



Issue 196

July/August  
2022

# DERBY rinker

FREE



Cheers

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

## Beer Festival City

As Derby CAMRA Beer Festival Returns



And  
Derby Pubs  
Hold Summer  
Events



Bar 189



Smithfield Alehouse



Furnace Inn



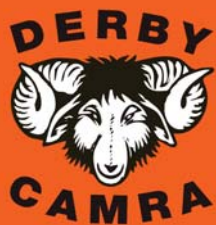
Brunswick Inn

Full details inside plus all the usual features ►►►►



CAMPAIGN  
FOR  
REAL ALE





## Derby CAMRA Branch



## Derby CAMRA Beer Festival Returns

**A**fter a 2 year absence Derby CAMRA are pleased to announce the return of their Premier event from 14th-18th September on Derby Market Place.

Much missed and much looked forward to by everyone around the area, it is a great pleasure to welcome this event back into our calendars once again. The last official event took place in February 2020 at the Roundhouse although Derby Camra has helped out behind the scenes with Derby Live's two recent Beer Festival events on the Market Place.

Organisers are at this stage still putting things together but full opening times, prices, beer list and entertainment will be published in due course. Keep an eye on the Derby Camra website, look out for posters around the area and check out the next Derby Drinker which will have full details of the event. Bands already confirmed include a Fleetwood Mac tribute band and the Newcranes but expect a full programme over the 4 days of the event.

It is all set to be the biggest and best event of the late Summer so don't miss, put the dates in your diaries now and head down to Market Place in September for Derby's premier social occasion of the year.



## Derby CAMRA Beer Festival 2022 BANDS WANTED

**Derby Camra's Beer Festival is back from 14th-18th September 2022.**

The Festival has always been renowned for its great line-up of Entertainment and this year will be no exception.



To this end we are on the lookout for artists, bands, musicians, etc to play at the Festival so if you would like to join us at the Fest then drop us an e-mail with your details to [festival\\_ents@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:festival_ents@derby.camra.org.uk)

## Derby Pubs Hold Summer Beer Festivals

A number of Derby Pubs are holding Beer Festivals throughout the Summer including the Brunswick Inn (6-10 July), Bar 189 in Allestree (14-17 July), Smithfield Alehouse (28-31 July) and Furnace Inn (24-28 August). Check out their adverts in this Issue for

further details. There maybe others as well not yet announced or not known to us as we went to press so look out for posters as you travel about town. Always good events with a decent selection of ales and usually entertainment as well why not pay them a visit on your travels.

## Derbyshire South Pub of the Year

The Smithfield Alehouse in Derby has once again taken this title (see article on page 7). Look out for the presentation event in July when Emily & Ben will welcome you with their usual special hospitality. For dates check out the pubs website or facebook page.

## Derbyshire Club of the Year

The Royal British Legion Club in Parwich has been crowned Derbyshire Club of the Year for the very first time (see article on page 12). A tremendous achievement for the Club and a presentation by Derby Camra's sub branch, Ashbourne & District Camra will take place in due course. Check out on their website for date and details.





# Derby CAMRA Branch

## Derby CAMRA Club of the Year

We did mention this in the last issue but hadn't at the time done the Presentation so it's with great pleasure we publish photos of the occasion here and thank the Club for making us feel most welcome on the night. The photo features Derby Camra Pubs Officer, Mark Fletcher with members of the staff and committee at the Club.



## The Pentrich Revolution Four Branches Ale Trail

The recent Ale Trail featured in Derby Drinker has been declared a success with the top 3 rated pubs as voted for by punters doing the trail being as follows:-

1. Dog and Parrot, Eastwood.
2. Bunny Hop Ale House, Langley Mill.
3. Three Horse Shoes, Ripley.

Presentations of a gift and certificate (which have been designed by the Pentrich and South Wingfield Revolution Group) can be seen in the photos below in 1st, 2nd & 3rd place order from left to right.



2014 Derbyshire CAMRA **PUB OF THE YEAR**

**FURNACE**  
BREW PUB

**AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY**  
*Beer Festival*

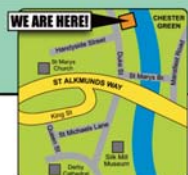


**WEDS 24<sup>th</sup> to SUN 28<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**

**OPEN FROM 12pm EVERY DAY**

**20 CASKS / 10 KEGS / 6 CIDERS**

**Pizzas, cobs and special festival menu available**



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4 minute walk from  
Derby Cathedral,  
situated by the  
River Derwent

**FURNACE INN**  
DUKE STREET, DERBY

## DerbyCAMRA Branch Diary

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

### JULY

- Thu 14th - Branch Meeting - Mr Grundy's, Derby - 8pm.
- Wed 20th - Ale Alfresco Beer Garden Drinking in Derby - Mr Grundy's 6pm, Golden Eagle 7pm, Flowerpot 8pm and Furnace Inn 9pm.
- Sat 30th - Shardlow Saunter, meet at the Dog and Duck at Noon.

