



ISSUE NUMBER 122

JUNE/JULY 2008

FREE

Coors coming back to cask

IN A REVERSAL of their 2005 decision, Coors have returned to the fold and are launching a new cask ale. That beer a light, citrusy, brew called Red Shield at around 4.2% ABV, will partner the already well-established White Shield. It is thought it will be brewed initially at Marstons, but later at Coors.

White Shield is also due for a re-launch later in the year in draught form for the first time, but at 5.0% ABV. This will complement the bottled version (5.6%), which will be re-labelled as 'Export White Shield'. The lower gravity of the draught version Head Brewer Steve Wellington feels, will make the beer more quaffable.

By way of commitment Coors have already purchased a big supply of casks. The launch date for Red Shield is scheduled for July once satisfactory trials have been completed and marketing plans put to bed. It will be launched at the Derby Summer Beer Festival in July. A likely point of production at Coors is the former Samuel Allsop brewery which



has ten times the capacity (600 barrels) of the present Museum plant and will bring the added benefits of economy of scale to the beers. This launch is recognition by Coors, not so long ago one of the UK's largest brewers of cask, that they have still got much to offer.

Comment: The world of cask ale in which Coors were once such a dominant player has changed a good deal in recent years. The profusion of micro-breweries has added a very competitive edge so that the discerning drinker can readily obtain distinctive brews. There is no room for bland beers any more, as the plummeting sales of keg beers demonstrate. And the best of the micros eg Amber, Thornbridge and Whim, are a match for anyone. It is to be hoped that Coors haven't underestimated the market.



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An extended welcome to first time visitors yet to experience the transformation of the Assembly Rooms into an air-conditioned cathedral of cask beers where old friends, new friends and work colleagues meet.

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A whole array of draught ciders (not the mass produced commercial

brands) and perry will be available. Away from the alcohol, tea & coffee, hot & cold food are available throughout.



CAMRA membership: There has never been a better time to join as Wetherspoon's team up with give-away vouchers. Visit the new membership stand for further details.

Sadly I must mention Jeffery Tillet who died this April. Jeffery, as then Derby Mayor, instigated our first beer festival as part of the New City Celebrations in 1978, thus giving the Festival City Charter status. The celebration of this popular peoples event is now in its thirty first year.

So please come and enjoy the festival, don't leave it until Friday night, please be patient at busy times and remember the event just could not happen without our fantastic volunteer staff. Enjoying yourself is a serious business.

Cheers

Terry Morton

Festival Chairman 2008

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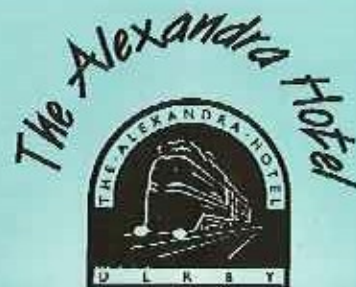
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Derby Brewery Tap

By the time you read this the Derby Brewing Company will have a pub open and selling beer in the heart of the City. The old Royal Standard, on Derwent Street, Canary Island, was reopened by the Good Beer

Guide Editor, Roger Protz, to an invited audience including some Derby County legends, on Thursday 5th June, and to the public the following day.

The name of the pub is the 'Brewery Tap, Derby's Royal Standard'. The owner is the Real Brewing Pub Company.

The licensee will be Simon Davey, formerly of the Brunswick (Are You Refreshed?), Alcazar Brewery and Green Jack Brewery in Norfolk, whilst allegedly managing Barnsley FC in his spare time!

Trevor had hinted at a duality of name some time ago but now we have it officially. The event has been anticipated with delight ever since Derby announced that they were to reopen the threatened inn.

The pub has a rooftop balcony overlooking the River Gardens and the River Derwent - it's a great view, spacious and on the



right days fantastic, even for the non smokers.

As DD deadlines did not permit a delay until the opening we have to make do with this shot of Paul and Trevor Harris holding the newly-commissioned inn sign, resplendent with brewery trademark beast (There seems to be an awful lot of Rams about in this issue!)

Derby Drinker, not always the first with the news, but more often than not correct.

PUB NIPS

Simon Booth, licensee of the GBG-listed Seven Stars on King Street, Derby has left the pub. The Cathedral Quarter hotel opened on St Mary's Gate. Its experiment with Pedigree lasted a little over a week. They said they had sold 'About ten pints'. The Tavern, Belper is a Real Ale Gain (Pedigree again). The Hilltop, at the top of Belper Lane, Belper has a new licensee in the form of Jenny, who was a manager at the Bear, Alderwasley for a number of years.

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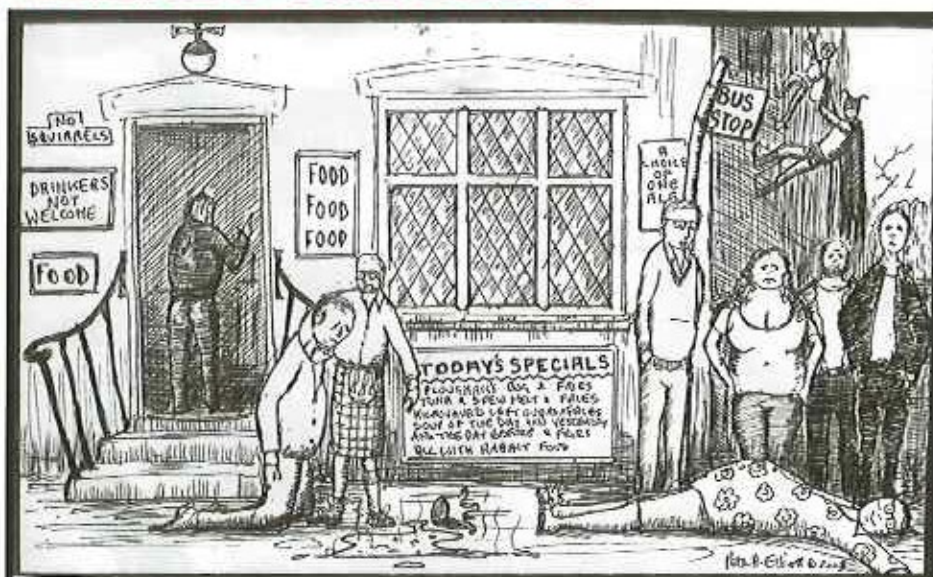
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WHERE'S THE BEEF?



Consider! Dear Toper, those pleasant English country inns that you have not frequented since the tail end of last summer, those isolated, way-side hostleries that ooze character and heritage, nestled, beneath bowering trees and by encroaching hedgerows; they are for me the very essence of an English summer's day.

But, alas Dear Toper, as you arrive outside of an old favourite, you cannot help but notice, that to the rear of the venerable old pile, some building work has been going on during the winter months, nonetheless the inn's frontage seems much the same as it was upon your last visit, and so undeterred you enter and then gasp in amazement, for the interior of the place has undergone a Tardis like transformation! Gone is the pleasant old, low, beamed bar room, where generations of toppers had leant upon the counter to set the world straight whilst quaffing a pint; gone is the old world lounge with its antique sporting prints bedecking the walls and its massive fireplace (sometimes a great boon during a traditional English summer) surrounded by burnished brass and copper; and gone too is the quaint little snug, where-in the wise old sages sat eager to impart the knowledge of a lifetime to disinterested youth (twas ever thus). In place of all those familiar, much loved features, is now one great big room filled with dining tables and chairs! Yes, Dear Toper, the place has become a family friendly 'eating house', complete with musak to drown out the constant sound of microwave ovens pinging, where the regulars (should they decide to remain so) are relegated to one tiny corner at the end of the bar counter, where hopefully at least one hand pump survives.

