

# Derby DRINKER



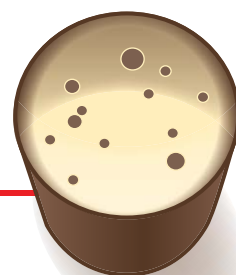
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Covering Derby, Ashbourne, Amber Valley, Erewash & Matlock Camra Areas

Issue 176

November/December 2017



"Cheers!"

## Six of the Best



Last Post



White Swan



Town Street Tap



Coronation

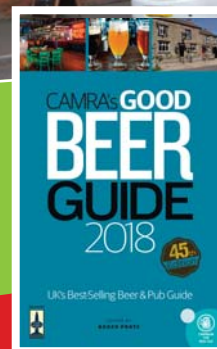


Little Chester Ale House

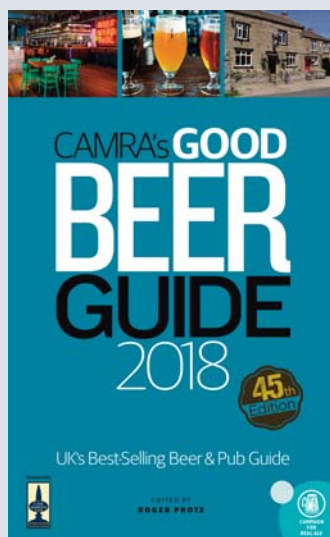


Hawk & Buckle

As New Good Beer Guide Entries  
Celebrate



Details inside plus Derby Winter Ale Festival 2018 ▶▶▶▶



# Six of the Best as new Good Beer Guide is launched

The recent launch of the 2018 Good Beer Guide saw 6 new entries from within the area covered by the Derby Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale. We take a look at them all (pictured on the front page).

Derby's second ever Micropub, the **Last Post** makes its debut in the Guide which is a great

accomplishment for a pub that has only been open a few years. Mind you in those few years it has seen quite a few changes being opened originally by Wentwell Brewery in 2014 before quickly passing to Muirhouse Brewery in 2015 and then being taken on by current licensees, Chris & Karen O'Brien in 2016. Set in an old Post Office the pub serves 4 ever changing ales and real ciders which are supplemented by regular Beer Festivals throughout the year with live acoustic music also a feature on several evenings. This friendly pub is a 10-15 minute walk from the City Centre but it's well worth the effort to get there.

The **Little Chester Alehouse** was Derby's original Micropub which was opened by Wentwell Brewery in 2012 and quickly appeared in the Guide but a change of ownership meant it didn't appear in the 2017 edition. However new owners, Hartshorns Brewery have swiftly got it back into the Guide and it now acts as the Tap for the Brewery which lies just up the road with their own ales supplemented by guests and real ciders. The pub is set in a former shop and lies in the historic Little Chester area of Derby with its Roman remains and is a pleasant 10 minute walk from the City Centre.

The **Coronation** in Derby also makes its debut in the Guide which is a fantastic achievement for a pub set in the back streets of the Alvaston area of the City. Acquired by the Steamy Billy Brewing Company in 2016 and sympathetically refurbished this large roadside pub has 2 distinct rooms. The ales are mainly from the Steamy Billy range but regular guests often appear along with real ciders. Homemade Pizza is also a pub speciality and well worth trying. To get there catch the No.1 or 1a Arriva bus from the Bus or Railway Station and get off at the Alvaston Park stop.

The **White Swan** in the Littleover area of Derby last appeared in the Guide in 2001 and was Derby's original Festival Alehouse back in the days when Allied owned it. This concept brought a greater range of beers to the pub than had previously been seen and attracted customers from far and wide. Since then this attractive looking pub has continued to offer a wide range of ales with up to 9 now available including real ciders. Regular buses from Derby include the Arriva 5 & 5a which pass the pub nearby and the Trent V3 and Harlequin which go along the main road.

The **Town Street Tap** in Duffield is the 3rd local pub to make its debut in the Guide and caps a remarkable year for the pub having been a finalist in the Derby CAMRA Country Pub of the Year category as well. Duffield's 1st Micropub owned by Tollgate Brewery offers up to 6 ales & real ciders all served straight to your table. It lies on the main through road and is easily reached on the Sixes Trent bus from Derby to Belper or is a stone's throw from the Town's Railway Station where the Duffield to Wirksworth heritage line is also located.

The **Hawke & Buckle** in Etwell makes its 1st appearance in the guide since 1994. Dating from around 1804 this roadside pub has 2 rooms and serves up to 6 Real Ales. However we have just learned that it may have been bought by the owners of the Roebuck in Draycott-in-the-Clay who have a small brewery there serving Roebuck IPA 5.2 %, Roebuck Bitter 4.5 % and Roebuck Blonde at 3.7 %. These ales will possibly now appear at the Hawk & Buckle as well supplementing their current range which should make for interesting times ahead at the pub. It is reached by the Trent V1 bus from Derby.

So there you have it, just a taster of the 6 new entries in the 2018 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.

## The Rowditch Undersold and misreported.

GBG 2018 has, most regrettably, misreported and misrepresented the Rowditch pub, on Uttoxeter Road, its brewery and its brewer.

CAMRA's flagship publication the Good Beer Guide, published again on Sept 14th this year, has unlike the 2107 edition, failed to list any of the beers produced by this brewery, whose brewer, according to the Middle Earth Brewery information in GBG 2018, is someone other than **Steve Birkin**, who actually brews

unaided - except by his own concept of what constitutes a good /great beer. So none of the highly quaffable beers such as *St Stephen's*, *St Andrew's*, *Full Flower Moon* or *St Luke's* (ref: Real Ale in Derby - pub June 2016) are mentioned.

Moreover in the pub section, the beers listed against the Rowditch Inn suggest that only Marstons Pedigree + two guests are on tap. In fact a more accurate description would substitute St Stephen's / St Andrew's / St Luke's + a guest as being available in place of 'two guests'.

Derby CAMRA can only apologise for this mistake and hope more Derby Drinkers come to recognise this gem for what it is.

John Arguile



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# Derby CAMRA Winter Festival 2018



It's diary time again as Derby's very own Winter Fest opens late afternoon on Wednesday 21st February until Saturday 24th. Book leave, book the baby sitter, get your spare room ready to receive visitors because this is the one not to miss!

Since National Winter Ales Festival moved in 2017 to Norwich, and has now been rebranded as Great British Beer Festival Winter,



Derby has proved that customers love the formula which comes together to create the festival at The Roundhouse. Our new Organiser Russell Gilbert discovered customers footfall stayed high despite the National moving on. Indeed, it was this demand which caused the embarrassing position that found the Festival short of draught beer and cider/perry late on Saturday evening. Plans are in place to ensure this is not repeated.

The cider and perry selection is being worked on and the very best Producers across the UK will be setting aside some stunning selections 'for Derby' so that our customers can enjoy it. The World Beer Team are swapping suggestions to ensure they have arguably the very best selection for you to choose from. It goes without saying that the beer orderer is working hard and the mead orderer is reflecting on last year and wondering how to improve further (if possible).

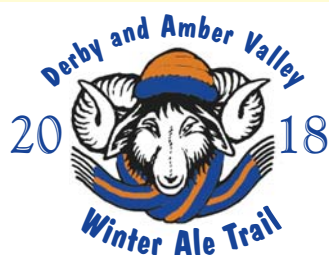
If you are a band and would like to play please contact the Ents Manager on: [winterents@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:winterents@derbycamra.org.uk) (See box below).

Lets make 2018 the biggest and best Winter Fest ever! See you there.

Gillian Hough

## Festival Bands Wanted

Would you like to perform at the **Derby CAMRA Winter Ale Festival** at the Roundhouse 21-24 Feb 2018 ? If so then please 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 larger audience. Bands performing their own material as well as covers are preferred so send your details to: [winterents@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:winterents@derbycamra.org.uk)



## The Winter Ale Trail is coming again!

After the success of the 2017 joint Derby/Amber Valley CAMRA Winter Ale Trail, we are running it again next year.

More details will appear in the next Derby Drinker, but if you would like your pub to take part, please email [freefrom\\_99@live.co.uk](mailto:freefrom_99@live.co.uk) or text 07982 943 944. There will be certificates for the winning pubs in each Branch area, so if you fancy taking on last year's winners, the Alexandra Hotel in Derby or the Talbot in Ripley, get in touch! The Trail will begin in January, ending the weekend before the Derby Winter Beer Festival begins.

Trevor Spencer



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# Council is Killing our Pubs

**B**usiness Rates are killing the great pub in our communities. Following the last business rates review conducted by the last government, some premises here in Derby have faced huge rates rises. Business rates for some of our pubs are huge costs and can close pubs when rates rises happen.

If your business rates go up after a valuation office review, they go up immediately, if they go down they are phased in. This is simply unfair.

The government in the Spring Budget of 2017, announced a business rates relief scheme and £1000 would be refunded against this year's bills by 30th June 2017. So why as of today, 29th September 2017 has Derby City Council got this on its website still? See below...

