

# Derby DRINKER

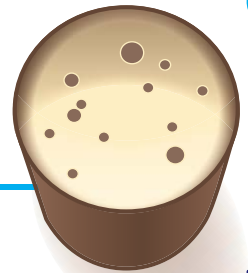


CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
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FREE

Issue 153

December/January 2014



"Cheers!"

## NATIONAL WINTER ALES FESTIVAL

*comes to Derby's Roundhouse*



Gillian Hough  
Festival Organiser



National Winter Ales Festival 19-22nd February 2014... Full details inside... ►

**350+ REAL ALES, CIDERS, PERRIES,  
CONTINENTAL BEERS and MEAD**

# **NATIONAL WINTER ALES FESTIVAL**



**BREWERY BARS:**

Batemans Brewery  
Derby Brewing Company  
Dancing Duck Brewery  
Leatherbritches Brewery



@WinterAlesFest



CAMRA's National  
Winter Ales Festival

**LIVE MUSIC**  
details TBC

**The Roundhouse, Pride Park,  
DERBY DE24 8JE**

by the Pride Park exit from the Railway Station

**Weds 19th Feb - Sat 22nd Feb**

For more details see [nwaf.org.uk](http://nwaf.org.uk)

# National Winter Ales Festival - DERBY 2014

Put the dates in your diary now .....  
**19-22nd February 2014**

So your noted on your phone that it's happening, booked the time off work and now National Winter Ales Festival (NWAF) is just around the corner (just after Valentine's Day. N.B. best make another note to buy your best beloved something special!!!). Opening at 4pm (following a Trade only invite event from 1pm) on Wednesday 19th February NWAF will be the beer and cider consumers' equivalent of a Christmas selection box. With more selection than ever before, more brewery bars than ever before and more mead than ever before NWAF is a 'don't miss event'.

Running 11am – 11pm Thursday 20th until Saturday there is plenty of opportunity to attend and be served by one of the willing volunteers (without whom this festival simply would not happen). Whether you want a marmalade like golden ale or a chocolaty stout the bar staff will be able to guide you through the 350+ real ales using their knowledge and the tasting notes in the programme (always a work of incredible detail).

Four Brewery Bars have been confirmed with Batemans Brewery

showcasing what this multi award winning very special 4th generation independent family brewery do so very well. Having been recently awarded East Midlands Champion Beer for their Batemans Salem Porter your taste buds are in for a treat. Derby Brewing Company will join Batemans in the Roundhouse main room as Trevor and Paul Harris will delight and surprise with their innovative brews. Rachel Matthews of Dancing Duck Brewery will be in the Carriage Room with her delicious range of

popular beers (and Ducks!). At the back of the music marquee Leatherbritches Brewery will be serving their unique beers which have fun names belying their depth of flavour.

Derby Mountain Rescue will again provide the cloakroom for donations which generates revenue which enables them to help people who need their assistance. The Rotary Daybreak Club will also be collecting to raise funds to purchase a much needed incubator for the Special care Baby

unit at the Derby Royal hospital so please be generous with your change as you leave NWAF.

The buses to and from the Market Place and the Bus Station are expected to run again. Add in live music, cider and perry, continental beer and you have a something to boast about to your friends. Come and support NWAF, come and sup (arguably) some of the best Winter Ale in the Country.

Yours  
Gillian Hough  
Chair NWAF



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



# The hunt for Britain's best winter beer ends at the Roundhouse

**T**o say it is no easy feat being crowned the very best winter beer in Britain would be a bit of an understatement. At the turn of the 21st century traditional winter beer styles such as Old Ales and darker Milds were under threat, with many historic recipes being overlooked in the face of dwindling consumer demand.

Fast forward a decade and the United Kingdom can now boast about over 1150 breweries regularly producing way in excess of 8,500 different real ales. A renaissance has occurred in recent years and particularly in the field of outstanding dark, malty, rich and roasted beers for those colder months of the year. British beer drinkers are faced with more variety and choice than ever. You will need only to take one look around National Winter Ales Festival running from Weds 19th until Saturday 22nd February 2014 for proof!

Such huge variety means that it has never been a more difficult time to judge the

Supreme Champion Beer of Britain. While only a select number of real ales make it to the Finals to be held at National Winter Ales Festival – falling into the categories of Old Ales/Strong Milds, Porters, Stouts and Barley Wines – in reality the competition itself begins at grass roots level right across Britain soon after the 2013 Finals have taken place.

With its vast local branch structure, CAMRA relies on its members to vote for their favourites using branch and tasting panel nominations for the beers produced in their area. Regional or area competitions are arranged for the beers to be expertly judged and assessed in style classes – then only the very best progress through to the Finals. The Finals for winter beers are held annually at CAMRA's National Winter Ales Festival with a special invited judging panel usually consisting of brewers, publicans, drinks writers and CAMRA members deciding upon the overall winners or Champions.

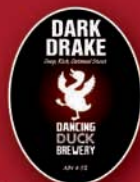
Last year at the National Winter Ales Festival in Manchester it was a small brewery from West Yorkshire, Elland, who were crowned Supreme Winter Champion for their "1872 Porter", just piping the beer with probably the longest name in Britain "Bartram's Comrade Bill Bartram's Egalitarian Anti-Imperialist Soviet Stout" from Suffolk - to the title. In 3rd place from East Renfrewshire, in Scotland was "Kelburn Brewing Dark Moor". While these three inspirational winter beers stole the show in last year's competition, the most exciting aspect of judging at these Finals is in tasting the sheer depth of quality on show.

With the future looking bright for traditional winter beer styles at National Winter Ales Festival you'll find champions both past and present each with their own unique flavour profiles. Try a few and you'll realise exactly why being a beer taster and judge is such a difficult and thankless task. Cheers!!

