

DERBY (STAY)INN NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 005



CAMRA
FOR
REAL ALE

Welcome

It can be seen that things are very slowly returning to something like normal. In Derby most of our pubs have now re-opened, the main exceptions being the micro-pubs, but rumours suggest even these will open soon. The Duke of Clarence remains closed due to a refit, so we hope it will return to the fold soon. However, Covid-19 has not gone and government guidelines discourage 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 fifth 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
Happy drinking and stay safe!

Real Ale, Real Cider and Perry Availability

On the 4th July the Government relaxed the lockdown restrictions meaning that pubs and restaurants can reopen providing guidelines for Social Distancing were followed. It is pleasing to report that for Derby most pubs except micro-pubs have now re-opened and all pubs that previously sold real ale, cider and perry have returned to doing so. Remember that most pubs still do takeaway, so if you prefer. It is understood that the following breweries are continuing to do deliveries as well, so even if you are isolating, your favourite tipple is accessible.

Breweries Delivering

Dancing Duck, Leatherbritches and Muirhouse.

Pubs

Please consult WhatPub and use the Additional Services filter. If possible Covid restrictions have been added.

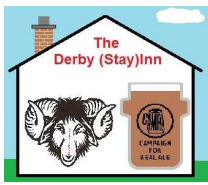
If have more information please send it to pubsofficer@derby.camra.org.uk.

Easing of out Lockdown Back to Derby's Pubs

By Mark Fletcher

It was not a case of rushing out of the house like a jack-in-the-box as soon as the pubs opened their doors on the 4th July, but cautiously over the following days and weeks I have gone back to visit some of the pubs that help to make Derby the Capital of Real Ale in this post-Lockdown situation that we find ourselves in. It should be stated that I never was classed as vulnerable and I suspect that fact governs how I have felt about returning to pubs but let me take you through a few choice establishments.

On the 4th, I called into the **Babington Arms** (Wetherspoon) where I was invited to find a table after sanitising my hands and giving basic track & trace details. Service was from the bar but screens shield the staff from the punters and you are requested to pay by contactless payment or, even better, via their App. Tables have been removed from the interior and screens put up to allow better Social Distancing. They have a reduced range of real ales, but I found a pint of Newby Wyke Comet to wash down



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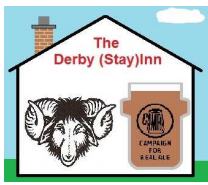
my large breakfast. Not very British I guess, should have been tea! I was told that they have had to reduce their capacity by 75% due to Social Distancing, which is quite shocking for a company that is based on high volume sales. But all-in-all I was glad to be back in a pub.

The **Brunswick Inn** near the Railway Station was my next venture back into the pub scene and like many places they operate a one-way system with the entrance being on the main road and exit to the rear. There is a chained off outside area, so it is not necessary to spend any time in the pub. However, if you do then you are allocated a table for the duration of your stay. The sanitiser at the entrance was a little enthusiastic and I ended up with lotion down the sleeve of my jacket. Luckily, I was not driving as I probably stunk of alcohol from it. Ordering is generally from the bar which has a clear Perspex shield around allowing you to see the lovely offerings on offer but keeping a barrier with the staff. A good selection of house brewed beers was complimented by around four guest beers. It should be remembered that many breweries were moth-balled during the lockdown so it is comforting to see a good range again.

I am sure everyone will be relieved to know that the **Smithfield**, Derby CAMRA's current Pub of the Year also opened on the 4th July following their start appearance on East Midlands news. They have created more space outside by commandeering a few parking spaces and providing more seating. The whole of the interior is all open and a one-way system is in place from the entrance opposite the bus garage. Like the other first you must find one of the freshly cleaned tables and make your pitch. Then service is from the bar. The Smithfield have had their full complement of beer from interesting breweries including two darks. Lines on the floor give the limits of your bubble while inside. Since the outside is half covered this is a better prospect if the British Summer is showing its normal indecisiveness. The pub has since restarted Sausage Sunday's followed by live music in the car park.

The **Furnace Inn** on Duke Street had been offering takeaways during the lockdown and now opens between Wednesday and Sunday. They have a one-way system with the entrance from the side of the pub by the car park with the puddle. There is more seating provided out the back than before and some of the beer is served from the brewery garage. Payment here is by contactless only, which is the preferred method in most places now. A few tables have also been removed from the interior to allow better distancing, but there is still good capacity when it rains. Different beers are on offer from the inside bar, but the bar staff are happy to fetch them for you.