## Spring Budget 2017 announcement

*At the Spring Budget on 8 March 2017 the Government announced the following changes to the business rates scheme;*

- There will be £1,000 discount on business rate bills on all public houses with a rateable value of up to £100,000 for a maximum of one year;
- A £300m fund is to be made available to English Authorities to allow them to provide discretionary relief within their local area;
- Support for small businesses losing small business rates relief.

Currently, the detail of how these schemes will work is yet to be finalised and the Council is working closely with the Government and its partners to determine this as soon as possible.

As soon as these details are known the Council will publicise this, together with full details of how to claim any relief on offer. In the meantime, businesses should pay in line with the details set out on their bill.

**As leader of Derby City Council, this should have been done already Cllr Ranjit Banwait!**

I have written to Cllr Banwait again asking for his immediate attention to this issue. Also I have written to Chris Williamson MP for Derby North and Dame Margaret Beckett MP for Derby South to ask them to sort the issue out with the council.

*Letter is below.*

Dear Councillor Banwait

Progress on the implementation of business rate relief schemes announced in the 2017 Spring Budget

I am writing on behalf of the Derby branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale to enquire about the progress of the Council in implementing business rate relief schemes announced in the Spring Budget which are, or may be, applicable to pubs in the local authority area.

Pubs are valued community facilities, which already shoulder a large tax burden, and some have been greatly affected by the recent business rates revaluation. Large increases in business rates bills leave pubs with no choice but to increase prices for local people or close the pub and lose a local business and community space.

The current business rates system unfairly penalises pubs, which foot 2.8% of the total business rates bill despite the sector only accounting for 0.5% of business turnover. This equates to an overspend of £500million by the pub sector across England.

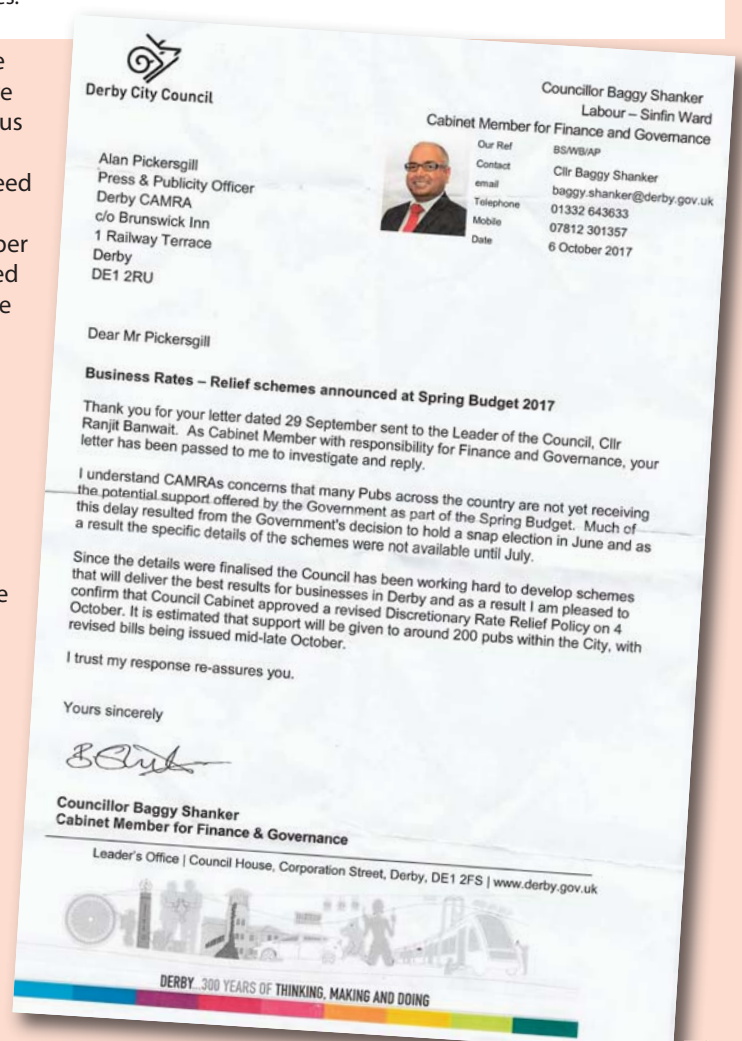
Two schemes were announced in the Spring Budget which relate to or can relate to pubs: the Business Rate Relief Scheme for Pubs and the Discretionary Relief Scheme. In business rate information letters to local authorities, dated 9th March 2017 and 22nd June 2017, the Department for Communities and Local Government has laid out how the relief schemes should be implemented by local authorities and also indicated that all areas should have begun delivering the relief schemes by the end of June.

With this in mind, I would be grateful if you could provide assurance that the Council has begun delivering these important relief schemes, and in particular the Business Rate Relief Scheme for Pubs. If the Council has not begun delivering these schemes, it is vital that the process is started immediately to provide much needed support for pubs that are struggling with rates increases.

As a result of the pressure we have put on the various parties on the council and indeed its leadership, today, 9th October 2017, we received this letter (on the right).

I intend to keep the pressure on the Cllr Baggy Shanker to his word. If you are reading this as a publican and have not got your rates rebate by the 31st October 2017, I would love to hear from you, as we will fight for the Great British Pub

**Alan Pickersgill  
Press & Publicity Officer  
Derby CAMRA**



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## To Keg or Not To Keg?

**Y**es that is the question. Ah well I hear you say CAMRA is all about cask ale. Or do I hear you say CAMRA should embrace great beer whatever its packaging.

Well here in Derby CAMRA we are going to tackle this head on. We have a number of upcoming events to visit breweries who cask ale up and keg it too. And we also have meetings to discuss and shape our branch policy. We can then lead on the issue and take this forward to regional and national level.

So we need to start with the facts and dispel a few rumours amongst us.

Keg is not always pasteurised. Cask is not always naturally aspirated live beer.

We have various containers and dispense methods. Some of you may know all about Keg Kegs, Key Casks, Fast Cask and Nitro Kegs to name but a few. Bag in box has been around for ages now with live real cider in it as a favoured form of dispense.

I am not going to write this article and tell you what you should do about this subject but to try and prompt some thoughts into a wider discussion.

If we take away the word "Craft" as for the purpose of this debate, as it is meaningless, "Craft" implies small producer or cottage

industry, and is being used as a wider aim by bigger multi national brewers. Indeed would you call Brew Dog a Craft Beer Producer? Or one multi national who a while ago claimed to be the first Craft Beer in the UK. Brunswick here in Derby is that a Craft Beer Brewer? Or is Dancing Duck? These are questions that need answering if we use "Craft" and how small a producer has to be.

Should we use the words "Live Beer"? This shows we don't want pasteurised beer, but as long as the beer is alive we can dispense however we want.

Normally aspirated cask ale. This is another potential bone of contention in this debate. Aspirators to allow village pubs to keep ale for longer. Aspirators pre-long the shelf life of a cask of ale up to 6 days by allowing a trickle of CO2 under no pressure to replace the ale as its pulled from the cask. This prevents oxidising of beer thus not allowing it to go sour.

And there is now have another elephant in the room "Fast Cask". Do we recognised this? Do we know what it is? Is it the same as Cask Ale?

This is taken from Marston's website - CAMRA define the difference between real cask ale and other ales by the presence of yeast to allow the beer to continually condition through secondary fermentation. They go on - With Fast Cask yeast is still present but in a

slightly different form and the beer drops quicker and continues to condition as before.

Does Fast Cask have its purpose to allow the sale of real ale in sporting venues, concerts, one day events, etc where we would not normally be able to enjoy real ale in the past?

If you take the CAMRA definition regarding the presence of yeast, does this mean keg format dispense, ie Keg Kegs, are acceptable where the presence of yeast is the same as in real cask ale? Possibly.

Or there is a thought. Does it matter? As long as it tastes great who cares how we get to the end product as a consumer. Some hold this view and it has grounding.

It's over to you. It's your branch and your decision, on the **30th November 2017** at The **Brunswick** you will have the chance to shape this policy.

You can be part of any of these discussions and visits as a CAMRA member. Look out for the brewery trips on the social calendar <http://www.derbycamra.org.uk/socials/> and emails and Facebook posts from the Social Secretary for further details and meetings. If you haven't joined CAMRA yet do so and help shape the organisation.

**Thanks,**  
**Alan Pickersgill**  
**Press & Publicity Officer**  
**Derby CAMRA**

## A Slight Change in Ripley

**T**he Bear and Monkey, which opened last year, had the distinction of being Ripley's first-ever Micropub, a type of establishment that have certainly grown in number in the East Midlands over the past few years, and probably further afield as well. While such places may have been seen as a novelty when they first appeared, no one nowadays doubts that they are here to stay.

As for the Bear and Monkey, it did close for a while, but has happily no reopened, albeit under new ownership and with a new name. The four owners, Terry, Emma, Chris and Helen reopened the doors at the end of August, and the pub is now called Ripley's Little Ale House.

While the pub is obviously still in the same building, there have been a few changes. The 6 Real Ales are now served via hand pumps, and change weekly. I can testify to the excellent quality of several of them, having visited recently. There are also 6 Real Ciders, plus a couple of others, along with San Miguel and ABK Pilsner on draught.

