

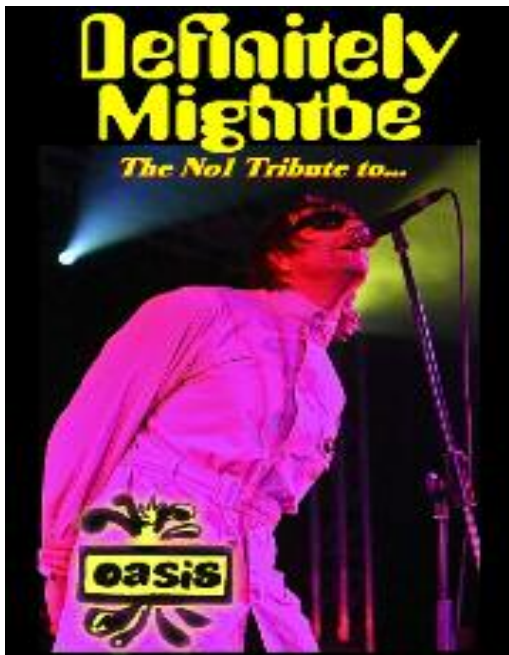


ISSUE NUMBER 138

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2011

FREE

## Roundhouse - new home for the Derby Winter Beer Festival



Derby CAMRA's 10th Winter Beer Festival is on the move this year. The venue will be the ex Midland Railway's "Roundhouse" on what is now called Pride Park. Don't let that put you off it's not as hard as you think to get to the festival.

How do I get there / Where is it?, well it's

not hard we assure you. The festival venue itself is The Roundhouse, Roundhouse Way, Pride Park, Derby, DE24 8JE. If that doesn't help there's a map on and walking directions for the festival on **page 2**.

In summary though the festival is a 10 minute walk from the city centre, 5 minutes from the Brunswick and the Alex and 2 minutes from the Railway Station (use the Pride Park exit and it's in front of you!).

We're also laying on a FREE shuttle bus running approximately every 10-15 from the City Centre to the Festival. The buses will run from just before opening time until 21:30 (last departure from the festival). They will run from the Full Street lay-by adjacent to the Assembly

Rooms to the festival itself and back again. The buses will be operated by Harpurs Coaches so keep your eyes peeled for maroon and cream double deckers.

Once the buses have stopped running for the night there's still a number of options of how to get home if a stroll via a pub or two into town doesn't take your fancy. As the railway station footbridge is open to pedestrians by this time you can nip across the bridge and catch a bus from outside the Waterfall into the Bus Station served by Arriva routes 40, 44 and 45 and

Beer of the moment  
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 for your beer needs  
**mobile: 07887 556788**

Kinchbus Skylink at night (more daytime).

Or you can of course **call a taxi from** your favourite cab firm for a short hop in to the city centre.

The food operation at the Roundhouse should provide a refreshing change to that of the Assembly Rooms and you should be impressed. Failing that try a nibble from the range of cheeses from G Morgan & Sons who are usually based in the city's Eagle Market

The wide ranging beer styles have a regional slant with Yorkshire, Cornwall and the North West featuring along side local beers. Our LocAle bar will feature over 20 local (within 20 miles) brewers, from the newest local brewery Dancing Duck to the county's longest established *John Thompson* which opened in 1977.

**Ralf Edge**

**Beers at the Festival - page 9**

**Rock around the Roundhouse - page 14**

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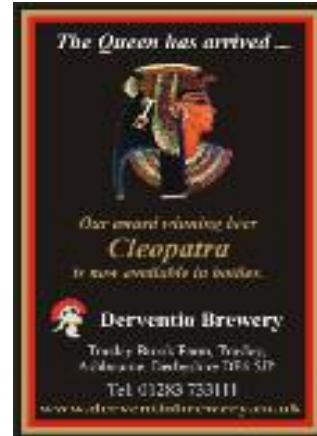
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for a constantly  
changing range of  
real ales

DERBY CITY PUB OF THE YEAR 2006

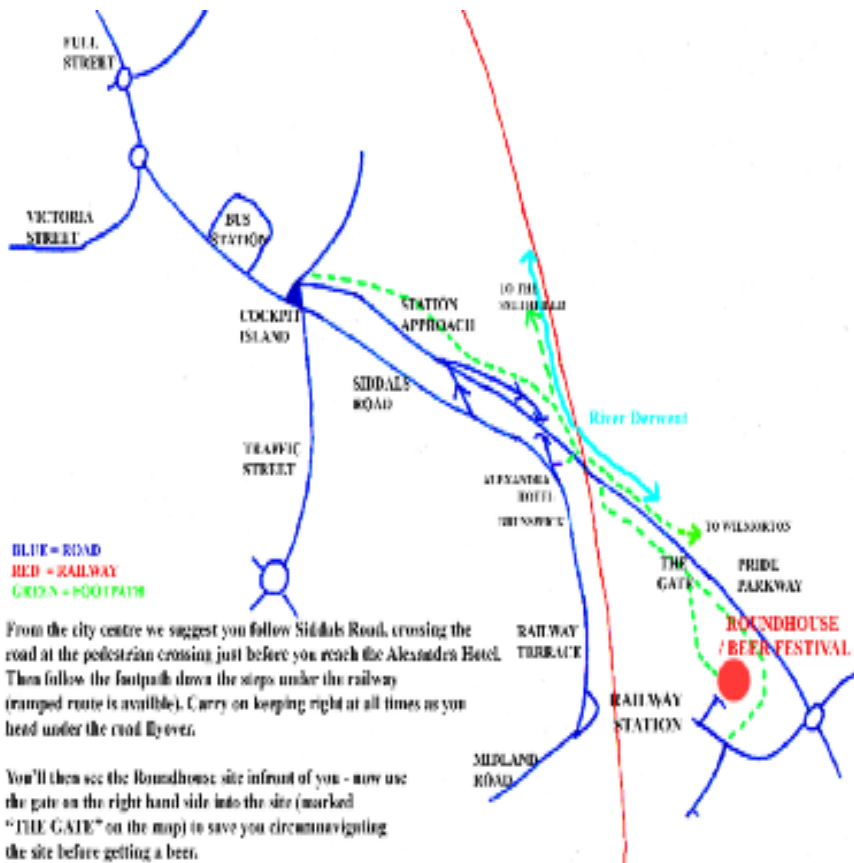
## BEER OF THE FESTIVAL

A very enjoyable brewery trip was made by Derby CAMRA members to Derventio Brewery to present them with a certificate to mark *Cleopatra* winning the *Beer of the Festival at the July Derby CAMRA City Charter Festival*. An excellent buffet was washed down with *Et Tu Brutus* and *Barbarian*. *Cleopatra* is also entered in the SIBA



national competition coming up at the Canal House in Nottingham. Derventio is soon to start brewing a regular house beer for a well known establishment in Ashbourne.

