

Derby DRINKER

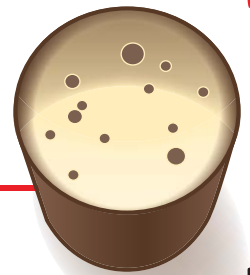


CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE

FREE

Issue 154

March/April 2014



"Cheers!"



Furnace Inn



Pattenmakers Arms

DERBY CAMRA PUBS OF THE YEAR 2014



Details inside plus National Winter Ales Festival Report... ►

DERBY CAMRA Pubs of the Year 2014

Furnace Smelts Gold as it takes CAMRA's Top Award

The Derby Branch of CAMRA has selected its Pubs of the Year for 2014:-

The **City Pub of the Year** is the **Furnace Inn** on Duke Street in Derby with the runner-up being the Little Chester Ale House on Chester Green.

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

And by virtue of having the highest overall mark the **Furnace Inn** has also been crowned **Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year 2014.**

Being crowned Pub of the Year is a remarkable achievement for the Furnace as just under 2 years ago the pub was on its last legs and its future looked bleak when owner Greene King put it up for auction. Several of the interested parties had no intention of running the pub as a going concern but thankfully the winning bidder, Pedro Menon had other ideas.

Having just been made redundant from Egg on Pride Park, Pedro thought he would try his hand at brewing with his redundancy money but when the Furnace came up his ideas quickly changed and he jumped at the chance to run a pub first with a brewery to follow. Together with Manager, Luke Elston they set about transforming the pub into a Real Ale haven with beers from all over the Country and within 9 months its growing reputation saw it finish runner up in the Derby CAMRA City Pub of the Year 2013 competition. Not one to rest on their laurels though, a brewery was built at the rear of the pub, the range of ales/ciders was increased, cheese/open mic/comedy & poker nights were all introduced along with regular Beer Festivals. All this and much more has seen its stature rise among Real Ale enthusiasts who regularly flock to the pub to see what unusual and different guest beers are on each week at more than reasonable prices. So it is perhaps fitting that the Furnace has followed up its runner-up award last year with the top award this and it

will now go forward into the Derbyshire Pub of the Year competition with the result of that announced later in the year.

Runner-up in the City was the Little Chester Ale House which has come a long way in a short space of time being Derby's 1st Micro Pub and it has added something new to the City's real ale scene with its warm and friendly atmosphere and great prices.

Back out in the Country the Pattenmakers Arms in Duffield has also turned a runner-up award last year into first place this time serving great real ale in great surroundings. The pub is right at the heart of community life in the area and is always worth a visit but sadly this Good Beer Guide regular is now under threat due to a huge rent hike by owners Enterprise Inns which might force the current licensees to leave. This would be a real shame as the pub has been built up over a number of years into a friendly community pub with a range of quality ales. We hope things get resolved soon and wish them well in their fight to stay at the helm.

Last year's Country winner the Royal Oak in Ockbrook finished second this time after 3 successive wins proving how consistently good this pub is after over 35 years in the Good Beer Guide.

All of the winners will be presented with their awards during March and Derby Drinker will be there to capture the presentations for future issues.



The Shiny Golden Man, Pedro Menon celebrates winning Pub of the Year with Manager Luke Elston



Record breaking attendance as CAMRA's National Winter Ales Festival find a new home.

From Wednesday 19th to Saturday 22nd February The Roundhouse in Derby played host to the Campaign for Real Ale's National Winter Ales Festival. Over 250 volunteers served real ale, cider, perry, foreign beer and mead to a record breaking 13,500 thirsty customers – with 4884 through the door on Friday alone!

Over 4 days they supped 47,500 pints of British beer, emptied 112 polycasks of real cider and perry, scoffed lots of mead and over 1,400 pints of beer from 10 different countries.

Gillian Hough Organiser said: *"It was a pleasure to be involved in such an impressive Festival and an honour to Chair such a hard working team in such a beautiful and historic venue. My target now is to ensure that next years event will be even better."*

On Saturday 22nd February the Festival still had 129 different beers on sale at 6pm and 110 different beers on sale at 7pm. The decision was taken to close the doors at 8pm to ensure the customers inside had beer available right up to the end.

Dave Clark Cellar Manager said: *"We restocked with an additional 9520 pints, which dropped clear overnight, but even that was not quite*

enough. We did have 10 different beers on sale when time was called. Next year we want to be clearer about the number of different beers on sale throughout our last day, we will be looking at systems to achieve this."

170 customers took the plunge and became CAMRA Members, which is testament to the hard work of the Membership Team of Volunteers.

Overall NWAFF has proved to have bedded in well to Derby. Many thanks to everyone for their support of the Festival especially The Derby Telegraph, BBC Radio Derby and Visit Derby.

Roll forward a year and the dates for the 2015 National Winter Ales Festival are 11th – 14th February. Guess what we'll be at The Roundhouse again – so see you there!!



During the Festival CAMRA's National Winter Beer of Britain was judged as Dunham Massey, Dunham Porter which is a 5.2% classic old-style English porter, creamy, full bodied and packed with flavour.

For Results see page 5.



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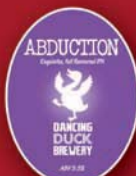
Langley Street, Derby

www.newzealandarms.com

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CAMRA GOLD MEDAL LEICESTER
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CHESTERFIELD BATTLE OF THE BEERS
"PUBLIC'S FAVOURITE"



Roundhouse Rocked



With the National Winter Ales Festival (NWAFF) in town all eyes were turned on Derby to see whether it could deliver and this it certainly did (see page 3 article) and in terms of the music the Roundhouse Rocked.