In addition to these, there are currently 35 varieties of Gin available (I wasn't aware there were that many!), plus 10 brands of Rum, 4 Whisky and 3 Vodka. Obviously micropubs don't usually serve meals, but there are snacks available, including Pork Pie. The opening times have changed slightly as well, although not the days. Thursday is 1pm-10:30pm, with Friday and Saturday 1pm-11pm and Sunday 1pm-7pm. After 6 pm on Sunday all Real Ales are sold at half price, as they can't be left on for the following Thursday's opening.


There is plenty of seating, including the sofas that were there in the bar's Bear and Monkey days, but with the addition of a 7-foot throne, named the Throne of Self, near the bar. I didn't sit on it personally, but I'm assured it's very comfortable. An entertainment quiz is held on Sundays, starting at 3:30pm.

***So, if you're in Ripley do give the Little Ale House a try. The welcome is friendly, the seats are plentiful and the beer is excellent, what more could anyone want?***


**Trevor Spencer**








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# Brunswick 30th Anniversary Beer Festival



The Brunswick Beer Festival always holds strong memories for me from when I made my first ever visit to the Brunswick Inn back in October 3rd 1995, I still remember that evening even now some 22 years later. October 3rd was the day of my late Mother, Lucy's Birthday and she had died earlier in that year and all the pent up emotion came out during my journey to the Festival. I can recall that evening being made so welcome at the pub by the clientele and was introduced to the various "Tickers" who were sampling the unusual beers from near and far!! I vowed that I would try and make this festival as many times as I could.

Fast forward to Tuesday October 3rd 2017 and I am making my 12th appearance and this year is the 30th anniversary of the event and I duly arrived just before the opening of the Festival at 4pm. We heard several small speeches by members of Derby CAMRA and Brunswick Staff and then the Festival was open and the first pints were being poured to the early arrivals at the bar. I had already a copy of the beers on offer which were from Derbyshire, Lancashire and Yorkshire and included one of my all time favourite beers, "Thriller in Vanilla" from the Brown Cow Brewery.

I took a pew in one of the side rooms and was soon joined by 3 connoisseurs of beer from Northampton, Nottingham and Sandiacre and apart from the guy from Nottingham the other two were unknown to me but we soon struck up a rapport between ourselves. As with all beer festivals you go to there is always something to discuss over beer



*The Brunswick gang through the ages  
(Graham Yates, James Salmon, Philippe Larroche, Graham, Alan Pickersgill, Trevor Harris, Terry Evans).*

whether it be new Breweries, new beers or established Breweries with new beers on offer and once again the Brunswick Beer Festival did not disappoint !!

One beer on the list was causing quite a bit of discussion amongst us four, namely the Beer "Throat Lozenge" from Honest Brewing at Ripley a 5.5% pale beer with Lemon and Ginger overtones which was nice on the palate. I had tried to find some details on this brewery and beer without much success when to all our surprise a gentleman who had overheard our conversation butted in and asked what we thought of the beer and said that he had brewed the beer. We also found that over a hundred lemons had gone into the brewing of this beer and we were all in agreement that the beer was a good one for his first delve into the Brewing Industry.

I very much like the dark beers and the Brunswick Beer Festival had several on offer

ranging from the above mentioned "Thriller in Vanilla" from Yorkshire to the "King Crow" coming out of Lancashire and over the course of the evening I managed to find several which I hadn't tried before.

The Brunswick Beer Festival is always high on the list for me as not only does the pub offer a friendly and welcoming atmosphere the organisers of the Festival go out of their way to find the unusual and rare beers for the clientele to sample and discuss. It was a pity that the evening had to come to an end but I had a 20 minute walk back to the Market Place to catch the H1 back to Heanor and connect with the R1 back to Eastwood. One thing for sure I will be marking October 3rd 2018 in my Diary for next year's Festival.

**Cheers,  
Colin Fletcher.  
Nottingham CAMRA Member  
from Eastwood.**

## Black Swan in Flight Again

As an Asset of Community Value helps save the Pub



**N**ews that the Black Swan in Ildridgehay will reopen in December after being closed for five years has shown the importance of getting a pub listed as an "Asset of Community Value".

The pub dates from 1827 and was at the heart of village life for many years until it became a French-themed restaurant in 1997 before closing some 15 years later. And having been empty since 2012 it was included on the local Council's list of 'assets of community value' after it was sold to developers Crostone Ltd. This meant that if the owner tried to sell they would have to give notice to the local authority and give the local community a chance to buy it. The developers appealed but in 2015 the ruling was backed at a tribunal hearing which accepted the Council's evidence that the local community wanted the pub restored to its former use.

The pub was eventually purchased early this year by Dan Tomlinson whose sole intention was to restore

and run it as a pub again.

A £100,000 refurbishment started in August and is due to be completed in December. There will be five or six Real Ales available with proper pub grub and an a la carte offering of steaks or fish. Opening hours will be available in due course but expect normal pub hours and it can be reached on the 6.1 Trent bus from Derby to Bakewell which passes the pub on the main through road. Or if you prefer to travel with a bit of nostalgia then Ildridgehay Railway Station on the heritage Ecclesbourne Valley line is nearby.

So, in these times when we are still losing pubs at an alarming rate it's nice to see the Black Swan on the brink of opening again and does show the importance of an "Asset of Community Value" listing. So if your pub is under threat, approach your local Council and try and get it some protection by getting it listed. Do it now before it's too late.

**Gareth Stead**







## Derby CAMRA trip to Peterborough Beer Festival

**O**n the Saturday of the late summer Bank Holiday, a group of 48 Camra members and associates gathered in Derby to take a coach to the Peterborough Beer Festival. This festival is one of the largest in the country and the Saturday was the last day.

A luxury coach arrived in good time to pick us up and once we were sure that everyone was on board we were away. Making good time, we were in Peterborough just after 11am. The group decided that it would be easiest to alight at the Queensgate Coach Park, which is just to the north east of the station, but more importantly is located behind the Brewery Tap pub. The weather in Peterborough was glorious, so that many of the group could treat the locals to the sight of Derby legs.

With the festival being a fifteen minute walk away, the group split into factions to take in the local sites; these appeared to be mainly the Draper's Arms (Wetherspoon), the Almhouse (Sam Smith's) and Greggs (best not to know). Reconvening at the festival, the Derby group laid claim to a bank of picnic tables, with easy access to food stalls, toilets and, of course, the beer. There were 4 main bars, numbered 1-4 with the nearest one to us being a LocAle bar; unfortunately this must have been popular as many of the beers had gone and there were large gaps between those still available. However with over 100 breweries supplying the festival, there was still a great choice of beer available.

After three hours or so at the festival, most of the group started to wander off. With no conferring, the route that almost everyone seemed to take was Charters, the Ostrich, the Bumble Inn and the Brewery Tap. The first of these, Charters, is situated on a former grain barge moored by the bridge over the River Nene. With 10 beers available on the bar and another 7 available from a shed on land, there was once again an excellent choice. Thai food was available from the restaurant on the upper deck, but keen to take full advantage of the local establishments the group moved on.

With a quick pit stop to take on board fuel, the group reconvened at the Ostrich. This had a selection of 5 real ales which took a little while to dispense as the occupancy of the pub had increased 10 fold with the Derby Drinkers arrival. We took over the beer garden rather than the single inside room, which had an eclectic mix of furnishings.

The Bumble Inn is a comparatively recent addition (2016) to the pubs of Peterborough. This micropub, formerly a chemist's shop, was friendly and comfortable with a selection of five real ales. Being a small pub, some of our number missed this place out, but it is an excellent addition to the local beer scene.

Finally the group stumbled into the Brewery Tap; the modern interior of this pub and spacious layout meant that this was a perfect place to wait for the coach. Formerly a labour exchange, this pub now showcases the Oakham range and there is a small brewery on site where special editions are brewed. All too soon half past 6 arrived and we made our way onto the coach for a prompt 6.45 departure.

The final stop of the day, unrelated to the lack of toilet facilities on the coach, was in the county of Rutland. The Grainstore Brewery Tap is located adjacent to Oakham station and this too was having a beer festival. The 8 handpumps were supplemented by a good selection of barrels situated out the front of the pub, all covered and with a temporary stage in use which attracted most of our number. With a number of Grainstore beers on inside, there was a bar which showcased a number of Champion Beer of Britain winners. Many of these dated back to the days when drinkers could keep up with most of the breweries on offer rather than today's cornucopia of delights; as such it was interesting that many of those beers were considered unlikely to win awards today.

Again we made a prompt departure on the coach and good time was made again, so that we were back in Derby by 10pm in time for last buses home, or indeed last orders.

Overall, it was an excellent trip; this was my first visit to the Peterborough Beer Festival and I



would recommend it. The weather helped as we could sit outside and this encouraged us to visit the city centre pubs, which I do have more experience of. Grainstore at Rutland was another first for me and I will be returning there.

**Peter McGivney**

## Monday 18th September - Comedy Night at The Bless

**O**n the above date several of the Derby CAMRA members visited the Bless for a special comedy evening with the famous Gary Delaney appearing along with a few other comedians to keep us entertained. For those who do not know Gary Delaney he is a favourite on the national comedy circuit and appears regularly on TV comedy panel shows such as Mock the Week, where he is a regular guest.