The new beer for Feb is *Centaur* a 4.2% bitter and for March its *Unicorn* at 4.5%. Also planned is a return of the popular *Standard Bearer* (4.5%). The brewery web site [HYPERLINK "http://www.derventio-brewery.co.uk"](http://www.derventio-brewery.co.uk) www.derventio-brewery.co.uk now has a beer calendar listing all beers available for the year inc seasonal. **Atholl Beattie**



From the city centre we suggest you follow Suddals Road, crossing the road at the pedestrian crossing just before you reach the Alexandra Hotel. Then follow the footpath down the steps under the railway (orange route is available). Carry on keeping right at all times as you head under the road bridge.

You'll then see the Roundhouse site in front of you - now use the gate on the right hand side into the site (marked "THE GATE" on the map) to save you circumnavigating the site before getting a beer.

Please note all roads, rivers and footpaths are NOT shown in their entirety for clarity, hopefully it still makes sense though!

# LEICESTER BEER FESTIVAL 2011

Wednesday 9 - Saturday 12 March

We are back showcasing over 220 beers in total, including some festival specials plus over 35 Real Ciders & Perries.

Our **LOCAL** bars will feature approx 80 beers brewed within 25 miles of Leicester City Centre.

Our famous Authentic Indian curries plus English food including vegetarian choices will be available all sessions.

**Festival Opening Times**  
 Wednesday 5pm - 11pm  
 Thursday 11am - 11pm  
 Friday 11am - 11pm  
 Saturday 11am - 10pm

**Non-members**  
 Weds £2.50  
 Thurs after 3pm £2.50  
 Fri £2.50 until 3pm and £3.50 afterwards  
 Sat £2.50 until 5pm and FREE afterwards  
 Souvenir Festival Glass £1.50 (refundable) must be purchased on entry.

**CARD CARRYING CAMRA MEMBERS FREE ADMISSION!**  
 Volunteer staff required for set up / staffing event / take down.

**Charotar Patidar Samaj**  
 Bay St / South Churchgate, off St Margaret's Way, next to St Margaret's Church, Leicester, LE1 3AE  
 (approx 5 minutes walk from St Margaret's bus station, 15 minutes walk from London Road railway station).

**WE ARE HERE**  
 Map showing the location of the festival at Bay St / South Churchgate, off St Margaret's Way, next to St Margaret's Church, Leicester, LE1 3AE.

For further info contact Keith on 07989 372717 e-mail [keithedmundwilliams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:keithedmundwilliams@yahoo.co.uk) or see [www.leicestercamra.org.uk/festivals](http://www.leicestercamra.org.uk/festivals)

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## Microbrewery Corner - 1

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



### ASHOVER

Undaunted by the disastrous fire at the *Princess Victoria*, one of his three pubs – the other two being the *Poet & Castle* at Codnor and the original base (and brewery home) the *Old Poets* at Ashover nr Chesterfield - Kim Beresford is expanding the business by recruiting more staff and investing in new plant to increase brewing capability. Janine Shorrock, daughter of Roy, has come on board full time as a brewer/brewster, a new cold store is in place which has quadrupled storage capacity and a large batch of new casks plus a new cask washer have been delivered; all of which should be ready to go by early February. The expectation is that this will eliminate many of the plant's bottlenecks. His new beer for 2011 will be *Hydro*, a

4.3% ABV 'regular' beer / hoppy bitter which uses a NZ hop. This was first trialled at the Chesterfield

Market festival last

year and judged a success

### BLUE MONKEY

Having moved to Giltbrook from Ilkeston\* last year and in so doing doubling capacity to 20bbl, John Hickling's first aim in 2011 is have all 6 of his beers readily available. Presently 4 (*Original*, *Evolution*, *BG Sips* & *99 Baboons*) are regular and 2 (*Ape Ale* and *Guerrilla*) are occasional. Beyond that his next project is a bottling line to get into a wider retail market. Unlike several of his colleagues John doesn't see the need to get a pub. He has over 300 regular pub outlets, most in the Notts/Derby area and he delivers to 70% of these directly. Equally, again unlike some colleagues, he won't deal with Weatherspoons – so his profit margins remain undamaged. And given

his track record of expansion in a short time, who is to say he's wrong. And very recently he has taken delivery of two more fermenting vessels

His latest beer is called *El Dorado* after the brand-new, cross bred US hop of the same name; the brew is a 3.9% ABV single malt, single hop, pale gold beer and he expects it, like many of his others, to be a winner.

\*The old brewing plant is now with Blue Bee in Sheffield (?)

### BRUNSWICK

To mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the re opening of their brewery in April 1991, James Salmon, the brewer, is launching a new, and as yet unnamed, beer. 'Anniversary Ale' has been done to death, so it won't be that. Currently the premises are undergoing a major structural refurbishment, with new floors and (some) new walls. In the meantime *Triple Gold* (4.5% ABV - a heavy version of *Triple Hop*) will be available again across the bar. JLA

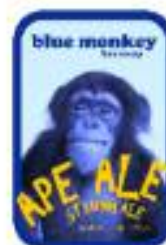
## Spotlight on... Ape Ale



A pale, strong ale.

A complex and sophisticated IPA, using a trio of assertive American hops to give aromas of resinous pine and just the right level of citrus.

A dry finish and crisp bitterness makes this a deceptively quaffable 5.4% ale, so take care!



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## Microbrewery Corner - 2

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



### BRAMPTON

Now the proud operator of two pubs, both courtesy Everards' *Project William*, Chesterfield's Brampton Brewery is trading 'phenomenally' according head man Chris Radford. Last December they opened the *Tramway Tavern* (formerly the *New Inn*) on Chatsworth Rd. The name stems from its proximity to the former Chesterfield Tram Sheds, now the brewery home. The pub, once a Stones house, passed via Kimberly into the free trade (briefly as *Sweeneys*). It currently features 8 hand pumps, 4 of which serve Brampton brews. Their other pub, the *Rose & Crown* (another former Stones house) in Brampton, opened in Nov 2009, similarly has 8

hand pumps.

The output from the 8 brl brewery has increased significantly every year since they started in 2007, in

spite of sales being limited largely to the Chesterfield / Sheffield / Derby locality. Chris's latest brew the seasonal *Winter Bock* (a 6.0% ABV dark stout) should, if stocks hold up, be around until Easter.