It was the first NWAFF to have such a wide variety of Entertainment on and undoubtedly this contributed to the record crowd that attended the event. Held in the adjoining marquee it all kicked off on the Wednesday which saw a bigger and better Open-Mic night with over 20 artists playing throughout the evening which seemed to go down well with the assembled crowd.

Thursday night followed with a local band showcase, a new concept for the Beer Festival giving emerging local bands the chance to showcase their burgeoning talents and this was well received by an appreciative audience. The opening act Lucille played a mixture of Roots & Rockabilly & old fashioned Rock & Roll which got the crowd going and geared up for the rest of the night. Enter Parasight a young upcoming Rock band (the drummer was only 12) who gave such a professional and polished set of their own and classic rock covers that they went down a storm with the crowd. A hard act to follow but Thieving Names certainly did their best to entertain closing the evening with some covers of well-known sing-along songs as well as their own material. A great night then and organisers have promised to expand on the event next year by holding a battle of the bands type heat in a local pub with the reward being a place on stage at the NWAFF.

Friday as always is a big night at the Beer Festival and the entertainment lived up to

the billing. Old Skool Punk Rockers, Verbal Warning, no strangers to the event, got the night off to a lively start playing well known punk covers as well as some of their own excellent material. This warmed up the night nicely for the main event, tribute band Kins of Leon who played a career spanning set from their heroes. The crowd all went home happy after a most enjoyable evening and left us looking forward to the next. Saturday night promised much and support band the Alma Boobies certainly delivered. Fronted by an energetic girl duo their high energy performance of rock/indie covers got the crown in the mood for much more. It was all geared for the Antarctic Monkeys to close the Festival in style but with the beer running out fast organisers took the decision to close early depriving many of the chance to see a great set from the premier Arctic Monkeys tribute. A great way to close the Festival then and finish off a cracking 4 days of entertainment. Entertainment Manager, Gareth Stead has promised another brilliant line-up next year and I personally can't wait.

National Winter Ales Festival 2014 East Midlands Regional beer judging

Old Ale / Strong Mild

- 1st Castle Rock, Midnight Owl
- 2nd Muirhouse, Magnum Mild
- 3rd Brampton, Impy Dark

Porter

- 1st Welbeck Abbey, Portland Black
- 2nd Batemans, Salem Porter
- 3rd Brewsters, Stilton Porter

Stout

- 1st Dancing Duck, Dark Drake
- 2nd Grainstore, Ratcliffe Stout
- 3rd Blue Monkey, Guerilla

Barley Wine / Strong Old Ale

- 1st Parish, Baz's Bonce Blower
- 2nd Barlow, Full Monty
- 3rd Nobbys, Tow'd Navigation

Final

- 1st **Welbeck Abbey, Portland Black**
- 2nd Castle Rock, Midnight Owl
- 3rd Dancing Duck, Dark Drake
- 4th Parish, Baz's Bonce Blower

Winner of the East Midlands competition goes forward to the national finals at the 2015 festival.

National Winter Ales Festival 2014 Champion Winter Beer of Britain

Old Ale / Strong Mild

- 1st Exe Valley, Winter Glow
- 2nd Beowulf, Dark Raven
- 3rd Grainstore, Rutland Beast

Porter

- 1st Dunham Massey, Dunham Porter
- 2nd Ayr, Rabbie's Porter
- 3rd Batemans, Salem Porter

Stout

- 1st Cairngorm, Black Gold
- 2nd Ascot Ales, Anastasia's Exile Stout
- 3rd Marble, Stouter Stout

Barley Wine / Strong Old Ale

- 1st Kinver, Over the Edge
- 2nd Moor, Old Freddy Walker
- 3rd= Green Jack, Ripper Triple
- 3rd= Highland, Orkney Porter

Final

- 1st **Dunham Massey, Dunham Porter**
- 2nd Cairngorm, Black Gold
- 3rd Exe Valley, Winter Glow
- 4th Kinver, Over the Edge



Derbyshire Ale

24 Years On

CAMRA's WhatPub website has revolutionized the way we review pubs, but before the advent of on-line technology local beer/pub guides in hard copy format were essential. In 1983 and 1990 this county's and neighbouring CAMRA branches collaborated to produce **Derbyshire Ale**, expertly edited by Derby's Reg Newcombe. The 1990 edition listed 800 pubs serving 100 unique real ales, a figure which, today, can be nearly doubled for Derby alone. The city has, however, lost a quarter of the 72 pubs featured back in 1990. The most striking statistic though lies in the guide's brewery section, where two thirds of 46 mainly regional and national breweries have closed. The sole Derbyshire survivor is the John Thompson at Ingleby, but thanks to the micro-brewery explosion there are now some 43 breweries in England's midmost county. Paul Gibson reflects on some of those lost pubs and in DD 155 he will look at the fluctuating fortunes of a number of our pubs in outlying locations. DD156 will see the three part series conclude on a positive note by reviewing some **Derbyshire Ale** city pubs that fell on hard times and then revived in startling style.

