

Derby Driinker

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ISSUE No 87

WINTER 2001

FREE

Top National award and decade of brewing honoured at Brunswick

THIS SUMMER marked the tenth anniversary of brewing at the Brunswick Inn. Pictured here is landlord and brewer, Trevor Harris receiving a commemorative certificate from Derby CAMRA chairman Julian Tubbs in the brewery.

Since 1991 Trevor has produced countless different brews and the pub is a major factor in our city being recognised both far and wide as a haven for great beer.

The pub received a further honour in October when the *Good Pub Guide* awarded the Brunswick the top national title "Beer Pub of the Year". It beat off some stiff competition including the Double Locks, Exeter, Manchester's Marble Arch, the Stalybridge Station Buffet, Fat Cat of Norwich and



the Lincolnshire Poacher over at Nottingham. The Alex in Siddals Road was also mentioned in dispatches.

Certainly Derby's most famous national pub, the Brunswick was rescued from oblivion by Trevor after the Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust restored the building as part of the Railway Cottages Triangle. Trevor advised Hoskins brewery to buy the pub

and when they declined he stepped in himself, reopening the Brunswick in 1987. Since then it has gone from strength to strength with annual October beer festivals and the brewery adding to it's appeal.

To mark the award and nationwide recognition Trevor is to brew a new beer called *Brunswick Accolade*, as yet the strength is unknown.

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Village shop and post office opens at Kirk Ireton pub

It's not only pubs that are closing in rural areas but here's a story to bring cheer all round from a Derbyshire village.

Up at Kirk Ireton, the village's post office and last shop closed in August. Into the breach stepped Mary Short, landlady of the Barley Mow, long famed for it's beer from the barrel. Helped by a £35,500 grant from the Countryside Agency, she opened a new village shop and post office in the stables of the inn, which have been unused for two years. The facility opened on 15 November and is a great example of a pub being the focal point of a community. Bringing joint provision of village services to one location is one way forward for such settlements and the locals can do the shopping and then relax with a pint of Landlord.

The grant came as part of the Agency's *Vital Villages* programme, to find out more about this please call the National Call Centre on 0870 333 0170.

Jan & Steve

Derby CAMRA City Pub of the Year

The Rowditch Inn

246 Uttoxeter Road, Derby

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Large selection of fruit
wines

First city Winter Beer Festival for Derby

It has long been a goal amongst Derby CAMRA folk to organize a second Beer Festival in the City to compliment the popular summer event that takes place every July. 2002 will see that dream realized when the Winter-Fest hits town from the 7th-9th February.

It will be held in the Darwin Suite of the Assembly Rooms on Derby Market Place and feature all the usual array of activities associated with the summer one. There will be up to 60 beers to choose from which will include every beer



style imaginable from Bitter & Lager to Mild, Porter & Stout with Cider, Perry, Bottled Beers and Fruit Wines also available. A wide and varied line-up of entertainment will also be on offer

every lunchtime and evening throughout the Festival that will appeal to all tastes and age groups.

The event will kick off at 5pm on Thursday evening and run through to Saturday evening and for the first time ever we will be open all day on the Friday and Saturday from 11am -11pm.

The Winter-Fest itself will form part of a year of celebrations throughout the City as not only will it be the 25th anniversary of Derby becoming a City but it will also see the 25th Annual Derby CAMRA Beer Festival as well at the Assembly Rooms from 10th-14th July 2002.

Festival Chairman, Gareth Stead said, "This is the biggest and best event in the winter calendar and a fine way to start a year of celebrations throughout the City."

So, why not wipe away those winter blues and get on down to the Winter-Fest in February, for a truly rip-roaring night out, you won't be disappointed.

Licensee drain sets worrying trend

There appears to be a disturbing trend developing in some pubs in the Derby area. Successful licensees who have built up a good trade in their pubs are moving away, often quoting restriction of beer choice by pubcos, as well as the usual rent increases now prevalent.

In the past few months we have seen that Pete Turner of the New Zealand Arms has gone to a Staffordshire pub, whilst Kevin Neale left the White Swan, Littleover. These two pubs were flagships for Festival Inns when they took them over, and an array of independent guest beers were on offer as trade increased. As so often, once established, the choice of guests for the licensees was restricted and we saw Pedigree, 'Burton' Ale, 'Ruddles' County and the like as their main fare.

It seems that a place in the *Good Beer Guide* means nothing to some pubcos other than an excuse to rest upon ones laurels and see if they can get away with standard beers, available anywhere.