### BUXTON / WILD WALKER

Buxton have recently recruited another experienced brewer (there are now three on the payroll) James Kemp, ex-Thornbridge and from New Zealand, to cope with increased demand (and to introduce new ideas?). Presently they brew 7 regular beers plus a handful of specials. Geoff Quinn, the owner, has aspirations to get a pub but there is nothing on the immediate horizon. There are moves afoot re the Wild

Walker element of the business but these have yet to be finalised. A significant proportion of the business (20%) is in bottled beer so the lack of a brewery pub is not critical.

In Derby the *Five Lamps*, Duffield Rd regularly has Buxton brews which can also, but less frequently, be found in the *Furnace*, Duke St and the *Slug & Lettuce* on Irongate. New seasonal beers are Dark Nights (4.6% ABV porter); and Axe Edge (7.0 % ABV a US style double IPA). The latter has been reformatted from previous brews.

### FALSTAFF

The new season's beer range names from *Falstaff* are rather akin to a running pub quiz; the theme being 'Name that film'. Early pump clips of the first group of 4 will include the characters 'Martin Rix' and 'Vincent Vega'. To increase his already over-stretched 5 brl brewing capacity (he triple brews) Jim Hallows is buying another fermenter JLA

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## DERBY CAMRA Pubs of the Year 2011

The Derby Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale has selected its Pubs of the Year for 2011. The **City Pub of the Year** is the *Old Silk Mill* on Full St in Derby with the runners-up being the *Babington Arms* on Babington Lane and *Horse & Groom* on Elms Street. The **Country Pub of the Year** is the *Royal Oak* in Ockbrook with the runners-up being the *Barley Mow* in Kirk Ireton and the *Old Talbot* in Hilton.

The *Old Silk Mill* takes the City title for the first time while the *Royal Oak* has been a previous winner of the Country award. Both will be presented with their certificates at the Derby CAMRA Winter Beer Festival trade session in the Roundhouse on Thursday afternoon 24<sup>th</sup> February.

The competition as always was keenly fought with the shortlist of six pubs being drawn up by votes from the entire Derby Branch Membership. A team of 27 independent judges then visited each pub and marked the finalists over a six week period, visiting unannounced on different days of the week and at different times of the day. Each pub was judged in the following categories:

- quality of the beer; atmosphere, style & decor of the pub; service and welcome; clientele mix; sympathy with CAMRA aims and whether it was a good value visit or not.

The end results were close but both the *Old Silk Mill* and *Royal Oak* proved more than worthy winners where good beer and atmosphere are guaranteed and congratulations must go to each pub.

The *Old Silk Mill* has also been crowned overall Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year 2011 by virtue of having the highest overall mark and it will now go forward into the Derbyshire Pub of the Year competition. Here it will compete with the winners of other local CAMRA Branches awards from Amber Valley, Chesterfield, Erewash Valley, High Peak, Matlock & Dales, Mansfield, and Sheffield.

The winner of the Derbyshire round will be announced later in the year after a similar judging process has taken place.

Gareth Stead



City Pub of the Year 2011 - The Old Silk Mill



County Pub of the Year 2011- Royal Oak, Ockbrook

Both photos taken for Derby CAMRA by Mick Slaughter LRPS

## ALFRETON BRANCH MEETING

February's branch meeting finds us at the *King Alfred* (pictured) whose Brewers' Tudor frontage makes it the focal point of Alfreton High Street. Considerably older than the 1930s facade would suggest, the former Home Ales corner house was originally named the *Travellers' Rest*. Within, the original three room configuration is now one, though there is a mouth watering choice of 8 real ales, most of which are brewed within a 20mile radius.

The *Alfred* is part of the ever-expanding estate of Pub People Company, which is based in neighbouring South Normanton. Pub People are to be commended for this welcome addition to Alfreton's real ale scene, and there's even discounted beer for card carrying CAMRA members, so why not join us on the 24th February?

## GOOD BEER GUIDE SELECTION

Everyone has their opinions on which pubs should feature in the Good Beer Guide. Amber Valley

CAMRA has, therefore, organized a dedicated selection meeting on Thursday, 17th February, starting at 830pm. All Amber Valley CAMRA members are invited to the *Thorn Tree*,

roundings. On our visit, Marston's Burton bitter, Pedigree and Wirksworth T'owd Man were in tip-top condition. The ex-Conservative club also has a snooker room for aficionados of the green baize.

## OLD OAK FESTIVAL

*The Old Oak*, Horsley Woodhouse, beer festival between Christmas and New Year, didn't disappoint with a fine selection of 27 beers. Ironbridge Foundry Gold was the first to sell out, and trade was brisk when I called in on the Tuesday afternoon. *The Oak* made it through to

Waingroves to have their say, and a welter of statistical information based on the National Beer Scoring Scheme will underpin our decision-making.

## STRUTT CLUB, BELPER

Should you happen to be visiting Belper, why not call in at the Strutt Club on Campbell Street in the town centre?

On recent evidence, Paul the licensee who ran the *Old King's Head* in the former mill town for a decade, will be serving high quality real ale in opulent sur-

## Patten-makers 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  
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and all day Fri to Sun

Brewery. Denby Lodge is a permanent stockist of Amber Ales.

## AMBER ACTIVITIES

Thursday, 17th February  
830pm, Good Beer Guide



the last 16 of the nation's best pubs in the 2009 Pub of the Year competition.

selection meeting at the *Thorn Tree*, Waingroves. Saturday, 19th February 730pm, free bus surveying pubs in destinations to be announced. Bus departs Ripley Market Place; for Alfreton and Belper pick ups, please ring Alison. Thursday, 24th February 830pm, branch meeting at the *King Alfred*, High Street, Alfreton. Contact Alison 01773 570675

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Buxton Brewery Company Ltd

## AMBER ALES BLO

Mick Wallis from Ripley has succeeded Pete Clark as Amber Ales Brewery Liaison Officer; Pete is now working for Buxton



## Erewash Valley CAMRA Branch

On Sat Nov 19th 2010 12 branch members caught the bus to Swadlincote calling at Kings Newton, the Packhorse (Marstons) with a Leatherbritches guest, we thanked the landlord for the large pie provided at no charge, next calling at *Melbourne, Blue Bell, Alma & White Lion*; we were made welcome in all the pubs. On to Swadlincote, not a place renowned for its real ale pubs.

Entering the *Sir Nigel Gresley* (Wetherspoons) a quick glance at the bar, we saw only 2 cask ales from the standard Greene King range. At this point half our group walked out across the road to the *Bear Inn* selling Bass, I then asked for a meeting with the manager who promptly came and I explained to him to that we were a Camra group hoping for a reasonable selection of beers. He then asked us to be seated and he

would see what he could do, after a few minutes we were served with a jug of Thornbridge beer on the house and we noticed two micro beers appeared then on the bar. It pays sometimes to complain and the meals were okay.

