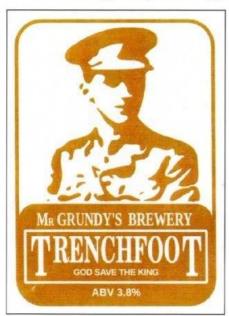


ISSUE NUMBER 136

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2010

FREE

Brewery Upsurge throughout the area



The production of Real Ale in the County is at a new high. And the effect, in terms of a greater availability of cask ale in local pubs, is increasingly evident. According to SIBA (the Society of Independent Brewers) the majority of their members have seen volumes grow by 8.5% last year. The BPI (British Beer & Pub Association) reports that since 2008 the national production of ale (as opposed to lager) has increased as a % of the UK beer market and also in actual volume terms, due overwhelmingly to the popularity of cask ales. It is anticipated that the definitive Cask Report, due to be published

Brunswick Derby's oldest Brewery tel: 01332 290677

shortly after the Drinker goes to press, will confirm this trend.

Since 2000 the number of breweries in Derbyshire has grown from 6 to 37, a six-fold increase and almost all are working to capacity. Some, like Thornbridge, Blue Monkey (who moved to Notts from Ilkeston in July) and Amber Ales, have had to expand their breweries significantly in that period to cope with demand. Some, like Ashover, Derby Brewing,

Funfair, Leadmill and Amber have bought leased pubs to get more of their beer to the drinking public and some publicans, like the Flowerpot, My Grundy's, Old Poets and the Rowditch have recognised the opportunity

and become home brew houses. And the original six: Brunswick, Falstaff, John Thompson, Leatherbritches, Townes and Whim have thrived as well. Only a tiny few, Danelaw, Edale and Wild Walker have disappeared or been

And the popularity of Derbyshire brews is not so surprising given the number of top level national CAMRA and SIBA awards won by Amber, Derby, Derventio, Falstaff, Thornbridge, Whim and Blue Monkey (notwithstanding their recent transfer this year across the county

Real Ale Drinkers Love it in The Ditch The ROWDITCH Inn & Brewerv 246 Uttoxeter Rd, Derby DE 22 3LL for a constantly changing range of real ales DERBY CITY PUB OF THE YEAR 2006 boundary).

So progressively the choice of local beers has opened up, so now

For Your Beer needs: Mobile: 07887 556788

only the extortionate rates demanded in almost

all tied and pubco estates prevents their wider availability.

dino & рете's

DERBY BREWING COMPAN

Beer of the moment

dino & pete's golden sunrise

(4.2% ABV)

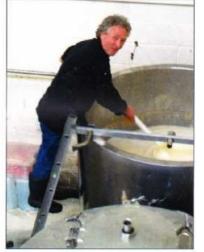
10 p from every pint

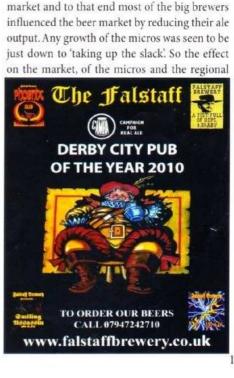
goes to Derby Kids Camp

The triggers to this increase are threefold. Initially the 2002 reduced Excise duty for small brewers provided a financial incentive, secondly an increased opportunity was created by the two major pubcos, Punch Taverns and Enterprise Inns, having to release more of their pub stock onto the market to reduce their borrowings, but behind all this was the increased public interest for the product, aided and abetted by

For some years the brewing industry majors (the big four) have

scoffed at the influence of the Real Ale movement claiming that the future lay in the lager market and to that end most of the big brewers



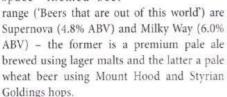


brewers producing real ale, was masked. The latest figures now show that the tide has turned and that the big brewers of yesteryear were wrong to ignore cask ale. Indeed Molson Coors, amongst others, are looking again at the opportunities they are giving away.

Brewery News Black Hole

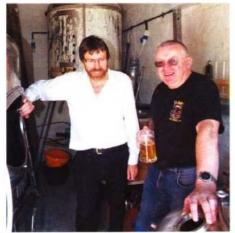
Black Hole Brewery at Burton upon Trent, after recent staff changes, are to be re-launched. They have recruited Jack Morgan from Shardlow Brewery – a member of the family who own that brewery – who, together with Martin Hodson (pictured on front page), will concentrate on developing the business. Sales have been increasing but are now limited by capacity. To that end a further 10 barrel fer-

menter has been purchased and which will increase production from 26 to 36 barrels per week. The Black Hole plant, which occupies part of a former Ind Coope bottling plant on Curzon St, is a modern 10 barrel brew length operation with a range of six beers, two of which, No Escape (5.2 % ABV) and Red Dwarf (4.5% ABV) have won SIBA awards. The current biggest sellers of their space- themed beer



The Steves at work - design pending, developments in hand

Steve Twells, brewer at the Rowditch and formerly half of the defunct Danelaw Bry, hasn't quite sorted the new brewery's beers yet, the



third trial of which went on sale on Sept 2nd. The 3.8% brew, 'Is it' a light, hoppy brew with a slight 'Burton snatch' was 'nearly there' according to fastidious Steve Birkin, owner of the brewpub. The second trial brew available briefly in July was 'Could it be' at 4.7% ABV following the first in May. The fifth – the fourth brew was thrown away (not 'ditched') – an as yet unnamed 5.0% ABV bitter, should be available as *DD* goes to press.

