

Derby Drinker Special BEER FESTIVAL Edition

KEEPING YOU INFORMED ABOUT YOUR BEER

ISSUE No 56

SUMMER 1995

FREE

18th DERBY BEER FESTIVAL

See inside for full details

TAKE COURAGE



1994 Derby Beer Festival chairman, Mick Jones hands a large cheque to outgoing Mayor, Cllr Nirmal Singh Dhinsa to be put towards his charity fund. The donation is from the proceeds of the 1994 Beer Festival.

After months of speculation and rumour, Scottish & Newcastle Breweries' recently-announced £425 million takeover bid for Courage will take the new combined group to the top of the British brewing league table, with over 25% of the market. City analysts put the real figure at nearer 30%, given the two companies' dominance of certain regions of the country.

The Campaign for Real Ale said the merger would lead to higher prices and less choice for drinkers. Campaigns Manager Steve Cox said: "We want an immediate reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. This merger is grossly anti-competitive."

In the short term, there are bound to be closures as the new group "rationalises" its operations and attempts to avoid referral to the MMC. The British beerage has been suffering the effects of recession, meaning that there are just too many breweries to supply a market hard-hit by cross-Channel imports in the last couple of years.

Scottish & Newcastle has four large real ale breweries to Courage's three, in addition to several plants producing keg ales and lager. No prizes for guessing that at least one of these is

Bass Deals

Burton brewers, Bass have been involved in a £25m deal to brew Tennents Lager in China. The deal is with the Ginsber Beer Group - do they know what they're letting themselves in for?

In another deal, Britvic, largely owned by Bass have bought Robinsons Barley Water from Unilever for £103m. This was immediately after Reckitt and Colman had sold their food and drinks business, which included Robinsons, to Unilever.

likely to bite the dust, taking some well-known beers with it, such as Nottingham's Home Ales, for example.

Given the dominance of some areas of the country that will result, smaller breweries will inevitably suffer, as a giant S&N/Courage juggernaut rolls over them in the free trade. The deal gives S&N the rights to Foster's lager brands in the UK and Europe, as well as a stake in the Budweiser brand through a joint operation with American brewers Anheuser-Busch. Combined sales of the new group could top £2.2 billion.

M.P.'s whose constituencies contain breweries affected by the merger have been pressing Board of Trade President Michael Heseltine to make a quick decision on whether to allow the deal to go ahead. David Wilshire, the Tory M.P. whose constituency includes Courage's head office at Staines said: "We need a quick decision to clear up the uncertainty for people who want to know what their future is." That includes drinkers, who could soon see the beer scene dominated by three mega-groups, given rumours that Allied-Domecq are considering the sale of their Carlsberg-Tetley brewing operation to Whitbread, leaving Bass, Whitbread and the new S&N/Courage combine with over two-thirds of the British market. You pay your money and you take your choice - only pretty soon you won't have any!

Enjoy Derby's finest range of quality cask conditioned beers at the CAMRA award winning

Brunswick Inn

D E R B Y

Purpose-built brewery

HOME-PRODUCED LUNCHES & EVENING BUFFETS AVAILABLE

NEWS

Almost Standing

Wetherspoon's new Derby pub, the Standing Order on Irongate has been hit by further delays. After protracted planning and licence applications local builders were appointed and work started. They hit financial trouble resulting in the present delayed opening date of mid-September.

Lodged in Alvaston

The Lodge at Alvaston has re-opened following a £260,000 refit complete with diner's lounge, pool table and kitchen - presumably big enough to cook their huge steaks.

Spencers Retire

Ken and Jean Spencer of the Wilmot Arms, Chad-desden have retired after 27 years in the pub trade. Bass marked their retirement with a reception at a top London hotel. We wish them a happy and long retirement.

The Crown, the Hippo and the Plaque

The Crown at Allenton is to put up a plaque to commemorate the centenary of an ice-age find. In 1885 the bones of a 120,000 year old hippo were discovered during the excavation of a well.

The Nags Head Inn

Hill Top

Castle Donington

Marston's Pedigree and Headbrewer's Choice

Home-cooked food, lunch and evening

Bar Billiards, Darts, Petanque Live Jazz band every Sunday fortnight at 9 pm

Warm Welcoming Atmosphere

Tel: (01332) 850652



Visit the newly extended

Flowerpot Inn

King Street, Derby

Try our continually changing range of real ales in the warm surroundings of a traditional town pub

At least 10 beers always available

So Sad the Smithfield

It's sad to see a pub decline for no other reason than mismanagement. Up to about 10 years ago the Smithfield was a thriving pub populated with off-shift bus drivers and journalists. Hardly a night went by without an impromptu sing-song, party or daft game. Anyone remember Enderby Creek?

Unfortunately the fate of the Smithfield is similar to that of so many pubs. It has gone through more managers in the last 10 years than in the previous century. Apart from a 4 year interregnum, the Conneely family ran it for over 60 years. Not that all the new managers were totally incompetent.

