

Old Oak takes County Pub of the Year Award



The Derbyshire County Pub of the Year Award has gone to the Old Oak Inn at Horsley Woodhouse.

This comes hard on the heels of winning the Derby Branch Award and our picture shows a jubilant Creighton family from across

the age range gratefully accepting their certificate from Derby CAMRA Chair Rob Davison (extreme right) at the presentation evening at the pub on Sunday 26th July. Not forgetting Leadmill Brewer Richard Creighton (inset top right) who was unable to attend on the night.

This is a fantastic achievement for the pub considering the tough competition it faced from all the other CAMRA Branch Winners:- The Colville Arms, Lullington (Burton Branch Winner), Old Poets Corner at Ashover

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The pubs where all marked along CAMRA National Pub of the Year guidelines by a series of judges from across the region and the final result saw the Old Oak triumph. It will now go forward

into the East Midlands regional competition against other County winners.

Photograph courtesy of Matthew Byrne of www.mattblackphotographics.com



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Vanished Pubs of Derby

10. Newmarket Vaults, Albert Street/Market Street

This series returns after a lengthy pause (six years I believe!) by popular demand. Or in reality because I have discovered some fresh archive photography. (Thanks once more to the Smiling Assassin).

The Newmarket Vaults stood in Albert Street, in a range of buildings abutting the Market Hall, after which it was very probably named, on the corner of Tenant Street, in an area where you now see yellow cabs queuing for custom. The picture right shows the front elevation and whilst there are more complete views of this inn I make no apologies for using this one. It's in colour, virtually unseen and places

a free house having earlier been leased to Bass (c.1967). It may well have sold Home Ales but I've seen no record of it being one of their pubs, rather I guess post 1957 it was leased to Bass and at some point Home Brewery.

From 1878 to 1912 it was called the Spencer's Vaults as kept by the Spencer family. Later (1912 to 1957) the Frith family kept it. It closed on Sunday 25 March 1973. A Certificate of Discontinuance



ing the reconstruction of the Market Hall (1866) so Max might be right.



the position of the pub in a geographical context that can be identified today.

The second, and arguably even more interesting picture, shows the back entrance on Market Street, a cul-de-sac which ran off Tenant Street to the side of the Market Hall. Everything about this picture is a timepiece snapshot, from the van parked outside the pub to the strange architecture and the two signs indicating its presence. It also illuminates perfectly how much the late 1960s and early 1970s still strongly resembled the 1950s in the provinces. I would probably place the photograph around 1970 (I tried to zoom in on the tax disc but nothing of any clarity ensued!).

John Arguile picks up on the history of the pub: 'Newmarket Vaults (Market Street/27 Albert Street) was

was issued 30 May 1973 - based on notes in the license records. (Max Craven has different dates). Last landlord was a Fred Slack.

My memory of it was that it had a front door on Tenant Street and a back on Market Street. Max Craven says it was owned 'throughout' by the Corporation - I have seen no evidence of that but it was certainly owned by them in 1904 (ref: 1904 list of licencees in Derby Borough - four volumes), which would account for the leasing arrangements to breweries. Given the date of opening (i.e. 1871 when it was given a full licence) it was certainly built in the period follow-

Looking at the 1883 Ordnance Survey plans, shows the Newmarket as a long thin pub and one of a pair with the Star Vaults (built in 1866 and also owned by the Corporation - this fits with the date of reconstruction of the Market Hall) which was nearer the Market Hall (no 25?). At the end of 1917, the Star which was also a music hall had renewal of its licence refused, despite its ownership. Later the Newmarket, sometime before 1949 (ref: OS plan SK3536) expanded into the building the other side.

Did I drink in there? Very probably as it was a truly quaint pub

and from memory a bit 'dog-eared' and it still served Bass. It sat adjacent to Sam Adams 'noted tripe shop,' another Derby oddity.

The pub was one of several traditional 'market' boozers full of lunchtime shoppers and mixed aged clientele in evenings, the sort many towns retained but, with the exception of the Tiger Bar, are rare now in Derby. Derby Corporation owned the building and when they were looking at redevelopment for the town, one area they deemed fit to demolish was this pleasing corner. Market Street remained as an empty stub for many years until the Market Hall received its ugly extension in the late 1980s, indeed little development here has ever taken place. Not an unusual tale for our city.

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Details: www.nottinghamcamra.org



NEW REAL ALE PUBS IN EREWASH

After more than two years of refurbishment The **Queens Head** in Marlpool has finally re-opened. Stefan and Andrew Rutherford have opened what they believe to be the perfect pub. The brothers purchased the premises and two long years of painstaking refurbishment have been well worth the wait. Now a multi-roomed pub, it has real fires, 6 quality ales on hand-pull, some of which are 'Locale', and usually at least three more on gravity. Casks of cider and perry and a selection of bottled beers complete the 'real' drinks on offer. There is a large outside drinking area and a new car park. They have also started selling pub-grub. The Queens is open all day every day.

A pub that was closed a year ago has reopened to become Long Eaton's second free house. The **Wheatsheaf** on Tamworth Rd was purchased by Martin and wife Kerry reopened on 1st July. They have been running the Tiger on Tamworth Road for the last couple of years but when the Wheatsheaf came up for sale they went for it.

Martin has been undertaking the refurbishment himself with a little help from a few friends with new seating, flooring and a lick of paint.

Having not sold cask ale for more than 30

years, Martin has added five hand-pumps to the bar. Martin hopes to join the LocAle scheme. As you stumble in from the main road you will find a long narrow bar that houses a pool table, dart board and TV. To the right, just before the bar, is a smaller room that would act as the lounge with no children being allowed. Opening hours are Mon - Sat 12-12; Sun 12-11. Last but not least, Martin tells us that this is a new start for this pub so he is giving it a new name. The pub will now be known as **The Stumble Inn**.

