



DERBY (STAY)INN NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 004



Welcome

While it seems that the threat of Covid-19 has subsided the threat is still present. This means that while many pubs did open on or after the 4th July it is not possible to leave printed literature in pubs for anyone to handle and so we can still not produce Derby Drinker. For this reason, we will continue with the Derby (Stay)Inn Newsletter to, hopefully, keep you entertained, informed and thinking of your favourite Real Ale, Cider or Perry. The branch member's publication, Mild and Bitter, is still continuing. This is the fourth issue which will be available from the website and distributed using the usual social media channels and also via email. Feedback, constructive or otherwise, should be sent to chairman@derby.camra.org.uk. The Derby (Stay)Inn Socials hosted on Zoom will continue at least to the end of July. Details can be found on the Derby CAMRA website and at the end of this Newsletter. Happy drinking and stay safe!

Real Ale, Real Cider and Perry Availability

The most important issue for most readers is the availability of our favourite drinks during the lockdown period. WhatPub has been enhanced with a filter called "Additional Services". All venues have been updated with their status via this filter, so use WhatPub to find venues open or doing takeaway near you. Of course, Brew2You continues to list many establishments, but to give a more personalised touch here are what is believed to be available either in the Derby area or delivering to Derby. Checkout the Derby CAMRA website for more details and links on the Pulling Together page.

Breweries

Dancing Duck, Leatherbritches and Muirhouse.

Pubs

Please consult WhatPub and use the Additional Services filter.

If have more information please send it to pubsofficer@derby.camra.org.uk.

Nationally CAMRA have also set up the Brew2You app for Apple, Android and standard web platforms. Brew2You is free to download and allows people to access a list of supplies nationally who are active during the lockdown. Suppliers can join as a Partner (for a one off £2 fee) to allow their services to get publicised.

Greg Maskalick to Stand for Chair at Next AGM

Chairman Greg has decided to stand for Chair at the next AGM. Late last year Greg notified the Branch he was not standing for a 3rd term but has had a change of mind as several members have asked him to reconsider and he feels he is best placed to navigate the future road of Derby CAMRA in these challenging times.

Also standing is Kevin Hepworth our current Press and Publicity Officer. So, for the first time in many, many years there will be a choice for the membership as to who leads them into the future. This is why all members should do their best to support the next AGM. Your vote will count and determine the direction of the Branch.

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When it is safe to do so an AGM will be announced, and it is hoped that we can have it in October/November 2020.

We are Leading from the Front!

After consultation with several members and the Elected Committee Chairman Greg gave certain direction to Derby CAMRA's stance on promoting pubs in these challenging times. He stated to the elected Committee:

- 1) We MUST lead on getting people back to the pubs. We can set the example and I intend to hold our next EC meeting at a pub. We need to show people we do what we ask of others - - - support pubs by going to them and using them.
- 2) Many members have contacted me and said we must lead on this. They are right. They elected us so it is up to us to action as best we can what the membership wants.
- 3) Our pubs are following guidelines and we all should feel safe. We need to showcase this to not only Derby CAMRA area but the country! We are the real ale capital of the UK!!!
- 4) All branches seem to be in a state of suspension. We are not going down that road. We will LEAD. Once again flying the Derby CAMRA flag for the world to see we are the most forward looking and progressive Branch on the planet.

The latest Committee meeting was held at The Brunswick on Monday 14th July in the Parlour. There were 6 Committee members in attendance, and they were treated to drinks and Chilli, Cheese 'n' Chips, compliments of Chairman Greg. It was a very positive meeting which followed social distancing rules. Proof you can have small meetings in pubs under current guidelines.

Chairman Greg said he found "the current stance of CAMRA on meetings very out of date and that CAMRA nationally can't be asking people to go to the pubs and then be against holding small meetings in pubs that can follow social distancing guidelines".

When current guidelines change where we can have larger numbers of people in an enclosed space... Chairman Greg intends to restart Branch meetings right away and get an AGM sorted out as soon as possible.