In the West End the Captain Blake (rent increase) and Wood-

lark have newish incumbents whilst the Peacock on Old Notts Road has lost Dave Townsend to a bar in Spain where he assures me everything is much cheaper and hassle-free, at least from breweries!

Good licensees deserve support, both from the public and the brewery or pubco. If they drift out of the trade there are deep worries for the future of our pubs. It's not all product placement and theme bars, our pubs are our heritage, our goose that laid our golden egg. They need a fair hand, a free rein for beer choice and a little eye for individuality.

It takes a long time and a conscientious licensee to build up a good pub but it can take the faceless marketing executives, driven by image and profit, about a week to destroy it.

Batemans buy Belper pub

Lincolnshire brewers Batemans have bought the Cross Keys in Belper, just down from the Market Place, pictured right. The pub was formerly a Bass establishment and has no long standing high profile cask credentials but this will surely change as the traditional family brewers get a grip of the Keys.

A full range of Batemans ales are on offer here: XB, Dark Mild, XXXB and seasonal guests. The Cross Keys will certainly be a valuable addition to the Belper real ale scene, for more news from the area see the *Route Beer* feature elsewhere in *Derby Drinker*.



Regional Director role in CAMRA for Derby stalwart

Derby CAMRA branch member Julian Hough has been elected as the new East Midlands Regional Director of the Campaign. Julian has served in many positions within the branch, and has been particularly active at the beer festival as Festival Chairman and Hall Manager. He becomes Derby's first Regional Director after a convincing majority of votes from all the branches in the East Midlands. It is a demanding role but we are sure that we shall see Julian Cope admirably!

All change at Chellaston

Change is certainly the underlying trend at the moment. No sooner did Brian and Lillian Quinn arrive at the Corner Pin after a 10 week relief session at the Spring Cottage (Ilkeston) than they were on the move again.

They were rapidly succeeded at the Pin by Ron Liversedge, latterly of the adjacent Rose & Crown. Ron was formerly at the Excavator at Buckland Hollow and he will be keen to get the catering at the Pin up and running again. Signs look promising as he was very popular at the Rose.

Beers For a Winter Beer Festival

While trying to get my mind around the beers to serve at our first Winter Beer Festival I've been asking around to find out what 'Winter Beer Festival' means to people in beery terms. There were two common themes in their answers, the first being no surprise, but the second was somewhat of an eye opener.

Firstly, the phrase 'Winter Beer Festival Beer' conjures up thoughts of dark, sweet, beers, mostly headbangingly strong - two or three pints and that's you out of the equation for the rest of the night!!

Secondly, and this is the surprise, while people want to sup some sweet, strong beer to tingle the toes, they want lighter, session beers including pale beers to compliment the heavier stuff so they don't fall over after two pints. Come to think of it, this shouldn't be a surprise as a range of beer styles would be on my wish list as well.

So, who am I to argue? After much discussion, a group of us (while sober I might add) devised a very technical formula (hmmm) to proportion the festival beer styles. And this is what it gave us - roughly 40 percent pale beers and 60 percent bitters and darker with a good percentage of both being 'session' type beers. Around 10 percent will be 'high gravity' beers above 7% ABV. A 'Beer Festival in Winter' selection of beers. There you go, sorted!!

Well, not quite sorted - we haven't mentioned any beers as yet. To be honest, at the time of writing, we haven't firmed up any beers. The only firmed up order is for two Festival beers, which will be brewed by Leadmill Brewery of Denby and the Museum Brewery of Burton. Other breweries in the frame though are Palmers, Museum, Wye Valley, Freeminers, Highgate, Harviestoun, Whim, Shardlow, Brunswick, Shugborough, Nottingham, Lees, Kelham Island plus many more. We have the normal dilemma of representing a good selection of Derby's excellent local breweries while introducing beers from further afield to the City: always a challenge, and always a no win situation for the beer orderer but a win win situation for you, the Festival Beer Drinker.

See you in February

Graham Smith

White Horse put out to grass

Down in the Morledge things are changing. The White Horse, not so long ago defirknised and reverting to its former name, is to become The Courthouse. By the time you read this it may already have changed.

The landlady says it needs a change of image to shake off a 'bad reputation'. This means not only the 120-year-old name is going but also the distinctive exterior white horse motif, which has adorned the wall nearest Thorntree Lane, is to be covered over, leaving little chance of any future change back to the White Horse. It's a good thing that Punch don't own the nearby Co-op Cow or that too would have probably been culled at the same time!

