

# Derby DRINKER

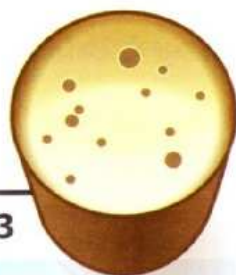


CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE

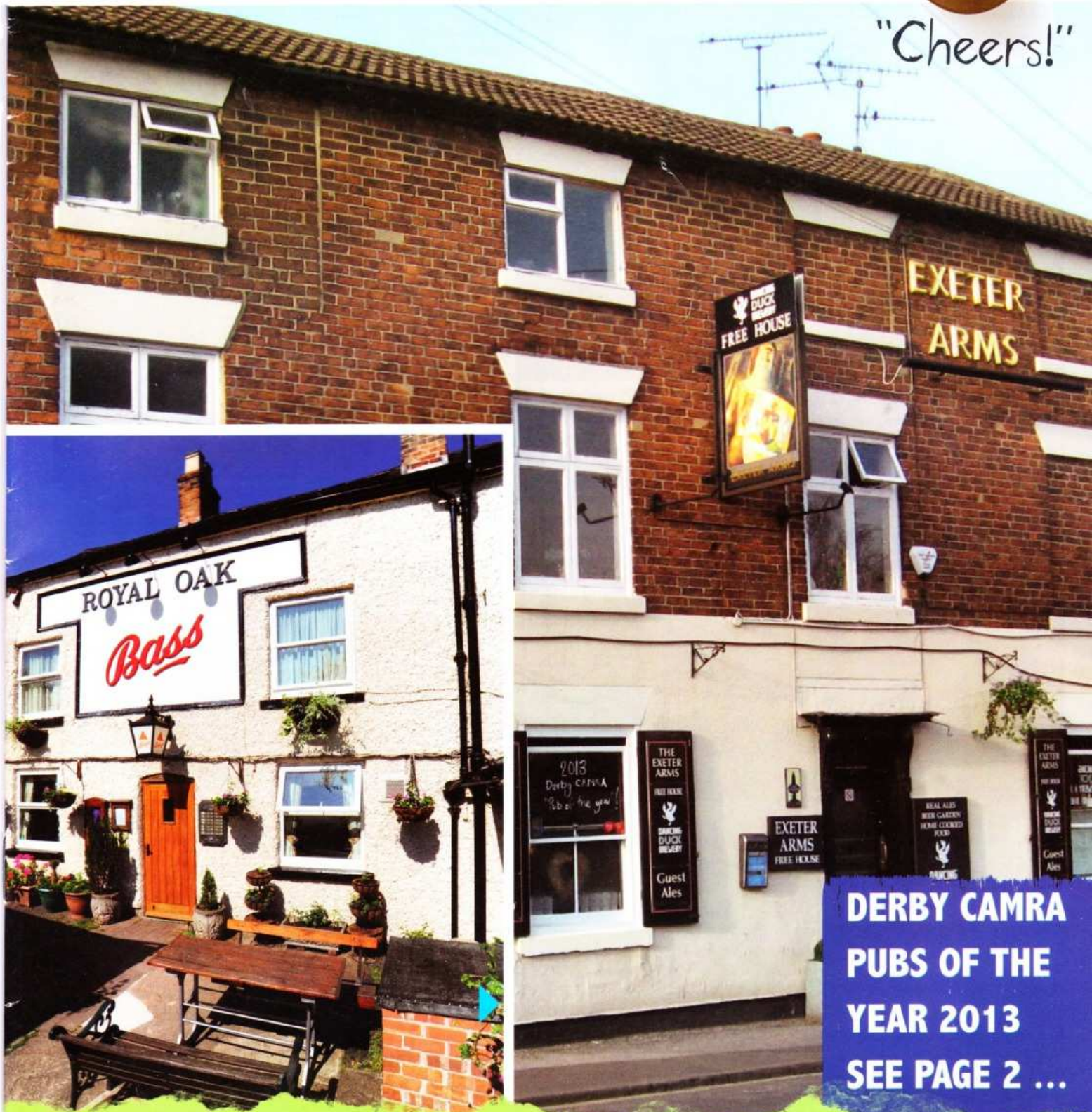
FREE

Issue 149

Apr/May 2013



"Cheers!"



**DERBY CAMRA  
PUBS OF THE  
YEAR 2013  
SEE PAGE 2 ...**

**INSIDE**



**DERBY & AMBER VALLEY MILD TRAIL 2013 ...**



# ▶ DERBY CAMRA Pubs of the Year 2013

## As mentioned briefly in the last Derby Drinker, Derby CAMRA has selected its Pubs of the Year for 2013

The City Pub of the Year is the Exeter Arms on Exeter Place in Derby with the runner-up being the Furnace Inn on Duke Street.

The Country Pub of the Year is the Royal Oak in Ockbrook with the runner-up being the Pattenmakers Arms in Duffield.

Independent judges then visited each pub and marked the finalists over an 8 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; community focus; sympathy with CAMRA aims and whether it was a good value visit or not.

Derby CAMRA Chairman, Gareth Stead said, "That the competition had been

particularly tough this year as all the pubs were very good but both the Exeter Arms and Royal Oak are more than worthy winners where good beer and atmosphere are guaranteed." He continued, "The transformation of the Exeter Arms over the last year or so has been nothing short of remarkable and credit must be given to Martin Roper & Denise Sage and Derby's Dancing Duck Brewery for bringing this amazing pub back to life again." He also added that, "The Royal Oak in Ockbrook is simply a great village local right at the heart of community life which has been in the Good Beer Guide

for 37 years due to the quality of its ales."

The Exeter Arms has also been crowned Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year 2013 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, Ashbourne, 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.



Rachel & Martin of the Exeter Arms receive their certificate from Derby CAMRA Chairman, Gareth Stead with the Beer King looking on.



Steve, Sally & Jean of the Royal Oak receive their certificate from Derby CAMRA Chairman, Gareth Stead.

The Exeter Arms takes the City title for the first time while the Royal Oak wins the Country award for the third year running. Both were presented with their certificates at the Derby CAMRA Winter Beer Festival trade session in the Roundhouse.

The competition as always was keenly fought with a shortlist of 7 pubs (Alexandra Hotel, Exeter Arms, Five Lamps, Furnace Inn, Pattenmakers in Duffield, Royal Oak in Ockbrook and Royal Oak in Wirksworth) being drawn up by votes from the entire Derby Branch Membership. A team of 17

## The Winners!

The City Pub of the Year is

the **Exeter Arms, Derby**

The Country Pub of the Year is

the **Royal Oak, Ockbrook**



Luke & Emily (partners in crime) proudly display the runners-up certificates for the Furnace and Pattenmakers

## Derby CAMRA Club of the Year 2013

The **Nunsfield House Club** in **Alvaston** has been judged the Derby CAMRA Club of the Year for the third year in a row in a close fought competition which saw the **British Legion Club** in **Allenton** take the runners-up slot. Congratulations to them both as each is doing a fine job in the Derby suburbs serving a selection of Real Ales to their local community. Derby CAMRA will be presenting certificates in due course but if you would like to visit each club in the meantime remember to take your CAMRA card as this will be needed for access. The Nunsfield now goes into the Derbyshire competition where it will compete against other Branch winners and we hope to have the result in the next Derby Drinker.



# DERBY WINTER BEER FESTIVAL

## Derby CAMRA Winter Beer Festival 2013

### Good, Better, Best....?

Three years since moving to The Roundhouse, Pride Park and Derby CAMRA's Winter Beer Festival's team of roughly 200 Volunteers have lots to smile about.

The Winter Festival in February 2013 saw 8,700 customers enjoy 36,000 pints of real ale, cider, perry and continental beers. Clever initial beer ordering and a small reorder meant 120 real ales from all over the country, in a variety of styles were available right up to "time at the bars" on Saturday night.

Some high points worth noting include welcoming 135 new members who joined the Campaign during the Festival. The judging of the East Midlands 4 winter style categories and the phenomenal success of Grainstore Brewery in scooping Gold for 3 out of 4 categories. Support of 8 Derby City pubs which created an innovative blue Festival t-shirt proclaiming Derby the real ale capital of the world. Plus that limited edition purple Volunteers only t-shirt sponsored by Dancing Duck Brewery which had a certain WOW factor. And Brewery

Bars where Derventio and Shiny showcased what Derby does so well – makes wonderful beers!! So much so that Shiny won the customer vote for Beer of the Festival for their Shiny New World 3.7% ABV.