Pub building was at its zenith when Derby's suburb of New Normanton rose in the late Victorian era. It was a great area in which to drink real ale, however, population change and the relocation of Derby County away from the Baseball Ground have decimated the pub scene. Rams' fans would congregate on match days in taverns such as the **Sun Inn** (Hardy and Hanson), Middleton Street, and the **Vine** (Bass), Whittaker Street, which was the original home of Offiler's

brewery. The multi roomed interior of the **Mafeking** (Bass) on Porter Road, made it one of our more characterful inns. Three generations of the Morris family ran the "Maf" in the second half of the 20thC, and it was here that a young Nigel Barker "cut his teeth" in the licensed trade. Nigel would later revive the crescent shaped **Baseball Hotel** named after the football ground opposite which originally hosted the American sport. Enterprising Nigel kept a good cellar, and the long, curved public bar, with parquet floor and magnificent, mahogany back fitting, was a joy to behold. The Bass pub on Shaftesbury Crescent was demolished prematurely in 1995 when it was mooted that the Baseball Ground would be re-built. However, Pride Park was destined to be the Rams' new home and it's regrettable that these and many more New Normanton pubs exist in memory only.

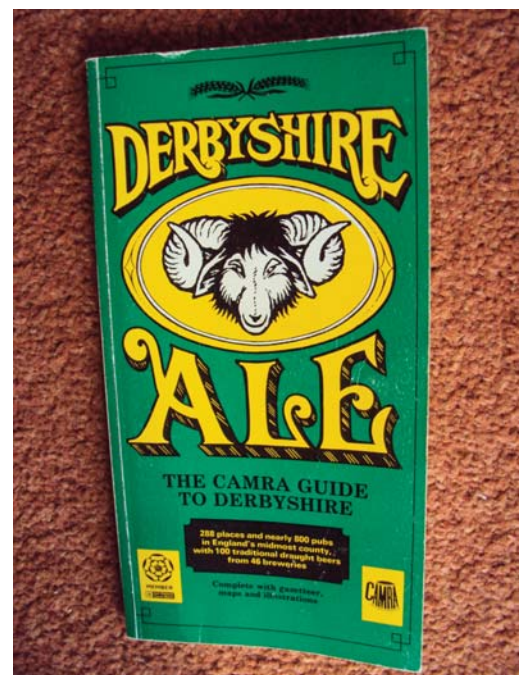
Elsewhere in the city, David Bruce of London, the man behind a chain of "Firkin" home brew pubs, revived Derby's rich brewing heritage in 1988 when he opened the **Flamingo and Firkin** on Becket Street which, on occasion, brewed some high quality beer. The cavernous pub and on-site brewery ceased trading in the 90s following a

takeover of the Firkin chain. The redoubtable **Robert Peel** near the railway station was still open when the guide was published, having hitherto balked at Allied Breweries' relentless transition to keg beer in the early 1970s. **Boaters Bar** in Friar Gate flourished briefly a quarter of a century ago but the cosy hostelry has, together with the distinctive South Yorkshire beers it served, been consigned to history. Darley Thorne Best Bitter and Ward's Sheffield Best Bitter are much lamented by beer aficionados. **The Victoria** off Kedleston Road has been another casualty and, given the number of chimney pots in the vicinity, I firmly believe that the Bass house could have been a viable concern. One of the more unusual late 20thC pub openings was the Thomas A Becket, on Green Lane, an imaginative conversion of a Baptist chapel. The then Derby County manager, Colin Addison, opened the new pub in 1979 as Watney's Fined Ale debuted in the city. By the time of **Derbyshire Ale's** publication, ownership had transferred to Devenish and newly named as the **Steam Café/Old Ale House**, but bar and brewery were destined for oblivion. The

Rutherford family who superbly restored the Queen's Head, Marlpool, and General Havelock, Ilkeston, were rumoured to be interested in turning the place into a brew-pub. This appears not to have gained traction however, and a once vibrant venue stands forlorn and unloved just like the nearby Hippodrome.

A survivor, **Strutts** (now **Royal Telegraph**) opposite Westfield was a significant entry in the sense that it marked the return of Mansfield brewery to the real ale fold after a decade in a fizz filled wilderness. The creamy Old Baily was a particular favourite and the bow fronted corner house, appropriately refurbished in Art Deco style, featured regularly in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide. Wolverhampton and Dudley acquired Mansfield in 2000 but draught Marston's can be sampled today.

DD 155 will reflect on the fluctuating fortunes of some Derbyshire Ale pubs in outlying areas.





Mafeking



Thomas A Becket



Baseball Hotel



Strutts

The Coach & Horses

3 Cask Ales
Draught Bass
Sky Sports

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Tel. 01332 258901

King Alfred

8 Cask Ales
Freehouse
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Tel. 01773 833274

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Micro Pub Revolution Continues

Since we reported on the first shoots of the Derbyshire Micropub revolution in Issue 151 we've heard of several new projects in the pipeline...

In Alfreton planning permission has been granted on a shop on Prospect Street to turn it into a Micropub with the beer focus being on local microbreweries. Back in Derby the owners of the Little Chester Ale House which has just been named Derby CAMRA City Pub of the Year Runner-Up are planning a new venture just off Ashbourne Road on Uttoxeter Old Road. Set in a former Post Office the pub will have a postal theme for its name and hopes to be open in the next few months. Over in Willington there are rumours that the people behind the cracking Cask & Pottle Micropub in Tutbury are looking to start a new one in the village. Not quite in Derbyshire but with a Derby postcode, Castle Donington should soon be seeing its first Micropub on Borough St as planning permission has now been granted. We have also heard of one or two others that are mooted and we await developments with interest and will report on progress of them all in future issues.