**Nik Antona, CAMRA National Director**



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# National Winter Ales Festival 2014

## Beer

It may be the National Winter Ales Festival but we will have much more than just Winter Beer styles with over 350 Real Ales, ciders, perries, continental beers and meads from every beer style imaginable. The full beer list is still being finalised so keep checking the website [nwaf.org.uk](http://nwaf.org.uk). And of course we will have the Champion Winter Beer of Britain competition (see article on page 4).

## Cider & Perries

Another great line-up of ciders & Perries is promised this year (see Cider with Suzie on page 13).

## Buses to the Beer Fest

As this service has proved popular in recent years we will again be running buses to and from the Festival at the Roundhouse. Although the details are still being finalised we expect to run a similar service to last year with buses calling at the Quad and the Bus Station. Dates/times and frequency details will appear on the website soon [nwaf.org.uk](http://nwaf.org.uk)

## Trade Session

If you are in the trade then why not come along to our trade session on Wednesday 19th February between 1-4pm.

E-mail [tradesession@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:tradesession@derbycamra.org.uk) for your free trade tickets.

## Entertainment & Open Mic night *artists needed*

This was still being finalised as we went to press but as usual another cracking line-up is promised which includes **Arctic Monkeys & Kings of Leon** tributes. Full details will be posted on the website shortly [nwaf.org.uk](http://nwaf.org.uk). We are also planning to hold our popular open mic evening again on Wednesday 19th February.

If you would like to come along and play for a pint or two then e-mail us at [winterents@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:winterents@derbycamra.org.uk) You must let us know beforehand though as we will not be accepting additions on the night.



# Six of the Best in Derbyshire



Twenty years ago, CAMRA, mindful of the dwindling number of unspoilt pubs, created a National Inventory listing those which hadn't been subject to crass, internal modernization. In CAMRA's lavishly illustrated book, **Britain's Best Real Heritage Pubs**, Derbyshire has fared relatively well with half a dozen fine inns listed, while counties such as Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Norfolk each has one only. All in all 270 pubs are featured. Derby Drinker despatched Paul Gibson to see what beery delights await the discerning drinker in our very best heritage pubs.

Derby drinkers will be familiar with the **Olde Dolphin** on Queen Street in the city centre, the oldest parts of which are contemporaneous with the nearby cathedral. The association between the two buildings stretches back nearly 500 years when the Dolphin served the needs of tradesmen constructing All Saints' Gothic tower. Much of the pub's fabric is of more recent date but four rooms of contrasting style have survived, and the partial demolition of the Full Street elevation facilitated the pleasant patio enjoyed by today's patrons. Regional breweries such as Greene King, Adnams and Timothy Taylor are well represented, with a couple of tasty beers from the Nottingham Brewery juggled up from the cellar.

In the old part of Spondon lies the **Malt Shovel**, discreetly tucked away on Potter Street. It is thought that the Spondon Conflagration of 1340 ignited here after a fire in a malt house, and Edward III consequently exempted the village from taxation to aid its reconstruction. The pub's oldest parts date back to 1680, and off a red and black quarry tiled passageway are two

delightful snugs. Only a handful of licensees have kept the "Malt" since 1939, including Betty and Tony Woodyet, a popular couple who served the local community between 1950 and 1985. A broad choice of well-kept ales from the Marston's empire is complemented by good food.

North of Derby, off the A6, near Milford, is the hamlet of Makeney, where the centuries old **Holly Bush** sits at the top of the lane of the same name. Owned by octogenarian, John Bilbie, for four decades, this wonderful, stone-built former farmhouse is now run by the energetic Chris Wilbraham. The centrepiece is the snug which is enclosed by high backed settles with glazing above. The acquisition of the cottage next door in 1981 added valuable floor space while maintaining the traditional tone. Interesting guest beers rub shoulders with an array of regional brews not dissimilar to the aforementioned Dolphin.

West of Matlock, and just 4 miles away from Derbyshire's most famous antiquity, the 4,000 year old stone henge of

Arbor Low, we find the **Duke of York**, Elton. A corridor with rooms either side leads to the small, quarry tiled bar at the rear with a frieze rail laden with sports' trophies, suspended from a wooden boarded ceiling. In here, Mary happily dispenses hand pulled pints of Marston's Burton Bitter at just £2.60. It's unusual these days to find outside loos, and it should be noted that the Duke opens evenings and Sunday lunchtimes only. A time warp pub if ever there was one.

Turn off the A6 at Ashford in the Water, and past Monsal Head, onto Wardlow Mires where the **Three Stags' Head** awaits. The roadside inn comprises of two adjoining cottages; one with a flagged floor and an old kitchen range, and the other is probably a former living room, replete with scrubbed-top tables and walls adorned with pictures of Lurcher dogs. A Black Lurcher of the real ale variety is available here together with Absolution, Deception and Brimstone, all courtesy of Sheffield's Abbeydale brewery. I opted for the latter, a dark, hoppy 3.9% brew which didn't

disappoint. An enticing menu which included partridge in wine is a further attraction at the 300 year old pub which opens only at weekends.

In the stunning High Peak, in prime walking territory, is the stone-built **Crown** on the main road going into Glossop. Bleaklow and Kinder Scout have long been popular with ramblers and there could be no better place in which to slake one's thirst than this lovely pub's unchanged interior. You can admire the traditional drinking lobby, parlour/lounge, cosy snug and games room. Warming, open fires add to the old world charm of the Sam Smith's house, which serves impeccable Old Brewery Bitter from a curved, mahogany bar. Sam's legendary value for money should ensure that custom is unaffected by the recent opening of a Wetherspoon outlet in Glossop.