Sorry to say Dear Toper, this seems to be the fate of all too many of our country inns and taverns in

these uncertain times; not that I'm against food in hostleries, indeed in days of yore the English inn, was as noted for its food, as it was for its beverages (if not more so) but that was real food, like steak and kidney pudding, pork chops, roasts etc. or perhaps for those wishing a snack, pork pies, pickled eggs and onions etc, a long way from the pretentious rubbish that a lot of the would be pub/restaurants of today serve, (and they didn't need to take over the entire inn and half the yard to do it either).

And as for the descriptions contained in some modern menus, they beggar belief, for instance: "Pork medallions served with a drizzle of lemon sauce".

What on earth is drizzle? It sounds like a cross between going to the urinal and not quite getting there in time. And why are the chips called fries? Enough of these creeping Americanisms! And why when they say 'served with vegetables of the day' are they the same choice of vegetables every day? And why is the 'House Curry', Chilli or anything else they think sounds vaguely exotic, always advertised as being served on a 'fluffy' bed of rice? - It's not fluffy! It's a congealed white brick! And while I'm at it, why is everything served with half a plate of salad? Sod the rabbit food, give us more of the Roast Beef of Old England!

Real Ale, Real Food and leave our cherished Real Inns alone! Consider that, Dear Toper!

D.T

Dear
Toper....
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Jeffery Tillet - Many Thanks

The Derby Beer Festivals today are big complex events requiring a vast amount of work and preparation. However, at least we know that enough people will turn up, that we can keep the beer in good condition, and that we won't lose buckets of money.

But, for the first Derby Beer Festival, there was no such precedent and assurance of success. We had the courage to give it a go only because Jeffery Tillet, as Mayor of Derby, invited (it felt more like a very gracious command) Derby CAMRA to hold the event to celebrate the City Charter.

Most importantly, Jeffery promised support if the event turned out to be a financial disaster (branch members had to dig into their own pockets to raise the funding) and oiled the civic wheels to ensure its success.

No doubt we would have held a beer festival at some stage, but the people of Derby (and much further afield) can thank Jeffery for helping us start one of the earliest and most successful beer festivals - and, through the influence of this, helping to make Derby one of the best beer cities in the land.

Tim Williams

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'Duck' Lorraine

Derby Drinker was saddened to hear of the death, after illness, of former Brunswick and Alex barmaid 'Duck' Lorraine, known thus after her habit of addressing one and all as Duck. She was a part of the Real Ale and cider scene in the heady days of the Alex in the early/mid 1990s and will be much missed.

Microbrewery Corner

Taking a look at what's happening at the independent breweries in and around Derby



AMBER ALES

Three new beers have been released to celebrate the arrival of summer: Liberty, a US style light ale at 4.0% in cask; Summer Bock 4.5%, a malty bock style beer with European hops in cask and a Pale Ale flavoured with fresh Jalapeno chilli 4.4%. Off sales progressing well, Thursday & Friday 2pm - 6pm at the brewery. A number of 'Amber Ales weekends' are in action to celebrate the Original Stout winning a national award - Lion Hotel was in late May, Arkwright Arms, near Chesterfield (7th June), Temple Hotel, Matlock Bath (14th June), Flowerpot, Derby (tba) and the Shoulder, Clay Cross (tba). A full compliment of beers with free sampling, 'meet the brewer' sessions and the 'chilli challenge' - break a sweat and sample the new summer beer, or cool off with a Bock or a Liberty.

DERVENTIO

Derventio Brewery were delighted that Versuvius (ABV 6.5%) was voted the Best Beer at the Derbyshire Beer Festival, held at the Bulls Head in Repton over the Easter weekend. Head Brewer, John Baldock, commented "This is great news for everyone at Derventio, and it provides the cherry on the cake after an excellent winter trading performance. We plan to brew it again later this year and will add it to our list of bottled beers. To come out top in light of the strong local competition is very rewarding"

Versuvius is a Strong Red Bitter brewed from four specially selected malts with Pilot & Northern Brewer hops. Rich, full bodied, and powerful on the palate with a mellow aftertaste. Ready to erupt on your taste buds!



FALSTAFF

The brewery supported Mild May Month in superb fashion by producing three milds for the occasion. Adipose 3.8%, Martha Jones, ABV 5.9%, a strong mild (as one would expect!) with rich ruby hues and a liquorice nose. Mouthfilling sweet chocolate malt flavours and a slightly tart fruity finish. Lastly there was Astrid ABV 4.5%. Dark Ruby in colour with burnt chocolate aromas. Smooth dark malt and chocolate flavours balanced by a long slightly sharp aftertaste.

HEADLESS

The Brewery continues to brew at full capacity for its two pubs, the Flowerpot and Smithfield as well as local Beer Festivals around the area. Its three core beers, King Street Ale (KSA), First Bloom and Owd Reg have all proved popular, demand for KSA forcing it to be brewed twice as often as the others.

A new golden pale strong beer, Zymosis - 7.5% ABV has just been brewed made from lager malt, Maris otter, mount hood & cascade hops and will be launched at the 2nd SMITHFIELD at the end of August. Four bar-

rels have been brewed and it will also be on sale in the Flowerpot after its launch. The name comes from the fermentation process of beer.

Seasonal Christmas beer, Ebenezer will be brewed again with a slightly higher ABV, 6% and will appear towards the end of November.

Plans are afoot for a first dark beer in the Autumn which will be a Rich Stout. The brewery also recently held its first CAMRA Branch tour when members of Derby CAMRA were treated to a fine evenings hospitality and talk by brewers, Alastair Moffat and Lol Stevenson. Further brewery tours can be arranged by contacting the brewery direct.

THORNBRIDGE

Jaywick (4.8%) was voted Best Golden Ale at Doncaster Beer Festival. The annual Thornbridge Garden Party is

scheduled for Sunday the 6th July from 11am-4pm. The brewery and main house will be open for tours and a range of Thornbridge beers will be on offer. Proceeds from the event go to charity. Tickets cost £6 for adults, children are free. CAMRA groups can buy discounted tickets at £3 for advanced bookings.

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Velvet Beer Revolution in Ashbourne Road

ONE OF THE more recent players in the Derby Real Ale scene over the last few years is Mr Grundy's, situated in the Georgian House Hotel. It's a young team running an ambitious range of cask beers and doing the job rather well. A quiet Real Ale revolution.

Permanent ales are Burton Bridge Golden Delicious, Hop Back Summer Lightning and Taylor Landlord alongside several more of the more usual suspects from the Greene King stable. Other guests



have recently included Cottage, Falstaff and Church End brewery beers.

The main drinking area (pictured) is a hotch-potch of hats, hops and history shielded in oak panelling. The hat collection is that of Mr Grundy's licensee Carl Haspel as is the plethora of old (mainly black and white) photographs of the great and good from stage and screen from a bygone era. It can be fascinating to attempt to identify them over a pint. The foot of the hotel stairway sweeps into the bar with its handsome balustrade, while at the same time facing an old red telephone box. At the rear the garden is a haven in summer with tables, lawn and a splattering of trees, and access to Markeaton Street.

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Unicorn festival update

Down in Newton Solney the Unicorn Inn will stage its 3rd Beer Festival from 30th July-2nd August (Wed-Sat).

Landlord Paul Needham promises 50 cask beers spread over the pub and marquees in the pub grounds, plus a hog roast and hot food service throughout in this growing event.

