

# Derby DRINKER



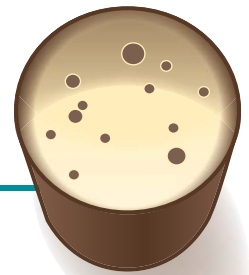
CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE

FREE

Covering Derby, Ashbourne, Amber Valley, Erewash & Matlock Camra Areas

Issue 164

November/December 2015



"Cheers!"

## The Magnificent Seven Shoot into the New Good Beer Guide



Cross Keys,  
Ockbrook



Old Silk Mill, Derby



Swan at Milton



The Malt at  
Aston-on-Trent



Old Bell, Derby



Golden Eagle, Derby



Brunswick Inn, Derby

Full details inside plus loads, loads more...



# New Good Beer Guide Launched as Seven Local Pubs Celebrate New Entries

The recent launch of the 2016 Good Beer Guide saw 7 new entries from within the area covered by the Derby Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale. We take a look at this year's magnificent seven all pictured on the front page.

The **Old Bell** in Derby makes its long awaited debut in the guide which in one way is a real surprise for a pub that has been an iconic landmark on Sadler Gate for such a long period of time but in another way perhaps not as it has never been noted for its ales. This all began to change when Paul Hurst acquired the premises and set about a long 2 1/2 year project to return this historic hostelry back to its former glory which culminated in the opening of the front bar in July (see feature in the last Derby Drinker) Some people may be surprised to see it in the Guide so soon after the front bar opened but it actually achieved its status due to the rear Tudor Bar which has been open considerably longer serving a good selection of local ales. Together with the front bar there are now up to 12 Real Ales on offer making the Old Bell a worthy entry into the new Guide.

The **Golden Eagle** on Agard Street, Derby last appeared in the Good Beer Guide 13 years ago in 2002 under one of its many previous incarnations, the Captain Blake. Since then though its fortunes have slowly waned while trying to appeal to the local student population with further name changes, etc and somewhat losing its identity along the way. Indeed its days really did look numbered and was probably destined to go the way of all the other nearby properties and become student accommodation. Thankfully however 2 years ago father & son team Brian and James Collins of the local Titan brewery saw the potential in the place making it their Tap and turned it back into a real community local full of history and character from the unique external murals on the pub to the collection of eclectic material inside. Titan beers feature of course alongside guest ales and



Derby CAMRA Good Beer Guide Coordinator, Stewart Marshall (on the right) is pictured presenting a Good Beer Guide to Alan & Philippe of the Brunswick on the launch night at the pub.

old favourites and it was a finalist in the 2015 Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year competition.

Two other Derby pubs back in the Guide after relatively short absences are the **Brunswick Inn & Old Silk Mill**, both originally dropped out due to licensee changes but are now going strong again under new licensees.

The Silk Mill Cider & Ale House was the 2nd venture for Martin Roper after successfully guiding the Exeter Arms to the Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year title in 2013. The Mill has always been a regular circuit pub for Derby Drinkers but is now renowned for great food as well and its unique interior and fantastic garden under the Silk Trades Lock Out mural add to its appeal.

There has been plenty written about the Brunswick since Alan Pickersgill & Philippe Larroche took over the running of the pub and rightly so as it has improved no end since they have been there culminating in entry into the Good Beer Guide. And this after winning the Derby CAMRA Cider Pub of the Year Title and being a finalist in the Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year Awards in 2015 rounding off an excellent year for the Pub.

Out of town the **Cross Keys** in Ockbrook also makes its debut in the Guide and is perhaps one of the most remarkable tales of how to revive an ailing pub's fortunes particularly when faced with the competition of 3 other pubs in a small village. Ian Darlington a local man took on this challenge 6 years ago and slowly but surely has turned the pub around and has gone from serving only Marstons Pedigree to having a selection of up to 5 ales on including the hard to find Tetley's Mild. Ian even put on a Beer Festival at the pub and was a worthy finalist in the 2015 Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year Awards. The locals have also returned giving the pub a good convivial atmosphere with karaoke & darts

nights a feature and good home-cooked food being served including excellent pizzas. But this is not perhaps the whole story but you can read it in Ian's own words in Derby Drinker Issue 158 available on Derby CAMRA's website.

The **Malt** in Aston-on-Trent (formally the Malt Shovel) appears in the Guide for the first time since 2004. Like so many out of town and village pubs it faced an uncertain future and possible closure 4 years ago when four of the villagers got together and formed a partnership to save the pub. Since then it has gone from strength to strength with 2 of the original partners now running the pub, Matt and Karyn Feeney. Matt in fact has run the pub previously as has his Dad so knew what was involved in getting the pub back to its rightful place in the village and the Malt is now a warm, welcoming place again with good food and up to 6 Real Ales with local guest ales a feature such as Dancing Duck. The Malt is a real community pub with sports teams, quiz nights and open mic nights and it's nice to see it back on its feet again.

The **Swan Inn** at Milton returns to the Guide after a 2 year absence and is one of those pubs that has had to diversify to survive operating as Cygnets Tearooms in the day and a Restaurant at night serving great home cooked food. There is usually up to 3 Real Ales on including local beers with mini Beer Festivals a feature. The pub also features railway memorabilia and although it's a bit of the beaten track is well worth a visit.

So there you have it just a taster of the new entries in the 2016 Good Beer Guide and if you want to see who else made it from Derby and Derbyshire then it's now on sale from the CAMRA website, local bookshops and some local pubs such as the Alexandra & Brunswick in Derby and the Royal Oak at Ockbrook.



# Derbyshire's Burgeoning Breweries

If you flip through the new GBG, one thing that's notable is that the list of real ale breweries in Derbyshire is almost a full column. There are 56 of them, a number only exceeded by Greater London (only 66 between 8.5 million people), West Yorkshire (63) and Greater Manchester (58). With North Yorkshire (47) in fifth spot, is there a Pennine effect?

In terms of breweries per head of population, Derby punches well above its weight, I've not worked out the numbers, but on this basis I think we would be pipped at the post by North Yorks, and Rutland, with its tiny population, might only need the opening of third brewery to lead the field.

There are several new real ale breweries in Derbyshire since GBG-2016 was finalized and they include: Ashleyhay; Draycott; Frontier; Intrepid; Bradwell; Landlocked; Little Bush; Pentrich and Matlock Wolds Farm. But even since then new ones have opened or are on the way including Littleover (see article on page 23). The same is the case all over the country; that's what really matters, real ale is on the roll.

## WikiCAMRA#1 - HOW DO PUBS GET IN THE GOOD BEER GUIDE?

The CAMRA Good Beer Guide (GBG) for 2016 is now on sale (£15.99 from bookshops, or £10.00 + P&P from <http://www.camra.org.uk/>). It details around 4,500 real ale pubs, but who chooses them, and why are some great pubs not in it?

Pubs get into the GBG thanks to the help of tens of thousands of CAMRA members. Throughout the year, the quality of the beer in all pubs is scored by members using the National Beer Scoring System (NBSS); see the next edition of Derby Drinker.

All members are encouraged to take part. The aim is that every pub will be scored on several occasions by different people; some can get hundreds of scores. The Derby Branch organizes survey trips to less-visited ones pubs (all members welcome!).

Each CAMRA branch has an allocation of pubs based roughly on the number of pubs in their area. Every year the Derby Branch GBG Coordinator analyses the NBSS scores and draws up a list of candidates, based on the average NBSS score. The final choice is made at a meeting open to all members. Some scores stand out from the rest, but in other cases we need to look in more detail for consistency over

time, and between different members' scores.

With similar score, we are also allowed to take into account things such as a pub's facilities and its welcome.

Only one in eight real ale pubs get into the GBG and there are many great pubs with great beer that don't make it. The competition in the Derby area is fantastic; a pub can slip out of the guide only because another has upped its game with beer that is consistently well-above average. Also, pubs are automatically dropped with a change of licensee.

If you have any comments or questions on this article, please write to the editor ([ddeditor@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:ddeditor@derbycamra.org.uk)). We will try to feature these in the next DD.



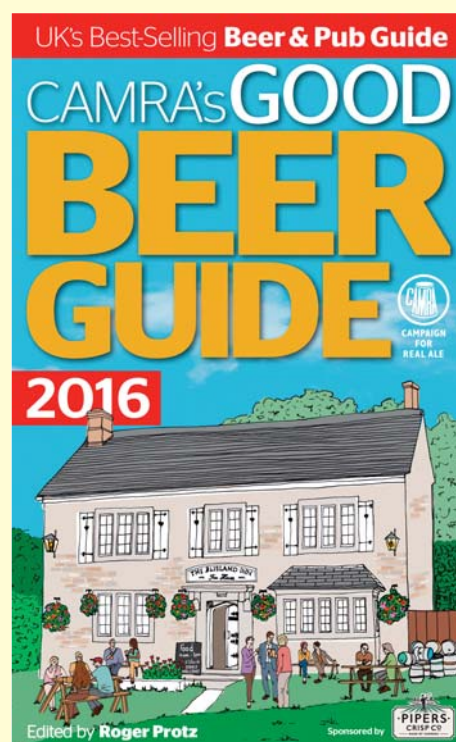
## New Good Beer Guide On Sale Now

The 2016 Good Beer Guide is now out and is available to buy from the CAMRA website, local bookshops and a few local pubs throughout the area.