Some changes were made this year and while moving the music into a separate marquee proved popular the entrance marquee will need a bit more fine tuning to be ready for 2014.

Thank you to:

- ▶ all our customers – I received lots of comments about happy helpful volunteers and about the great beer range & beer quality;
- ▶ the brewers – thanks for your passion, skill & support;
- ▶ Derby generally – the sympathetic Railway Station staff, Radio Derby for 2 live interviews and Derby Telegraph for their unique coverage. Winter Festival has become an unmissable event in Derby's calendar and one we can all be proud of;
- ▶ the Volunteers and Roundhouse staff – thank you all.

Already thoughts are turning towards 2014 and the long heralded arrival of CAMRA National Winter Ales Festival (NWAFF) which will replace Derby Winter Festival for at least 3 years. In truth the formula we put together for 2013 might not alter too much – but we will need more Volunteers so please pop the provisional dates into your diary and book leave from work as it's going to be amazing!!

2014 NWAFF dates are provisionally from **Wednesday 19th February until Saturday 22nd February** – keep an eye on <http://www.derbycamra.org.uk/> for confirmation and more details.

Cheers

Gillian Williams

Winter Festival Chair



An advertisement for Blue Monkey Brewery. At the top, the text 'blue monkey brewery' is written in a large, white, lowercase font. Below this, six dark glass beer bottles are lined up. Each bottle has a different label: '99 Red Baboons' (yellow label with red text and monkey silhouettes), 'APE ALE strong ale' (yellow label with blue text and a blue monkey face), 'GUERRILLA' (red label with white text and a black monkey face), 'EVO' (yellow label with blue text and a blue monkey face), 'Infinity' (pink label with white text and a blue monkey face), and 'BG Sips' (green label with white text and a blue monkey face). All labels also feature the 'blue monkey brewery' logo at the bottom. At the bottom of the advertisement, the website 'www.bluemonkeybrewery.com' is written in a white, lowercase font. In the bottom right corner, there is a small graphic of a glass of beer with a single bubble rising from it, containing the number '3'.



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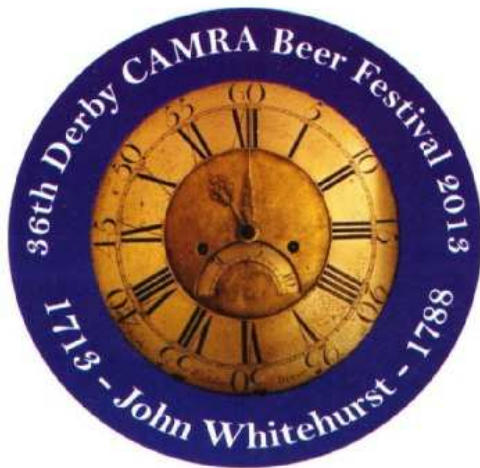
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New Zealand Arms

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[www.dancingduckbrewery.com](http://www.dancingduckbrewery.com)





# Derby City Charter Fest 2013

## EXCITING TIMES AHEAD AS PLANS TAKE SHAPE

The 36th Derby City Charter Summer Beer Festival will run from Wednesday the 10th to Sunday the 14th July based in the Assembly Rooms in the centre of the City. The festival opens at 6.30pm on the Wednesday and then will be open from 11am through to 11pm each day until Saturday. On Sunday we will provide the usual "drink us dry" session from midday until 2pm. Teaming up with Derby Museums, this year we will be celebrating 300 years since the birth of John Whitehurst FRS, an eminent Derby clockmaker and scientist and someone of whom we should all be proud.

The festival takes on a different atmosphere this year with a large marquee being erected in the Market Place outside the Assembly Rooms. Although this has been necessitated by the refurbishment of the Great Hall, we feel this adds a new dimension to this celebration of real ale. So we invite everyone to come and explore what we have to offer. The Darwin Suite will be open as in previous years and we will feature a myriad of stalls to keep you interested and wandering around.

On the beer front we will again try to feature beers from every active Derbyshire brewery. A dedicated bar in the Assembly Rooms will showcase the amazing number of breweries we are so lucky to have in the City of Derby. If that is not enough – tough customers you are! – we will also bring in beers from breweries across the country. We are hoping to feature some new breweries to the beer scene as well as some old stalwarts.

If you are still undecided about what to quaff, ciders will be featured in the marquee and the Darwin Suite, all chosen by our own local expert. Still struggling to find a tippie? Well, mead will again feature following its great success last year. Of course, for the more adventurous drinkers the continental beer is a must and this year we will feature bottled beer and also beer served on tap. At the time of writing, we cannot say what foreign lands we will be sourcing from, but your taste buds will have the chance to travel to new heights.

Not enough, we hear you cry! Well we know Derby is a very demanding crowd of drinkers, so entertainment will be provided to keep you all jolly and in the spirit of our City of Beer. The festival will feature a huge variety of music, not only in the marquee, but also inside the Assembly Rooms. We are currently scouting the fair dales of Derbyshire and beyond to bring you new, quirky and above all entertaining music.


We know we are a demanding lot, asking you to try all these new beers, ciders and meads and then dance away to the music, so we are also extending our range of refreshments. Again our scouts are out and about tirelessly looking for the ideal victuals to make your day that extra bit memorable. We are hoping to feature Derbyshire based foods to complement the fine beer our County's breweries produce.

Finally, look out for the Ale Trail during the month of June, which will allow you a warm up to the festival and also reward you on completion with a free beer in the festival and reduced entry. If the warm weather ever arrives, we may extend our generosity (in what way?). You can keep up-to-date with all our plans by visiting our Summer Beer Festival web page at [www.derbycamra.org.uk/summer-beer-festival](http://www.derbycamra.org.uk/summer-beer-festival)

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# Saucy Beginnings for Respected Brewer and Landlord

**This spring has seen the retirement of one of Derby's most liked and respected publicans; namely Graham Yates of the Brunswick Inn.**

Graham has been pulling pints at the Brunswick for the last ten years, but surprisingly before that he had never run a pub. He had, however, a lifetime's experience in the brewing industry. When he started work in his native Birmingham back in the "Swinging Sixties" he was involved in brewing vinegar, for a company called Farndons. If you haven't heard of them (and you probably haven't) you may have heard of their chief product "Flag Sauce" (for which the vinegar was presumably destined). From Farndons Graham moved to H.P. and their sauce, and then in 1968 he moved yet again, to Ansells this time and began his 45 year stint in the beer industry. During that same year (1968), Harold Wilson was Prime Minister, the Russians invaded Czechoslovakia, Dr. Christiaan Bernard performed the first heart transplant in history, Graham's fellow Brummie Tony Hancock died, Louis Armstrong's 'What a Wonderful World' topped the charts, and Graham sampled his first pint of ale, which cost him the princely sum of 1/10 that's around 9p in modern money, however, his weekly wage was only £20 at the time.

Graham stayed with Ansells until 1986 when he moved to Everards. Romance was also in the air at that time for that is when he took up with his longtime partner the delightful Pat.

During his time at the "Brunnie" Graham has successfully combined the art of brewing and the more stressful task of running a pub, although he freely admits that the latter came as something of a culture shock to begin with.

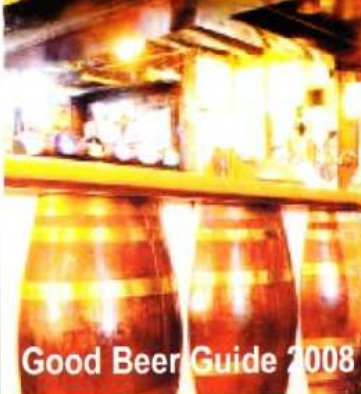
When he looks back over his long and distinguished (he is a full diploma member of the Institute of Brewing) career, he says that he has "no regrets" and "it's a marvelous trade to be in", although he does have some reservations about recommending the pub trade to newcomers in the present economic climate. However, if they do decide to enter the trade he advises them to "have a damned good business plan," and not to, "believe the outgoing tenant when they tell you how good business is." He also advises newcomers to empower their staff saying, "They will either rise to it, or they won't!". Although Graham is retiring from the pub trade he is not leaving Derby. He has made many friends here over the last decade and says it is a, "nice friendly town," unlike some of the places he has lived over the years.



Here's wishing Graham a long and happy retirement and we look forward to meeting him over a pint or two in the future.