New licensee and name for Five Lamps pub

John Slater, new joint licensee at the Five Lamps (formerly the St Helens) re-opened the premises on 25th October with two cask ales (Directors and Pedigree) and much to his surprise and delight promptly ran out of both. He currently jointly runs the Boom Club and the SodaBar, but is a real ale drinker and insisted on installing two cask ales. He has a free choice of guest ales and there is every chance that more breweries beers may appear at the Five Lamps soon.

Although the St Helens name refers to Derby's twelfth century monastic foundations, the pub was originally known as the New Inn. It had become the St Helens by the 1880s and was rebuilt in the 1930s. In respect of that the name of Five Lamps has its place in local heritage. The area has long been referred to thus, after an ornate five-lamped standard which once stood at the meeting of Kedleston, Duffield and Belper Roads. It would be good if one could be re-erected here.

The pub certainly hasn't been a bastion of cask ale in recent years and the signs with John Slater are encouraging. The place is definitely busier and no longer dominated by the pool table. The menu has been upgraded and plans are afoot to run a music festival to coincide with the summer Derby Beer Festival.

THE BAG ALE



Halcyon Days in Brailsford & Ednaston

Dear Editor,

Can I use the pages of the devastating *Drinker* for some research?

My parents, Ken & Eileen Ellis, kept a couple of notable Derbyshire pubs going back some thirty years or more.

They had the Rose and Crown at Brailsford from 1967 to the late Seventies, moving on to The Yew Tree at Ednaston until 1986.

Go ahead for Roundhouse bar plan

Sladen Estates have been given planning permission to develop the Roundhouse at Derby Midland Railway site, not before time either. As reported in an earlier *Derby Drinker* this will include a bar and a city square. It will be good if some social life can be breathed into Pride Park and fully integrate this modern suburb into the city centre.

Who's Captain Blake?

We once had three Popes in one year but how about three landlords in a month? It's not perhaps so rare these days but the speed of events has certainly kept the regulars of the Captain Blake in Agard Street on their toes.

Now the Blake has been taken on by Wibberley Inns on a long term lease. House favourite beer Adnams bitter has survived the changes and is selling well to the locals at the expense of West End long-time mainstays Pedigree, where consumption has fallen and Draught Bass, which the pub is to drop as a regular beer.

Proud Peacock

The new licensees at the Peacock on Old Notts Road are Jim and Della Milner. They have been there for three months and trade has been good and the beer on decent form. Pedigree drinker Jim is from a motor trade background whilst Della formerly kept the Spread Eagle at Etwall.

As their son, having Mum & Dad behind the bar cramps whatever style you think you have, so I came into Derby to socialise, mostly at the Blessington Carriage...

I still hear tales of the goings on in these pubs, Ken & Eileen having taken a place in local folklore. If "you were there" during that halcyon couple of decades, I'd love to hear from you.

robert.ellis@talk21.com will get me, as will 01332-551398.

Bob Ellis
Darley Abbey

Jacobite beer name suggested

Dear Editor,

I see from the Autumn edition of *Derby Drinker* that I can now drink a pint of Wulfric Spot.

Also of local interest is Mary Queen of Scots, who spent a night in Derby on her way from Wingfield Manor to Tutbury Castle. Moreover it is likely she passed the Holly Bush at Makeney.

Perhaps one of our local micro-breweries could brew a beer with a subtle taste, but with a dangerous effect if you are too free with it and call it Mary Queen of Scots!

Brian Rich
11 Adams Grove
Leek

New Etwall pub as Seven Wells springs to life

LATE October saw the opening of the new Kimberley pub at Etwall. The Seven Wells is situated slightly north of the village at the junction of Heage Lane and Derby Road and opened up with Kimberley Bitter and Classic plus Vintage, a 4.6% seasonal brew, which will alternate with others such as Guzzling Goose.

The pub took 30 weeks to erect and was officially opened by Councillor Chris Rose, Chairman of South Derbyshire District Council and his wife Maria, who represents



Swadlincote. The licensees are Fred and Rachel Pruden. Fred has 13 years in the trade and has lately run a Shepherd Neame pub in Essex. A Mansfield lad he is pleased to be back in the region.

The name, Seven Wells is a reference to the Etwall well-dressings which are decorated in the village each May, the story of which is told on a wall mounting and the pub gardens also display a well - the eighth for the area!

The pub has an extensive menu and decent wine list, makes use of lots of reclaimed wood and brick and has a no-smoking area.

Hardy & Hansons are aiming for the adult dining market and Tim Bonham, the brewery Managing Director - pictured above (extreme left) at the opening with Rachel and Fred Pruden - says: "Many pubs are focused around catering for families, which is important but does not always appeal to adults looking for a quiet drink or meal."