**Britain's Best Real Heritage Pubs** available from **Waterstone's** or from [www.camra.org.uk/shop](http://www.camra.org.uk/shop) or 'phone 01727 867201. Priced at £9.99 plus postage and packing.



Hollybush Inn, Makeney



Inside the Malt Shovel, Spondon



Old Dolphin, Derby



Inside the Duke of York, Elton



Three Stags Head, Wardlow Mires



Inside the Crown, Glossop

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# Old Silk Mill to weave its magic again

**A**fter what has seemed like an absolute age the Old Silk Mill has finally opened its doors in its new guise as The Silk Mill Ale & Cider House.....

Since its closure at the back end of the Summer the pub has undergone some major refurbishment work including a glass conservatory roof over the rear of the pub giving it a light & airy feel, the exposure of some brickwork around the real fires, floorboards throughout, an eclectic mix of pictures and assorted paraphernalia adorn the walls and perhaps most impressively of all the addition of a brand new outside garden area something that the Silk Mill has always lacked and should prove a real haven in Summer. Real Ale & Cider remain the mainstay of the bar but food has now been introduced which will be served in the new conservatory area at the rear. The pub will be opening from 10am for breakfast (9am on Saturday) with food being served in the evening until 9pm and Sunday lunches available from 12-4pm.

The 'Mill' of course has always played its part in Derby drinking folklore being a City centre circuit pub and it has had quite a colourful history over the years. In the 1970's it had a reputation as a bikers pub and motor bikes would be lined up outside a la Matlock Bath style, no doubt attracted by a great jukebox which included rare rock singles by the likes of Led Zeppelin and King Crimson. At that time it was run by John Pierrepont and the brewery was Tennants of Sheffield which later came under the Whitbread umbrella. It was a spartan pub in those days but had much decorative tiling - the sort that still exists on the way to the toilets today.

In the late 1980's its rock mentality gave way to a more sophisticated, upmarket pub with real ale a feature and was run by Nigel Barker who dubbed it "The smart place to drink real ale". Indeed the pub was smart enough for Derby County players of

the time to drink in with the likes of Mark Wright, Mel Sage and others seen there when the Rams were in the top flight. Throughout the 90's the Mill had a reputation for its food and its 'Big Breakfasts' where legendary and a must eat for students of the day. There was always a good range of Real Ales as well with regular Beer Festivals but oddly enough it didn't actually feature in the Good Beer Guide until 2000 something to do with the politics of the day no doubt. As Whitbread gave way to Enterprise the onset of the Noughties saw a steady decline in the pubs fortunes as successive landlords struggled to make a living and by 2008 the pub was on its last legs and finally shut with its future uncertain.

Enter out of retirement, 'Big' Terry & Janina Holmes in 2009 who set about transforming the pub rather like they had done with the Old Dolphin at the turn of the Century. The pub was refurbished and given a much more homely, traditional feel. Real fires and soft lighting were introduced, a Parquet floor was exposed in the snug, a new bar - 'the John Lombe' was built at the rear and a fantastic range of Real Ales was introduced which culminated in the Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year award in 2011. The pub certainly shuck up all the others around it with its competitive pricing policy forcing them to compete as never before. Big Terry finally decided to call it day though and retired for a second time in 2013 with his parting words being "I'll be back" in true Schwarzenegger style. We wait with baited breath but in the meantime he has left some rather large trousers to fill and who better to fill them than the man who has transformed the Exeter Arms over the last few years, Martin Roper achieving the Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year award in its own rite.

We wish Martin, Denise and the team well and hope that they can weave that Old Silk Mill magic once again.

**Gareth Stead/Paul Gibson**



## LAST ORDERS



### Ray Smith

It is with great sadness that we have to report the passing of Ray Smith after a short illness on November 22nd. Ray was a keen skier, golfer, bass singer, Shrovetide football player and an active member of the Derby Branch of CAMRA. He was Health & Safety Officer for the City Charter Beer Festival at the Assembly Rooms and his engineering skills were invaluable in setting up the Festival over a number of years. Ray was also one of the five Derby CAMRA members who visited the House of Commons in December 2012 to lobby local MP's to scrap the beer duty escalator which indirectly led to a positive outcome and its eventual abolition. Ray will be sadly missed by all who knew him and will remain in the hearts of many.

Terry Morton



**CAMRA has launched its first ever national online pub guide – [whatpub.com](http://whatpub.com) - dedicated to helping the public find the best pubs to suit their needs across Britain.**



Following an extensive two year project by thousands of CAMRA volunteers, [whatpub.com](http://whatpub.com) features 47,000 pubs, around 36,000 of which serve real ale - making the site the most definitive online guide to real ale in the UK. Whatpub.com offers over thirty different search fields ranging from dog friendly pubs to those that offer newspapers or live music, making the results customizable to each person's individual preferences. Another key feature is that of the 35,800 real ale pubs featured, around 22,000 have details of the real ales being served - taking the guess work out of a visit for real ale lovers. A full entry offers a description and pictures of the pub, the address, opening hours, who owns it, lists the regular real ales they stock, states whether the pub offers Guest Beers, highlights the pubs main features e.g. availability of food, gives a map of where the pub can be located, sat nav reference, OS reference and highlights the local transport available. **Why not give it a try.**

### Regional Champion Bottled Beer, SIBA Midlands 2011



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# AmberValley CAMRA Branch

By Trevor Spencer

dedpoet702@yahoo.co.uk



## AMBER VALLEY NEWS

### Diary

**Friday December 27th** Branch Social at Old Oak, Horsley Woodhouse from 7pm

**Monday 13th January** Beer Festival Meeting, Gate Inn, Swanwick, 8pm start

**Thursday 30th January** Branch Committee/Branch Meeting, George, Lowes Hill, Ripley 8pm start

### Beer Festivals:

**December 26 -29:** annual Beer Festival at the Old Oak, Horsley Woodhouse., the Leadmill/Bottle Brook Brewery Tap. As usual, a varied and imaginative menu featuring beers from far and wide will be on offer at this ever-popular event – don't miss it!