OTHER NEWS

There are new licensee's in the **Royal Oak** on Tamworth Road, Long Eaton. Brothers Roger, Glyn and Rick have taken over and prices have been reduced. Two cask ales are available and they tell us they are planning to add a third and hopefully have a local beer, ordered through the SIBA direct delivery scheme. The **Dewdrop**, Ilkeston is offering a discount of 10p per pint to all CAMRA card-carrying members. Les Hutchinson and wife Vanessa took over at the **Tiger Inn** on Tuesday 30th June. Les used to run the Kings Head in Duffield. As new occupier of the Tiger Les intends to

put on a wide span of real ales and is keen to get the restaurant up and running. The **Little**

Jaipurly

One Sunday in July Roger at the Smithfield put on a fresh cask of Thornbridge Jaipur IPA. By 8pm it was all gone as were a group of drinkers who had polished it away. One couldn't get on his push-bike and they were all very Jaipurly¹ later! especially as it was Jaipuring down with rain by then. A lovely beer at 5.9%, drink some now before they make it illegal.

¹Thanks to Sarah from the Horse & Groom for coining the term.

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years, Martin has added five hand-pumps to the bar. Martin hopes to join the LocAle scheme. As you

Acorn, Ilkeston are currently selling Alcazar Ales at £2 a pint. They have also started a restaurant. Sunday roast dinner Large plate £4.50, small plate £2.50.

SOCIALS

Erewash branch have a day out planned for Saturday 25th July when they will utilise the Derby Wayfarer (No.63) leaving Chesterfield Bus Station at 12.07pm visiting several pubs and returning early evening via Ripley. Further details from John Parkes 07962 318605.

Mick Golds of Erewash branch is arranging a bus-walk on 15th August. Meeting at **The Sandhills**, Underwood at 12 noon. The Black Cat from Ilkeston passes the pub. It is planned to walk to about 8 different pubs over about 6 miles, although public transport is available for some of the route. Contact Mick via carolegolds@btinternet.com

BRANCH MEETINGS

Twitchell, Long Eaton at 8.30pm on Monday 3rd August

Travellers Rest, Draycott at 8.30pm on Monday 7th September

The Good Old Days, Ilkeston at 8.30pm on Monday 5th October

Further details from **John Cooke @ The Dewdrop** 0115 9329684

Success reflects dedication

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House beer launched as Cliff Inn links up with Wild Walker brewery



Since Joan Martin took on the running of the Cliff Inn close by the Tramway Museum at Crich the pub has gone from strength to strength with its wide range of locally-brewed guest ales. Now Derby-based microbrewery Wild Walker has brewed a house beer for the pub called Cliffhanger. The beer is a light

free trade. Ken says the brewery has made good progress since its inception last winter, and that their biggest selling ale by far is the 4.1% Old Big 'Ead. They are getting beer into quite a few country pubs and Ken told DD he was surprised a few weeks ago when he walked into the Plough Inn at Brackenfield to see all four of the pub hand-pumps displaying a different Wild Walker beer.

The brewery have recently been commissioned by Hammer Films to produce a range of bottled ales which reflect the Hammer horror film themes.

Our picture shows Ken with Joan behind the busy Cliff bar on the launch night of Cliffhanger.

Cap & Stocking



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Beer Festival at Hollington pub

There will be a beer festival at the Red Lion in Hollington, off Long Lane on 7th to 9th August. Licensee Terry Dalby promises 20 local ales, including Leatherbritches and Derventio plus three ciders and live entertainment.

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Wychwood range at Bridge Inn

The New Bridge Inn at Shelton Lock, where mine hosts Barrie & Carol Grantham have recently completed 20 years service, a true rarity in these times, has added a range of Wychwood beers to the Pedigree and Cumberland

Ale. Hobgoblin and Wizard's Staff were two on offer during a recent visit, the latter a most quaffable pint at 3.8% ABV. Very good to enjoy in the sunny beer garden and at a most affordable £2.15 a pint.

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Elton Beer Festival

The annual charity beer festival takes place on 29/30th of August, on the Jubilee Playing Field, Elton. Starts at 2pm both days. 25-30 Derbyshire beers & ciders. Music from 7pm on Sat, music & magician on Sunday, various foods available, free camping for the weekend. £5 for Sat & Sun, £3 for Sun. All monies raised goes towards the village playing field. The editor is indebted to someone he knows as Elton John for this information.

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INAUGURAL AMBERFEST SELLS OUT

The three-day Amberfest festival in June sold out of all 20 beers and cider, which were eagerly snapped up by thirsty punters happily paying only £2 a pint. This first festival commemorated the Pentrich revolution of 1817 and featured a cornucopia of specialist brews on a botanical theme. Amberfest was located at the new Amber Ales brewery, which quadruples the Ripley brewery's capacity, and was commissioned as a consequence of demand exceeding supply. Indeed, few breweries can boast that they relegated the CAMRA Champion Beer of Britain into second place in a beer of the festival competition, but Amber Ales' Amber Pale triumph at Tamworth in 2006 convinced brewer, Pete Hounsell, that his career change had been worthwhile.

Chesterfield born, 43-year-old Pete graduated at UMIST, Manchester with a degree in paper science, and it was during his student days that he met Jayn, whom he would later marry. A chemical engineer by profession, Pete was latterly responsible for evaluating potential new sites for Boots' property division. His work was well remunerated but ultimately unsatisfying, and the arrival of children, Joel and Johnny, prompted a career rethink. Self-employment offered the prospect of a better work/life balance, and following study at Sunderland University's Brewlab, Pete, who was already a keen home brewer, established Amber Ales' five-barrel plant on Asher Lane, Ripley. The brewery's core beers; Original Black Stout (4% abv), Amber Pale (4.4%), and Colonial IPA (5.1%) are augmented by Imperial Pale Ale (6.5%) and have been inspired by American micros with their hop charged "new" ales.