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NEWS

Some of it is even good. *Derby Drinker* is (dis)pleased to report that the **Cavendish Arms** at Shardlow is no longer a pub, as we first hinted back in 2000. It now operates as the Golden Dragon, a Chinese and Cantonese restaurant. The **Old Marina** at Shardlow, however is a real ale gain for the area, serving Bass, Pedigree and Everards Tiger. Cask beer has been removed at the **Drill Hall Vaults**, Newland Street. This GBG 2001 pub has cited continual poor quality beer from the brewery as the reason for the switch to keg and smooth. In Derby city centre the **Central Vaults** has become the Metro Bar and real ale has gone. The **Pear Tree Inn** on St Thomas Road has reopened. Ann Sheard has sold the lease at the **Crown**, Curzon Street and the **Strawberry Tree** on Edward Street is also changing hands. The **City Inn**, Albert Street has added Robinsons Best Bitter as a regular beer and has picked up displaced customers from the former Central Vaults. Up at Allestree the **Markeaton Hotel** is set to become an Ember Inn. At the front of one of these establishments, the **Broadway**, a huge brick Ember turret has been erected. There is a new licensee at the **Hunters Arms**, Kilburn, Neil and Noreen McCreadie formerly of the York Tavern in Derby. They have Bass, Pedigree and Adnams Broadside. The **Willington House**, closed for some months now, seems set to become housing. Bad news in Belper, the **Spread Eagle** has closed as a pub to become a Chinese restaurant. On a brighter note the **Hop Inn** is now under the Wibberley Inns banner and there is a new licensee at the **Hilltop**. The **Roebuck** on Potter Street, Melbourne has been sporting some genuine guest beers lately. At Ashbourne there is no real ale at the **Wellington** and the **White Lion** is now Bramhalls, retaining cask beer however.

Good Beer Guide 2002 on sale now



The 24th edition of the real ale drinkers bible was launched this autumn. This year has seen a major revamp of the publication and includes longer and more in-depth descriptions of the pubs together with details of pub food and some historical background as well as the all-important beer details. There remain 5,000 pubs in the guide which has been edited by Roger Protz.

Locally the city has 13 full entries this time, while the county of Derbyshire has more than 80 in all. There are also some additional pubs included with briefer descriptions.

All in all it is a unique book, thoroughly deserving its fine reputation, a must for all beer lovers and a bargain at

the price - £12.99. CAMRA members obtain the *GBG* at a cheaper rate and it is also available behind the bar at Derby pubs the Alex, Rowditch, Brunswick, Flowerpot, Station and Royal Oak (Ockbrook), Dead Poets, Bentley Brook and Black Horse (Hulland) while stocks last.



Around the end of 1991 the beer scene in Derby was a little different to the one we see today. Quite a few pubs we have lost were still around and the tied house still held sway. All day drinking was still relatively a new thing, guest beers much rarer and the city's pubs chosen for the 1992 *Good Beer Guide* showed some former favourites that have perhaps faded since. Here's a quick trawl through our city entries of a decade ago and a few reflections on the changing times in the life of pub.

Some current favourites such as the Alexandra, Brunswick, Crompton, Dolphin and Furnace were all there but alongside them were pubs that reflect a few changes in the city drinking scene.

For a start in Shaftesbury Crescent the Baseball Hotel is no more, the old Victorian gem rather needlessly, as it turned out, demolished in anticipation of a redeveloped Rams ground. The Bell & Castle, Burton Road (Bass) was in the *Guide* as was Boaters in Friar Gate, an early outlet for Taylor Landlord in town and now an eatery.

The Brick & Tile, then run by Stu Newbold, was a haven for excellent Draught Burton Ale. Strutts had its Old Bailey and the Woodlark, under Maurice Margetts was at a peak. Last but not least in 1991, we had the Vine in Whitaker Street with its Draught Bass and Highgate Mild, a much-used and sadly missed pre and post matchday stop for many a discerning Derby County drinker.

On the brewing front things have improved. In 1991 Derbyshire had only two breweries, Lloyds at Ingleby and the then-new Brunswick. The county now boasts seven.

Vanished Pubs of Derby 5. Reindeer Inn, Eagle Street



Now lost in the seventies sprawl of the Eagle Centre and its environs, the Reindeer Inn survived until 1970, this in spite of being refused a licence renewal as early as 1939!

Eagle Street ran down from the London Road/Spot area, close to where the car-park slip road drops down to Main Centre. It was a narrow alley-like thoroughfare which was met by Earl Street partway down.