On our return journey stopping at Hartshorne the landlord of the *Admiral Rodney* was waiting for us with a fine selection of beers, next stop the *Mill* an unusual building with water wheel - inside Tollgate and other micros, our last port of call was the *Chequers* at Ticknall, T.Taylors and Bass cheapest beers all day, a little gem. Our Dec outing to Leicester was well supported by Erewash and Nottingham members visiting some new and regular pubs, the first new one being the *Old Horse*, London Rd, the last being the *Ale Wagon* handy for the railway trip home.

**Pub News** - the *Hole in Wall* Long Eaton is offering loyalty card - buy 10 pints get 1 free (= minimum of 26p discount to ALL real drinkers). The *Queens Head*, Marpool is the winner of the

winter pub of the season - presentation Fri March 5th 8.00pm. The *Royal Oak*, Long Eaton and *Nags Head*, Sawley have changed hands; *Sportsman*, Long Eaton, is selling real ale; *Erewash Hotel*, Ilkeston, has a different selection of beers; *Travellers Rest*, Draycott is closed; *Jolly Colliers*, Heanor has re-opened and the *Red Lion*, Heanor has a new manager

**Trips** - Saturday 19th February Ravenshead bus trip meet Ilkeston Market 10.55am Zig-Zag ticket, Saturday 20th May Derby to Glossop by rail and bus Derbyshire wayfarer ticket. Further details Mick Golds 0115 9328042 or 07887 788785

**Meetings** Wed 2nd Mar AGM *Spanish Bar* - 8.00pm start please bring CAMRA Membership card. Mon 4th April *Red Lion*, Heanor 8.30 start.

Beer festival 11th, 12th, 13th March at the *Needlemakers*, Nottingham Rd Ilkeston opening times Fri & Sat 12.00-11.30pm Sun 11.00am- 11.30pm. 12 beers, 3 ciders plus beers on the bar,

Mick Golds

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Derby Drinker



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## NEW BROOM SWEEPS CLEAN

Terri Evans, owner / manager of the Headless Pub Co, who run the *Flowerpot* and the *Smithfield*, whose futures the Drinker questioned in its last issue, has confirmed that she is committed to making the business develop and grow and to see John's ideal of real ale pubs with live music sustained

In the period since his untimely death Terri concluded that for this to happen successfully, the business needed to be restructured to maximise the different facets of each part of the business. To that end she called in a consultancy Licensed Solutions to examine in more detail how the business might be reshaped. That plan has yet to emerge and it will take time, probably three months, to determine. In the short term however this has meant separating the management of the two pubs and mothballing the brewery.

For the *Flowerpot* the immediate plan entails sprucing up the property by some redecoration and installing new carpeting. Already the Function Room has been repainted and looks distinctly smarter. Beyond this Terri would like to see more made of the 'Pot's unique cellar bar,

for its garden to be developed, to see home-cooked food introduced, whilst at the same time continuing the existing policy of a multiplicity of real ales from independent brewers and the promotion of live music. Talks with *Raw Promotions* (Alan Woolley) who run the music side are in hand to see how that might be developed. She recognised that the 'Pot also needs modernising with facilities such as Wi-Fi being introduced. Equally she felt the *Smithfield* could be opened-up, though its future is now more in the hands of Lol Stevenson, co-owner of the 'Smithy'.

The issue of running the brewery is more complex and doesn't sit easily with the joint operation of a pub or pubs. But Terri recognises it as a valuable facility and doesn't wish to see it dismembered, so a way will be found of maximising its potential.

Certainly the concerns raised in the Drinker appear to be unfounded, but given the importance of these iconic pubs to Derby CAMRA we shall watch and report on future developments at Headless with interest.

## Derby CAMRA's Birthplace is re-born

The Alexandra Hotel (Siddals Road) the Birthplace of Derby CAMRA re-opened on Thursday 16th December 2010 after a long period of uncertainty with the pub only opening 3 nights a week with a restricted range of beers.

Ralf Edge & Anna Dyson (who also chair the Winter Beer Festival - 24th - 26th Feb at the Roundhouse) emerged as the Alex's new tenants in mid December, becoming Castle Rock's youngest tenants ever!

The couple knew when the opportunity arose they just couldn't resist it. So despite Anna retaining her day job in a Nursing Home and both of them involved with the Winter Beer Festival, they grabbed the chance so now have enough on their plates to keep them amused for the foreseeable.

Ralf's interest in beer was sparked by doing his school work experience at *Burton Bridge Brewery*, more recently he has worked at the neighbouring *Brunswick* as both the kitchen manager and bar supervisor. Anna on the



other hand has a baptism of fire into bar work at Butlins followed by a good teaching from her father to thank for her passion.

The pub has been under internal and external refurbishment from *Castle Rock Brewery* (the owners). The most obvious change is the new striking cream and blue exterior replacing the previous pinky/brown colour. Inside the floor has been sanded to restore its wooden finish and everything has been repainted. Indeed by the time you read this the hope is that the scaffolding will be down. Then as spring looms the rear 'conservatory' is up for replacement too.

The Alex is open from 12:00 - 23:00 Sunday - Thursday, 12:00 - 00:00 Friday and 11:00 - 00:00 on Saturdays and stocks 8 real ales including 3 from Castle Rock, on top of that there's Weston's Old Rosie cider and a range of continental beers. There's no hot food planned at the moment but there'll always be a range of homemade filled cobs and locally produced *Owen Taylor* pork and huntsman pies available from the bar. Once the Festival is over Anna & Ralf plan to start offering Sunday lunches with a homemade menu changing every week.

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## Last Orders



Derrick Taylor

News has just come of the demise of a well known local imbibor seen above (left) and of **Ron Morgan** of Shardlow Brewery. Obituaries of both will follow in the next issue of the Drinker.



## Only here for the beer?

The beer range at the festival is probably (to most) the single most intriguing or exciting facet of the festival but equally it's probably the single biggest job faced by the team as well. The logistics of finding out which beers the brewers are planning on producing 4+ months in advance is hard enough, but then when you ask later lots of the winter beers have out!! So it's a balance of choosing things we can reasonably expect to get for the festival that's also logistically straightforward-ish. Otherwise we end up creating extra work, disappointing you and ourselves when things don't come off.

So the range this year certainly has a huge spread in a range of terms. Geographically they're from around the UK (Shhhh don't mention Wales), in terms of style / abv and in terms of brewery size... The biggest brewer represented is (I think) *Harvistoun* and the smallest is probably *Leila Cottage* and *Leyden* (both 2.5bbl) but that doesn't need to mean anything in terms of quality of the beer.