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# 30 YEARS OF 'BREW'TIFUL BEERS

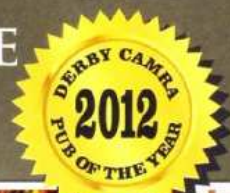
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# May Fests

With two Bank Holidays to go at, May seems the perfect time for a Beer Festival or two and many local pubs around the area are putting on events to help us celebrate the long weekends.

It all kicks off at the start of the month with the May day Bank Holiday weekend from **3-6th May** where you can enjoy a beer or three dancing around your maypoles. First to weigh in is the **Royal Oak** at **Ockbrook** with their celebration

Beer Festival for landlady, Olive Wilson 60th anniversary at the pub where 20+ ales are promised. While up in Smalley the Bell is having a small Fest with a barbeque planned for the Sunday. Over in Nottingham, **the Embankment** has one as does the **Inn for a Penny in Carlton**. And a bit further afield the **South Notts Beer Festival** takes place at the at the Rugby Club in Wilford with 48+ beers on.

Mid month will see the big **Rail Ale Festival** at Barrow Hill Roundhouse from **17-18th May** with over 200 Ales on plus live music, food,

train rides and a free bus service from Chesterfield Railway Station to get you there. If you have never been to this one before or not been for a while then it is well worth a visit as the setting in a working Railway Roundhouse helps create a very atmospheric event indeed.

The Spring Bank Holiday weekend **24-27th May** will see Derby weigh in with 3 big hitters - **The Furnace, The Exeter and the New Zealand**. The Furnace will be holding its 1st anniversary at the pub fest with over 30 Real Ales on from all over the Country housed on a stillage in the pub garden with live entertainment throughout. Rivalling it is the **Duck Fest** spread between the two Dancing Duck establishments, The Exeter Arms and the New Zealand Arms. And if that's not enough to tempt you into Derby then the Flowerpot has a mini mild fest on to celebrate mild month. Up in Fenny Bentley at the **Bentley Brook Inn** their annual fest in the pub grounds takes place with live music and camping available throughout the weekend while the **Willington Beer Fest** will see 3 pubs collaborate with a range of 50 Real Ales. In **Sawley the White Lion** also chips in with over 25 ales and there are also two big local CAMRA Beer Festival that weekend in Lincoln and **Newark** serving a fantastic range of ales, ciders & perries alongside a feast of entertainment.

Then right at the end of May running into June the **Belper Rugby Club Beer Festival** showcases over 30 Real Ales with food and music from **31st May - 2nd June**.

So there you have it plenty of Beer Festivals to keep you occupied in May and there is probably one or two others around the area that we are not aware of as well so keep an eye out on your travels and check with the event beforehand for the exact dates and times.



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# Book Review

The Story of Brewing in **Burton on Trent** by Roger Protz was published in 2011 by The History Press. As Britain's best known beer writer it is natural that the beers feature more prominently than the complicated history of the breweries, several of which have already had their own histories, including Bass and Marstons. However Roger has had access to the records in the National Museum of Brewing and tells the story from its mythical beginnings with St. Modwen through the more historical period of brewing at Burton Abbey, part of which survives. He dwells on the sting which led to the execution of Mary Queen of Scots, which centred on Anthony Babington of Derby fame. One of Burton's earliest common brewers, one Nicholson, was persuaded to carry forbidden letters in his casks. Protz claims that Nicholson was the last link with the Burton Abbey brewery. Curious then that none of the characters in this episode earn a place in the index of the book.

The makings of modern Burton are linked with the growth of transport systems, from the early career of William Bass as a carrier, through the development of the canal system, the railways which came to dominate Burton and finally the exploitation of motorised road haulage completed the circle.

Commercial brewing in Burton was chiefly for export. Protz identifies the three key stages of beer style. The market for dark strong beers for the Baltic trade ceased when Napoleon denied access to the Baltic. Conveniently the East India Company approached Samuel Allsopp with an invitation to supply India Pale Ale, previously brewed only in London. Finally the home market demand for paler, less aggressively hopped beers brought about the classic Burton pale ale clear in the

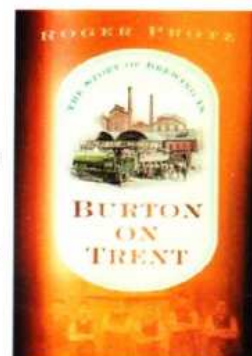
glass, dark though it is by comparison with the current fashion for very pale beers, matching the colour of Pilsener beers, which did not find favour in Britain until fake versions were heavily promoted by the new owners of the likes of Bass in the 1960s.

Protz explains why London brewers built breweries in Burton to exploit its unique water, resulting for instance in Marstons brewery being built by Mann, Crossman and Paulin, only later to become one half of the dreaded Grotney empire of fizz.

There is an introduction to the series of takeovers that led to the big six brewers dominating the industry up to the 1990s. Protz identifies the merger of Ind Coope and Allsopps as the most significant, but notes that the mergers of Bass and Worthington and then of Bass with Mitchells and Butlers were in effect reverse takeovers with Bass, once the greatest brewery in the world, being just the name on the label, justifying Bass's role in making the law which allowed brewers to register their trade marks.

Protz's own contribution to the rediscovery of genuine IPA is documented here and credit is also given to Burton Bridge for their recreation of the style as Empire Pale Ale in 1996.

The later chapters bring the story up to date with the story of microbrewing in Burton, and the campaign to save the Museum in which Protz played an influential role.



**Join the Amber Valley & Derby Mild Trail 2013**  
see pages 11-13 for details



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**Good Beer Guide 2013**



# REAL ALE CAPITAL - DERBY DOES IT AGAIN

A recent edition of the Lonely Planet Guide described Derby as the "Best place to drink Real Ale in the World" and who are we to disagree as the results of the City's Annual Beer Census undertaken by members of The Derby Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale have confirmed Derby's status as Real Ale Capital of Britain per population head for yet another year.

The census took place in February and involved 8 different pub crawls around the City which saw a record number of Real Ales available on any one given night. 276 were counted with 180 different ones available (up 4 on last year) and these came from just 61 pubs averaging 4.5 Real Ales per pub.

In total 68 pubs were visited, 3 were shut and 4 had no real ale. 6 pubs had 10 or more Real Ales on and leading the way was the Babington Arms (15), Brunswick (15), Flowerpot (15), Five Lamps (14), Alexandra

(13) and Standing Order (11).

Marstons Pedigree was still the most dominant brand in the City available in 30 pubs but this was 10 pubs less than last year so not quite as dominant as it had been. This was followed by Sharp's Doom Bar in 12 and Bass in 9 pubs. But local ales are well represented with beers from 10 of the City's breweries widely available - Brunswick, Black Iris, Dancing Duck, Derby, Derventio, Falstaff, Hartshorns, Mr Grundy's, Rowditch and Shiny. Beers from other breweries around the area were also well represented - Blue Monkey, Burton Bridge, Castle Rock, Leatherbritches, Nutbrook and Thornbridge to name a few.

The average price of a pint was found to be £2.87 (10p up on last year). However in reality a lot of pubs were hovering around the £3 a pint mark with some now regularly topping it. But it was pleasing to see a lot more pubs offering the CAMRA discount

on pints and halves.

The dearest pint of the night was found at the Brunswick - £3.50 for Burton Bridge Old Expensive 6.5% ABV while the cheapest pint was found at the City's 3 Wetherspoons pubs at £1.75 for both Marstons Burton Bitter & Greene King Ruddles Bitter.

So there you have it, a few stats to bear in mind while crawling around Beer City once again proving that per population head Derby has more Real Ales available than any other City.

Derby CAMRA Chairman, Gareth Stead said "For Real Ale enthusiasts Derby is probably the best place to drink in Britain, if not the World as the Lonely Planet Guide states. People come from far and wide to sample the City's delights as its pubs truly provide a Beer Festival everyday of the year".



## Mild Guide 2013 Return & Voting Form

Pub	Brewery Name	Beer Name	Dat of Visit
Beehive Inn			
Black Bulls Head			
Cross Keys			
Devonshire Arms			
Greyhound			
Holly Bush			
Holly Bush			
Hop Inn			
Hunter Arms			
King Alfred			
King William			
Midland			
Old Oak			
Pear Tree			
Seven Stars			
Sir Barnes Wallis			
Spanker			
Steam Packet			
Tavern			
Thorn Tree			
Thorn Tree			
Waggon & Horses			
Alexandra Hotel			
Brunswick Inn			
Coach & Horses			
Exeter Arms			
Falstaff			
Five Lamps			
Flowerpot			
Furnace			
Mr Grundy's Tavern			
Little Chester			
Royal Oak			
Ye Olde Dolphin Inne			

## Your Details

Name .....