Whim

Joe Alsop of Whim Ales, yet another outfit brewing at capacity, found a spare fermenting vessel to brew a new, hoppy beer, provisionally called WPC (after the three hops used – Willamette, Perle and Columbus) but eventually entitled THREE. It made its debut at Smithfest 4, Meadow Rd, Derby on Sept 2nd,

> but under the Roger Myringdevised title of 'Walking Dead' - after his first customers of the day. Whim Ales are unusual in that they very rarely produce specials, so this is something of a landmark.



David Hemstock (pictured left) of Raw Brewing Company, Staveley was delighted when he heard that his Dark Peak won the Gold at the Peterborough CAMRA Beer Festival and Grey Ghost got the Silver in their classes with Dark Peak also being the overall Champion.

RAW are just four months old are brewing to capacity and their whole range was featured recently at Smithfest 4.

Mr Grundy's brewery – a truly local affair – and yet another brewpub.

Yet another new local brewery, after a protracted gestation, has opened at Mr Grundy's Tavern in Derby. A small (3.5 barrel brew length) unit, it will principally serve both the

Ashbourne Rd, pub and Carl Haspel's other establishment, the Bank House at Uttoxeter; though it is hoped that local festivals will also be able to feature the brews.

The impressivelyengineered new brewery was completed on Sept 10th, but trials and calibration mean that beer won't be on the bar until mid October, Deened at Mr Grundy's mall (3.5 barrel brew cipally serve both the

Deened Arms
Mappleton

Traditional cask ales
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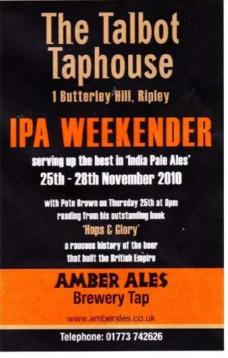
10% discount on real ale with CAMRA card

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email: theokeoverarms@yahoo.co.uk

thus ending the long wait caused by the pub's 'Brewery open soon' notice, which has excited interest and frustration in equal measures. The design, build and installation were done by the Derby-based Excel Process Systems Ltd and is a bespoke affair - Ashbourne Rd is a heritage zone. This meant, for instance, sizing all the vessels to pass through the brewery door (room 3) with just 3mm gap to spare.

The first brews (noted in the 2011 Good Beer Guide) are Trenchfoot (3.8 - 4.0% ABV) - a dark, ruby malty bitter; No Man's land (4.5 -5.0% ABV) a dark (ish) premium best bitter and Coffinnail (5.0% ABV) - an orange-flavoured Stout. All are the work of Brian Collins - a long time regular at Mr Grundy's - who after 20 years of home brewing, took up the challenge in his local, and by Carl Haspel, to do better than the beers on offer. After a Brewlab (Sunderland) course and training at Ashover Bry, Brian worked with Derventio Brewery. Both the latter are members of the Derby Brewing Co-operative from whom he has had a great deal of help and advice. The initial Mr Grundy brews Brian has developed at home.





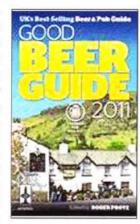
Good Beer Guide 2011 now on sale

As always the essential reference point wherever you are in the UK, for the best real ale pubs in that locality, this year the Editors have squeezed in an extra ten pages to accommodate the growing number of new breweries. It also has, by way of local interest, an article on Derby pubs -

Perfect pub crawl'.

This is the 38th year of the Good Beer Guide which covers more than 4500 pubs with details of food, opening hours, beer gardens, accommodation, transport links, disabled access and family facilities. It retails at £15.99 (non-CAMRA members price) and is edited once again by Roger Protz, whose perfect pub-crawl (across Derby) is detailed.

The number of Derbyshire



breweries has grown from 28 to 31 in the last year despite the loss of Blue Monkey, who have relocated from Ilkeston to Giltbrook (Notts) and Buxton taking over Wild Walker. The new brewers are

Mr Grundy's, Marlpool, Marlow, RAW and Rowditch, though two of these are barely off the ground yet.

The Guide can be purchased at varying reduced prices, in a number of pubs in the Derby area including: Brewery Tap, Brunswick, Falstaff, Flowerpot, Mr Grundy's Tavern & Brewery, Old Silk Mill, Rowditch Inn and Smithfield - all in Derby plus the Pattenmakers Arms (Duffield) and Royal Oak (Ockbrook).

Horse & Groom - Not for sale - Hurrah!

Contrary to an earlier advert in the Morning Advertiser, which caused much dismay amongst both regulars and Derby CAMRA members, the Horse & Groom, on the corner of Elms

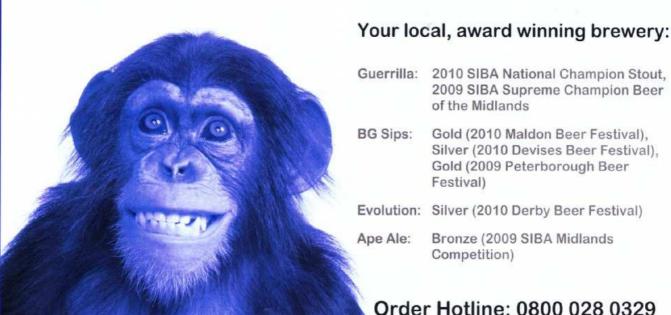
Street in Derby's West End, is NOT now for sale. Adam and Sarah have decided against the move, which was down to the pub being too small to house their growing family.

