



Issue 184

March/April  
2019

# DERBY rinker

FREE



Cheers

Covering Derby, Ashbourne, Amber Valley, Erewash, Matlock, Burton & South Derbyshire CAMRA Areas

DERBY  
CAMRA



## PUBS OF THE YEAR 2019



Smithfield Alehouse - City Pub of the Year



Chip and Pin - Country Pub of the Year

Full details inside plus loads, loads more ►►



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE



## DERBY CAMRA Pubs of the Year 2019



Smithfield Alehouse



Chip and Pin

The Derby Branch of CAMRA has selected its Pubs of the Year for 2019:-

The **City Pub of the Year** is the **Smithfield Alehouse** on Meadow Road beating finalists the Alexandra Hotel and Furnace Inn to the title.

The **Country Pub of the Year** is **Chip and Pin** in Melbourne beating finalists the Royal Oak in Ockbrook and Town Street Tap in Duffield to the title.

And by virtue of having the highest overall mark the **Smithfield Alehouse** has also been crowned **Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year 2019**.

In a very close fought competition this year the Smithfield managed to come out on top of the tree for the second year running under licensees Emily Bowler and partner Ben Miller. Emily only took on the running of the pub just over 2 years ago so to be crowned Pub of the Year for two successive years is indeed a major achievement in a City that has got so many good Real Ale pubs. Of course Emily was no stranger to Real Ale pubs beforehand having worked in some fine establishments over the years: the Standing Order in Derby; Pattenmakers Arms in Duffield; Boat in Cromford; County & Station in Matlock Bath and Arkwrights in Belper but the lure of running her own pub brought her full circle back to Derby.

The Smithfield you have to say has always been a decent Real Ale pub but its fortunes have ebbed and flowed over the years just like the river it sits on but its current high tide is probably the best it's ever been with an ever changing range of Real Ales & Ciders from near and far making it a must visit place where the ales turn over so

quickly that within an hour of being there you might have 2 new ones on. And for fans of dark beers there is always at least one or two on. This coupled together with a great live music scene, cheese nights, Camra discount and being one of Derby's few riverbank pubs make it a destination place for all lovers of proper traditional pubs and great Real Ale. Congratulations then to Emily and Ben on winning Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year not just once but two years on the run.

Out in the Country last year's runner-up has gone one step better to become the winner for the very first time. The Chip and Pin Micropub in Melbourne was opened in 2014 by a small group of people who shared a passion for real ale. It is set in a disused bank which has been sympathetically restored, respecting the needs of the conservation area in which it sits. This Good Beer Guide pub is situated just off the Market Place on the High Street and offers table service with a smile having no bar as such. The 5 Ales are served straight from the barrel and many guest

beers feature alongside ciders and perries and a CAMRA discount of 10p a pint, 5p a half is also in operation. And the local community has quickly taken to the place despite having several pubs roundabout. It is also handily placed on the Arriva No.2 bus route which runs from Derby to Swadlincote and is well worth a visit but remember to check opening hours before going. Congratulations then to all the team at the Chip and Pin.

Both winners were presented with their awards during the Trade Session of the Derby Winter Ale Festival at the Roundhouse (see photos on this page). The Smithfield Alehouse will now also go forward into the South Derbyshire Pub of the Year competition where it will compete against the winners of other local CAMRA Branches' awards from Amber Valley, Ashbourne, Burton & South Derbyshire and Erewash Valley. The winner of the South Derbyshire round will be announced later in the year and we'll let you know the results when we get them.





## FROM THE CHAIR

It's hard to imagine that March is now upon us and that means lots of things:

### DERBY CAMRA WINTER ALE FESTIVAL 2019 SUCCESS

What a fantastic Winter Ale Festival we had. I felt we achieved what we set out to do and that was to make it a "festival experience." I would like to personally thank all the volunteers who helped make it such a success. Without them none of it would have happened. It was also great to see all the first time volunteers who seemed to enjoy what they were doing.

Of course none of this would have happened without our Winter Ale Festival organiser, Russell Gilbert, who did a fantastic job bringing together a team of people who headed up each aspect of the Festival. The attention to detail was incredible and made everything run smoothly. Also a BIG thank you to the many breweries that supplied their beer for us to enjoy, as well as all the other vendors.

### WINTER ALE TRAIL 2019 SUCCESS

This year's Winter Ale Trail (held 4th Jan – 17th Feb) was the biggest ever and we need to give a BIG thank you to Mark Fletcher & Trevor Spencer for organising it. The trail consisted of 118 pubs in FOUR local CAMRA Branch areas: Amber Valley, Derby, Erewash and Mansfield & Ashfield. The response has been excellent and we are looking forward to seeing what's in store for next year! Thanks again Mark & Trev and to all the volunteers who distributed the posters and stickers to each of the 118 pubs.

### SPRING AND SUMMER SOCIAL EVENTS

Now it's onwards and upwards for our Spring and Summer events and socials. Please keep an eye on the website Diary page as very important information is posted there. I know our new Social Secretary Richard is planning an excellent calendar of events for the Spring. Please let Richard know if there is anywhere you would like to go for a social. I know I'd love to visit the pubs of Cheltenham, Richard. Any chance of that?

### DERBY PUBS WEEK (Maybe Fortnight)

At the Branch meeting in January it was decided by the Membership that instead of a traditional Summer Beer Festival we would go with a Derby Pubs Week when we will coordinate arrangements between all pubs that want to participate, to have different beers on so we can all enjoy a massive selection at many different locations throughout the Branch area.

The reason why we would find putting on a traditional Summer Beer Festival at this time are many:

- Weather – too hot, so difficult to keep beer at right temperature when outside
- Venue – cost and/or logistics are prohibitive
- Public Transport to further afield venues non-existent

There are a lot of logistics to work out for the new Summer Beer Festival format and the Elected Committee is on this. More details will follow in Comms, M and B...

## A LITTLE HISTORY LESSON ON CAMRA – DID YOU KNOW?

If you're not a member of CAMRA (and even if you are a member) you may be interested in some facts about CAMRA.

Did you know?

- CAMRA Membership is over 190,000 at time of printing
- CAMRA supports and promotes Beer and Cider Festivals around the county
- CAMRA organises The Great British Beer Festival and Champion Beer of Britain
- CAMRA awards National Pub of The Year
- CAMRA campaigns include promoting small pubs and breweries, reforming licensing laws, reducing tax on beer, to name but a few.

There is so much more that CAMRA does and of course it is an organisation we can all be very proud to be a part of.

### DERBY CAMRA MEMBERSHIP

As an organisation CAMRA relies on Membership growth and so do all branches. As a Branch, Derby CAMRA has close to 3,500 members. If you are not a CAMRA member then I would like to invite you to become one and it couldn't be easier. You can join online at: [www.camra.org.uk](http://www.camra.org.uk). You would be most welcome.

### SUBURBAN PUBS

As a Branch we have a rather large geographical area which includes suburban areas of the City of Derby. As Chair I have been visiting these pubs and promoting them on our social media outlets. The Derby area is spoilt for choice for great pubs compared to many parts of the country. This is something we can all be proud of indeed! However, we can't forget those pubs that fall outside the city centre and in the suburbs.

I would like to encourage all members to visit suburban pubs in future. It would well be worth the bus fare (or taxi fare for a group of people) to enjoy these golden gems on the outskirts of the city centre. So next time you think where to go for a night out think Spondon, Littleover, Allestree, Mickleover...