Our photograph shows Mansfield CAMRA Vice-Chairman, Mick Bull (left), presenting Pete Hounsell (second left) and co-brewers, Sarah Webster and Andy Brett with the 2009 Mansfield Beer of the Festival award for Amber Ales Chocolate Orange Stout.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

An occasional series recalling vanished pubs of Amber Valley No. 2 King William IV, Lowes Hill, Ripley

A couple of hundred yards below the Good Beer Guide listed George Inn on Lowes Hill, Ripley lies the Ashmere nursing home, and "Home Brewery Company Limited", incongruously, but proudly embossed on the frontage tells us that this was once part of the Nottingham brewery's 400 strong estate. The King William IV was a handsome, high ceilinged, three-roomed inter-war pub that also had a small off sales. Home mild and bitter were dispensed through electrically driven, cylindrical glass chambers that metred exactly half a pint of beer. Today, the hand-pump is almost ubiquitous, but 30years ago, electric pumps were a familiar sight in Nottingham breweries' pubs. Home mild was dark, malty and popular, but Home bitter, described by a devotee as "dry and appley", polarised opinion; you either liked it or you didn't. It wasn't to my taste and yet I knew of seasoned drinkers who swore by it.

The opening of the A38 Ripley bypass in 1977 isolated the King Billy and this was a contributory factor in a decline in trade, which culminated in last orders being called in May 1988. My abiding memory of a visit to Home's magnificent Art Deco brewery in 1976 was of the hospitality lounge afterwards, where only pressurised beer was offered! The Daybrook brewery was acquired by Scottish and Newcastle in 1986, and closed ten years later.

INN BRIEF

In Belper, the George and Dragon's beer festival at the end of June received rave reviews and an Octoberfest is planned. The Locale accredited Waggon and Horses in Alfretton is offering a unique (to Wetherspoon's) offer of 20% discount off food orders (except club deals) for CAMRA members and up to three guests. The King Street pub recently raised hundreds of pounds for CLIC, the children's charity. In the same town, the Plough Inn has reopened. The Wheel, Holbrook, birthplace of Funfair, before the brewery's relocation, is for sale. A local Ripley man is rumoured to be interested in buying the closed Talbot on Butterley Hill, a former Shipstone's house.

AMBER ACTIVITIES

Friday 14th August, free bus to survey pubs in Broadholme, Belper Lane End and the classic Bear, Alderwasley. Departs Ripley Market Place 7pm. Anyone wishing to join us from Belper or Alfretton ring Nathan to reserve a seat.
Friday 21st August to Sunday 23rd August beer festival featuring 30 beers in marquee at Queen's Head, Marlpool.
Thursday 27th August, Branch Meeting at George, Lowes Hill, Ripley, 830pm.
Thursday 24th September, Branch Meeting at Bear, Alderwasley, starting at 830pm. Free bus departs Ripley Market Place 745pm.
Thursday 29th October, AGM at George & Dragon, Bridge Street, Belper. Earlier, 8pm start. Contact Nathan on 01773 570675

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Derby Beer Festival 2009 Report



The 32nd Derby Beer Festival was a great success as more than 10,000 thirsty drinkers came through the doors. This was a comparable to the last three years and very good in the context of the recession. Almost all the beer was drunk, some 35,000 pints making consumption of about 3.50 pints per head. All of our cider was sold as well as all of our continental beer selection.

It was quite an international occasion this year, with the Osnabruck Twinning trip coming as well as the German Carnival Dance Group, and Gambrinas Ferdinand - the Osnabruck Beer King, who served at the fest on Friday night. There were many visitors from all over the country and abroad, from Sweden, Reading and Japan. A party of

young men from Jersey flew over to celebrate a 21st birthday.

Private Derby the regimental mascot helped to add to the occasion and the Mayor thought it was an excellent Derby social event. An auction of a complete set of Derby Festival glasses raised £130 for the mayor's charities.

All the helpers are volunteers who are feeling a little weary but happy this week after another great festival. Cheers!

Les Baynton
Festival Publicity

Here are a few photographs which capture a certain spirit of the Festival. The top one shows our Dr Johnson tribute act sampling some ale (God forbid!) with Leatherbritches brewer Edward Allingham, who hasn't dressed up as anything for the occasion! Seriously though, Ed has been a great supporter of Derby CAMRA beer festivals, indeed as well as many more locally and his Hairy Ginger was one of the most popular beers at the festival.

The second view, especially for Les, shows the



Osnabruck troupe of dancing girls (I'm sure the one nearest the camera is a man!).

Thirdly what could be better than a shot of two kings on the pull. Yes, they were both serving behind the bars on the Saturday night of the festival!



The picture below left captures the visit to



Derby Beer Festival of Good Beer Guide editor and leading light of national CAMRA, Roger Protz. Roger (centre) is flanked by long-suffering (in more ways than one!) cellar team vital cog Bill Dudley and soon to brew at the Rowditch, and former Danelaw brewer Steve Twells.

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Pub awards for Old Oak & Brewery Tap



Prior to its success as Derbyshire Pub of the Year 2009, the **Old Oak** at Horsley Woodhouse was presented with the Derby Branch award. Our picture shows Julian Tubbs handing the certificate to Frances and Tracy Creighton in May. Here are the thoughts of Julian, the East Midlands CAMRA Regional Director: 'Derby Branch's selection of the Old Oak at Horsley Woodhouse has been endorsed by the other Derbyshire CAMRA branches. The Old Oak is the Derby Branch and now also Derbyshire County CAMRA Pub of the Year 2009. Although the Old Oak has been nominated before, one thing that is noticeable is that it just keeps improving.