The pub occupied the corner of the two streets. It existed in 1862, when an "Edward Harper, beer retailer of Rein Deer", was listed in the *Commercial Directory of Derby*. The Ault family ran the pub from 1864 to the late 1870s, it was bought by Officers in 1893 and was an upgraded beerhouse by 1964. In 1941 Frederick Winfield was licensee and by 1960 David Bloor was mine host.

The final licensees were Arthur and Christine Fletcher and the Reindeer closed on 15 March 1970 having been the subject of a Compulsory Purchase Order (*Derby Town Centre No1*) since 1965. So it obviously hung on for some time and was the only building in Eagle Street to appear

on the Electoral Roll for 1970.

The editor has struggled to locate many people who drank in this old-fashioned boozier, perhaps reflecting the days when people didn't stray far from their own backyard and a local was truly that. If any *Derby Drinker* reader can shed any light on the Reindeer, especially the interior, the editor would be pleased to hear from them.

I am indebted to Ken Larmer for this excellent (colour) photograph, taken by his late brother Alan, circa 1969.

Baynton's Beerlines

Amber Lady

You caress my lips
as I savour your taste.
Your perfume tantalises
as I drink in your charms.
I'm tempted by the fullness
of your wonderful body,
my sense overwhelmed.

Then just emptiness,
an anxious thought...
Can I ever find another beer
As beautiful as you?

Les Baynton

Clarification

Derby Drinker wishes to point out that the "previous tenants" referred to in the article *Tale Of Woe at the Ox (DD 86)*, in no way referred to the time that Stephen Boa and Anyas Jones were licensees at the Durham Ox, Burton Road.

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Local pub beer festivals provide successful autumn fare

More and more local pubs have been running their own beer festivals lately. They are as great community events and a good way of introducing regular drinkers to different beers.

This autumn the Royal Oak event at Ockbrook featured around 40 different real ales, served from stillage in the function room. These included beers from Alcazar (Notts), Cropton from North Yorkshire and Orkney brewery as well as ale from the Oak's more regular suppliers such as Brewsters and Cottage. The festival special beer was once again *Olive's Oil*, brewed by Cottage. Beer Manager Steve Hornbuckle said: "The good weather boosted the attendances and staging it in the function room made it more like a bigger beer festival. Next years dates are already booked for 10-12 October 2002."

The two Derby Wetherspoons pubs staged their festivals as part



Steve Hornbuckle, beer manager at the Royal Oak, Ockbrook, serves another ale from the impressive array of casks at the pub's beer festival

of the chain's national promotion.

November saw the second Leadmill Brewery beer festival at the Liversage, featuring ten or more beers, alongside some live entertainment for the venue.

Leadmill brewer Richard Creighton has a regular outlet for his beers at the Liversage as landlord Eddie Duncombe has supported the fledgling brewer for many months.

Now firmly up and running at Denby, Richard has been pleased that the taste of the beer hasn't been unduly affected by the move, particularly as the water in Denby is somewhat softer than his previous site in Selston.

The same weekend the Navigation at Shardlow took the festival plunge as well with 30 real ales on offer.



Route Beer

A series dedicated to promote the use of public transport as a means to visit real ale pubs. Trevor Spencer tootles up to Belper to sample some of its cask ale delights.

This issues Route Beer takes us just a few miles up the A6 to the town of Belper, which is currently enjoying an upsurge in the availability of quality real ale. Most of Belper's pubs actually serve real ale but undoubtedly the best part of town to head for is Chesterfield Road, on the Ripley bus route five minutes from the Market Place.

Here we find the recently-reopened **Thorn Tree**, with four real ales and the **Queens Head** with five. Bass and Pedigree are regulars at the Thorn, with a Shardlow Brewert beer always available as well as a regularly changing guest. The quality has been

very good. Next door is the **Queens Head**, a GBG regular and without doubt Belper's finest real ale pub. You can always find Tetley bitter, Greene King IPA, Burton Ale alongside two guest beers. There are regular beer festivals and the beer is always top quality at a reasonable price - a must-try for anyone visiting Belper for a pub crawl.

Apart from these two, a walk around the Market Place will be rewarded with two more pubs worth a look at: the **White Swan**, which is a Burtonwood house and the **Cross Keys**, recently purchased by Batemans. All these four pubs could be visited and enjoyed leisurely in one night as Belper is well served by both bus and train.

BUS: R63 35 minutes past hour from Derby bus station. R71 (7:05 and 9:05pm). Both pass the **Thorn Tree** and **Queens Head** en route to Belper bus station.

TRAIN: Mon - Fri from Derby at 19:02 or 20:15, journey time 11 minutes. Last return 11:23 price £2.40 cheap day return.