### MICROPUBS

The Derby CAMRA Branch area has seen a rather substantial rise in the number of micropubs. Once again we are spoilt for choice in Derby when it comes to this sort of pub venue. The question now is: how can we best serve micropubs as a Branch in campaigning and other avenues? The Elected Committee will be looking into this and we would ask for suggestions at the next Branch meetings. So thinking caps on.

### NEW CAMPAIGNS COORDINATOR

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Alan Pickersgill accepted the role of Campaigns Coordinator for the Branch in January. Alan served on the Elected Committee as Publicity and Treasurer. It is great to have Alan back in a role that we all know he will fill incredibly well and is off to a flying start. The role of Campaigns Coordinator is so important in the world of CAMRA and we know that it is in very safe hands.



## CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM & AGM

Please attend the next Branch meeting on Thursday 14th March, 8pm at The Brunswick as we will be discussing reforms to the Branch constitution and AGM format.

It is now we need to have discussions and a lengthy consultation period to come to agreement on a way forward on both these issues. Our current Constitution was written in 1987, updated on occasion and uses language that CAMRA no longer uses. There is also confusion on certain areas of the Constitution as to what it means. Also, things have moved on and the Constitution does not reflect these advancements.

I also want the Branch to fully understand how the AGM is run, and what happens at what time in the AGM process for AGM 2019 and what possibly needs to be changed for AGM 2020. So over the next few meetings I will share this information and hopefully clear up misconceptions... and discuss changes to the format for AGM 2020. Your ideas are always welcome and the Elected Committee look forward to your input in both these very important matters.

### BRANCH COMMS – PLEASE READ THEM!

As always the Elected Committee is wanting to communicate with Branch members as effectively as possible. We communicate through Branch Meetings, Derby Drinker, M&B, Facebook, Twitter and our COMMS emails. The COMMS tool allows us to give up-to-date information to everyone concerning all kinds of matters. Unfortunately, only 32% of Derby CAMRA Members read these very important emails.

COMMS comes out once or twice a month. So, it's not like we are bombarding you with emails as we are very conscious not to. So please open future COMMS. They contain important and timely information you may find useful.

### LAST BUT NOT LEAST – NON-MEMBERS WELCOME!

All of us at Derby CAMRA hope to see all of you at our Branch events where non-members and members are equally welcome. Just search our Derby CAMRA website, see what we are all about and then click on the Diary tab. You will find socials, meetings and more.

See you soon!

Greg Maskalik  
CHAIR



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## Derby CAMRA Pioneer Dies



Last year saw the death of too many CAMRA notables and we regret to report the passing of another on New Year's Day, **John Kearney**, who was a real character. John was born in Little Eaton in 1951 and he lived at the Bell and Harp, Coxbench, when his parents kept it in the 1950s. After attending Herbert Strutt's

Grammar School, Belper, John graduated at Leeds University and pursued a long career in the local textile industry. John was Derby CAMRA Secretary in the mid 1970s and played a leading role in the production of our first beer guide, *Real Ale In And Around Derby*, published in 1976. More recently, John was an enthusiastic member of Derby CAMRA's tasting panel and a participant in Branch survey trips. John was as honest as the day is long and we will miss his humour and forthright views in an increasingly PC world. Our sincere condolences go to his wife, Sue, and their two daughters. After John's funeral a wake was held at the Village Club, Spondon, where he was a life member. Our photograph shows John at Derby CAMRA's 40th anniversary celebration at the Alexandra in 2014.

## Family unite over a beer

The Derby and Nottingham branches of an East Midland's family have been reunited thanks to a commemorative beer brewed to celebrate the achievements and legacy of their common ancestor **Arthur Skill**.

To the Nottingham side Arthur was a great grandfather while, for their Derbyshire-based kinsmen, as brother to their great grandfather, Hector, Arthur was a great great uncle.

As a 19 year old, in 1919, Arthur bought a fish lorry which doubled as a people carrier to take workmen to places of employment including an industrial plant in Spondon. His bother, Hector, continued his recovery from injuries sustained in the Great War before going on to work in the family fish and chip business.

Over the years, the families lost regular contact, until Nicholas spotted that the Alexandra pub on Derby's Siddals Road was to host the launch of 'Arthur Skill' a beer brewed to honour the memory of Arthur Skill whose enterprise 100 years ago has grown into Skills Holidays, one of the regions largest tour companies. For the distant cousins, this was a first ever, and unexpected,

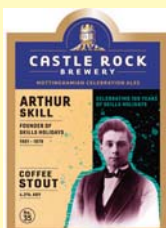
meeting. Nicholas, who is a farrier in Brailsford, his brother Tom, son Archie and their dad, another Arthur, met Rupert Skill, private hire sales manager at Skills who was acting as courier on a coach touring East Midland's pubs in pursuit of 'Arthur Skill', the beer.

"This was complete shock to meet these long lost cousins," says Rupert. "I hadn't been tipped off by the brewery nor by Ralf and Anna the landlords at the Alex that they were waiting for me. They had photos to show and memories to share as we caught up on the years we've missed."

"Now we're close, this is one family tie that'll certainly regrow," he says. The Skills' pub tour was organised by Castle Rock Brewery and took 57 loyal real ale fans to Derby, as a reminder of the original Skills' route, and on to Loughborough and the Vale of Belvoir.

At each pub, the coach tourists sampled 'Arthur Skill' marking the 100th anniversary of his firm, and celebrating this remarkable young man and his achievements.

**Graham Percy**



## Derby CAMRA Club of the Year 2019 - Village Club

The Derby Branch of CAMRA has selected its Club of the Year for 2019 with the Village Club on Chapel St in Spondon taking the honours. A number of Clubs throughout the area were visited but in a keenly fought contest the Village came out victorious. The Club serves a range of Real Ales and CAMRA members are allowed in free with their card. They also hold an annual summer beer festival and have entertainment on Saturday nights. It is easily reached from Derby on the regular Spondon Flyer bus service which stops nearby so why not give it a try if you are in the area. Congratulations then to all involved at the Village Club which now goes forward to the next round of the competition.

## Winter Ale Trail 2019

This year's mammoth Winter Ale Trail draw to a conclusion in February and we'll have a full report with presentation photos in the next Derby Drinker. The Derby Branch results based on votes received from those on the Trail were as follows:-

**1st: The Falstaff, Derby**

**2nd: The Tap, Derby**

Many thanks to Trevor Spencer for organising our biggest Trail ever and don't forget to look out for our next one which will be the Mild Trail (see details below).

## May Mild Trail

The next Derby Drinker will carry full details and trail card for this year's May Mild Trail around pubs in our Branch area. If your Pub intends to stock Mild in May then please get in touch with us and get yourself included on the trail. E-mail: [GomildinMay2019@gmx.com](mailto:GomildinMay2019@gmx.com) and let us know.

## Derby CAMRA Branch Diary

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

### MARCH

**Thu 14th** - Branch Meeting - Brunswick Inn, Derby - 8pm.

**Fri 16th** - Trip to Leicester Beer Festival. Meet 7pm Brunswick before catching train to Leicester.

**Sat 23rd** - Trip to Muirhouse Brewery, Ilkeston. £10 which includes 3 beers and some food. Leaving Derby bus station 11am.