### Pub/Brewery News

At the time of writing the Wheel Inn, Holbrook is closed, while the Nags Head, Belper is for sale. Belper Brewing Company will shortly commence brewing, albeit at a site in Duffield, just outside the Amber Valley area.

A new bar, Arkwrights has opened at the Strutt Club in Belper. It will be serving up to 6 Real Ales and a choice of ciders/perries. It will be open from 4pm weekdays and all day at weekends.

### 2014 Winter Ales Trail

This event, which was very successful last winter, will take place between 11th January and 16th February. It may be expanded to accommodate pubs from Branches bordering Amber Valley, and further details are available from Trevor Spencer, who is organising the Trail, on 07758 265 915 or dedpoet702@yahoo.co.uk

### Amber/Erewash Valley Cider Trail

The Amber and Erewash Valley Branches combined to celebrate Cider Month by running the Two Valleys Cider Trail during October. 24 pubs took part, and the winners were decided by inviting drinkers, both CAMRA and non-CAMRA members, to text in a mark out of 5 for the cider they were drinking. There was a tremendous response, with 1,127 marks being received overall for 56 different varieties of Cider or Perry. There was an incentive of a tub of Three Cats Cider for surveying the most pubs, and several drinkers tried for the prize, with the eventual winner visiting 18 of the 24 pubs on the Trail.

As for the winning pubs, while the Gallows Inn, Ilkeston was the clear winner from Erewash with the Muirhouse Brewery Tap,

Ilkeston, in second place, the Amber champion was not decided until the very last day of the Trail, when the Beehive Inn, from Ripley narrowly beat the Hunters Arms, Kilburn and the Holly Bush Makeney, with the Black Bulls Head, Openwoodgate close behind in 4th place. The first three pubs on the Amber Valley Trail will receive Certificates marking their achievement, and the Beehive is the Amber Valley CAMRA Cider Pub of the Year, and has thus been nominated for inclusion in CAMRA's National Cider Pub of the Year competition, in which everyone at Amber Valley CAMRA hopes it is very successful.

### Amber Valley Beer Festival 2014

It is quite likely that we will be moving to a new venue for the 2014 event, the Strutts Centre in Belper. We will have more details soon.

### Belper Goes Green event

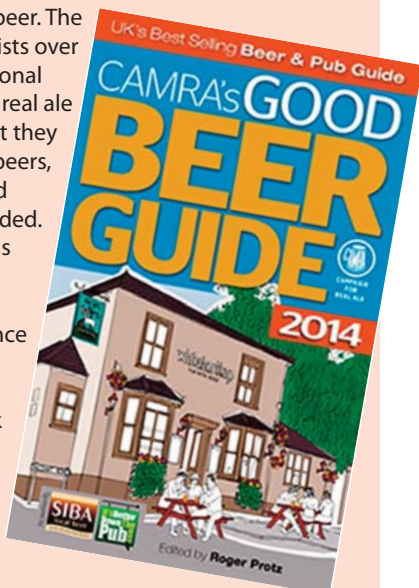
The proposed dates of this event are **31st May-1st June 2014** and organisers hope to have a bar run by Amber Valley CAMRA.



Beehive Inn


# Good Beer Guide 2014 – Out Now

The 2014 edition of CAMRA's popular Good Beer Guide is now out and is fully revised and updated and features pubs across the United Kingdom that serve the best real ale. Now in its 41st edition, this pub guide is completely independent with listings based entirely on nomination and evaluation by CAMRA members. This means you can be sure that every one of the 4,500 pubs deserves their place, plus they all come recommended by people who know a thing or two about good beer. The unique 'Breweries Section' lists over 1000 breweries - micro, regional and national - that produce real ale in the UK, and the beers that they brew. Tasting notes for the beers, compiled by CAMRA-trained tasting teams, are also included. The Good Beer Guide 2014 is the complete book for beer lovers and a must-have for anyone wanting to experience the UK's finest pubs. It is available online from [CAMRA.org.uk](http://CAMRA.org.uk) or local book shops and some pubs around the area including the Alexandra Hotel & Furnace Inn in Derby.



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# Cider

## with Suzie



In the last Cider with Suzie I mentioned the Two Valleys Cider & Perry Trail run by Amber Valley and Erewash Branches of CAMRA. It proved to be a great success, with over one thousand scores received (by text voting). In Amber Valley the result was very close, with the winner being the Beehive at Ripley, second place going to the Hunters Arms at Kilburn and third was the Hollybush at Makeney. In Erewash there was a comfortable win for the Gallows Inn, Ilkeston. All these pubs specialize in real cider and perry with a wide choice always available, with some rotation so you never know what interesting drinks you may find. On top of this they all stock a good selection of Real Ales. I would like to congratulate them on their success and commend them all to you, the reader, as well worth a visit. It looks certain that the cider trail will be run again next October and Derby Branch have indicated that

they would like to be included, so expect a bigger and better trail next time.

Looking ahead, it can't have escaped your notice that Derby are running the National Winter Ales Festival 2014 at the Roundhouse from February 19th to 23rd. I know the emphasis is on "Ales", but you cider drinkers certainly won't be neglected. The format for cider is changing slightly this year; the main bar will still be in the Main Hall but the supplementary bar is moving from the Carriage Room to the Music Tent. We will have a range of Derbyshire ciders including Woodthorpe Hall (Ruby Suzie) from North Derbyshire, Spencer & Haspel (Shock) from Ockbrook, Bramley Street (new to the festival) from Somercotes, Scropton Cider (probably Doris Stokes) and Three Cats Cider from Morley.