Win a Good Beer Guide in Trev's Xmas quiz

Work out the names of these winter ales from these clues. The first letter of each answer will spell out the name of another Christmas ale. Best entry wins a 2002 *Good Beer Guide*.

1. Slight variation on a seasonal song title from this Wiltshire brewery.
2. Thanks to Harviestoun we can drink as well as sing this.
3. Spoilt reindeer from a Yorkshire brewery.
4. Active peers of the realm in Gloucestershire.
5. How a Barnsley man might announce the festive season.
6. Ridley's seasonal instruction might apply to soccer fans if their team does well.
7. Perhaps Rockingham workers have to sign one of these.
8. A Phoenix beer might give you this.
9. Christmas wish from Lichfield.
10. Historically mean beer from Bishops Castle.
11. Seasonal visitors bad dream in Evesham
12. This Welsh beer could have been a Xmas hit for Buddy Holly. And the beer is.....?

Send your answers to Trevor Spencer, 5a Gerard St, Derby or email the editor - see back page for address.

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Merry Xmas to all our customers

Real Ale panel vote for top ten Derby pubs 2001

The annual vote for Derby's top ten pubs took place during the summer, for publication in the latest edition of *Real Ale In Derby*. A panel of 18 discerning drinkers were asked to select their top five and second five best pubs, based primarily on beer quality. There were 40 nominated pubs of which the top placings were thus, in alphabetical order:

TOP FIVE

ALEXANDRA
BRUNSWICK
FLOWERPOT
ROWDITCH
SMITHFIELD

SECOND FIVE

DOLPHIN
EXETER
FRIARGATE
OLD SILK MILL
STATION INN

Not a great deal has altered since last year's poll, but the Smithfield, under the capable hands of Roger and Penny Myring has displaced their previous pub, the Friargate, in the Top Five.

Real Ale in Derby is available from John Arguile, 71 Elms Avenue, Littleover, Derby DE23 6FB, price £1.90 (inc P&P). All cheques payable to 'the Derby Branch of CAMRA'.

Wirksworth round-up

The latest pub and beer news from the capital of the Low Peak and the surrounding villages.

First a gem, the **Royal Oak**, North End, Wirksworth is offering a fine selection of guest beers including recently: Pale Rider, Easy Rider, Hartington IPA, Black Sheep, Summer Lightning as well as Bass and Landlord. The licensees, Avis and John Drury have been at the Oak for 22 years and their range of ales certainly boosts the claim that they have the best beer in the town. Avis is championing local brewers and Whim, Kelham Island and Museum are regular features. The IPA and Landlord are permanent fixtures after proving popular with regulars.

The **Blacks Head** on the Market Place has Kimberley Bitter and Classic while at the adjacent **Hope & Anchor** Charles Wells Bombardier can be found alongside Pedigree. At the darkness on the edge of town is the **Lime Kiln** which still has the feel of a good locals pub despite a recent refurbishment. Boules and Petanque are played outdoors here in summer.

Up the hill at Middleton the **Nelson** now goes under the name of the **Wildlifers Arms**, while the future for the **Duke of Wellington** remains doubtful despite a recent attempt to sell it falling through.

At Bonsall, the **Kings Arms** is now a Batemans pub, with the full range of the Wainfleet brewers ales, whilst the hard to find award-winning **Barley Mow** features Whim beers heavily.

Down in Whatstandwell seasonal Kimberley guest beers are to found at the **Derwent Hotel**, on the main A6 and guest beers also appear up at the **Bear** at Alderwasley, often Speckled Hen.



EDITORIAL

Pub name changes. What are they all about? The White Horse, Central Vaults and the St Helens are just three more recent examples of this practice. Continuity between generations of drinkers is getting very difficult to maintain as pubs relaunch themselves with alarming regularity usually noting an upturn in trade for a few weeks as people satisfy their curiosity. Often the public continue to refer to the name they are used to and can identify with.

There is a long line of victims in the city centre. We have lost Jimmys, the historic George became the Globe, Jorrocks and now Mr Lafferty the ironmonger from Ireland supposedly holds sway. The ancient Green Man is Ryans and the popular Saracens Head became O'Neils before being ridiculously rebadged the Victoria. Did we really need another Victoria in Derby! The Spotted Horse (or Post Office) became Lloyds then the Pig & Truffle. The latter name is probably a result of the popularity of the Firkin pubs, and associated names, from the 1980s. The Exchange is the currently the City Inn after a spell in Mongolia and the Duke of York is only beginning to recover after spending a decade named after an overrated Beatles album.