The entertainment will include the Burton Concert Band, Elvis Gresleys, Woolley & Archer, the Travelling Riverside Blues Band, Fatdigger and UB40 tribute act Kingston Town featuring former members of Ska Boom.

Festival times are as follows: 6-12 Wed & Thurs, 6-1am Fri and 12 noon till 1 am Sat.

Beer festival at the Alex

Alan Yates is putting on a beer festival at the Alexandra Hotel on Siddals Road. It will run from 31st July to 2nd August with Sunday 3rd pencilled in as a drink up what's left day.

The original plan was to run a festival concurrently with the annual Brunswick one in the

Autumn but Alan has decided that the area, and both pubs, will benefit from two separate ale feasts.

There will be something in the region of 30 beers along with some traditional ciders and there will undoubtedly be numerous 'crackers' to sup.

New keeper of the Bear

After about eight years building the Bear Inn at Alderwasley up into one of the most rewarding places to eat and drink in the Belper/Wirksworth area, Nicky Fletcher-Musgrave has recently sold up to John Stamp, a local from Shottlegate.

Business as usual has been maintained however, except that the new owner has a liking for Thornbridge, and now Jaipur can be seen sitting alongside Hartington IPA or Bitter, Landlord (on gravity), Old Speckled Hen & Bass.

Continuity counts and we see precious little of it in the pub world these days so this is news to applaud.

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Poet & Castle launched at Codnor



A merry throng of Real Ale drinkers gathered at the launch of Ashover Brewery's latest pub, the Poet & Castle at Codnor.

Kim Beresford's new venture, in association with Everards, served up some lovely beer on May 22nd, the opening night to an invited select.

There were three beers from Ashover, Thornbridge Jaipur, Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby, Everards Old Original and four trad ciders.

Our picture shows a busy licensee Claire Roddy serving one of many pints at this cracking addition to the local cask ale scene.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE 2008 BEER FESTIVAL

1. One of the **SPECIAL BEERS** will be brewed by Wirksworth Brewery and adopted by The Mercian Regiment as their 'Regimental Ale'. It will be a 6% IPA and feature the cap badge on the pump clip.
2. Another **EXCITING BEER** at the festival will be Calcutta Ale, the beer that was transported to India by writer Pete Brown, who will be writing a book about his adventures. It has been brewed by The White Shield Brewery in the style of the original IPA at a hefty 7%. The festival has secured the last Pin of this unusual beer.
3. Derby Tourist Information Centre are making a huge effort to promote their **BEER BREAKS**, especially around the beer festival. The package includes B & B, entry to the festival, a glass and a pint of real ale. A whole page in the Wetherspoon house magazine in June will promote this and the festival, as well as a large advert in *What's Brewing*. If you have any friends/relatives who like to come and stay in our lovely 'Beer City' they get further information on 01332 255883 or by visiting www.visitderby.co.uk/shortbreaks
4. **PRIVATE DERBY**, the regimental mascot of the Mercian Regiment is only one of six mascots left in the country, and he is coming to open our 31st festival. He will be accompanied by the Ram Major and Ram Orderly to make sure he is perfectly turned out and behaves in a military way.
5. The **BEER KING** will at last have an outfit to rival his counterpart-Cambrinus Ferdinand in Germany. The 'King's New Clothes' are not invisible, as in the old story, but have been designed and made at the University of Derby. The new outfit (*Les is being fitted out in our pic*) will be seen in the Market Place at the Opening Ceremony-God Bless King Les!

Les Baynton



Thirsty First Beer Festival July 9th-13th



The Summer Festival is 31 years old and once again it's full of surprises. We've discovered that there are now 31 breweries within 25 miles of Derby, what an apt coincidence.

We will try our best to feature them all in our LocAle initiative, as well as a great selection of Welsh beers this year. The beers will all be good quality as befits a festival that has been awarded the Cask Marque Certificate of excellence for three years. We spend all that money on air-conditioning in the Assembly Rooms and ensuring time for the beer to settle, so that drinkers get a quality beer.

Entertainment Manager/Festival Chairman Terry Morton has booked a great range of entertainment this year to suit all tastes. It ranges from popular tribute bands like Badness and the Really Hot Chili Peppers to the Ockbrook Big Band, gypsy jazz and the wild Black Pig Morris Men and belly dancers. I can't wait.

Our historians have also researched a marvellous theme this year. It is the 150th Anniversary of Private Derby, the ram who is the mascot of the Sherwood Foresters/Mercian regiment. He was acquired in India in 1858 for the 95th Derbyshire Regiment of The Foot and started a distinguished career. The first Private Derby marched 3,000 miles throughout India and fought in 33 battles, what a star! We have arranged for the current Private Derby to march into Derby Market Place on July 9th, with the Mayor and the Derby Beer King to open this year's festival. This will be sight to behold so make sure you don't miss it!

Les Baynton- Festival Publicity

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Derby Drinker

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The Beer at your 31st Festival

The biggest and best beer festival in the East Midlands will soon be with us once again and I have selected a couple of themes for this year's festival, which is celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Private Derby - the Ram.

In The Great Hall, our main festival theme this year is featuring beers from Wales. Here you will find ales from Breconshire, Bullmastiff, Conwy, Facer's, Felinfoel, Ffos y Ffin, Great Orme, Jacobi, North Wales, Otley, Plassey, Purple Moose, Rhymney, Brains, Vale of Glamorgan and Warcop, with the full variety of beer styles being catered for - from pale ales to dark ales, including fruit and wheat beers - so there will be something there for everyone's taste buds!

You will also find our four festival specials in The Great Hall - Black Hole Brewery from Burton-upon-Trent, Brampton Brewery from Brampton, near Chesterfield, Derby Brewing Company from Derby and Wirksworth Brewery from Wirksworth. Members of the branch have assisted in the brewing of these ales, so make sure you try them, as they are always popular!

In addition to the above, you will also find ales from our sponsoring breweries - Marstons, White Shield,

Archers and Thornbridge - these will be served by handpull along with the festival specials.

On leaving The Great Hall and moving into The Foyer area, we are delighted to be able to feature the bar from Fuller's, which is very rarely seen outside of London, offering a selection of their fine beers, together with a wide range of continental bottled beers.

Going through The Foyer and into The Darwin Suite, you will find the second theme that I have selected this year, which is the launch of LocAle in Derby - the purpose of this initiative is to promote beers brewed locally to the point of sale, eliminating unnecessary 'beer miles' and will be fully launched in the Derby CAMRA area after the festival. Further details will be in the next issue of DD.

With it being the 31st Summer Beer Festival, I have chosen beers brewed within a 25-mile radius of The Assembly Rooms, and by an amazing coincidence there are exactly 31 microbreweries within that radius! I have approached all of these breweries, so you should hopefully find at least one ale available from each, together with beers from a couple of smaller Welsh brewers - Heart of Wales, Jolly Brewer and Kingstone and a range of ales from Everards of Leicester. Finally, as always, there will be a wide range of cider and perry available.

All in all, it looks like being a fantastic festival, so enjoy!!!

Andrew Brett



Special Festival Brews

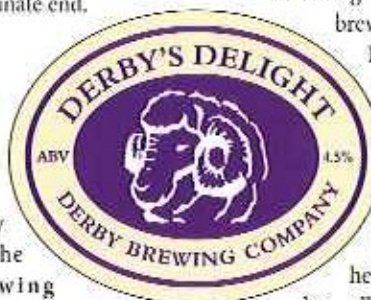
Each year we commission four special brews from four independent breweries within the area. This year they come from Derby itself, from Burton Upon Trent, from Brampton, near Chesterfield and from Wirksworth.