It is fully revised and updated each year and features pubs across the United Kingdom that serve the best real ale. Now in its 43rd 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, and that they all come recommended by people who

know a thing or two about good beer. The unique breweries section lists every brewery - micro, regional and national - that produces 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 2016 is the complete book for beer lovers and a must-have for anyone wanting to experience the UK's finest pubs.

So why not get your copy now or buy one for friends and family as it will make a great Christmas present.



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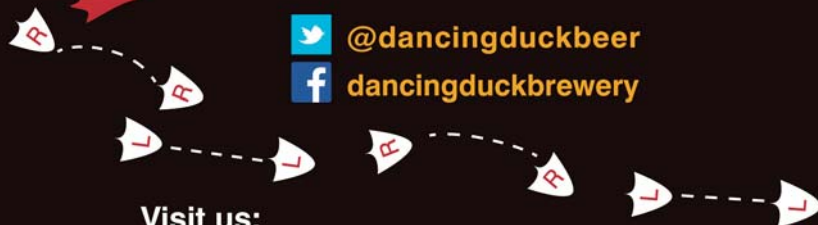


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# Skylink to a Constellation of Excellence

The introduction of the Skylink bus service from Derby bus station (bay 19) to East Midlands Airport (and beyond) some years ago gave bus passengers 24/7 access to the airport. Also, it made access easier to villages en-route, and Derby Drinker duly despatched Paul Gibson to see what the biggest of these, Castle Donington, had to offer.

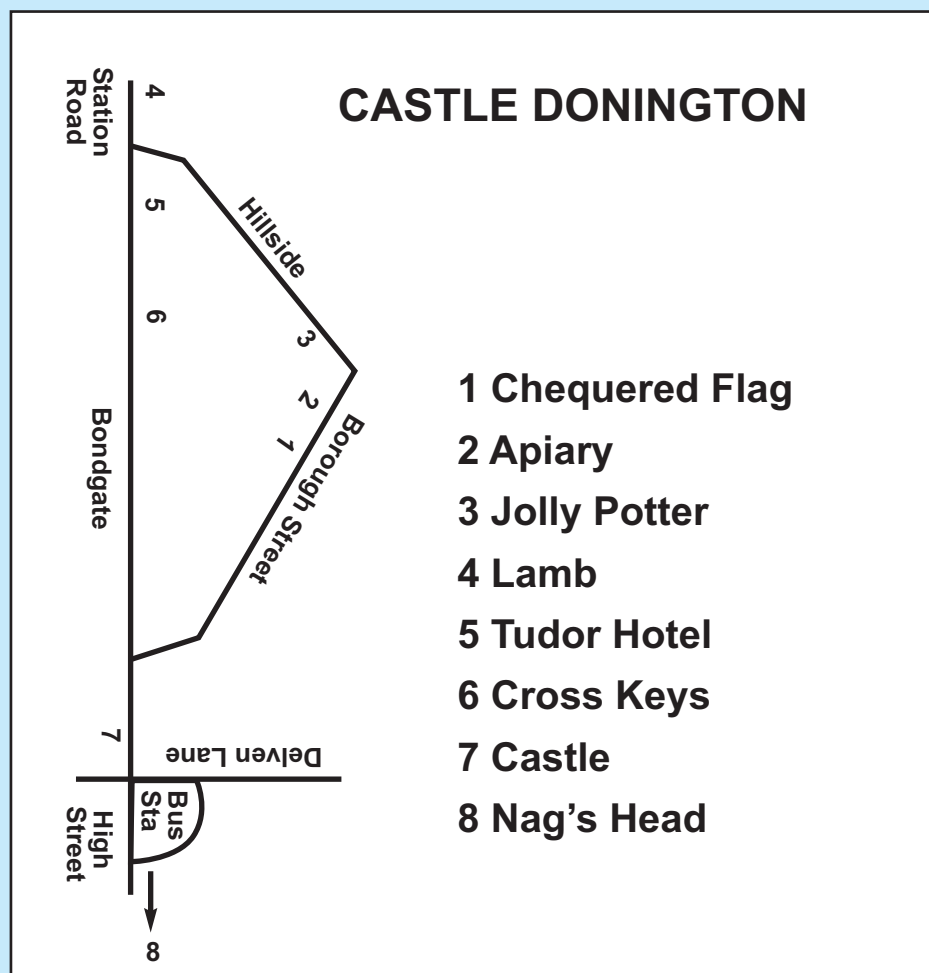
Alighting at the bus station, I crossed the road to the **Castle Inn**, which reopened at the start of this year and where, I'm told, business is brisk. Outwardly, Georgian in origin, the

large, modernist interior has cream coloured wainscoting at the base of walls painted in contrasting lime green and dark green. It's an imaginative design creating visual appeal. On the bar was a bank of handpumps dispensing Shardlow Reverend Eaton, Castle Rock Harvest Pale, Sharp's Atlantic, Wells' Bombardier and the copper coloured Charnwood Vixen from nearby Loughborough which was on good form. A big, wood burning Pizza oven forms the focal point of an impressive culinary offering, and outside there's another bar with



barbeques (weather permitting) serving Long Horn beef burgers.

I decided to take a stroll out towards the airport to the recently revived **Nag's Head Bar and Bistro** on High Street. The original, low slung pub is clearly of some antiquity and there's an intimate, heavily beamed little bar with an open fire crackling away. An antique French clock hangs above the fire and there's an aquarium to one side. A beautiful, small, carved settle fits snugly into one corner. Marston's predominates here with a quartet of Pedigree, Hobgoblin, Ringwood Boon Doggle and Jennings Cumberland Ale. The homemade Mediterranean food looked delicious and the decked area outside was awash with colour with wonderful floral displays. There's a restaurant in the single storey extension but please note the Nag's shuts on Sundays.





The Chequered Flag

Retracing my steps back into the village, past the bus station, I turned right into Market Street, and up the hill to Borough Street where I found the **Chequered Flag** micro pub. In terms of beer choice, there's no doubt that this motor racing themed boozier is in pole position with real ales from Dancing Duck, Church End, Bradfield, Falstaff and, a new one to me, Scribbler's. Add half a dozen traditional ciders, a carefully chosen wine list (wine accounts for 37% of sales), and a constantly changing ale selection, and it's easy to see why this is 2016 CAMRA Good Beer Guide listed. Beers are dispensed straight from the casks which are in a separate, temperature controlled room. Closed Monday and Sunday.



The Lamb

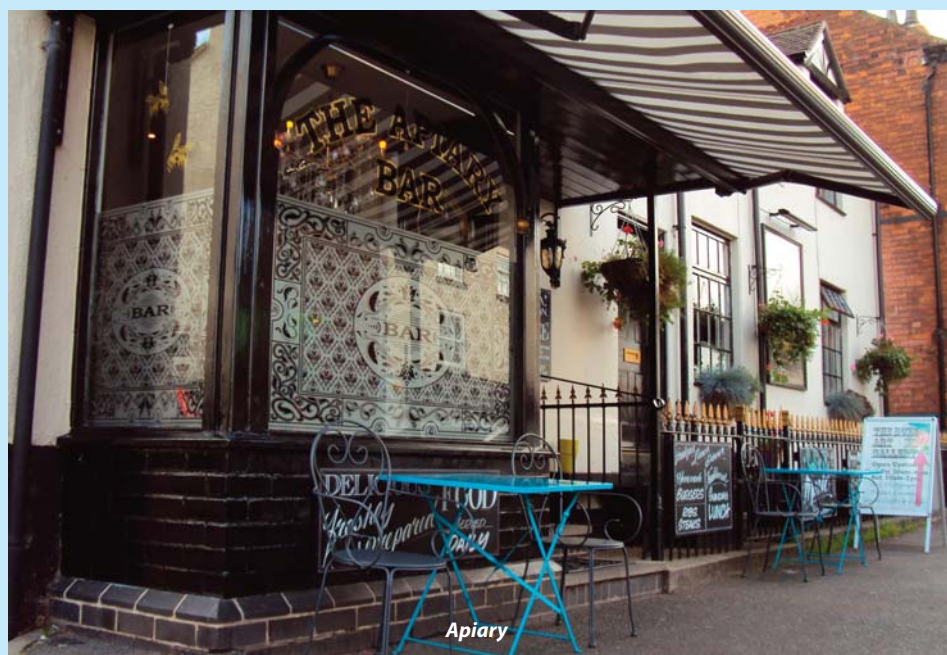
Next door but one is the **Apiary**, unmistakable with its ornate bay window, and with an eclectic mix of fixtures and fittings in three rooms that display framed, 60s pop posters and other pictures. Floyd and Deborah Swift have succeeded in creating a relaxed daytime venue which, I understand, morphs into something altogether more vibrant in the evening with live music frequently to the fore. Beer drinkers haven't been forgotten either with hand-pulled Pedigree and Blue Monkey Infinity vying for attention. The service is cheerful and attentive but note that the Apiary is closed on Mondays.