Monday night was Gary's chance to try out some new material for the Mock the Week show which he was filming on Tuesday. The show aired a few days later.

The audience was warmed up by the Funhouse Comedy Club host Spike Mike, who did a great job and 'picked' on a few audience members to find out what they did and who they were with, including one of our own party Richard

Gorham, and a young nervous looking couple sitting close by.

The first act was Ash Frith from Essex who opened well with a few gags about being a southerner up north and some gags about Derby and Essex, which all went down well.

Gary Delaney appeared and he had several topics that were likely to come up in the Mock the Week show for that week and he was trying out some new gags and quick fire quips. He appeared on stage between the other acts for about 20 minutes with his clip board and pen where he methodically went through his marking depending on the audience responses - he included many comedy quips on his marking too. Even the gags he discarded were done with much humour.

The next comedian was Sam Russell, who also got the audience laughing with topics such as his wife's job and Brexit. Another one to watch out for.

After Gary's final stint with more great material we had the headline act, Lynn Ruth Miller who is originally from Ohio, but now living in London and who is 84! I did wonder what we were going to get from this woman of advancing years but was not wondering for too long, she was very quick, and sharp and sometimes very near to the knuckle. Obviously she made many comedic remarks about her age, getting old and her life. She was very warm and appealing and she used many members of the audience to interact with, in particular a young chap she often gave the 'eye' to and an older guy whom she referred to several times with the 'old' jokes.

All in all a great night, lots of laughs and some good beer, though one was sadly not at its best but many agreed the Adnams Ghost Ship was particularly good. A great fun night with good beer and great people. Looking forward to the next Funhouse Comedy night at The Bless.

**Keith Baker**



## MEETING THE REGULARS – The Derby CAMRA Local Branch Newcomers Meet Up, Saturday 9th September 2017



**I**t was an unseasonably warm Saturday night. Hayley and I had joined CAMRA back at the Winterfest in February, and received a few emails since. One of them invited new Derby CAMRA members to come and meet the local branch committee at the Brunswick for an informal evening of fun and friendly chat. How could we refuse? We couldn't. And so we found ourselves at the renowned inn itself, ascending the staircase wondering what was ahead. As it turned out, a pretty great night out.

The first thing that stood out was the friendliness of the members. Having been an infrequent member in the past, I don't ever previously remember a welcome from CAMRA such as we found this particular night – this group's enthusiasm really shone through, speaking with passion on subjects such as cask vs keg ales, how to properly rate a beer (eye, nose, taste), which beers go with which foods (being the most subjective opinion, it was also the most contested), and lots of gossip about various local pubs – who was in danger of being sold off by the big pubcos, flipping for property value, which were featuring particular sought-after beers, and more.

Kicking off with a short chat about the local CAMRA branch and what activities it offered, the evening included such varied events as a tour of the Brunswick's own microbrewery, a food & beer pairing, a traditional pub quiz, and a chat with various members of the committee about what Derby CAMRA offered new members, and what members could do for the

branch. I wish I could be more specific on what the talks encompassed, but the excellent array of ales on at the Brunswick (not to mention the copious tasters being passed liberally around throughout the evening) meant that as the evening went on, becoming more inclusive and animated as it did so, the memory became impaired. Hunter S. Thompson I am not, and so all I can tell with certainty is that my fiancée and I wandered into a room full of people we had never met, but shared an interest in real ale with, and left feeling as though we'd made many friends, tasted many excellent beers, had some very enlightening – and frequently exuberant! – conversations with both committee and new Derby CAMRA members, and found ourselves very interested in the future endeavours of Derby CAMRA's encouraging and welcoming local branch. THIS is the future of local CAMRA campaigning – bring in the new members, show them a good time, then persuade them to get involved!

Our local scene is where we need to start making our opinions known and our presence felt, and this evening was the perfect introduction to Derby CAMRA, and its ambitions in the local community. If you've ever wondered what a local CAMRA branch does, what it stands for and what YOU can do for it, get in touch with them at their website [www.derbycamra.org.uk](http://www.derbycamra.org.uk) and get involved. You'll be assured of a warm welcome and a great night out.

**Kevin Redfern**



## Derby CAMRA



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

**Facebook** – DerbyCAMRA

**Twitter** – @DerbyCAMRA

**Contacts:-**

**Chairman** – [Chairman@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Chairman@derbycamra.org.uk)

**Secretary** – [Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk)

**Treasurer** – [Treasurer@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Treasurer@derbycamra.org.uk)

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**Social Media** –

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**Press and Publicity** –

[camrapublicity@aol.com](mailto:camrapublicity@aol.com)

## Derby CAMRA Branch Diary

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

### NOVEMBER

**Sat 4th** – Melbourne Walk with Sian.  
10:40am leave Bus Station - Arriva bus 2  
to Chellaston.

**Thu 9th** – Branch Meeting - The  
Duckhouse, Derby Rowing Club - 8pm.

**Tue 21st** – Beer and Curry Night – 8pm.  
Balti International & Beer from the  
Rowditch.

**Thu 30th** – Branch Meeting - Brunswick,  
Derby - 8pm.

### DECEMBER

**Thu 7th** – University of Spondon  
Footlights Club Xmas Show - Flowerpot,  
Derby - 8pm. **Tickets from Ian Forman,**  
**07711 202841.**

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







**Hours of Business**  
**Mon to Wed 11am- 8pm**  
**Thurs to Sun 11am-11pm**

**\* We're in the Good Beer Guide 2018 \***

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**paul & carla**  
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**SUNDAY 31ST DECEMBER NEW YEAR'S EVE**

**STRAIGHT BENDS**  
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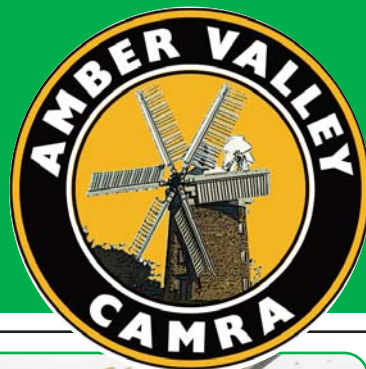
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\*Thanks to the top quality Derbyshire beef, supplied exclusively from our local award winning butcher C.N. Wright of Codnor.



# AmberValley CAMRA Branch

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



## AMBER VALLEY NEWS

### Branch Beer Festival



The Branch's 8th Beer and Cider Festival took place 28th Sept to 1st Oct at Strutt Community Centre, our fourth return to this iconic venue, the town's former grammar school. This year's supported charity was Air Ambulance who provide a rapid response to trauma and medical emergencies across the counties of Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire & Rutland - on their behalf, we express our warm thanks to our generous attendees who raised in excess of £800 over the weekend for this worthy cause - see presentation photo alongside.

To commemorate the bicentenary of the Pentrich Revolution, we collaborated with Lincoln Green Brewery to develop special revolution-themed beers, in particular the stout: Owd Tom, brewed with the help of some of our branch members and casked in oak barrels sourced from Yorkshire. A further 2 specials were Ludlum, Brandreth & Turner (porter-ish) named in honour of the 3 revolutionaries sentenced to death by hanging prior to beheading, and Hangman's Noose (caramel). In addition the Pentrich & South Wingfield Revolution Group housed their Exhibition in Room 18, attracting many entrants to view their displays, and on Saturday afternoon hosted a talk with beer tastings (photo).

Overall numbers were up on 2016 and Mike, Krishna, Gus & Konrad on membership achieved an outstanding 37 recruits. Well done to everyone who attended & to our wonderful volunteers.

### Good Beer Guide Selection

Yes, it's already time to consider next year's guide. Here's a reminder of how we get there & how our membership can be involved: we are limited to submitting ten entries into the Good Beer Guide each year although the branch has over a hundred pubs serving real ale. The 10 are chosen at a Selection Meeting open to all members every February. The selection process is based on the beer scores entered via Whatpub throughout the year by our own members and other CAMRA members visiting the area.

We don't just consider the number of scores a pub gets, but the number of different members scoring the beers and the number of separate visits over the twelve month period, so one member visiting the same pub five times a week and scoring regular high marks won't have any effect unless there are a sufficient number of other members who agree with their opinion. Likewise, a group of 20 members visiting a pub on one day during the year and scoring highly won't have much effect unless



*Cheque Presentation to the Air Ambulance*



*Meet The Revolutionary Tasting Session*

other members have also visited and input decent scores at other times during the year. Using statistics from the scores in this way (almost 4,000 scores last year), we believe we get a fair selection for the Good Beer Guide and also that the result is a better option than a Selection Committee voting for their own personal choices. This is a totally different process to choosing the Branch Pub of the Year and is based purely on the pub's consistency in selling good quality real ale rather than the overall experience of visiting the pub in POTY.