Another Brilliant Smith Fest



An evocotive evening shot of the ever-popular SmithFest at the Smithfield on Meadow Road in August. One of the true highlights of the Derby beer calendar, this years event was as resounding a success as all of its predecessors. Long may it continue!

blue monkey brewery



Guerrilla: 2010 SIBA National Champion Stout, 2009 SIBA Supreme Champion Beer

of the Midlands

BG Sips: Gold (2010 Maldon Beer Festival),

Silver (2010 Devises Beer Festival),

Gold (2009 Peterborough Beer

Festival)

Evolution: Silver (2010 Derby Beer Festival)

Ape Ale: Bronze (2009 SIBA Midlands

Competition)

Order Hotline: 0800 028 0329

NEW LEASE OF LIFE FOR THORN TREE

In the 1960s and 70s The Thorn Tree (pictured) on the A610 at Woodlinkin, near Codnor, was a popular Kimberley house run by the Bexon family. The Bexon's pioneered, locally at least, the basket meal concept, though following their departure, the fortunes of the roadside tavern ebbed and flowed as licensees came and went.

A new dawn broke recently which, on the evidence of a recent visit, promises sustained prosperity. The other half and I dropped in on a weekday lunchtime to find the car park and pub packed. The draw, it seems, is Georges Tradition, whose award winning fish and chips are ordered at your table. We both chose haddock, chips, mushy peas Landlord and Black Sheep Bitter were also available on handpump. The Thorn Tree is open all day with last food orders at 930 and a Sunday roast is in the offing. It would be unsurprising to see further ventures such as this.



AMBER TURNS TO GOLD FOR RIPLEY BREWERY

Peter Hounsell, proprietor of



and tartar sauce from the wideranging menu, washed down with a pint of Nutbrook Tradition. The bill, which also at a reasonable £18.50. Taylor's

Ripley brewery, Amber Ales, is celebrating after Chocolate Orange Stout received Gold in the speciality section at included a soft drink, came in . August's Great British Beer Festival's Beer of the Year awards. A delighted Peter said "this isn't the first award for this popular beer though it's certainly the most prestigious, and I'd like to thank co-brewer, Rachel Clark, for her continued diligence in the brew house."

Should you have missed this perennial brew at the recent Amber Valley Rail Ale Festival, you can try it at the two Amber pubs in Ripley, namely The

Talbot Taphouse, Butterley Hill, and The Sir Barnes Wallis, Maple Avenue, near the hospital.

NO ONE'S CROSS IN THE KEYS

The Cross Keys on Belper's Market Place, which has been graced by the presence of the late George Bateman on at least two occasions, continues to serve the family brewery's beers in fine condition. Half a dozen hand pulls usually include a brace of guests, and traditional cider and perry are welcome additions. Meanwhile, the pub's erstwhile licensee, Colin Sinclair, is busy at the nearby, attractively fronted Imperial Vaults, where you'll find, amongst others, Greene King XX Mild, winner of the silver award in the mild section of the Beer of the Year gongs. Another of our pubs that sells this dark delight is the redoubtable Pear Tree, Derby Road, Ripley. Just up the road, in Alfreton, Old Macdonalds Farm Public House is scheduled to reopen, after refurbishment by the Pub People Company, during mid October and eight hand pulls will dispense a variety of local and regional beers.

> PUB OF THE YEAR This year's winner, The Dead Poets, Holbrook, is certain to face fierce rivalry in the 2011

Pattenmakers Arms

Quiz - Sunday night Bass from the jug Good Beer Guide 2010 Function Room - free hire

- Duffield -

4 Crown St - tel: Derby 842844 Lunchtime food every day open 12-2 & 5-12 Mon-Thurs and all day Fri to Sun

competition, following a string of pub reopenings with the accent on locally sourced real ale. If you are a CAMRA member, resident in Amber Valley, we invite you to submit your top five pubs by e-mail to HYPERLINK "mailto:maria.curl@hotmail.co .uk" maria.curl@hotmail.co.uk or telephone/text 07804 361283 quoting your name and membership number. The customary surveying will be carried out later this year, and the winner and runner up announced early in 2011.

AGM

This will be held in the upstairs room of one of the most improved pubs in our area, the Hunter's Arms, Church Street, Kilburn, on Thursday 28th October, starting at 8pm. CAMRA prides itself on democracy, so should you wish to stand for a committee position, please let us have your nomination with a proposer and seconder, all of whom must be CAMRA members, by the start of the meeting.

AMBER ACTIVITIES

Saturday, 16th October Free bus surveying pubs in Belper and Ambergate, departing from Ripley Market Place at 730pm. For Alfreton and Belper pick ups, please ring Nathan.

Thursday, 28th October AGM at the Hunters Arms, Church Street, Kilburn, starting at 8pm. Contact Nathan 01773 570675.