Starting with the stronger beers there'll be (as you've all come to expect) a huge range of beers starting with barley wines and imperial stouts a plenty. The range will then potter through a 7% smoked stout, some old friends and a variety of new strong ales including *Falstaff* The Good the Bad and the Drunk, *Castle Rock* Screech Owl from close to home with strong beers from *Paradise* and *Red Rock* in deepest Cornwall. Then in the around 5% bracket we've got a brand new Milk Stout (sweetened with Lactose) from *Nutbrook* and a Victorian Porter from the new *8-Sail* brewery in Heckington, Lincs. After that the strong 4's come along including one from each of 3 of Derby's newest breweries! That's *Dancing Duck*, *Mr Grundy's* and *Rowditch* – come along and try and range of beers from all 3 of the breweries. *Mr Grundy's* have brewed a special, deeper, fruitier, version of their *Coffin Nail* stout for the fest.

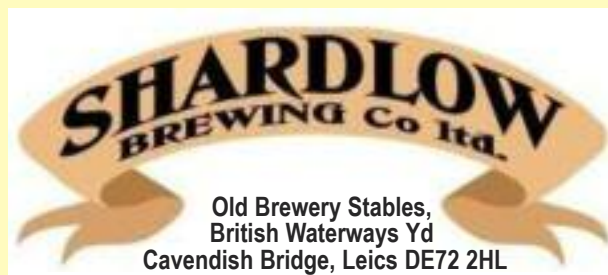
There's also a range of light bitters and milds to keep fans of lighter gravity beers happy. Including light and dark milds and session bitters from *Leyden* and *Peerless* in the north and *West Berkshire* and *Penpoint* in the south.

In summary we've got loads of beers from all over – for more information closer to the event please do keep an eye on [HYPERLINK "http://www.derbywinterbeerfestival.co.uk/"](http://www.derbywinterbeerfestival.co.uk/) [www.derbywinterbeerfestival.co.uk](http://www.derbywinterbeerfestival.co.uk) or wait until you arrive at the festival if you want more of surprise.

Finally don't forget in a new policy for Derby Winter Festival (due to the venue change) ALL beers will be available on Thursday night, as they sell out they'll become unavailable so if there's something in particular you're after try to come early to avoid disappointment – BUT the beer manager has tried to help by ordering a larger quantity of the beers likely to be more popular.

The Continental bar will host bottled beers from across the world right through from European pilsner lagers to fruit and sour beers. Plus it will feature a range of Belvoir Fruit Farm's Presse range. Flavours include Elderflower, Cranberry as well as organic Lemonade and Ginger beer.

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## What is CAMRA LocAle?

CAMRA LocAle is an initiative that promotes pubs which regularly stock at least one real ale which is brewed by a local brewery that is within 20 miles driving distance. The geo-

graphical shape of the Derby and Amber Valley Branch area means that some breweries are within 20 miles of some

parts of the branch area but not others.

The scheme builds on a growing consumer demand for quality local produce and an increased awareness of 'green' issues. The scheme was created in 2007 by CAMRA's Nottingham branch which wanted to help support the tradition of brewing within Nottinghamshire.

### Everyone benefits from local pubs stocking locally-brewed real ale...

- Public houses as stocking local real ales can increase pub visits
- Consumers who enjoy greater beer choice and diversity
- Local brewers who gain from increased sales
- The local economy because more money is spent and

retained locally

● The environment due to fewer 'beer miles' resulting in less road congestion and pollution  
Tourism due to an increased sense of local identity and pride - let's celebrate what makes our locality different.

If you are a customer or landlord of a pub within our branch area that you think would be interested in joining LocAle contact **Atholl Beattie 07772 370628**.

Pubs which have joined the LocAle scheme are listed below:-

Pubs which have joined the LocAle scheme are listed below:-

### Derby

**Alexandra NEW**  
**Bell (Smalley) NEW**  
Bridge Inn  
Brunswick  
Falstaff  
Flowerpot  
Green Dragon (Willington)  
Harrington Arms (Thulston)  
Hope & Anchor (Wirksworth)  
King William (Milford)  
Miners Arms (Carsington)  
Mr Grundy's Tavern

### Okeover Arms (Mappleton)

#### NEW

Old Talbot (Hilton)  
Royal Oak (Wirksworth)  
Royal Standard  
White Post (Stanley Common)

### Amber Valley

Black Swan (Belper)  
Brewery Tap (Ripley)  
Cross Keys (Turnditch)  
George Inn (Ripley)

### Hunter Arms (Kilburn) NEW

King Allred (Alfreton)  
Poet and Castle (Codnor)  
Sir Barnes Wallis (Ripley)  
Waggon & Horses (Alfreton)

Derby CAMRA  
Pub of the Year 2003

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Tom & Lauren

invite you to partake in the the enjoyment of fine ales, food and entertainment.

Join John Giff and Friends for  
**The Sunday Sing Around**  
with a special guest  
and a chance to win a prize

Wednesday Night is  
**777 Quiz Night 777**  
with Team Games & General Knowledge

Join our Brand New  
**Holiday Apartment**  
Sleeps up to 4 people  
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Tel: 01629 593458



## Pubcos (and pubs) in trouble - opportunity knocks ?

Punch Taverns, largest pub owner in the UK (and Derby), announced a yearly trading loss of £160 million in October (*Guardian* -13th Oct). And trade sources suggest *Enterprise Inns*, the second largest in the UK (and Derby) similarly have problems servicing the debt incurred in acquiring their huge estate.

11% of Punch's estate is boarded up or trading on a temporary basis and borrowings stand at £3.1 billion – 5 times the group's share value (*Guardian* 13th Oct).

Punch's response is twofold. Firstly having already disposed of 1000 of its onetime 7500 tenanted pubs, it now plans to reduce this further to 5000; secondly it is to spend £20 million sprucing up some 450 of its more tired pubs. (*Burton Mail* 2nd Aug and 14th Sept). Punch's troubles have also put the spotlight on its 803 managed houses, for which M&B (otherwise Ember Inns) are said to be preparing a bid (*Burton Mail* 14th Sept).

Enterprise Inns response is similar. They continue to sell and lease back groups of its pubs. A recent deal saw 58 pubs sold for £73m, a profit of £15 on book value and then leased back on 35 year deals. The company is looking to complete another 50 - 60 such sale and leasebacks over the coming year.



### QUO VADIS ?

Two recent examples of the dispersal of 'no hope' pubs are the *Horse & Groom* sold by Punch to Adam & Sarah and *The Greyhound* sold by *Enterprise Inns* to Trevor Harris. Neither 'pubco' had managed to make their respective pub viable, despite attempts by different licensees over many years. But both are now flourishing as never before – not a little of which is down to the new owners, their enterprise, attitude and their experience.