All the main cider / perry producing areas of the country will be featured. From Somerset

expect Hecks Kingston Black cider and Blakeney Red Perry along with perennial favourites from Westcroft (Janet's Jungle Juice), Wilkins, Naish and, or couse, Broadoak Perry. From Herefordshire we will have two craft cider makers new to the Festival, Greggs Pitt from Much Marcle (cider and perry) and also Marches Cyder Circle from Lucton (also cider and perry), not forgetting our regular, Gwatkins (Yarlington Mill) from Abbey Dore. The Welsh contingent will be present, with a selectin from Gwynt y Ddraig (Welsh Warrior cider and Two Trees perry), also Springhead (Wobbly Munk).

Devon will be represented with, amongst others, Winkleigh Autum Scrumpy and from Clyst St. George Green Valley Rum Tiddly Tum. If you like pale, clear cider we have Double Vision from Kent, and from the same stable their perry, Impeared Vision. A newcomer to the festival is Hubz from Cambridgeshire, champion

cider at Peterborough Festival 2013. Back after a debut at the Derby Summer Festival will be Bottle Kicking from Hallaton, Leicestershire. Its early days yet, but space permitting we will have the largest range ever or cider / perry at a Derby Winter Festival.

This has been a very good year for cider makers. Plenty of sunshine, and plenty of rain too has produced one of the best crops of apples and pears in years, so next summer should be excellent for cider and perry. Of course, cider has to be made in the autumn when the fruit is available and it then ferments throughout the winter. It is possible that some of the 2013 vintage will be ready for the National Winter Ales Festival, so there could be late changes to the program to accommodate early season pressings.

**Wassail**

## Pub of the Year Finalists

Derby CAMRA has announced its shortlist of candidates for the 2014 Pub of the Year title after an initial vote by its membership. The magnificent 7 finalists are the **Bell & Castle, Furnace Inn** and **Little Chester Alehouse** all in Derby and **Pattenmakers Arms – Duffield, Queens Head – Little Eaton, Royal Oak – Ockbrook** and **Royal Oak – Wirksworth**. The pubs will now all be visited by a team of judges over a 6 week period and marked after each visit with the winning candidates expected to be known towards the end of January. Derby Drinker will of course bring you the full details of the winners next time but wishes all of the finalists well.

## Real Ale Capital Survey

Derby CAMRA's Annual Beer Census will take place on **Friday 31st January, 2014** with all the pubs in the City Centre being visited on one night by teams of surveyors. The idea is to see how many different Real Ales are available in Derby on any one given night. Last year we had a whopping 276 ales altogether with 180 different ones and this year we are hoping for equally as many if not better. The night is usually a cracking social occasion as well so if you would like to join one of the teams then e-mail [Chairman@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Chairman@derbycamra.org.uk)



# Ashbourne & District CAMRA Branch

by Mark Grist  
m.grist2@sky.com

## Ashbourne Sub-Branch Pub News

The Miner's Arms at Brassington (actually just outside our sub-branch area) recently has changed hands and the licence has been taken on by Janet & Steve from the Sycamore at Parwich. They will continue to run the Sycamore and have installed a management team at the Miner's Arms, but intend to leave the operation there largely unchanged.

The Horns re-launched on October 18th and the new young management team are very keen to improve the pub scene in the town. The members would like to wish Ben & Christina every success and will be supporting them in their efforts.

The Roston Inn (The Shant) at Roston has re-opened following a four month sabbatical. Initially, it is open from Thursday to Sunday only, but it is welcome news to see it breathing again in any format.

The Ketch at Kniveton is using personal links with the team at Bumpmill Brewery to put on a regular guest ale from them alongside the more familiar offerings of Pedigree and Doombar. This is a very welcome addition to the beer choice in and around Ashbourne.

The Smith's Tavern continues to reintroduce traditional pub games and alongside the reinstated dartboard and the new shove-ha'penny board can now be found a bar billiards table – a very rare sight these days and one that will surely attract more pub-goers looking for a traditional pub experience. Backgammon sessions are now also held every Wednesday.

The White Hart has re-opened yet again, for possibly the third time this year. It is on Marston's disposal list, so let's hope they can find a buyer who will revitalise and stabilise it, so that everyone has a chance to get to know a consistent team behind the bar.

During mid-November, both the George & Dragon and the Smith's Tavern had guest ales at the same time from the Celt Experience Brewery. The George & Dragon had Golden-Age at 4.2%, whilst the Smith's Tavern set local drinkers a challenge with Seven Flowers, weighing in at 8.1% and containing no less than seven hop varieties. Both were superb in very different ways, although the Seven Flowers did cause a Marmite-type split amongst those who tried it!

## Ashbourne Area expands

We have recently been allocated a wider area to cover local members' interests and this means we will now be reporting on the following areas:

Hulland Ward (The Nag's Head, The Black Horse), Brailsford (The Rose & Crown), Hollington (The Red Lion), Shirley (The Saracen's Head), Longford (The Ostrich), Dalbury Lees (The Three Horseshoes, The Black Cow), Boylestone (The Rose & Crown), Doveridge (The Cavendish Arms) & Sudbury (The Vernon Arms).

Any news on pub events, forthcoming beers, festivals etc for these, as well as our existing area pubs, is most welcome and can be sent to the e-mail address above.