**Fri 29th** - Trip to Burton Beer Festival. Meet 7pm Brunswick before catching train to Burton.

### APRIL

**Thu 11th** - Branch AGM - Victory Club, Allenton - 8pm.

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

## Derby CAMRA



Website - [www.derby.camra.org.uk](http://www.derby.camra.org.uk)  
Facebook - DerbyCAMRA  
Twitter - @DerbyCAMRA

### Contacts:-

**Chairman** - Greg Maskalick [Chairman@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Chairman@derbycamra.org.uk)

**Secretary** - Ian Forman [Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Secretary@derbycamra.org.uk)

**Treasurer** - Keith Jones [Treasurer@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Treasurer@derbycamra.org.uk)

**Membership** - Karen Cooper [Membership@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:Membership@derbycamra.org.uk)

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**Social Media** - Gillian Hough [socialmedia@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:socialmedia@derbycamra.org.uk)

**Young Members Officer** - Heather Knibbs [YMG@derbycamra.org.uk](mailto:YMG@derbycamra.org.uk)



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DERBY CITY PUB OF THE YEAR 2006



## Local CAMRA Beer Festivals

March is a fantastic month for local CAMRA Beer Festivals roundabout so why not pop along and give them a try as follows:-

7-9 March – Loughborough – Polish Club  
13 – 16 March – Leicester – Haymarket Theatre  
28-30 March – Burton – Town Hall

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**A New Hope.** Wirksworth's 1660 Grade 2 listed Hope & Anchor has now re-opened with a brand new rustic decor and smart beer garden. It has a broad range of local and national ales. The brand new restaurant, serves traditional pub food with a modern twist. Ale battered cod and steak burgers are available on a wide weekday menu, ever changing specials, traditional roasts, with locally sourced meats on a Sunday. Close to the High Peak Trail it offers a respite to walkers and cyclists, and an idyllic spot for food in a family friendly environment. Joseph Bounds

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# DID LOCAL BELGIAN REFUGEES REALLY FIND BRITISH BEER TOO STRONG?

It is commonly known that Germany invaded Belgium at the very start of the war, occupying the majority of the country. Undoubtedly, there were atrocities. However, these were greatly exaggerated by the British government for propaganda purposes. Even so, several thousand refugees fled Belgium for the safety of the UK, dispersing widely throughout the country.

Many towns welcomed the Belgian families, providing them with accommodation, clothing and food. Local fund-raising committees for the Belgian Refugee Fund were set up to raise money to support the refugees. Locally, Offlers Brewery donated money to the fund and made one of their properties available to house a few families. The housing next to the Cavendish Bridge Brewery was given over rent free for refugee use for six months, along with a coal allowance. After that time, the housing was offered as suitable accommodation for a soldiers' convalescent home.

The first fourteen refugees from Antwerp arrived in Duffield in October 1914. The Rev. F W Eddison of St. Alkmunds in Duffield warned the residents attending a public meeting to refrain from treating the refugees to any alcoholic drinks, as they were "only used to light wines and would undoubtedly be overpowered by the stronger English

drinks". The warning was repeated by Rev. Cooper of St Peters in Belper, who cautioned his parishioners against inviting the Belgians into public houses.

Meanwhile, the Derby Temperance Society unsurprisingly espoused the opposite view on the strength of alcoholic drinks in Belgium. Temperance Bells, the campaigning magazine for Derby, reported that contrary to some reports that the small Belgian army had managed to resist the German offensive due to the effects of their admirable beer, the real truth was "the fact – fact, not theory – that much of the barbarous treatment received by Belgium has been the result of the great abundance of intoxicating liquor in the country, which was seized upon and consumed by the German troops."

One hundred years later we can look at the facts with a more considered view. The German Army did destroy many breweries as they invaded Belgium, removing the brewing coppers and other metal for weaponry. No doubt they drank any beer that they could find too.

However, there is good evidence that some Belgian beer was lower in gravity. This was a consequence of a 19th century Belgian tax law that taxed brewers on the size of the mash tun, not the strength of the beer. Accordingly, Belgian Brewers developed

mashing techniques suitable for low strength beers as they sought to extract as much beer from the mash tun. As a result, beer was often thin and weak. An indication of the

above comes in a paper presented to the Brewers Society on 'A Belgian Mashing System Suitable for Light Beers' by George Maw Johnson in May 1918.

Although the tax laws were repealed before the end of the 19th century its impacts were still being felt as the First World War broke out. So very possibly the reverend gentlemen above had a point. At 5.5 – 6%abv at the start of the war, standard English beer could well have been stronger than Belgian beer at that time.

Jim McIntosh & Jane Whitaker



## Derby WWI Pubs Project Presentation

At the end of January, Derby WWI Pubs Project researchers gave a talk at the Brunswick on their findings. Chairman, Jane Elliott introduced the talk. Jane Whitaker explained why beer and brewing was an important issue during the war and the long-lasting effects of the Defence of the Realm Act.

She spoke of the influence locally of the Derby Temperance Society and the impact it had within the Borough via the number of members who also served as Councillors and JPs, and also included the editor of the Derby Telegraph. Marie Gibson explained the importance of women in running the pubs when their husbands were fighting the war, only to have to return the licences at the end of the war. She went on to describe how women found freedom from domestic drudgery through the higher wages on offer from the munitions factories. Women also found acceptance in the pubs. Paul Whitaker talked about the logistics problems breweries encountered after the requisition of their transport, and the brewers' increased profits despite the restrictions. He described how the local brewers struggled to abide by the new regulations and how alternatives were being marketed to improve the flavour of poor-quality beer. The talk was well received by the audience. The excellent cheeseboard provided by the Brunswick enabled an opportunity for chatting and socialising. We



Pam Winning, Sue Crooks & Jane Whitaker

were very pleased to welcome Pam Winning and Sue Crooks, descendants of the Offlers brewing family who were happy to share their memories of the brewery.

Jane Whitaker



WWI Belgian refugees

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# AmberValley CAMRA Branch

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



## AMBER VALLEY NEWS

### Amber Valley News

Our twixt-Christmas and New Year outing again led us to Nottingham on 29th Dec with more than 30 joining the cohort this time. Starting in the Organ Grinder where the photo, below, was taken, the trippers also visited the Overdraught, Room With A Brew, Herbert Kilpin, the Cock and Hoop, Six Barrel Alehouse and finally the new Hockley Rebel. A diverse range of interiors and multiplicity of real ales was enjoyed, enough to lose track of recording what was on offer and tasted!



*Photo of the group (before it got even bigger) at the Organ Grinder*

### Branch Cider Pub of the Year

Cider POTY presentations took place in late January - see photo below of the winner, the Talbot in Ripley receiving their framed certificate from Chair, Chris Rogers. Congratulations to Steve and Angela - as well as thanks to the judges and to each pub /micro involved.

### Branch Pub of the Year

The Branch's POTY results were announced at 28th Feb AGM - too late, sadly, for this edition - however details

and presentation photos will appear in the next (May-June) Derby Drinker.