Down Hillside and onto Station Road is the stuccoed **Lamb**, a traditional Marston's house where an island bar

stands four square in the centre of a single room. Pedigree and Marston's Burton Bitter are the beers of choice here and, outside, there are tables and seating for fair weather drinking.

Just along the main road heading back into Donington, the beautiful, colourful hanging baskets of the **Tudor Hotel** hove into view. Ostensibly, this is a hotel with restaurant, and upon entering the large, public bar, a host of keg fonts look unpromising. The obliging bar staff will, however, fetch a hand drawn pint of Pedigree from the restaurant if you ask them nicely.

Continuing onto Bondgate, the **Cross Keys** has retained some traditional features such as etched glass windows and Minton tiling. Castle Donington Rugby Union Football Club meets here and an open fire and dart board add to the homely feel of the inn. Multiple areas wrap themselves around the bar servery which had Wye Valley HPA, Exmoor Fox, Pedigree and Doombar when I called. Today, we take it for granted that many pubs offer a decent selection of real ales but it wasn't always thus. In the late 1970s, former CAMRA National Executive member, Nick Hawkins, ran the Cross Keys offering an expansive range of real ale which included the revered Hoskins Bitter. This was in marked contrast to the customary mild and bitter on sale in most pubs, and consequently the Keys was a magnet



Apiary



for beer buffs from Derby, Nottingham and elsewhere.

Speaking of the seventies, no Castle Donington pub crawl was complete without including the **Jolly Potter** on Hillside, which can be accessed via an alleyway from Bondgate. Though the Draught Bass is now handpumped rather than direct from the cask, and the small roomed interior has been opened out somewhat, a semblance of its old character has been preserved. By eschewing gentrification, this friendly little tavern remains an essential part of the village pub scene and well-kept Pedigree, Doombar and Fuller's London Pride augment Draught Bass. The surprisingly large patio and decked area at the back must be real suntraps in summer.



Should your destination be East Midlands Airport, don't forget that you can enjoy Castle Rock Harvest Pale in the first floor departure lounge (pictured). With 10,000 employed at the airport, the iconic Norton motorcycle company set to create 600 jobs, and a massive Marks and Spencer distribution centre connected to the rail network, there is clearly a vibrant local economy. After all, there can't be many villages

that can boast 8 pubs. P.S. Just in case you were wondering, flight paths are away from the village making for a pleasantly quiet afternoon's drinking.







# Want the latest information at your fingertips?

News of pubs, beer festivals, new breweries, and great new beers don't wait for Derby Drinker. So how do you keep up on the scene between issues?

Simples!



Like **DerbyCAMRA** on **Facebook** for the latest on CAMRA socials and events (most are open to non-members) and for news about the campaign nationally.



Follow **@DerbyCAMRA** on **Twitter** for up to the moment news and gossip from around our local pubs and beer festivals. Pick up what's going on right now.

Visit **derbycamra.org.uk** to find out lots more about the campaign, the local pub and brewery scene. Lots of contacts and links. Also read Derby Drinker and RuRAD.

If you're a **CAMRA member**, join our members' only discussion group (contact [pubsofficer@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:pubsofficer@derbycamra.org.uk)) and subscribe (free of charge) to our member's only newsletter, Mild and Bitter, contact [timwilliams39bhr@gmail.com](mailto:timwilliams39bhr@gmail.com)

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# Ashbourne & District CAMRA Branch

Contact Mark Grist  
m.grist2@sky.com

## Branch News

### Beer Festival

The 3rd Ashbourne Beer Festival took place between Thursday 8th-Saturday 10th October and attracted around 800 people across the three days. We received a very positive reaction to the beer list and quality, as well as the music line-up being enjoyed greatly. The first beer to sell out came from Pilot Brewery, with their Mochaccino Milk Stout, closely followed by Hopcraft Spanish Main, another stout. All being well, we will repeat next year, although consideration needs to be given to both a different venue and a slightly amended timing to avoid clashing with other festivals, as the overall attendance and consumption did show a decrease against last year. Huge thanks are due to all volunteers for their sterling efforts in helping us to put on the event.

### Pub News

It has been brought to our attention that the Ostrich at Longford has closed due to a combination of illness, a lack of repair work being done to the living quarters by the brewery owners (Marston's) and objections from local residents to the popular live music events put on regularly. This "perfect storm" has resulted in the management losing the heart and will to continue and the long term future of the pub is apparently in the hands of developers. The branch will monitor for updates and investigate if there is any local action against this.

*The following branch area pubs have all recently changed ownership/ management and the branch members are endeavouring to liaise with the new regimes asap:*

**The Crown at Marston Montgomery**

**The Vernon Arms at Sudbury**

**The Rose & Crown, Brailsford**

## Diary Dates

**All meetings start  
at 8pm**

**Tuesday 10th November**  
Smith's Tavern, Ashbourne  
- Festival Wash-Up Meeting

**Tuesday 24th November**  
Bowling Green, Ashbourne  
- Branch Meeting

**Tuesday 22nd December**  
Smith's Tavern, Ashbourne  
- Branch Social



Beer Festival



Beer Festival



Beer Festival



The Ostrich, Longford



The Crown, Marston Montgomery



The Vernon Arms, Sudbury



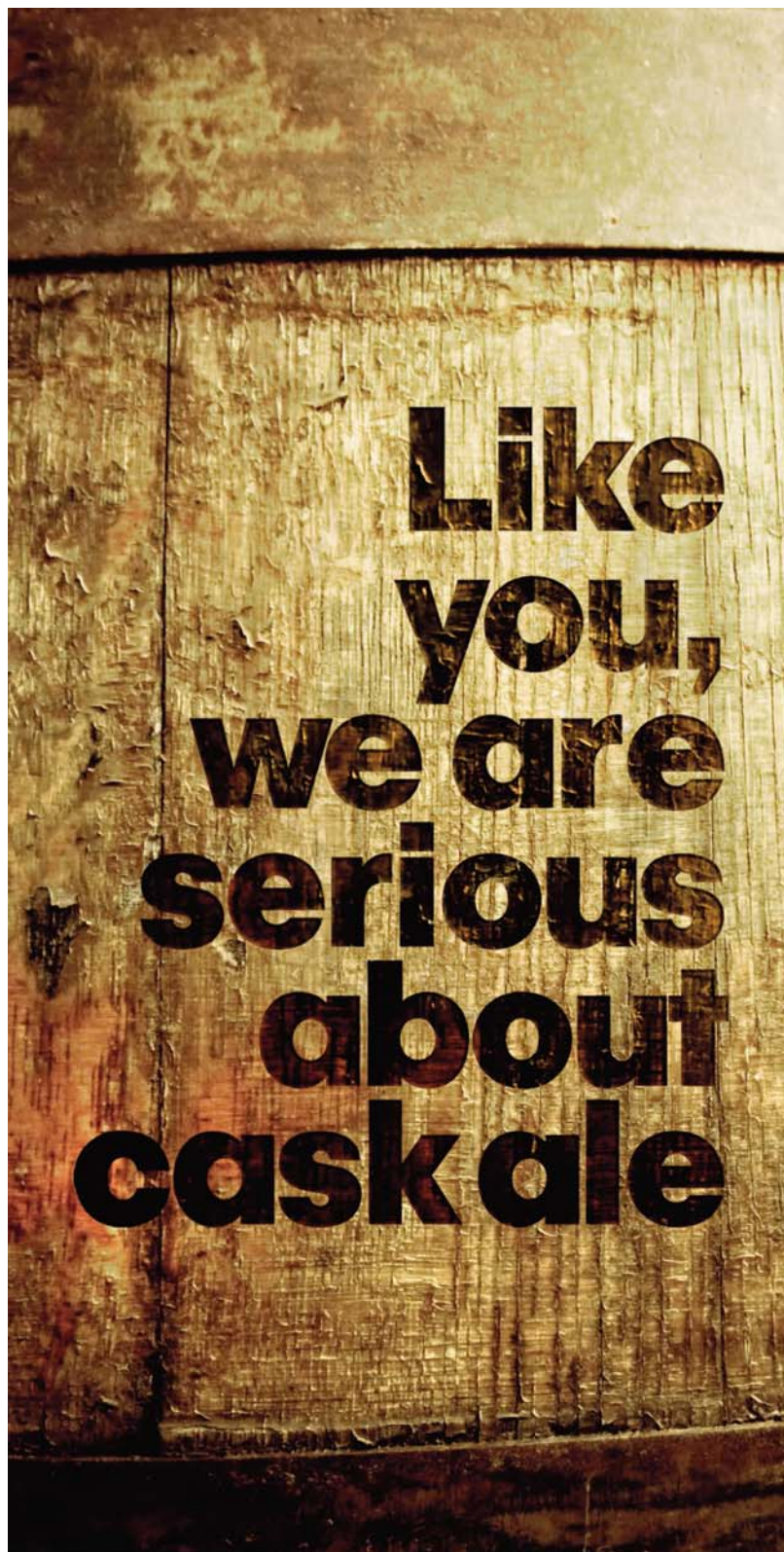
The Rose & Crown, Brailsford



The Bowling Green, Ashbourne







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# Cider

with Suzie



**T**he recent spell of good weather has been very welcome since I have been picking apples and making cider recently. The number of people who have apple or pear trees is amazing and they frequently can't use the fruit; indeed if the tree is over a lawn the fruit drops off, rots and blocks up their mowers; they are pleased to be rid of it. When told that they will get some cider for their fruit they are happy, on learning that the crushed residue makes excellent animal feed they are happier still.