Mandrake Root





VACANCIES IN EREWASH

The branch is looking for a new membership secretary since due to work and study commitments, our old membership secretary, Lynne, long standing, hard working branch member has stepped down.

A Derby Drinker correspondent for Erewash is also needed as I am no longer able to write this column. If anyone is interested in either post please contact the branch via the website.

Pub for summer has been voted on and the winner is The Navigation Inn, Breaston. Presentation will be within the November branch meeting.

Nutbrook brewery are now brewing in their new

brewery which is at Oakfield farm, Belper Road, Stanley Common, Derbyshire. They are also still brewing at their old West Hallam plant. On Saturdays between 9 & 4 they sell their beer straight from the cask in to take out containers

The Stumble Inn, Long Eaton is having a mini beer festival & pig roast on Saturday 6th November.

Staff are still needed for our beer festival in October, if interested, please contact the branch via website.

DIARY DATES

Monday 4th October, 8:30pm, Branch meeting, Stumble Inn, Long Eaton. Friday22nd to Saturday 23rd October, Erewash Beer

Festival, Westgate Suite (opposite The Twitchel), Westgate Street, Long Eaton. Saturday 30th October, Cider crawl. Start at The

Queens Head, Marlpool at 2pm and continue into Ilkeston.

Monday 1st November, 7:15pm Committee meeting, Bulls Head, Breaston.

Monday 1st November, 8:30pm, Branch meeting, The Navigation Inn, Breaston.

Saturday 6th November, Survey crawl around Breaston & Draycott. Meet Navigation Inn 12:00

Stephen Boa

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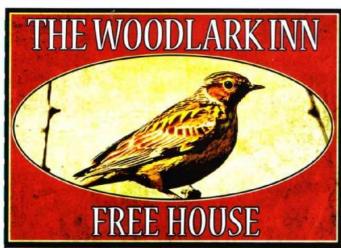
Solar PV panels

D J Caister - Electrician, Solar PV Installer / Part P registered electrician

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The above advert appeared in DD 135 bereft of Dave's telephone number. This was entirely the fault of the Derby Drinker editorial team and not the advertiser. An unreserved apology is offered here.

10th DERBY WINTER-FEST 2011 The Roundhouse, adjacent to Derby **Railway Station** 24th to 26th February 2011



£2 a pint every day from 12.00 till $6.00 \, \text{pm}$ (£2.40 a pint on premiums)

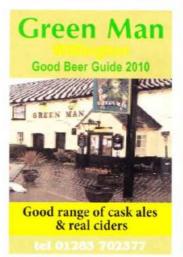
- Traditional beamed public house.
- Pleasant & private beer garden/smoking area.
- Draught, cask & regular guest ales & beers.
- Home cooked food.
- Quizzes.
- Pub games.
- Sky Sports. Great Prices.
- · Friendly staff.

The staff of the recently re-opened and refurbished Woodlark Inn Derby, would like to welcome all customers new and old.

Now under new ownership having been rescued from one of the larger pub chains, Derby's newest Freehouse, situated in the West end of the City, invites all to sample cask and draught beers and home cooked food in a warm and welcoming public house atmosphere. Come and join us and sample:

Come in & see us and re-introduce yourself to one of Derby's traditional pubs

The Woodlark Inn, 76/80 Bridge Street, Derby, DE13LA





A traditional two bar pub with traditional values

At least 3 ever changing ales on tap at all times plus Bass and Pediaree





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I said in DD135 it may be my last edition as editor. Well it wasn't quite and here I am with this one - my 59th actually following a recount! This will be my last full edition, certainly the last one I produce in Derby as i leave for a village near York in late October! It is with heavy heart that I will relinquish the job of Editor as I say it has been a joy largely and a pain occasionally!

I am going happily to my new life, and am engaged to a wonderful girl, Elaine, who resides in Yorkshire,but will miss the (many!) visits to Derby's tremendous pubs and meeting so many people.

To reflect on my time in Derby (very nearly my whole life), and in particular the pubs I have rated over the years, please allow a little last indulgence.

Some pubs have maintained high standards throughout my time in CAMRA, the Brunswick and Alex, particularly in the halcyon Mark Robins-era where I cannot remember having a bad pint and it served consistently, for me the best ale in the City.

Also in the 1990s I frequented the Crompton and York Taverns, two pubs unlucky not to have won Pub of the Year in those different days of less choice, the former with Perry and his eclectic team providing a haven for political debate and musical weirdos like myself and the latter under the late and great Arthur Watkin selling brilliant beer without the recognition he deserved out of his locality.

The Bridge at Shelton Lock was my suburban local for many years and you would be pushed to find a better one so thanks to Barrie & Carol for their long-standing efforts.

More recently I have returned to City living and frequented great pubs such as the Falstaff, Flowerpot, Silk Mill, Horse & Groom, Grundy's and many more. Roger at the Smithfield for me, serves consistently the best ale in Derby currently, but some of the others are not far behind. Apologies if I have missed anyone, this edition has been a proper rush!