### AVBF 2019 - YOUR BRANCH NEEDS YOU!

Discussions with Strutt Community Centre, Belper, are underway - alas the Main Hall & its side rooms are pre-booked until 5pm on the ideal Saturday this year, 28th Sept. [the other days remain unaffected]. What is therefore being considered until 5pm that Saturday is a reduced space, retaining the courtyard

beer & cider marquée and using the nearest rooms both downstairs and upstairs at the "town" end of the building, and then moving into the Main Hall after 5pm. More importantly, the organising team needs managers to take on responsibility for sponsorship, staffing, publicity and entertainment. Who lives fairly close and can help out? Please consider offering your services to spread the load and ensure the event happens by getting in touch with one of us.



*Cider POTY Presentation -  
WINNER, The Talbot*

## DIARY DATES

all branch meetings 8pm

**Thur 28 March**  
Committee & Branch Meeting,  
Three Horseshoes, Ripley (TBC).

**Thurs 25 April**  
Branch Meeting,  
The Steampacket, Swanwick.

**May 31-June 2nd**  
Belper Goes Green where  
A V CAMRA run the real ale & cider  
marquée at The Rugby Club.





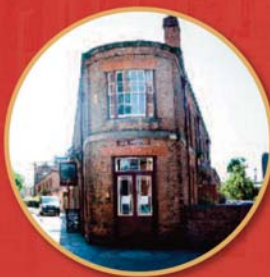
# Two Pubs, One Brewery, One Team Together!

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### Dead Poets Inn, Holbrook

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9 A BAND CALLED MALICE	6 GLORY DAYS
14 JOSH SMITH	11 NICK HEYWARD
15 JOHN OTWAY & THE BIG BAND	12 ENDORPHINMACHINE (PRINCE)
16 U2UK	13 JD SIMO
22 AC/DC UK	19 THE UB40 EXPERIENCE
23 THE QUIREBOYS UNPLUGGED	20 BILLY WALTON BAND
28 IAN SIEGAL UNPLUGGED	26 THE WATCH (GENESIS)
29 MORETALICA	27 THE DOORS ALIVE

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# EREWASH VALLEY CAMRA BRANCH

Contact **Chris Freer**  
chris.freer@ntlworld.com

## EREWASH VALLEY CAMRA REPORT

### SOCIAL REPORT

Another good turnout for our 2018 Christmas trip to Peterborough with 28 people departing from Nottingham station. On our arrival we walked the short distance down Westgate to our first port-of-call, The Ostrich, which boasted a good selection of beers. We then departed for the Bumble Inn, a relatively new micropub, just round the corner, before moving on to the Drapers Arms, an excellent Wetherspoons outlet featuring local micro beers, along with their usual selection. After waiting for the football crowds to go to the match, we went to Fletton, the other side of the River Nene, first to the Palmerston Arms - one of my favourite pubs - which is a Batemans house with a good selection of guest beers, some of which are served by gravity dispense. Then into the pub next door, the Yard of Ale, a large pub with a good selection of beers and friendly bar staff.

At this point the group split, with some disappearing down a side street to find the Swiss Cottage and then the Coalheavers Arms, only to find that most of the cask beers had been drunk by the football supporters. The rest of the group, including me, went to the Charters Barge on the river. I have been there before and I am always impressed with the atmosphere and the beer range. It was then onto our last pub, the Oakham Brewery Tap, where the group was reunited, before taking the short walk to the station for the 8.30pm train back to Nottingham.

A good day out with good company and good ale, THANKS TO YOU ALL

**Mick**

NB: The 2019 Christmas Social Date for our diary is Saturday December 7th. Watch out for a branch trip to Elsecar in Yorkshire sometime in the Spring.



### PUB NEWS

It has been relatively quiet on the pub front at the end of 2018, save to report the popularity of Sawley Junction, the new micropub opposite Long Eaton railway station. Opened just prior to the Festive period, it has proved a magnet to locals as well as beer buffs, and its relative compactness lends itself to conversation between friends and strangers alike. Currently open from Wednesday until Sunday, up to four changing beers on gravity dispense are available, in addition to real ciders. The owner's own brews, from Birch Cottage Brewery, often feature alongside mainly LocAle guests. Very dog-friendly, too!

### BREWERY NEWS

Will, the BLO for **Old Sawley Brewery**, reports that an old favourite is being re-introduced by Roo, the brewer, as a permanent beer. Previously entitled 'Two Rivers', the 4.8% American pale ale should be back on the bar in the very near future. Greg at **Draycott Brewing Company** has a number of new brews appearing in the early part of 2019, including a new 4.5% peanut butter porter, 'Lord Have Mercy'. In March a new pale ale, 'Eve's Temptation', will make an appearance, while 'Top Of The Hops' sees an abv boost from 3.8% to 4.5% for a "bigger and better hop bite."

### FUTURE MEETINGS

All branch meetings are held on a Monday and start at 8.00pm

**Monday 4th March** AGM, Three Horse Shoes, Ilkeston

**Monday 1st April** Sawley Junction, Sawley  
For further details contact secretary, Richard Syson, at [secretary@erewash-camra.org](mailto:secretary@erewash-camra.org)



### 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  
Coach & Horses, Draycott  
Crown Inn, 6 Church St, Heanor  
Dew Drop Inn, Ilkeston  
General Havelock, Ilkeston  
Great Northern, Langley Mill  
Draycott Tap House, 29, Victoria St, Draycott  
Hole in The Wall, Regent St, Long Eaton  
Ilson Tap, Bottom of Bath St Ilkeston  
Inn in The Middle, Langley Mill  
Little Acorn, Ilkeston  
Lockkeepers Rest, Sawley  
Marlpool Ale House, Marlpool  
Prince of Wales, 69, South St, Ilkeston  
Punchbowl, 43 The Village, West Hallam  
Queens Head, Marpool  
Redemption Ale House, Ray St, Heanor  
Red Lion, 2, Derby Rd, Heanor  
Sawley Junction, 176 Tamworth Road, Sawley  
Spanish Bar, 76, South St, Ilkeston  
Stanhope Arms, Stanton by Dale

### CAMRA Discounts

Please remember to show your CAMRA card

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

**Bridge - Cotmanhay** - 15p off a pint, 5p off a half

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

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

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

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

**Mill and Brook, Long Eaton** - 10p off pint, 5p off half

**Navigation, Breaston** - 20p off a pint

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

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

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

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

**Stanhope Arms, Stanton by Dale** - 15p off pint

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

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

**Trent Lock Inn Trent Lock** - 20p off pint

**Twitchell, Long Eaton** - 20p off 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 pint, 5p off a half, including real cider



# Small But Perfectly Formed

**T**he 2003 Licensing Act made conversion of buildings to licensed premises easier and it captured the attention of some entrepreneurs who seized the opportunity to open small pubs. The term “micropub” was coined and Martyn Hillier’s Butchers Arms in Herne, Kent, is frequently cited as the first, opening in 2005, although there are other claimants to leading the new wave before the Act was passed. Back in the mists of time, Derby would have had a number of small pubs and one of the last to be demolished was the Lifeboat, Wilson Street, in 1984. A plethora of micropubs has opened in recent years and we’re featuring those in the Derby CAMRA Branch area in alphabetical order.

