



Issue 203  
September/October  
2023

# DERBY Drinker

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2024

FOREWORD BY  
BRUCE DICKINSON

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March/April – **February 1st**

May/June – **April 1st**

July/August – **June 1st**

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November/December – **October 1st**

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Send a cheque payable to Derby CAMRA to  
**Derby Drinker,  
59A Mile Ash Lane, Darley Abbey,  
Derby, DE22 1DE.**



*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.**

## DERBY DRINKER INFORMATION

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

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Position of the advert cannot be guaranteed although we will do our best to accommodate any requests.

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**Derby Drinker by Post,**

**59A Mile Ash Lane, Darley Abbey, Derby, DE22 1DE.**

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[www.derby.camra.org.uk](http://www.derby.camra.org.uk)

## Welcome

Hello & welcome to the new look A5 *Derby Drinker*, we hope you will like the changes. While we are sorry to see our old A4 format disappear as it has become instantly recognisable on pub bars throughout Derbyshire a recent downturn in adverts has meant we have been struggling to keep that format going and have had to look at all options available to us. By moving to this new size (in common with most other CAMRA Newsletters in the Country) we hope that the fortunes of *Derby Drinker* will pick-up.

We would also like to hear from you if you have any news, articles, details of any events that might be happening throughout the area, etc as we'd love to promote anything we weren't aware of. Just drop us a line to

**[derbydrinker@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:derbydrinker@derby.camra.org.uk)**

## Free Advertising

Would you like to get your pub, brewery, event, etc advertised for FREE on Derby CAMRA's website and throughout all their social media platforms ? Well now you can by taking out an advert in *Derby Drinker* we will also guarantee to promote it at no additional costs across all our formats. The advert rates are all very competitive and we offer a range of sizes to suit your budget so just drop us an e-mail and we'll see what we can do for you -

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## CAMRA Member Discounts on Real Ales

Did you know if you are a CAMRA member you can get a discount with your membership card in many pubs throughout the Country. Derby & Derbyshire pubs offer varying degree of discounts so it's always worth asking when you are at the bar. Derby CAMRA's website has the latest list of participating pubs  
**[www.derby.camra.org.uk/discount-scheme](http://www.derby.camra.org.uk/discount-scheme)** so please check it out.

And if you would like your pub to join the scheme and get some free publicity through our website and social media outlets then please contact the Pubs Officer -  
**[pubsofficer@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:pubsofficer@derby.camra.org.uk)**



## Derby CAMRA Branch

### Real Ales Galore in Derby – A Beer Festival Every Day of the Year

**P**ost pandemic & the cost of living crisis have been a real challenge for the beer and pub industry with a lot of licensees struggling to make a living which has meant a lot of pubs have gone to the wall or have drastically cut back on what they did before. Derby CAMRA decided to investigate what was happening around Derby by undertaking a Beer Census of the City.

The idea behind the Beer Census was to visit all the pubs in the city on any one given day noting if they had Real Ales on and if they did how many they had available. It is an exercise Derby CAMRA have done regularly over the years and has helped us understand where the City's pubs sit in relation to Real Ale compared to the rest of the Country. The day itself involved 9 different pub crawls around the City Centre & Suburbs and yielded some interesting results: -

**278** Real Ales were counted from **103** breweries with **183** different ales available and these came

from 64 pubs visited with 5 of the pubs not having any Real Ale on at all. This meant that there was an average of just under 5 Real Ales available per pub. Leading the way was the **Brunswick Inn** with over 30 but they did have a Beer Festival on, they were closely followed by the **Standing Order** with 17 and the **Alexandra Hotel, Babington Arms, Five Lamps & Smithfield** all with 10.

Marston's Pedigree was still the most dominant brand in the city available in 21 pubs with Bass a close second available in 18 pubs. But local ales were well represented with beers from some of the City's breweries widely available – Brunswick, Dancing Duck, Derby, Falstaff, Furnace, Hartshorns, Little & Mr Grundy's. Beers from other Derbyshire breweries were also well represented – Alter Ego, Ashover, Bang the Elephant, Black Hole, Boot, Buxton, Campbell St, Leatherbitches, Pentrich, Shiny, Thornbridge, Treehouse & Whim to name a few.