.....

CAMRA member? Yes / No

Address .....

.....

.....

.....

Postcode .....

Email address .....

.....

Which was your favourite Pub on the trail (thinkbeer quality, service, welcome & value for money)?

.....

.....

Which was your favourite mild?

.....

.....

Return your form to:

Derby CAMRA Mild Month

c/o 5A Gerard St, Derby DE1

1PA OR email

MildMonth@derbycamra.org.uk



# Amber Valley & Derby

## Amber Valley Area

Pub	Address	Opening Times	Directions	Mild Availability
Beehive Inn	Peasehill Rd, Ripley	M-Th 12-3, 5:30-11 F 3-11, S, Su 12-12	9's to Marehay, 10 mins walk on Peasehill	Throughout May
Black Bulls Head	Openwoodgate	M-Sa 12-11, Su 12-10:30	6X and 7.1 stops nearby	Throughout May
Cross Keys	Market Place, Belper	5-12 m-sat, 7-11 sun	On 6.2/6.3/7.1 routes	Start of May
Devonshire Arms	King St, Alfreton	12-4, 5:39-11 M-F, 12-11 Sat, Sun	On 9's Route	Throughout May
Greyhound	Whitemoor Lane Belper	12-11 Mon-Sun	6.2/6.3 stop nearby	Throughout May
Holly Bush	Holly Bush Lane, Makeney	12-11 Mon-Sat, 12-10:30 Sun	6's, walk from stop along Makeney Lane	Throughout May
Holly Bush	12-11 Mon-Sun	12-11 Mon-Sun	9's to Marehay, walk along Brook Lane	Mid May
Hop Inn	Openwoodgate	12-11 Mon-Sun	On 7.1 route	Throughout May
Hunter Arms	Church St Kilburn	12-11 Sun-Thu, 12-12 Fri & Sat	On Amber Line route, 9.1 stops nearby	Throughout May
King Alfred	High St Alfreton	10-12 M-Th, 10-1230 F, S, 12-11 Sun	On 9's Route	Throughout May
King William	The Bridge, Milford	5-1130 M-F, 12-1130 Sat, 12:30-11 Sun	On 6's route	Throughout May
Midland	Nottingham Road Ripley	M-T 3-11, F 3-1, Sat 12-1, Sun 12-11	On R1 route or walk from Market Place	Throughout May
Old Oak	Main St, Horsley Woodhouse	M-W 4-11, T,F 3-11 Sat 12-11, Sun 12-1030	On Amber line route	Throughout May
Pear Tree	Derby Road, Ripley	11-12 Mon-Sat, 12-12 Sun	On 9's/Red Arrow route	Throughout May
Seven Stars	Openwoodgate	4-12 M-Thu, 4-1am F 12-1am Sat 12-12 Sun	150 yards downhill from Hop Inn	Throughout May
Sir Barnes Wallis	Maple Avenue, Ripley	12-230, 5-11 M-T, Su, 12-230, 5-12 F, Sat	On 6.2/3 route	Throughout May
Spanker	Nether Heage	12-2,5-11 M-Sat, 12-10:30 Sun	On 141 Ripley-Matlock route	Throughout May
Steam Packet	Derby Rd, Swanwick	4-12 M-F, 12-12 Sat 12-11 Sun	A short distance from 9's stop	Throughout May
Tavern	Derby Road, Belper	M-T 3-11, Fri-Sun 12-1am	On 6's route	Start of May
Thorn Tree	Market Place, Ripley	10-12 Mon-Sun	On 9's/Red Arrow route	Throughout May
Thorn Tree	Church St Waingroves	5-11 M-Th,3-1130 F 12-1130 Sat, 12-1030 Su	On 1A route	Throughout May
Waggon & Horses	King St Alfreton	M-T 8am-12, Fri, Sat 8am-1am, Sun 8am-12	On 9's route	Throughout May

## Mild Month 2013 ... bigger than ever!

**A**fter last year's successful Trail, Derby and Amber Valley CAMRA are once again combining this year to help bring a drop of the dark stuff into pubs throughout both areas in May. With over 30 pubs this time, there will be plenty of choice, and organise crawls will take place during May, particularly at the weekends. Once again, there will be prizes up for grabs for the best pubs and best mild, and we will be relying on customers to help us decide the winners. This will be done by text vote – each person who buys a pint or half of mild in a pub on the Trail will be invited to send their name, the name of the pub, mild they tried and a mark between 1 and 5 to a specified number. The pubs



# Mild Trail 2013 pubs

Pub	Address/telephone	Opening Hours	Travel/Directions	Mild Availability
Alexandra Hotel	203 Siddals Rd, Derby DE1 2QE 01332 293993	12:00-23:00 Sun-Thur 12:00-00:00 Fri 11:00--00:00 Sat	5 min walk from railway station along Railway Terrace towards city	Throughout May
Brunswick Inn	1 Railway Terrace, Derby DE1 2RU 01332 290677	11:00-23:00 Mon-Sat 12:00-10:30 Sun	4 min walk from railway station along Railway Terrace towards city	Throughout May
Coach & Horses	Mansfield Road, Derby DE1 3RF 01332 258901	12:00-00:00 Sun-Fri 12:00-01:00 Sat	Chester Green, Trent H1 and Nines Buses	Throughout May
Exeter Arms	Exeter Place, Derby DE1 2EU 01332 605323	11:00-23:00 Mon-Thurs 11:00-23:30 Fri 11:00-00:00 Sat 12:00-22:00 Sun	From Council House/Quad over river, turn right at Brewery Tap	Throughout May
Falstaff	74 Silver Hill Road, Normanton, Derby DE23 6UJ 01332 342902	12:00-23:00 Sun-Thur 12:00-00:00 Fri-Sat	Arriva 36 37 40 41 buses, or walk down Normanton Rd. Turn off at Lyndhurst Bar and cut through to Society Place	Throughout May
Five Lamps	25 Duffield Road, Derby DE1 3BH 01332 348730	12:00-23:00 Sun-Thur 12:00-00:00 Fri--Sat	5 Lamps area, Trent Allestree & Sixes buses	Throughout May
Flowerpot	23-25 King Street, Derby DE1 3DZ 01332 204955	12:00-23:00 Sun-Tue 12:00-23:30 Wed-Thu 12:00-00:30 Fri-Sat	2 min walk from the Cathedral up Queen St, left at the AGA shop	7 Milds Mini Beer Fest on 23 -26 May
Furnace	9 Duke Street, Derby DE1 3BX 01332 385981	16:00-23:00 Mon-Thur 12:00-00:00 Fri-Sun	Alongside River Derwent, 1 min north from St. Marys Bridge	Throughout May
Mr Grundy's Tavern	32-36 Ashbourne Road, Derby DE22 3AD 01332 340279	12:00-23:00 Mon-Thur 12:00-23:30 Fri-Sat 12:00-22:30 Sun	Trent Swift or Arriva ONE or 109	Throughout May
Little Chester	Ale House 4a Chester Green Road, Derby DE1 3SF 07584 244726	15:00-22:00 Mon-Fri 12:00-10:00 Sat-Sun	Chester Green, Trent H1 and Nines Buses	Throughout May
Royal Oak	55 Green Lane, Ockbrook, Derby DE72 3SE 01332 662378	11:30-14:30/17:30-23:00 M-F 11:30-15:00/18:00-23:30 Sat 12:00-23:00 Sun	NOTTS & DERBY 9 & 9A Limited evening service until 18:33, No service Sun & Bank Holiday	Throughout May
Ye Olde Dolphin Inne	5a Queen Street, Derby DE1 3DL 01332 267711	10:30-00:00 Mon-Sat 12:00-23:00 Sun	Corner of Full St and Queen St, nr Cathedral	Throughout May

## Derby Area

with the highest average marks will win certificates. There will be posters in all the pubs on the Trail and stickers with details of the voting system attached to the mild pump clips.

As last year, we are offering incentives for those who visit multiple pubs on the Trail, with a free pint at Derby Beer Festival for anyone who drinks Mild in at least 12 different pubs on the Trail, and three pairs of tickets for the Friday session of the Amber Valley Beer Festival for the three who visit the most pubs on the Trail, with a draw taking place in the event of a tie.

So, plenty of reasons to go Mild in May again! We look forward to seeing many of you sinking a pint or three of the dark stuff this May, cheers!