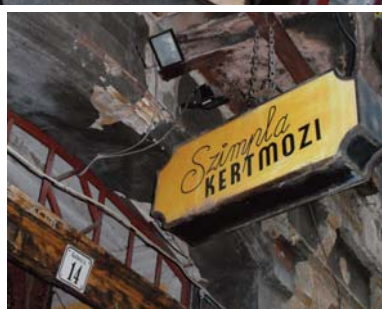
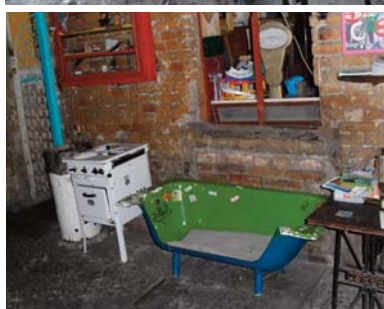
Good Beer Guide 2014 – Out Now

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 or local book shops and some pubs around the area including the Alexandra Hotel & Furnace Inn in Derby.



BEER TRAVELS

Ruined Garden Pubs of Budapest



If you ever travel to the wonderfully Scenic town of Budapest, I recommend seeking out the ruined garden pubs. The biggest and most iconic of these is Szimpla Kert in the town centre. Based on a simple idea of converting a ruined city site such as an old garage, car park, or a demolished apartment block into a pub with a large central outdoor area. It seems to work a treat. Otkert and Koloves Kert are other fascinating versions of ruined Garden pubs. Szimpla is the biggest of these on two stories with nooks and crannies galore and a vast outdoor seating area, including a couple of decapitated old Trabant cars to drink in.

It has extended the ruined notion and filled the pub with junk furniture, junk sculptures and pictures. They brew their own beer as well as serving lagers and spirits and supply shisha pipes for trendy locals

and tourists. It has a surreal, happy ambiance and is a fascinating experience. An old bath becomes a sofa and a battery of old TV's light up a dark corner with kaleidoscopic patterns and a junk robot sits by an old telephone box. There are numerous bars to serve the crowds that seem to come every night. To visit the place is to become entranced.

It seems a wonderful simple idea, recycling an untidy piece of waste land, into an eccentric, spacious bar that appeals to a diversity of people. Perhaps Tim Martin should think about this concept, turning away from converting banks, shops and cinemas to creating the first Ruined Garden Wetherspools. It would cost a lot less than the normal Wetherspoon conversion. However the combined weight of building regulations and health and safety policies may well defeat him in this country.

LTB 2014



LAST ORDERS

Des Hargreaves

It is with deep sadness that I have to report the death of Des Hargreaves shortly before Christmas. Des was part of the cellar "dream team" that worked at many Derby Beer Festivals at the Assembly Rooms in the 1980's & 90's with his good friend Bill Dudley & Fletch. He loved his Real Ale and spent many a happy hour in the Brunswick & Alex close to where he lived. After moving to Doncaster for work Des got involved with the local CAMRA Branch but still found time to visit his beloved Derby to watch Derbyshire County Cricket Club and of course sample a pint or two which laterally was in the Furnace where I caught up with him on many an Eve. Big Des will be sadly missed by friends and family alike.

Gareth Stead



CAMRA has launched its first ever national online pub guide – whatpub.com - dedicated to helping the public find the best pubs to suit their needs across Britain.

Seven Stars
97 King St DE1 3EE

Good Beer Guide 2008
tel 01332 340169

Following an extensive two year project by thousands of CAMRA volunteers, 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.**

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DERBY CITY PUB OF THE YEAR 2006

AmberValley CAMRA Branch

By Trevor Spencer

dedpoet702@yahoo.co.uk



AMBER VALLEY NEWS

Diary

Beer Festival Meetings: **Monday March 10th** Red Lion, Riddings, **Monday 7th April**, Cross Keys, Swanwick both starting at 8pm

Branch Meetings: **Thursday March 27th** Branch & Committee Meeting, Queens Head, Belper, **Thursday May 1st**, Greenhill Tavern, Riddings, both meetings 8pm start

Saturday March 15th; Saturday April 12th, Survey Trips, routes TBA, pick up at Ripley Market Place at 7:30pm and various other points as arranged. Contact Jane Wallis on 01773 745966 to book.

East Midlands CAMRA Regional Meeting: Amber Valley CAMRA is hosting this event for the first time on **Saturday March 1st**, starting at 12 noon. The venue will be the Strutt Club, which is situated on Campbell Street, just a few minutes walk from both the bus and railway stations. Entrance to the Club is gained by pressing the button on the door on Campbell Street and stating who you are. The Meeting will be held upstairs. There will also be an opportunity to visit the recently-opened Arkwright Bar, situated below the Club and offering 6 Real Ales plus Cider in addition to the 4 plus Cider regularly on offer at the Club.

Pub of the Year/Club of the Year 2014

The 8 Pubs and 3 Clubs nominated for these awards have now been judged and the results are as follows: **Pub of the Year** –

Black Bulls Head, Club of the Year – Strutt Club. The candidates were: the Beehive, Black Bulls Head, Hunters Arms, Old Oak, Thorn Tree - Waingroves, Holly Bush - Makeney, Moulders Arms and Talbot Taphouse, with the Clubs being the Milford Social Club, South Wingfield Social Club and the Strutt Club. Congratulations to the winners and presentations will be arranged in due course.

Winter Ales Trail

Apologies to anyone who was looking forward to this event, we were unable to organise it this year, but hope to do something similar later, probably November/December.

Recession - what recession?

Since the recession began a few years ago, many pubs throughout the UK have closed their doors forever, and some are no longer recognisable as former licensed premises, having been converted into houses, offices and the like. However, in the village of Riddings, pub life seems to be continuing as it did pre-recession, with all 6 pubs there – the New Inn, Seven Stars, Moulders Arms, Queens Head, Greenhill Tavern and Red Lion continuing to trade, the latter two having

been closed and facing an uncertain future before reopening as pubs. All six pubs sell Real Ale in one form or another, although the Queens Head currently sells bottles only, so Riddings itself is a pretty good place to plan a pub crawl, especially as all six pubs are situated close together!