We are lucky to have so many pubs in this area selling good beer but if you are wondering why a favourite pub of yours isn't in this year's Guide and think it deserved to be, remember it's down to you as a CAMRA member to vote for it. Congratulations to the 10 Amber Valley pubs who made it into the 2018 CAMRA Good Beer Guide, namely the Steampacket at Swanwick, the Talbot and Red Lion at Ripley, Old Oak at Horsley Woodhouse, Black Bull's Head at Openwoodgate, White Hart at Bargate, Holly Bush at Makeney, King William at Milford, Angels and Arkwright's real ale bars in Belper.

## Branch Diary

- all meetings start at 8pm

**Friday 03 November**

Survey Trip - 19.30pm

Contact Jane Wallis tel 01773 745966 to book places.

**Thursday 30th November**

Committee & Branch final meeting of 2017 - 8pm  
Wheel, Holbrook.





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- 3 MARTIN BARRE BAND
- 4 THE FILLERS
- 7 WISHBONE ASH
- 9 THE DELLA GRANTS
- 10 THE UPBEAT BEATLES
- 11 SOFT MACHINE
- 16 ASH WILSON
- 17 FRED ZEPPELIN
- 18 BLONDIED
- 23 BIG COUNTRY
- 24 KINGS OV LEON
- 25 SAMANTHA FISH
- 30 EUGENE HIDEAWAY BRIDGES

### DECEMBER

- 1 LOS PACAMINOS
- 2 DR FEELGOOD
- 8 WHO'S NEXT
- 9 AYNLEY LISTER
- 14 CHANTEL MCGREGOR
- 15 EXPLOSIVE LIGHT ORCHESTRA

### DECEMBER

- 16 LIMEHOUSE LIZZY
- 19 R.E.M. by STIPE
- 20 SLADE UK
- 21 DREADZONE
- 22 FLASH
- 23 FLEETWOOD BAC
- 26 ARE YOU EXPERIENCED?
- 27 THE RATTLERS
- 28 THE ROLLIN' STONED
- 29 TOO REX
- 30 BON JOVI FOREVER

### JANUARY 2018

- 25 BILLY WALTON BAND
- 26 FOUR FIGHTERS
- 27 THE QUIREBOYS - UNPLUGGED

### FEBRUARY

- 2 STILL MARILLION
- 3 THE SMALL FAKERS
- 10 ROXY MAGIC
- 17 DARK SIDE OF THE WALL
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# Ashbourne & District CAMRA Branch

Contact Mark Grist

m.grist2@sky.com

## Branch Beer Festival

The **5th Ashbourne CAMRA Beer Festival** took place at the Town Hall from Thursday 21st to Saturday 23rd September. We are pleased to say that attendance was up about 100 on last year's figure of 815. Over a third of the ales sold out completely and an increased proportion of beer and cider overall was drunk. The beer of the festival was voted to be Derby Brewing American Juicebox, with second place going to Ashover Thor Cake, which was the first beer to sell out. Local producer Kniveton Cider took the cider award with their Wynsumm Cider. Massive thanks are due to all volunteers, including those that took the time to come in from other branches, especially Derby. 24 new members were signed up during the festival, of which the number signed up within the Ashbourne area means that our sub-branch membership has now passed the 100 barrier. Special thanks are due to Konrad Machej for his sterling work at this and all our other festivals. (see Presentation photo below).

## Autumn Pub of the Season

During our September meeting, members voted the **Shoulder of Mutton at Osmaston** as our Autumn Pub of the Season. A certificate will have been presented to them by the time you read this.

## Pub News

The **Royal Oak at Hanging Bridge** changed hands early in October and is now serving a house beer brewed by Littleover Brewery. We wish Connie and his team the best of luck in their new venture.

We understand that **The Yeaveley Arms at Yeaveley** village was probably set to reopen as we went to press, after a long closure of well over three years. The building has been on the market for redevelopment all that time, but nothing came to pass and it seems that it is to be revived as a country dining pub. Members will report on the reopening as and when it occurs.



## Diary Dates

All meetings start at 8pm unless otherwise stated

**Tuesday 31st October**

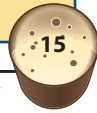
- branch meeting - Okeover Arms, Mappleton

**Tuesday 28th November**

- branch meeting - Shire Horse, Wyaston

**Tuesday 19th December**

- Xmas social - venue tbc





# BREWERY BITES

News from Breweries in and around the Derby Drinker area



## BRUNSWICK BREWING COMPANY LTD

The Brunswick Brewing Co is still going full steam!! Pick 'n' Mix range flies out every time, #3 will be in cask by the time this is in print. Plus, we have just brewed a very special beer for the Brunswick Inn's 30th anniversary beer festival. Rye Up, a 5.5% U.S red rye IPA, brewed with malted and crystal rye, back end hopped with Mosaic, very fruity! A return of Father Mikes is also on the cards very soon. Happy drinking :)  
*Cheers, James.*



## DERBY BREWING COMPANY

### Beer of the festival

Each month we brew a few new beers in addition to our award winning core range. This month one of our beers 'American Juicebox' was voted 'Beer of the Festival' at the recent Ashbourne CAMRA 5th Annual Beer Festival. This popular beer is a 4.5% American Pale Ale - bursting with American hoppiness and has gone down well not only at the beer festival but at our venues too.

### Crafted bottles coming soon

We're excited that our new Crafted beers will soon be available in bottle as well as keg. Since launching the new Crafted range earlier in the year they have been going down a treat in our venues and we're sure the bottles will fly out of the fridges as well. The first bottle 'Bold Eagle' has just come back from our bottlers and we're sure you'll enjoy drinking it as much as we do. The full range will be available mid-October.

### Hop Til You Drop now in bottle

Over SIBA Midlands Silver Winner beer Hop Til You Drop is now available in bottle. Working with Blue Nectar and Label Graphics, we've created a fresh new look to fit with our two other award winning bottler beers Business As Usual and Quintessential. Available to buy from our website, in our venues and soon to be found in a number of supermarkets too.

*Cheers, Rachel*

## DANCING DUCK



With summer over, dark nights ahead, lovely warming fires to sit in front of with a good pint to look forward to.

Something to celebrate at Dancing Duck our 'Waddle it be?' was a Gold medal winner at the recent Peterborough Beer Festival.

Also you may have noticed the new Ay Up pump clip showing that the Ay Up was a finalist in the Best Bitters at the GBBF.

Work is starting very soon at the brewery to move the offices to the upstairs so to create a much needed shop for off sales fingers crossed we will up & open by the start of December keep an eye on our web site for work in progress.

Finally great news we have acquired 1 x whisky & 1 x Jack Daniels used wooden barrels to age & mature our 6.5% Imperial Dark Drake great patience is needed as this will not be available until Christmas 2018 but we promise it will be well worth the wait! *Cheers, Rachel*

## PEAKSTONES ROCK



We've had a busy summer period. Our beer has appeared in several new pubs spread throughout our distribution area.

We are also very proud that our brewery Tap, Crossways Micro Pub in Blythe Bridge (A short train Journey from Derby) is in the 2018 CAMRA Good Beer Guide.

Look out for our 5% Submission which will be making a reappearance soon.

*Cheers, David*



## BLACK HOLE BREWERY

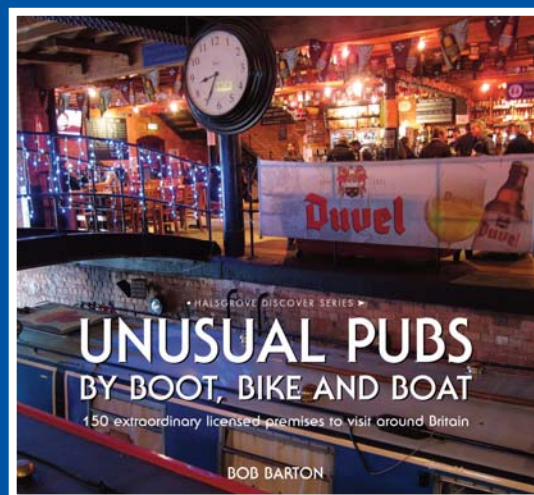
We are currently in the process of moving from Burton to Little Eaton. The new premises are currently being rented while the formalities of outright purchase are completed. The utilities are being amended as required and much of the office equipment has already been moved. Brewing in Burton ceased a few weeks ago and the brewing plant is in the process of being moved. We should have enough stock to maintain sales before brewing recommences. To minimise the hassle of informing all of our customers we have retained our Burton telephone number, 01283 619943. *Cheers, Andy*

*Words supplied by the individual brewery themselves.*

**If you would like to include your brewery on this page please send me a paragraph of your latest news to [camrapublicity@aol.com](mailto:camrapublicity@aol.com)**

**FAO Alan before the cut off date of 1st December 2017. It would be great to hear from you.**

## Book Review Unusual Pubs by Boot, Bike and Boat



Occasionally, we've all walked into a surprising pub, looked around and thought, 'You couldn't make this up!' CAMRA member Bob Barton has done that umpteen times and written a book containing 150 of them, *Unusual Pubs by Boot, Bike and Boat*. He spent three years searching out and sampling such hostelries around the country. 'A tough job,' he says, 'but someone had to do it.' He reached many of the watering holes on foot, by bicycle or on board a boat. A few aren't on a road at all, so it's just as well that he has included details of cycle routes, walking trails and canals.