The latest venture, the **RURAD Bar** now brings a huge choice of real ales to the village every weekend. That is only possible because the Old Oak is a free house. It can buy beer in the best market, and of course the Leadmill and Bottle Brook Beers are all locally brewed by the family and are very reasonably priced. All beers are served in lined oversized glasses, which means that the customer always gets full measure.

The village had already lost the Knife and Steel when the Old Oak was lying derelict and looked certain to become housing. Richard Creighton and

his family deserve much praise for spotting the potential of the Old Oak and gradually bringing the whole building up to a reasonable standard without spoiling its character. The success of the Old Oak can not be blamed for the repeated closures and failures at the Jolly Colliers, which belongs to a major pubco whose business proposition makes it very difficult to attract successful licencees, but the Oak is an example of what a family can do when it is determined. The winning factors are a combination of determination, excellent beers, good value for money and a friendly welcome provided by a large staff team, most of whom were behind the bar for the presentation of the Derby Branch award on Sunday 24th May.

The Derby City Pub of the Year is the **Brewery Tap, Derby's Royal Standard**. Branch Chair Rob Davison delivered an interesting address at the Tap in June, praising all the efforts of 'Team Harris' in both the rescue mission they have done on this threatened old inn as well as the consistent quality of the ale therein and the superb service by the friendly staff. Indeed continuity of barstaff is a major factor in what makes a really good pub and they have it here in spades. Brewer Trevor Harris said he was 'amazed but delighted' to have won the award so soon and with son Paul running the business side of the pub things have gone swimmingly in the first year, which culminated with a first beer festival to celebrate twelve months trading.

Rob commented on the two award-winning pubs: 'I've recently had the enjoyable task of presenting the City Pub of the Year award to the Brewery Tap (aka Royal Standard) in Derby and the County Pub of the Year award to the Old Oak at Horsley Woodhouse, itself the brewery tap for Leadmill. I made completely bespoke remarks at both events about the individuals involved, the pub and its location – and "the offer" which made that pub a winner for in the eyes of CAMRA members.

On reflection though, I realised that there were common features. The Old Oak was saved from demolition in 2003, the Tap more recently. Both involved a family team with dedication and flair. And seeing a business opportunity for premises that others had basically written off. Both have a strong customer base – which was a major factor in the Old Oak's reopening, and for the Tap has seen a rekindling of the Harris supporters club. In both cases, when



Derby CAMRA Branch Chair Rob Davison presents the City Award to Brewery Tap management team Tim Norris and Tracy Morgan.

making the arrangements for the presentation the priority for Mine Hosts was to ensure as many of their staff team as possible could be present. Well done to both pubs. It speaks volumes about the formula that can make for a successful pub business: management nous, consistent good service to the customers and each employee feeling a valued part of 'the team'.

King William

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If you are into collecting breweriana or simply want something attractive to adorn your home, then the 24th CAMRA National Breweriana Auction in Burton offers something just for you.

Among the lots are a match striker from Whittle Springs (a Lancashire brewery dating from before the 1890s and taken over by Nuttall & Co of Blackburn in 1928), and a lovely little jug from Richard Seed (a Greater Manchester brewery set up in 1827, which was taken over by Duttons, also of Blackburn, in 1938). The more unusual lots include a small plastic Fremlins elephant. Fremlins was set up in the 1790s in Kent, although the elephant definitely dates from a lot later!

Never been to the National Breweriana Auction before? The

auction is great fun to take part in and an opportunity to get some great bargains plus many of the items on sale can appreciate in value. And, of course, like any CAMRA event, there is some

good beer on sale on the day, in this case provided by the local Old Cottage Brewery.

The event takes place on Saturday 17th October at Burton Town Hall, King Edward Place, Burton Upon Trent, DE14 2EB

so there are plenty of good pubs to sample too. The event starts at 11am with the opportunity to view the lots and browse the breweriana stands that will also be there. Bidding



starts at 1pm. Entrance is by catalogue (£2.50), available on the day, or £3.50 in advance, by post from **Bill Austin: 01923 211654** (to answerphone) or baustin@supanet.com If you can't get there, postal bids are accepted.

Christine Cryne



Pub beer festival season is upon us - Silk Mill enters the fray

August and September seem to be a popular couple of months for pub beer festivals. It kicks off with the Unicorn bash at Newton Solney and as September is ushered in the Smithfest will be in its third incarnation.

A new one on the round will be the Old Silk Mill festival from Thursday 27th to Monday

31st August. The rejuvenated pub will feature over 40 beers from across the nation over the Bank Holiday weekend. The new house beer for the Mill is being brewed by Blue Monkey brewery of Ilkeston and should be available by then.

Festivals also will take place at the White Post, Stanley Common and some others

mentioned elsewhere in this publication and doubtless many more.

Jolly Sailor

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Tel: 01283 703324

Correction

In DD 128 we said that the Railway Tavern in Hatton was a Greene King house. In fact it is owned by Marstons.

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More White Bear recollections

I was interested to see the article about the White Bear (*Derby Drinker June/July*).

As the article says, it is difficult to pinpoint as it disappeared under the new roads, but the old Derby maps show it on the North side of Derwent Row adjacent to the canal, approximately at the junction of Exeter Street and Meadow Road. I suppose it would be under Darwin Place car park now.