You can make perfectly decent cider from a mixture of local fruit, which is unlikely to contain any cider varieties. The only criteria are that you should have more eaters than cookers, not a preponderance of any one variety and no mouldy fruit. It's a bumper crop this year, so this has been a good time for small-scale cider makers, although the final verdict on it will have to

wait until next Easter when it is ready for drinking.

While making cider, drinking a little and musing on this and that I considered the Government's safe drinking limits in relation to cider. These are the levels of alcohol consumption which if exceeded, according to the Government, may put your health at risk. A pint of 6.5% cider (and that is a reasonable figure for Real Cider) contains 3.7 units of alcohol. If we take the higher figures of a maximum of 4 units per day for a man and 3 for a woman that is just over one pint per day for a man and just under a pint for a woman. If you believe the often quoted lower figures of 3 and 2 units respectively it works out to considerably less than one pint per day. I could easily drink that during pressing without thinking that I had drunk anything at all. Then I realized that it is actually worse than that; I have just turned 65 and

the limits for those over 65 are halved, so I should confine myself to half a pint per day!

Now I don't mind too much about all this because it is only advisory, although I do object to figures being bandied about without any proper evidence to back them up. I also object to the waste of public money when Government sponsored advertising campaigns are used to get the message across. I am not suggesting that there is no such thing as a safe drinking limit, if you drank a bottle of spirits each day (28 units) you would soon be pretty ill. I suspect that what can be safely drunk varies considerably with the individual, and for most people the Government figures are too low. Before anyone complains that I am advocating irresponsible behaviour the above has nothing to do with the drink-driving limit; the level at which you are / are not safe to drive a car is a lot lower than the level

at which your health may be put at risk.

So what is to be done? Probably not much since the vast majority of drinkers are reasonably responsible and will make up their own minds on safe drinking limits. Those who aren't responsible won't be listening anyway. We certainly don't need minimum pricing; that would hit the poorer members of society hard while having no effect at all on much of the bad behaviour associated with alcohol abuse. I just wish that when the Government feels the need to express a point of view about any lifestyle issue they should at least be credible; that way the message might have some effect. As the saying goes, "Alcohol makes a good servant but a bad master".

**Wassail**

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THE ROUNDHOUSE - DERBY

# National Winter Ales Festival Derby 2016

**W**hile in 2015 the trees shed their leaves and the north wind doth blow, if we take a small hop, skip and jump forward into 2016 it will almost be time for the Beer Festival at The Roundhouse (again).

CAMRA's National Winter Ales Festival (NWAF) is hosted by Derby for the third and final year, before moving to another host city, and what a finale it is promising to be. Opening at 4pm on Wednesday 17th February over 13,000 customers are expected to visit the event to savour the flavour of the unique ciders, perries, bottled world beers, mead and oh yes beer - oodles of it.

Since mid September huddled in pubs around the City volunteers have been

meeting and planning beer selections, layouts, bands, competitions and brewery bars of which there will be 4 as follows: Dancing Duck; Falstaff; Tiny Rebel and Thornbridge. Organiser Gillian Hough said "With an extra night of live bands, over 400 different real ales and possibly the best bottled beer selection at the event ever, NWAF 2016 will simply be unmissable."

Open from 11am - 11pm Thursday 18th to Saturday 20th February now is the time to book leave, arrange a baby sitter and maybe even treat yourself and partner to a hotel in Derby. Then sit back, relax and smile knowing that you have something rather special lined up for 2016. For more details including admission prices see <http://nwaf.org.uk/>

## Sponsorship Opportunities Available at NWAF

Companies wanting to support CAMRA's National Winter Ales Festival through sponsorship please contact Mike Ainsley, Sponsorship Manager, via [nwaf@camra.org.uk](mailto:nwaf@camra.org.uk). All sorts of sponsorship is available and all offers can be matched to an area of the Festival.

## Local Bands Wanted

Would you like to perform at the National Winter Ales Festival then read on as we are seeking local bands for support slots over 4 nights (Wed-Sat). This could be your chance to showcase your band in front of a large audience. Bands performing their own material are preferred so send us your details:

[winterents@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:winterents@derbycamra.org.uk)





# Derby in December – Steeped in History



**T**he lure of the cosy and cheerful interiors of old Derby inns and taverns (especially those with real fires and plenty of burnished brass and copperware) is probably felt most keenly in December, when the chill winds of winter set in and the prospect of snow looms large. It's a

time of year like no other; the Christmas buzz is in the air, and numerous bands of office workers and shoppers crowd into city-centre hostelries in search of good cheer and good will.

It was just the same in the 1960's when I was a teenager, although in those days the now pedestrianised heart of the city was often snarled with traffic churning the lying snow into grey slush, which

slopped up onto pavements thronged with shoppers and Yuletide revellers on their yearly pub crawl. There were many pubs in those days that are sadly no longer with us, and a lot more housing (now demolished) immediately bordering the town centre, giving many of its hostelries the feel of locals. Frequented by well-known "characters" (some more infamous than others) these town-centre pubs were always





entertaining places and especially so on Christmas Eve, when licensees would often put on a free buffet as an annual thank-you to their regular customers – a tradition that still survives in a few of our city-centre hostelries.

Further back in time – the early 1800's – Derby's revellers would have rubbed shoulders with stagecoach travellers, who were breaking their journey for much needed refreshment and a warm in front of an inn's roaring fire, before continuing on their divers ways again; no doubt eager to be home for Christmas with their parcels of presents for loved ones whom they had not set eyes on for months possibly, or even years in some cases. Their brief stay in Derby would have been at one of the town's many coaching inns, such as, the Tiger (its Cornmarket frontage pictured), the George (now Jorrocks), Iron Gate, or perhaps the Bell, Saddler Gate (featured in the last issue), all three of which are mercifully still trading.

In those days the town would have attracted its fair share of itinerant pedlars, entertainers and needless to say, petty criminals, all hoping to cash in on the Yuletide trade. Farmers and other country folk would also have flocked into town, eager to buy and sell produce, and all of these visitors would have no doubt found Derby's inns and taverns to be warm and inviting as the December snow piled up outside.

Further back in time (the December of 1745) the town's hostelries would have been even more crowded than usual, as Derby played host to Bonnie Prince Charlie and his Jacobite army, who famously demanded billets for 9,000 troops at the aforementioned George (now Jorrocks) on Iron Gate. In reality there were closer to 6,500 of them, but still more than enough to fill the various inns and taverns of the town during their brief stay. Those who wish to step back in time to those chill December days of yore, may be pleased to know that the world-renowned Charles Edward Stuart Society will once again be re-enacting the entry into Derby of the Prince's army. After calling at the Tiger to pick up a drunken deserter, they will continue to the George (Jorrocks) and demand the (over-estimated) 9,000 billets, and also collect the Mayor, who will then



accompany them to Cathedral Green where they will do battle with the dreaded Red-coats, before a short service at the Cathedral followed by a welcome pint at the George. All of this will take place on Sunday the 6th of December and will commence at 12 noon. This free event is staged by the Charles Edward Stuart Society and their friends, not least amongst whom are the locally based Clan Derby under the

stewardship of the redoubtable Laird John Morris, who for some years now have been kind enough to provide security for the event. To find out more about this unique event, contact Derby Tourist Information Office or go to the CESS website [www.facebook.com/The-Charles-Edward-Stuart-Society-329479296972/](http://www.facebook.com/The-Charles-Edward-Stuart-Society-329479296972/)

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# AmberValley CAMRA Branch

Contact Nora Harper [noraharper@hotmail.com](mailto:noraharper@hotmail.com)



## AMBER VALLEY NEWS

On the evening of Monday 21st September, the branch made its Cider POTY presentation to The Steampacket, Swanwick. The photograph shows Chair, Chris Rogers with the manager, Amanda Smith, and partner, Gary Elliott receiving their certificate. Earlier that same day, set up had commenced at our 6th Beer and Cider Festival, again held at Strutts Community Centre (former Herbert Strutt Grammar School) in Belper. It began with the marquee being installed in pouring rain but luckily the weather improved as the week went on. After a further three days of intense preparation by an enthusiastic team of volunteers, the festival opened with the Trade Session at 4pm on Thursday, then to the public at 6pm and closed at 2pm on Sunday 27th.