The average price of a pint was found to be £4.17 with the dearest pint of the night being a whopping £6.00 at the Alexandra for Bang the Elephant, Helix Dipa however this was an 8.5% abv beer. The honours for the cheapest pint outside of Wetherspoons pubs went to the Falstaff at £3.10 (a whole £2.90 less than the dearest pint !!). One pleasing aspect however was the continued availability of CAMRA discount in some pubs bringing the average price down to a more affordable level.

So there you have it, the numbers maybe down on recent Census's but it is still a fine effort post pandemic/cost of living times and once again proves that probably per population head Derby has more Real Ales available than any other City. **The City's pubs truly provide a Beer Festival every day of the year.**

(Thanks to Derby CAMRA's Social Secretary, Jamie Williams for the Stats).

## Derby CAMRA



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

#### Contacts:-

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**Young Members Officer** – [YMG@derby.camra.org.uk](mailto:YMG@derby.camra.org.uk)

## DerbyCAMRA Branch Diary

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

### SEPTEMBER

**Thu 14th** - Branch Meeting - Alexandra Hotel, Derby - 8pm.

### OCTOBER

**Tue 10th** - Social - Standing Order Beer Festival, Derby - 7pm.

**Thu 12th** - Branch Meeting - Victoria Inn, Derby - 8pm.

### NOVEMBER

**Thu 9th** - Branch Meeting - TBC - 8pm.

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)



## Upcoming Beer Festivals

We all love a Beer Festival, right? Well did you know that these are common place throughout the area and in most cases are easy to reach. Pub Festivals tend to be free to attend while there is usually a small charge for other organisations events with CAMRA Festivals offering a discount to its members. Below we've listed a few you might like to attend:-

### Nearby CAMRA Beer Festivals

**Tamworth Beer Festival**  
- 7-9 Sept - Assembly Rooms.  
**Cannock Chase Beer Festival**  
- 14-16 Sept - Prince of Wales Theatre.  
**Crewe Beer Festival** - 15-17 Sept - Railway Heritage Centre.  
**Nottingham Beer Festival**  
- 11-14 Oct - Trent Bridge Cricket Ground.  
**Sheffield Beer Festival**  
- 18-21 Oct - Kelham Island Museum.  
**Gainsborough Beer Festival**  
- 9-11 Nov - Old Hall.

### Other Local Beer Festivals

Derby Drinker is delighted to promote the following events and you'll see their adverts listed in this issue:-

**Five Lamps Beer Festival**  
- 15-16 Sept - Derby.  
**Brunswick Beer Festival**  
- 4-8 Oct - Derby.  
**Doveridge Beer Festival**  
- 6-7 Oct - Village Club.  
**Matlock Bath Beer Festival**  
- 6-7 Oct - Grand Pavilion.  
**Parwich Beer Festival**  
- 27-28 Oct - Village Hall.

### Cheap bus travel to the Pub & Beer Festivals

If you are not already aware there is a National scheme in place were any single bus journey will only cost you £2. This is great for a day out and visiting pubs, beer festivals & breweries further afield in different towns and cities. From Derby you can travel to the likes of Chesterfield on the Comet or Leicester on the Skylink or Buxton on the Transpeak to name but a few. The government backed scheme runs until 31st October when the cap then changes to £2.50 per single journey for a full year so why not get out & about and make the most of the scheme while it lasts.

### New Book on Derby's Breweries

A new book on Derby's breweries, "Derby & Ale the breweries - a history" has been launched by author & historian, John Arguile. It tells the story of how breweries began in the City right up to the present day crop of breweries and is a fascinating read. It is obtainable from the Alexandra, Brunswick and Flowerpot pubs in Derby as well as Eagle Books in East Street and Poynton's in Crown Walk. You can also get a copy by writing to John at 71 Elms Avenue, Littleover, Derby DE23 6FB. £8 including post and packing, with cheques made payable to J L Arguile.

### Derbyshire CAMRA Branches

South Derbyshire is covered by a number of different CAMRA Branches not just Derby & Ashbourne but Amber Valley who cover the Alfreton/Belper/Ripley areas, Erewash who cover the Heanor/Ilkeston Long Eaton areas, Burton who cover the South Derbyshire area and Mansfield who cover the South Normanton area. If you live in any of these areas please give your local Branch some support by attending their meetings and socials, they'd love to see you. Check out their websites for details.