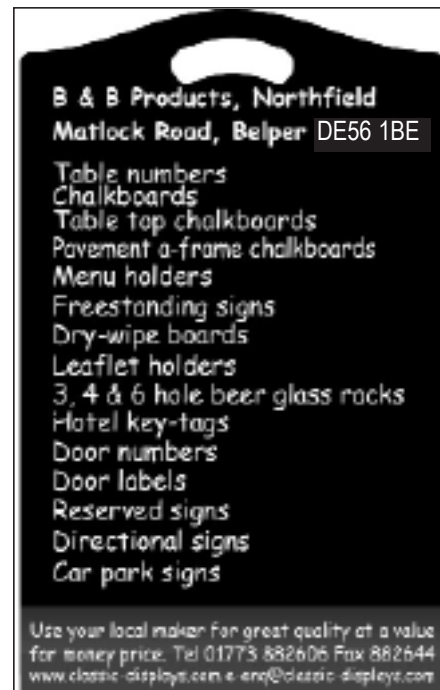
My recollections of the pub were from the mid to late 1960s. We always drank from half-pint glasses in those days and the White Bear had it's own, with the

pub name etched into the glass. I have attached a photo of one for info.

Thanks Ian, I have reproduced your photograph of one of the White Bear half-pint glasses.



Regards
Ian Brownson



Dolphin Beer Festival a success in the rain



Coming only one week on the heels of the Derby Beer

Festival, the annual Dolphin Beer Festival was a really big hit despite some torrential rain on most of the nights.

The Queen Street inn was packed with real ale revellers and the quality of the beer was, in my opinion, as good as any I have

ever had at this ever-popular event.

Dolphin landlord and disc jockey extraordinaire, Jim Harris launched his Dolphin 1530 ale, brewed by Nottingham Brewery and said it was 'a massive hit' both during the four-day festival

and as a regular beer in the pub during the ensuing weeks.

Our pictures show a happy relaxed crowd of real ale drinkers under cover on the patio by the outside bar (top) and two of the Dolphin bar team enjoying a rare moment of relaxation (below).



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New Judy Taverns pub in Etwall

Award-winning licensee takes on second village pub as new chain fires broadside to Punch

We all know about the Pubco Punch Taverns but have you heard about its new rival Judy Taverns. The small Derby-registered company is cocking a snoot at its larger competitor and has acquired the Spread Eagle in Etwall, to the west of Derby. On May 15th this year a group of three local businessmen bought the freehold off Punch Taverns and installed Tim Barlow as licensee.

Tim is also landlord at the Hawk & Buckle the red brick building around the corner as the old main road sweeps up towards Derby. Tim told DD: "I'm currently the leaseholder at both pubs - been at the Hawk since 2006. They're both hundreds of years old - the Hawk dates

from at least 1804 and the oldest bits of the Spread are 16th century."

The Hawk is a traditional style old pub with separate bar & lounge. It's a Marston's tied lease and was Marston's National Cask Ale Pub of the Year for three years running. It has an original underground cellar, stables, courtyard, and beer garden. There are always five real cask ales on at any time - Pedigree, Old Empire and Burton Bitter permanently, and two ever-changing guests. However, the choice of guests Tim can get from Marstons is very limited these days because they only let tied tenants have beers from within the Marstons group so it's always Ringwood, Wychwood, Brakspear, Jennings, or Banks's.

The Spread Eagle is now a smart, refurbished Free House. It's been run down by Punch and a succession of their leaseholders

over the past five years or so and had become a tatty, dirty, under-used pub until Punch sold it. It has the prime site in Etwall, right at the heart of the village and is now a very attractive pub. The interior is modern with some traditional touches like low-beamed ceilings



and fireplaces. On the beer front choice is beginning to open up for the cask drinker. Six handpumps are installed, three each side of the bar and the current range sees currently selling Pedigree, Worthington Red Shield and White Shield, brewed at the Coors museum microbrewery, and Derventio's Cleopatra and Venus. As regards the guests, Tim says: "I'll change these for other local brews as time goes by and I also have Frank Wood's cider, made at Branston, on the bar."

All very LocAle friendly. He also has tentative plans to replace the front car-park with a beer garden. I am all for that and if it sounds like the sort of pub you like then why not call in next time you are in the Etwall area.



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£4.00 after 6.00pm, £2.00 for CAMRA members (with a current card)
Entertainment in the Main Hall 3.15pm - 5.15pm ERIC SINGLAIN'S CELEBRITY JAZZ BAND
6.30pm - 8.30pm WOODLEY & ARCHER (Acoustic Blues/Rock), 8.45pm - 11.00pm BACKBEAT (60's Rock & Roll)
Glasses at all sessions £2.00 each (returnable), unless customers bring their own
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Cider with Suzie

This month we're going to follow our summer holiday route through some of the country's main cider and perry regions. I'm afraid that even in Somerset finding good quality real cider in a pub is difficult; Strongbow and Magners get everywhere. Still, it's much more fun, and a lot cheaper, to track it down at source and quaff it back at the caravan, so apart from the occasional pub visit when we fancied a beer, that is what we did.

Our first stop was at Porlock on the North Somerset coast but only a few miles from Devon. From there we visited Torre Cider at Washford, just off the A39 Bridgewater to Minehead road. Apart from cider making they raise pigs; you will certainly be invited to meet Cynthia and her offspring. There is a well-stocked but slightly over commercialized shop with a good range of ciders to sample. We chose an oak-matured medium blend which proved to be a full-flavoured cider with plenty of tannin; not something to drink in a hurry but very satisfying.

Crossing into Devon we managed to track down Indicknowle, a cider

maker whom I had never visited before. It is made on a working farm off the B3343 between Blackmoor Gate and Woolacombe, not far from Combe Martin. The press here is incredible; thought to be over 250 years old, a huge twin screwed affair made from massive wooden beams. The cider is pressed through straw, and one pressing cycle takes a week! Now straw pressed cider usually looks and tastes decidedly 'farmy', but this was almost clear with a delicate, fruity flavour. A gallon of it was soon purchased. During the holiday season they also sell their own meat, so it is a good place to stock up for a barbecue.