There are pubs in a castle, windmill, abbey, caves, a shed, beach hut and a chapel, to name a few. Not forgetting one in a former public toilet. Some are peculiar because of their strange collections--such as bookmarks, ties or musical instruments--or they are architectural odd-balls. Some are lit by gas-lamps, others have ride-on railways or double as barbers' shops. Text on each pub is accompanied by a photograph; there is also a map showing locations. Bob mentions ales tried, whether dogs are welcome, and plenty of other details and interesting facts. The concept of 'pubs with a difference' is not new, as described in a chapter on the subject's history. Victorian landlords--even medieval inn-keepers--knew that the exotic or outlandish would pull in the punters. Oh and in case you are wondering the front cover photo is of the Canalhouse in Nottingham. Halsgrove Publishing, 144pp hardback, fully illustrated, £16.99.



# EREWASH VALLEY CAMRA BRANCH

by Mick & Carole Golds  
carolegolds@btinternet.com

## EREWASH VALLEY CAMRA REPORT

### SOCIAL TRIPS

**Bridge Inn Cotmanhay**, 12th August, Beer Festival - Several members including ourselves visited the beer festival. There was a good selection of beers racked up in the bar plus several on handpumps on the bar and all at very reasonable prices. Also there was both music outside and inside but unfortunately it became very cold in the evening and most people moved inside. It turned out very well for Christine for her first effort.

**Wakefield Trip** - On Saturday 16th September 16 of our members plus 1 from Halifax travelled by train from Long Eaton and the newly opened station at Ilkeston all meeting at Sheffield to continue our journey to Wakefield Kirkgate. Our first port of call was very close to the station - Fernandes where the solitary barman took quite a while to serve us all. Then it was into the Harewood Arms serving only one real ale but at £2.30 pint we didn't complain. On to Eastgate where we found Harry's Bar which was closed but next door was the Print Works with an excellent range of beers on. Then it was a short distance up Eastgate and into the Hop with a choice of nine beers and further again up Eastgate to the Blackrock an ex Tetleys pub which is a locals pub with a good friendly atmosphere, everyone talks to you in Yorkshire. Some of us then finished up in the Six Chimneys for a meal before we headed for the station and home. A good day out then and thanks to all that attended, there was a lot more pubs that we could have visited but just didn't have enough time, perhaps on another trip.

### SOCIALS

**Saturday 11th November** - The Dronfield Branch are planning a social visit to Ilkeston, they will be arriving by train at 6.00pm. One of our members will meet them and bring them up town to the Observatory to meet any of our Branch members who wish to come along. Then it will be onto the Burnt Pig and others before returning via the Dewdrop to catch their train back.

**Saturday 9th December - Burton on Trent** - Christmas Social - further details when finalised on our website or ring Michael or Carole on 0115 9328042.

### PUB NEWS

#### The Lockkeepers Rest, Sawley Lock House.

This is the latest new micro pub situated in the back room of the 18th century lockkeepers house. It is a 10min walk from Sawley Marina bus stop, bus SKYLINK and a choice of real ales from the cask, ciders and wine. It is owned and run by David Parrott the ex-lock keeper.  
Opening hours: Thursday & Friday - 4pm to 9.30pm, Saturday - 12noon to 9.30pm, Sunday - 12noon to 4.00pm. (0115 9727651 for up to date opening hours).

#### Draycott Tap House.

Opening hours: Monday & Tuesday Closed, Wednesday & Thursday 4.00pm - 10.00pm, Friday 4.00pm - 10.30pm, Saturday 12.00pm - 10.30pm, Sunday 3.00pm - 6.00pm.

#### Hole in the Wall, Long Eaton.

Long Eaton's longest serving pub landlord, Kevin Thompson celebrates his 31st year on the 21st November 2017. Kevin took on the tenancy and purchased the freehold to the now 130 year old pub in 1991 from Bass which is still served today. It has two rooms full of Breweriana and a decked garden with enclosed skittle alley and barbeque. All the traditional ales are served by handpull and the pub is a Locale accredited and is a CAMRA award winning freehouse. Kevin has seen many changes in the pub trade over the past 31 years and he would like to thank all his customers for their loyal support over the years (see photo).

#### New Inn, Bath St, Ilkeston.

This pub is now run by Ken Harrison and Beth Owen and they have one changing guest real ale always available. Food is served every day and they do Sunday lunches.

Opening hours: Monday - Friday 12.00pm - 11.00pm, Saturday & Sunday 12.00pm - 12.00am.

### LOCALE

My name is Trevor Foster and I am the newly appointed Locale Officer for our Branch and intend to visit all of the pubs and clubs in our area in the next few months. However if any Publicans in our area already sell a locale, that is a real ale from a brewery within a 20 mile radius of your pub/club then contact me through my email address

locale@erewash.camra.org.uk and I'll pay you a visit with a locale pack sooner rather than later.

### Future Meetings

All meetings start at 8.00pm

**Monday 6th November** - Bridge Inn, Bridge Street, Cotmanhay.

**Monday 4th December** - Hole in the Wall, Regent Street, Long Eaton.

**Monday 8th January 2018** - Dewdrop, Ilkeston.



Kevin - Hole in Wall



The New Inn



Lockkeepers Rest, Sawley



The Blackrock, Wakefield

### Camra Discounts

Please remember to show your camra card

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

**Bridge, Cotmanhay** - 15p off a pint

**Blue Bell, Sandiacre** - 10p off a pint,

5p off a half including real cider

**Coach & Horses, Draycott** - 20p off a pint, 10p off a half also except Wetherspoon Vouchers

**Draycott Tap House, Draycott** - 20p off a pint, 10p off a half

**General Havelock, Ilkeston** - 20p off a pint, 10p off a half

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

**Hogarth's, Ilkeston** - 20p off a pint

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

**Plough, Sandiacre** - 10p off a pint

**Prince of Wales, Ilkeston** - 15p off a pint

**Red Lion, Heanor** - 20p off a pint

**Redemption, Heanor** - 10p off a pint

**Rutland Cottage, Ilkeston** - 15p off a pint

**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

**Twitchell, Long Eaton** - 20p off a pint

**Victoria, Draycott** - 10p off a pint, 5p off a half

**White Lion, Sawley** - 10p off a pint, 5p off a half

**York Chambers, Long Eaton** - 10p off a pint

5p off a half including real cider (Mon-Wed)

### Locale Outlets:-

Angry Bee, 2 Godfrey St, Heanor.

Bridge Inn, Bridge St, Cotmanhay.

Bulls Head, 1 Wilsthorpe Rd, Breaston.

Burnt Pig, 53, Market St, Ilkeston.

Carpenters Arms, Dale Rd, Dale Abbey.

Chequers Inn, 10 Main St, Breaston.

Crown Inn, 6 Church St, Heanor.

Draycott Tap House, 29 Victoria St, Draycott.

Hole in the Wall, Regent St, Long Eaton.

Prince of Wales, 69 South St, Ilkeston.

Punchbowl, 43 the Village, West Hallam.

Redemption Ale House, Ray St, Heanor.

Red Lion, 2 Derby Rd, Heanor.

Spanish Bar, 76 South St, Ilkeston.

York Chambers, 40 Market Place, Long Eaton.





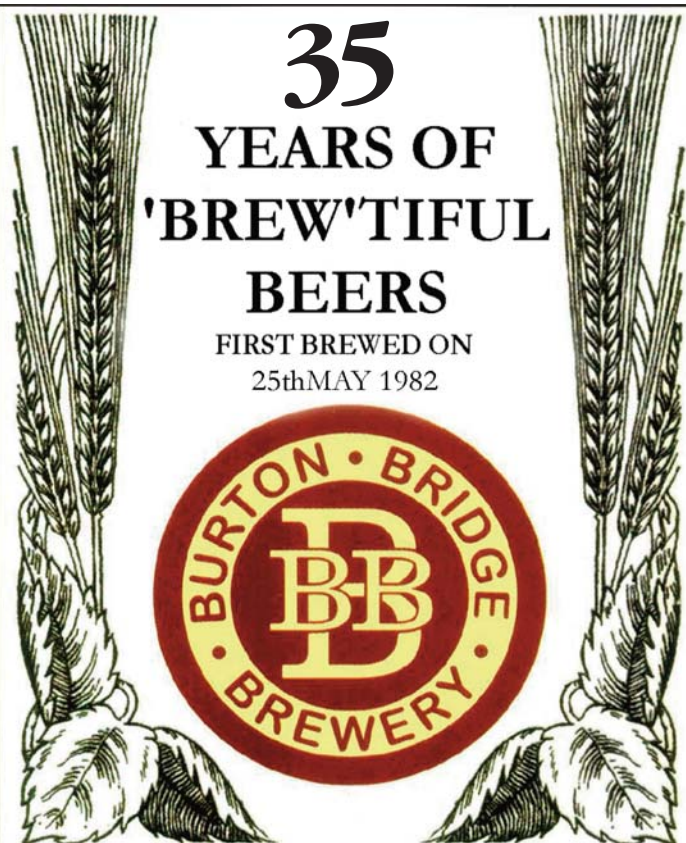


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Fri 1pm -11pm  
Sat 12pm - 11pm  
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## Matlock and Dales CAMRA Branch

Contact Peter Boitout [peterb56@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:peterb56@hotmail.co.uk)

# WHY YOU SHOULD VISIT A CAMRA BEER FESTIVAL

**A**t the time of writing Matlock & Dales Branch are preparing for our annual beer festival which as all branches know creates lots of work and headaches and hours of physically hard work. In fact at this stage we wonder why we bother!