When the Moulders Arms, or Thack as it is locally known due to its thatched roof, was sold into the free trade, licensees Craig and Jo set about establishing it in an area with a lot of competition – in addition to the other 5 Riddings pubs there are several within a short distance in Swanwick, Leabrooks and Somercotes. Nowadays, four Real ales – Doom Bar plus 3 guests are regularly on offer. Skittles, darts, dominoes, quizzes and entertainment are all on offer at this welcoming, characterful two-roomed local, which has been rewarded with a first-time appearance in Amber Valley CAMRA's Pub of the Year final in 2014. The opening hours are 12noon – 11pm daily, and fresh pork pies are available every Friday. The Thack can be reached via public transport from Derby up to 5:05 pm on the H1 service to Alfreton, the R1 from Nottingham and the 90 from Ripley, which runs later in the evening than the other two, with a few minutes' walk once leaving the bus.



Moulders Arms


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8 STAN WEBB'S CHICKEN SHACK	17 WHO'S NEXT
14 THE WATCH	23 BON GIOVI
15 U2UK	24 FLEETWOOD BAC
20 GRAINNE DUFFY BAND	30 THE SMYTHS
21 FROM THE JAM	31 VIRGIL & THE ACCELERATORS
22 AC/DC UK	JUNE
27 STEVIE NIMMO TRIO	6 COLIN BLUNSTONE BAND
28 FRED ZEPPELIN	7 ARE YOU EXPERIENCED?
29 THE LANCASHIRE HOTPOTS	13 JEAN GENIE
APRIL	14 OHASIS
4 THE FACES EXPERIENCE	20 KINGS OF LYON
5 THE JOHN OTWAY BIG BAND	21 PANIC ROOM
10 SEAN WEBSTER BAND	27 STRAY
11 LIMEHOUSE LIZZY	28 T. rex
12 THE BEAT	JULY
18 MARCUS BONFANTI BAND	11 THE JAM'D
19 KEEP IT CASH	12 THE SMALL FAKERS
25 MARTIN TURNER'S WISHBONE ASH	18 SLYDE ALIVE
26 RAINBOW RISING	AUGUST
MAY	29 THE SEX PISTOLS EXPERIENCE
1 LAURENCE JONES & FEDERAL CHARM	30 A FOREIGNERS JOURNEY
2 ULTIMATE MADNESS	SEPTEMBER
3 BEN POOLE BAND	20 THE NIMMO BROTHERS
9 FOCUS	OCTOBER
10 KING KING	24 SINNERBOY
15 GERRY McAVOY'S BAND OF FRIENDS	30 SIMON McBRIDE

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2 REAL CIDERS
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4 MINS WALK FROM THE RAILWAY STATION
8 MINS WALK FROM CITY CENTRE

Cider

with Suzie



I'm sure that unless you are living like a hermit you know about units of alcohol. Just to recap, 1 unit of alcohol equates to ½ pint of 3.7% beer, so a half of 5.5% beer is 1.5 units and, shock horror, a half of 7.4% cider is 2 units. The maximum safe drinking limits are supposed to be 4 units per day for a man and 3 for a woman (3 units and 2 units respectively if you believe some sources), but it doesn't matter which you take since the figures are plucked from the air anyway. Given that most real cider is in the 6-7% range, even on the higher figure this means just over 1 pint of real cider per day for a man and just under a pint for a woman, not exactly a skin-full. Another feature which seems a bit unfair is that there is no carry-over, so if you are good and have no alcohol at all for one or more days you still have just the same limit when you restart!

Now fast forward a few years. The anti-alcohol lobby have become even more powerful and vociferous than they are today. (They also seem to have

as much access to the media as they want). It's obvious that a large section of the population just "haven't got the message" about safe drinking. The cry goes up that "they", i.e. the government, must "do something about it". The government are convinced. The consider a massive price increase, but that would hit the poorest very hard and do nothing to curb the drinking habits of bankers and the like, so the "fairest" way to tackle the "problem" is by a rationing system. Everyone over 18 can apply for alcohol unit vouchers (4 per day for a man, 3 per day for a woman) and the appropriate number of vouchers must be handed over whenever alcohol is purchased in a pub, restaurant, supermarket or anywhere else for that matter.

Of course, problems immediately appear. The government have been advised that the allowance for over 65's should be half the standard rate, so men and women pensioners get 2 and 1.5 vouchers respectively per day, leading to a pensioners revolt.

Pregnant women get none at all. There are also some unexpected consequences. Because 1 voucher gets you a half of 3.7% beer, for beers of more than 3.7% fractions of a voucher are required. This results in most brewers reducing the A.B.Vs of all beers to 3.7%. It's even worse for cider makers; you can't sensibly sell real cider at 3.7%, and a 7.4% standard means 2 vouchers; many just give up. Foreign tourists are totally bemused, and tourist industry collapses. Naturally, a black market for both vouchers and alcohol springs up overnight, run by criminal gangs. A big selling point for the voucher scheme was that it ought to make it very difficult for under 18's to obtain alcohol. This doesn't happen, in Lincolnshire the illicit vodka factories go into overdrive, targeting the teenage market and resulting in a number of teenagers going blind.

This system doesn't deal adequately with home brewing and drinking at home. The government are urged to set up an anti-alcohol police force

with the power to enter private homes and to enforce the safe drinking limits there, but even in this nightmare scenario the government sees this as a step too far. Nevertheless vigilante anti-alcohol patrols are allowed to operate with impunity, pouring away alcohol wherever they find it and beating up anyone who gets in their way.