**Amber Valley CAMRA Diary Date**  
Thu 26th October - Branch Meeting - Steampacket, Swanwick - 8pm.

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15 AYNLEY LISTER	27 FRED ZEPPELIN
16 AC/DC UK	28 OHASIS
22 SACK SABBATH	<b>NOVEMBER</b>
23 R.E.M. BY STIPE	1 BILL KIRCHEN
28 BEN POOLE	2 CHANTEL Mcgregor
29 FOO FIGHTERS GB	3 KINGS OF LYON
30 CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIEW	4 THE ROLLIN' STONED
<b>OCTOBER</b>	9 FOCUS
5 CONNOR SELBY	10 THE WATCH
6 U2UK	11 GERRY McAVOY'S BAND OF FRIENDS
7 LAID - JAMES TRIBUTE BAND	16 VERITY/BROMHAM BAND
12 ATOMIC ROOSTER	18 GUNS N'ROSES EXPERIENCE
13 KEEP IT CASH	23 BIG COUNTRY
14 DANNY BRYANT/THE MILKMEN	24 CHINA CRISIS
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## ATOMIC ROOSTER

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 FEATURING ORIGINAL 1970'S MEMBERS  
**PETE FRENCH AND STEVE BOLTON**  
[WWW.RAWPROMO.CO.UK](http://WWW.RAWPROMO.CO.UK)



## Ashbourne & District CAMRA Branch

Contact Mark Grist [m.grist2@sky.com](mailto:m.grist2@sky.com)

### Branch Club of Year is the Best Club in the East Midlands

We have some truly fantastic news to begin with as our Branch Club of the Year, the **Royal British Legion Club in Parwich** has been judged by CAMRA as the best club in the East Midlands 2023. The full story can be read elsewhere in this newsletter but we congratulate the club on this tremendous achievement and look forward to presenting them with a certificate in the near future.

### Summer Pub of the Season

Branch members made the picturesque journey out to the Watts Russell Arms for the July meeting, the first time the branch has managed to hold their meeting at one of the furthest points of the branch area. A good turnout of eleven members made the journey and enjoyed some fine Thornbridge ales during the meeting. The vote for the **Summer Pub of the Season** was made there and the winner was declared as the **Barley Mow at Kirk Ireton**. A certificate will have been presented by the time this is published.

### Dovedale Brewery

Some sad news for our area - John and Andrea Clarke of Dovedale Brewery have decided to wind down the business and concentrate on their holiday cottage venture, located on the same farm as the brewery. The last few casks produced have all been bought by Smith's Tavern in Ashbourne and will feature there regularly in the next couple of months. We wish them well and thank them for some truly superb beers produced during their five years of operating.

### Pub News

The **House of Beer** in Ashbourne has now been sold to new owners and a farewell event for Matt and Jo was scheduled to be held at the end of August. Again, we wish them well for the future and also good luck to the new team.

We understand that the **Ketch** at **Kniveton** has closed

permanently and a change of use may be in the offing.

The former **Vault** in Ashbourne has been renamed the **Machine Inn** and is now open again. No real ale is available, but we will keep an eye on how it works into the pub scene in the town.

The **Saracen's Head** at **Shirley** was due to reopen as we went to press, so we will hopefully be

**PARWICH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

# Autumn Beer Festival

Featuring local ales and ciders



**Parwich Village Hall**  
**FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER & SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER**  
**1 PM – 11 PM**



Why not come by Connect bus?  
To book your journey call 01335 342951  
Parwich Royal British Legion Club, Parwich, DE6 1QJ



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

able to report on it for the next issue.

At the time of writing, both the **Coach & Horses** and the adjacent **Bridge in Ashbourne** were closed, with no immediate prospects of re-opening for either.

### Parwich Beer Festival

You will see from the advert in this Issue that there is a beer festival in the Village Hall on 27-28 October organised by the Royal British Legion Club. Please come along and give it some support.

## Branch Diary

(subject to changes)

**Tuesday 26th September**  
Branch Meeting - venue tbc.

**Tuesday 31st October**  
Branch Meeting - venue tbc.

# East Midlands Club of the Year 2023

The East Midlands Club of the Year for 2023 is the **Royal British Legion Club in Parwich** beating seven other clubs throughout the region to the title.

CAMRA judges visited all eight clubs over a month long period judging each on the quality of the beer and 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 three or four 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, seven 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 its award by the Ashbourne Branch of CAMRA and will go on into the next round of judging against other regional winners with results known of this round later in the year.