The opening of 189 in the shadow of Woodlands Evangelical Church on Blenheim Drive, Allestree, and the Pot Hole have transformed Allestree’s appeal for beer enthusiasts. 189, a former beauty salon, is the brainchild of Matt Willers and he’s created a venue whose sleek, modern touches attract a wide customer base. Gins, wines and craft keg beers in draught and bottled format sit comfortably with Blue Monkey Infinity and Dancing Duck Nice Weather, together with a trio of rotating guest beers. I opted for Ashover Coffin Lane Stout which had hints of classic Guinness. CAMRA discount is offered and 189 is now open on Sundays between 3.00pm and 9.00pm.

David Carpenter, a long standing CAMRA member, and his partners converted the old Midland Bank in High Street,



189 micropub, Allestree

Melbourne, to the **Chip and Pin** a few years ago, resuscitating table service, last seen in Derbyshire in the 1970s at the Albion, Butterley Hill, a Shipstone’s house in Ripley. Ever changing beers and traditional cider are served in two rooms with old prints of Melbourne’s pub and brewing heritage. The Chip and Pin is a past winner of the Times newspaper Micropub of the Year award and currently has CAMRA Good Beer Guide status.

The **Creaky Floorboard**, 179 Kedleston Road, is a late Victorian, double fronted property with entrance hall floor tiling typical of the period. The two rooms have bare floorboards, exposed brickwork and lighting suspended from an airing rack above the bar servery. Changing guest beers, mainly from local brewers, complement the Derby Brewing Company house beer, the aptly named Nailed It. The Creaky Floorboard has been open less than three months but feels like it’s always been a pub, something it shares with the brilliant Feather Star in Wirksworth. The residential area’s demographic and frequency of buses stopping nearby should see this new venture succeed.



Chip and Pin

The **Last Post**, 1 Uttoxeter Old Road, in a former Post Office, is where Chris and Karen O’Brien have created a pleasantly Bohemian atmosphere especially when musical artists perform. Derby’s second micropub has a tapered room with exposed brickwork covered in beer mats attesting to the myriad beers served, and when I called Lytham Radler, Nethergate Hair of the Dog and Beermats Soulmate accompanied a traditional cider. 2019 Good Beer Guide listed.

The Edwardian terraces of Chester Green belie the area’s Roman history which the Romans named Little Chester when they built a big fort, Derventio, by the river. The aptly named **Little Chester Ale House** in a



Creaky Floorboard



Last Post



LCAH





**Portside Tavern**



**Pot Hole**



**Shiny Tap**



**Town Street Tap**



**Draycott Tap**

former dry cleaners opened in 2012 as Derby's first micropub, and it's now run by the Hartshorn Brewery just up Alfreton Road. The local beers are prominent and a guest or two come from the likes of Leatherbritches. The premises, which feature in the 2019 Good Beer guide, have a most attractive frontage and the interior is suitably small without being claustrophobic.

The **Portside Tavern** is part of the former First Church of Christ Scientist, Friary Street, which is an unusual but not unattractive brick-built structure dating back to 1937. This recent addition to Derby's burgeoning real ale scene has a long, narrow L-shaped interior with New England nautical décor. I enjoyed the Titanic Iceberg which sat alongside Everard's Tiger, and staff are happy to fetch different real ales, which often include Dancing Duck, from the family friendly Annie's Burger Shack next door.

20p a pint discount is available to CAMRA members.

You'd be hard pressed to meet a friendlier couple than Ady and Michelle who run the **Pot Hole**, named after the erstwhile pub at Park Farm, Allestree, the first out-of-town, purpose-built shopping centre in Derby. Littleover Brewery are the lessees and while serving hand-pulled pints of Littleover and changing guests, Ady and Michelle are only too happy to talk about all things real ale. The former dry cleaners has a front room with a miniscule snug behind, complete with comfy settee. The place was packed during last November's beer festival.

Pedro Menon, who spectacularly revived the Furnace, has never been one for standing still, and he's installed a second brewery at **The Shiny Tap** on the Old Hall Mill business park close to the Queen's Head, Little Eaton. This is also a noted off-licence attracting significant patronage

from those who seek craft keg beers in draught and bottled form. Traditional real ale drinkers haven't been forgotten though, and a couple of pints of Shiny 4 Wood were welcome in a room where wooden planked walls give a Nordic feel. There's an outside area for sampling when the weather improves.

Tollgate, who brew at the National Trust's Calke Abbey in south Derbyshire, opened the **Town Street Tap**, Duffield, three years ago, offering their own brewed beer and a quartet of rotating guest beers together with real cider brought to your table. All of this in a light, modern environment makes for a pleasing experience which has seen Good Beer Guide recognition and the Tap captured the 2018 Derby CAMRA Country Pub of the Year award.

Just outside of the Derby CAMRA Branch area is the **Draycott Tap House** on Victoria Road, which would be remiss of me to omit given that Philadelphia born Greg Maskalik is the Chairman of Derby CAMRA and runs the premises. The corner house, formerly a framing shop on the main road, has eye catching period glazing and signage. Inside, there's evidence of Greg's American roots in his own flavoursome beer, C A Steam and Top of the Hops which are brewed alongside other recipes at Greg's Draycott Brewing concern at Dale Abbey. Guest ales and a Three Cats traditional cider are also served from the tiny bar servery and regular special event evenings are held.

The new wave of micropubs has undoubtedly increased the options available to real ale drinkers although it should be noted that many of the pubs featured here don't open seven days a week and have restricted hours (see individual websites for details). Further such premises are due to open in Queen Street, Derby, and Derby Brewing Company intend to open the **Hole in the Wall** in the former NatWest bank premises in Mickleover.

**Paul Gibson**



# PORTSIDE TAVERN

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## Have you visited The Portside Tavern at Annie's Burger Shack Derby?

Head inside the fantastic Grade 2 listed building at Friary Street and you will find a cosy and nautical pub; inspired by the taverns back in Annie's homeland of Rhode Island, USA. Original wood from the building has been re-used throughout; with pews and lecterns giving a feel of the building's former history, brought into a more modern era.

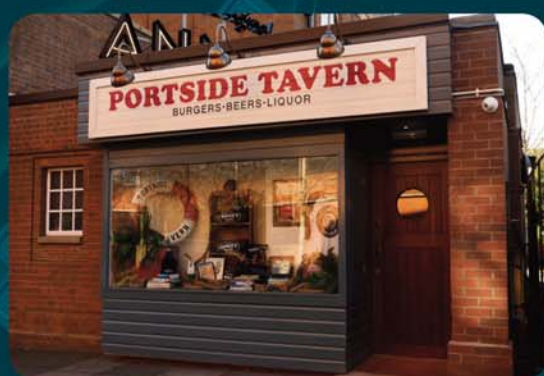
Annie's Burger Shack is a Freehouse; which means we are not tied to a brewery, and get to pick all the beers we serve in The Shack (main restaurant) and in The Portside Tavern (to the side of the main restaurant).

We are proud to feature products from local breweries, including Dancing Duck, Shiny, Blue Monkey, Derbyshire Brewing, Bass, Buxton, Whim Ales, Falstaff, Derventio, Littleover, Pentrich and Old Sawley.

As well as this, we have built up an excellent relationship with many Nottingham breweries over the years through Annie's Burger Shack Nottingham – this allows us to offer the finest from Black Iris, Totally Brewed, Lenton Lane and the like. We also love to support new local microbreweries such as Grasshopper and Bang The Elephant Brewing Co.