## EVENTS

In May, there are meetings at the **Talbot Taphouse**, Ripley, on the 13th, 8pm start (Beer Festival) and the **George**, Lower Hartshay, on the 30th, 8pm start (Branch/Committee Meeting). There is no Survey Trip in May as there will be Mild Crawls every weekend, contact Trevor Spencer on 07758 265 915 or dedpoet702@yahoo.co.uk for further details



## NEWS

After last year's success, the Derby and Amber Valley Branches of CAMRA are holding a joint Mild Trail. With 35 pubs across the two Branch areas signed up, it is certain to be an even bigger event than last year. Details of the pubs taking part are in this magazine.

**The Hop Inn**, Openwoodgate is under new management, with Jamie and Amy taking over at the beginning of February. They will continue to serve a range of 8 Real Ales and a couple of Ciders, as well as continuing to offer a

discount for CAMRA members.

**The Cross Keys**, Derby Road, Swanwick has asked to be included on the CAMRA discount scheme, and we are happy to oblige!

### A revival of fortunes...

After having one manager after another, and being closed altogether for a while, the **Holly Bush** on Brook Lane, Marehay, was reopened in December 2011 after being bought by Dave and Lorraine Hilton, who had

5 minutes walk from the nearest bus stop.

The **Talbot Taphouse**, situated on the Nines bus route a few minutes from Ripley Market Place going towards Alfreton is a former Shipstones pub that is now the Amber Ales Brewery Tap. The style of this Victorian building is very similar to Derby's Brunswick and Royal Standard, ironically also Brewery Taps. And having been renovated in 2009 is free of electronic machines, instead offering bar billiards or table skittles as entertainment. An extensive range of both Amber and guest ales, plus beers from around the world and regular Beer Festivals make the Talbot a worthwhile destination on a visit to Ripley. The opening hours vary, with Monday-Thursday being 5-11, Friday 3-11:30, Saturday 12-11:30 and Sunday 12-11. There is also a CAMRA members discount available on Amber ales.

The Amber Valley Club of the Year 2013 is once again, **The Strutt Club** in Belper. Congratulations to them and we will be presenting a certificate soon.

previously kept the **Canal** at Bullbridge. 15 months on, these two have certainly revitalised the pub, serving a range of 5 Real Ales, often sourced from local breweries, good food at both lunchtimes and evenings, regular entertainment at the weekends and they've also had a beer festival. **The Bush** is a comfortable pub consisting of a single room but with a few distinct areas around a central bar. It's open from 12noon-11pm every day, has its own car park and is on the 147 bus route, although this only runs during the day from Monday-Saturday. The pub is situated just off the main Derby-Ripley road, about





# EREWASH VALLEY CAMRA BRANCH

## NEW BRANCH COMMITTEE

At our AGM on March 6th at the Spanish Bar, Ilkeston, Stephen and Anyas Boa stood down as Chairman and Secretary of the branch but we are happy to report the election of four new committee members: Chairman – Kevin Thompson, Secretary – Jayne Tysoe, Webmaster – Gary Higgins, Pubs Officer – Mark Suiter, all other positions remain the same. A BIG THANK YOU To Stephen and Anyas for all they have done during there terms of office, Anyas was one of the founder members of the branch.

## SOCIAL REPORTS

Our social side has been active with a pub survey round **Stapleford** on 9th February even though this is not in our branch we found seven real ale outlets and 2 or 3 real surprises. A good turnout of members spending more time than intended in the **Horse and Jockey** (see photo). Another good turnout was to the **Lincoln Green Brewery, Hucknall** thanks to Stephen Boa for organizing it but



unfortunately couldn't attend due to work (oh dear) Anyas did the honours. Thanks to Anthony Hughes and daughter for their hospitality and manning the pumps.



## SOCIALS

Saturday April 20th – Derby Alternative pub crawl meet **Exeter Arms** 1.00pm, contact Mick Golds 0115 9328042.

Monday May 6th – Mild trail meet **Red Lion**, Heanor leaving 2.00pm further details contact Rachel 0115 9302887. No 20 Bus from Wharncliffe Road, Ilkeston.

Saturday July 20th – Rail Trip to Potteries meet Derby Railway Station 10.30 for 10.42 train, contact Mick Golds for further info.

Saturday 21st Dec – (I know it's a bit early) Christmas social to Stockport, full details at a later date or see website.

## PUB OF THE SEASON

On March 9th the branch presented **Marlpool Brewery Tap** with the winter pub of the season, the presentation was made by our new chairman (see photo) with outgoing chairman looking on. A very cosy occasion with a good turnout ensuring a full house, thanks to Andrew and Francesca McAuley for their warm welcome and buffet (photo left to right Kevin, Andrew and Francesca and barman Mick).



## PUB NEWS

**Good Old Days**, Ilkeston (rumoured Closed).

**The Royal Oak**, Long Eaton currently boarded up.

**White Lion** – Marlpool now has 3 cask ales.

## MEETINGS

► **Wednesday 1st May**  
– Hole in the Wall, Long Eaton.

► **Wednesday 5th June**  
– General Havelock, Ilkeston.  
**Further Information contact Secretary, Anyas Boa 0115 8499967**

► **Wednesday 3rd July**  
– Blue Bell, Sandiacre. All meetings start at 8.30pm.  
Contact Secretary Jayne Tysoe on 0115 8548722 or [www.erewash-camra.org](http://www.erewash-camra.org)

## DISCOUNTS TO CARD CARRYING MEMBERS

**Barge Inn, Long Eaton**  
10p off a pint, 5p off a half (includes cider)

**The Bridge, Sandiacre**  
15p off a pint

**Coach & Horses, Draycott**  
All cask ales £2.50 a pint

**The Poacher, Ilkeston**  
15p off a pint

**Queens Head, Marlpool**  
20p off a pint, 10p off a half (includes cider)

**Rutland Cottage, Ilkeston**  
15p off a pint Monday – Thursday only

**Seven Oaks, Stanton by Dale**  
20p off a pint

**Steamboat Inn, Trent Lock, Long Eaton**  
20p off a pint, 10p off a half includes cider

*Please remember to show your Camra card.*

## Ashbourne & District CAMRA Branch



The inaugural beer festival organised by the Ashbourne & District Sub-branch to mark their first year as a group managed to overcome the blizzards that swept across Britain on Friday 22nd March and which continued throughout the weekend. The snowfall in Derbyshire was described as the worst falls in around 50 years, so for the festival to run at all was a great triumph. Whilst numbers through the door were only 50% of those required, staffing levels were maintained at all times, with many staff either booking into hotels despite being

close to their own homes or traipsing in by foot from home for 2-3 hours at a time to help us out (see photo). Clearly, the income was severely reduced with just about half the beer order remaining unsold. Despite all the problems, the overwhelming view of the public was that they enjoyed the festival and many pleaded with us to run again next year, which we will. Heartfelt thanks are due to everyone who supported us in any way, but especially the willing staff and the public who came to the event. The beer of the festival was voted

as Blue Monkey Infinity, with Front Row Collapsed second and Redwillow Smokeless Porter third.

**DIARY See page 16**





## PUBS OF THE YEAR

The Ashbourne & District CAMRA Sub-branch Pub of the Year judging took place earlier this year and the results were as follows:- The Rural Pub of the Year is The **Sycamore at Parwich** with the Cock at Clifton getting a Highly Commended award. The Town Pub of the Year is the **The Smith's Tavern** with the Bowling Green being Highly Commended. The two category winners then moved forward to a final selection round for overall

Pub of the Year, for which The Smith's Tavern has been declared the overall winner. Congratulations are due to all the winners, with special plaudits to Dave & Michelle Leigh at the Smith's Tavern.

Branch members will also now be drawing up a programme of seasonal awards using different criteria which they hope will then be reflected in a range of different winners throughout the year.