Letters

Dear Derby Drinker,

Could you please say a big thank you to the King's Head, Duffield for the recent Beer Festival in April.

Not only was the beer of exceptional quality and presentation, the evening entertainment on Saturday was by far the best we've seen for a long while.

Special thanks to "Marvo the Magnificent" and the "Mad Monk" who stood in at short notice to perform hilarious feats of magic and trickery.

From all the locals at the King's Head.

The Furnace Inn

Duke Street, Derby



John & Staff

invite you to their Saturday and Sunday night singalongs

Kimberley Mild, Bitter & Classic

Norman Arms

Village Street, Derby

Home Bitter & Mild, Theakston's XB and Bass all handpulled

Large Screen Entertainment

Open 11 - 11

Among their number is Ivron Cox, an excellent host and cellarman. But some of them should never have been allowed to run a bath on their own, let alone a pub. And all that change is tremendously unsettling for folk who have just popped in for a wind-down after a hectic day on the news desk, etc.

Just about every new licensee had to be taught the rules of the pub, like the significance of the back room (no piped music, anything said was off-the-record) and more than a few had absolutely no idea how to keep draught Bass, though one seemed to think it was too strong.

In the last year the place went rapidly downmarket and even the most loyal regulars, including myself, called time. Perhaps it has gone beyond return for there is now insufficient trade to keep Bass on sale, and for many that was a considerable attraction when well-kept.

Dolphin Fiasco Carries On

The ink on our last issue hadn't dried before Bass had another meddle with the Dolphin. Tony Williams had scarcely piled up three week's washing before Bass decided to take on the running of the place directly, so Tony was out along with the management company.

Another interesting week followed, showing Bass at its bureaucratic best. Stocks could not be ordered because a computer hadn't been fitted. Presumably Bass Sales are ex-directory. Then teams of artisans arrived and sucked teeth over how the wonderful touch-screen standard Bass tills were to be fitted, especially behind the very un-standard back room bar. There was talk of holes in walls until it was decided to butcher the fittings a bit. The resultant joinery is

Wardwick Hop & Vine

63 Wardwick, Derby

01332 371134

Always a selection of Belgian and Trappist Beers

open

4 pm - 11 pm Monday to Friday
12 noon - 11 pm Saturday

Pub hours Sunday

The Cattle Market Hotel

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Opened | 1867 |
| Saunders & Shute | 1868 |
| Joseph Brooks | 1871 |
| John Mayer | 1874 |
| William Slater | 1882 |
| Thomas Doyle | 1883 |
| Thomas Johnson | 1884 |
| Harriet Smith | 1897 |
| Christopher Smith | 1923 |
| Martin Conneely | 1932 |
| Roger Groome | 1953 |
| Percy Conneely | 1957 |
| John Conneely | 1978 |

Renamed The Smithfield July '82

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Ivron Cox | 1984 |
| Owen Thacker | 1986 |
| Victor Baines | 1987 |
| John Pratt | 1987 |
| Wendy Cox | 1989 |
| Stephen Jessop | 1989 |
| Jean Hackett | 1992 |
| Brian MaBride | 1992 |
| Sandra Steele | 1993 |
| Jill Balandowitz | 1994 |
| Kevin Venables | 1994 |
| Margaret Beal | 1994 |
| John Haggas | 1995 |

Good luck to John, who moved in from Bradford in February. Much damage has been done & it's hard work starting from zero.

Ivor Clissold
John Arguile (research)

much admired and may one day even get painted. We would like to wish the new manager well, but that would be tempting fate.

We cannot tell you his name because he hasn't yet introduced himself, but the name above the door is still Nigel Barker.

Ivor Clissold

New Zealand Festival

No, not an antipodean cold lager fest but the latest theme from Ansells - Festival Ale Houses. The New Zealand Arms, Peel Street, Derby has just re-opened following a near £300,000 refurbishment.

Enthusiastic licensee, Paul McCarthy - who once worked at the Brunswick - is offering a choice of 6 real ales; Tetley Bitter, Burton Ale, Pedigree, Ansells Mild, a rotating guest beer and a "one time only" guest beer. He'll also be serving food and putting on entertainment - mostly unplugged.

Paul is hoping this mixture plus a warm, friendly atmosphere and stone flag and timber floors will attract a wide range of customers. That and the absence of a pool table. We wish Paul well.

DRINKER! Comment

ANOTHER DEATH KNELL

Tests by laboratory technicians over the past couple of years have indicated that a number of "real ales" are barely alive. The amount of fermentable material found in some beer has been so low as to make you wonder what is happening inside the cask. What should be happening is secondary fermentation.

The culprits are not small independent or regional brewers but the mega-production companies who continue to monopolise the production and retailing of beer in this country.