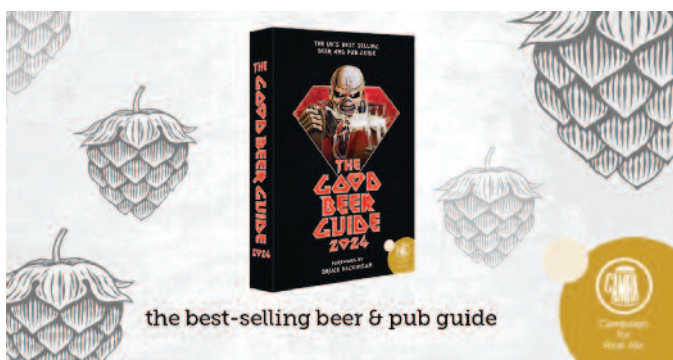
# The Good Beer Guide 2024

CAMRA's new Good Beer Guide has a stunning front cover and a forward by non-other than **Bruce Dickinson**, lead singer of legendary British Rock Band, **Iron Maiden**.

The unmistakable lettering from Iron Maiden and the iconic figure of Eddie pulling a pint of real ale on the front cover together with the words of Bruce, an avid drinker and supporter of real ale himself help make this a unique collector's edition.

The **GBG** of course is the UK's best-selling beer and pub guide and it continues to represent the best of the best in the brewing and hospitality industry. With 4500 pubs, bars, and clubs selected by unpaid volunteers up and down the country, this is the best guide for pubgoers interested in being served a good pint of real ale as well as those who wish to find a local near them that is welcoming and has many other benefits that may appeal. Each entry contains a short description as well as details of regular beers that can be linked to the brewery section to discover local beers, as well as some treasured national favourites.

**Derby** and **Derbyshire** pubs and breweries are well represented, so if you want to find out who made it this year then copies are available to pre-order via CAMRA's national website or will be available after launch on September 28th in many local pubs including the Alexandra, Brunswick & Furnace.



**Quacking Beer**

**DANCING DUCK BREWERY**

**DARK DRAKE**  
Dark Drake ABV - 4.5%  
Deep, Rich Oatmeal Stout

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Nice Weather ABV - 4.1%  
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**AY UP**  
Ay Up ABV - 3.9%  
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Abduction ABV - 5.5%  
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**dcuk**  
dcuk ABV - 4.3%  
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**22**  
22 ABV - 4.2%  
Beautifully Balanced and Soft

We've been brewing great beer in Derby since 2010, the team are all passionate about ale and work their socks off to make sure that every pint we make is consistent and delicious.

We're serious about beer but we're not too serious about anything else!

[www.dancingduckbrewery.com](http://www.dancingduckbrewery.com)



# Inn Focus: Alexandra Hotel, Derby



**F**or real ale and railway aficionados in Derby there's nowhere quite like the Alexandra on Siddals Road. Brewery and railway memorabilia abound and there's even a Class 37 locomotive cab in the car park.

First though, a little history. The unlicensed Midland Coffee and Chop House was built in the mid 19th century but after being granted an on-license in 1862 it became known as the Midland Coffee House. From 1873, under the auspices of the Zachary Smith (Shardlow) brewery, this tall, handsomely fronted establishment changed its name to the Alexandra Hotel. Alexandra was the Danish princess who married the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII) in 1863. For much of the 20th century, Shipstone's (Nottingham) owned it and Flo Fox was the popular licensee when Derby CAMRA was founded here in July 1974. During the 70s,

"late shouts" or "lock ins" at the "Alex" were welcome in the days before legislation legitimised such indulgence. Following Flo's retirement, the 1980s saw the pub's fortunes fade and it closed in 1988. Help was at hand however when Bateman's, the Lincolnshire brewers, tastefully refurbished the premises and it reopened at the end of 1989. A few years later the Alexandra was sold to Tynemill (Nottingham) who, after metamorphizing into Castle Rock, now Nottinghamshire's biggest brewery, still own it today. Some will recall Mark Robins during this period when he emulated Flo Fox's fourteen-year tenure.

Since December 2010, Ralf and Anna Dyson-Edge, have been mine hosts and their passion for real ale is evident as soon as one steps through the door. Castle Rock beers are complemented by ever changing guest beers, all of which have been expertly

nurtured in the cellar. Those with a penchant for continental beer have a vast choice to indulge in and the "Alex" is perennially Good Beer Guide listed. Ralf and Anna's enterprise and endeavour were recognised in 2015 by Derby CAMRA when they received the coveted Pub of the Year award. When one considers the fierce competition locally, this was a fine achievement. Incidentally, the couple played a significant role in the Winter Ales Festival debuting in the Roundhouse, Pride Park, back in 2011.