Venturing a little further afield, we serve beers from all over the UK; including some of our favourites from Adnams, Tiny Rebel, Oakham, Titanic, Marble, Thornbridge, Magic Rock and Beavertown. Both the Tavern and the bar in Annie's restaurant serve a fine selection of drinks from near and far with a great selection of real ales, craft beers, bottles & cans available.

If you fancy a burger with your beer, don't forget Annie's Burger Shack is open right next door!



**Fantastic offer for Camra members (show valid card) only £3.00 a pint for real cask ales in the Portside Tavern**



**The Portside Tavern is open daily**

**Monday-Thursday: 5pm-10pm,  
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*For further details visit  
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# Micros on the march!

**A**t a time when many pubs are struggling to survive and more than a few are closing, a perhaps surprising development in the licensed trade has been the growth of the number of micropubs, certainly in the East Midlands and maybe further afield. In the Amber Valley CAMRA Branch area there are currently 9 micropubs, a number which may well rise over the next year.

The main growth area for these pubs is Alfreton, which has 4, including the latest one on the scene, the **Crossroads Tavern Ale House**. The Crossroads can be found on the edge of Alfreton Town centre, at the junction of High Street and Cressy Road, although the actual address is 100 High Street. As can be seen from the photograph, it's quite an imposing building and very easy to spot.

As for the pub itself, it has a well-lit and pleasantly-decorated interior, and has a comfortable, friendly atmosphere, on my recent visit I could have easily stayed for several beers, but

unfortunately I had other business to attend to, so reluctantly departed after just one drink.

As for the drinks menu, there are 6 Real Ales available, complemented by 8 ciders and various spirits, including several different gins, so something for everybody. There isn't a regular beer, but there is certainly quality beer at the Crossroads, and I doubt anyone calling will be disappointed by what's on offer. The Crossroads is open from Thursday to Sunday, opening hours being 12-10 on Thursday and Sunday, while it's 12-11 on Friday and Saturday. It is also a live music venue, with different acts on every Sunday from 4pm, the pub gets very crowded then I'm told, so anyone planning to visit then needs to get there early to ensure a seat. It's fairly easy to get to, being on the Nines bus route, so there's every reason to give it a try.

**Trevor Spencer**



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# Ashbourne & District CAMRA Branch

Contact Mark Grist

m.grist2@sky.com

## Ashbourne Branch Pub of the Year

Judging took place throughout late December and all of January in our Pub of the Year competition and the result is as follows:-

**Pub of the Year 2019** - Smith's Tavern, Ashbourne.

**Runner-up** - Maison du Bière, Ashbourne.

**Highly Commended** - The Old Dog, Thorpe.

**Highly Commended** - The Coach & Horses, Fenny Bentley.

Our thanks to all those who took part in the judging process. Certificate presentations will have taken place by the time you read this.



## Branch ABC

Our annual town beer census, which normally takes place in February, has been put back to April, date to be confirmed. Details will appear on our Facebook page and website.

## Pub News

The **Horns in Ashbourne** changed hands at the end of January, but no details of the new owners about their plans were available when going to press.

The **Yew Tree at Ednaston** has suffered its almost annual closure this January as the tenants have left. It seems that the owners of the building are still intent on selling it, although the villagers very much want it open. An ACV was placed on the building in 2016 and it is hoped that efforts can be continued to save it from developers.

The **Ostrich at Longford** is being put on the market by owners New River for an asking price of £1.4m for the pub and some surrounding land. This is another pub that has been under threat of closure for some considerable time.

The **Vernon Arms at Sudbury** has suddenly closed, apparently for a major refit, but the tenants have left. It seems this may actually be a planned permanent closure, although this could not be confirmed at the time of going to press.

## Diary Dates

Please note these are subject to confirmation - please keep an eye on our Website and Facebook page for these and other events.

**Tuesday 26th Mar**

Branch Meeting - Roston Inn, Roston.

**Tuesday 30th Apr**

Branch Meeting - Red Lion, Hognaston.

**Tuesday 21st May**

AGM - Smith's Tavern, Ashbourne.



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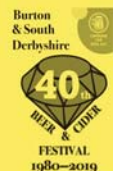
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## 40<sup>TH</sup> BURTON CAMRA



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OPENING TIMES	ENTRY CHARGE
Thursday 6.00pm - 11.00pm	FREE
Fri & Sat 11.00am - 6.00pm	£3.00 (CAMRA members get £3.00 in beer tokens)
Friday 6.00pm - 11.00pm	£7.00 (CAMRA members get £3.00 in beer tokens)
Saturday 6.00pm - 10.00pm	£5.00 (CAMRA members get £3.00 in beer tokens)

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FOR MORE INFORMATION PHONE DICKIE ALLEN ON 01283 614730 OR MOBILE: 07974 708132

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# BURTON & SOUTH DERBYSHIRE CAMRA BRANCH



Contact Theo Hollier: [theo51@btinternet.com](mailto:theo51@btinternet.com)

## Burton's Football Pubs (Part 2)

The town route to the Pirelli Stadium is really for hardened drinkers due to the sheer quantity of pubs on offer! Coming out of the railway station, we turn right and head to downtown Burton. At the bottom of the station bridge is the **Roebuck Inn**. This pub dates back to the early 1800's and is built in the style of an old London pub. It serves four regular ales: Bass, Pedigree, Abbot and Old Peculier as well as two changing beers and Old Rosie cider on tap. This pub is also often used by home supporters as a meeting place before getting the train to away matches.

About twenty yards further on, in Station Street, is the **Last Heretic**. This is a micropub, which means it is rather on the small side, but at the back is a massive beer garden, one of the best in Burton. It was well attended last summer. There are up to six real ales on sale at any one time, with the current ales and pending ales shown on a board. There are also up to six real ciders on sale and this pub is the current Burton Cider Pub of the Year. Another plus is that the landlord is also a football fan.

About 100 yards further down Station Street is the **Devonshire Arms**, a Burton Bridge pub serving their full range plus a couple of guest ales and at least two real ciders. This is a larger pub - more of a pre-restaurant evening pub - but, being directly on the route, often welcomes some good football crowds. There is also a good sized rear patio beer garden with picnic-style tables and an undercover area.

Within a stone's throw, just down Milton Street, is the rear entrance to the **Coopers Tavern** (the front entrance being in Cross Street). It is one of the most unusual pubs, not just in Burton but in the UK! In addition to serving real ales directly from the casks using only gravity, it has a strange layered seating arrangement where (allegedly) the Head Brewer from Bass would sit elevated above the other customers. The draught Bass is something else! Along with Joule's Slumbering Monk it is one of the two regular beers. There are also seven changing beers and four ciders.

Heading into town now, past the Brews of the World bottle shop, and crossing over by the traffic lights, we continue down Station Street past the Grail Court Hotel. The next pub, the **Dial**, is actually more of a bar/restaurant, but regularly serves real ale in the form of Doom Bar, and one changing beer. They do very good snacks and light meals at lunchtime. In the evening it is one of the "in" places and very crowded.

Moving on fifty yards, we find the sports bar and nightclub, the **Locomotive**. This is the

place for multiscreen football viewing and is packed to overflowing for England games. It is another "in" place for the trendy set at night. It serves real ale in the form of Pedigree, Doom Bar and two changing beers.

At the T-junction we turn right into High Street. In about 100 yards is the **Dog Inn**, the Burton CAMRA Pub of the Year for the last two years. The selection of real ales in this pub is probably the best in Burton. Don't spend the rest of the afternoon here, you'll miss the match! Enough said.