### AUGUST

- Thu 11th - Branch Meeting - Alexandra, Derby - 8pm.

### SEPTEMBER

- Thu 8th - Branch Meeting - TBC - 8pm.
- 14-18th - Derby Beer Festival - Market Place.

Contact the Social Secretary, by email - [socials@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:socials@derby.camra.org.uk)  
(Check [www.derby.camra.org.uk](http://www.derby.camra.org.uk) for all upcoming events)

**Derby  
CAMRA**



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

### Contacts:-

- Chairman** - Kevin Hepworth [chairman@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:chairman@derby.camra.org.uk)
- Secretary** - Ian Forman [secretary@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:secretary@derby.camra.org.uk)
- Treasurer** - Andrew Norman [treasurer@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@derby.camra.org.uk)
- Membership** - Karen Cooper [membership@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:membership@derby.camra.org.uk)
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- Press & Publicity** - Kevin Hepworth [publicity@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:publicity@derby.camra.org.uk)
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- Socials** - Jamie Williams [socials@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:socials@derby.camra.org.uk)
- LocAle** - [locale@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:locale@derby.camra.org.uk)
- Pub Preservation** - Mark Fletcher [pubpreserve@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:pubpreserve@derby.camra.org.uk)
- Social Media** - Gillian Hough [socialmedia@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:socialmedia@derby.camra.org.uk)
- Young Members Officer** - Heather Knibbs [YMG@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:YMG@derby.camra.org.uk)



# Derbyshire & Near By Music Festivals With Real Ale



Well it's that time of year when the warmer weather (hopefully) ushers in thousands of music festivals all over the Country, a good many of them serving Real Ale & Cider.

Derbyshire has its fair share of these with bars run by local breweries in some cases.

Here are a few highlights:-

## July

Eyes Have it - 1-3 July - Duffield  
Rock & Bike - 7-9 July - Carnfield Hall  
Stainsby - 15-17 July - Brunts Farm  
Splendour - 23-24 July - Wollaton Park  
Rock & Blues - 28-30 July - Pentrich  
Ynot - 29-31 July - Pikehall

## August

Bloodstock - 11-14 August - Catton Hall  
Peakender - 19-21 August - Bakewell

## September

Off the Tracks - 2-4 Sep - Donington  
Whitwell - 9-11 Sep - Community Centre

For ticket & band details check out the events website/facebook page.

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**FOOD SERVED 12-9PM**

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*Watch out for our next beer festival and meet the brewer events!*

**BOOKINGS TAKEN** Queens Head, Victoria Avenue, Ockbrook, DE72 3RN • 01332416293 [www.classicinn.co.uk](http://www.classicinn.co.uk)



# AmberValley CAMRA Branch

Contact Chris Rogers [threecatcider@gmail.com](mailto:threecatcider@gmail.com)



## AMBER VALLEY NEWS

Like buses arriving together, Amber Valley have been involved in 2 Beer Festivals less than 3 weeks apart.....

### Belper Goes Green

**Belper Goes Green** went ahead for the first time since 2019 in its new site at Belper Meadows Cricket Club over the weekend after Jubilee, 10-12th June, also charging at entry for the first



everyone, the weather was kind and not too hot for the host cricket team playing & beating rivals down-the-road, Duffield - nor inside the CAMRA beer tent. Saturday afternoon (see photos) - proved the busiest with long queues for cider and beer, both being restocked in time for opening at noon on Sunday. The trusty membership stand recruited a record-breaking 11 new members. Many thanks & appreciation go to every one of our wonderful volunteers.

### Branch Beer Festival

Then, barely 2 weeks later the branch did it all over again, setting up for Amber Valley Beer Festival at Belper Rugby Club 30th June-2nd July. This was revolutionary considering all the years it has been held in late September amid rain and dark evenings (at Butterly Railway Centre and Strutt Community Centre) - the novelty of evening light was amazing. Advance sale tickets were available & a huge variety of entertainment ranged from Northern Soul disco to The Rollin' Stoned with 90 real ales across cask and keg plus 30 ciders & perry.



## The Brunswick, Derby

Brunswick Brewing Company -  
Derby's Oldest Brewery

- 16 Cask ales
- 16 Real ciders & perry
- Good Beer Guide 2022
- Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year 2017 & 2016
- Derby CAMRA Cider Pub of the Year 2022, 2019, 2018, 2016 & 2015
- Great British Pub Awards 2019 - Finalist
- Food served daily
- CAMRA discount with valid card



The Brunswick | Railway Terrace, Derby DE1 2RU • 01332 290677



**Beer Festival  
6th-10th July**

## DIARY DATES (all meetings 8pm)

Branch Meeting - Thursday 28th July - Dead Poets, Holbrook.

Branch Meeting - Thursday 1st September - TBC.