Finally no round-up of Pip's Pubs would be complete without homage to the Rowditch, my local for the past six plus years. Jan & Steve run pubs the way they should be. No frills, mixed clientele, mad customers, eccentric behaviour (and yes, strange opening times!). I have been grateful for their help many times,

the latest only a

DERFY YORK
PURS FOR FLUEL

week ago when I had thrown my under-performing mobile phone at the wall whilst needing to make a vital call to the north! Jan ensured customers provided me with first a phone for my sim card and second a charger for the errant phone, adding "You won't get this service when you elope!"

Speaking of which, I shall certainly be drinking less beer when I slip off into the shadows, as we live six miles out of York with a bus service the kind you get to Dalbury Lees and no available village pub. But if you know me and wish to send me off I shall be having a Farewell Party on Saturday 23rd October at Derby Rowing Club from 7.30, four cask ales including Pips Farewell by Oakham brewery - much thanks to Lol at the Pot (pumpclip pictured, designed by Elaine Kay!) and some punk rock thrown in too!

Cheers Derby!
Pip Southall



at the

KING WILLIAM MILFORD

SUNDAY 17th OCTOBER

OWEN GERRARD

Irish Singer/Songwriter From 6.00pm

THURSDAY 28 OCTOBER

Acoustic Duo

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Admission Free For any further details, please call 01332 840842

Birthday Fest at Flowerpot

The Flowerpot on King Street celebrates 17 years selling Real Ale in derby with a festival of Beer from Thursday 21st to Sat 23rd October. The milestone is 17 years, Lol, Mr Trust-Me, who has been at the Pot since it reopened in 1993 has put together a wonderful selection of 30 beers which have been sold at the Pot throughout this timeline, and are considered worthy of inclusion.

Live entertainment and food prepared by 'Our Chell' including the now-famous 8oz Pot Burger and homemade Monster Pot Pies. There is a mystery beer competition, winner gets a bottle of malt whisky, so put the dates in your diary!



Join us for lunch and evening meals and enjoy our home cooked food The Cliff Inn, Town End, Crich, Matlock, DE4 5DP 01773 852444





The Ale Bag



Dear Editor

Until fairly recently the company I work for had a warehouse in Parcel Terrace and through the occasional visit (plus setting it up when I was resident for a week), I have become very acquainted with the many real ale pubs in Derby. I count the Rowditch as my 'local' whenever I'm in town.

I acquired the latest edition of Derby Drinker when I visited the Beer Festival in July and I missed out on Steve Birkin's second brew but was pleased to see Mr Grundy's will be brewing soon. I was extremely delighted to learn that the falstaff had been voted City Pub of the Year. When I first mentioned to a few people in Derby that I would be going into Normanton I was virtually warned off. The Falstaff is a fantastic pub and so worthy of the accolade.

All in all I feel Derby is on a par with Liverpool and Manchester in the choice of real ale pubs.

> Paul Kirsten SW London CAMRA

That's some praise Paul and I feel it shows how locals take Derby for granted, certainly in terms of beer choice and quality, if not pub interiors and fabric. As a soon to be visitor to the City I can share your comments whole heartedly - Pip





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Off licence at brewery for bottled stock and poly pins plus a range of interesting Belgian bottled beers open: Thurs & Fri until 7 pm, Sat 9 -12am

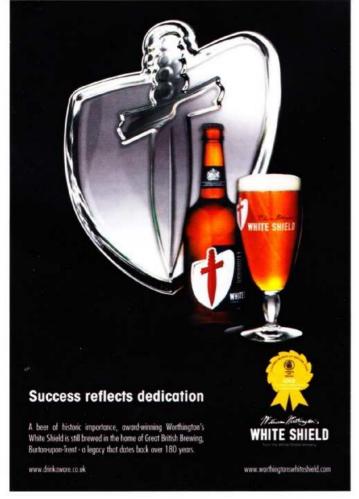
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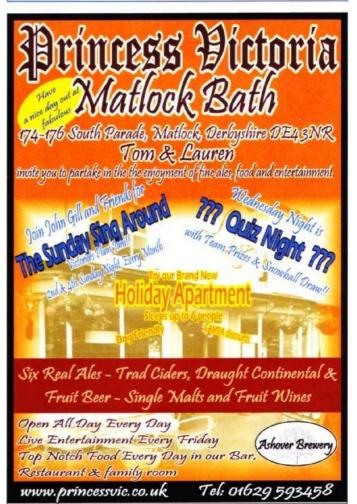
Unit 5, Chatsworth Business Park Chatsworth Rd, Chesterfield. S40 2AR

tel: 01246 221680 / www.bramptonbrewery.co.uk









GHOSTLY GOINGS ON IN THE LOCAL



Jear

Toper....

Froth

Consider! Dear Toper, as the days shorten and the leaves begin to fall, those dark and chill evenings of Autumn, when many a cosy fire is lighted and topers gather around the welcoming hearths of their local hostelries to converse with one another.(NOTE: In certain establishments that would be assuming that they could

be heard above the piped so called "music" blaring

out, usually chosen by the teenage mutant tattoo beasts from Hell behind the bar to entertain themselves, without any regard whatsoever for the clientele).

As the evening progresses

towards its close the usual topics of conversation are one by one exhausted; the Weather (it's raining again); Television (they've come to the pub to escape it); Sport (the talk revolves around newspaper allegations of the off field,, drugged up, violent, seven in a bed sex romps of some overpaid footballer); and then of course there is the vexed issue of the ever rising tax on a pint (the majority of which seems to be spent on giving morons cash incentives to breed, is the general consensus of those present).