Ralf and Anna hosted Derby CAMRA's 40th anniversary celebrations in 2014 and our photograph shows some of those members responsible for the Branch's development. Ralf is a trained chef so naturally his special food evenings sell out quickly and for those who wish to stay overnight, en-suite bedrooms are available at reasonable prices.

**Paul Gibson**

# Derby Drinker Q&A Meet the Brewer - Falstaff

Whilst Derby is renowned for its real ale pubs and clubs, there is also a vibrant independent brewing scene, creating a whole spectrum of beers. These are sold through pubs and clubs, locally and nationally, and also through brewery websites directly to the public. As part of an on-going theme, Derby Drinker undertakes a brief Q&A session with Jim Hallows and Steph Briggs, lessees of the Falstaff Brewery in Normanton, where Jim is head brewer.



## **DD. When did the brewery start?**

SB&JH. The brewery started in December 2003, the same year that we took over the pub. We had taken over the Falstaff in the April and, in the summer, found out the brewery was next door. After a few issues getting utilities connected, we had the first brew on the bar that December.

## **DD. What did you do prior to running the brewery?**

SB&JH. We were both registered nurses for adults with learning disabilities. We had known the previous licensee for a while before we took the pub over. When he contacted us, asking if we were interested in taking it on, it was the right new challenge at the right time.

## **DD. What was the first beer you ever brewed?**

JH. Tom Caxton and Geordie beer kits back in the eighties, along with so many other people starting out on the brewing at home journey.



Always adding too much sugar to increase the strength.

## **DD. What got you in to brewing?**

SB&JH. The brewery was there next to the pub, it was as simple as that. It seemed ridiculous to have that resource there and not use it. When we first took the pub on, we didn't know that there was a brewery adjacent to the pub. This was brought to our attention by the owner of Leatherbritches. After looking into the brewery we decided to take it on as well. At the time we had no brewing experience so got a time served contract brewer (Dave Corby) in to start the production, the first brew being Phoenix. Over time, he taught Jim how to brew and we then became solely responsible for the production of all the beers made. Back then it was also getting to the point where we felt that pubs as just pubs were struggling. You needed something else, whether that was food, live music or brewing your own beers. It was an obvious choice for us.

## **DD. What is the inspiration behind your beer names?**

SB&JH. The names just happen, as with our core beers. Phoenix

got its name from an article in Derby Drinker by Pip Southall with the headline "Falstaff brewery to rise from the ashes" That article made "Phoenix" the obvious name for our first beer. Smiling Assassin was the nickname of our barman at the time, David Radford, who had put a lot of his own time and effort in to clearing out the old brewery and helping us get it set up. Without his help and enthusiasm it would have taken much longer to get it sorted. 3 Faze gets its name from the difficulties we had getting a power supply reconnected to the brewery which delayed our first brew by a month or two. The first theme of beer names was based around Spaghetti Westerns, with Fist full of Hops being the quantity of dry hops added after brewing to each cask.

## **DD. What is your brewing capacity and what quantity do you normally brew?**

SB&JH. The current plant has a 6 barrel capacity and that is fully utilised with every brew. Typically brewing takes place on one day with back-to-back brews, usually allowing 18 barrels to be made. The current record for beer production is 30 barrels in a day.

**DD. How badly did the pandemic affect you and have things got back to normal?**

SB&JH. As with everyone else, the pandemic affected us massively and production slumped to around 25% of what was normally made. There was also a family bereavement due to covid at the very start, which set us back for a couple of months, whilst everyone else had

started their off-sales trade. Eventually we managed to get our off-sales going to provide a much needed cash flow for the business. We have not returned to pre-covid levels but are in a position we want to be at.

**DD. Main malt types and hops?**

JH. For pale malt, Maris Otter if the price is viable, else Planet. Chocolate malt and torrefied wheat are used in

many of the beers. Slovenian hops are used a lot alongside English hops. We don't tend to use many American hops.

**DD. Describe your brewing ethos in a few words.**

JH. Generally, to brew a beer that I like to drink. Never shy away from putting good quantities of hops in beer. Too much planning doesn't always work, use judgment and experience for new beers.