The overall number of customers compared favourably with last year's festival and the attendance on Friday was up by over 20% from 591 to 712. Unfortunately, we clashed with the England v Wales Rugby World Cup match which resulted in a quieter Saturday night than we would have anticipated – something we could never have foreseen when planning began last November!

All of the musical entertainment was very well received – the photo shows The Modest filling the dance floor in the main hall on Friday night. Everyone seemed to enjoy the hot and cold food on offer, particularly the hog roast on Friday and Saturday evenings which sold out very quickly.

The festival goers who attended the "Meet the Cider Maker" and "Meet the Brewer" events with Chris Rogers (Three Cats Cider) and Pete Hounsell (Amber Ales) enjoyed learning about the processes, asking questions and, not surprisingly, sampling the results!

The range of 85 beers, 12 ciders and 3 perries featured all styles and a myriad of flavours. First beer to sell out was Blue Monkey's 4.9% Chocolate Amaretto Guerilla. The festival "special" was American Red Eye, a 6.3% Red IPA from local brewery, Bottlebrook. The furthest-travelled beers came from Burning Sky Brewery, 219 miles away at Firle, East Sussex, narrowly beating Yeovil's Stargazer (202 miles).

The membership desk did well, signing up 27 new members, mostly resident within Amber Valley branch.

Volunteers proved plentiful, especially for the crowds on Friday night, and our thanks go particularly to Derby Branch members for their valuable help. Our designated charity was Heage Windmill Society's "Trouble At Mill" Appeal and almost £350 was raised from loose change and unused token donations – a cheque will be presented to them at our November branch meeting at The Spanker Inn which is close to the windmill at Nether Heage – see Diary dates. Thanks to all our volunteers who helped in any way – invitations will be issued to a thank you party at the Strutt Club in Belper on Saturday 12th December.



Steampacket, Swanwick - Cider Pub of the Year



Beer Festival



Beer Festival

### Branch Diary - all meetings start at 8pm

**Sat Nov 14th**  
survey trip contact  
Jane Wallis on  
01773 745966 to book

**Thurs Nov 26th 8pm**  
branch meeting,  
The Spanker Inn,  
Nether Heage DE56 2AT  
(the final 2015 meeting)



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# EREWASH VALLEY CAMRA BRANCH

by Mick & Carole Golds  
carolegolds@btinternet.com

## EREWASH VALLEY CAMRA REPORT

### Pub News

All is not doom and gloom in our branch area, with some good news as well as bad, the biggest disappointment being the closure of the **Muirhouse Brewery Tap**, South Street, Ilkeston on the 6th September, the reason given by Mandy & Richard being that they wish to concentrate on the expansion of the brewery and their other pub, The Last Post, Friar Gate, Derby. We wish them well in their endeavours.

The good news is that former cask beer stalwart, The **Needlemakers**, Ilkeston, has reopened albeit with no real ale at the moment, although the landlord has intimated that Punch Taverns would be installing hand pumps and cask beer at the end of October (so it may well be on tap now!).

The **General Havelock**, Stanton Road, Ilkeston, was up for auction in October.

The extension at the **Spanish Bar**, South Street, Ilkeston, is now complete and looks very good.

The **Burnt Pig**, Market Street, Ilkeston has received permission to extend into the garage space at the rear, and this should be open by the time you read this.

The **Gallows Inn**, Ilkeston is still closed after being sold at auction, but we are optimistic about its future.

The **Canalside**, Station Road, Ilkeston, formerly the Good Old Days, was due to reopen at the end of October - more details in the next drinker.

The **Half Crown**, Long Eaton is reportedly up for let.

The **Oxford**, Long Eaton has a new manager.

At the **Hole in the Wall**, Regent Street, Long Eaton, Kevin the landlord will be celebrating 29 years in the pub with a party on the 21st November.

At the **White Lion**, Sawley, the good news is that the new brewhouse for the Old Sawley



The Red Lion



Derby Tug



The Beer Parlour



Canalside

Brewery at the rear of the pub will hopefully be up-and-running soon with beers available early in the New Year.

The **Harrington** in Long Eaton, hosted a Beer Festival from 30th Oct-1st November.

### Social Reports

On September 5th 20 branch members turned out for the trip to Chesterfield which coincided with the East Midlands CAMRA regional meeting at the Chesterfield Arms. After three pubs some of our number returned to the Arms to link up with those attending the meeting. The rest of us,

however, caught the local bus to Whittington Moor with the intention of exploring this part of Chesterfield, timing our visit for when all the Spireite football fans had headed off to the match. First port of call was the Red Lion, a friendly Old Mill Brewery pub with good beer followed by a short walk to the ever-popular Derby Tug. Then round the corner to the Beer Parlour which is unbelievably an ex car repair garage, although it is now a very large 'micro' pub with a good selection of beers and very busy too. Then it was back into town finishing off at the White Swan.

### Future Socials

**RUDDINGTON - Saturday 14th November.** Meet at the Dragon, Long Row, Nottm at midday, then catching the No 10 bus, calling at The Frame Breakers, (Nottm Brewery pub) and others.

**LEEDS - Saturday 5th Dec** Christmas social. Meet Derby Railway station 10.00am to arrange cheapest way of travel, Derbyshire wayfarer tickets can be used to Sheffield then a group ticket to Leeds, for more information re fares contact Carole Golds 07887 788785 or website [www.erewash-camra.org](http://www.erewash-camra.org)

### Future Meetings

All Meetings are on a Monday starting 8.00pm

**Monday 2nd November** - Burnt Pig, Market Street, Ilkeston.

**Monday 7th December** - Hole in Wall, Regent Street, Long Eaton.

**Monday 4th January 2016** - The Canalside, Station Road, Ilkeston. (ex Good Old Days)

For further details if required contact Secretary Jayne Tysoe at [secretary@erewash-camra.org](mailto:secretary@erewash-camra.org)

### Camra Discounts

Please remember to show your camra card

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

**Bridge, Cotmanhay** - 20p off a pint.

**Blue Bell, Sandiacre** - 10p off a pint, 5p off a half including real cider.

**Coach & Horses, Draycott** - 30p off a pint, 15p off a half.

**General Havelock, Ilkeston** - 20p off a pint, 10p off a half including real cider.

**Great Northern, Langley Mill** - 15p off a pint.

**Hogarth's, Ilkeston** - 10p off pint.

**Navigation, Breaston** - 10p off a pint.

**Oxford, Long Eaton** - discounts available on all real ales.

**Poacher, Ilkeston** - 15p off a pint.

**Queens Head, Marlpool** - 20p off a pint, 10p off a half including real cider.

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

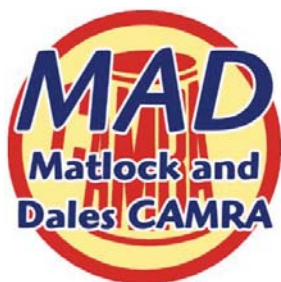
**Steamboat, Trent Lock** - 20p off a pint, 10p off a half including real cider.

**The Three Horseshoes, Ilkeston** - 20p off a pint, 10p off a half.

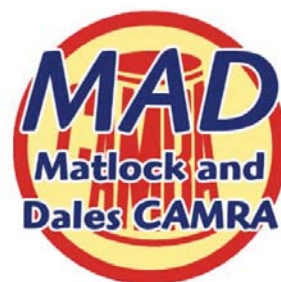
**Victoria, Draycott** - Discount available Monday - Thursday

**The Half Crown, Long Eaton** - 10p off a pint, 5p off a half.





# Matlock and Dales CAMRA Pub of the Year 2016



**Thorn Tree Inn  
Matlock**



**MoCa Bar  
Matlock**



**Druid Inn  
Birchover**



**County and Station  
Matlock Bath**



**Flying Childers Inn  
Stanton in Peak**



**Stanley's Alehouse  
Matlock**

## Voting started for MAD pub of the Year 2015

The MAD Country pub 2015 of the Season was won by The Druid Inn, Birchover, with the runner up named as The Flying Childers, Stanton in Peak. These two pubs will go through to the POTY competition along with the winners on the MAD Town Pub of the Season winners (The County and Station, Matlock Bath), and 'Town' runners-up, (the MoCa Bar, Matlock) .

*The MAD POTY 2015 contenders are therefore (In no particular order) :*

1. Druid Inn, Birchover
2. The Flying Childers, Stanton in Peak.
3. Moca Bar, Matlock.
4. The County and Station, Matlock Bath.
5. The Thorn Tree Inn, Matlock.
6. Stanley's Ale House, Matlock.