As closing time nears, the pub has emptied save for its stalwart regulars, still chatting around the dying fire, and the blustery autumnal wind moaning in the chimney prompts talk of the supernatural and the pub ghost, which is hardly surprising since most hostelries seem to boast at least one spectral regular whether it be a headless woman, or a legless man (the latter abound at closing time).

"Why should there be so many 'sightings' of ghosts in pubs?" I hear you ask Dear Toper. Well, it might be that Scrooge was right, when he dismissed the apparition of Jacob Marley as being caused by, "a fragment of underdone

potato", (amongst other things) acting upon his senses, and if that were so, it is little wonder that some pubs are awash with 'sightings' when one considers the bland, microwaved, gut rotting slop, they seem to serve up as, "Pub Grub". One assumes that the various food induced hallucinations will reach their peak come

Hallowe'en, which comes around year after year like a skeleton on a roundabout, bringing with it a seasonal plague of plastic spiders and their attendant nylon webs, all lovingly draped around the local hostelry by barmaids dressed up like weird, over made up, hybrids that appear to be half Bunny Girl and half Wicked Witch of the West! Cheap, tacky plastic "Horror"

decorations abound, and it's not just in the

pub, they infest many a home as well, where spoilt brats lap All beer, no them up, blissfully unaware of the real "Horror"; that being the Third World sweatshops, where children of their own age slave to churn out the trick or treat trash that is after only one night's use slung in the wheelie bin, where it is recycled as bedlick & Debs welcome customers new and i DRAUGHT BASS DISCOUNT

rby, Derbyshire, DEI 3RF ephone: 01332 258901

ding for next door's cat, which has been dumped there by one of the neighbours - if only we could so easily dispose of the myth of manmade global warming, lager louts, and the teenage mutant tattoo beasts from Hell behind the bar!

Consider that, Dear Toper!

D.T.

Cooper's Tavern Cross St, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1EG tel: 01283 532551

Autumn Beer Festival

Thursday October 21st to Saturday 23rd open 12 till 12 - Food available all sessions Live Entertainment Friday & Saturday 25 + REAL ALES & 10 scrumpy ciders

Regional Cider Pub of the Year 2008/09/10





Decent Grub?

Stringer, Derby Drinker's pub food critic goes forth in search of our national dish. Or is it?

It's a sad state of affairs when what I perceive to be our country's no.1 dish

sits a lowly 3rd behind pizza (UK's no.1) and curry (UK's no.2). Is it because curry and pizza are so readily available as take aways or supermarket processed versions, or is it a sign of our diverse food culture? Can you see this ever happening to pasta in Italy or steak frites in France?.......I think we know the answer to that one.

Well this time round I'm on the lookout for a decent plate of fish and chips. I'd like to find something other than the ever present cod and haddock, but maybe I'm expecting too much for this most land locked of places.

Day one I'm at one of Bespoke Inn's newest acquisitions, the Cross Keys at Turnditch. An agreeable refit sees an eclectic mix of chairs and tables with a modern lick but retaining the old and it's good to see they've preserved a 'drinkers' domain. At £8.95 my cod and chips were acceptable, if I was to find fault I'd say a decent sized wedge of lemon rather than the sliver I received and another couple of minutes at the higher temperature would have ensured my chips looked like they'd been on holiday in Corfu rather than Cardiff.....a bit pale to say the least.

Next port of call is also my second foodie raid on the Brewery Tap. Their fish and chips at £7.50 was golden and crisp with a fine homemade tangy tartar, but it was certainly more batter than fish and the potato wedges were sadly life-

Three pub fest in Chester Green goes well

August bank holiday saw the first Chester Green Ale Trail, a collaboration of three public houses, all on Mansfield Road, Chester Green area, the Coach and Horses, The Duke of Clarence and The Bridge Inn. The idea was to offer the discerning drinker a choice of cask ales available at each of the venues matched with entertainment over the four days for the enjoyment of locals and trekkers alike.

Because of a change of management at the Duke (three landlords in as many weeks) the input was not as committed as hoped, however the new incumbents, Chris and Sharon are looking at being there long term with Old Trip on as a regular together with the Abbotts and Hardy Hanson Kimberly bitter.

The other two venues faired far better with The Bridge dispensing 14 different casks and The Coach nine, covering a wide range of ales as both pubs are signed up to the SIBA scheme. Entertainment ranged from a Frank Sinatra tribute act on the Friday at The Bridge, climaxing with a live set by rock n' roll band 'Rip It Up', karaoke and hog roast in The Coach car park on the Monday afternoon which attracted in excess of 250 people and gave Mick his best days taking ever in the three and half years he has been at the Coach.

Stuart (Bridge) and Mick (Coach) hope this is the first of many such joint ventures which will involve more cask ale outlets east of the river. Look out for a 'London Underground'

gular together with the Abbotts and ardy Hanson Kimberly bitter.