**DD. What do you feel is the best beer you have produced, or is that to come?**

JH. Difficult to answer. It often depends on the day of the week. Probably the best beer produced from a consistent sales point of view, both in the Falstaff pub and free trade is Fistful of Hops.

**DD. What is the biggest difficulty you're currently facing as a small independent brewery?**

JH. Costs. Energy bills have rocketed, as have the raw materials costs. Malts and yeast have risen dramatically. Even the cost of cask shives has risen dramatically.

**DD. Do you have a favourite beer that is not your own?**

JH. I don't get much opportunity to drink anything other than our own beer now, but previously one of my favourites was Old Accidental brewed by the Brunswick, which is sadly no longer available.

**Andrew Norman**

**The Five Lamps**  
Real Ale and Craft Emporium

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# Is the Average Price of a Pint in Derby Really £3?

Derby Drinker was intrigued by a newspaper article on June 14th 2023 in which it was claimed that the average price of a pint in Derby was £3.00, the claim being made by personal finance comparison site finder.com. Derby Drinker decided to carry out some of our own research with the following findings:

Babington Greene King Ruddles Best	£1.71
Standing Order Greene King Ruddles Best	£1.71
Falstaff Falstaff 3 Faze	£3.10
Brunswick Brunswick White Feather	£3.20
Woodlark Dancing Duck DCUK	£3.40
Pothole Caveman Palaolithic	£3.60
Golden Eagle Golden Eagle Bitter	£3.70
No. 189 All real ales	£3.80
Creaky Floorboard Navigation New Dawn	£3.80
Flowerpot Lenton Lane Moonlight	£3.80
Furnace Shiny 4 Wood and Fun Sponge	£3.80
Horse and Groom Dancing Duck Duck Berry	£3.80
Jonty Farmer Marston's Pedigree	£3.95
Smithfield Ale House Draught Bass	£4.00
Five Lamps Dancing Duck Ay Up	£4.10
Brewery Tap Derby Brewing, Drop of Sunshine	£4.20
Seven Stars Marston's Pedigree	£4.20
Silk Mill Draught Bass	£4.20
Greyhound Derby Brewing Hop Till You Drop	£4.30

Prices were the cheapest pint of real ale in each pub irrespective of CAMRA discount. The average price of a pint clearly depends upon where one chooses to drink and based on the above research £3.60, 20% more than reported, is the average price of a pint in Derby. This shows that you can't beat local news investigation.

# Brewery News

## Shiny

We've been busy over at Shiny Brewery since the addition of three new tanks last summer. The long-awaited Rainbow Tea IPA came back in keg & can, and we'll be re-releasing our cask beer Happy People! We've been supporting local events during the summer with plenty more to come throughout the year. See you there.

*Mia Schröder*

## Dancing Duck Brewery

We launched a new beer in the Summer, Quack to the Future which is a British hopped, delightfully full bodied, tasty 4.2% pale ale.

Our first "Night in the Brewery" in July was a success, with around 80 people attending and everyone had a good time. The final one of the year is **Saturday 9th September**, £15 - pint on arrival, souvenir glass, huge chip cob. Tickets available from Derby Live or the brewery shop, John Cooper Buildings, Payne Street, off Ashbourne Road, Derby.

<https://www.livetickets.org/whats-on/dancing-duck-night-in-the-brewery/>

*Rachel Matthews*



## Falstaff Brewery

Currently we are concentrating on our core beers, Phoenix (4.7%), Fistful of Hops (4.5%), Smiling Assassin (5.2%) Darkside (6%), 3 Faze (3.8%) and The Good the Bad & The Drunk (6.2%). At present there aren't any specials planned but as always watch this space.

*Jim Hallows*

# Derbyshire's Pubs of the Year 2023



**Derbyshire North Pub of the Year**  
Feather Star, Wirksworth

**T**his year's best pubs in Derbyshire where both in the nearby vicinity of Derby and well within the area covered by Derby Drinker.

Derbyshire North's winner is the Feather Star in Wirksworth,



**Derbyshire South Pub of the Year**  
The Angels, Belper

housed within the former Red Lion Hotel on the Market Place which dates from the 1770s. It started life originally as a micropub on St Johns Street before moving to its present premises in 2022 since when it



has flourished earning Matlock & Dales Pub of the Year in 2023 before going on to be judged the best pub in Derbyshire North. Five handpumped beers are supplemented by craft beers and ciders with regular live music and occasional beer festivals. The pub is easily reached from Derby on the Sixes bus service which runs via Belper and now also from Chesterfield & Sheffield on the X17 service. And for those of you wondering why Feather Star? Well a Feather Star is the name for a crinoid fossil found locally in the limestone around Wirksworth.