## Diary Dates for Ashbourne & District CAMRA Branch

- ▶ Sub-branch AGM - The Shire Horse, Wyaston - 8pm - Tuesday 30th April
- ▶ Festival thank-you visit - Dancing Duck Brewery - Friday 24th May (tbc)
- ▶ Sub-branch meeting - The Crown, Marston Montgomery - 8pm - Tuesday 28th May
- ▶ Sub-branch meeting - The Bowling Green, Ashbourne - 8pm - Tuesday 25th June
- ▶ Minibus to Derby Festival - 7pm from Smith's Tavern - Thursday 11th July (tbc)

Branch Contact:

Chairman - Mark Grist - Tel. 07818 466076 or email [m.grist2@sky.com](mailto:m.grist2@sky.com)



### Coach&Horses

Mansfield Road, Chester Green  
tel. 01332 258901  
[facebook.com/coachandhorsesderby](https://www.facebook.com/coachandhorsesderby)

### The Rutland Arms

Stephenson Place, Chesterfield  
tel. 01246 205857  
[facebook.com/thedavylamp](https://www.facebook.com/thedavylamp)

### The Derby Lodge

Church Street, Derby Village  
tel. 01332 881089  
[www.denbylodge.co.uk](http://www.denbylodge.co.uk)

### the Brackens

Brackens Lane, Alvaston  
tel. 01332 489585  
[facebook.com/thebrackensderby](https://www.facebook.com/thebrackensderby)

### King Alfred

High Street, Alfreton  
tel. 01773 833274  
[facebook.com/thekingalfred](https://www.facebook.com/thekingalfred)

### the Midland

Nottingham Road, Ripley  
tel. 01773 747706  
[facebook.com/themidlandripley](https://www.facebook.com/themidlandripley)

### The Poacher

South Street, Ilkeston  
tel. 01159 325452  
[facebook.com/thepoacherilkeston](https://www.facebook.com/thepoacherilkeston)

### The Rutland Cottage

Heanor Road, Ilkeston  
tel. 01159 304875  
[facebook.com/rutlandcottage](https://www.facebook.com/rutlandcottage)

### white swan

Moor Street, Spondon  
tel. 01332 670481  
[facebook.com/whiteswanspondon](https://www.facebook.com/whiteswanspondon)



Real Ale, Real Food, Real Friendly™





# Cider

with Suzie



Now is the quiet time of the year for cider makers, most will have finished pressing the 2012 crop of fruit by last December and the cider then ferments and develops through the winter and spring. For most small to medium scale cider makers the cider is stored in outbuildings with no external heat applied, so when the weather turns cold the fermentation stops, the yeast lying dormant, but it starts up again as soon as the temperature rises. This process does the cider no harm at all, but it means that new cider isn't ready until the spring, ideally May, by which time the warmer weather will produce a secondary fermentation which gives the cider a nice rounded finish.

This means that for now we are still mainly drinking 2011 vintage, but this is no bad thing since 2011 was a bumper crop and produced some excellent cider and perry. Of course, last year's dreadful summer meant that 2012 was a really bad year for fruit, especially in these parts. Fortunately, further south in the main cider producing areas the situation wasn't quite so bad, and another factor comes into play, particularly in Herefordshire. Small cider makers often grow

their own fruit, make what cider they want from it and sell any excess to Bulmers. So even in a bad year, the small guys will still be able to make a reasonable amount of cider. Unfortunately last year's awful spring was a disaster for the pear crop, so perry will be at a premium this summer. Let's hope for a decent spring and summer this year and an excellent 2013 vintage.

Enough bellyaching, after all real cider / perry is a natural product and is inevitably dependent on the weather both for the quantity and quality of what is produced each year. Looking around the area there are plenty of pubs selling real cider. The Brunswick Inn tends to get overlooked as a cider pub, but it always sells at least one real cider, usually Westons Old Rosie. The Furnace Inn is also a regular cider outlet; on my last visit they were selling Sheppys medium cider and Broadoak perry. The Flowerpot has always sold on real cider, currently it is Thatchers Black Rat. The Peacock has a rotating cider, frequently from Gwynt y Ddraig. The Smithfield, now refurbished and re-opened is a sister pub to the Patternmakers at Duffield (itself a regular

cider outlet) and is selling Three Cats cider.

The best range of cider in Derby is to be found at the New Zealand Arms. This pub was barely managing to stay open when it was taken over by the Dancing Duck Brewery, since when the transformation there has been remarkable. As well as the full range of Dancing Duck beers at least six ciders are on offer, mainly from Westons and Gwynt y Ddraig. Amongst them you may find one or two fruit flavoured ciders. According to CAMRA's definition of Real Cider fruit flavoured ciders are not classified as "real", a situation which I find somewhat strange. Beer is classified as "real ale" if it contains live yeast and is not carbonated or served under gas pressure. The brewer has a free hand to add flavourings via fruit, herbs etc. which greatly enhances the range of flavours available without preventing the beer being sold as real ale. A similar freedom should be available to cider makers; the definition of real ale would serve perfectly well for real cider. Such a change could increase cider sales, particularly amongst younger drinkers.

Wassail



## Annual Beer Festival

May Bank Holiday

24<sup>th</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>

Beers, Ciders Live Bands Friday, Saturday and Sunday

FREE ENTRY

Camping available

Check our Website for further details

Bentley Brook Inn

Fenny Bentley

Ashbourne

DE6 1LF

e.mail

all@bentleybrookinn.co.uk



# Reformation at the Abbey

Lee Jackson and CAMRA member, Sally Orgill, took over the reins at the Abbey in Darley Abbey before Christmas and following an important strategy meeting with Sam Smiths brewery, they have implemented changes that are long overdue. Now the unique, stone-built pub is open all day, every day, and arguably Derby's most characterful bar, The Undercroft, is open for all to enjoy. Sales of Old Brewery Bitter have gone through the roof with 7 kilderkins (18 gallons) sold each week. And Lee, with his catering background, is introducing a menu that should entice even more custom.

Sam Smiths Old Brewery Bitter is conspicuous by its absence at

today's beer festivals but it wasn't always so. Back in the 1970s the brewery had a big promotional push in this area and it featured at the inaugural Derby City Charter Festival at the Kings Hall in 1978. The Harrington, Thulston; Dog and Partridge, Swinscoe; and the Vaults, Wirksworth, use to stock OBB, although the Vaults is now a private residence. One of the more unusual places to find the malty Tadcaster brew was

at Derby Midland Station, in the buffet bar on platform 1, where it accompanied Hardy and Hanson's Bitter on handpump.

After meticulous restoration of the ancient building, which had lain derelict for decades, the Abbey opened to universal architectural acclaim in 1979. A few years later Sam Smiths bought the freehouse, and today Old Brewery Bitter remains the cheapest pint of real ale in Derby (except Wetherspoon) at £1.80 (pre-budget). Interestingly, OBB is still conditioned in oak casks made in one of the nation's last three brewery cooperages. It's fair to say that the Abbey hasn't, perhaps, fulfilled its potential in recent years but the reformation looks promising. Paul Gibson



## Willington Beer Festival

After last year's success the Willington Beer Festival will again be going ahead again this year over Spring Bank Holiday from Friday 24th May to Monday 27th May. The Dragon, Rising Sun and Green Man have all got together again to showcase over 50 beers and ciders. There will be music all weekend and a Willington Wheelbarrow race on Monday. It will also be combined with a Food Fest this year with cookery demonstrations and food stalls.



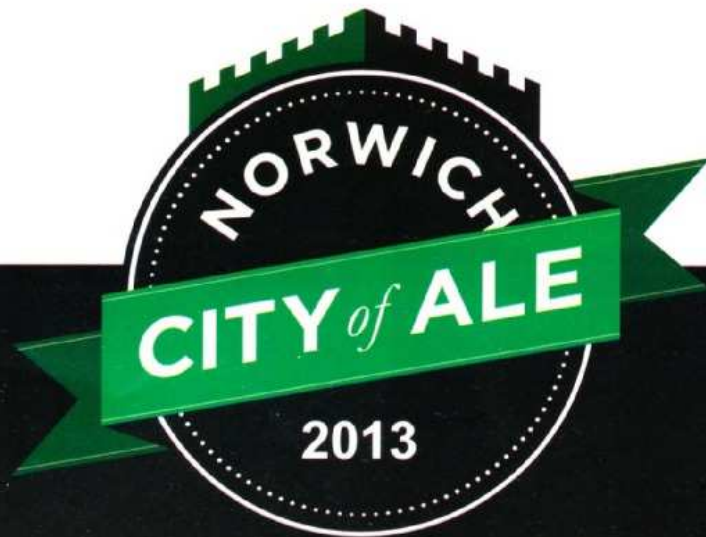
### Regional Champion Bottled Beer, SIBA Midlands 2011



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Buxton Brewery Company Ltd  
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Buxton  
SK17 9RZ  
Tel: 01298 344200 email: [geoff@BuxtonRealAle.co.uk](mailto:geoff@BuxtonRealAle.co.uk)





# CELEBRATING FINE ALE *in the* FINE CITY

23 May - 2 June 2013

"Well done Norwich.  
City of Ale was brilliant"

Tim Hampson, Chairman  
British Guild of Beerwriters

"Norwich boasts the most spectacular  
resurgence in beer and pub life  
witnessed by any part of the UK"

Jeff Evans, Inside Beer

**A Festival of Real Ale with a Real Difference...**

(it's held in lots of proper pubs all over the fine city)

"A brilliant event that has  
taken the enjoyment of beer  
on to a new plane"

Roger Protz, Editor,  
Good Beer Guide

"This could be the template for  
the beer festival of the future"

Darren Norbury,  
Beer Today

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[www.cityofale.org.uk](http://www.cityofale.org.uk)



**NORWICH**  
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

[www.derbycamra.org.uk](http://www.derbycamra.org.uk)







## The LocAle Scheme is a National CAMRA initiative to promote pubs that regularly stock local Real Ales.

Pubs on the scheme usually display the logo either on the handpump or on a poster or sticker. Within Derby & Amber Valley the radius is 20 miles from pub to brewery.