I was talking to a beer lover recently who had never been to a beer festival and asked "Why bother when there are lots of good pubs?"

This got me thinking, initially of the miles I walked round the corridors of County Hall and the vast number of glasses I washed up.

The negatives were soon forgotten as I thought about last year's festival and why I am planning to put myself through the same again.

The beer is certainly a star, far more choice than any pub and served as a third of a pint option giving a lot more chance to really try beers styles outside your comfort zone. This includes beers from small or specialist breweries that rarely, if ever, find their way to your local.

People at the Beer Festivals are always really friendly and with mutual interests in the beer there is plenty to talk about.

People who volunteer are really special. We have met more members who don't attend branch meetings. They heave casks into position, serve beer, wash up and clear up afterwards and still go home smiling.

The other spin off from Matlock and Dales CAMRA beer festival, which is held at Derbyshire County Councils County Hall, is that it showcases a fine building being a former Hydro spa hotel. We can admire the opulent features of a bygone era everywhere we look while enjoying the beer and camaraderie.

Even when it is time to make room for more beer the toilets are impressive. The ladies toilet is not to be missed (ladies only). The building is available for hire so check it out if you are planning a wedding or an event where you want to impress people.

And Beer Festivals are a good chance to enrol as a CAMRA member as there are usually lots of perks including discounted Beer Festival entry and discounts in Pubs, etc so plenty of reasons then why you should visit a CAMRA Beer Festival soon.

**Angie Corby**

## MAD Branch Diary

**Branch Meetings NOTE change of day**

**November - Tuesday 14th 8pm at 2010 in Matlock.**

**December - NO MEETING.**

**January - Thursday 18th to be confirmed.**

**Social Trip - Birmingham on train -  
Saturday 2nd December.**

For more information check the website.

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

#### Birchover

**Druid Inn, Main Street, Birchover**

Cash discount applies on presentation of membership card.

**Red Lion, Main Street, Birchover**

Cash discount available to Birchover Ales only, on presentation of membership card. Discount applies to card holder only.

#### Matlock

**The Crown (Wetherspoon's), Bakewell Road, Matlock**

Discount available on presentation of JD Wetherspoon's CAMRA vouchers. These vouchers have some restrictions printed on them.

**Remarkable Hare, Dale Road, Matlock**

Cash discount applies on presentation of membership card.

**TwentyTen, Dale Road, Matlock**

Cash discount applies on presentation of membership card.

#### Matlock Bath

**Fishpond, South Parade Matlock Bath**

Cash discount applies on presentation of membership card.

#### Winstar

**Old Bowling Green, East Bank, Winstar DE4 2DS**

Cash discount applies on presentation of membership card.

## LocAle MATLOCK & DALES CAMRA June 2017

Devonshire Arms

Druids

Red Lion

Barley Mow

Boat Inn

Cliff Inn

Black Swan

Red Lion

Three Stags

Whitworth Park

Jug and Glass

Armitts Off Licence

Crown

MoCa Bar

Remarkable Hare

Stanley's Alehouse

Twenty Ten

Midland

Fishpond

Nelson Arms

Bowling Green

Feather Star Alehouse

Royal Oak

Beeley

Birchover

Birchover

Bonsall

Cromford

Crich

Crich

Crich Tramway Village

Darley Bridge

Darley Dale

Lea

Matlock

Matlock

Matlock

Matlock

Matlock

Matlock

Matlock Bath

Matlock Bath

Middleton by Wirksworth

Winstar

Wirksworth

Wirksworth





# Moor T'o Sinfen Than Meets The Eye



**Norman Arms**



**Oast House**



**County Hotel**



**Grampian**

**S**infen Moor was a vast tract of land that's being developed into Infinity Park which will add hi-tech companies adjacent to the Rolls Royce civil aerospace world headquarters. We thought we'd see what the southern part of the city, and its rural hinterland, has to offer the discerning drinker.

Catching the Arriva no. 38 with a Derby Day Saver (just £4.20) from the bus station, I alighted near the former Normanton Barracks site, and before dropping down Sinfen Lane, I decided to visit two interesting looking pubs at the top.

The **Norman Arms** on Village Street is a riot of Brewer's Tudor and features in CAMRA's excellent book, *Real Heritage Pubs of the Midlands*, available from Waterstone's. The Olde English style popular between the wars is extant in the front bar and large lounge to the rear with wooden wall panelling and original fireplaces. Above the bar is a 1930 photograph of the pub's predecessor with architecture redolent of Old Normanton. Doom Bar and Old Speckled Hen were on handpumps and I drank the latter in the walled rear garden secluded from the busy ring road beyond.

The **Oast House** on the Barracks site is proof-positive that new build doesn't have to be ugly. Built in attractive, Kentish oast house style, amid the myriad entertainment of

Forester's Park leisure centre, the modernist interior includes a circular vestibule-like entrance area with comfy seating. There's a £6 lunch and drink deal and Purity Mad Goose and Pedigree were vying for attention on the bar. Outside, there's a patio, ample parking and a Premier Inn hotel next door.

Down Sinfen Lane I passed the razed site of the Sinfen Hotel (later Cock 'n' Bull) where the South Pennine Road (cycling) Club met in the 1960s. Next stop was the recently refurbished **County Hotel** but this was closed so I moved onto the **Grampian** on Grampian Way where a split-level lounge had photographs of old Derby and a pool table, juke box and Sky Sports for entertainment. There's a separate children's room and public bar. In the mid 1980s, Steve Copestake was the licensee, and the Grampian earned Good Beer Guide recognition for its Pedigree which is still available today. Steve is now part of the Boot, Repton, brewing team. The Fighting Cocks, one of the last pubs to be built by Shipstone of Nottingham, was near the Grampian but was demolished in 1998. Thus, it shared the dubious distinction with a contemporary, the Coliseum, buried beneath Derby's Intu Centre, of being two of the city's shortest-lived pubs, lasting little more than twenty years.



When I called at the **Ferrers Arms** in the heart of the Sinfin District (shopping) Centre, landlord, Lee Bradshaw, had the misfortune to be in hurricane hit St Lucia where he was getting hitched. The Ferrers, however, happily had had no such mishap in our equable climate. Beside the marvellous montage of Derby scenes of yesteryear, the regulars were enjoying Everard's Tiger whose brewing, I understand, has been outsourced from its traditional Leicester home. Two rooms, one having hotplate food service, the other with darts, pool table and Sky Sports; while outside there's a sheltered terrace.

Back onto Grampian Way, and left into Pilgrims Way, the highly unusual roof design of the **Stenson Fields** soon hove into view. Another two roomer with family dining to the fore and, in these parts, the seemingly ubiquitous Sky Sports is omnipresent. Doom Bar was the solitary offering when I called.

Walking down Stenson Road to the **Bubble Inn**, I was struck by the startling contrast of Sinfin's brick built suburbia with Stenson's wide-open fields. The Bubble is a converted 19thC farm building, next to a lock on the Trent and Mersey canal and overlooking Stenson Marina. Owner, Connie Eleftheriou, who's currently restoring the Royal Oak at Hanging Bridge near Ashbourne, has capitalised on the bucolic canal-side location by offering a diverse range of beers and an enticing menu. Orkney Kittiwake; Pedigree; Greene King London Glory

and Hollow Legs from the local Littleover Brewery made for a fine quartet. A mezzanine floor beneath the vaulted ceiling affords views of the large, grassed garden.

I proceeded along the canal towpath before crossing a hump back bridge to find the isolated **Ragley Boat Stop** on Deepdale Lane. This is another pub taking full advantage of its canal-side position with overnight moorings available to those who might seek sustenance in the form of an all day, wide-ranging food offering, complemented by Theakston Best Bitter, Pedigree and a guest.

I finished at the Brookfield, on the road of the same name, in the delightful hamlet of Barrow on Trent. Originally, **Brookfield** was a private residence and now opens to the public from 4pm on weekdays and all day at weekends with the familiar Pedigree and Doom Bar. The commodious interior has a corner occupied by a pool table surrounded by team shirts signed by some notable professional footballers. Meals are served during Monday to Saturday evenings and when weather permits, the south facing garden has a pleasant seating area. Children and pets are made most welcome in the Brookfield.

I caught the Arriva no. 2 bus back to Derby from the Crewe and Harpur, Swarkestone, a mile away, little realising that I could have had another pint in the Brookfield and caught the same bus from Barrow!