Nothing lasts for long these days, the relatively modern Coliseum has slipped from memory to go Baroque. Camra friendly pubs are not blameless here either. The Smithfield was the Cattle Market Hotel and the Friargate formerly the Rising Sun. The signs at the Five Lamps look good but usually changes of pub identities do not go hand in hand with well-kept traditional cask-conditioned ale.

Recently there were moves in Parliament to attempt some listing of old pub names and it would be a step this newsletter would endorse. Legislation has been ruled out as too heavy-handed but the Culture Secretary wishes to see more pub owners paying respect to local heritage. Some changes may be for the better but overall a bit of familiarity with one's surroundings has to be a good thing so let's call for an end to this craze of change for changes sake now.

Wolves sell more pubs

Fresh from their takeover battle Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries have sold 50 pubs to the Barracuda Group for £37.25m.

The 50 pubs include 22 Varsity outlets, eleven TP Woods outlets and 17 non-branded pubs, which are a mixture of freehold and leasehold town centre venues.

This disposal brings the number of W&D pubs sold since

23 July, to 68, for proceeds of £44.5m. W&D's return of £100m to shareholders by the end of the year is conditional on having realised £65m from disposals.

The sale brings the number of managed pubs owned and operated by Barracuda, to 135. The group now has 2,400 employees and a consolidated turnover of about £70m.

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Name(s):

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Signed Date

Please send your remittance (payable to CAMRA Ltd) with this completed application form to: Membership, CAMRA, 230 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 4LW.

Derby Drinker

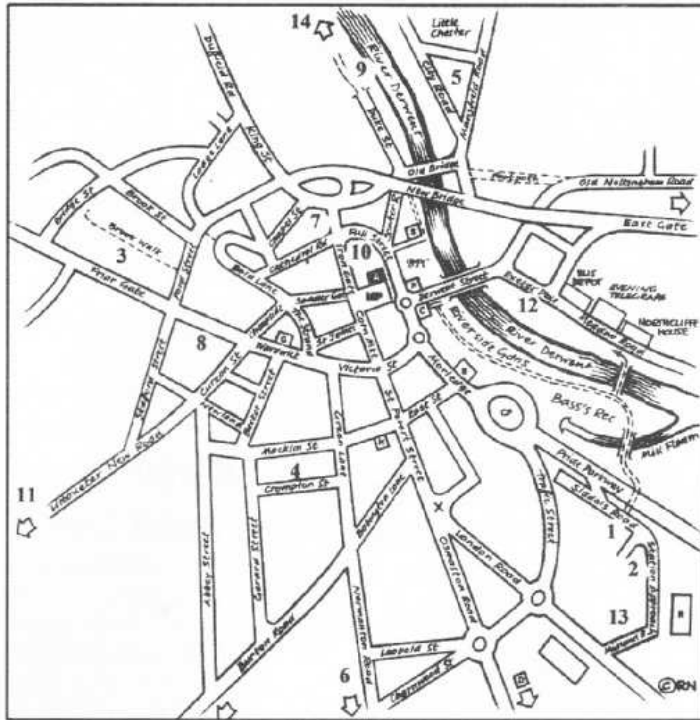
Good Beer Guide pub locator

This map is a guide as to where to find the city pubs listed in the current 2002 *Good Beer Guide*. While it is chiefly aimed at visitors to Derby, it could also encourage locals to venture forth and taste some of the beer that has put Derby on the real ale map.

As for the visiting ale tourist who may pick this copy of *Derby Drinker* up in the Brunswick or Alexandra, well there are quite a few more pubs to go at before you head for home so why not give them a whirl? You may need a taxi or bus to get to a couple of the outlying pubs, the local travel line might prove useful for some pubs: 01332 608 2608.

KEY TO PUBS

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1 | Alexandra |
| 2 | Brunswick |
| 3 | Captain Blake |
| 4 | Crompton Tavern |
| 5 | Duke of Clarence |
| 6 | Falstaff |
| 7 | Flowerpot |
| 8 | Friargate |



- | | | | |
|----|----------|----|-------------------------|
| 9 | Furnace | 12 | Smithfield |
| 10 | Dolphin | 13 | Station Inn |
| 11 | Rowditch | 14 | Abbey Inn, Darley Abbey |

Music, poetry and beer as the Friargate flourishes

The future of the Friargate seemed a little uncertain when Tony Williams of the Bless bought it from Headless a few months ago. Happily fears that the range and choice of beers would diminish have proved unfounded as the Oakham and Whim ales continue to flourish in fine fettle at the pub, under the watchful eye of Coleen Allseybrook.