Now I have no time for anyone who drinks so much that they cause a nuisance to others or gets involved with the police (and by the way, we already have perfectly adequate laws for dealing with anti-social and criminal behaviour resulting from excessive drinking). Ditto anyone who requires medical attention (here I would go further than the current position and allow A&E departments to charge those whose admission is solely the result of drink). However, the vast majority of those of us who like a drink bother neither the police nor A&E; we should be left alone to decide for ourselves what constitutes for us a reasonable level of drinking.

Wassail

Farewell to the "Livo"

Built in the mid 19thC by the trustees of the Liversage Trust, the Liversage Arms on Nottingham Road, came within a hair's breadth of demolition when the inner ring road was constructed. In the 1970s, when run by Scotsman, Andy Morrow, there was no finer place than this gabled corner house in which to enjoy a pint of Marston's Pedigree. The "Livo" held many a Derby CAMRA branch meeting upstairs and, on occasion, Andy also served Marston's Merrie Monk (no. 5 mild) which was then the nation's strongest mild, positively bursting with flavour. In the 80s it became part of the area known as the "Marston's triangle" in conjunction with the neighbouring Peacock and Exeter. The 21stC has seen various reincarnations fail, therefore it was perhaps inevitable that an application for de-licensing would be made and we understand it will be converted to flats.

Paul Gibson



Ashbourne & District CAMRA Branch

by Mark Grist
m.grist2@sky.com

Pub News

Our sub-branch Pub of The Year for 2014 for the second year running is the Smith's Tavern in Ashbourne, with the runner-up being the Sycamore at Parwich. An award for the Most Improved pub went to the Red Lion at Kniveton.

The pubs shortlisted for overall POTY were: The Black Cow at Dalbury Lees, The Black Horse at Hulland Ward, The Bowling Green in Ashbourne, The Red Lion at Kniveton, The Shoulder of Mutton at Osmaston, The Smith's Tavern in Ashbourne and the Sycamore at Parwich.

The shortlist for Most Improved Pub of The Year was The Ketch at Kniveton, The Okeover Arms at Mapleton and The Red Lion at Kniveton.

After an 18 year stint running the Black Horse at Hulland Ward, landlady Muriel Edwin is calling time and retiring back to her native County Durham. The pub has already been sold after just three weeks on the market. Early indications are that the new owners are looking to continue the business as normal with little or no change. No date for leaving has been set yet, but the sub-branch will be marking the occasion with a small presentation to Muriel.

The George & Dragon in Ashbourne has also recently seen a change in management as Ray and Marcel now head for well-earned retirement. We all wish them well.

Ben & Christina at the Horns in Ashbourne have turned part of the bar area over to a mini-tribute to the former Green Man sitting across the road. After a recent fixtures and fittings sale, Ben has bought up a small portion of the furniture from the Green Man and has installed it in a back room area with a dedication chalked up on the board above the bar. Regulars in the Horn are always chatting about the Green Man halcyon days and Ben decided to try to recreate a little piece of it in his pub. A nice touch.

Talking of the Green Man, the next phase of development is ongoing now and any firm news of interest to beer drinkers will be circulated as soon as we hear of it, but we are given to understand that those plans will include some interesting and exciting news for us all.

Beer Festival

Plans for our next beer festival, to be held over the August Bank Holiday, are about to get into full swing and we will advertise preliminary details as soon as we are able to confirm them.



The Sycamore, Parwich



The Red Lion, Kniveton

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CAMRA'S GOOD BEER GUIDE 2014

Diary Dates

BRANCH MEETINGS

Tuesday 25th March

The Black Cow, Dalbury Lees

Tuesday 29th April

The Ostrich, Longford

Tuesday 27th May - AGM

The Cock, Clifton (tbc)

EREWASH VALLEY CAMRA BRANCH

by Mick & Carole Golds
carolegolds@btinternet.com

Pub News

Good news for a change, the Three Horseshoes on Derby Road, Ilkeston once a Greene King outlet is now a free house with 1 traditional cider on hand pump and 5 changing quest beers including a regular house beer from Castle Rock. The new tenants are Scott & Lisa Ryder, Scott is the licensee who in the past worked for Hardy & Hansons and Greene King and is now head of sales for Castle Rock brewery. Lisa's parents, Colin and Iris Duro once ran the Miners Arms on the opposite corner which is now a private house. The front bar has had a modern face lift and is welcoming and the rear bar/snug is more or less the same as it was with the addition of a new fireplace, a pub that's worth a visit if in Ilkeston being very close to other real ale bars. Opening hours are 12-12 everyday, food available will be cobs and pork pies.

The boarded up Royal Oak on Tamworth Road, Long Eaton is rumoured for demolition with a retirement home to be built in its place. This is well built building, once a Bass house which has gone through many changes but has now sadly come to its end.

The Barge on Tamworth Road, Long Eaton no longer does Camra discount.

The Rose & Crown, Draycott has been partly demolished but by the time you read this it will be gone. This was noticed by one of our members who stated that the only way he found anything out about the planning application was by going on the council website.

The Stumble Inn, Long Eaton recently brewed its first pint from its new Song Bird Brewery called Song Bird and apparently it was very nice.