Roger Protz, editor of CAM-RA's national paper, *What's Brewing*, speaking in a personal capacity at a recent meeting of Derby CAMRA, called for such beers to be excluded from the Good Beer Guide and CAM-RA-run beer festivals. Some of the very same companies were condoning the deceptive practice of trying to pass off new "nitro-keg" beers as real ale, served through a handpump, he claimed.

It seems that some brewers will do anything to avoid competing on straightforward, honest fronts, such as price, quality and choice. When they should be praising and promoting the variety and quality of British beer they produce insipid, lifeless dross. Then they produce new keg beers - dead as a dodo and pushed into the glass by nitrogen-based gas - because they seem to think we want every pint to taste the same.

Have they never been to a beer festival or a free house?

Dave George



New Zealand Arms

Peel Street, Derby

6 Real Ales - Food Available

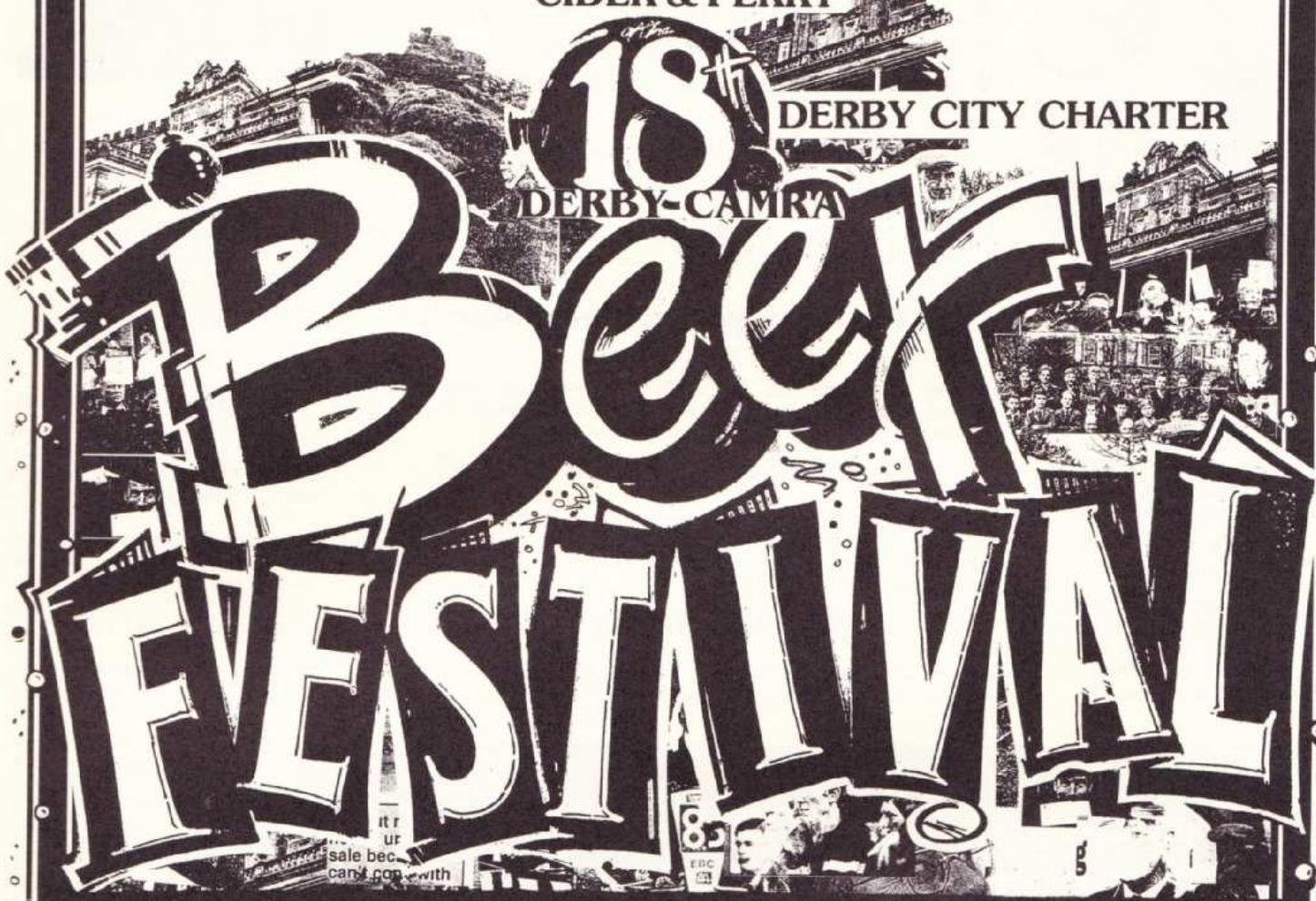
Open 11 - 11

90 BEERS FROM 40 BREWERIES

Plus
CIDER & PERRY

DERBY CITY CHARTER

18th
DERBY-CAMRA



OPENS WEDNESDAY EVENING
JULY 5th to SUNDAY LUNCH JULY 9th

'95

AT THE **ASSEMBLY ROOMS** MARKET PLACE **DERBY**

(DARWIN SUITE & MAIN HALL)