**Derbyshire South's** winner is the **Angels Micro Pub** on **Belper** Market Place which was opened in 2016 by local real ale enthusiast Steve Creswell. The current Amber Valley Pub of the Year is a quirky and friendly micro-pub that has a selection of at least eight cask ales & ten real ciders with regular tap takeovers and beer festivals. It also has live music artists most Sunday afternoons. The pub can be easily reached by both bus and train from Derby and Matlock and is well worth a visit but watch the opening times as it is only open from Thursday until Sunday.

CAMRA's Derbyshire Area Organiser, Gareth Stead was on hand to do both presentations (pictured).

**DOVERIDGE VILLAGE CLUB**  
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# BEER FESTIVAL

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LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Friday, 6th**  
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**Saturday, 7th**  
**No Way Back**

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**Free Entry from 7.30pm**





See our Facebook page,  
Doveridge Village Club  
for more details



## Pick up a slice of history

# CAMRA's 37th National Breweriana Auction; Saturday 21st October 2023

Once again, CAMRA's National Breweriana Auction is back in Burton Town Hall for what will be the 37th event.

For those of you who have never been to a Breweriana Auction, read on about our 2023 event!

Ever fancied owning a slice of brewing history? Then this Auction is just the thing for you. Run by the Campaign for Real Ale, the National Breweriana Auction returns to Burton on Trent's Town Hall on Saturday 21st October. It will have about 150 interesting auction lots, everything from mirrors to trays, advertising signs, water jugs, flagons, bottles, books and pump clips as well as a few more unusual items. Plus we expect there will be a number of stands selling brewery memorabilia adding to the atmosphere in this wonderful Victorian venue.

There are all sorts of items from all over the country to decorate your home. Included in the brewery signs are two from London. The first is from Fuller's of Chiswick, which was set up in 1845, although it is believed there has been brewing on the site for over 350 years. Although Asahi took over the brewery in 2019, brewing still continues. The second is Watney Combe Reid Brewery commemorating the Stag Brewery in Pimlico, which was originally founded by William Greene in 1641, taken over by James Watney in 1858 and then by Grand Metropolitan in 1972 who closed it in 1979.

But it isn't all items from the south. Items from the midlands included a 1937 coronation ashtray from Offiler's. This Derby brewery was set up in 1876 and once owned 238 pubs. It became a subsidiary of the Charrington United Breweries group in 1965 and closed the following year. There is also a book, priced at two shillings, and described as 'A pictorial anthology of town and country inns of character' in the North Midlands.

As usual, we'll have a number of items from Burton such as a Worthington advertising card. There will also be a Bass clock and a mirror.



Founded in 1777, Marston's, of course, now brew the beers, and there will be a lovely little "half a cup" featuring a monk sitting on a barrel.

And that isn't the only unusual item. What about a Guinness radio or a Youngers Tartan Beer jacket? Set up in 1749, Youngers merged with McEwans in 1931. The brewery was closed in 1986 and taken over by Heineken in 2008 who subsequently sold the brand to Charles Wells.

If you have never been to the National Breweriana Auction before, the auction is great fun to take part in and is an opportunity to get some great bargains plus many of the items on sale can appreciate in value. And, of course, like any CAMRA event, there is some good beer on sale all day (from a local brewery).

Burton on Trent is less than 15 minutes by train from Derby and the Town Hall is just a short walk from the railway station. The event starts at 10.30am with the opportunity to view the lots and browse the breweriana stands that will also be there. Bidding starts at noon and is normally finished by 3pm, giving a chance to have a final perusal of the stands before visiting some of Burton's iconic pubs and heading home. Entrance is by catalogue (£3.00), available on the day, or £4.45 (includes postage) in advance, by post from Bill Austin: 07789 900411 or [baustin1951@btinternet.com](mailto:baustin1951@btinternet.com). If you can't get there, postal bids are accepted, just contact Bill. The event is wheelchair accessible. For more details see: [www.gandc.camra.org.uk](http://www.gandc.camra.org.uk).





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PUB BEER FESTIVAL



# 36TH BRUNSWICK BEER FESTIVAL

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