Challenging Times Means New Opportunities

Chairman Greg is asking all members of Derby CAMRA to take stock and see if they can volunteer to help shape and run the Branch into the future. It has come to his attention that some members feel aggrieved from past volunteering efforts and to those members he wants to assure them he will be a buffer between them and issues they are having. He will ensure their efforts will be appreciated, that they won't be overrun by requests and they will have the tools and support to get their remit accomplished.

There is also the challenge of younger members getting involved. This is so important to the Branch at this moment in time as we have never had the challenges, we have in front of us that we have now due to COVID-19. The Branch needs that fresh perspective and young helping hands. Things are changing and the Branch wants Young Members to be a BIG part of that change.

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Please feel free to contact Chairman Greg if you want to get involved for the first time or re-involved. It can't be stressed enough; The Branch Needs YOU!

Offiler's Blue Pubs

By Mark Fletcher

Offiler's, the local Derby brewery, built three large pubs with hotel facilities around the Derby suburbs in the distinctive Art Deco style with bold lines and graceful curving walls. The buildings were designed by George Eaton and opened in the late 1930's. All three buildings still remain and still serve the public, but only one of them operates as a public house, though with no hotel facilities.

The **Blue Peter** on the busy junction of London Road and Harvey Road is the only one of the three that still functions as a pub. Now operated by Stonehouse this large pub, at the start of lockdown, focused more on food than real ale. The bus stop outside on London Road takes its name from the pub and it is common to see buses in town with "Blue Peter" shown as their destination. The striking Art Deco lines are shown in the picture below taken a few years ago (2017). This was the first of the trio opened on 1934.



The **Blue Boy** on Wiltshire Road, Chaddesden is still probably the most imposing building of the three, set as it is on a large plot of land. The building was opened in 1935 The building is intact but Heron Foods supermarket occupy the left-hand portion and Bargain Booze the right-hand side.

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The final pub of the three was the former **Blue Pool** on Stenson Road, Littleover. The pub is situated in a slight hollow so resulting in it being the least imposing of the three buildings. Now a Tesco supermarket, so like the others it still serves alcohol! The pub was opened in 1936.



For further information the book “Inns & Taverns of Derby” by Maxwell Craven (ISBN 1-873626215) and published by Breedon Books, contains pictures of all three pubs when opened and forms a fascinating study when compared with their look now.

St Albans – The Home of CAMRA

For those of you that have taken the train to London, you may have stirred from your entertainment about 20 minutes out of London and looking out of the window noticed St Albans station go flying by. St Albans lies around 20 miles out of London on the

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convergence and split of the main routes of the A5 and A6. As such, its importance as a coaching stop to change horses meant that the local hostelrys were prosperous and many old buildings remain to the present day. St Albans is an old Roman town, though the Roman settlement of Verulamium was actually at the bottom of the hill. As beer drinkers will tell you, it is always up hill to town. The town centre of St Albans retains many old and interesting pubs and there are several natural routes around the city. The city, once dominated by the Benskins brewery, now has the diverse range of beer that we have come to expect.

But of course as drinkers of Real Ale, Cider and Perry, St. Albans has a more important place in our thoughts as this is the home of CAMRA and its birth place. The CAMRA HQ is out on the Hatfield Road, around a mile from the station but was originally at 34 Alma Road only a few hundred metres from the station. If you have an interest, turn at the junction with the Horn (of Plenty) pub and it is on the left. However, the local CAMRA branch is said to have started at the Farriers Arms on Lower Dagnall Street. From the station head up into town on London Road then through the junction with Holywell Hill, round the sharp bend and Lower Dagnall Street is on the left. This was a former McMullen pub and is credited as never having stopped serving real ale. There are several pubs around to explore so this is never a wasted journey.

Drinkers from the Derby area may have not heard of McMullen, so it is worth a few notes. McMullen are a family owned brewed still based in the centre of Hertford, actually the other side of the county from St Albans. They have been in existence since 1827 and have an estate of around 130 pubs, generally in Hertfordshire, Essex and Greater London. Visitors to London may know the Nags Head at Covent Garden. McMullen are unusual in that their flagship beer, AK, is actually a copper coloured mild. So on your way to the Farriers Arms, consider dropping into the Peahen on the corner of London Road and Holywell Hill and sampling their products.