WHAT'S UP TUP? (4%)

A 4% Pale Ale brewed by Black Hole Brewery of Burton Upon Trent. If you are tempted to drink too deeply, remember that very black hole in Kotah into which Derby the first dived too deep and met his unfortunate end.

DERBY'S DELIGHT (4.5%)

This Pale Ale was brewed, appropriately enough, by the Derby Brewing Company on Old



BATTLING BUTT-HEAD (5%)

A strong traditional bitter brewed by Brampton Brewery of Brampton near Chesterfield. This celebrates Derby's 33 battles with other rams in head-to-head combat - all of which he won.



Nottingham Road. As well as celebrating the Mercian regimental mascot, this also celebrates the opening of the Brewery's newly-acquired pub on Exeter Bridge, The Brewert'ap Royal Standard, which will, no doubt, be selling many more 'Derby Delights'.

THE MERCIAN (6%)

Brewed by Derbyshire's newest brewery at Wirksworth and named for the newly-formed Mercian Regiment, forged from the bonding of four old regiments in Middle England (Mercia). At 6% ABV this India Pale Ale is the strongest of this year's festival specials.



Dates, Times & Prices

Wed 9th	-	6.30-11	£3
Thur 10th	11.30-3	Free	6.30-11 £5
Fri 11th	11.30-3	£1	5-6.30 £2
			6.30-11 £6
Sat 12th	12-4	£3	6.30-11 £6
Sun 13th	12.2.30	Free	Closed

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Volunteer staff still required

Staff are still needed to help run the Beer Festival Varied shifts that run from the 4th July to the 14th July. You could support us in setting up the bars, serving the beer, sales and membership, helping with staff, the cellar team, or issuing glasses, general handyman tasks, putting up posters and many more essential tasks.

Volunteers are promised good fun, help towards meals or refreshments whilst working. Contact the Staffing Line now on 01332 898178 or email feststaffing@derbycamra.org.uk to join

in! We reserve right to refuse volunteers, all of whom should ideally be recommended by a member of CAMRA.

Derby Beer Festival T-shirts will be available at the July Branch Meetings, at the Rowing Club, Darley Grove. at £6.50 each (£7.50 for XXL). If you are helping at the Festival on the Wednesday evening, you will receive two extra beer tokens if you arrive wearing your shirt. Get yours before the Festival and wear it around town... do your bit to help make this Festival one of the biggest ever.!!

Beer Festival Entertainment

Badness - So Good They're Back!!

A fusion of music styles, dance, jazz and folk tribute bands and more rock than Blackpool - writes Terry Morton. We probably have more hours of music than any other CAMRA festival throughout the UK. It's understood people want a quiet area to sit and chat, the Darwin Bar is music free until Friday evening. thanks to all bands that have contacted me, we only have so much time for music - here is the full line up.

WEDNESDAY EVE

Ockbrook Big Band lead the musical parade, all the sounds from the Glen Miller, Woody Herman, Cole Porter era and more, plus vocals from resident singers Michele and Colin. Note, over 60s are free admission tonight - so bring your ma & pa for an entertaining night out. **The Ripley Morris Men** will also be doing their stuff - a few Cotswold dances between the half pints.



FRIDAY EVE

Gaining popularity, local band **Chaser** start tonight's party with high energy rock & soul. Glam rock was an English phenomenon of the early 70s. It's main identity a very basic tribal 4-beat, and of course the outrageous handmade costumes. Tonight **Tiger Feet** (pictured below left), are in Derby to recreate hits from the likes of

Mud, Sweet, Slade, Suzi Quatro and T.Rex all delivered with plenty of humour, right in your face. More serious rock fans will be at the Darwin stage applauding the **Alma boobies** (all girl rock, above), sisters Victoria & Elizabeth on lead and bass their matching vocals make tight harmony. Younger sister Alexander's percussion skills are the envy of every half decent drummer. 'They're the new rock goddesses', someone recently reported! This just has to be the best night in town.



THURSDAY EVE

The original **Red Hot Chili Peppers** formed in 1983 in Los Angeles, California. Since those days their music has moved through phases of trad funk, elements of heavy, punk & psychedelic rock. Tonight UK tribute band the **Really Hot Chili Peppers** take a musical journey through the best of all their grammy award-winning albums. Classic rock 4-piece cover band **Pugna Ho** warm up the atmosphere from 8pm.

Gotta be the best night in town.



SATURDAY EVE

It's welcome to the House of Fun, they're back. **Badness** (top right) are no doubt the most

respected tribute to Madness and the ska era hits delivered from this high energy band include *Our House*, *My Girl*, *The Prince* and *It Must Be Love*. So get on your Baggy Trousers and wash down your beer with some Bad Manners and be prepared to enjoy yourself. the party kicks off with T.R & the Rockets a non-stop set of 50s rock n' roll just how it used to be. Meanwhile the Darwin stage for contrast offers Irish folk band **Kelly's Heroes**. Haunting Celtic melodies to furious fast beat favourites. all you would expect from these popular performers. Beat this for the best night in town.



ENTERTAINING LUNCHTIMES

THURSDAY

Four piece band **Fantasia** will give a rendering of Django Reinhardt, gypsy style jazz and popular favourites.

FRIDAY

The **Johnny Johnstone Quintet** - these well seasoned musicians perform jazz in mainstream, modern & swing style.

SATURDAY

Get ready for a busy afternoon, first up **Joe Nutman**, a master of the stride piano, plenty of tunes from Scott Joplin's ragtime era. The colourful **Blackpig Border Morris** (above right), visit for the first time. Not known for their political correctness. Along their side are the **Armageddon Belly Dancers** and plenty of colour, they come in all shapes and sizes, they say they perform better after a few ciders. All too much? Then visit the Darwin stage for a touch of Irish folk from **Kelly's Heroes**.

SUNDAY

As ever **Three Wheel Drive & guests** will be in gear to rock out the last session. Children are welcome with well behaved parents in the foyer area on Saturday and Sunday lunchtime, **Clivo & Auntie Jean** entertain with table magic. Come early is always the advice to DD readers, Friday & Saturday evenings are of course the busiest.

Have a good festival!

Terry Morton

The Harrington Arms



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ILKESTON BEER FESTIVAL

Erewash CAMRA's second Ilkeston beer festival held in the Co-op's Regency Suites was certainly eventful. Staged in near-Mediterranean temperatures, ice jackets had to be utilised to ensure that the beer was served at an acceptable temperature. The ambient hall temperature was, however, very warm, but the punters' spirits failed to be dampened by the prevailing humidity. Indeed, Ilkeston festival debutants, Three Wheel Drive, went down a storm on Saturday night.

The first brew to sell out was Fun Stripe, a 4.7% abv cask conditioned lager from Funfair brewery and a poll saw the same brewery's Ilkeston Brown Ale voted Beer of the Festival. Our photograph shows festival Chairman, John Parkes (left), congratulating Funfair Managing Director David Tizard.

In order to serve the thousand plus visitors, over the two days, outside assistance is sought, and readily given. To that effect, grateful thanks go to Terry, Les and Jok from Derby, Carl Brett of Mansfield, and the ever-present Julian Ellingham from Nottingham CAMRA.

The festival finished on an Ealing comedy like note, when the hall manager had to be extradited from the defunct lift by the local Fire and Rescue Service!