### Pubs with CAMRA discounts in Amber Valley area - please support:

- George and Dragon, Belper - 10p per pint
- Dead Poets, Holbrook - 10p per pint, 5p per half
- Strutt Arms, Milford - 30p per pint, 15p per half
- The Talbot, Ripley - 15p per pint, 5p per half
- The Thorn Tree, Ripley Market place - 15p per pint
- Crossings Club, Ironville - 10% discount anytime, or 50p per pint during "happy hour" Fri-Sat, 6-7pm



# Smithfest

**THURS 28- SUN 31 JULY**

**OVER 40 CASK BEERS**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**KEG BAR**

**BURGER VAN**

**10 CIDERS**



**OPEN 12-12**

**THE SMITHFIELD MEADOW ROAD DERBY DE1 2BH**



# Derbyshire South Pub of the Year 2022

The **Smithfield Alehouse in Derby** has been crowned the Derbyshire South CAMRA Pub of the Year again following on from the last time it won pre-pandemic. It beat fellow finalists: Smith's Tavern in Ashbourne; Colvile Arms in Lullington and Talbot Taphouse in Ripley to the title.

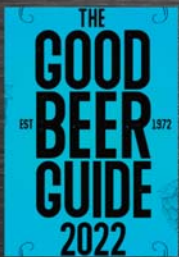
The pub has been the Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year winner for the last 5 years and was up against other CAMRA Pub of the Year winners from Amber Valley, Ashbourne and Burton & South Derbyshire and after a month long judging round it edged out its rivals. Camra judges visited each pub several times and not only judged the quality of the beer & cider but also several other aspects as well such as promotion of real ale, style, décor, furnishings, cleanliness, service, welcome, offering, community focus & atmosphere, sympathy with CAMRA aims & overall impression and value, etc. So to come out on top is quite

an achievement and congratulations must go to Emily & Ben for the wonderful job they have done at the 'Smithy' since taking over. It now also goes forward to be judged against other County winners for the title

of East Midlands CAMRA Pub of the Year which it won last time around. The result of the East Midlands round will be known by the middle of August and Derby Drinker will be there to report on the winner.



## MARKET TAVERN



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**5 CHANGING ALES  
USUALLY LOCAL  
6 CIDERS  
FAMILY & DOG  
FRIENDLY**



**markettavernsouthnormanton**



## Up on the Roof

In the early 1960s when Carole King and Gerry Goffin wrote The Drifters' song "Up on the Roof", I doubt they had in mind pub roof terraces, but here we look at some of those elevated spaces which can enhance a summer day's drinking.

Ever since the late John Evans and Lol Stephenson transformed the basic Bass house, the **Flowerpot**, King Street, Derby, in 1993, the freehouse has continually innovated as the recent addition of a roof terrace shows. Long known for a great selection of changing ales and live music, the pub is unrecognisable internally from its previous incarnation having been extended into Central Tyres next door. Staff members, Luke and Catherine, showed their dedication to the pub trade by visiting all 79 pubs on CAMRA's most recent Winter Ale Trail.

Turn right into Queen Street and left into Full Street where the unmissable gable end mural of the **Silk Mill Ale and Cider House** hoves into view. Like the Flowerpot, the Silk Mill is Good Beer Guide listed and is a former Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year. Derby's Dancing Duck beer is augmented by rotating guests complementing food served between noon and 9.00pm every day, convenient for those visiting Derby's latest attraction, the Museum of Making, developed on the site of the world's first factory three hundred years ago. Watch the world go by from the elevated terrace and admire the city's oldest pub the Olde Dolphin Inne across the road, noted not just for its beer but also for a finely preserved interior.

Continue down Full Street and turn left at the island where across the bridge the **Derby Brewing Tap House** awaits which has had a chequered history and was

closed when Derby Brewing Company bought this, their first pub, in 2008. A radical renovation followed centred around a curved bar with herringbone brickwork and bare floorboards creating a contemporary feel. A roof terrace was another addition. A new manager has been recently installed and Derby Brewing beers naturally feature strongly but if you're unsure what to choose, you can order a rack of 5 one third measures. BBC Radio Derby presenter Andy Twigge performed a comedy role here not long ago.

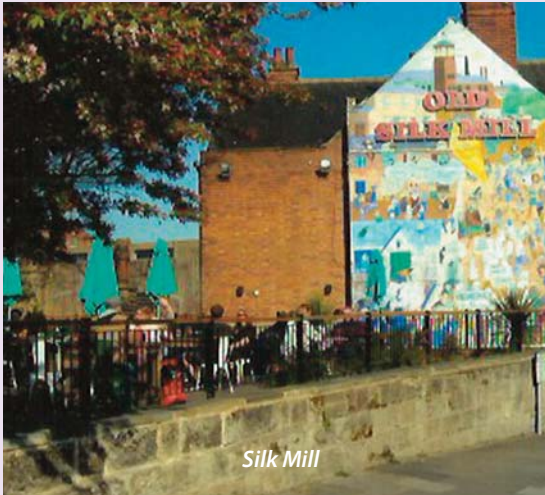
**The Greyhound**, long a Bass house, on Georgian Friar Gate, is another venue which DBC breathed new life into. A modernised, deep interior has an impressive, swish balcony above reached by stairs in the extensive, walled rear patio covered in sunshine when I called. A similar range of beers to the Tap House together with Smokehouse and vegan menus can be found in this revitalised venue offering food seven days a week.