I Look out for a 'London Underground'

Smooth, well-rounded moreish Pale Ale

Distinctive, hoppy
Session Briter

WHIM ALES

QUALITY HANDCRAFTED ALES

which restricts and very den transfer wheat beer consinder wheat beer present the consistence of the consist

less. It was disappointing after the fine meat pie I had here last time.

Perusing through an earlier edition of the Drinker I came across an article on the legendary George's Fish and Chip shop in Belper acquiring the Thorn Tree at Woodlinkin. Well that's gotta be worth a look. However my lack of a Sat-Nav sent me on an extensive tough of Ripley and district and with seconds to go before the 2pm lunchtime food curfew I dived into the Poet & Castle at Codnor. Haddock and chips with mushy peas, £5.95, and a pint of Ashover brewery's Poets Tipple. Thick cut haddock in a light batter, hand cut chips and the customary mushy peas were a bang-only-full. I later found out that the Thorn Tree was just a little bit further down

belly-full. I later found out that the Thorn Tree was just a little bit further down the road and by all accounts has got them queuing out the door for their fish suppers!

The Mundy Arms at Mackworth has recently gone through yet another refurb to bring this A52 dining pub back up to date. Pollock and chips (£7.29)

was a must. So to be told it wasn't available was more disappointing than a Derby County home game. OK, so I'll just have the British cod and chips (£8.29), a pub freezer staple. What, no cod and chips either. How can a dining pub fail to have two of its best selling dishes on the menu? After that the meal went downhill, sticky table, messy cutlery, and poor salad. Sorry, but I'm off to join the queue at Georges. Pizza and curry......you win!

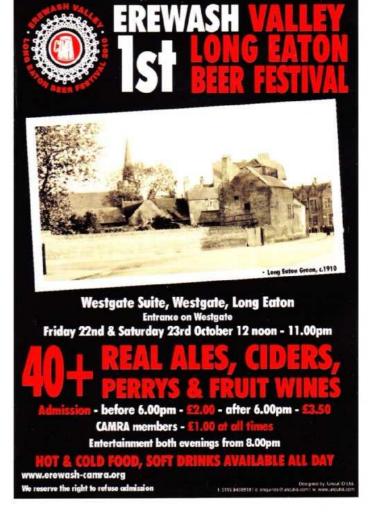
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style Ale Trail Map in the near future.

The Coach and Horses also give
15p per pint discount on ALL cask
ales to CAMRA members on produc-

tion of current membership details.



Derby CAMRA Branch Diary

Everyone is welcome at Derby CAMRA socials, meetings and trips. Here is a list of forthcoming events.

OCTOBER

Thursday 7th – Social/Cider Tour. 8.30 Five Lamps, Flower Pot, Silk Mill. Wed 13th Branch Meeting, Brunswick Inn

Thurs 14th - Nottingham Beer Festival, Nottingham Castle Grounds. Sat 16th Matlock /Matlock Bath, Illuminations and Fireworks

This will be a mid afternoon start visiting some of the pubs in Matlock before making our way to Matlock BathCatch the 3.50 pm train from Derby Railway Station then up the hill to the Thorn Tree (GBG-listed) then back down into Matlock (there are a couple of other pubs we can visit in Matlock if people want. Walk through along the river into Matlock Bath and the illuminations, we then have the Devonshire / County & Station pubs. I suggest we get to the Temple Hotel for 8.30 ish, the fire works are at 9pm. Then finally, the Princess Victoria and home. Trains back are 9.39 pm and 22.57 pm. You can alternatively make you own way, the Trent 6.1 leaves at the same time as the train but from the Bus Station (obviously) however the last bus back is 9.35 pm.

Wed 20th – Social/Mini Town survey 8.30 Babington then Crompton Friday 22nd - Survey/Social, Aston, Weston, Ingleby, Milton. (By Free Mini Bus)Meet at the Cathedral green coach stop 7.00pm. Return by 11.30. Wed 27th - Social/Mini Town survey 8.30 fromMr Grundys, Ashbourne Road Fri 29th - Survey/Social Shardlow Area (by public transport) Catch the Skylink bus from Derby Bus Station (Bay 12) at 7.05pm. Return bus is either 10.03pm or 11.03pm at the Dog and Duck, Shardlow (back in town by 18 minutes past the hour).

NOVEMBER

Wed 3rd - Social - Exeter and Smithfield, Derby Exeter Arms 8.30pm, The Smithfield, 9.30pm

Saturday 6th - Mini Bus Survey/Social, Spondon, Stanley, Smalley, Horsley, Little Eaton

(By Free Mini Bus)

A trip to the north east corner of our branch area with plenty of GBG pubs and some former country pub of

the year winners as well, should offer us plenty of choice and a variety of Locales.

Meet at the Cathedral Green coach stop 6.30pm (please note slightly earlier time).

Return by 11.30 pm. To book on the trip please let me know your membership number and contact number (ideally mobile) to secure a place.

Thurs 11th Branch Meeting Ye Olde Spa, Abbey Street

Wed 17th – Social - Burton Bridge Brewery Tour & Skittles Evening, Bridge St, Burton-Upon-Trent, 7pm. Please be there by 7 pm (7.30 pm at the latest) to allow a bit of time to socialise and practice our skittles prowess before we start the brewery tour. If you haven't been round brewery before – now's your chance to visit a great locale one! Burton is easily accessible from Derby by bus or train. Suggest those traveling from the city center use the 18.05 pm or 18.37 pm train from Derby Railway station; return times are 22.40 pm and 23.39 pm. There is also a number of Trent Villager bus options for those in the Hilton, Repton, Willington area.