In the case of Trevor Harris this is the second (perhaps third, counting the Brunswick) time he has done this – and he says it won't be the last! He reckons to have four or five pubs in mind. Less well breached Adam & Sarah took a bigger gamble with the 'Horse' which is well off the beaten track in a wholly unfashionable area of the city.

The other key ingredient seems to be putting (quality) real ale back on the bar. Adam & Sarah went one further and brought in new independent brews (not just Bass and Padi). Even Punch have seen the light, at long last, and allowed Brendan Donahue at the *White Swan*, Littleover to feature three local beers when it reopened on December 12th.

So it can be done if that crucial ingredient - the landlord – has the necessary personality, vision and tenacity' JLA



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## THROUGH THE EYE OF THE EDITOR

This edition follows largely the style laid down by the out-going Editor, Pip Southall, but is otherwise the result of a week of graft by a press-ganged team. It is therefore very much a holding operation until the arrival of the new Editor.

Unfortunately the *Dear Toper* article got lost in transit between Derby and York, as did the Crossword, but both are just held over so it isn't quite what Pip would have done. Nevertheless I hope he approves of the end result.

Finally I'd like to pay tribute to the team of distributors without whom you wouldn't now be reading this copy of the Drinker. The task of getting 10,000 copies out to 450 + outlets in a reasonable timescale is huge and requires a lot of people (who don't get paid for doing it).

Following in the steps of the late Eric Rogers - who once covered the whole of South Derbyshire and Leicestershire on his own - **Joy Olivent's** current team consists of Dickie Allen, John Arguile, Les Baynton, Atholl Beattie, Tony Beech, David Brett, Anyas & Steve Boa, Steve Cooper, Tony Cooper, Alison Cox, Geoff Davies, Mick Derby, Ralf Edge, Alison Edwards, Ian Forman, Steve Foster, Kevin Hepworth, Peter Herbert, Steve Hill, Julian Hough, Adrian Howell, Robert Lee, Linda Leslie, Konrad Machej, David Mason, Terry Morton, Tony Mott, David Musk, Kate Neale, Charlie Pratt, Mike Rawson, Dean Smith, Gareth Stead, Eric Streets, Jim Suter, Julian Tubbs, Pete Turner, John Worsley & Mick Yallup. JLA

### SPRING BEER FESTIVAL

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As you may be aware, The Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) is a national organisation with over 100,000 members. This is made up of a number of local branches, of which Derby is one. In the Derby branch area there are hundreds of members, all of whom are thirsty drinkers.

Coach & Horses, Mansfield Rd, Little Chester 15p off a pint  
 Erewash pubs:- Dewdrop Ilkeston, 10p off a pint 5p off a half  
 Seven Oaks Stanton by Dale, 20p off a pint  
 Poacher Ilkeston, 15p off a pint  
 White Post, Stanley Common, a 20p discount for card carrying CAMRA members.  
 Pubs giving discount to card-carrying CAMRA members:-

Alex, Derby – 20p off a pint and 10p off a half - both Real ale & Cider.  
Lamb Inn, Melbourne - 10p off a pint and 5p off a half.  
Oakover Arms, Mappleton - 10% off  
Red Lion, Hollington -20p off a pint

Steve Boa

Recent tests by the National Measurement Office (NMO) on the Brulines Dispense Monitoring Service has shown that it has an accuracy variance of between -0.7% to + 1.71% for keg beer and +2.08 % for keg stout. However for real ales the range is -5.23% to + 3.66%. An NMO spokesperson said their report neither gave a 'pass' or a 'fail' because the equipment falls outside Weights & Measures legislation. Brulines said the report proves its equipment is 'fit to provide accurate raw data for dispense monitoring purposes.' The report has gone to a Parliamentary Select Committee for members to consider it.

The future of Ashbourne's *Leatherbritches* brewery is very uncertain.

Its base, the historic *Green Man and Blacks Head* pub, Derby CAMRA's 2010 pub of the year, has gone into receivership, having not paid many of its bills, inc gas, electric and water, for some time.

The likely buyer is Weatherspoons, but they want the complete site without Leatherbritches and have offered £1m. The next best price is £300,000 less. So the receivers are trying to get rid of Ed Allingham's brewery. They cut the brewery's electricity but resourceful Ed installed his own generator. His gas and water supplies are safe (his gas supply is separate & his bills paid). The question then is where does he go from here? Setting up and moving a 20 barrel brew length operation into the Green Man cost £30 K at the start, so moving out of an arrangement where he is cur-

rently shifting 200 firkins every 10 days is not going to be cheap or easy. He might return to the Bentley Brook Hotel, his original base then owned by the Allingham family but since sold off, but having been the victim twice of enforced moves, would prefer to operate from his own premises.

In the meantime he and his brewer, Dave Corby, are still brewing - but under difficult circumstances for a limited period until, as he accepts, he has to leave Green Man yard. His final brew, he reckons, could just be called Midnight Flit - a strongish brew **JLA**

Justice for Licensees - the pub trade campaign group led by a former licensee is launching a survey of current and exten-  
tant to analyse the state of the market. It seeks views on rent, the tie and trade groups. JFL surveys can be taken at [www.justiceforlicensees.org](http://www.justiceforlicensees.org).

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# OFF THE TRACKS

## FESTIVALS

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## Microbrewery Corner - 3

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



**Ebenezer** (6.0% ABV) to follow. The brewery itself is being mothballed for three months following the retirement of Alistair Moffat, their brewer

### DANCING DUCK

The hard work put in by Rachel Mathews, Derby's newest brewer and brewster, has already paid good dividends. From a standing start in December the Ashbourne Rd beers (*Gold*, *Ey-up* and *22*) can now be found in both local pubs such as the *Metro Bar* on Albert St, Derby and the *White Swan*, Littleover, as well as clubs like *Nunsfield House* at Alvaston. Their best seller is probably '22' (two little ducks) - recently featured at the Ely CAMRA, beer festival. However the beers have also found their way to Manchester and Sheffield pubs. Moving the recipes from kitchen sink to full scale production has, thankfully, been surprisingly trouble-free, certainly well within the scope of Rachel who latterly ran *Blue Monkey's* Ilkeston plant. At the moment, Rachel says, there is lots of interest and pubs keep coming back for more. Keeping up with the demand means that Rachel's plans to trial and launch a stout are on hold

### DERBY BREWING

In the pre-Easter period *Derby* aim to launch their *Brewer's Choice* range - names and style are yet to be declared. Dominic Flynn (ex Kelham Island), their new brewer, should be able to bring new ideas into play.