**The Woodlands**, Blenheim Drive, Allestree, was the last pub built for Officer's of Derby when it opened in 1965. Structurally, the pub has altered little since but the décor is tastefully modern and when I called Wadworth 6X, Pedigree, Doom Bar and Draught Bass were available. If you're dining on a budget, there are many options to choose from. As can be seen from our photograph, the pub has a pleasant south facing raised terrace and frequent buses from Derby stop nearby.

Before the pandemic, three local businessmen carried out a substantive refurbishment which left the **Bell and Harp**, Little Eaton, unrecognisable internally from its previous incarnation. Part of the overhaul was renewal of the brick paved patio at the front which



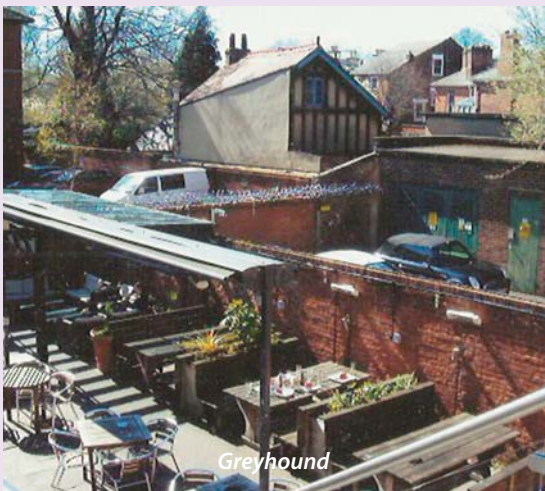
Flowerpot



Silk Mill



Tap



Greyhound



Woodlands



Bell and Harp



# ated Outside Drinking Areas

looks across the road to a large L shaped garden with children's play facilities. A good range of real ale awaits the discerning beer drinker.

**The Green House**, opposite the beautifully colourful war memorial park, occupies a lofty perch above King Street, Belper, which has had national recognition for the quality of its retail offer. A cavernous interior has multiple sports' screens and food is served all day every day with a specials' board worthy of attention. St Austell Proper Job, Abbot, Doom Bar and a rotating guest are served at very reasonable prices.

The stone-built, wedge-shaped **Thorn Tree**, up on Chesterfield Road, occupies a flat iron site and is still run by April Elliott although it was a pleasant surprise to find Paul Carol serving behind the bar. Paul is well known in Belper for his exploits in the licensed trade and for making the Coach and Horses, Horsley, a destination pub for many in that area. It was the first time I'd seen the surprisingly spacious decked area outside and it's lit by fairy lights at night time. Contemporary decoration features inside, where Draught Bass, Whim Hartington IPA, Mad Brewer Experimental and Stancill vied for attention.

A little further up Chesterfield Road is the **Queen's Head** which features in CAMRA's book Real Heritage Pubs of the Midlands on account of its well preserved multi-roomed layout. It's pleasing to see the quarry tiled flooring retained and the large rear terrace affords fantastic views of the town and The Chevin. St Austell Tribute, Wadworth 6X, Draught Bass and Greene King IPA completed a quartet of ales.

Opposite the Queen's is Penn Street, which at the far end meets High Street, where the **Grapes** hoves into view. Internally, the U-shaped area has a beamed ceiling at the front above scrub top tables, whilst externally there are

plenty of places to sit and enjoy the fresh air and a trio of real ales. The Grapes has raised significant sums for air ambulance and is **cash only**, not accepting card payment.

Ilkeston is easily reached from Derby bus station via the Ilkeston Flyer, where overlooking the Market Place and close to St Mary's parish church is the **Observatory**, a J D Wetherspoon house. Greene King beers rub shoulders with changing guests and the familiar Wetherspoon accoutrements are present which may be sampled up on the roof.

Last but certainly not least is the **Spirit Vaults**, Church Street, Melbourne, which comes highly recommended for those seeking good quality own brewed beer and excellent food.

In millennium year the Morgan family, who owned Shardlow brewery, bought the then Blue Bell Inn, built in 1736 as a private dwelling. Ron sadly passed away in 2012 but the Blue Bell remained the Shardlow Brewery Tap until three years ago when Ron's son, Keith, decided a fresh approach to the business was required and duly closed the Shardlow Brewery. Keith and his sons, Simon and Matt, also closed the pub and set about modernising the premises in stylish fashion. It reopened under its original name, the Spirit Vaults, and a glass fronted, gleaming new brewery, Morgan Brewmasters, faces you entering the left-hand room with its high, vaulted ceiling. Simon has twenty years' brewing experience, sourcing his malt from the Castleford family company, Thomas Fawcett. The elevated sun trap patio next to the oak framed porch overlooks the parish church of St Michael's, a splendid example of Norman architecture. The no. 2 Arriva bus from Derby bus station and The Spot runs hourly, well into the evening but well-appointed letting rooms are an option if you're staying in Melbourne.