**This is the latest list of LocAle pubs:**

### DERBY

Alexandra  
Babington Arms  
Brewery Tap/Royal Standard  
Brunswick  
**Crown & Cushion NEW!**  
Exeter Arms  
Falstaff  
Five Lamps  
Flowerpot  
Furnace  
Greyhound  
Little Chester Ale House  
Mr Grundy's Tavern  
New Zealand Arms  
Seven Stars  
Slug and Lettuce  
Smithfield  
Old Silk Mill  
Peacock  
Ye Olde Dolphin Inne

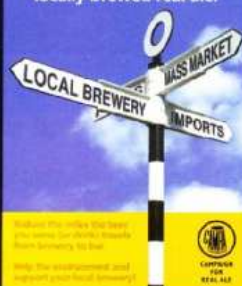
### AMBER VALLEY

Black Swan (Belper)  
Cross Keys (Turnditch)  
George Inn (Ripley)  
Holly Bush (Makeney)  
Hop Inn (Openwoodgate)  
Hunter Arms (Kilburn)  
King Alfred (Alfreton)  
King William (Milford)  
The Lion (Belper)  
Poet and Castle (Codnor)  
Red Lion (Fritchley)  
Strutt Club (Belper)  
Talbot Taphouse (Ripley)  
Tavern (Belper)  
Thorne Tree (Waingroves)  
Waggon & Horses (Alfreton)

A Guide to...



CAMRA LocAle is an accreditation scheme to promote pubs that sell locally-brewed real ale.



**Contact: Atholl Beattie**  
**LocAle Coordinator**  
t: 07772 370628  
e: locale@derbycamra.org.uk

*If your pub regularly stocks local Real Ales and you would like to join the scheme then please get in touch. All accredited pubs will receive posters, stickers and handpump crowns to display and will receive free publicity in the Derby Drinker and on the Derby CAMRA website.*

# CAMRA Discount Pubs



All over the Country there are hundreds of pubs offering discounts to card carrying CAMRA members and these trailblazing pubs deserve your support.

Look out for the posters in these pubs to see what's on offer. Below you will find a list of discounts available in the local area, if you know of others that are not listed here then please get in touch.

## ► DERBY, SURROUNDING AREAS & AMBER VALLEY

Alexandra Hotel, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
Babington Arms, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half Guest Ales only
Broadway, Derby	20p off a pint
Coach & Horses, Derby	15p off a pint
Crown & Cushion, Derby	10p off a pint
Five Lamps, Derby	20p off a pint
Furnace, Derby	20p off a pint
Little Chester Ale House, Derby	10p off a pint
Mr Grundy's, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half,
Old Silk Mill, Derby	25p off a pint
Seven Stars, Derby	20p off a pint
Slug & Lettuce, Derby	10% off a pint
Standing Order, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half Guest Ales only
Smithfield, Derby	20p off a pint
Thomas Leaper, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half Guest Ales only
Wardwick Tavern, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
King Alfred, Alfreton	15p off a pint
Brackens, Alvaston	15p off a pint
Cross Keys, Turnditch	20p off a pint
The Dragon, Willington	20p off a pint
George & Dragon, Belper	20p off a pint
Harpur's, Melbourne	20p off a pint
Hollybrook, Littleover	20p off a pint
Lamb Inn, Melbourne	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
Markeaton, Allestree	20p off a pint
Masons Arms, Mickleover	15p off a pint
Midland, Ripley	15p off a pint
Pattenmakers Arms, Duffield	10p off a pint and 5p off a half
Red Lion, Fritchley	All real ales £2.50 a pint
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White Post, Stanley Common	20p off a pint
White Swan, Littleover	20p off a pint
White Swan, Spondon	15p off a pint

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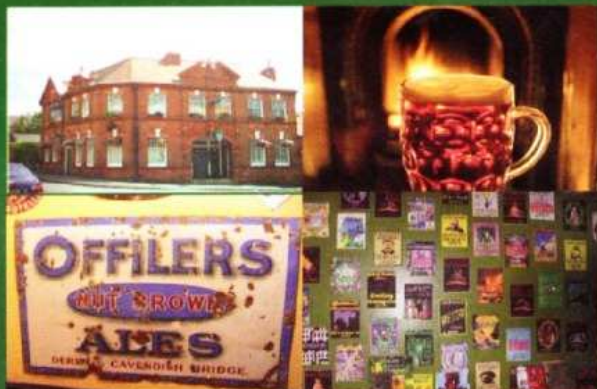
If you are a licensee and you are interested in joining the scheme then please contact us at [campaigns@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@derbycamra.org.uk), we will advertise your pub through this column in every edition of the Derby Drinker and on the Derby & National CAMRA websites.



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# Dear Toper...

**C**onsider! Dear Toper, the onset of Spring with its longer and warmer days. It's a time when some mysterious natural force exerts itself: birds begin nesting; frogs leave their winter holes and migrate to the breeding ponds to spawn; the trees and shrubs burst into leaf; and with the first glimmer of warm sunshine the Al Fresco drinkers emerge from their places of hibernation. Casting off their upper garments, the better to show off their many and varied tattoos and bleached, white skin, they resemble black and white butterflies emerging from their cocoons. Clutching their cans of high-strength, chemical lager and extra-large, plastic bottles of rot-gut cider, they slowly – as if steered by some primeval urge – migrate to their swarming grounds, usually a public bench in the inner city. Once there they enter into their courtship ritual, which involves stealing each others' cider and swearing loudly at one another, and as several mating couples can be involved at the same time – often over the same bottle of cider (sometimes over the same female) – it is hard to know who is mating with who. Every now and then one of their number drifts slightly away from the main swarm and approaches a passerby with a plaintive (their acting skills vary) cry for succour, which often takes the form of a request for his or her bus fare home – not that they have any intention of going home (unless of course they happen live in an off licence – which of course they don't). If you happen to find yourself the object of their pleading it is best not to give into them, no matter how heart wrenching their cries might seem, as the sight of money changing hands usually galvanizes others in the swarm, who had hitherto appeared barely conscious, to suddenly rouse themselves and approach the donor with their own appeals and supplications.

As dusk descends the swarm gradually disperses to their specially funded breeding grounds, although some malingerers are often to be found hanging around cash machines or urinating in shop doorways.

The only predator that the Al Frescos have is themselves, for few are destined to live into old age, thereby saving the taxpayer a considerable amount in unemployment and other benefits, which of course makes the minimum pricing of alcohol units as a way of curbing their self-destructive excesses, unprofitable for the state in the long term. And besides, the Al Frescos are a cunning breed; if alcohol products become too expensive for them they will turn to cheaper

## The Natural World in Springtime

alternatives in their search for oblivion, such as illegal drugs and solvents.

Despite their brave springtime show the Al Frescos have no hopes, no aspirations, no prospects, no self respect and no idea what to do about it all, other than to seek a few hours oblivion at the cost of their long term health. I wish I had a solution to their problems – I don't.

One thing I do know, however, is that minimum pricing is not the solution to their woes, it will only add to them, and at the same time

penalize responsible drinkers, such as people on low incomes, who can't afford to visit the pub and who, after a hard day's work, fancy a can of beer or a glass of wine in front of the television. And anyone who is deluded enough to think that a minimum price of 45p would stay at that for very long is living in Cloud Cuckoo Land, for with each successive budget the minimum price would rise until it affected pub prices as well as those in the supermarkets.