A point that Midlands drinkers may find difficult is that St Albans claims to have the oldest public house in the country. Obviously Midlanders know that this untrue and in fact the Old Trip to Jerusalem in Nottingham is the oldest, but St Albans has the Ye Olde Fighting Cocks. Whatever your thoughts are, as a pub/beer tourist this is a “must” to visit. This small round wooden building sits below the Abbey at the end of Abbey Mill Lane and as the name suggests was a former public cock fighting ring, which explains the octagonal shape of the building. However, a warning to all is that the ceilings are very low inside, including around the bar. The pub has a lovely setting below the Cathedral of St Albans (the Abbey has long gone) and adjacent to Verulamium park.

So plan a post-lockdown trip to St Albans and take in the sights as a beer tourist.

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Quiz Corner

Anagrams

Here are ten pubs from the Derby CAMRA area shown in anagram form. All are taken from the full pub name without “the”. For example Derby (Stay)Inn not The Derby (Stay)Inn.

1. Ravens Morn
2. Boy award
3. Try, from Jean
4. Why hag skiing
5. Alarm to sheep
6. Drum rate shown
7. Err, at big
8. Ah, so rank
9. Warren rude chap
10. Encode fuel rack

The answers for issue 003 are as follows:

1. Prim lapel – Paper Mill, 2. Crowded – Red Cow, 3. Legit funny oaf – Tiffany Lounge, 4. Or dig hay – Hairy Dog, 5. Serves ants – Seven Stars, 6. Gods honor mare – Horse and Groom, 7. Ok, man rate – Markeaton, 8. Tell rat servers – Travellers Rest, 9. Dawn learns maze – New Zealand Arms, 10. Coal house wreck – Clock Warehouse.

What Pub am I?

Here are ten pubs from the Derby CAMRA area. The first five are open and given as a description. The second five form a picture round and are long closed but still stand. As a clue number 10 is in the suburbs.

1. I am a very large almost tudor pub and have recently changed my name. I once served the thirsty chemical workers and once sat next to the canal winding hole.
2. Despite my name I am not fast, nor a dog. I live on one of the main routes out of town and once had a railway station just down the road.
3. I live on a corner plot and have now enveloped the cottage next door. My name suggests I am from the West Country.
4. I am a grand building in one of Derby inner-suburbs. You won't go thirsty as I have my own brewery. My address suggests the presence of rich metals.
5. I am a large town centre pub and look out over a busy junction. My name suggests a regal newspaper. My shape forms a graceful quarter circle.

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6.



7.



8.

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9.



10.

Answers will be given in the next newsletter or at the next opening of the Derby (Stay)Inn.

The answers for issue 003 are as follows:

1. Paper Mill, 2. No 189, 3. Golden Eagle, 4. Furnace Inn, 5. Windmill Inn, 6. Nags Head, Micklover, 7. Seven Stars, 8. Bonnie Prince.

This newsletter is edited by Mark Fletcher. If you have any queries, comment etc., you can make contact at: pubsofficer@derby.camra.org.uk.

Or come along to the Derby (Stay)Inn – see the Socials page on the website copied below.

Derby CAMRA is inviting you to a scheduled DERBY STAY INN VIRTUAL PUB MEETING.

Time: WEDNESDAY Jul 15, 2020 08:00 PM

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Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85336237968?pwd=SWo4cEwydDlaZThZWxV4Wjc4VGFBZz09>

Meeting ID: 853 3623 7968

Password: DERBYCAMRA

Derby CAMRA is inviting you to a scheduled DERBY STAY INN VIRTUAL PUB MEETING.

Time: WEDNESDAY Jul 22, 2020 08:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81234856007?pwd=cVU0TGxNK2dqU0lPVDZDVmVYnEvUT09>

Meeting ID: 812 3485 6007

Password: DERBYCAMRA

Derby CAMRA is inviting you to a scheduled DERBY STAY INN VIRTUAL PUB MEETING.

Time: WEDNESDAY Jul 29, 2020 08:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85270222276?pwd=citBaWRhemFLSlhqUEhJOFcrS2p4UT09>

Meeting ID: 852 7022 2276

Password: DERBYCAMRA