Now we walk back down High Street, the way we came, and past the junction with Station Street. Next on the right is the Association nightclub. Then we find the Wetherspoon pub, the **Lord Burton**, and take the opportunity to use some of our CAMRA vouchers. Spoilt for choice here with real ale and cider, the regular beers are Abbot, Pedigree, Doom Bar and Ruddle's Best Bitter, alongside three changing beers. The ciders tend to be more variable but still plentiful. There is a distinct lack of TVs here, surprising even for the World Cup, but still very popular with a large beer garden.

Next door is another large pub, the **Prince of Brewers**, also with a beer garden, somewhat smaller but heated and lit up by TVs, in addition to the multitude of screens inside that are invariably showing sport, mainly football. The name is probably not a reference to Burton Albion's nickname but possibly to Lord Burton, Michael Arthur Bass. A good range of real ale is sold here, usually three changing beers.

Moving on down High Street past the Zinc nightclub and Fever, and on the other side of the lights, is the grand pub, the **Crossing**, owned by the former Anti-Pasti front man, Martin Roper. The pub was best known previously as The Blue Posts, and then there was a series of name and ownership changes before it was rescued by Martin. The current name has apparently come about from an L.S. Lowry painting of the level crossing next to the pub in 1961. The pub has now been partially converted into an eatery, but the bar is still very popular, selling real ale and cider. There are six regular beers: Dancing Duck's Ay Up and Dark Drake, Bass, Oakham Citra, Sharp's Atlantic and Doom Bar as well as two ciders.

A couple of hundred yards further down High Street is another micropub, the **Fuggle & Nugget**. This pub did actually advertise itself as football-free for the duration of the World Cup, mainly because there are no TVs. It is certainly very welcoming to football fans both before and after matches, due to its friendly atmosphere, excellent ranges of beers and ciders, usually four of each, which appear on

boards as serving now and due next. It has an interesting layout with bench style seating around the periphery and high tables to allow standing in the middle.

Moving on, we cross to the other side of High Street and at the lights just twenty yards down Bridge Street on the right is the **Burton Bridge Inn**. It is definitely a football pub because the landlord is a keen supporter and (I think) attends all home games and also some away matches. His son produces the Burton Albion Blog. A good number of home fans always meet here for a pint or two before the walk to the ground. For some matches there are only a handful of away supporters, clearly having done their homework on the best drinking holes, and quietly drinking incognito with a bar meal. In other weeks, the pub would be heaving with away supporters overflowing to the outside area even in the depths of winter.

We continue left out of the Bridge with the Three Queens Hotel on the opposite side of the road, cross High Street and walk up Horninglow Street. Then we cross Guild Street where the **National Brewery Centre** is facing us. The Heritage Brewing Company is on site and the **Brewery Tap** offers most of the following, sometimes interspersed with a guest ale or two; Charrington IPA, St. Modwens Golden Ale, Masterpiece IPA (aka White Shield), Officers Best Bitter (Derby), Victoria Pale Ale and Charrington Oatmeal.

Next, we continue up Horninglow Street to the traffic lights, and cross to Hawkins Lane which leads directly to the ground. On the way is one more delight. A few hundred yards on the left is the **Burton Town Brewery Tap**. But we walk past it and take the next left as it's accessed from Falcon Close. It is open to the public on match days for three hours before kick-off. As well as their own real ale brews, Burton IPA, Albion (match day offer £3/pint or £3.50 takeaway bottle), Thomcat, Scorned Woman and Modwena, real cider and snacks are served as well. This unusually presented bar and drinking area is inside the working brewery. The Pirelli Stadium is about ten minutes from here and anyone that has been in the bar is welcome to free parking before and during the game.

## Branch Meetings

**Wednesday 17th April:** Branch meetings, including AGM, at the Albion, Shobnall (note change of venue from the usual); Committee meeting 7.00 p.m., AGM 7.30 p.m., followed by a (short?) Branch meeting.





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## Matlock and Dales CAMRA Branch

Contact [mad.camra@live.co.uk](mailto:mad.camra@live.co.uk)

### MATLOCK & DALES BEER FESTIVAL

Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 May

#### MATLOCK TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

We're back but at a new venue which we are sure you will approve of.

A level stroll from the bus & rail stations. After crossing the old bridge, keeping on the right hand side, you just keep straight on till you see the football ground. Hall Leys Park, on your right, is opposite the beer festival.

There will be lots of space for you to spread out, carefully chosen entertainment and loads of beer as well as other tipples. A variety of refreshment kiosks will be available so you can prolong your stay.

Bring the family as Matlock, being a former resort, has plenty for them to do. Of course there are also lots of good pubs handy as well.

See You There

#### PUB of the YEAR

We were busy at the last branch meeting short listing pubs in our area for this prestigious honour.

**BEER SCORING is the main trigger.** Please will all members of CAMRA visit WhatPub and add your score, dead easy, select the pub. Login top right and follow prompts.

The top pubs scored by you all are put in the first round.

At previous meetings local CAMRA members had discussed and approved the criteria. We all know it is important that our winning pub has a good chance to succeed at county, regional and even national level. With this in mind we use the national criteria. Of course the beer must be good but the whole pub experience should be enjoyable.

The team doing the judging will score on such as

#### Quality of Beer Cider & Perry.

What is available, including a selection of different styles

**Style, decor & cleanliness of pub** including toilets

#### Service Welcome & Offering.

We need to feel welcome even if the pub is busy, be served by someone who knows what is on offer and how to handle glasses and dispense the drink appropriately.

#### Community focus & atmosphere.

If locals drink here that is always a good sign! But what makes them? Is there some banter? Do they have posters for coming events nearby, leaflets, pub games and so on?

#### Alignment with CAMRA principles

This will include things such as prices displayed and offering good value. Full measure, interest in the drink, bar staff presumably having tasted it before opening. A place to enjoy your drink away from noisy TVs or gaming machines.

#### Lastly overall impression

Would you go back?

Our chosen pub will be announced in the next issue and we hope it does well in further rounds.

Angie Corby



### 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 on 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.

## MAD Branch Diary

**Burton Beer Festival 28-30 March**

**AGM Tues 2 April 7.30**

**Remarkable Hare, Dale Road Matlock**

*More details Website, Facebook & Twitter*

## LocAle MATLOCK & DALES CAMRA

Devonshire Arms	Beeley
Druids	Birchover
Red Lion	Birchover
Barley Mow	Bonsall
Boat Inn	Cromford
Cliff Inn	Crich
Black Swan	Crich
Red Lion	Crich Tramway Village
Three Stags	Darley Bridge
Whitworth Park	Darley Dale
Jug and Glass	Lea
News Room	Matlock
Crown	Matlock
MoCa Bar	Matlock
Remarkable Hare	Matlock
Stanley's Alehouse	Matlock
Twenty Ten	Matlock
Midland	Matlock Bath
Fishpond	Matlock Bath
Nelson Arms	Middleton by Wirksworth
Bowling Green	Winstar
Feather Star Alehouse	Wirksworth
Royal Oak	Wirksworth

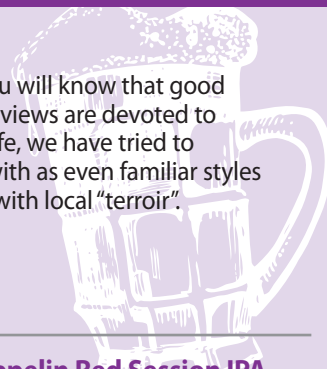


# The Top Beer Bottle and Can Review



Whether you're a Brexiter or Remainer, if you love beer you will know that good beer knows no boundaries. In celebration of this, all our reviews are devoted to brews from Europe. Avoiding the obvious choices like Leffe, we have tried to sample something different. There is a lot to experiment with as even familiar styles like amber ale take on a distinct character when imbued with local "terroir".