We now moved on to Glastonbury, arriving just after the festival had finished, so a few of the revellers were still around, gradually coming back down to earth. The Somerset Levels really are the heart of cider country, so

we had a choice of excellent cider makers. Here we visited Naish. This is a farm near West Pennard on the A361 Glastonbury to Shepton Mallet road, but there is no sign up and you would probably have to ask to find it. This is no frills farmhouse cider; the world may have moved on but Mr Naish certainly hasn't, nor at the age of 85 is it likely that he will. The cider is made from his own fruit, very dry and not adulterated in any way; a real connoisseur's choice.

Our final stop was at Hereford for Hereford CAMRA's Beer & Cider Festival. This is held in a marquee on the banks of the river Wye. It is small for a tented festival, but extremely enjoyable, with a very impressive cider and perry bar where all the products are sourced from Herefordshire. No other county could do this, cer-

tainly not the perry, because Herefordshire is by far the most prolific county for perry making. The West Midlands perry judging took place here and we were invited to participate. This was a blind tasting, in my view the only fair way for any judging to be conducted. You sip (or consume in larger quantities) around six perry, marking them for appearance, aroma, taste, finish etc, and only find out afterwards what they were. The winner was Gregg's Pitt, a small craft cider/ perry maker from Much Marcle, second was Oliver's, a major Herefordshire producer from Ocle Pychard and a perry specialist, and third was Westons. The purists never cease to criticise Westons, probably because they are so big and keg a large proportion of their output, but they often do well in blind tasting so they must be doing something right.

That was the end of this year's tour with plenty of ciders and perry samples, and a few ideas to bring back to Derby for future festivals.



GOING NOWHERE SLOWLY



Consider! Dear Toper, a not too distant sizeable market town, which I revisited recently after a couple of years away and where-at I discovered to my dismay, that in my absence several much loved old inns and taverns had been boarded up (alas Dear Toper, an all too frequent sign of the times, in many of our towns and cities).

One establishment in particular caught my attention, for this was a large and rambling, quintessential "Olde English Inn"; its origins dating back to medieval times, it had happily survived the passing centuries, expanding during the heyday of the Coaching Era, and when the railways came trade was undiminished, for the town's new Railway Station was but a stone's throw away. Through two World Wars and the Great Depression the venerable old inn traded, the Swinging Sixties swung, Thatcherism and the Millennium came and went, and still the quaint old inn continued to open its doors to thirsty toppers, but now alas it stands shuttered and forlorn, the ever creeping weeds colonising the gutters, gables and the now deserted yard where once the London Coach regularly rattled across the cobbles, off upon her way again, with fresh horses, and her passengers replete with good food and good ale, courtesy of a good old fashioned English Inn.

Up until recently this lovely old inn would have provided much needed employment in the town for around fifty people, cooks, barmaids, waiters, managers, cleaners, receptionists, cellarman, bottlewashers etc. That is fifty people who were paying income tax and N.I. contributions and who now I would assume, have, along with their

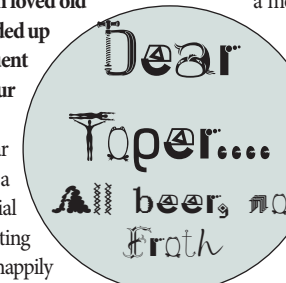
colleagues from the town's other closed hostelry, joined the ever lengthening queue at the local job centre.

You would Dear Toper, think that any schoolboy with a modicum of mathematical nonce, would be able to calculate that crippling potentially viable businesses with ever increasing tax burden during the present economic climate is at best counter productive and at worst criminally insane; so why can't the self serving, expense fiddling 'Powers That Be' work it out (perhaps they're too busy wondering what to order next in their state subsidised bars and how to claim the cost back from the taxpayer?). I've quoted Hilaire Belloc here before and I make no apology for doing so again, for I believe his words to be pertinent in the present crisis:

*"When you have lost your inns
Then drown your sorry selves,
For you will have lost the last of England."*
Hilaire Belloc (1870 - 1953)

He was right, for we are losing a little piece of Old England with every inn that closes, but consider Dear Toper, perhaps that is exactly what our political elite desire - our inns gone, our national identity gone, and our beloved Queen replaced by some ever spinning, ever grinning 'spiv goon' of a president (at ten times the cost) as we become ever more absorbed into the unaccountable (in more ways than one) 'P.C. European Super State' of the future, where-in our pints become litres of none alcoholic

beer, smokers are sent to rehabilitation camps in the Outer Hebrides and classes of school children are encouraged to report their parents for non P.C. activities, such as eating meat, aspiring to



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Good Beer Guide 2007 & 2008

own a car, getting married, putting the wrong rubbish in the wrong bin (if only we could put some of our politicians in one) leaving lights on (it doesn't seem five minutes since we were being encouraged to do so in an effort to thwart burglars) and of course visiting pubs (presupposing that any still remain by then). This of course will be when the school isn't busy brainwashing the little darlings about equal rights for squirrels, manmade global warming, and the joys of postponing their arrival at the back of the dole queue by ratcheting up thousands of pounds worth of debt in higher education, whilst studying for worthless degrees in fish gutting and media studies.

As for the MEPs (M-ore E-xpenses P-lease) who will supposedly be running the Euro Circus to come, well, words almost fail me (but not quite Dear Toper). The eurostocracy of the future I fear, will be fatter, greedier, and even more overpaid than their present day counterparts, and don't you just know where all that money is going to come from? Even at present the grubby antics at Westminster pale into insignificance when compared to the Brussels Gravy Train, the cost of running which is in part responsible for the ever rising tax upon your pint, and that brings me nicely back to that venerable old inn, which had survived the passing centuries with ease until this one came along, when the PC European Super State of the future looms upon the road ahead like a car with a local radio sticker in its rear window, it's going nowhere very slowly and holds everyone back, consider that, Dear Toper!