Recently I took a trip to **Annie's Burger Shack** on Friary Street, which is a fabulous art-deco brick building with a relatively unspoilt interior. The building was once a church as shown by the name in the stonework on the front. The pub has a one-way system throughout and good subtle screening around the tables. Unfortunately, no real ale was on offer, so the 30 minutes (joking!) invested in reading their very comprehensive Social Distancing rules (see below) was maybe not my best investment of time.

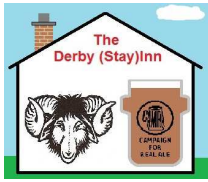


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The Covid situation has forced us Brits to adopt a more European way of drinking with table service now being common and payment at the end as a tab. I hope the irony of this is not lost given the other things happening in Britain. Pubs have always had to follow strict food hygiene regulations exactly to stop the spread of infections, but these have now been enhanced to help visitors to stay safe and feel safe. I hope you can find inspiration to once again try Derby's fabulous pubs.



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Pub News

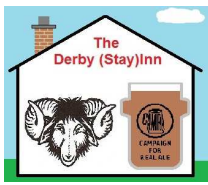
The George Cross on Boyer Street (off Abbey Street) has now started its transformation into 10 apartments, which include provision of parking on the old garden area. The photos below show the two sides of the building.



If you find yourself in the area of the George Cross, have a look at the corner shop on the corner of Stockbridge Street and Woods Lane, a short walk away. This building has some well-preserved painted adverts for Allsopp and Stretton Breweries. Allsopp was a Burton based brewery dating from the 1740's and merged with Ind Coope in 1935 but the name was not dropped until around 1960. Eventually the group was swallowed into Allied Breweries. Strettons was an old Derby brewery dating from 1868, who had their offices on Wardwick. They were acquired by Allsopp in 1927 although as can be seen below the name continued to be used after the purchase and explains why both names appear on this building.



Also covered in scaffolding is the former **Portland Hotel** on London Road, which is also been turned into flats, although here 28 dwellings are to be provided. The building dating from around 1880, has an imposing position at the end of the Railway Technical Centre buildings and at the start of the strangely named Deadmans Lane. This was always popular with railway workers and served real ale up to its close, including small beer festivals. The building does have listed status and it is understood that the developments will not alter the exterior look of the building.



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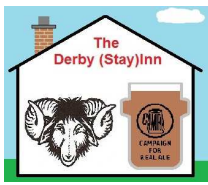
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The **Duke of York** on Burton Road has opened again as a Shisha lounge and restaurant called Basilo. They feature home-made burgers and home-cooked Polish food on the menu. Some may remember a few years ago as the Duke of York the pub also had a Polish menu. Beyond the Shisha smoking, Salsa dancing is also offered on Friday nights.



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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. Pat
2. Keen ships arena
3. Look, Ray a...
4. Gin nation vain
5. Dock gun, dad
6. Won fireplaces
7. What swine
8. Sloth v Male
9. Nuns win brick
10. Canoe has chords

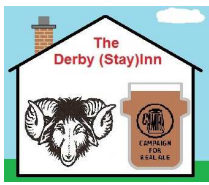
The answers for issue 004 are as follows:

1. Vernon Arms, 2. Broadway, 3. Jonty Farmer 4. Kings Highway 5. Thomas Leaper 6. Worm has Turned 7. Tiger Bar, 8. Noahs Ark, 9. Crewe and Harpur 10. Duke of Clarence.

What Pub am I?

Here are ten pubs from the Derby CAMRA area five of which are given as a description and five as pictures.

1. Art-deco brick façade and matching art-deco interior. Once a place of worship. My little brother sits to my port.
2. Two wooden barrels hang outside like ear-rings. Once the steam trains rumbled over-head behind me. I miss my friend who sat next door on the corner. My name is a little bird.
3. Once a carpet shop, my name reflects the road I live on. Two other family members live in Derby and I have other relations all over the UK.
4. I used to have a hotel, but it was amputated and is now the car park. The buses opposite keep my up all hours. I can't swim so the river scares me.
5. I live on the forerunner to the A52. My stony exterior shows a great age and my interior has many Rams pictures and signed shirts. I am also named after a bird.



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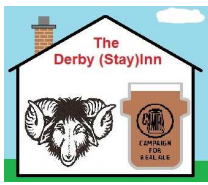


7.



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 004 are as follows:

1. Alfies Bar, Spondon, 2. Greyhound, 3. Exeter Arms, 4. Falstaff, 5. Royal Telegraph, 6. Florence Nightingale, 7. Beer Barrel, 8. Barley Mow, 9. Litchurch Inn, 10. Anglers Rest, Spondon.

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