CLUB OF THE YEAR

Erewash CAMRA's Club of the Year for the second year running is the Conservative Club, Church Street, Heanor. Stewardess, Gayle Sheffield, is a committed adherent to the eco-friendly LocAle scheme and an ever-changing Leadmill beer, brewed in nearby Denby, is expertly kept. A celebratory evening, with a special guest ale and nibbles, will be held on Wednesday, 25th June and an open invitation is extended to one and all.

Former Club of the Year, the Coronation, also in Heanor, has had an outside bar constructed, which, during the summer, will offer a range of real ales. The extensive decking area is a great vantage point from which to admire the surrounding countryside.

BARGAIN BOOZE

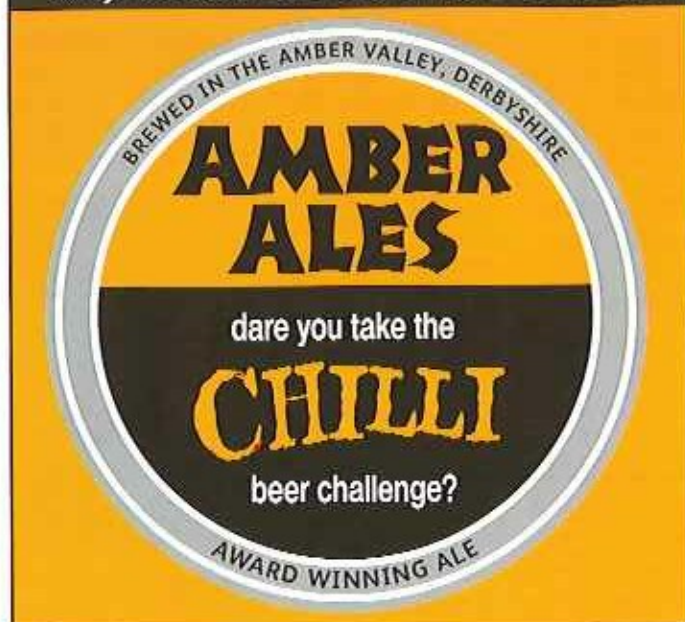
It's heartening to see some licensees resisting the pressure to increase their prices following the Chancellor's swinging budget increase; with above inflation duty hikes in subsequent years. Indeed, Kevin Doughty's offer at the John Warren, Loscoe, of a 40p a pint reduction on draught beers between 830 and 11pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, has been extended to CAMRA members at all times.

On the same theme, the Spring Cottage, Fulwood Street, Ilkeston, which featured in the Good Beer Guide in the mid-90s, has been renamed Last Orders after a costly refurbishment that removed the central bar server. Five hand-pumps dispense some of the cheapest ale for miles around.

INN BRIEF

The Harrington Arms, Sawley, enjoying its seventh consecutive year in the Good Beer Guide, is offering a changing non-Greene King guest beer. The highly regarded Bath Ales Gem Bitter has been spotted. At the time of going to press, the Barge Inn, Long Eaton had Castle Rock Harvest Pale, which was in great nick at the Ilkeston festival. The Navigation, Trent Lock has reopened but 'last orders please' has been called for the last time at the Queens, Long Eaton. The Good Beer Guide listed Ilford, Ilkeston is for sale at 300k. The Spanish Bar has introduced draught continental beers.

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EREWASH EVENT'S

830pm, Wednesday, 4th June branch meeting at the Rose and Crown, Market Street, Draycott. Guest speaker from Enterprise Inns. 12 noon, Saturday, 7th June real ale ramble starting at the Stanhope Arms, Stanton by Dale.

6th-8th June beer festival, Needlemakers, Ilkeston.

830pm, Wednesday, 25th June Club of the Year presentation-see above.

830pm, Wednesday, 2nd July branch meeting at the Red Lion, Red Lion Square, Heanor.

2pm, Saturday, 12th July meet at the Queens Head, Marlpool, onwards to Heanor, Loscoe and the Poet and Castle, Codnor via Trent Barton Zig Zag ticket.

830pm, Wednesday, 6th August branch meeting at the Ilford, Station Road, Ilkeston.

Contact Paul Gibson 01773 533637 or visit erewash-camra.org

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Guest beers and skittles sees Duffield pub in fine fettle

Up in Duffield the Pattenmakers Arms is enjoying good times again under the safe direction of Scott and Claire Muldoon.

Formerly of the Green Dragon, Willington, and of Flowerpot stock, they were stifled for beer choice in their previous pub but at the PM, tucked away off the main A6 on Crown Street, they have brought a wide selection of guest beers to the village.

Local micros feature strongly alongside the Bass on gravity, Taylor

Landlord and Pedigree. Amongst beers sampled so far include ales from Abbeydale, Black Hole, Derventio, Roosters, Copper Dragon and frequent appearances of Derby Brewery beers.

If you call in for a pint on a summer Thursday you may also witness a game of skittles as the Pattenmakers play in Division Two of the Belper & District skittles League. Old traditions are living on in more ways than one in this fine watering hole.

Whatstandwell Festival 2008

The fourth annual Whatstandwell Festival will be held on Saturday 5th July at Hankin Farm, New Road. Admission is £3 and includes a free souvenir glass.

The fun starts at 4pm when the music programme commences with the opening of the Acoustic Picnic. The festival goes on until 11pm, with a continuous flow of music. There will be four local bands playing live on the main stage. In addition to this year's festival will be the Acoustic tent.

There will be a range of locally-brewed traditional ales likely to include beers from Spire, Ashover Brewery and Amber Ales plus a cou-

ple of brews from further afield in the form of Moorhouses Blonde Witch and Pride of Pendle. There will be various other activities, children's games and stalls on the field, together with a charity run along local footpaths.

Camping is available on the farm campsite, payable direct to the farm. Toilets and showers are available on site, and caravans, camper vans and tents can all be accommodated; the view of Whatstandwell and the villages along the Derwent Valley is stunning.

Further information can be found at www.whatstandwell.org



Full cask set at Heage

The Tollgate on Bridge Street finally has some real ale (Pedigree and Adnams Bitter). This now means that ALL of the pubs in Heage & Nether Heage serve Real Ale. The villages are well served with public transport, Heage windmill is now open for the season, how many more reasons do you need to pay a visit?

Horse & Groom to reopen with cask ale

Good late news as DD goes to press is that Sarah and Adam Adkin of the Woodlark on Bridge Street, Derby have purchased the Horse & Groom on Elms Street from Punch Taverns.

They leave the Woodlark at the end of June and hope to have the Groom up and running by mid-July. Beer to be Pedigree and Bass plus a new guest each week initially with the guest on offer Sunday evenings. Live music, good ale and a 'good old fashioned proper pub atmosphere' are all promised. More news in DD 123.

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The cost will cover envelopes and stamp charges which will vary depending on the weight of the issue.



Cider with Suzie

Summer is here, which means Derby Festival, so from 9th to 13th July the Assembly Rooms is the place to be.

The main cider bar in the Great Hall is moving to the opposite side of the hall and will be bigger than ever, offering you, the customer more choice. As usual there will also be a smaller but select cider bar in the Darwin Suite, with different ciders / perries from those in the Great Hall. There will be a range of styles to suit all tastes, from fruity sweet ciders and perries to

serious dry ones, covering all the major cider and perry producing areas of the country. Amongst them will be many current and previous award winners. Here is a preview of just some of them; a complete list is available on Derby CAMRA's web site.

Green Valley Vintage. Green Valley is a fairly large outfit making cider at the back of Darts Farm Shopping Complex at Clyst St. George, just outside Exeter. At first sight it looks more like a shopping mall than a cider maker, but their product, both draught and bottled, is excellent. The vintage cider is an 8.2% mellow, medium sweet cider with a slight sparkle; it is also CAMRA's current champion cider.