**Paul Gibson**



**Ferrers Arms**



**Stenson Fields**



**Bubble Inn**

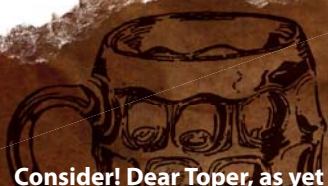


**Ragley Boat Shop**



**Brookfield**





# Dear Toper...

Consider! Dear Toper, as yet another year slowly draws to its inevitable close, the many changes that have taken place in the last half century. If like me, you remember the sixties, when pubs were being killed off at an alarming rate (as were cinemas and places of live entertainment, such as theatres) by the "Idiots Lantern" (television), you will also no doubt recall the relentless and seemingly unstoppable march of keg beer. The big brewing bullies – sorry, conglomerates, had decided in their wisdom (their desire to maximise profit) that keg was the future, and who were we as mere customers to disagree? – Well, eventually we did, and the rest is history!

If some people want to drink keg, fair enough, that is their choice; equally, if there are those of us who are more discerning about what we imbibe, and wish to drink real ale, then so be it. After all, it's a free country, isn't it? To coin an old phrase, "You pays your money and you takes your choice".

One of the more lamentable fashions (and there were quite a few) that began to take hold in the sixties, was the loathsome practice of knocking all of the various rooms (each with its own micro-clientele) which comprised the local pub, into one vast sticky-nylon-carpeted drinking area, where young and old, loud and quiet, foul-mouthed and staid, were thrown together to their mutual discomfort and chagrin. I seem to recall that it was also around this time that the now ubiquitous deep-fat fryer began to appear in pub kitchens, from whence it permeated the rest of the establishment with the noxious stench of rancid cooking oil, the vile odour of which is nowadays only outdone by the stink from the toilets, which were increasingly being brought inside the pub in the sixties – much better to have them across the yard and have some fresh air between them and the area where people are eating and drinking! Also making its debut around that time was that laughable invention of the licensed trade, the absurdly named "Ploughman's Lunch", which contained just about enough nutrition to keep a genuine ploughman going for about half a furrow – it should have been called "Ploughman's Starvation Ration". Still, anything was better than that source of 1970's Salmonella impatiently waiting in the wings – "Chicken in a Basket".

## The Whinging Sixties

Not everything was bad in the sixties, at least we had the Cold War to entertain us. Having lived a considerable portion of my life with the threat of nuclear Armageddon hanging over me, I'm at a loss to understand the negative reaction of our morally bankrupt and

intellectually threadbare political class, and their myopic friends in the broadcast media, to the fact that the leaders of the U.S.A. and Russia seem to get on well together. Whilst I have no great liking for either man, surely it's a good thing for all of us that they can be in a room together without coming to blows?

One of the things that has improved vastly since the sixties is the choice of ales to be had in many of our better hostelrys, some of which have a dozen or more handpumps. It's the same with the press, for there is quite a varied range of newspapers and magazines on sale nowadays, which means most hobbies, fetishes and political tastes are catered for. Indeed, there are even some publications pandering to those whose mundane existence centres upon the aforementioned "Idiots

Lantern". Again, you pays your money and you takes your choice. A glaring exception to this rule, however, is our over-funded, over-conceited and over-opinionated state broadcaster. I say over-opinionated, because it seems to have an opinion on just about everything these days, ranging from foreign policy to climate change, and whilst this over-opinionated stance may be permissible in a newspaper (which you are not forced to buy), it is inexcusable in an organisation which you are compelled to fund unless you want to go to prison. In other words, you are forced to pay your money, and you don't get any choice at all, just a load of politically-correct dogma rammed down your throat! If it were a pub you would stop going in, and thereby avoid paying them anything. Come to think of it, that's not a bad idea! Let's avoid paying them. Let's go on strike and not pay our licence fees from January the first! Now that's what I call a new year's resolution! Consider that, Dear Toper! And have a very merry Christmas whilst you're doing it!

D.T.



## The Jacobites are Back in Town

This year, Derby's annual Bonnie Prince Charlie event (organised by the world-renowned Charles Edward Stuart Society) falls upon Sunday the 3rd of December. Starting at the Morledge, at twelve noon, the Jacobite Army, led by the Bonnie Prince, will parade through the city, fight a battle with the dreaded red-coats upon Cathedral Green and then attend a service in Derby Cathedral, before retiring exhausted to Jorrock (formerly the George Inn) where they will imbibe some much needed refreshment. The pub gives CAMRA discount, so why not join the Jacobites and redcoats there after watching their spectacular event! And whilst we're talking of Bonnie Prince Charlie, there's to be a new micro pub opening soon in Derby overlooking the statue of him, and I'm told that this welcome new venture will have more than a little to do with him – watch this space!

P.A.E.



Bonnie Prince Charlie Statue with proposed new Micropub in the background.



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## Derby Drinker Production Schedule

January/February – **December 1st**  
March/April – **February 1st**  
May/June – **April 1st**  
July/August – **June 1st**  
September/October – **August 1st**  
November/December – **October 1st**

**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 £6 for 4 editions.

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Alternatively you can send a cheque payable to CAMRA Ltd with your completed form, visit [www.camra.org.uk/joinup](http://www.camra.org.uk/joinup) or call 01727 798440. All forms should be addressed to Membership Department, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW.

#### Your details:

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Surname \_\_\_\_\_  
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Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tel No(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Partner's Details (if Joint Membership)**  
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I/we wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale, and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association these are available at [camra.org.uk/memorandum](http://camra.org.uk/memorandum) ☐

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

Applications will be processed within 21 days of receipt of this form. 04/17

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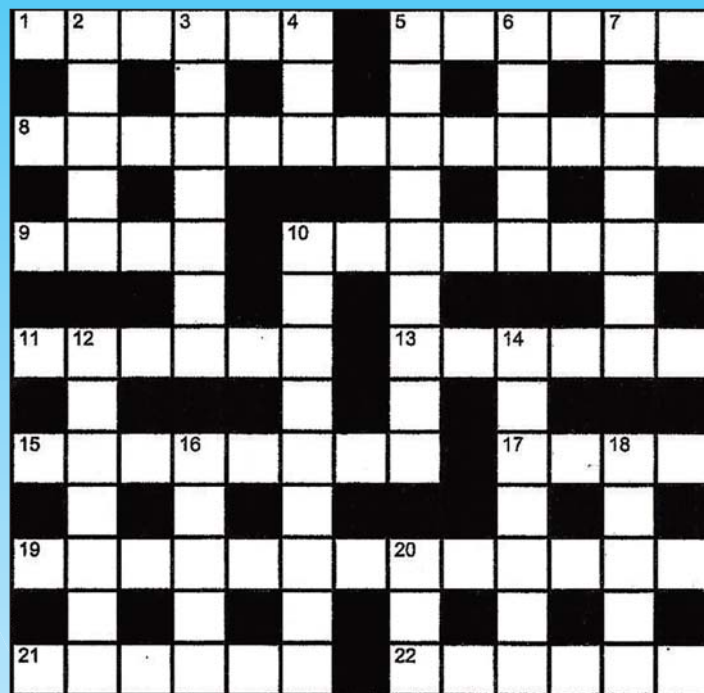


# Crossword

## No 60 by Wrenrutt

The Good Beer Guide 2017 is necessary for some of these clues

**Crossword winner is Kevin Musson**  
from Bedworth picked up at the Ashbourne Beer Festival.



### Across

1. Thing or complain? Both the same here (6)
5. Indiana's basketball team, or a type of running shoe (6)
8. Dove Street Brewery's "traditional" dark beer (9.4)
9. An outdoor function with entertainments and stalls (4)
10. Acorn Brewery's bitter or golden beers (8)
11. To infuse liquids or thoughts to somewhere else (6)
13. Funfair brewery's premium pale ale (6)
15. Malevolent goblins rhyming with a former Maidstone brewery (8)
17. Bottom contains a fragrant Bulgarian rose oil (4)
19. Northumberland's VIP brewery's gingery ruby ale, which could run you in! (13)
21. Someone who goes halves (6)
22. Wood brewery's pale brown bitter, or an ecclesiastical district (6)

### Down

2. Light music composer Ronald, or a heavy drinking session (5)
3. An ingredient, or one of the earth, air, fire or water (7)
4. Duns or Great Oxfordshire villages (3)
5. This answer sticks out a mile! (9)
6. French philosopher, author and journalist Albert (5)
7. Reel I've changed to bring ease (7)
10. Eponymous Oxfordshire brewery founder. With an 'A' would be a campanologist (9)
12. County city with 26 listed GBG pubs (7)
14. Malware programme instigator, or bottle with rubber top-presser (7)
16. A moral back grinding tooth? (5)
18. Buttress with no but reveals a lock of hair (5)
20. A peaked hat, or a restraint of wage rises? (3)

- ▶ Access to Chambers Dictionary and the Good Beer Guide 2017 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 59 Answers

### Across

1. APPLES
5. GREASE
8. ORANGE BLOSSOM
9. LYRE
10. RIESLING
11. SUNDEW
13. EMPIRE
15. SUNDANCE
17. COCK
19. CELESTIAL LOVE
21. LESSON
22. ENDURE

### Down

2. PERRY
3. LINSEED
4. SUE
5. GOLDENEYE
6. EASEL
7. SPOONER
10. ROWINGTON
12. UKULELE
14. PICKLED
16. DREGS
18. CAVER
20. ALE

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**Copy deadline 1st December**

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# Derby DRINKER

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