SOUVENIR GLASSES
Available
PINT & HALF PINT

HOT & COLD FOOD
Available
ALL SESSIONS

| EVENING ENTERTAINMENT | MAIN HALL | | DARWIN SUITE | |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| WEDNESDAY | THE NEW BUSHBURY MOUNTAIN DAREDEVILS + RIPLEY MORRIS MEN * | | NO ENTERTAINMENT | |
| THURSDAY | SOUNDS OF THE BLUES BROTHERS + ARKANSAS TRAVELLERS | | VON WINKLER'S BAVARIAN BAND | |
| FRIDAY | EARL JACKSON & THE JAILBREAKERS + ZZ BIRMINGHAM | | THE RATTLERS | |
| SATURDAY | R. CAJUN & THE ZYDECO BROTHERS + TONY B. | | THE RATTLERS (lunch & evening) | |
| LUNCHTIME ENTERTAINMENTS IN THE MAIN HALL | THURSDAY Chicago Echoes + Benny Gardstein | FRIDAY Chicago Echoes + Benny Gardstein | SATURDAY Please Y'Self + Benny Gardstein | SUNDAY Three Wheel Drive with Benny Gardstein |

| ADMISSION PRICES | LUNCH | EVENING |
|------------------|--------|---------|
| WEDNESDAY | Closed | £2.50 |
| THURSDAY | FREE | £3.50 |
| FRIDAY | £1.00 | £3.50 |
| SATURDAY | £1.50 | £4.00 |
| SUNDAY | FREE | Closed |

FREE ADMISSION TO O.A.P.s.
(ALL LUNCHTIME SESSIONS)
AND TO MEMBERS OF CAMRA AND THE EUROPEAN BEER CONSUMERS UNION ORGANISATIONS (ALL SESSIONS)



FREE CRECHE FACILITIES AVAILABLE
(in the reception suite)
SATURDAY & SUNDAY LUNCHTIMES
(Family room every other session)
Featuring IAN YOUNG - MAGICIAN

| OPENING TIMES | | |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------|
| LUNCH | THURSDAY & FRIDAY | 11.30AM TO 3.00 PM |
| EVENING | WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY | 6.30PM TO 11.00PM |
| LUNCH | SATURDAY | 11.00AM TO 4.00 PM |
| LUNCH | SUNDAY | 12.00PM TO 2.30 PM |
| DARWIN SUITE OPEN EVERY SESSION EXCEPT SUNDAY LUNCH | | |

Page

THE MANAGEMENT RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ADMISSION AND

WILL NOT ADMIT PERSONS WHO ARE OR WHO APPEAR TO BE UNDER 18





Give Thursday some Umpah

If you enjoy that umpah sound grab a seat in the Darwin Room on Thursday night. Von Winklers Bavarian Band provides a blend of authentic Tyrolean polkas, marches and waltzes with a hint of hofbrauhaus. Good music to sway to.

Family Room all Sessions

The Reception Suite creche will once again be staffed on Saturday and Sunday lunch. It is designated a family room for all other sessions.

Festival News

- ◆ Celebrating the 18th Beer Festival
- ◆ Latest beers information - page 6
- ◆ Entertainment news - page 5
- ◆ Saturday Lunchtime Extended

Were You at the First?

If so, do you have any interesting memories of drinking in the Kings Hall? We'd like to hear them - they may even appear in print. Write to **Derby Drinker, 62 Morningside Close, Allenton, Derby DE24 9JP** or let us have them at the Information Desk at the Festival.

Extended Opening for Saturday Lunchtime

Saturday lunchtimes are so popular that we have extended their opening hours to 4 pm - an extra hour. We'd love to open longer but our volunteer staff need a rest between sessions.

Organising a Coach Party?

Let us know you are coming and we will arrange entry for you. Everyone who comes on a pre-booked coach on the Wednesday night gets a free drink! Book your coach in by phoning Alan Fulwood on 01332 751437

£2 Off Membership

For the whole of July CAMRA membership is £2 cheaper - and if you join at the Festival your entrance is free of charge.



Rattlers Residency

A lot of people have been sitting up and taking notice of Derby folk-rockers, The Rattlers recently. Their growing reputation has earned them the Darwin residency - that's Friday night, Saturday lunch (unplugged) and Saturday night.

Olympia in August

The Great British Beer Festival takes place at Olympia, in London from 1st - 5th August - that's Tuesday to Saturday.

The big one has 250,000 pints of real ale, cider, perry and imported beers, seating for 1000 people, a family room and bags of entertainment and food.

To win some tickets see the competition on the back page.