The latter two pubs are public nominations via the MAD Newsletter poll. Voting slips will be available in all of the establishments.

Voting is open until 17th December 2015. The winner will be announced at the December branch meeting. Members must visit all of the pubs to be eligible to vote, and submit their voting slip either via post (allowing time for delivery), or in person at a branch meeting, prior to 17th December.



## **Pubs with CAMRA discounts in the Matlock and Dales area**

**The Crown (Weatherspoon's)  
Bakewell Road Matlock**

Cash discount on either presentation of membership card, or presentation of CAMRA vouchers apply (but not at same time). Vouchers have some restrictions printed on them.

**Old Bowling Green  
Winstar**

Cash discount applies on presentation of membership card

**County and Station  
Dale Road, Matlock Bath**

Cash discount applies on presentation of membership card  
**2010**

**Dale Road, Matlock**

Cash discount applies on presentation of membership card

**Fishpond**

**South Parade Matlock Bath**

Cash discount applies on presentation of membership card

**Druid Inn**

**Main Road Birchover**

Cash discount applies on presentation of membership card



## **MAD Branch Diary**

**Saturday 7th November**

MAD Saturday Social trip to Derby.  
Check details on the Website.

**Thu 19th November**

MAD Monthly Meeting :  
Princess Victoria, Matlock Bath from 8pm.

**Wed 25th November**

Trip to Thornbridge Brewery is planned for the evening.  
Contact dawson.graham@tiscali.co.uk for details.

**Saturday 7th December**

MAD Saturday Social trip around Matlock.  
Check details on the Website.

**Thu 17th December**

MAD Monthly Meeting :  
Bell Inn Cromford from 8pm



*PS it's very good ale!*

**Contact  
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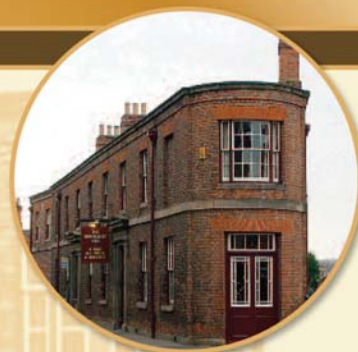
The new CAMRA website **whatpub.com** features 47,000 pubs, 36,000 with real ale. It's free to all, works well on mobile phones, and makes it a doddle to find pubs with the features you want, wherever you are. Give it a go!



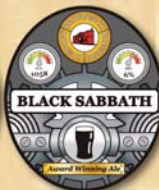
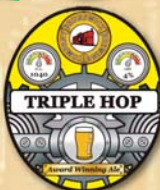
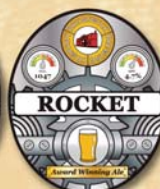
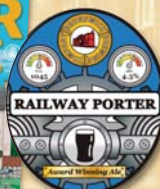
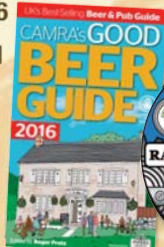




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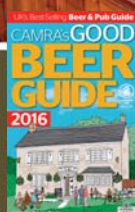
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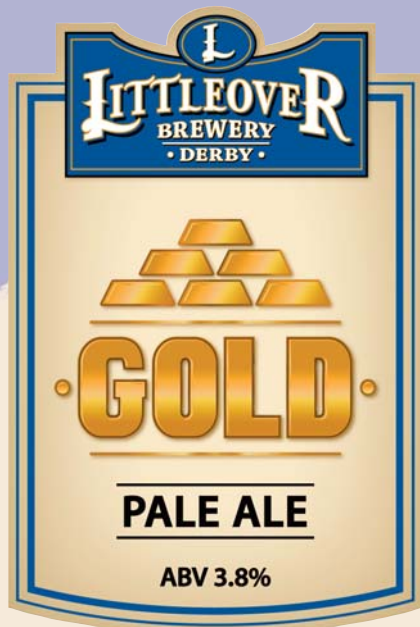
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# Littleover Strikes Gold as 1st beer is tapped

**D**erby's breweries swelled to 14 when Littleover launched their 1st beer 'Gold' on 17th September appropriately at the White Swan in Littleover.

This was the culmination of months of hard work by Tim Dorrington in setting up and commissioning the 6 barrel plant on the Robinson Industrial Estate off Osmaston Road in Derby. Now I know what you're thinking that's not exactly in Littleover so

why the name? Well Tim is a born and bred Littleover man and the intention was to brew there but suitable premises just couldn't be found. He had wrestled with all sorts of names, some wacky which might make an impact, some with tenuous connections to him or his family but he kept coming back to Littleover and he's glad he stuck with it as he had so much support from people in Littleover or with a connection to it that he feels like he's flying the flag for the local community. And the logo too is inspired by the gates of the 14th Century St Peter's Church in Littleover so yet another Littleover connection.

Tim's background is in fact in Home Brewing but took the opportunity to do it full time when he accepted voluntary severance from Rolls-Royce after 35 Years of service as he was ready for a new challenge. He is essentially a one man band although he receives occasional help from

family members so the brewery is definitely a labour of love of sorts. Littleover Gold is his first brew and has been seen around many outlets during October even making an appearance at the Nottingham Beer Festival. It's a 3.8% ABV light session pale ale and is very quaffable. He has also brewed a best bitter which will be going into casks shortly so expect to see that around the area soon. These will be the two core beers as Tim would like to establish these first and make sure that all of the basic processes are right to provide a good, consistent quality ale. The intention then is to start to increase the portfolio.

We wish Tim and the Brewery well and if you haven't yet tried the Gold then it's on almost permanently at the Five Lamps in Derby and the White Swan in Littleover which will probably be a regular outlet for both the Bitter and the Gold.

**Gareth Stead**

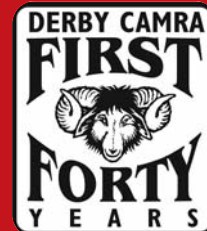
## Micropub Mooted for Littleover

The Micropub revolution looks no sign of abating with new ones opening all over the Country. Derby of course has 2 already, the Little Chester Alehouse and the Last Post but now a third one has been mooted in Littleover in a former Dentist's on Burton Road.

A planning application was put into Derby City Council in July by Neil Mansell but a decision has yet to be reached on whether it will be given the go ahead or not. The locals much like when the Little Chester Ale House was planned have put in objections including a petition on safety, parking and noise grounds but it's obvious that none of them have ever visited a Micropub as nothing could be further from the truth. A Micropub is a small freehouse with no music or gaming machines serving mainly Real Ales & Ciders and promoting good conversation amongst its customers. There is no rowdy behavior or raucous singing and shouting as the people who frequent Micropubs just want to sit and chat or read the paper with a good pint of beer in a convivial environment.

One hopes that the planners will take notice of this and the fact that they have two local examples to look at which have caused no trouble at all or been a problem in any respect. On these grounds we hope the application will be approved so we can truly welcome Derby's 3rd Micropub and we will hopefully have a positive outcome to report on in the next edition.

## The 40th Derby CAMRA Christmas Show



Derby CAMRA reached its 40th Milestone last year and a party was held at its Birthplace, the Alexandra Hotel in Derby to celebrate the occasion.

The Branch's first Christmas Social was held in 1975 at the now closed Beaconsfield Club in Derby. However it wasn't until the following year at the Branch's second Christmas Social in the Crown in Spondon (also now closed) that the Christmas Show as we now know it today was born. For those not in the know it is basically a comedy sketch show performed on stage in two halves with costumes, lights, sound, etc in front of an appreciative audience of local CAMRA members and anyone else interested in attending.

The shows cast (The University of Spondon Footlights Club) has been together for some considerable time with some of the original members

wheeled out especially for each occasion and they have performed throughout the years at notable venues such as the Wherehouse & Baseball Hotel in Derby, both also now closed (there is a definite theme here – don't let them perform in your pub !!!).

Anyway this year's all-star 40th Show performance billed as the 'Farewell Tour' will be held as it has been since 1995 in the **Flowerpot in Derby on Thursday 10th December at 8pm**. Tickets priced at £8 which includes a sumptuous buffet are now on sale from the **Branch Secretary, Ian Forman** who can be contacted on **01332 882996** or [secretary@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:secretary@derbycamra.org.uk). Or you can pick one up in person at the November & December Branch Meetings (see Branch Diary on page 27) Be quick though as the event is sure to sell out with it being such a special occasion and all.