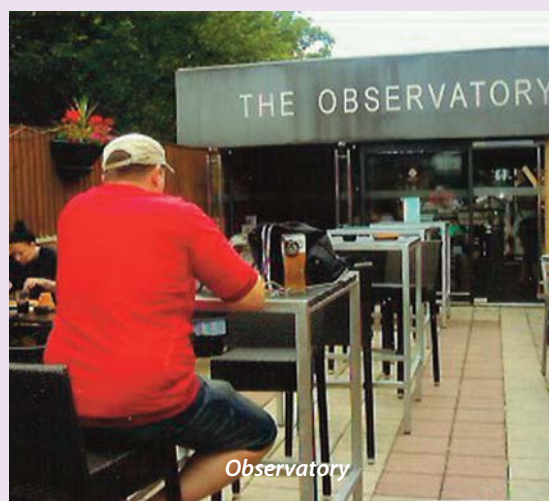
**Paul Gibson**



Queen's Head



Grapes



Observatory



Green House



Thorn Tree



Spirit Vaults (Blue Bell)



## INN FOCUS:

# The Falstaff, Silver Hill Road, Normanton

**P**opulation change and the relocation of the Rams away from the Baseball Ground have, sadly, decimated Normanton's pub scene. There is, however, a glorious survivor in the shape of the Falstaff on the corner of Society Place and Silver Hill Road.

Licensees, Jim Hallows and Steph Briggs, celebrated the 19th anniversary of their tenure in April, and given the plethora of Derby breweries today, it's remarkable that the Falstaff's only city competitor when brewing recommenced here in 2003, was the Brunswick Inn near the railway station.

The Falstaff (named after a Shakespearian character) was a small hotel when built in 1886, and the



architecture that characterises the late Victorian era is here in all its splendour. Originally, there were letting rooms and stabling to the rear for two horses; the bar servery in the Offiler's lounge is in the erstwhile entrance lobby that

features a stained-glass door and side glazing.

Entering by the refurbished but delightfully intact, small corner bar, one is immediately struck by the lovely bar back and an old fireplace with its highly

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17 CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIEW	10 CHANTEL MCGREGOR
23 SKINNY MOLLY	11 GUNS 2 ROSES
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30 LAURENCE JONES	19 THE SMYTHS
<b>OCTOBER</b>	24 BIG COUNTRY
1 UPBEAT BEATLES	25 THE DEVOUT
4 HAYSEED DIXIE	26 THE WATCH
6 BILLY WALTON BAND	<b>DECEMBER</b>
8 CARDINAL BLACK	2 AYNLEY LISTER
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Tickets available from The Flowerpot, King St, Derby DE1 3DZ Tel : 01332 204955  
SEE Tickets 24hr Credit Card Hotline 0115 912 9000  
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9 GALLON  
CASKS!**

**189 BLENHEIM  
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DERBY  
DE22 2EN**

**14TH -  
17TH  
JULY**



attractive carved, wooden surround. This is where the regulars meet and conversation and laughter rule. Moving through the former off sales, we find a long room with a pool table at one end, and old brewery posters and signage abound creating an olde - worlde ambience. Heading out along the service lobby, on the right, is the Offiler's lounge, a real gem this, which pays homage to Derby's last macro brewery, whose malty brewing aroma one could catch here before Offiler's closure in 1966. Jim and Steph are assiduous collectors of the Ambrose Street brewery's artefacts which have been embellished by a bequest courtesy of the late Brian Silkstone. An original Offiler's mirror takes pride of place above the open fire and the cuckoo clock's gentle tic-toc feels relaxing, making this a unique room packed with visual and historical interest. Outside, the focal point of the hidden courtyard is an art sculpture made of scrap metal in memory of a biker who sadly passed away.

Falstaff beers are brewed on site, and the regular trio of Fistful of Hops, Smiling Assassin and Phoenix is augmented by a fourth, a monthly special brew. Currently, pubs across five counties are supplied



with Falstaff beer. Also, Jim and Steph are the lessees of the Pot Hole, Park Farm, Allestree, where their beers are augmented by changing guest ales. Worth bearing in mind if you are in the Allestree area.

Ok, the Falstaff isn't the easiest pub to find, but the intrepid are rewarded with a



brilliant, rare survivor which is spotlessly clean throughout, and where good own brewed ale is available at very reasonable prices.