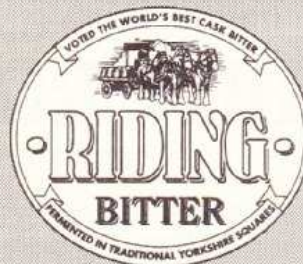
Seek Out The Real CASK MASTERS



A Rich Velvety, Premium Quality Strong Ale
4.8% Alcohol by Volume



The Original Cask Bitter from Mansfield Brewery
3.9% Alcohol by Volume



A Smooth, Pale Bitter with a Distinctive Hop Character
3.6% Alcohol by Volume



A Creamy Dark Mild with a Rich Nutty Flavour
3.5% Alcohol by Volume

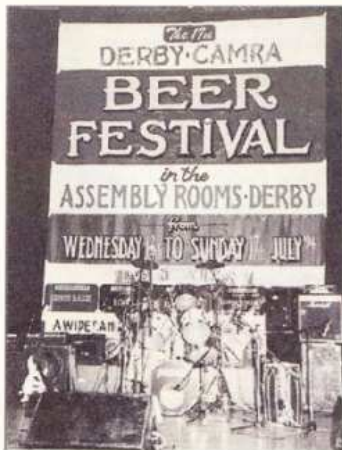


BREWING TRADITIONS

FROM MANSFIELD BREWERY

Littleworth, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 1AB, Tel: 01623 25601

REAL ALE, LIVE MUSIC



The backdrop to the stage of the Great Hall pictured at last year's Derby Beer Festival



Ultimate Thursday Blues

The "Ultimate Blues Brothers Show", the Sounds of the Blues Brothers are back and promise over an hour of Mowtown, blues and soul packed into a fast and furious performance.

Support band, Arkansas (pronounced Arkensaw) Travellers, are ready to dish out some early American folk music with a touch of bluegrass, hillbilly and hoedown.

Saturday Lunch Oh Please y' Self

The Matlock skiffle band take the stage on Saturday lunch. The popularity of Please Y' Self has taken them to the Clapham Common and Glastonbury Fests.

Terry Morton introduces a varied line-up of musical entertainment. Ya pays ya money & ya takes ya choice



Saturday Night is Cajun Night

Over 1200 people danced in the New Year to the Bayou Beat at the Assembly Rooms but without any real ale to quench their thirsts. R Cajun and the Zydeco Brothers return to settle this unfinished business. Their Southern Louisiana music style appears to have caught on with the well heeled with thousands regularly attending dance classes up and down the UK. Its your chance to see how it's done.

Piano / vocalist, Mr Tony B, famed for his covers of Elton John and Neil Sedaka will warm up the proceedings.

Wednesday's Fun Folk

The Festival opens with the New Bushbury Mountain Daredevils who make their first appearance at the Derby Beer Festival. It's a sort of one man band, plus three others who play a variety of instruments and give the foot tapping folk rock treatment to a variety of songs! This and their own special brand of humour packs them in at pubs and folk clubs throughout the UK. Not to be missed.

Ripley Morris Men will fill the gaps in performances (and on the Great hall floor!).



Rockin' Friday

Back comes Earl Jackson and the Jailbreakers, the hottest Rock 'n' Roll band for some time. Driving audiences wild with the sounds of the greats - Louis Jordan, Chuck Berry, Freddie Bell, Mike Pedican - the list is endless. Keep your eyes on frontman, Earl and be hypnotised by his facial expressions - try and match his duck-walking!

Support band ZZ Birmingham are known for their distinctive harmonica led Rhythm 'n' Blues style based on the songs of Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker etc.

The Full Line-up - at a Glance

Wednesday Night

Great Hall
The New Bushbury Mountain Daredevils
Ripley Morris

Thursday Lunch

Great Hall
Chicago Echoes Jazz Band
Benny Gardstein

Thursday Night

Great Hall
The Sounds of the Blues Brothers
Arkansas Travellers

Darwin Room
Von Winklers Bavarian Band

Friday Lunch

Great Hall
Chicago Echoes Jazz Band
Benny Gardstein

Friday Night

Great Hall
Earl Jackson and the Jailbreakers
ZZ Birmingham Blues Band

Darwin Room
The Rattlers

Saturday Lunch

Great Hall
Please Y Self

Darwin Room
The Rattlers (unplugged)

Reception Room
Creche with magician, Ian Young

Saturday Night

Great Hall
R Cajun and the Zydeco Brothers
Mr Tony B

Darwin Room
The Rattlers

Sunday Lunch

Great Hall
Three Wheel Drive, Benny Gardstein and others - Jam Session

Reception Room
Creche with Magician Ian Young

Off The Tracks

The 7th OTT Music & Beer Festival

Park Farmhouse, Melbourne Road, Castle Donington
(near Junction 24 off M1)

Friday 1st, Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd September
2 stages * 3 bars * 25 Real Ales * camping/caravans

Tickets £20 from PO Box 68, Derby DE1 3XY
For further info Tel: 01332 384518 / 833673

Black Sheep, Masham

Set up by Paul Theakston, the black sheep of the family, in 1992. All their 300 barrels per week are fermented in Yorkshire slate squares.