George & Dragon



The Ketch



The Horns

Roger & Penny  
Welcome you to  
**THE PEACOCK**  
OLD NOTTINGHAM ROAD, DERBY

Up to 9 Real Ales  
Plus  
Real Ciders & Perries

MARSTON'S  
THE PEACOCK

CAMRA'S GOOD BEER GUIDE 2014

## Diary Dates

### BRANCH MEETINGS

**Tuesday 17th December**

Smith's Tavern, Ashbourne

**Tuesday 28th January**

The Nag's Head and The Black Horse,  
Hulland Ward

# EREWASH VALLEY CAMRA BRANCH

by Mick & Carole Golds  
carolegolds@btinternet.com

## Pub News

First of all an apology to Mandy & Richard Muir from the Brewery Tap for miss spelling their surname in the last issue of the drinker.

The Needlemakers Arms, Nottingham Rd, Ilkeston has reopened after a refurbishment by Punch Taverns. We called in after the reopening and were very pleasantly surprised to see such a good job, the pub now has a new entrance to the car park, (see photo) the existing entrance is still at the side and a patio door has been added out into the garden. At weekends it supports three regional beers and the licensee is Corey Turton ex Weatherspoons and Kings Head, Ilkeston.

The Bridge Inn, Cotmanhay is a pleasant canal side pub at the end of Bridge Street, Cotmanhay, (see photo) and was originally a Hardy Hansons pub then taken over by Greene King but it is now a free house operated by licensee Bob Oakley and his wife. Bob has run this pub for a good number of years under Greene King, the beer list still consists of beers from Greene King with guest beers available, for more information visit their website - Bridge Inn Cotmanhay.

The Three Horseshoes, Derby Rd, Ilkeston is at the moment another Greene King pub for sale, but we have heard a rumour that it has been bought and is to be reopened watch this space.

The Royal Oak, Tamworth Rd, Long Eaton is still closed and boarded up and it doesn't look promising.

The Barge, Tamworth Rd, Long Eaton after going through a bad spell is now up and running again with a selection of real ales.



Bridge Inn



The Needlemakers



New White Bull



The Coach & Horses, Draycott is now selling Bass served by gravity and all cask ales are £2.60 pint.

## Trip and Pub Survey of Giltbrook & Eastwood

On Saturday 26th October, 13 Camra members made up of Erewash, Nottingham & Derby branches met at The Gate Inn, Ayscote. What better place to meet to start the trip, from there we went on to the New White Bull a Greene King pub threatened with closure, what a surprise when we went in and saw no Greene King beers on the bar instead 2 beers from full mash of Stapleford. We were made very welcome by landlord and landlady before we moved on to the Hayloft but were not very impressed. On to Hilltop, Greasley Castle another Greene King pub but with Batemans Yellow Belly as a guest. Then across the road to the Three Tuns, an excellent pub and a good selection of beers. Next was the Sun, another Greene King pub but no comment before moving down to the Great Northern in Langley Mill with a friendly atmosphere and 5 beers from the Pub People selection. Then it was to the Railway Tavern before going to the Crown, Heanor and finally catching the bus back to Ilkeston to finish the night in the Muirhouse Brewery Tap. A great day out with one or two surprises along the way, see photo's.

## Trip

We will have more trips in the New Year and hope to include a report on our Christmas Social trip to Stockport in the next issue of Derby Drinker.

## Future Meetings

All meetings start 8.30pm.

Contact Secretary, Jayne 0115 8548722.

Wednesday 8th January 2014 -  
Stumble Inn, Long Eaton.

Wednesday 5th February 2014 -  
Crown Inn, Heanor.

## Pub Discounts

Please remember to show your  
Camra card.

The Barge, Long Eaton -  
10p off pint, 5p off half (includes  
cider)

The Bridge, Sandiacre -  
15p off pint

Coach & Horses, Draycott -  
All cask ales £2.60 pint

Great Northern, Langley Mill -  
15p off pint

Navigation, Breaston - 10p off pint

Observatory, Ilkeston - 20p off pint

The Poacher, Ilkeston - 15p off pint

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

Rutland Cottage, Ilkeston -  
15p off pint Mon- Thurs only

Seven Oaks, Stanton by Dale -  
20p off pint

Steamboat Inn, Trent Lock - 20p off  
pint, 10p off half (includes cider)

Twitchell Inn, Long Eaton -  
20p off pint



## 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  
Exeter Arms  
Falstaff  
Five Lamps  
Flowerpot  
Furnace  
Golden Eagle  
Greyhound  
Little Chester Ale House  
Mr Grundy's Tavern  
New Zealand Arms

### Old Bell

Old Silk Mill  
Peacock  
Seven Stars  
Slug and Lettuce  
Smithfield

### Wardwick Tavern

Ye Olde Dolphin Inne

**NEW**

### AMBER VALLEY

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

### SURROUNDING AREA

Bell (Smalley)  
The Brackens (Alvaston)  
Coopers Arms (Weston-on-Trent)  
The Dragon (Willington)  
Harrington Arms (Thulston)  
Harpur's (formerly Melbourne Hotel) (Melbourne)  
Hope and Anchor (Wirksworth)  
Lawns (Chellaston)  
Miners Arms (Carsington)  
Nunsfield House Club (Alvaston)  
Old Talbot (Hilton)  
Okeover Arms (Mappleton)  
Queens Head (Little Eaton)  
Queens Head (Ockbrook)  
Pattenmakers (Duffield)  
Royal Oak (Ockbrook)  
Royal Oak (Wirksworth)  
Vine Inn (Mickleover)  
White Swan (Littleover)

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](mailto: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
Bell & Castle, Derby	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
Broadway, Derby	20p off a pint
Brunswick Inn, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
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
Mr Grundy's, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
Old Spa Inn, Derby	20p 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
Victoria Inn, Derby -	30p off a pint
Wardwick Tavern, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
Ye Olde Dolphin Inne, Derby	£2.50 per pint/£1.25 per half on Dolphin 1530 Ale & Centurion ND
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
Honeycomb, Mickleover	20p off a pint
Masons Arms, Mickleover	15p off a pint
Midland, Ripley	15p off a pint
New Inn, Shardlow	15p off a pint, 5p off a half
Pattenmakers Arms, Duffield	10p off a pint and 5p off a half
Red Lion, Fritchley All real ales	£2.50 a pint
Red Lion, Hollington	20p off a pint
Cross Keys, Swanwick	15p off a pint
Steampacket, Swanwick	15p off a pint
George Inn, Ripley	10p off a pint
Talbot Taphouse, Ripley	20p off house pints
White Swan, Littleover	20p off a pint
White Swan, Spondon	15p off a pint

## FREE advertising for pubs joining the CAMRA DISCOUNT PUBS scheme

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.