Westcroft Janet's Jungle Juice. Westcroft is a traditional Somerset cider maker located on a working farm at Bret Knoll, just south of Weston-Super-Mare. I'm sure you have all drunk JJJ before; it is a 6.5% fruity, slightly hazy, medium cider, very easy drinking. It is also CAMRA's previous champion cider and this year's runner up.

Crones User Friendly. Crones is a well established East Anglian cider maker, based at Kenninghall, some 15 miles from Norwich. The cider is organic and made from a combination of dessert apples, cookers and cider varieties. User friendly is a 6.2% clear, medium cider with a clean, refreshing flavour.

There will be a good range of perries available on both bars

because whilst real perry is a very tasty drink it is hard to find outside beer festivals; although you could try the Coopers Tavern, Burton or The Old Poets Corner, Ashover. By the way, perry is made from pears in the same way as cider is made from apples, so "pear cider" is a contradiction in terms despite all the advertising.

Ross Perry. Ross perry is made by Ross Cider and Perry Co. at Broom Farm, Peterstow, just outside Ross-on-Wye. It is well worth

searching out if you are in the area, the setting is idyllic and besides selling cider the also do cream teas, meals and run occasional musical events, all accompanied, of course, with cider. Ross perry is CAMRA's current silver medal winner.

Hartlands Perry. Hartlands perry is made on a working farm at Tirley, Gloucestershire, not far from Tewkesbury. This cider farm is also well worth a visit, far more basic than Ross but the world can be put to rights over a glass of perry which is 6.0%, fruity, slightly hazy and medium sweet. It is CAMRA's previous champion perry and this year's bronze medal winner.

Whilst the festival will feature many local beers, this is a bit difficult with cider as Derbyshire is not noted as a cider making county. We

will, however, do the best we can to find some local cider. Three Cats cider, medium sweet, local apples variety will be available in the Great Hall. See you there.



Inter-City cycle ride links two Real Ale favourites

The Rowditch Inn raises lots of money for charity each year. The Rainbows and Wish Upon a Star children's charities benefit hugely from the annual auction at the pub.

When Ditch regular Paul Winstone (Win) realised he would be away for this year's auction he decided to come up with an idea to raise some cash at a later date.

The extreme cyclist has devised a plan for a sponsored cycle ride from the Rowditch to the Wellington in Birmingham on Sunday 29th June with an 8am departure. He has been joined by another Ditch regular Jo Penson, while some other locals pondered the thought with trepidation. Now they are looking for other keen cyclists to come along.

They will be following the Sustrans Cycle network and will therefore not be going the quickest route from Derby to Birmingham. This route will total about 57 miles takes in old railway trackbed and canal towpaths finishing off with a pint or two of cask ale in former Derby licensee, Nigel Barker's second

'Sustrans is the co-ordinator of the hugely popular National Cycle Network, offering over 12,000 miles of walking and cycle routes on traffic-free paths, quiet lanes and traffic-calmed roads.'



Jo and Win flank Rowditch landlady Jan Birkin as they prepare to cycle forth.

city beer emporium. Then they will take the train home! Win knows the route well having made the trip for a pint in the Welly by this method more than once.

Anyone mad enough to join them should contact Win on 07515026205 or call Jan at the pub on 01332 343123. Don't forget all are also welcome at the Derby CAMRA annual cycle ride to the John Thompson Inn at Ingleby on Sunday 15th June. This leaves the Brunswick at 12 noon. See the Branch Diary for contact details.

Warslow Beer & Food Festival

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Long Overdue recognition for Jacobean Gem

The Barley Mow at Kirk Ireton, for many decades a favourite watering hole for the discerning ale drinker, has been voted Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year for 2008. This two-storey, gabled Jacobean gem has just about everything you could wish to find in a country pub. The pub has several interconnecting rooms with roaring fires in stone fireplaces, slate tables and wooden beams.

Kirk Ireton is set in the Low Peak, though the scenery around it is worthy of the Peak Park proper. The village is three miles south-west of Wirksworth, reached via narrow lanes constructed in days when traffic was of a much gentler nature. The village was badly damaged by a tornado in 1811 but the Barley Mow is made of stern stock and was unaffected.

The pub can truly boast that it is virtually unchanged in centuries. It has a soda siphon, another disappearing relic, great beer and the food range is cheese rolls or crisps. The bar is represented by a stillage set behind a small serving hatch (pictured bottom left) and the beers are dispensed straight from the cask in proper brim-measure glasses with handles.

The back room is a gem, especially when the range is burning brightly on a Winter evening and a third quiet room is adorned with paintings of an often nautical theme. At the front of the pub, underneath where its

sign hangs from a tree, there are tables for the outdoor drinker, often popular with ramblers. Also to the fore of the inn, set to one side is the local shop.

Licensee Mary Short (pictured sitting to the front of the serving hatch, top right) has run the Barley Mow since 1977 and has preserved all as it should be.

Much has been said of the days of her illustrious predecessor, Mrs Ford, but those stories have been told and the award is about today, after all three decades is more than enough time to make one's mark and Mary has certainly done that. When *Derby Drinker* approached her at the inn for a

comment about the Pub of the Year Award she said simply: "You know I don't really pay much attention to things like that". Probably exactly the sort of response that typifies a village inn that knows it has been doing something right for many years, and almost certainly doesn't



need CAMRA to confirm it!

The beer range is usually up to six, Hartington IPA from Whim is a regular, as is Old Hooky. One can also see the likes of Burton Bridge, Abbeydale, Derby Brewing Co and many other local micros putting in an appearance. A local told DD: "We have our own beer festival here every night. We may only have six different beers but it's still a festival." It certainly is that, a celebration of the English inn and one in which we can all delight in sharing a jar.

DERBY CAMRA PUB OF THE YEAR 2008



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Low strength bitter availability

Dear Sir

In the 1985 edition of the *CAMRA Dictionary of Beer*, the entry for *Original Gravity* stated "most bitter beers have 'OGs' in the range 1035 to 1045". Nowadays, of course, beer strengths at the point of sale are commonly expressed in Alcohol by Volume (ABV) percentages, which would mean the above strengths being around 3.5% to 4.5%. It doesn't take long, therefore, to twig that the average strengths of draught or bottled beers for sale have risen markedly in the ensuing twenty years or so since the quotation was written. Such beers increasingly appear in the 4.5% to 5.5% range.

What this means in present day terms is declining availability and sales of what was once fondly termed 'ordinary' or 'sessional' bitters. Derby, as we are regularly reminded, is one of Britain's real ale Meccas, yet I am finding it increasingly difficult to find here any extensive choice of the weaker strength bitters, which I have enjoyed since discovering the delightful Clinch's bitter from the Witney Brewery (now owned by Wychwood's) in 1960 during the Red Barrel and spooneristic Whitbread's Tankard Dark Ages. Even in the 'flagship' pubs, when they are available, they are often the light coloured and over-hopped ones. To me, the classic ordinary bitter has a subtle blend of malt and hop

flavours, with malt in the ascendant which, because of its relative alcoholic weakness, is not cloyingly sweet. If it comes to a choice of Pedigree, or Marston's ordinary bitter, the latter is the one for me: it has a more pronounced Burton 'snap', yet is only available locally in very few places. Currently, 'The Ex' is one of them, to its credit. Other similar comparisons could be Hook Norton's bitter (3.6%) as opposed to its Old Hooky (4.6%), or Thornbridge's Lord Marples (4%) as opposed to its Jaipur IPA (5.9%). In all these instances, the stronger beer is nearly always the only one on offer.