Best Bitter (1039 / 3.8%),
Special (1046 / 4.4%)

Cropton, Pickering

Brewing since 1984, their beers are additive-free.

King Billy Bitter (1036 / 3.6%),
Two Pints Best Bitter (1040 / 4%),
Scoresby Stout (1042 / 4.2%)

Hambleton, Thirsk

Such has been the demand for their beers that they are having to re-locate from the Victorian barn where they started out in 1991.

Bitter (1036 / 3.6%), **Stallion** (1041 / 4.2%), **Thoroughbred** (1048 / 5%)

Malton, Malton

Began brewing in 1985 in a stable block where the former Grand National winner, Double Chance, was once stabled. Additive-free beers.

Pale Ale (3.2%), **Double Chance Bitter** (3.8%), **Pickwick's Porter** (4%), **Owd Bob** (5.9%)

Derbyshire Ales

With the explosion of brewing in Derbyshire over the past couple of years there should be at least 20 beers brewed in the county - or in the case of Shardlow, just over the border in Leicestershire.

Black Bull, Fenny Bentley

Michael Peach started brewing in a converted building on his farm last year. Half a dozen regular outlets.

Dovedale Bitter (3.6%), **Ankle Cracker** (4%)

Brunswick, Derby

Just two of Trevor Harris's regulars plus, hopefully, a special brew from the master of special brews.

Dry Black Bitter (1038 / 3.8%),
Brew 150 (1042 / 4.2%)

Flamingo & Firkin, Derby

Will be represented if they reply to the Beer Order manager's letters in time.

Lloyds, Ingleby

Fittingly represented as it is 18 years since John Thompson became one of the first pub brewers in the country.

Country Gold (1040 / 4%),
JTSXXX (Derby Bitter) (1042 / 4.2%)

Festival Beers

Here's a list of beers to get your mouth watering - it's correct as far as we know it but there are more to be added and unforeseen availability problems may mean some of these don't make it. Expect late changes and consult your programme - more pages than ever this year!

Yorkshire Beers

This year the lorry is going on a tour of Yorkshire to bring back 20 of the old county's finest.

North Yorkshire, Middlesbrough

Started with a purpose-built brewery in 1990. Now with two tied houses and 100 free trade outlets.

Best Bitter (1036 / 3.6%),
Erimus Dark (3.9%), **Fools Gold** (1044 / 4.6%)

Roosters, Harrogate

Brewery set up in 1992 by Sean Franklin, formerly of Franklins Brewery. See if you can taste the orange peel in Yankee.

Yankee (1043 / 4.3%), **Smoked Beer** (4.3%), **Nectar** (1058 / 5.8)

Samuel Smiths, Tadcaster

The epitome of traditional Yorkshire brewing. Additive-free well water, fermentation in Yorkshire stone squares and beer racked into wooden casks made at the brewery's own cooperage. The brew-house dates from 1758.

Old Brewery Bitter (1040 / 4%),
Museum Ale (1049 / 5%)

Whitby's, Whitby

They have 40 free trade outlets notched up since starting out in 1992.

Wollop (1038 / 3.6%), **Wobble** (1045 / 4.5%), **Nut Brown** (1045 / 4.5%)

Belgian Beers

Yes, they're expensive but compared with 19 F Francs (just under £3) for a glass (just over half a pint) of Belgian beer in Paris it's a snip. In this range which includes wheat beers and fruit beers you're bound to find a gem to your liking.

De Koninck (1047 / 5%)
Hoegaarden Wit (1048 / 4.8%)
Liefmans Frambozen (1053 / 5.1%)
Liefmans Kriek (1053 / 5.5%)
Rodenbach (1047.5 / 5%)
Westmalle Dubbel (1063 / 6.5%)
Timmermans Blanch Wit Lambic (3.5%)

A Feast of New Beers

Around 12 new beers will be on sale at the New Beers Stand - if we can get hold of them! Not all will be available at once with possibly only 3 or 4 per session. So keep coming back and you may be able to try them all.

Bass Museum - Derby Beer Festival 18th Birthday Brew (1048 / 4.8%)

Cains, Liverpool - Superior Stout (4.5%)

Enville, Stourbridge - Simpkins Bitter (4%)

Freedom, Parsons Green, London - Lager (5.4%)

Harviestoun, Dollar, Clackmannanshire - Schiehallion Lager Beer (4.8%)

Maypole, somewhere near Newark - Celebration Bitter (4%)

Oakham, Oakham - Jeffrey Hudson Bitter (1038 / 3.8%)

Passageway, Liverpool - St Arnold (1050 / 5%)

South Yorkshire, Barnsley - Barnsley Bitter (1037 / 3.8%)

Sutton, Plymouth - Knickadroppa Glory (5.5%)

Thwaites, Blackburn - Snigbrook Ale (4%)
Tomintoul, Ballindalloch, Grampian - Caillie (1035 / 3.6%)

Some interesting ones there! The one from the **Bass MUSEUM** is especially for the Festival. There are two lagers with the one from **Freedom** brewed using Bavarian yeast to German beer laws by a brewer who was trained in Munich.