TopBeer@TopBeer5



**Gose to Hollywood Gose 3.8%, To Øl (Lochrist-Hijfe, Belgium) from The Beer Trap at £2.50 per 1 pint 0.9 fl oz**

Okay, some explanation is required here – Gose is a beer style from Germany and this one was brewed in Belgium for the Danish brewer To Øl then packaged for the American

market (hence the odd units of measure). Like many wheat beers it has a characteristically cloudy body, robust head and smooth mouthfeel. As the head settles, the essence of wild blueberries bursts over the rim, not the muted, processed and pasteurised juice, but the vibrant bouquet that springs up when wading through moorland shrubbery. It was also likened to the softer smells given off by hair-perming solutions, any poetic prose but I am struggling to summon any poetic prose to carry this, so - moving on. The sourness might catch your breath at first but this mellows with every encounter revealing the sweet-sharp taste of sherbet lemons. This is augmented by a gentle sherbet-like effervescence from the dissolved gases that leaves your tongue feeling slightly dry. After all else has gone the aftertaste that lingers gives the faint impression of the oranges used to flavour the beer. If all this seems too daunting, just approach it as if it were a refreshing glass of squeezed grapefruit juice on a hot sunny summer holiday.



**Hombre! Amber Ale 5.5%, BAM (Marsac, Fra) from Beer52 at £4.50 per 330ml**

This artisanal, un-fined, unfiltered, organic, bottle conditioned beer has the credentials which leads one to believe it will be packed with flavours. However it has a very subtle opening, offering the impression of a weak black coffee. As the beer

settles on the tongue it releases the bouquet of vegetable crisps with parsnips, swede and other white roots which come to the fore. Again, opinions were divided over these flavours with less charitable comparisons being made to "Odeur de brown bin", somewhat less appealing. This is an interesting but odd beer that is likely to divide a room between those who love it and those who hate it.



**Red Zeppelin Red Session IPA 5%, Musa (Lisbon, Por) from Beers of the World at £3.75 per 330ml**

When you pour out this amber brown beer it effuses candyfloss aromas and the faintest whiff of burnt sugars, a combination only encountered previously when having sticks of floss spun at the fair. This contrasts sharply with

the slightly bitter steely flavours which are also bolstered by the taste of the gas as it fizzes off the tongue. When it has settled in the mouth, a faint whiff of spent gunpowder can be sensed before it leaves behind its refreshingly pithy aftertaste. This beer is not highly bittered or high in alcohol so it is more like a best bitter than an IPA in style. Despite a promising nose the initial flavour this beer offers do not impress, but as the glass empties it grows on you.



**Body Riddle Pale Ale 4.5%, Whiplash (Wicklow, Ire) from The Beer Trap at £3.30 per 330ml**

This beer really explodes into the glass, overflowing it with large lingering bubbles reminiscent of an overactive home-brew kit bursting out of the airing cupboard. As the froth ebbs away, it reveals a

slightly candied peel smell that excites the taste buds even before you have raised the glass. The beer opens with mellow soft citrus fruits that morph into a full grapefruit punch, but behind this is much more. As it coats the mouth with a whole cornucopia of novel fruity flavours it takes you into unfamiliar territory that is nonetheless a great joy to explore. Although relatively low in alcohol, this beer furnishes you with a comfortingly strong post-prandial spirit glow. Despite its curious, even alien flavours, it is a moreish drink that rewards the considered drinker. If this were the Eurovision Drinking Contest it would get the full twelve points.





Scoring your beer helps CAMRA choose pubs for the Good Beer Guide and Pub of the Year, so please give your pub your support.

Go to: **WhatPub.com** search for the pub and enter your score now (or do it at home later)

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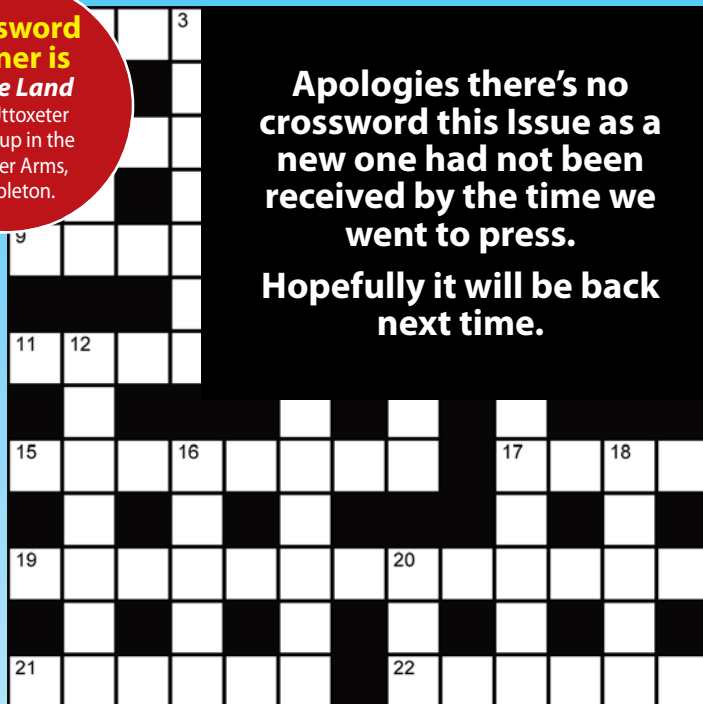
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January/February – **December 1st**  
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 May/June – **April 1st**  
 July/August – **June 1st**  
 September/October – **August 1st**  
 November/December – **October 1st**

**Copy Deadlines in BOLD**

**Crossword  
winner is  
Jackie Land**  
 from Uttroter  
 picked up in the  
 Okeover Arms,  
 Mappleton.

Apologies there's no  
 crossword this Issue as a  
 new one had not been  
 received by the time we  
 went to press.  
 Hopefully it will be back  
 next time.



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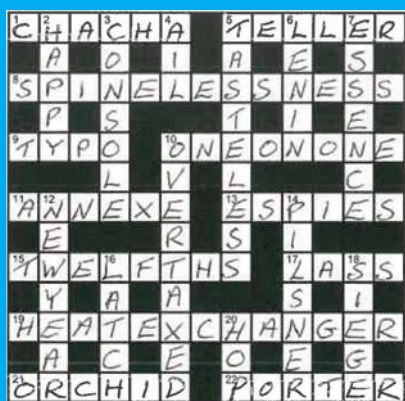
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- ▶ Access to Chambers Dictionary and the Good Beer Guide 2019 recommended.
- ▶ Send completed entries to the Editor (see address below) stating in which pub you picked up Derby Drinker.
- ▶ Correct grids will go into a draw for a £10 prize.
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## Crossword No 67 Answers



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