D.T.

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Derby CAMRA Branch Diary

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.



AUGUST

Wed 12th August, BRANCH MEETING, TRAVELLERS REST, ASHBOURNE ROAD

Tuesday 18th August, Social, Spondon Village Club

Friday 14th August, Survey Trip: Pubs of Long Lane by minibus.

Tuesday 25th August, Social, Derby Labour Club, Charnwood Street

Saturday 22nd August. Hope Valley Pub Walk by Rail (9.5miles), Castleton, Circular walk includes pubs in Hope & Edale plus pubs of Sheffield on Derbyshire Wayfarer ticket £8.60 suggest advance purchase from Derby Tourist Information. Meet Derby Railway Station 08.50 for the 09.11 Sheffield train. More details contact Jenny Rowland on email JenDave@tiscali.co.uk

Saturday 29th August, Repton & Milton by public transport. Catch the V3 from the B1 bus stop, Albert Street, at 17:10. The pubs and their approxi-

mate times are: Boot Inn, Repton (arr. 17:45, dep. 18:30), Swan Inn, Milton (arr. 19:00, dep. 19:45), Mount Pleasant, Repton (arr. 20:15, dep. 20:45), Bull's Head, Repton (arr. 21:00, dep. 22:00). Catch the 22.14 V3 bus, arriving back in Derby at 22:42

SEPTEMBER

THURSDAY 10th Sept, BRANCH MEETING, OLD SILK MILL, FULL STREET, DERBY

Saturday 12th Sept, Beer Festival workers trip to Ludlow Food & Drink festival, contact Rob Davison 07966200135

Minibus trips generally depart at 19:00 from the X3 bus stop on Full Street, Derby and aim to return back to Derby by 23:45. To book a place on the survey minibus trips, or enquire about public transport or cycling social details please contact Branch Pub Surveys Coordinator Stewart Marshall on 07944 163737 or email samarshall37@googlemail.com

Focus on beer in new collection at QUAD Mediatheque



A collection of films about beer, called *Roll Out the Barrel* will be available to watch for free at the BFI Mediatheque @ QUAD in Derby from August. *Roll Out the Barrel* is a fun and frothy new collection of films on the topic

Massingham looking at pub culture across England.

If you have an interest in local history from the region, there is also a Mediatheque collection called *Heartlands: A Portrait of Derby And The East Midlands*, which has been specially commissioned for QUAD. *Heartlands: A Portrait of Derby And The East Midlands* includes fascinating archive footage from 1900, right up to up to the present day with feature films shot in regional locations.

The Mediatheque is a digital jukebox of over 1,400 complete films and TV programmes from the BFI National Archive. New material is regularly added to the collection. It is FREE to use, and available to all, customers just need to sign up for FREE membership from the QUAD Box office. The Mediatheque is open daily 11:00am-8:00pm (Sundays 12 noon-8:00pm). You can just drop in or you can book in advance for a particular timeslot. For more information, please call: 01332 290606 or go to www.derbyquad.co.uk

QUAD is Derby's centre for art and film, on the Market Place in Derby city centre, a gallery, cinema, café bar and workshop that anyone can use. For further information on this event, or any other issue relating to QUAD, please contact Kathy Frain on 01332 285422 or email kathyf@derbyquad.co.uk



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Microbrewery Corner

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



LEATHERBRITCHES

Ed Allingham is brewing to capacity and has ordered a big new 40 barrel fermenter to be installed in August. This will enable double runs of the main beers. They are also now bottling Cad & Bounder for Dave Brown's Chesterfield Arms pub.

BLUE MONKEY

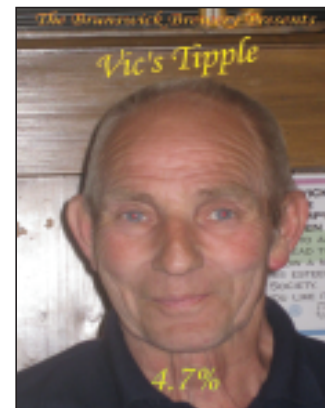
London Calling for Blue Monkey

Blue Monkey are delighted to have been asked to send all three of their core beers down to London for the Great British Beer Festival this year. A whopping 10 Kilderkins (1,440 pints!) of the good stuff will be winging its way down south to the festival, which is at Earls Court from 4-8th August. Blue Monkey managing director John Hickling said "This is a massive festival, and breweries only get to supply to it if they are invited, so I was blown away to be asked to send all three of our core beers down, and in such massive quantities." To celebrate, the whole Blue Monkey team will be attending the festival for what, according to John, is a "quality control spot-check".

A Monkey Milestone

June saw a milestone for Blue Monkey when they sold their 100,000th pint of beer. To keep up with the demand, they recently added a new fermenter and several conditioning tanks into their already crowded building, adding another 3,000 pints a week of brewing capacity. According to John Hickling: "We're running at maximum capacity at the moment, and it's really

frustrating knowing that there is far more demand for the beer than we can satisfy. The new fermenter will help us squeeze a bit more from the building



we're in, but we're looking to relocate to a far bigger building by the end of the year".

BRUNSWICK

Have brewed a special beer dedicated to local pump-clip collector (and ticker) Vic this summer. The 4.7% beer was

Vic's Tipple and the clip is pictured here.

DERVENTIO

The Trusley brewers have opened up extra space above the brew-house for private parties and functions. Hot and cold food is available with a fully functioning bar and pub games.

FALSTAFF

A 4% pale gold beer Dorado was in fine fettle in late July, whilst Mars, a 4.8% was brewed for the Babington for the summer. Coming soon is Leo at 4.2%.