Barnsley and **Simpkins** may sound familiar but their original brewers are long since defunct - these are attempts to re-create famous old beers.

Derby Drinker

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Edited by David George, 62 Morningside Close, Allenton, Derby DE24 9JP ☎(01332) 702867. Artwork by Rob Gilvary, 130 Green Lane, Derby ☎(01332) 343497.

Advertising Rates are - front page £35, back and inside pages £30. Discounts for payment in advance ☎702867 for details.

Further information on all aspects of Derby CAMRA can be had from David George or Rob Gilvary (see above).

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Re-entry from outer space?

Derby Drinker editor David George was more than a little surprised when a Drinker Competition entry landed on his mat on May 17th. We know our readers are keen on competitions which is why there's another one in this issue but there wasn't one in our last edition! Closer investigation revealed that the closing date for this competition entry was 15th. May - 1994!

Dave is now convinced there must be a black hole into the Fourth Dimension somewhere just off Sinfin Avenue - careful you don't fall into it on your way home from the pub, Dave!

In 1974, beer was around 20p a pint, depending on which brew and where you drank it. Many pubs still maintained the old tradition of charging more in the lounge than in the Public Bar. That's when many pubs still had a Public Bar, that is - we've become so used to massive one-room pubs in the last few years that we tend to forget most pubs had two or even three rooms.

The Seventies represented the heyday of the brewery "modernisers," ripping out walls left, right and centre. When you go into a one-room pub that is obviously in an older building, look up at the ceiling - those encased beams hide RSJ's hold-

Time Was...

Nick Meakin, our man in the platforms and loon pants, checks out 1974 - 21 years ago, when Derby CAMRA was first founded.

ing the roof up and usually represent walls that have been removed. The Greyhound, Village Street is a good example; the history of the pub is on the ceiling in plan view!

Straw Dogs was on at the pictures, Ernie announced the first

Why do Marstons use Burton unions? Does anyone else?

Half the secret of brewing is putting the various ingredients together. The other half is separating them after.

Marston's believe their yeast is the essence of their beers. Unlike most brewing yeasts it is powdery and does not flocculate (lump together). The number of yeast cells must be reduced after primary fermentation or the beer will not clear in the cask. Reduce the population too much and the culture will not be viable enough for a secondary fermentation.

Control is difficult if the yeast does not flocculate. The union system comprises a number of horizontal casks piped together.

From the top of each a swan-neck pipe extends into a trough suspended above the casks. The fermentation within the casks

causes beer to fob up into the trough, which is drained back into the casks. The beer is constantly running over the yeast, which gradually settles itself out in the trough. That way the yeast retains its character and imposes its unique flavour profile upon their beers.

The history of the union method is obscure, but it probably derived from own-brewing, where a single cask could be used. If trade got busy one could always add another. There is no record of their use outside the Burton area: open fermenters to the south, Yorkshire squares to the north. Phillips,

later Trumans used them at Burton, as did Bass, who renounced them some 15 years ago.

The Derby firm of Alton's used them up to its closure in 1922. So, alas, Marston's is the only firm to continue this unique brewing and yeast propagation system.

They deserve a Government grant.

Ivor Clissold



Beer Boffin answers your queries

£75,000 Premium Bond winner - small potatoes by today's standards, but think back: a 3-bed detached house in Mickleover could be yours for £9950, a smart new Triumph 1500TC to stand in the drive would only set you back another £1448 (inc. VAT) and you could get a job as a policeman and earn £1353 at age 19! (Not to mention the free uniform!)

Willie Hamilton, the colourful, anti-royalist MP for Fife was demanding that the Price Commission look into why beer prices were going up while brewery profits continued to soar. Willie, dear boy, it's because the beer prices go up that the profits do too! As if to answer him with a regal raspberry, Marstons announced profits up from £1.7m to £1.9m that year. Alas, poor Willie is no more and the beer prices still keep going up.

The scene was set, then for a momentous event: on July 4th, 1974, a group of people met in the **Alexandra Hotel**, Siddals Road, to form the 50th. new branch of CAMRA. Max Stewart of Rolleston-on-Dove took the chair and a committee was elected from the 23 new members signed up that night. Popular landlady of the Alex, Flo Fox (25 years behind the bar, 7 handpumps) agreed to be on the committee. From little acorns, grow mighty oaks - well a pretty damned good beer festival, anyway.

Finally, talking of oaks, Bakewell's licensing bench turned down a request from Albert Rowen, of the **Royal Oak**, Stoney Middleton, to install a fruit machine, on the grounds that it was in the Peak National Park and would lower the tone of the area!