As for Spring, all I can say is that it has been a long time in coming, and no doubt some will attribute that to "Climate Change" the latest buzz phrase of the little green men (and women). I seem to

remember that these were the same people whose last buzz phrase was "Global Warming" and who were, a couple of decades ago, busy scaring people: telling them that by 2013 the seas would have risen to catastrophic levels and that children would never again play in the snow, but now, like a criminal under cross-examination, changing his story as the evidence builds up against him, they have adopted the phrase "Climate Change" and draw people's attention to any freak weather occurrence that comes along (they've always gone on) in the hope that people won't notice that it isn't getting any warmer. No doubt within a decade they will be warning us of "Global Cooling" again, just as they were in the 1960s. Consider that, Dear Toper! D.T.



## Derbyshire Music Festivals Embrace Real Ale

The Music Festival season is here and there follows a few months of music, mayhem and mud sprinkled with a fair smattering of Real Ales, Cider and Perry as most have now embraced them moving away from the overpriced, corporate fizz they used to sell. And in Derbyshire we have some of the finest festivals around serving ales from the local area and beyond such as:-

Ashleyhay (4-5 May), Bearded Theory at Kedleston Hall (17-19 May), Off the Tracks Spring Fest in Castle Donington (24-26 May), Download in Castle Donington (14-16 June), Stainsby (19-21 July), Indie Tracks in Butterley (26-28 July), Y Not in Pikehall (2-4 Aug), Bakewell (16-18 Aug) and Off the Tracks Summer Fest in Castle Donington (30 Aug – 1st Sept). So why not give one or two ago as there are some cracking bands on, checkout their websites for details.



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## DerbyCAMRA BranchDiary

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

### ► APRIL

Friday 26th – Winter Beer  
Festival 'Thank You' evening  
- Dancing Duck Brewery and  
New Zealand Arms; open to  
festival volunteers.

Thursday 9th – Branch Meeting  
- Furnace Inn, Duke St, Derby  
– 8pm.

Saturday 11th – Survey Trip -  
Melbourne and Hartshorne by  
free mini bus, leaves cathedral  
green 6.30pm.

### ► MAY

Friday 3rd – Mini Mild Crawl  
- Start Mild Month off in style  
with a mini tour of some of  
our Mild Month Campaign  
Participants. Starting at  
The Falstaff, Silverhill Rd,  
Normanton at 7.30pm before  
setting off for the: Brunswick;  
Alexandra and Exeter Arms.

### ► JUNE

Saturday 8th – Trip to 3 Valleys  
Festival – Dronfield, Dore,  
Totley & more near Sheffield.

Wednesday 12th – Re-arranged  
Branch AGM – Derby Rowing  
Club – 8pm.

► **Contact the Social Secretary, Dean Smith by e-mail**  
- [socials@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:socials@derbycamra.org.uk) (except where indicated)



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(Partner at the same address)

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I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by  
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# Crossword

**No.33** by Wrenrutt

## ► ACROSS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Devilishly awful old beer from Wainfleet's newer brewery (10)   | 14 The Devil existed regressively (5)                      |
| 6 A cunning erection!   | 17 It's yellow right in a darts player's line (5)          |
| 8 Kentish seaside town wherein is the Conqueror Alehouse (8)      | 19 Sad apostle or a flag denoting a ship's departure (4.5) |
| 9 (& 4 down) Derby's first micropub, opened last November (6.7.8) | 22 Two Towers Brewery's Special Ale (10)                   |
| 10 Ne'er the sea eagle to be arranged (4)                         | 23 Case for distinguished experts? (4)                     |
| 11 Secrets, at a guess for passengers and goods vehicles (6.4)    | 24 What one vents for showing irritation (6)               |
| 12 Alter the farmost RN arrangement (9)                           | 25 A final word (8)  |
|   | 26 Spirited water (4)                                      |
|   | 27 A posh clay pipe (10)                                   |

## ▼ DOWN

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Derby brewery that harks back to Roman times (9)                | 5 Nabakov's 1950s ephebophilic novel (6)                                       |
| 2 Gammon I ate contains a nitro-hydrogen compound (7)             | 6 Matter arising for geologists in a 6 across way (9)                          |
| 3 Desist: something military personnel would complain about (5.3) | 7 Heat unit avidly watched by dieters (7)                                      |
| 4 See 9 across  | 13 Franconian capital where you'd more likely drink Weißbier than pale ale (9) |

## Solutions to Crossword No. 32

(Derby Drinker Issue 148 - Feb/Mar 2013)

### ► ACROSS

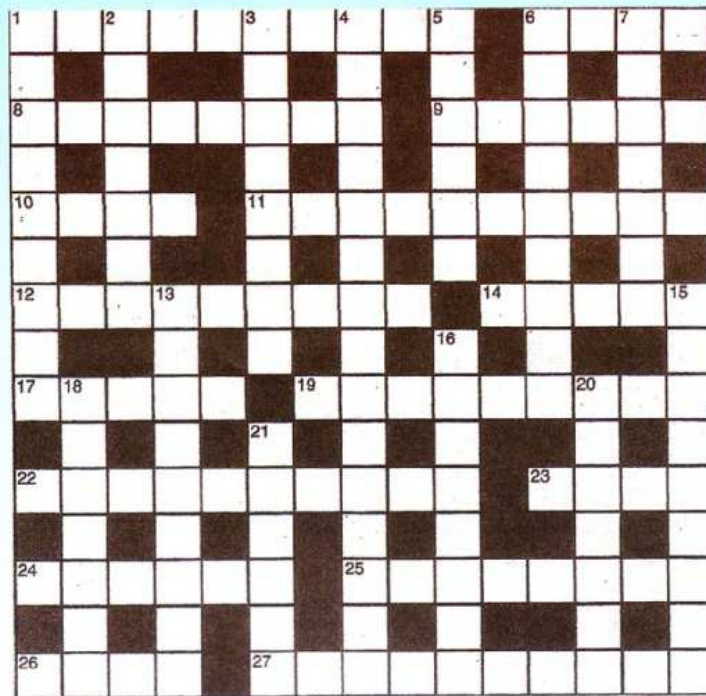
- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. FRUGALISTS   | 17. TARRY        |
| 6. WOOD         | 19. DORABELLA    |
| 8. ORGASMIC     | 22. GUANTANAMO   |
| 9. ROLL-ON      | 23. LUCK         |
| 10. EDNA        | 24. WET DOG      |
| 11. NESTING BOX | 25. OCCUPIER 26. |
| 12. PISSED-OFF  | TSAR             |
| 14. CAROB       | 27. SASSENACHS   |

### ▼ DOWN

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. FLOWERPOT | 7. OLOROSO     |
| 2. URGINGS   | 13. SERENADER  |
| 3. LEMONADE  | 15. BLACK IRIS |
| 4. SACKS OF  | 16. BAROUCHE   |
| POTATOES     | 18. AMULETS    |
| 5. STRAIN    | 20. LOUPIAC    |
| 6. WALSGRAVE | 21. GANGES     |

- |  |
|--|
| 15 Trads met a group of players aiming to score a bullseye (5.4) |
| 16 Isoptera, in other words (8)                                  |
| 18 Broughton Ales's IPA, or a fast sailing ship (7)              |
| 20 A touching piece of music (7)                                 |
| 21 Namely, a person to hide (6)                                  |

**CONGRATS!**  
The winner of  
Crossword No. 32 is  
**Bill Thackray** from  
Croydon picked up in  
Furnace at Derby



- Access to Chambers Dictionary, and the 'Bible' (aka the Good Beer Guide 2013) recommended.
- Send completed entries to the Editor (see address below) stating in which pub you picked up Derby Drinker.
- Correct grids will go into a draw for a £10 prize.

Having a  
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below.

Copy deadline 20th May.

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If you fancy a go, please contact Gareth Stead  
derbydrinker@derbycamra.org.uk

## Derby DRINKER

### ► ADVERTISING - Contact Lynn

Would you like to advertise in Derby Drinker and get your message across to a vast audience all over Derbyshire and beyond? Then contact us by phone 01773 880704 or e-mail ads@derbycamra.org.uk All different sizes are available up to a full page at

very competitive rates. Own artwork preferred but we can design one for you if necessary. Position of the advert cannot be guaranteed although we will do our best to accommodate any requests.

### ► COPY BY POST - Contact Lynn

Out of our circulation area? Having difficulty getting your copy? Then why not get it sent to you by post. It is available for as little as £3.50 for 5 issues. Contact us at: subs@derbycamra.org.uk, or send a cheque made payable to 'Derby CAMRA' to: Derby Drinker by Post, 10 Newton Close, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 1TN.

### ► DERBY DRINKER INFORMATION

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