### HEADLESS

What may be the last of the Headless brews for a while, *Zymosis* (7.6 % ABV) is now on sale at the *Flowerpot* and supplies should hold out until the end of Feb. The pub also has a small stock of their Christmas heavy

### ROWDITCH

Latest brew from the 'ditch' is *St Stephens*, a 3.6% ABV hoppy bitter, and it is selling like hot cakes - but almost exclusively at the Uttoxeter Road pub itself. Steve Birkin has deliberately restricted the sale so whilst customers will find it at the *Derby CAMRA Winter Beer festival* (see page ), the only other outlets - all on a one off basis - were to fulfil longstanding promises. The beer which comes, unlike earlier brews, with a meaningful and attractive pump clip, is hugely popular in the 'ditch' and the lower price (cf his bought-in beers) doesn't do it any harm.

### SHARDLOW

*Shardlow* plan to launch six new beers coincident with the 6 Nations competition, each named after the competing sides. In the meantime their most popular beer - the *Reverend Eaton* - goes from strength to strength. Locally their house pub, the *Blue Bell* at Melbourne, is taking 5 firkins of the 'Rev' every week and nationally the beer is about to appear in all *Everard* pubs, followed by a similar exposure in *Bateman's* pubs. Overall demand is so great for their beers that they would like to double the capacity from their existing 5 barrel plant. Operating from the existing restricted site at Cavendish Bridge where they use the old Eaton's Bry stables is difficult and may, as an alternative, mean buying another pub as the basis for a new brewery. Trade is also been boosted by cider distribution which means they can offer a whole package to both pubs and festi-

vals, this has caught on to such a degree that Greene King have asked to Shardlow to provide this facility for a clutch of GK pubs in the area.

### THORNBRIDGE - THE PRICE OF SUCCESS

Mixed news from the Bakewell thriving concern with plaudits on the one hand and complaints on the other. Firstly the accolade with the announcement that Stephano Cossi, their head brewer, was named **Brewer of the Year** by the *Guild of British Beer Writers* (as he was also by the *All Party Parliamentary Beer Group* earlier in the year). The downside consists of a number of licensee complaints that Thornbridge had upped the price of all their beers by £15 a firkin (except to Weatherspoons and M&B where fixed term contracts prevails). Thornbridge say this is entirely due to their increased production levels which have put them into a higher beer tax category. Thornbridge have, after two years, managed to negotiate a tie-free lease from *Enterprise Inns* for the *Greystones* pub in Sheffield. They describe this as 'groundbreaking', which sounds a tad unlikely given Terry Holmes' earlier deal for the *Old Silk Mill* in Derby with Enterprise.

### WHIM

A new beer from Jo Allsop is an event, he always does something interesting and his latest is no exception. It's a stout called *Triple B*, but it's a mere 3.8 % ABV. Very unusual. In Derby it is most likely to be found at the *Smithfield* or possibly the *Five Lamps*, *Flowerpot* or *Horse & Groom*, Elms St. Otherwise Whim beers are most often to be found on a regular basis in north Derbyshire GBG pubs such as the *Bear* (Alderwasley); *Barley Mow* (Kirk Ireton) and *Lathkill* (Over Haddon)

John Arguile

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# Rocking around the Roundhouse

The Biggest & Best Derby Winter-Fest yet will see the Biggest & Best bands perform in the historic, atmospheric setting of the Derby Roundhouse. And such an iconic setting deserves iconic bands to entertain you and we have 3 major players to share headlining duties, Oasis, Stone Roses & Kasabian.

It all starts on Thursday night with the girls who rock, the Alma Boobies with support from folk, reggae band Jig O the Dub.

Then Friday night will see a tribute to the one of the bands of the moment, Kasabian

who were voted Best British Band at the 2010 Brits and who's recent

album, West Ryder Pauper Lunatic Asylum was regarded as one of the albums of the year. Their live shows are truly awesome and well worth attending. What better time to have their

sight & sound of the real band's energetic live shows.

Support will be provided by Winter-Fest favourites, Verbal Warning with their unique brand of Old Skool punk rock covering

the Festival closes on a real high note.

Support on the night will be provided by the Replicators doing a set of well known covers.



tribute band on than this as 'Kasabian' re-create perfectly the

bands like the Clash and the Pistols as well as performing their own stuff.

Finally, Saturday night will then see a clash of truly heavyweight proportions as Manchester favourites, Oasis & Stone Roses go head to head when their tributes, 'Definitely Mightbe' and 'Adored' take to the stage. Stone Roses, godfathers of the 'Madchester' scene set the early nineties alight with some fantastic tracks, I Wanna be Adored, Fools Gold, Sally Cinnamon and I am the Resurrection.

Oasis followed in their wake to quickly become the biggest band in the Country with eight number-one singles and eight number-one albums, spawning a string of classic tracks like Wonderwall, Don't look back in Anger, Lyla and Champagne Supernova and until their recent split were still pulling in massive audiences all around the World.

Both tributes authentically recreate the sound of these iconic bands and it will make it a night to truly remember ensuring

So with a line-up like this, the Roundhouse is going to be the place to be this Winter so why not get yourselves down to the 'Festival that RWinterocks'. W  
WiWntWinter-Fest Trade Sessioner-Fest Trade SessionW  
**Gareth Stead**

## Festival Trade Session

The Winter-Fest Trade session will be bigger and better than ever before and will include the Beer of the Festival announcement and the Derby Branch Pub of the Year presentations.

It will also be a chance to sample all of the beers ahead of the public opening session. It will take place in the Roundhouse from 2pm-4.30pm on Thursday 24th February 2011.

If you are in the Trade and would like tickets to this prestigious event then please e-mail [HYPER-LINK "mailto:tradesession@derbycamra.org.uk"](mailto:HYPER-LINKmailto:tradesession@derbycamra.org.uk) or contact Gareth on 07900 407086.



# Derby CAMRA Branch Diary

Social secretary. Mail to :socials@derbycamra.org.uk

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



## February

**Wednesday 16th - GBG Selection Meeting, Falstaff, Derby. 8 PM.**

**Saturday 12th - Nottingham Caves and Ale** (by public transport).

Hosted by our very own Pete Elliott - Can't tell you the itinerary because it's a secret (You could also read into that, that I just don't know!) Meet at the *Brewery Tap* at 12 Noon and catch a Red Arrow to Nottingham.

**Thursday - Saturday 24-26th 10th Derby Winter Beer Festival.**

## March

**Thursday 3rd - Loughborough Beer festival.**

The Polish Club, True Lovers Walk off William Street, Loughborough.

Suggested timings - Train at 19.18 from Derby Railway Station, return 22.38 or 23.13.