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Win Great British Beer Festival Tickets

In the letter square are hidden the names of 10 breweries that will be at the 1995 Great British Beer Festival. Identify all of them and send your answers to: **GBBF Competition, Derby Drinker, 62 Morningside Close, Allenton, Derby DE24 9JP** by July 20th. The first 5 correct answers drawn out of the hat will win a pair of tickets to the Saturday session of the Great British Beer Festival on 5th August.

Y S T N P L A L F B R C M B
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S Y D L F V R E N G E O N R
W P G M P E V D A K B L I A
E Q E N T W Q E U T R H A H
N P P T H W A I T E S R O K
N U O T L I P D X F M D B H
H O P B A C K C Y B Z N K I
S E E R S C T Z B G J H O A

Name.....
.....
Address.....
.....
.....

Not really a walk on the wild side, but a pleasant stroll through the Derbyshire countryside starting at the small unspoilt village of Osmaston, just off the A52 outside Ashbourne. The village has a fine church, and a friendly local pub - the Shoulder of Mutton (Bass). On returning to the village at the end of the walk you will pass an unusual seat by the pond, entirely made of horseshoes. Any beer-drinking bird watchers may well be able to spot a Graylag Goose or a Tufted Duck on the lakes that you will pass.

Start from the car park next to the village hall (1) and take the footpath at the back signposted **Public Footpath to Edlaston**. Keeping to the hedge on your left, aim for the buildings on the horizon. Crossing a stream, aim for two stone gateposts then walk straight on to the right of

Baynton's Blisters 7 Osmaston - Wyaston - Shirley Park - Osmaston (5 miles)

Osmaston Pastures Farm. This is an enjoyable ramble across the fields in Summer, but can be a boot-sucking quagmire in wet Winter conditions.

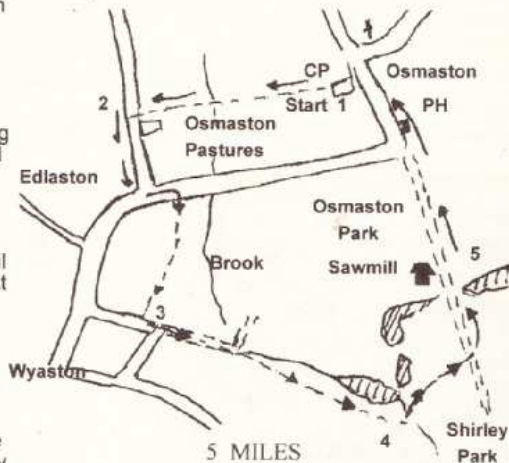
On reaching the road (2) go through the gate and turn left and left again when you reach the crossroads. After one field, turn right through a gate and walk across fields, aiming to the left of the buildings on the horizon. You eventually climb a track and join the road at Wyaston (3). Go left along the road and at a distinctive white house leave the road and take the track running just below it marked **Bridleway Osmaston 1/4**. Stroll across the fields of Osmaston Park above a stream until you reach a lake. At the end of the lake take a stile next to a gate (4), and join a track which crosses a stream.

The grass track ascends through the plantations of Shirley

Park. When you reach a track with open fields beyond, turn left and descend to an old chalet type sawmill, where you cross the lake (5) and climb back to Osmaston. Note the village pond and horseshoe seat.

Time for a well deserved pint in the Shoulder of Mutton, which is now also a Post Office. On your return to the Real Ale Capital of England call at the village of Shirley and visit another interesting local - the Saracen's Head (Ind Coope plus guests).

Fresh air, exercise and real ale ... a lot better for you than sex, drugs and rock and roll. Happy Rambling!



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special souvenir glass. Tickets cost £4, so if you're a current CAMRA member, or even a lapsed one, or were in any way involved with the Derby Branch over the last 21 years, we'd love to see you there.

Phone Duncan Crabtree on 01332 834658 for details.

Once more Over The Top

The 7th OTT Music and Beer Festival kicks off on **Friday, 1st. September** at Park Farmhouse, Castle Donington. This popular 3-day festival of ale and entertainment features, on Friday at 7.30, *Dave Swarbrick*, of Fairport Convention fame, currently touring with Martin Carthy.

Saturday, 2nd. September sees entertainment from 11.00 to midnight, including *The Rattlers*, *Prego*, *Waulk Electric*, *Elephant Talk*, *Zuik Bazaar*, *Paul Ward* and, in the evening, special guests *Shooglenifty*, the best roots dance band to come out of Scotland in recent years.

Set in the atmospheric surroundings of an old farm, the event unfolds on two stages, with three bars serving at least 25 real ales, all under cover, so a great time is guaranteed, whatever the weather. In the courtyard, *Black Pig Morris* and *Clown Around* will entertain the crowds. **Sunday, 3rd. September** sees a "Hair of the Dog" session from 12.00 till 3.00pm, with Nottingham favourites *Kellies Heroes*. See the advert for further details or phone 01332 384518 or 833673. Miss it and weep!

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