**Paul Gibson**

Falstaff, 74 Silver Hill Road, Normanton  
DE23 6UJ • 01332 342902

**Remember & Celebrate Derby's Historic Working Class Struggle**

# Derby Silk Mill Festival

**March, Rally & People's Festival 2022**

**Saturday September 17th**  
near bus & rail stations



**Remember The Past...  
Fight For Your Future!**

**10.00am Derby Market Place**  
*March for A New Deal for Workers*  
Led by PCS union's SAMBA BAND


**12.30pm: Cathedral Green**  
*Speakers: to be announced –*  
From across the trade unions,  
community organisations & people's  
campaigns... local & national...  
**PLUS SURPRISE GUEST!!!**

**1pm: Free festival – music stage**  
Live Bands – Community & Campaign stalls  
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**FREE FESTIVAL**

**DerbyTUC DerbySilkMillRally #silkmillfestival**

Thanks to our **MORNING STAR** media partners  
The People's Daily! <https://morningstaronline.co.uk/>



*PS it's very good ale!*

**Contact**  
**David Edwards**  
**Tel. 07891 350908**

**e mail. [dedwards@peakstonesrock.co.uk](mailto:dedwards@peakstonesrock.co.uk)**  
**[www.peakstonesrock.co.uk](http://www.peakstonesrock.co.uk)**

**We produce a range of award  
winning cask beers.**



# Derbyshire Club of the Year 2022

The Derbyshire Club of the Year for 2022 is the **Royal British Legion Club in Parwich** beating fellow clubs from Buxworth, Derby and Dronfield to the title.

Camra judges visited all 4 clubs over a Month long period judging each on the quality of the beer & cider available and several other aspects as well such as promotion of real ale, style, décor, furnishings, cleanliness, service, welcome, offering, community focus & atmosphere, sympathy with CAMRA aims & overall impression and value, etc. The Legion was judged a more than worthy winner and was a pleasure to visit. It welcomes all comers and serves 3 or 4 real ales and usually has a dark one on too.

If you are not quite sure where Parwich is, it is a village in the Derbyshire Dales, 7 miles north of Ashbourne. It is a neat limestone village situated remotely in the scenic hill country of the White Peak. Nestling with its' back against Parwich Hill, the village spreads comfortably around its' old pond and spacious green. Parwich has some pretty cottages and neat gardens, overlooked by the fine brick-built hall, that has beautifully terraced gardens. It also has one pub, the Sycamore Inn which also serves Real Ales and is well worth a visit too. Parwich It is not exactly blessed with public transport but if you are out walking in the area why not pay it a visit you won't be disappointed.

The Club will be presented with their Award by the Ashbourne Branch of Camra and will go on into the East Midlands round of Judging against fellow County winners with results known of this round later in the Summer.





## NEW SHOP NOW OPEN

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## Ashbourne & District CAMRA Branch

Contact Mark Grist  
m.grist2@sky.com

### Branch AGM

The Branch AGM was held on 21st May at Smith's Tavern. All committee members were duly reconfirmed and planning details for the Beer & Cider Festival were discussed.

### Summer Pub of the Season

Branch members named The Green Man in Ashbourne as their Summer Pub of the Season and Chairman Dave Etheridge presented owner Laura Dale and bar manager Alex Tipper with their certificate (see photo).



### Branch Beer Festival

The Branch Beer & Cider Festival is set for **8th-10th September** in the Town Hall (see poster). We hope to welcome you all back to the

Branch's premier event which will feature over 50 Real Ale & Ciders.

### Pub News

We are pleased to report the **Old Dog at Thorpe** reopened at the end of May and we wish them well with the relaunch. Current opening hours at the time of writing were Wednesday to Sunday, but they are planning for 7 day opening.

The **Okeover Arms at Mappleton** has completed a changeover of management and we again wish the new team the very best. The former management, Sid and Jean, had been running the **Royal Oak at Mayfield** alongside the Okeover Arms for some considerable time, but are now pouring all their efforts into the Royal Oak.

### Derbyshire Club of the Year

The Branch Club of the Year, **The Royal British Legion in Parwich** has gone one better and been voted the Derbyshire Club of the Year 2022. This is a tremendous achievement for the Club and we'll gather there soon to present them with the winning certificate. (See article on the opposite page).

## 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 July, 8pm.**

Branch Meeting - Royal British Legion, Parwich.

**Tuesday 30th August, 8pm.**

Branch Meeting - Venue TBC.



Ashbourne & District CAMRA



Find us on Facebook



at **Ashbourne Town Hall**

Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> September 6pm - 10pm

Fri 9<sup>th</sup> September 12 noon - 11pm

Sat 10<sup>th</sup> September 12 noon - 11pm

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# BURTON & SOUTH DERBYSHIRE CAMRA BRANCH

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



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REAL ALE

## Burton Ale Trail

At the time of writing the dates for September's Burton Ale Trail had yet to be fixed. The event is heavily dependent on Burton Albion's fixtures, as for reasons of pub capacity a weekend where Albion are playing away is essential. There were reports of pubs being full to bursting on the Saturday in March so avoiding the additional crowds that a home match could potentially bring is essential, just imagine if we were playing Derby County for example! That all said by the time you read this the announcement will have been made, so check the Facebook group at [www.facebook.com/groups/burtonaletrail](https://www.facebook.com/groups/burtonaletrail).

