill

1st Beer Festival

many exclusive beers

Thursday 1st - Sunday 4th April 1999

Over 20 beers

Don't forget our best value food in town
11.00 am - 7.45 pm daily

19 Full Street, Derby DE1 3AF

Tel: 01332 369748

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 £..... 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

AS IN DIARY

Brunswick Winter Warmer Beer Festival

- 26 February to 7 March at the Station Approach pub in Derby. There will be around 65 beers including some new beers and from new brewers. Most beers will be of normal strength but we are promised one at 10 per cent abv!

The Old Silk Mill 1st Beer Festival - 1st to 4th April with over 20 beers whilst across the road the Dolphin are planning a beer festival at the same time.

Further afield there are CAMRA beer festivals at **Rotherham** (Feb. 17 - 20 Tel: 01709 512222 for details), **Stourbridge** (Feb. 18 - 20 Tel: 0121 422 5394), **Bradford** (Feb. 25 - 27 Tel: 01274 735875), **Wigan** (March 4 - 6 Tel: 01924 840658) and **Darlington** (March 18 - 21 Tel: 01325 486555)

Millennium Eve - Where will be open?

With bar staff, chefs, taxi drivers, entertainers and babysitters all charging a small fortune for their services on New Year's Eve the millennium celebrations are heading for a chaotic washout. Pubs and other venues are undecided about opening and charges leaving potential revellers in the dark about where to go and how much it will all cost.

Already the City Council have scrapped plans for a **Market Place** party and JD Wetherspoons have announced that their pubs, the **Standing Order** and **Babington Arms** in Derby and the **Red Lion**, Heanor will shut at 8.30pm. The **Fat Cat** in Derby will close whilst the **Rhode Island Exchange** will kick diners out at 10.30pm.

You can find somewhere to celebrate if you want to pay a fortune well in advance. There will be a party at **Pride Park Stadium** and nightclubs **Time** and the **Pink Coconut** will be hosting their parties. **Morley Hayes** will be open and for £390 per person you can have an all-inclusive two night break at the **Makeney Hall Hotel**.

One pub planning a 'normal' New Year's Eve is the **Green Man** at

Willington although unless others follow suit it is likely to be anything but 'normal'. Unless pubs firm up their plans and publicise them many will opt for private parties at home and watching TV - a millennium damp squib.

Government plans to allow all night opening every New Year's Eve will be a waste of time if there's nowhere left open at midnight.

Pubs - let us know your plans so we will keep drinkers informed. Tel: 01332 770209.

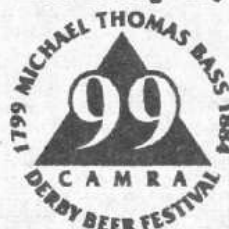
Full Pint to the line

Tynemill Inns, including the **Alexandra**, Siddals Road, Derby now serve a full pint of liquid in a lined glass. So you can get your money's worth and still have a foaming head - if that's what you want.

Volunteers sought

Tynemill are also looking for volunteers to drive OAPs to and from afternoon sessions where they can get 30p off a pint. They say they want to enable elderly people whose own locals may have closed to get out more. *Contact Mark Robins on 01332 293993.*

22nd Derby Beer Festival
at the
Assembly Rooms, Market Place, Derby
7 - 11 July 1999



Put it in your diary
coach trips, enquiries,
volunteers contact :
01332 770209

Good Beer Guide 1999

The latest edition of Britain's number one beer and pubs book is now on sale. It's the 26th edition and is the biggest and best ever!

576 fact-packed pages on the British beer scene:

- 5,000 of the best beer pubs in Britain, arranged county by county, fully mapped and with all facilities highlighted, from accommodation and meals to family rooms, no-smoking areas and wheelchair access.
- Information on all Britain's breweries and the real ales they produce, from giants like Bass and Whitbread to the newest micros like Scatter Rock Brewery in Devon and Iris Rose Brewery in the Highlands. There are no less than 42 new breweries in the 1999 edition.
- Hard-hitting features on CAMRA's campaigning year, the pub design awards, the craft of brewing and who owns our pubs.

The Good Beer Guide is the book no beer lover can afford to be without and is ideal for holidays, business trips, days in the country or nights on the town.

Available from all good bookstores or direct from your local CAMRA branch, it is still priced at only £10.99. It's the perfect gift - or why not treat yourself to the 'beer drinkers bible'!

Copies are also available direct and post-free from CAMRA at: 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans Herts AL1 4LW (cheques made payable to CAMRA; credit card sales on (01727) 867201).



DERBY CAMRA DIARY

Branch Meetings

These start around 8.00 and should finish by 10.00. Our Annual General Meeting will be held at the **Flowerpot**, King Street, Derby on **Thursday 11th March.**

Coach Trips

We organise local minibus trips to survey pub beer quality as well as coach trips for pub crawls and to beer festivals and breweries. **Phone Gareth Stead on 273501 if you'd like to come along.**

Socials

We hold informal socials every Tuesday evening from about 9.00. Any number from 2 to 22 turn up and anyone interested in beer is welcome - we can usually be found in the lounge. Give Gareth Stead a call (see above) to check which pub.

Dead Poets Inn

Chapel Street, Holbrook
Good range of traditional ales
open all day Friday, Saturday,
Sunday

tel: 01332 780301

Ye Olde DOLPHIN INN

A wide range of guest beers
Sunday quiz night - free food
Monday - live band night

1530AD Steak Restaurant
opening shortly
Tel: 01332 267711

From the team that brought you
the Flower Pot

The Smithfield Meadow Road

Derby's newest real ale house
on the banks of the Derwent
Quarter mile from Train Station
Quarter mile from Market Place
LARGE CAR PARK