Trips and Socials

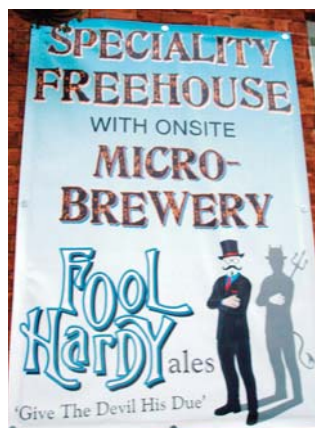
Our Christmas trip 2013 was to Stockport and it was well attended, starting at the popular well

photographed Crown Inn beneath the viaduct where we were met in the pub by Dave from the Stockport Branch who was our guide for most of the day. A short walk along the A6 took us to the Magnet and then to the very good Hope Inn which also brews the very excellent Foolhardy beers. We then set off back into town to sample the mainly very busy Robinsons and Sam Smith houses finally finishing at the Arden Arms. Stockport is a very interesting town and well worth another visit.

Our next social outing on Saturday 8th Feb was round the Canning Circus area of Nottingham which turned out to be our largest gathering ever, 36 camra members and friends met in the Organ Grinder. When we left to go to the Portland Arms the pub was nearly empty, the other 2 pubs visited were the Falcon and Hand & Heart. Unfortunately the Sir John Borlase Warren was closed for refurbishment but this Everards pub will open in partnership with Brown Ales very soon. An excellent selection of beers in all the pubs visited and 12 of us finished the night off in the Plough Nottingham.

A trip planned for later in the year is round West Hallam finishing at the Nutbrook Brewery for a BBQ, details to be finalised and will be on the website.

Sign - The Hope



Royal Oak



Falcon



Portland Arms



Scott & Lisa Ryder



The Hope



Three Horseshoes

Future Meetings

All meetings start 8.00pm, contact the Secretary, Jayne 0115 8548722

Tuesday 11th March

- Presentation to the Dewdrop for pub of the winter season award.

Wednesday 2nd April

- Coach & Horses, Draycott.

Wednesday 7th May

- Three Horseshoes, Derby Road, Ilkeston.

Pub Discounts

Please remember to show your camra membership card

The Bridge Inn, Cotmanhay - 20p off a pint

The Bridge, Sandiacre - 15p off a pint

Blue Bell, Sandiacre - 10p off a pint, 5p off Half includes cider

Coach & Horses, Draycott - All cask ales £2.90

Navigation, Breaston - 10p off a pint

Observatory, Ilkeston - 10p off a pint when vouchers not being used

Poacher, Ilkeston - 15p off a pint

Queens Head, Marlpool

- 20p off a pint, 10p off half includes cider

Rutland Cottage, Ilkeston

- 15p off a pint Mon - Thurs only

Steamboat, Trent Lock - 20p off a pint, 10p off half includes cider

Twitchell Inn, Long Eaton - 20p off a 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
Bell & Castle **NEW**
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

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)

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)

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
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	£2.90 per pint/£1.45 per half on Dolphin 1530 Ale
King Alfred, Alfreton	15p off a pint
Brackens, Alvaston	15p off a pint
Lawns, Chellaston	10p off a pint and 5p off a half
Cross Keys, Turnditch	20p off a pint
The Dragon, Willington	20p off a pint
Arkwrights Bar, Belper	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
George & Dragon, Belper	20p off a pint
Lion, 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
Royal Oak, Ockbrook	10p off a pint, 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
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, 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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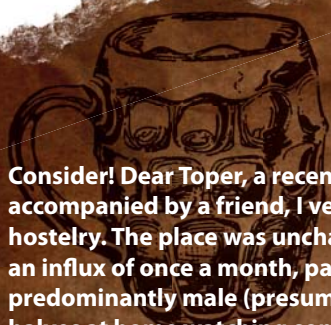


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Real Ciders/Perries and Craft Keg.



Dear Toper...

Consider! Dear Toper, a recent Friday evening, whereon, accompanied by a friend, I ventured into a certain city centre hostelry. The place was uncharacteristically crowded, due to an influx of once a month, payday drinkers. Being predominantly male (presumably they had left their other halves at home watching some vapid televised dross, such as, "Britain's got Talentless Idiots") the raucous, foulmouthed conversation of the influx revolved around football, cars and T.V. in ever decreasing circles of intellectual input and ever increasing circles of volume. Viewing our boorish and unwanted company, as they jostled at the counter, making ill-mannered demands of the over-stretched bar staff, my companion was stung to comment, "Christ! It's like being in a men only bar!" which was some way from the truth.

I, unlike my young companion, do actually remember men only bars in pubs, and on the whole found them to be peaceful and respectable places, usually overseen by a solitary barmaid, who ruled her domain with an unspoken and understated air of authority. These quiet oases of civilisation, were, in my view, needlessly swept away in the 1970's by the craven political stooges of the militant feminist harriads. The shrill cheerleaders of the latter were at that time seldom away from the airwaves, and according to an old acquaintance of mine, "invited environmental disaster by their insane insistence on the mass burning of bras!" He still maintains to this day, that all of that elastic and nylon going up in smoke is what caused the hole in the ozone layer. You may chuckle, Dear Toper, but it is a lot less fanciful than the

Bars, Bras and the Ozone Layer

recent well-publicised assertion of someone who claimed that the winter floods were the result of gay marriage, which in itself was marginally more credible than the theory that they had been caused by manmade climate change!

Setting aside the weird and wonderful intrigues of green politics and moving on to matters infinitely more pleasurable, I for one am relieved that bras are back in fashion (particularly the black lacy ones) and I am sure that the majority of women are too, especially the older ones, for whom defying gravity is no longer an option – if indeed it ever was!