Sat 20th – Survey - Patten Makers & Kings Head, Duffield (public transport)

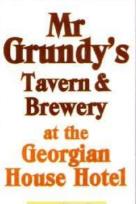
Meet at the Patten Makers from 8.00pm and the Kings Head at 9.00pm

Transport: 7.35pm (or 8.35pm) Trent 6.3 from the bus station, return bus at 10.23pm or 10.53pm back to Derby.

Thur 25th - Social - Rowditch 8.30pm

Sat 27th - Mini Bus Survey/Social, Parwich, Fenny Bentley, Ashbourne (by free mini bus)

Meet at the Cathedral Green coach stop 6.30pm (please note slightly earlier time). Return by 11.30 pm. To book on these trips please let me know your membership number and contact number (ideally mobile) to secure a place. Contact – Dean Smith on 07703 458623 or HYPERLINK "mailto:Socials@derbycamra.org.uk" Socials@derbycamra.org.uk or dean71smith@btopenworld.com





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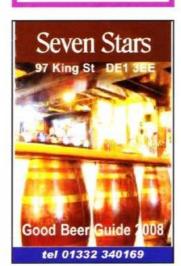
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Derby Drinker Publication Schedule 2010/11

Advance 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. If using Word please send as Plain Text. Thank you - The Editor.

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20 January 2011

Advert Copy Deadline 10th of each respective month.

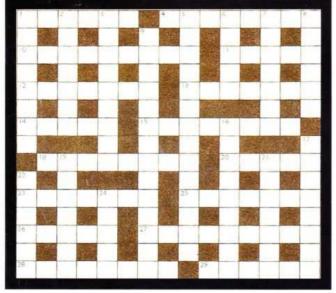
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CROSSWORD No 21 by Wrenrutt



ACROSS

- 1. Disc, historically, contains coarse-grained rock (5)
- 4. Pale ale from Windsor Castle, and Derby CAMRA's county pub of the year (5.3)
- 10. A damn boil of the belly (9)
- 11. Runic mix-up becomes liable (5)
- 12. Most woe around for this pair (7)
- 13. Fire up, or breathe in (7)
- 14. Jungle Book's mongoose hero's first name element (5)
- 15. She's to get her things, partially, in one place (8)
- 18.1 leave Melchior for 'cold' to arrange a neolithic monument ((8)
- 20. A beer by invitation only (5)
- 23. Prisoner qualification cobbled together for a musical entertainment (7)

- 25. Nip or nog from Woodforde's (7)
- 26. This plus Nine: a blissful 4.2% ale from Bishops Castle's 'other' brewery (5)
- 27. That is, shortly, mixed into very drunk state, but not subordinate (9)
- 28. Leicestershire home of Horseshoes on the way to Melton Mowbray (8)
- 29. 'Yes', let it be full of resolve (6)

DOWN

- 1. Inn by Glossop Station with opportunity is someone who tops the bill (4.4)
- 2. A theologian surrounded by German wine? That's fishy! (7)
- 3. Conference where Ancient Greeks drank together (9)
- 5. Leadmills 4.5% ales a sign of bad weather, perhaps (7.7)
- 6. Tweak be alternative slightly to find ways out (5)
- Church in Pine Tree State could mean a motorbike (7)
 Jumble of runs by Kent, say, results in medical carers (6)
- 9. CAMRA Members' ----- is a type of unit trust for them (10.4)

16. Everards 4.2% bitter, definitely not brewed in Asia! (5.4)

- 17. Midlands Pottery town, for example: a Shropshire fortified manor-house (8)
- 19. Hang up and end the engagement? (4.3)
- 21. Ludlow's river by the Greek love-good almost: a rhetorical question (7)
- 22. Associate Chartered Accountant tailed by the US Intelligence Agency, a tree (6)
- 24. Church official or shrub (5)

As well as this Derby Drinker issue, access to Chambers Dictionary, the Bible (GBG 2010). Send completed entries to the editor stating in which pub you picked up Derby Drinker. Correct grids will go into a draw for a £10 prize, Winner of Crossword No 18 is Steve Foster of Wild Street, Derby who picked up his copy of DD in the Horse & Groom.

Drinker

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Additional Photographs: John Arguile, Mick Thomas.

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SOLUTIONS to CROSSWORD No 20 by Wrenrutt

ACROSS1, SCHIST 4,GREEN MAN 10, ABDOMINAL 11, INCUR 12, TWOSOME 13, INSPIRE 14, RIKK1 15, TOGETHER 18, CROMLECH 20, GUEST 23, CONCERT 25, NORFOLK 26, CLOUD 27, LIEGELESS 28, ASFORDBY 29, STEELY

DOWN I. STAR TURN 2. HADDOCK 3. SYMPOSIUM 5. ROLLING THUNDER 6. EXITS 7. MACHINE 8. NURSES 9. INVESTMENT CLUB 16. TIGER BEST 17. STOKESAY 19. RING OFF 21. EROTEME 22. ACACIA 24. ELDER