# THE FALSTAFF

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**Derby CAMRA City Pub of the Year Runner-Up 2013**

## THE FURNACE INN

Duke St, Derby

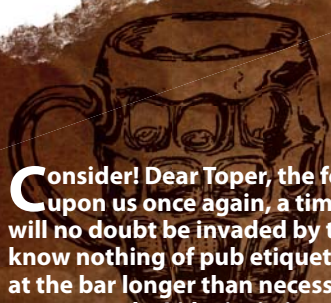


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**Shiny Brewery Tap serving up to 8 Real Ales from £2.40 a pint plus Real Ciders/Perries and Craft Keg.**



# Dear Toper...

**C**onsider! Dear Toper, the festive season that is so nearly upon us once again, a time when your favourite hostelrys will no doubt be invaded by those once a year boozers, who know nothing of pub etiquette and who make their own time at the bar longer than necessary (and as a consequence, everyone else's) by insisting on paying by credit card – or should I say 'cards'? as the first plastic offering seldom works.

Yes, Dear Toper, it is that annual commercial bonanza known as Christmas! A time of year when gullible parents, egged on by a T.V. advertising onslaught that begins as a trickle in October and by December has become a full blown 'Shock and Awe' offensive, will be lavishing their savings (or more likely their payday loans) on buying their spoilt brats the latest 'must-have' items. And the older and craftier the brats get, the more expensive they become; sullen teenagers will no doubt be threatening to take their hapless parents to the European Court of Human Rights, claiming 'mental cruelty', if they don't get their heart's desire, and more often than not these days, that is a musical instrument. When I was a teenager, musical instruments were expensive, often being handed down from one generation to another, and as a consequence, the people that owned them treated them with a certain reverence, and what is more, they tended to know how to play them. Not so nowadays – like so many other things these days musical instruments are relatively cheap; often being made in third world sweat shops, and so they proliferate at an alarming rate.

I've no objection to people spending their own money, however they may wish to do so, and if that means giving their pubescent brats the means to make a horrendous din, so be it. Indeed, I think there is a kind of ironic justice at work when they demonstrate their lack of musical ability and taste in front of their doting parents. The trouble is, it doesn't last; sooner or later the parents' object to the caterwauling (usually when a distraught neighbour forces the issue by heaving a brick through the front window). And so the aspiring minstrels are forced to look for an alternative venue. Despondent, they trudge the streets; and then they see it, a blackboard outside the local hostelry, advertising "Open Mic Nights".

## What's That Noise?

These strange events usually take place on quiet weekday evenings, when landlords are looking to entice punters into their establishments with some form of entertainment. Unfortunately these evenings are not very entertaining, and the would-be pop stars of tomorrow seem to think that decibels are a substitute for talent, which usually means that you can hear the discordant racket at the other end of the street. The latter is not surprising, because the score or so of speakers, that each "artiste" brings along with them, are piled high on either side of the performer, to create a couple of vibrating, tottering towers, that loom ominously over the proceedings, threatening to topple over at any moment and crush any unsuspecting member of the public who

has been forced to venture too close to the throbbing colossuses in an effort to access the toilets. And watch out for tripwires too, for connecting this absurd over sufficiency of amplification are enough cables and switches to rewire an entire housing estate.

And so there the performer proudly sits, amidst his little empire of cables, tripods, microphones and speakers, that have taken up two thirds of the room, and announces presently those dreaded words, "This is one I wrote myself". It turns out to be a protest song, and the singer, who's never had a job; playing a guitar made in a Third World sweatshop, and using enough electricity to power a

small hospital, drones on about the exploitation of labour; the need to cut energy consumption in order to halt climate change and how his parents don't understand him.

Don't misunderstand me, Dear Toper: I'm all for live entertainment in pubs, but it has to be entertainment and not self indulgence. Furthermore, as a musician friend of mine recently pointed out, open mic nights are taking work away from professional musicians.

As for our would-be pop star, he's just started playing something that sounds vaguely like "Jingle Bells". Well, I suppose it is that time of year. As for you, Dear Toper, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Consider that, Dear Toper! D.T.



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**Good Beer Guide 2013**



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# DerbyCAMRA BranchDiary

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

## DECEMBER

**Thu 19th** - Christmas Social - Falstaff, Derby - 8.30pm.

## JANUARY

**Thu 9th** - Branch Meeting - Alexandra, Derby - 8pm.

**Fri 31st** - Annual Beer Census Crawl - Around Derby pubs - 7.30pm.


## FEBRUARY

**Wed 12th** - Branch Meeting - Thomas Leaper, Derby - 8pm.

**19th - 22nd** - National Winter Ales Festival, Derby Roundhouse.

**NB.** All trips Depart/Return from Cathedral Green, Derby.

▶ **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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**Complete the Direct Debit form opposite and you will receive 15 months membership for the price of 12 and a fantastic discount on your membership subscription.**

Alternatively you can send a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd with your completed form, visit [www.camra.org.uk/joinus](http://www.camra.org.uk/joinus) or call 01727 867201. All forms should be addressed to Membership Department, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

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Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) _____				
Address _____				
_____ Postcode _____				
Email address _____				
Tel No(s) _____				

**Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)**

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_

For Young Member and concessionary rates please visit [www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk) or call 01727 867201.

I wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association

I enclose a cheque for \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applications will be processed within 21 days

01/06

### Campaigning for Pub Goers & Beer Drinkers

### Enjoying Real Ale & Pubs

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### Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit

Please fill in the whole form using a ball point pen and send to:  
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**Service User Number** 9 2 6 1 2 9

**Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society**

To the Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Bank or Building Society

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Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

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**Branch Sort Code**

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Please pay Campaign For Real Ale Limited Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Campaign For Real Ale Limited and, if so will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of account.  
**This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payer.**

### The Direct Debit Guarantee

**•** This Guarantee is offered by all banks and building societies that accept instructions to pay by Direct Debit.

**•** If there are any changes to the amount, date or frequency of your Direct Debit The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd will notify you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd to collect a payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the time of the request.

**•** If an error is made in the payment of your Direct Debit by The Campaign for Real Ale Ltd or your bank or building society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from your bank or building society. If you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when The Campaign For Real Ale Ltd asks you to.

**•** You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting your bank or building society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.

# Crossword

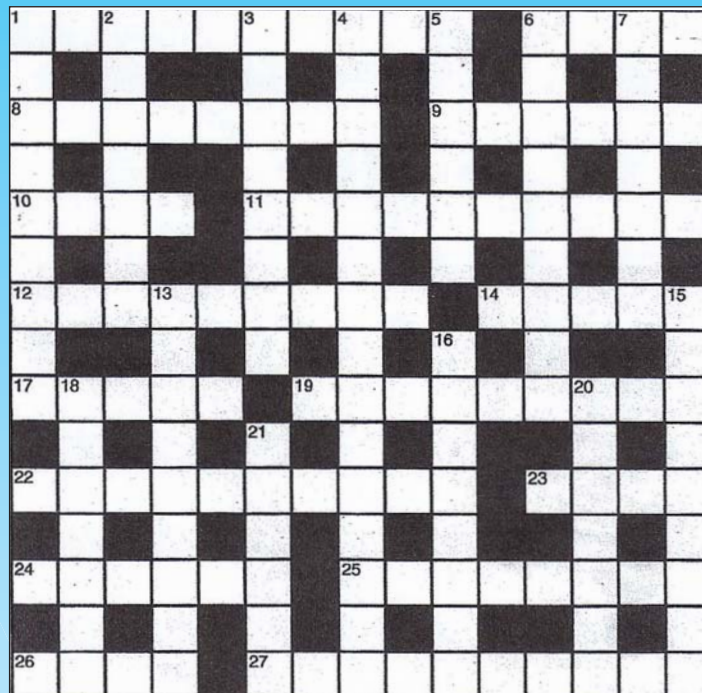
## No 37 by Wrenrutt

### Across

- 1 Brewery originating from the Wasdale Head Inn, Gosforth (5.5)
- 6 Circuits children like to sit on (4)
- 8 If you're up to these in it you're nearly submerged! (8)
- 9 Text, or wrongfully gain something (6)
- 10 Outgoing liar returns in this mode of transport (4)
- 11 Holy men one arranged could become fruity! (10)
- 12 The state of those kept in the dark (9)
- 14 The inclination for soaks (5)
- 17 Christian selfless love leaves one this expression (5)
- 19 Logical reason to distribute beer fairly (9)
- 22 Appropriate dress for a cheating footballer? (6.4)
- 23 An Italian wine, as it so roundly happens (4)
- 24 I, enemy, come from Aden (6)
- 25 Vehicles you'd be foolish to buy from this (dodgy) man (4.4)
- 26 Famous Essex Man has helpful abilities (4)
- 27 Medical condition a patient longs least for (10)

### Down

- 1 Blue Monkey brewery's irregular army version of a stout (ABV 4.9%) primate (9)
- 2 Equalising late in the day (7)
- 3 Wiltshire's Keystone Brewery's ABV 4% golden ale (4.4)
- 4 Beer which won't disrupt Derby's Brewery Tap's routine (8.2.5)
- 5 England's other famous 17th century diarist (6)
- 6 British jazz musician who gave us the "Humph" (9)
- 7 Use prop for an intended goal (7)
- 13 Ken Dodd could almost have sung about this beer from Bucks, Berks and Somerset (9)
- 15 Propositions which, soundly, ought to be licensed for consuming beer (9)
- 16 A woman, shortly "Mrs" (8)
- 18 Locospotters not quite provision merchants (7)
- 20 Verb not in ale drinkers' vocabulary, except when they don't vote (7)
- 21 E.g. gain for getting on a bit? (6)



- Access to Chambers Dictionary, and the 'Bible' (aka the Good Beer Guide 2014) 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.

## Crossword No 36 Answers

### Across

1. WELLINGTON
6. DIRE
8. WAYFARER
9. IONIAN
10. AY UP
11. EXETER ARMS
12. TYNEMOUTH
14. SNAPE
17. RABID
19. AGREEABLE
22. BARBER-SHOP
23. GROG
24. BARREL
25. ABSENTEE
26. BACH
27. CASTLE EDEN

### Down

1. WOW FACTOR
2. LEYBURN
3. NORSE GOD
4. THREE STAGS HEADS
5. NAILER
6. DONNA ANNA
7. ROAD MAP
13. EDINBURGH
15. EVERGREEN
16. DESPISAL
18. ALABAMA
20. BERATED
21. FROLIC

**Crossword winner is**  
**Muriel Edwin**

from Hulland Ward  
picked up in  
Black Horse Inn,  
Hulland Ward.

# Derby DRINKER

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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** 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.

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### DERBY DRINKER INFORMATION

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