As for men only bars, personally I prefer to drink in mixed company and as I have stated before in this august journal, I find a pint much more enjoyable when it's accompanied by a pretty face. Nevertheless, Dear

Toper, there are times, when, having found myself in some noisy pub, full of crass, foulmouthed (some of the women are worse than the men) idiots, I find myself hankering back to those halcyon days of yore, when I had the option of avoiding the louts and loutesses by retreating to the relative peace and quiet of a men only bar. Consider the, Dear Toper!

D.T.



Robert Elliott
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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:

MARCH

Thu 6th - Social & City 'Pub of The Year' Presentations - 8pm
at Little Chester Ale House & 9pm Furnace Inn.

Thu 13th - Branch Meeting - Bell & Castle, Derby - 8pm.

Tue 18th - Social & Country 'Pub of The Year' Presentation -
9pm at Pattenmakers Arms, Duffield - Catch the 8.05 or
8.35pm sixes bus from Derby Bus Station.


Thu 27th - Ockbrook Survey & Country 'Pub of The Year'
Runner-Up Presentation - 9.30pm at Royal Oak. Free mini
bus leaves Cathedral Green at 7.30pm.

APRIL

Wed 9th - Branch AGM - Flowerpot, Derby - 8pm.

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

▶ **Contact the Social Secretary, Dean Smith by e-mail**
- socials@derbycamra.org.uk (except where indicated)



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This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payer.

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• 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

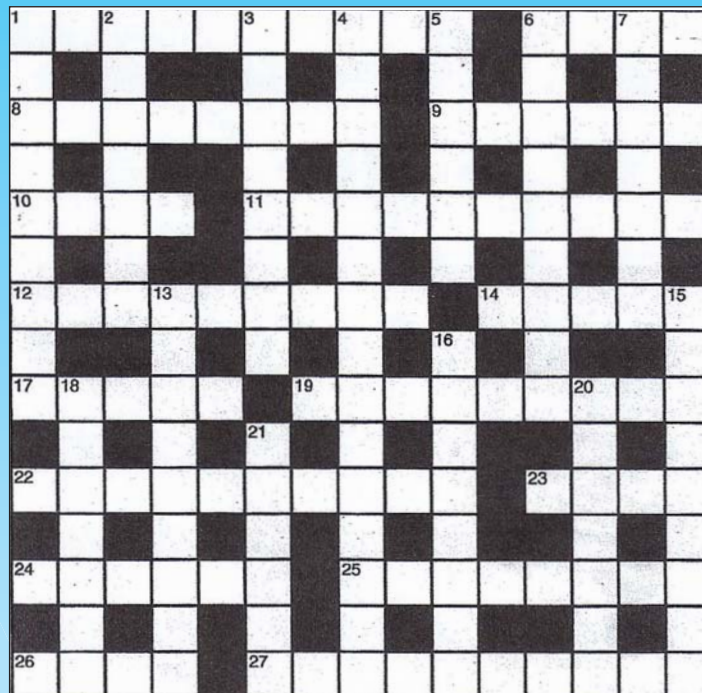
No 38 by Wrenrutt

Across

- 1 What Mozart, say, did after he died (10)
- 6 "Pay up before supping" initially for licensed premises (4)
- 8 I'll go aid in the garden to find these sort of irises (8)
- 9 Box Steam brewery's dark ale, with blower attached (6)
- 10 Lied about being lazy (4)
- 11 Trite trap I re-jigged in three bits (10)
- 12 Refuge for a solitary person (9)
- 14 Peak District's highest village, which could be all over in no time (5)
- 17 Church feature which got a bit twisted in Chesterfield (5)
- 19 A sugar sap contrived to become delicious vegetable shoots (9)
- 22 Region laid waste or one of Mr Grundy's dark ales (2-4-4)
- 23 Response to an accusation? Leap around to decide (4)
- 24 Deck in garments (6)
- 25 An Eva Cassidy compilation or an oscine (8)
- 26 Cereal husk reversed, to begin with, in Narborough (4)
- 27 Belgian-style strong ale from Greater Manchester/Cheshire stately home estate brewery (6.4)

Down

- 1 Struggles in the street or in the air (9)
- 2 A slow sycophant? (7)
- 3 Right out of humblest reverence for a gland (8)
- 4 This happy killer is a strong malty beer from Falstaff (7.8)
- 5 Resist in Gunners will meet the cost (6)
- 6 An ale plant, nameless, could produce a cigar (9)
- 7 These are functionally inspirational and expiratory (7)
- 13 Halter Devil Chapel parish between Ashbourne and Derby (9)
- 15 A wife is this or, if thrifty, what she did (9)
- 16 Chinese indoor plant. Could be in the garden I aver (8)
- 18 A stealthy, restless predator (7)
- 20 The Snow Goose author (7)
- 21 Rise up or mount (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 37 Answers

Across

1. GREAT GABLE
6. LAPS
8. EYEBALLS
9. EXTORT
10. RAIL
11. HONEYMELON
12. LIGHTLESS
14. STEEP
17. AGAPE
19. RATIONALE
22. DIVING SUIT
23. ASTI
24. YEMENI
25. USED CARS
26. USES
27. GALLSTONES

Down

1. GUERRILLA
2. EVENING
3. GOLD HILL
4. BUSINESS AS USUAL
5. EVELYN
6. LYTTTELTON
7. PURPOSE
13. HOPPINESS
15. PREMISES
16. MISTRESS
18. GRICERS
20. ABSTAIN
21. AGEING

Crossword winner is

David Watkins
from Long Eaton
picked up in
Alexandra, Derby

Derby DRINKER

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DERBY DRINKER INFORMATION

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