## 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  
Brewery Tap/Royal Standard  
Brunswick  
Exeter Arms  
Falstaff  
Five Lamps  
Flowerpot  
Furnace  
Golden Eagle  
Greyhound  
Last Post  
Little Chester Ale House  
Mr Grundy's Tavern  
New Zealand Arms  
Old Bell  
Old Silk Mill  
Peacock  
Seven Stars  
Slug and Lettuce  
Smithfield  
Thomas Leaper  
Wardwick Tavern  
Ye Olde Dolphin Inne

### SURROUNDING AREA

Bell (Smalley)  
Blue Bell Inn (Melbourne)  
Blacks Head (Wirksworth)  
Boot (Repton)  
The Brackens (Alvaston)  
Chip & Pin (Melbourne)  
Coopers Arms (Weston-on-Trent)  
The Dragon (Willington)  
Harrington Arms (Thulston)  
Harpur's (formerly Melbourne Hotel) (Melbourne)  
Hope and Anchor (Wirksworth)  
Lamb Inn (Melbourne)  
Lawns (Chellaston)  
Miners Arms (Carsington)  
Nags Head (Mickleover)  
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)  
Swan Inn (Milton)  
Vine Inn (Mickleover)  
White Swan (Littleover)  
Windmill (Oakwood)

### 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](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
Bell & Castle, Derby	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
Bridge Inn, Derby	10p off a pint
Broadway, Derby	20p off a pint
Brunswick Inn, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
Five Lamps, Derby	20p off a pint
Flowerpot, 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
Smithfield, Derby	20p off a pint
Victoria Inn, Derby	30p off a pint
Wardwick Tavern, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
Ye Olde Dolphin Inne, Derby	20p a pint discount on selected guest beers
King Alfred, Alfreton	15p off a pint
Brackens, Alvaston	15p off a pint
Lawns, Chellaston	10p off a pint and 5p off a half
Tiger Inn, 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
Half Moon, Littleover	10% off a pint
Kings Corner, Oakwood	10% 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
Nags Head, Mickleover	10% off a pint
Midland, Ripley	15p off a pint
Mill House, Milford	10% off a pint/half
New Inn, Shardlow	15p off a pint, 5p off a half
Cross Keys, Ockbrook	10p off a pint
Royal Oak, Ockbrook	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
White Swan, Ockbrook	20p off a pint
Wilmot Arms, Chaddesden	30p off a pint and 15p off a half with loyalty card which is free to Camra members
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
Prince of Wales, Spondon	15p off a pint
Vernon Arms, Spondon	20p off a pint
White Swan, Spondon	15p off a pint
Royal Oak, Wetton	40p 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 [discounts@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:discounts@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.



# Message in a BottALE

from Alex at Kellentay Beers

**H**ello it's me. The women in the market hall beer shop who looks constantly half asleep when not burrowed in a book or her phone. Generally I'm not asleep, but that depends on how my sleep pattern has been affected by recent nocturnal activities of two small people and a feline collective. There's nothing like an elbow from a three-year-old bed invader or catfight on the bed to ruin a night's sleep.

It may have escaped your notice recently but the world of beer has been changing a bit recently. Where once a bottle shop may have boasted several variations on the theme of pale, mild, bitter, porter, stout and a few European beers throw in for good measure now the average drinker is confronted with a bewildering array of crossed over styles, fruit, rocketing abv's, well groomed beards and use of the word 'craft'. I have one thing to say on the current fixation of beer and image; the well-groomed beer geek of today is the ticker of tomorrow. I'm sure there's CAMRA members with vague recollections of their fashion choices from their youth. Beer's the thing after all, and there's a whole load of new breweries out there that have not been around long enough to secure a place in the CAMRA Good Bottle Beer Guide or the Tierney-Jones tomb 1001 Beers. So this is what this articles about, a little introduction to 6 new breweries out there that may have escaped your notice. And yes, they are bottle conditioned this is CAMRA after all.

**Weird Beard:** Yes, they have 'beard' as part of their brewery name and have bottles with bearded skulls and rumour has it impressive beards themselves. Don't be fooled into think all style and no substance though. These guys are probably what the majority of home brewers secretly aspire to do; win lots of homebrew competitions at local and nation level then open their own brewery. Yes, they do have fashionably hoppy American style IPA's in their catalogue but also some subtle pales and rich stouts.

**Wild Beer Co:** If you've had occasion to watch the Sunday Brunch show on the BBC you have come across this brewery. It's fair to say they have a lot of 'foodie' associations; in fact they've just opened a restaurant in Cheltenham. Their main specialty has been for the last few years the use of wild yeast rather than cultured ale/larger yeast in their brews so if you've enjoyed a Belgian Lambic or a Berliner Weiss on your travels you may find these guys to your liking. Admittedly the natural sourness that wild yeast produces isn't to everyone's taste but that's not all they do. Their 'millionaire' stout is delicious if you like your stout with chocolate sweetness and if you're looking for something a bit different Ninkasi (beer champagne??) and Yadoki (sake inspired) are excellent and make a good talking point!



**Kernel:** The Kernel Brewery is another product of the London Home Brewing scene and selling cheese. Honest. Kernel's founder Evin O'Riordain reportedly discovered the America 'craft' beer scene whilst setting up a cheese shop in Manhattan for his former employers, Neals Yard. When back in the U.K he became an enthusiastic home brewer and set about creating the fragrant hoppy U.S style he tried as well as very tradition English brews. Kernel are known for creating beers focusing on single hop varieties along with traditional porters, stouts and brown ales. They're a company that is very simplistic in its philosophy staying away from the image forward packaging associated with some of the newer breweries, in fact short of the name of the beer and the legal requirements for abv and ingredients you wont find a great deal else on their labels, not even a description. They believe a beer should speak for itself, and judging by the fan base they're building it certainly does.

**Siren Craft Brew:** Yes, I know they have 'craft' in their name. I've included these guys as a bit of a wild card, as although their beer is not strictly bottle conditioned it is unfiltered and does have yeast still in it. There is no denying, This brewery is at the forefront on the 'new' brewing scene in the U.K. Yes they experiment with styles and ingredients which I know will put some people off to start with (why am I reminded of a scene from phoenix nights involving garlic bread??) however some of these combination work extremely well (smoked milk porter with cherries and chipotle chilli anyone? It works beautifully.) And their barrel aged imperial porters and stouts have been some of the most exceptional beers I've had through the shop. They treat their beer like wine and feel the beer drinker should have as much choice as a wine drinker. If your feeling curious about the UK craft beer scene, you cant go far wrong with

Siren. However, their dry hopped smoked sour wheat ale is probably not for the faint hearted!

**Fallen Brewery:** Fallen started off via the contract brewing route before brewer Paul Fallen established their own brewery near Kippen in Stirlingshire, yet another former home brewer. They aim for bold flavours using New World hops, but their market is more for pint drinkers with their core range abv's not above 5.4%, as opposed to the imperial (think 7 & 8% and over) styles that are currently popular. To quote Paul in a recent interview with Craft Beer World

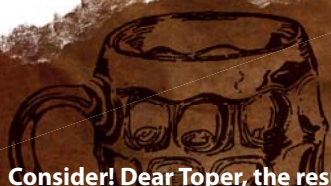
"The vast majority of drinkers (even those who consider themselves knowledgeable ale drinkers) don't want to go down the pub on a Friday or Saturday and drink a third of 15% Cleopatra's Bathwater Imperial Stout Thrice Barrel Aged and Filtered Through the Beard of God Himself whilst updating their Untappd, RateBeer, Instagram, Twitter and Facebook profiles waxing lyrical about the aforementioned beer. They want a tasty flavoursome pint to sup whilst enjoying the company of their mates". I think that sums up rather well that not all of the new 'craft' breweries have the same approach.

**Five Points Brewery:** Established in 2013 Five points are another London Brewer, producing keg, cask and bottle conditioned beer. All their products are unfiltered, unpasteurized and un fined, with a core range of five beers including a pale ale, red ale, porter, imperial porter and an IPA. The brewery was founded by Edward Mason former publican to Whitlock's Ale house in Leeds and the Deramore Arms in York and Gregg Hobbs a former brewer from the East London Brewing Co. Their beers are unpretentious and flavour forward and have gained a good following in a relatively short space of time.

Alex Mills-Bell







# Dear Toper...

**Consider! Dear Toper, the results of a recent survey which confirm something that many of us have long-suspected; that being, that the amount of revenue generated from the sale of alcohol products outweighs the cost to the state for healthcare and public order problems that are supposedly "drink related". Whilst I broadly welcome the findings of the survey,**

I note that yet again that open-ended phrase "drink related" has popped up, and as I have pointed out before in this publication, it is nearly always a meaningless phrase (the exception to the rule will become apparent at the end of the piece). Take for instance a man who is run over by a wayward ale barrel: are his injuries – or in the worst case scenario, his death – drink related? I'm sure that those individuals who are on a self-appointed mission to save the public (usually through punitive taxation) from everything we enjoy, would probably think so as they seek to seize on anything, no matter how spurious, in an effort to justify their cause. You know the sort, Dear Toper; they normally start their sanctimonious diatribe with, "I'm not a killjoy, but ....." and then go on to pour scorn on one of life's little pleasures.