**Editors Update** - Thursday 1st to Sunday 4th September 2022.

This time there are two new venues for you to enjoy; The Alfred Ale House on Derby Street, a Burton Bridge Brewery pub steeped in history having once been owned by Truman, Hanbury and Buxton and The Constitutional Club sited on High Street, which is one of the most stunning buildings in the town, a must visit if you've never been before. These take the number of venues to fifteen with the rest being: Beeropolis, The Brewery Tap, Brews of the World, Burton Bridge Inn, Burton Town Brewery, Coopers Tavern, The Devonshire Arms, The Dog, Elms Inn, The Last Heretic, Old Royal Oak, The Roebuck Inn and The Weighbridge Inn. An outstanding line-up, Burton is so lucky to have many fantastic pubs within walking distance of each other, which makes it the perfect place for a pub crawl.

There's a brand-new Burton Ale Trail logo featuring our mascot Marvin the bat (Burton Ale Trail equals BAT, geddit?) and there's also a promotional video too. The plan is for more exclusive beers and as this autumn marks the 200th anniversary of the first brewing of India Pale Ale in Burton by Samuel Allsopp, at his brewery on High Street, what better way to drink to this than with some IPA's that you won't find anywhere else?



*See you on the Burton Ale Trail!*

## National Bass Day

Saturday 16th April 2022 was the day to celebrate the 246th anniversary of the beginning of Bass Ale by William Bass. I'm not sure about the exact date but it was certainly 1777 when William Bass came to Burton and bought a site in High Street to start his Brewery. He was certainly not the first Brewer by a long way as Brewing started in Burton during the 12th century by Monks in the Abbey but could be the most famous by starting the Bass family business.

So, why all the fuss about Bass? Two reasons spring to mind, firstly Bass became the largest Brewing company in the world in the 1800's and registered the first trademark in the UK, the red triangle in 1875. Secondly the fall of the mighty

giant in the 20th Century. In the 1960's Bass was still the largest brewing company in the UK when it bought out Charrington's. Some years later the Government had ideas and made the decision to break up the "Big 6" UK Brewers, (when was 6 ever a monopoly?). Bass owned over 7,000 pubs and Lord Young in 1989 said it would only allow a maximum 2,000. Bass wanted to expand to be able to compete with and take on the rapidly growing foreign Breweries and the fairly recently (1995) approved takeover of Courage by Scottish & Newcastle. The hammer blow was given after the Monopolies and Mergers commission had approved the merger between Bass and Carlsberg-Tetley (previously Ind Coope) which was then blocked in 1997, ironically by local (Derby) MP Margaret Beckett.

Cutting a long story short the indirect result of the second string of events being that Bass, in year 2000 totally quit the Brewing Industry and concentrated on their hotel business which became the IHG (InterContinental Hotels Group), which has a raft of well-known names such as Holiday Inn, Crown Plaza etc. The Brewing side of the business was sold to Interbrew, which through some further acquisitions became AB InBev, now the largest Brewing company in the world. Bass draught ale is now brewed under licence by Marston's and some say this is a blessing as allegedly Marston's must stick rigidly to the original recipe.

The first National Bass Day was planned to be on Saturday 11th April 2020 but delayed for 2 years due to unforeseen circumstances, which we all know about. The instigator was Ian Thurman whose aim was and still is, to get Bass Pale Ale recognised as the best crafted ale in the UK. The article in the March/April 2020 Derby Drinker stated that the number of Bass pubs in the 1980's was around 9,000. This had reduced to about 3,000 by 2011 and at the time of writing in 2020 about 500. It is now down to about 350! This doesn't surprise me! As late 2021 and early 2022 I could hardly find a pint of Bass anywhere! The official line was put down to transport problems but many people, Publicans and Customers alike still thought that AB InBev had a plan to ditch Bass as it was a thorn in their side, as their mainstream Beers are not Real Ale.

The first National Bass day was celebrated by a competition devised by Ian Webster called "The Best Bass in Burton". This was carried out by drawing up a shortlist of Top 6 Bass pubs by an on-line vote to be judged by the Bass "experts" to find the Pub with the honour of being called the best Bass pub in Burton. The 6 pubs that made the shortlist were The Waterloo in Winhill, The Elms in Stapenhill, The Constitutional Club in High Street, The Coopers Tavern in Cross Street, then The Devonshire Arms and the Roebuck, both in Station Street.

Oh, and the winner was, The Roebuck in Station Street, congratulations to Julie and her team! The National Bass Day is planned to be an annual event and next year it will be on Easter Saturday 8th April 2023.



*Julie Latham, Landlady of The Roebuck, proudly smiling over a pint of Bass*

Although written off the top of my head, it would not have been possible without having read the books, *Brewing in Burton upon Trent* by Ian Webster, *The Story of Bass* by Harry White and online, *The Beertonian* (Ian Webster, the organiser) and last but not least *thewickingman.wordpress.com* (Ian Thurman, the originator). The enthusiasm and dedication of these guys gives us hope the Bass Ale can be saved and perhaps even rescued from the uncaring hands of AB InBev that don't even promote Bass in any way that I am aware of. Has anyone got a spare £15million to buy it? Unfortunately, this would not include the Red Triangle as bottled Bass uses the same logo in the USA and AB InBev own it and wouldn't sell it!