FUNFAIR

One of Dave Tizard's latest offerings from the Ilkeston brewery is Teacups, a crystal clear ginger ale with an acquired taste which has been

available in Derby's Brewery Tap.

WIRKSWORTH

Following the success of last years event Wirksworth Brewery will be holding a brew house open day on the weekend of 12th/13th September to coincide with the Wirksworth Arts & Crafts Festival. The brew house will be open from 11:00 giving local drinkers an opportunity to see a working micro brewery. Jeff Green will be on hand to talk you through the brewing process and answer any questions. There will be a selection of their beers available and a seating area to soak up the festival atmosphere. Alternatively, 4 pint jugs will be available as a carry out option.

The Hope & Anchor (Wirksworth) have also commissioned a 4.3% Festival

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40 beers - many new
Music & barbecue Friday
Music & Hog Roast Sat

Thurs BSP (Rock)
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On the banks of the Derwent
Quarter mile from Railway Station
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Sat Blues & Barbecue

AUGUST 8th - Paul EVANS

15th - LITTLE JIM; 22nd - Chris HALL

Ale' from the local brewery which will be launched at the Hope & Anchor beer festival during the same weekend.

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However in between there are other places, many of them better than the ones we know and these places challenge us, they do different things - better things.

We should try and travel more.



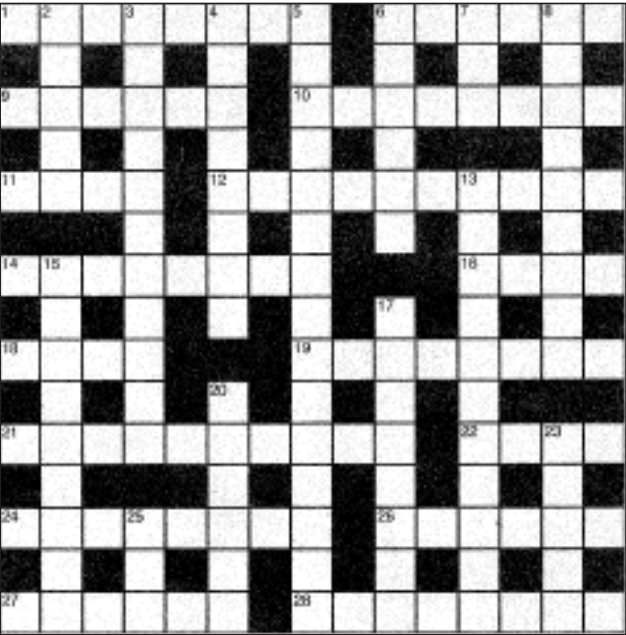
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Middlesbrough CAMRA October 2009 Bronze Medal Best Bitter

Derby Drinker Publication Schedule 2009		
Advanced notice for contributions and advertisers. These are the proposed dates for the publication of <i>Derby Drinker</i> . Copy deadlines will be strictly adhered to. Any photographs, logos, graphics etc are preferred in jpeg format. If using Word please send as Plain Text. Thank you - The Editor.		
Issue No.	Publication Date	Copy Deadline
DD 130	October 2009	20 September 2009
DD 131	December 2009	20 November 2009
DD 132	February 2010	20 January 2010
DD 133	April 2010	20 March 2010

CROSSWORD No 14 by Wrenrutt



- ACROSS**
1. Place or implement for a game (4.4)
6. Re-assembled Indian instruments enable ascent or descent (6)
9. 2a + r + s + 2w = c = capital city (6)
10. Gemstone once believed to prevent drunkenness [Don't ask me how!] (8)
11. Indonesian island sounding like a beer ingredient (4)
12. Compliant males, to a T, is something extra (10)
14. A yellow, fruity bitter brewed in Hampshire (8)

16. Get your lips round this speech defect (4)
18. V-sign initially would make this fever obscure (4)
19. Bring own version to make up to poet (8)
21. Where there's this there's a way, if put more simply (1.9)
22. Thea, Greek goddess of light, got mixed up, evoking extreme dislike (4)
24. Drink strong bitter from Sedbergh? That'd be suicide! (8)
26. No blog for this shape (6)

SOLUTIONS to CROSSWORD No 13 by Wrenrutt

ACROSS

1. EUPHORIA 6. FINERY 9. NAPALM 10. IRONSIDE 11. VERY 12. NUTCRACKER 14. PAGANINI 16. TUTU 18. STUD 19. DEUCHARS 21. BRADBOURNE 22. HOCK 24. MASCAGNI 26. BOTHER 27. ADJOIN 28. GREENERY

DOWN

2. USAGE 3. HEAVY-HANDED 4. ROMANTIC 5. ALISTAIR DARLING 6. FLOURY 7. NIS 8. RED SETTER 13. CATCH-THE-TEN 15. AFTERWARD 17. QUEEN BEE 20. NOGGIN 23. CLEAR 25. COO

Last Orders

Eileen Hylton

The long-standing landlady of the Chequers Inn at Ticknall, Eileen Hylton, died in June after a prolonged period of illness.

The pub, once one of the Ruddles tied estate (the only one in Derbyshire) and the venue for their second ever Derby CAMRA branch meeting, has remained a very traditional one and Eileen and husband Dennis were most instrumental in this.

They always made a large celebration of Easter and the annual egg-throwing competition is a village highlight.

The editor of the *Derby Drinker* has fond memories of

his many visits to the Chequers, both when competing in the South Derbyshire Pub Quiz League (always a late night!) and his numerous country jaunts to Ticknall when living in Shelton Lock in his happy halcyon days.

According to Dennis, who I visited during the recent village scarecrow trail, Eileen's passing was a blessing in the end and Derby Drinker offers its condolences in this sad time. A true character has departed the pub stage.



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