**Saturday 5th - Winter Festival Thank You! Trip - Oxford.**

A big thank you to all the festival volunteers, and if you're not too tired from working at the festival we have free coach trip to Oxford the following weekend. A great social occasion... which is also open to non-workers places permitting. 'The City of Dreaming Spires', world famous for its University as well as Inspector Morse and punting on the river (not after a couple of beers please!). It is also another great city for beer, with 10 GBG listed pubs including such classics as the *Bear Inn* (claims to be the oldest pub in Oxford) and the *Turf Tavern* (winner of the Publican Perfect Pubs award in 2007). The date has been picked to coincide with the 'DERT' that's the Dance England Rapper Tournament (sword dancers). For those that can't remember, the competition was held in Derby in 2010 and provided us with some excellent entertainment and our local team Stone Monkey also performed for us at the *Falstaff* POTY award.

Now for the boring bits - Cost; Free to all festival workers confirmed by the

## March / April (cont)

festival staffing manager, (so please make sure you fill in a staffing form). £10 to non workers but priority will be given to workers until Saturday night of the festival. £5 deposit will be required from everyone to secure a place (refunded on the day to workers). Payment can be made in tokens. Time and place; Meet at the Cathedral Green Coach Stop, Full St, Derby for a 10.30 AM departure. Return to Derby by 11PM. Bookings now being taken, through the Social Secretary.

**Tuesday 8th Ashbourne Shrovetide football.** (mini bus) Contact Les Williams.

**Thursday 10th - Branch Meeting - Alexandra, Siddals Rd, Derby**

**Thursday 17th - 32nd Burton Beer Festival, Town Hall, Burton**

Whether you are working or socialising, don't forget this excellent festival. I'm sure I don't need to tell how to get to Burton. Regular trains, Trent Villager bus or X38 (X38 only runs late Fri /Sat) - Have a good one!

**Tuesday 22nd - Brewery Tap (Derby's Royal Standard), Derby. 8.30 PM onwards.**

**Thursday 31st - Suburbeer!** A bit of a gimmick maybe, but an idea I would like to try. Often seen as a City Centre based group we need to **branch** into our suburbs a little more. As a campaigning and social organisation we owe it to all our branch area's public houses to pay them a visit (or at least those with the potential for some good real ale). Please support these evenings and if you have any suggestions please let me know.

**Littleover - White Swan, Shepherd Street. ~ 8.30 till 9.30**

- *Half Moon*, Burton Road. ~ 9.30 to 10.30

Suggested buses are - Trent V3 from the bus station at 8.10 PM return bus 10.30 PM. The Arriva 32/33 will also get you there but not back.

**Thursday 14th April AGM - Flowerpot, Derby**

## Mr Grundy's Tavern & Brewery at the Georgian House Hotel



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Beer Garden  
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**email:beaconsfieldclub@supanet.com**

# BEST BEER IN THE MIDLANDS

"If you can keep your wits about you while all others are losing theirs and blaming you. The world will be yours and everything in it, what's more, you'll be a man, my son."



Kipling judged Supreme Champion cask and bottled beer at the Society of Independent Brewers Competition Nottingham 2010

thornbridgebrewery.co.uk T 01629 641000  
Riverside Brewery, Buxton Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1GS



## Derby Drinker Publication Schedule 2011

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.

Issue No.	Publication Date	Copy Deadline
DD 139	April 2011	20 March 2011
DD 140	June 2011	15 May 2011
DD 141	August 2011	20 July 2011

Advert Copy Deadline 10th of each respective month.

## 29 YEARS of BREWING FINE BEERS

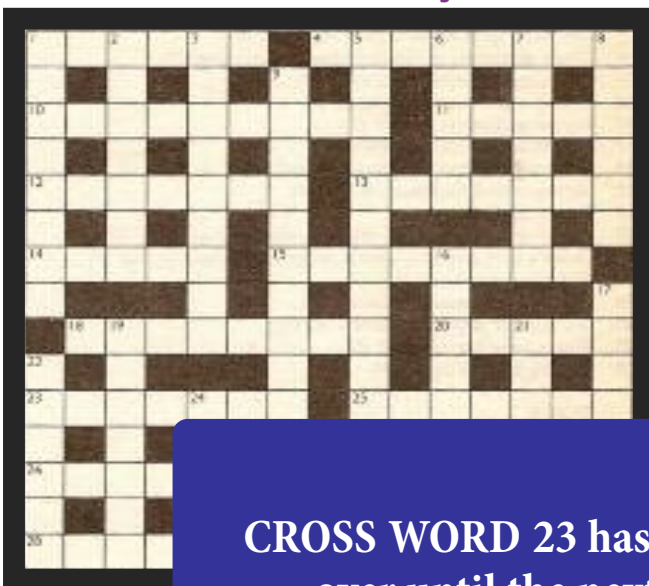
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Locally Brewed  
Widely Approved

## CROSSWORD No 22 by Wrenrutt



CROSS WORD 23 has been held over until the next issue

1. Anagram? It affects
4. Dick and Neil can s
10. Might as genial a state of painlessness be so? (9)
11. Molten rock – something to do with gamma radiation? (5)
12. Socialist woman in Cornwall associated with Keltek Brewery (7)
13. Welsh Metaphysical poet, By George! (7)
14. Damon, a backward wanderer? (5)
15. Lakeland brewery with thirst-quenching bluebirds (8)
18. A feline, thick-bodied, hairy Lepidopter! (4-4)
20. A trope for a "Dear *Derby Drinker* reader" (5)
23. Poetic, Old English Brownhills brewery, begetting a noble bitter (7)
25. Dance cancelled: fluent, but not the safest way to

- leave a pub (4.3)
26. University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology initially (5)
27. Composite portrait of a criminal producer ---- (8)
28. ---- Producer of cognac, best served in a Gold Cup at Newbury? (8)
29. Jack leaves hurt state which becomes hardened (6)

### DOWN

1. Left leaves outrageous equivalent for right, so becoming sweet-scented (8)
2. Confused sot with with dram's a type of Russian rule formerly (7)
3. Derby tavern with a new brewhouse (2.7)
5. Drive these through poor arguments to
- derby (5.3.6)
- reponymous cap-
- and coke (5)
- er (2.5)
- ortage (6)
- going directly
- olnshire (9)

19. Citizen of an imaginary perfect state? (7)
21. Willy, stupid! (7)
22. Embarrassed, red-faced state (6)
24. I tune into good advice for what pubcos ought to do with their pubs (5)

Access to Chambers Dictionary is recommended. 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 22 is A Reynolds of Smethwick who picked up a copy of *Derby Drinker* in the Wellington in Birmingham



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