You would think, Dear Toper, that with current research indicating that E cigarettes are 95% (probably 99%) less harmful than tobacco equivalents, those guardians of the public's wellbeing – the "I'm not a killjoy"s, or INAKs for short – would wholeheartedly endorse so-called "vaping" as an alternative to fags, but alas – no! Shaking their heads disapprovingly they warn that E cigarettes might encourage people (especially youngsters) to take up smoking, although there is little or no evidence to support this claim. Like mad, mentally-tortured hermit monks they seem to disapprove of anything that other people derive pleasure from and want to punish the decadent sinners by taxing it.

Some people (I don't know why?) derive pleasure from attending party political conferences, where they listen enthralled as a succession of overpaid, overrated (and often, apparently oversexed), liars and cheats, set out their own particular warped vision for the country's future. Despite the all too compelling evidence that many of the party faithful packed into these weird events, where proven fantasies are presented as axiomatic facts,

## "I'M NOT A KILLJOY BUT ....."

will, having been intoxicated by the experience, go forth and cause untold misery and lasting damage to the nation's wellbeing, these conferences are allowed to continue year after year. Perhaps, in the interests of public safety, the INAKs should don their hair shirts and turn their attention to these poisonous events, which have a proven track record of causing lasting harm to millions of people up and down the country (far more than alcohol or E cigarettes). But having said that, they are the sort of individuals who probably attend them anyway. Indeed, I should imagine that it was at one of these get-togethers for the reality-challenged, political spivs and outright nutters, that some over-excited INAK originally dreamt up the hated Beer Duty Escalator, which was no doubt justified to those assembled by a liberal sprinkling of scare stories concerning health and public order and an overuse of that ubiquitous phrase "drink

related". And no doubt the same phrase was used when it was then sold to its victims (us) by a compliant broadcast news media – is it any wonder that so many people have stopped paying their T.V. license fee? (One in ten cases now heard in Magistrates' Courts is for non-payment.)

Although the Beer Duty Escalator has now been consigned to the drip tray of history, its aftershocks continue to be felt, and many an austerity-hit Brit sees a visit to the local as something of a rare luxury, which of course has a knock-on effect to the wider economy. Take for instance a recent newspaper headline proclaiming, "TWO CURRY HOUSES CLOSING EVERY WEEK!" (I assume that they are not the same two.) It's simple: if fewer people go to the pub, fewer will stop off for a curry on the way home, and I've lost count of the number of taxi drivers who have regaled me with sob stories concerning the dearth of evening customers – it's called "drink related" trade – and it's declining! Consider that, Dear Toper!

D.T.



**Coming  
Soon -  
Save  
the  
Dates**





## Derby Drinker Production Schedule

January/February – **December 10th**

March/April – **February 10th**

May/June – **April 10th**

July/August – **June 10th**

September/October – **August 10th**

November/December – **October 10th**

**Copy Deadlines in BOLD**

## Derby Drinker Online & by Post

Did you know that the latest and previous editions of Derby Drinker are available to read online at <http://www.derbycamra.org.uk/derby-drinker/>

Alternatively if you would like a copy posted to you it is available at a cost of £5 for 4 editions.

Send a cheque payable to Derby CAMRA to

**Derby Drinker,**

**10 Newton Close, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 1TN.**

# DerbyCAMRA BranchDiary

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

## OCTOBER

**Sat 31st** - Survey Trip - Ticknall, Milton area. By free mini bus, 6.30pm departure from the Quad.

## NOVEMBER

**Thu 12th** - Branch Meeting - Bell & Castle, Derby - 8pm.

## DECEMBER

**Wed 2nd** - Branch Meeting - Flowerpot, Derby - 8pm.

**Thu 10th** - 40th USFC Xmas Show - Flowerpot, Derby - 8pm. Tickets £8 with buffet from Ian Forman, [Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk)

## JANUARY

**Wed 13th** - Branch Meeting - Thomas Leaper, Derby - 8pm.

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

### A Campaign of Two Halves

*Fair deal on beer tax now!*

*Save Britain's Pubs!*



### Join CAMRA Today

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 the: Membership Department, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

#### Your Details

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

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

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) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (if different from main member) \_\_\_\_\_

	<b>Direct Debit</b>	<b>Non DD</b>
Single Membership (UK & EU)	£24 <input type="checkbox"/>	£26 <input type="checkbox"/>
Joint Membership (Partner at the same address)	£29.50 <input type="checkbox"/>	£31.50 <input type="checkbox"/>

For Young Member and other 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

#### Instructions 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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230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW

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To the Manager Bank or Building Society

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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 accounts.  
**This Guarantee should be detached and retained by the payer.**

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• 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.

**Campaigning for Pub Goers  
& Beer Drinkers**

**Enjoying Real Ale  
& Pubs**

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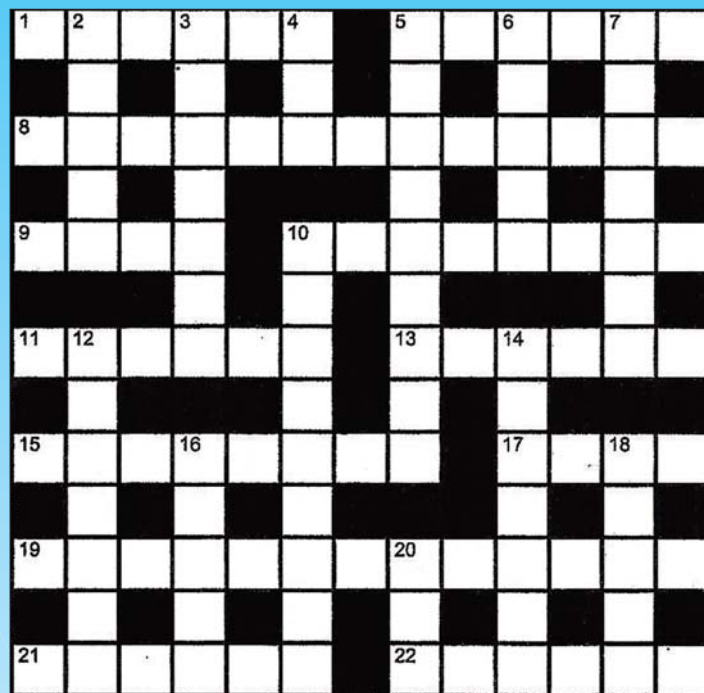
# Crossword

## No 48 by Wrenrutt

The Good Beer Guide 2015 is necessary for some of these clues

**Crossword  
winner is  
David Taylor**

from Aston-on-Trent  
picked up at the  
Malt Shovel,  
Shardlow



### Across

1. See 10 across
5. Someone who wrote or taught for the Pharisees (6)
8. A strong, dark ale from Catthorpe (3.6.4)
9. The sort of ale we like (4)
- 10 & 1. Derbyshire Pub of the Year 2015 at Ashover (3.5.6)
11. Prodded a steed to do this (6)
13. Muddled e-blurb describing a stone pile (6)
15. A single man creating boredom (8)
17. Loaf about to get one of Okell's dark beers (4)
19. Unlikely to be Anaditae anglers but, in fact, a Derbyshire brewery (6.7)
21. Ailment of a mother and another female (6)
22. Decapitated fish going wrong (6)

### Down

2. High-up layer, but not of eggs (5)
3. Party appetisers eaten as rabbits do (7)
4. I, or a French king will solve this clue (3)
5. Gateshead's concert hall and a Midlands city will provide this cheese (4.5)
6. A CAMRA Dionysian contains a receiver (5)
7. Lost bar is a confused former penal institution (7)
10. Brandon Brewery's tawny best bitter (3.6)
12. Literature or art which may turn you on! (7)
14. Male sibling followed by a rabbit: a Thornbridge pale ale (7)
16. The Magic Flute, for example (5)
18. cottish island brewery that brews Guid Ale (5)
20. With Maiden, is Hart of Preston's straw-coloured bitter (3)

- ▶ Access to Chambers Dictionary and the Good Beer Guide 2015 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.
- ▶ Closing date for entries is Copy Deadline Day (see box below).

## Crossword No 47 Answers

### Across

1. CARPET
5. INSERT
8. DO AS YOU PLEASE
9. VERA
10. TRIAL RUN
11. SCREAM
13. AGENDA
15. ANGEL ALE
17. PEAK
19. WEST STOCKWITH
21. STRAIN
22. DERIDE

### Down

2. AROSE
3. PASSAGE
4. TOO
5. IMPLICATE
6. STEAL
7. RESOUND
10. TIM MARTIN
12. CONTENT
14. EMPOWER
16. EXTRA
18. ACTED
20. CAD

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# Derby DRINKER

## ADVERTISING - Contact Alan

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 e-mail [ads@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto: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.

## COPY BY POST - Contact Lynn

Out of circulation area? Having difficulty getting your copy? Then why not get it sent to you by post. It is available at a cost of £5 for 4 issues. Contact us at: [subs@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:subs@derbycamra.org.uk), or send a cheque made payable to 'Derby CAMRA' to: **Derby Drinker by Post, 10 Newton Close, Belper, Derbyshire, DE56 1TN.**

## DERBY DRINKER INFORMATION

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