One of my favourite bitters of our region is Bateman's XB (3.7%). I was sorry when 'The Alex' ceased to be a Bateman's house. When I called there a few weeks ago Bateman's XXXB (4.8%) was on offer. When I asked whether they ever had XB nowadays, was scornfully told "No one wants that nowadays - it's not strong enough". That was when this letter was born. The reason why I'm writing it is not just about my personal preferences, but also about other factors. First, when I have driven to or past somewhere like Kirk Ireton's Barley Mow or Elton's Duke of York (how else can you get to such places?) I used to like to enjoy a pint, possibly two, without feeling I was risking my driving licence. Secondly, in my dotage I've now developed late-onset diabetes, which means having to be careful about drinking alcohol in any significant quantity at

all. How then can I enjoy the occasional pint or two if all I can get, increasingly, is over-strong beers which I don't particularly like anyway. Halves are not the answer either: they're not drinks more like homeopathy!

The last reason stems from recently hearing a local landlord saying that, from informal observation, he reckoned the average consumption of a male customer on a routine visit to his pub was around four pints. Now, it doesn't take long to work out the health implications of someone drinking four or so pints of 5% plus strength beer per session or at home, possibly two or three times a week over a significant part of their lives, just because brewers (only responding to 'demand', of course) are colluding with those who look to high strength beers to jack up a rapid alcohol intake. If some choose to overindulge in drinking good quality beer, one of mankind's treasures, that shouldn't mean their whims for copious amounts of strong beers have to take precedence over those who prefer to keep their beer consumption modest and concentrate on quality, rather than mere alcoholic content. After all, isn't responsible drinking what CAMRA is always banging on about?

Finally, now the government has so cynically and thoughtlessly raised the beer duty, at a time of rising cereal prices and accelerating pub closures, so that beer is now around £3 a pint, isn't it about time it finally legislated to guarantee we actually have the full pints we're paying their outrageous tax on?

Jon Turner, Allestree.

Annual Dolphin Beer Festival

The festival at the Dolphin comes hard on the heels of Derby Beer Festival and it is always a popular occurrence.

This year the dates to remember are Wednesday 16th to Saturday 19th July. At least 45 beers will be available throughout the festival, largely not from local breweries but exploring some of the more distant micros of the UK.

Evening entertainment comes in the form of Zephyr (Wed), the Hard Luck Saints (Thurs), the Giveaways (Fri) and 11th Hour on Sat augmented by the usual memorable musical selections by Jim & Co on the patio.

The Dolphin is open until midnight on all days so get down to the oldest pub in the City for a great time.

National CAMRA AGM



It's not all conference debate and policy workshops you know! Pictured here with the Beerex backdrop of the Red Dragon are some of the Derby CAMRA delegation at the National Members Weekend and AGM at Cardiff City Hall in April. Our picture is taken on the Sunday lunchtime

post-conference wind down after a couple of days hard research into Welsh beers, many of which you will be able to sample at Derby Beer Festival.

Left to right: Les Baynton, Pip Southall, Stewart Marshall and Konrad Machej.

Derek & Jean
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old & new

FURNACE INN

Duke Street

Open all day - seven days

tel 01332 331563

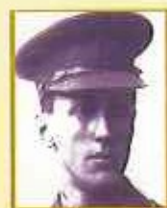
Country inn doubles as village shop

The Sycamore at Parwich, Robinson's most southerly pub in Derbyshire, now has its own shop.

Parwich recently lost its last shop and the nearest post office is now inconveniently five miles away in Ashbourne, but in March the Sycamore's licensee, Janet Gosling and Stephen Conway have sacrificed their private dining room to open a new shop selling a standard range of groceries and wines.

They are hoping to add locally made products, particularly pies and sausages as soon as possible. Opening hours are generally 10-2, 7-9 but it is open all day Sunday and at 6pm on Thursday and Friday.

Mr Grundy's Georgian House Hotel



Eight Real Ales at all times
Beer Garden
Ashbourne Road
Derby

01332 349806

Derby CAMRA In praise of a world of

Everyone is welcome at Derby CAMRA socials, meetings and trips. Here is a list of forthcoming events. Socials start from 9pm, Branch Meetings from 8pm.



JUNE

THURS JUNE 12th, BRANCH MEETING, YE OLDE SPA
 Sunday 15th June, John Thompson, Ingleby by cycle
 Tues 17th June Social, Prince of Wales/Malt Shovel (Spondon)
 Friday 27th June, Survey Trip: Pubs between Belper & Hlland Ward by Minibus
 Tues 24th June, Social, Crompton Tavern, Crompton Street, Derby

JULY

THURS JULY 3rd, BRANCH MEETING, ROWING CLUB, DARLEY GROVE
 WEDS JULY 9TH-SUN 13TH DERBY BEER FESTIVAL, ASSEMBLY ROOMS.
 Wed 16th July, Social, Old Dolphin Beer Festival, Queen Street, Derby
 Tues 22nd July, Social, Peacock/Tavern, Old Nottingham Road, Derby
 Thurs 31st July, Social, Alexandra, Siddals Road, Derby

AUGUST

Tues 5th Aug, Social, Pattenmakers/White Hart/Kings Head, Duffield

Tues 5th - Sat 9th Great British Beer Festival, Earls Court, London
 THURS 14th Aug, BRANCH MEETING, GREEN MAN BLACKS HEAD, ASHBOURNE Includes brewery tour and free bus.
 Tues 12th Aug, Social, Shakespeare/New Inn, Shardlow (Provisional)

To book a place on the Friday/Saturday minibus trips, or to enquire about public transport or cycling social details please contact the Branch Pub Surveys Coordinator Stewart Marshall on 07944 163737 or email or samarshall37@googlemail.com

The Branch Social Secretary is Rob Davison and he will be posting details of future trips in this diary or on the Derby CAMRA website soon. In the meantime Derby CAMRA members can look out for trip news in Mild & Bitter or phone Rob on 07966200135 or email him the.lagernaut@hotmail.co.uk.

website: www.derbycamra.org.uk

Canalside Shardlow pub on upward curve

The New Inn, down on the Wharf at Shardlow is unequivocally a pub on an upward gradient. The venturesome licensees are providing three guest beers, largely from micro-breweries to compliment the Pedigree and Spitfire.

A recent visit by the editor afforded a marvellous lunchtime watching the narrowboats cruise the adjacent canal (a rare treat in these parts) whilst being able to choose from Castle Rock Elsie Mo, Cottage Cutty Sark and Springhead Charlie's Angel.

LocAle scheme

Amber Ales brewer Peter Hounsell has volunteered to be Derby CAMRA LocAle Co-ordinator. The scheme, to promote locally-brewed beers encourages pubs to serve at least one real ale that is brewed within 20 miles.

It is the brainchild of Steve Westby of Nottingham CAMRA, whose just reward was being named the first ever Real Ale Campaigner of the Year at the CAMRA National AGM. Well done Steve!

Derby are starting gradually to

implement some of its principles and Peter has made a beginning by labelling all his beers with a sticker on the pumpclip stating the number of miles to the brewery from the pub serving the ale. Thus we see Amber Liberty in the Lion, Belper, six miles from Ripley!



Branch Pub of the Year awards

Each year Derby Branch of CAMRA elects a City and a Country Pub of the Year.