## Burton Bridge Brewery at 40

In March Burton Bridge Brewery launched their Ruby Ale, a mere 40 firkins were brewed to mark the 40th anniversary of the business. Ruby Ale was the most popular beer on the last Burton Ale Trail by far.

And the celebrations continue, on 25th May a crowd of drinkers assembled at Burton Bridge Inn 40 years to the day since the inaugural brew (which was of course Burton Bridge Bitter) to congratulate the owners Geoff Mumford and Bruce Wilkinson on this incredible milestone.

A commemorative photograph was then taken of the group of well-wishers; this will feature in the forthcoming book "A View from the Bridge" to be published later this year. Incidentally if you have any anecdotes, photos etc. relating to the Burton Bridge Brewery or their pubs, please email the author Ian Webster at [ianjohnwebster@gmail.com](mailto:ianjohnwebster@gmail.com)



*Geoff and Bruce - An incredible milestone*



## Derby CAMRA Discount Pubs



All over the Country there are hundreds of pubs offering discounts to card carrying CAMRA members and these trailblazing pubs deserve your support.

Look out for the posters in these pubs to see what's on offer. Below you will find a list of discounts available in the local area, if you know of others that are not listed here or details are wrong then please get in touch.

### ► DERBY CITY

Crown & Arrows, Allenton	25p off a pint
Victory Club, Allenton	All ales £2.50 a pint
Markeaton, Allestree	20p off a pint
No.189, Allestree	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
Woodlands, Allestree	10% off a pint
The Lodge, Alvaston	10% off a pint
Wilmot Arms, Chaddesden	30p off a pint, 15p off a half with loyalty card which is free to CAMRA members
Alexandra Hotel, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
Bell & Castle, Derby	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
Broadway, Derby	20p off a pint
Brunswick Inn, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
Exeter Arms, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
Five Lamps, Derby	20p off a pint
Flowerpot, Derby	20p off a pint
Furnace, Derby	20p off a pint
Last Post, Derby	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
Old Bell, Derby	40p off a pint, 20p off a half
Old Silk Mill, Derby	10% off a pint
Portside Tavern, Derby	£3 a pint
Seven Stars, Derby	20p off a pint
Smithfield, Derby	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
Half Moon, Littleover	50p off a pint camra vouchers accepted
Hollybrook, Littleover	20p off a pint
Masons Arms, Mickleover	15p off a pint
Nags Head, Mickleover	10% off a pint
Robin, Mickleover	15p off a pint
Kings Corner, Oakwood	10% off a pint
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Prince of Wales, Spondon	15p off a pint
Vernon Arms, Spondon	20p off a pint

### ► DERBYSHIRE

Town Street Tap, Duffield	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
Seven Wells, Etwell	10p off a pint
Hardinge Arms, Kings Newton	30p off a pint
Chip & Pin, Melbourne	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
Cross Keys, Ockbrook	10p off a pint
Queens Head, Ockbrook	10% off a pint
Royal Oak, Ockbrook	10p off a pint, 5p off a half
Clock Warehouse, Shardlow	10p off a pint
New Inn, Shardlow	15p off a pint, 5p off a half
Smithy's Marine Bar, Shardlow	15p off a pint
Bell, Smalley	20p off a pint, 10p off a half
Dragon, Willington	20p off a pint

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

If you are a licensee and you are interested in joining the scheme then please contact us at [pubsofficer@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:pubsofficer@derby.camra.org.uk), we will advertise your pub through this column of the Derby Drinker and on the Derby & National CAMRA websites.

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# DERBY Drinker

## 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? The latest and previous editions of Derby Drinker are available to read online at <http://www.derby.camra.org.uk/derby-drinker/>

Alternatively if you would like a copy posted to you it is available at a cost of £6 for four issues.

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

### DERBY DRINKER INFORMATION

Derby Drinker is distributed free of charge to pubs in and around Derby by Kevin Hepworth & his team.

Published by: the Derby Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale.

Printed by: Jam Print

Edited by: Gareth Stead

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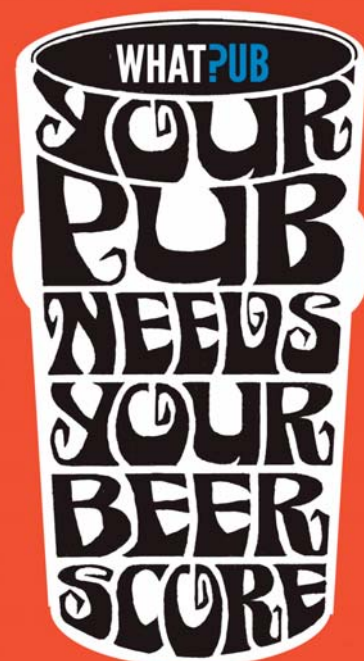
Design & layout by: Jam Print  
[www.jamprint.co.uk](http://www.jamprint.co.uk)

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