The City Pub of the Year 2008 is the Babington Arms on Babington

Lane with runners-up the Brunswick, Flowerpot and Smithfield.

The Country Pub of the Year goes to the Barley Mow at Kirk Ireton with runners-up the Green Man at Ashbourne, Old Oak at Horsley Woodhouse and the Royal Oak at Ockbrook.

Both pubs are more than worthy winners where good beer and atmosphere are guaranteed and both will be presented with certificates in the coming months.

The Barley Mow takes the overall title by virtue of achieving the highest marks and will now go forward to the Derbyshire competition where the winner will enter the East Midlands Regional competition and if successful in that the National Pub of the Year competition as well.

Derby Drinker has run a feature on the Barley Mow in this edition and a similar tribute extolling the virtues of the Babington will follow in DD 123.

Cap & Stocking



*we still serve flat
 Bass out of a jug*

- Kegworth -

20 Borough St,
 tel: 01509 558029
 food 12 to 2 and 6 to 8
 Two petanque pistes



Wholesome Home-made English food plus a more continental feel with a sicilian menu. Look out for our fantastic Sunday lunches!

Opening times:

Monday/Thursday: 12pm-3pm/5pm-11pm

Friday/Saturday: 12pm-1am

Sunday: 12pm-11pm

Every Friday - Jam Night

Saturday Evening - Live Music

Sunday Afternoon - Live Music



The Wetmore Whistle, 93 Wetmore Road, Burton on Trent, Staffordshire, DE14 1SH www.wetmorewhistle.com



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would you?

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... dead sexy

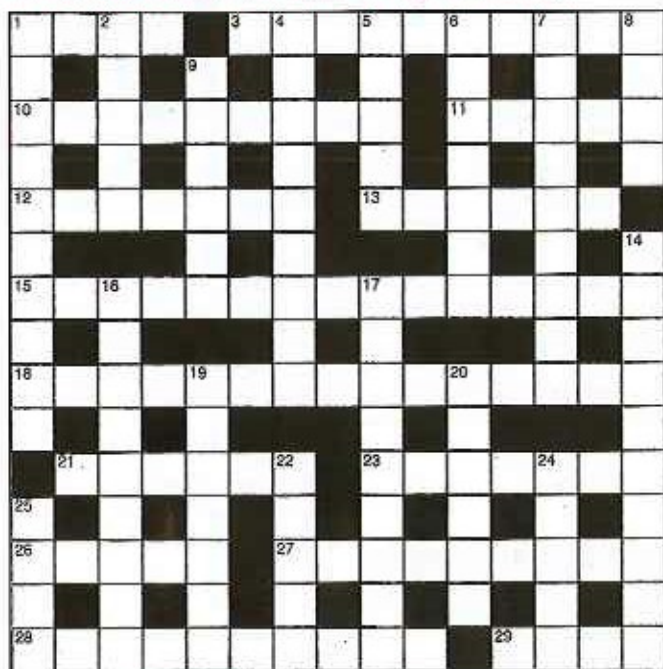
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Derby Drinker Publication Schedule 2008

Advanced notice for contributions and advertisers. These are the proposed dates for the publication of *Derby Drinker*. Copy deadlines will be strictly adhered to. Any photographs, logos, graphics etc are preferred in jpeg format. Thank you - The Editor.

Issue No.	Publication Date	Copy Deadline
DD 123	August 2008	25 July 2008
DD 124	October 2008	25 September 2008
DD 125	December 2008	20 November 2008

CROSSWORD No 7 by Wrennutt



ACROSS

1. Sounds like something good for sore eyes: build on it! (4)
3. Period of study leave (10)
10. Waterway through bitter lakes? Wow! (4,5)
- 11 & 13. No evil owl is Ockbrook's admirable, long-serving landlady (5,6)
12. Pigeons' descendants (7)
13. See 11
15. Shrub and northern European twainian
18. Winsters' haunted 15th century inn (3,7,5)
21. Looking back in Elba, near Italy, part will give power (6)
23. Someone put forward (7)
26. With a female, could be an inn near Buxton for dumb blondes (5)
27. Otherwise, quartets (9)
28. Cilla Green (not Black) reacts to irritation (10)

American novel (11,4)

SOLUTIONS to CROSSWORD No 6 by Wrennutt

ACROSS

1. LARSE 3. SHOESTRING 10. LEAF PARTS 11. REACT 12. ENGLISH 13. MONODY 15. LANCASTER BOMBER 18. LEADMILL BREWERY 21. A SENSE 23. MERLINS 26. MAGIC 27. SNAP IN TWO 28. TITLED LADY 29. PRAT

DOWN

1. ALL REAL ALE 2. SLANG 4. HART HOTEL 5. EPSOM 6. TORONTO 7. INAUDIBLE 8. GATE 9. APRICA 14. ARMY ESCORT 16. NEAR SIGHT 17. REBOMBARD 19. MANACLE 20. EARWIG 22. EASEL 24. INTIR 25. SMUT

Ale Festivals aplenty around Belper Market Place

BELPER STAGES ITS ANNUAL FOOD Festival in early July and to dovetail nicely two pubs in the Market Place area of the town are holding beer festivals.

The Cross Keys is staging what landlord Colin Wilson calls an 'Old Favourites Beer Festival' from Friday 4th to Sunday 6th July.

Colin asked the regulars at the Balemans house to vote for their most popular guest beers and the result is that the following eight brews were preferred: Maulden's Blackadder, Coniston Bluebird, O'Hanlons Port Stout, Sharps Cornish Jack, Hook Norton Old Hooky, Abbeydale Moonshine, Amber Ales Mild and Orkney Dark Island. All these and ciders and perries make it an unmissable beer festival.

Up and across the road at the Black Swan, where Amber Ales beers have been proving very popular lately, mine host Neil McCreadie told *Derby Drinker* they were to stage an outdoor festival with about six beers served from tented enclosures on the actual Market Place itself. This runs only on the Sunday as there are legal limitations on the use of the Market Place.

The word from Belper is that these events WILL definitely happen, anyone attempting a visit to the Nailers festival at Belper Town FC will be greatly reassured to know this.

Belper is always a great place to get some good Real Ale at any time but the atmosphere on that weekend should be one to revel in.



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Additional photographs: Jok Arguile, Les Baynton, Elizabeth Ellis (Almaboobies), Paul Gibson, George Harris, Matt Stapley.

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29. A ferric half of best bitter, with 'attitude', please, from Romsey (4)

DOWN

1. Oh! Do resist becoming a sorority (10)
2. One of Rome's fountains in a theatre visit (5)
4. What her niece calls Mrs Fawcett (1,5)
5. 'Capten, art tha sleepin' there ----?' (from *Drake's Drum*) (5)
6. Off this, one's crazy! (7)
7. Hooped to skirt around a wearer (9)
8. Where Den Engel Belgian bar is in Staffs. (4)
9. Ask for quiet around beginning of relaxed and good: a place of learning (6)
14. A has-been (1,3-6)
16. I decant ale, strangely, dealing with musical endings (9)
17. Tadpoles to the Romans! Buttercups to us? (9)
19. Puck was a forty minute one around the Earth (7)
20. Meg, say, is sporty (6)
22. Euphemism, as she's affectionately known awards achievers (5)
24. Locospotters' delight in former steam days (5)
25. Roman water, partly Ancona quayside's constituent (4)

Access to *The Chambers Dictionary* and *the Good Beer Guide 2008* recommended

Send completed entries to the editor. Correct grids will go into a draw for a £10 prize.

Winner of Crossword No 6 is Mr M. Bell of Ripley