The pub is to undergo a facelift shortly and a new feature is a live poets night, scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month. All comers are welcome and the editor is even thinking about a comeback himself. Also the regular Wednesday night acoustic nights are continuing, with the likes of Spokane, Blood Simple and Alan Woolley appearing.

Peter is perplexed

Not too long ago, as regular readers will know, there was a gem of a pub on Exeter Place where you could buy Whim Brewery Ram Premier Ale, from Hartington. Then W & D, after months of tut-tutting over the issue declared that Peter Wild of the Exeter should not sell this wonderful beer any more. At the Derby National CAMRA AGM at the Assembly Rooms in March 2000, the question was raised to David Thompson, Wolves big cheese, as to why this popular beer was removed. He replied that he was "not in the business of making money for other breweries" in W&D pubs. Now in the Autumn of 2001 which beers do we see appearing at the Exeter Arms alongside Pedigree and Banks? Wychwood Hobgoblin and Everards Tiger!

Questions have been asked again about W&D policy and we hope to have some answers. The landlord is certainly perplexed!

Beer Break - spring into Prague

For those of you thinking of travelling to the Czech Republic and interested in sampling a varied selection of Czech beers you should visit Pivní Galerie, which is a recently opened bar in Prague.

This bar is situated in the northern suburb of Holesovice and is only a tram ride away from the very heart of Prague. It is situated on the same road as the old Prague City brewery, which was closed in 1997 by Bass, who had purchased Prague Breweries in the early 1990's, and in the opposite direction, the football club Lokomotiv Prague.

Traditionally Czech pubs only ever feature beers from one brewery, and, in Prague one seems only to be able to find beers such as Pilsner Urquell, Staropramen or Budvar. So, Pivní Galerie is indeed an unusual enterprise for Czech people and visitors alike.

All of the beers available in Pivní Galerie originate from small Czech independent breweries and the wide selection of bottled beers is supplemented by one draught beer. The beers on the menu number approximately 96 beers from 26 different breweries, with beers from a further seven breweries to be supplied in the future. All types of beer can be sampled, from light to dark beers, lagered beer, and they vary in strength from 4% to 10% ABV.

The beers are displayed on shelves and you select the beers of your choice from the menu which are then cooled in a refrigerator to the correct temperature - an important feature for Czech beer drinkers. All bottles are 0.5 litres and served with a 0.3 litre glass in which you pour your selected beer. Of course, you may also take bottles away with you.

The bar seats up to about twenty people and there is a

friendly welcome for all. This bar is celebration of Czech beer production and the walls are adorned with various artefacts from the independent Czech breweries. For Pivní Galerie a special beer has been produced by one of the Czech Republic's oldest extant breweries, Brewery Broumov, which is on the border with Poland, and where brewing started in 1348 - the beer is light beer of 5.6% ABV strength.

Pivní Galerie is situated at U pruhonu 9. Tram 14 from the centre of Prague will get you to within a few yards. Opening times are: Mon-Fri 10-2000; Sat 10-1300.

Ian Jakeway

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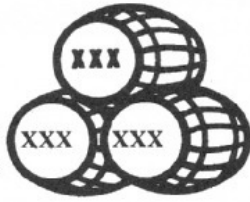
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Microbrewery Corner

Taking a look at what's happening at the small independent breweries in and around Derby.



BRUNSWICK Further to the award detailed on page one, Trevor Harris is brewing a new 5.8% ABV beer. *Dark Rich Ruby* contains four different malts.

LEADMILL Brewed two special beers for their beer festival in November - *Rampage* and *Ramshackle* - and are planning to brew a porter shortly.

LEATHERBRITCHES Have joined the growing ranks of bottled-conditioned brewers. Both *Bespoke* and *Goldings* are to be brewed for bottling using equipment bought from Bass Museum. Some expansion has been necessary at the brewery. Leatherbritches are brewing at least a couple of times a week. They have produced a porter for the first time, about 5.5%, which has been bottled. Free trade has also increased with Leatherbritches beers available at the Boat Inn, Cromford, Izzak Walton at Dovedale and nearby Ilam Hall. Other pubs featuring the beers are the White Hart, Stanley and the Red Lion at Kniveton.

LLOYDS are approaching their 25th anniversary of brewing.

More in the next DD. Porter is now on the bar at the John Thompson.

MUSEUM brewery have been exporting their brewing skills to the United States. Californian student Chris Dennis-Strathmeyer is halfway through a four-year degree course in fermentation studies. He's come to Burton to gain some hands-on experience in traditional brewing.

WHIM The Hartington beers are appearing more widely in Peak District pubs. The Charles Cotton at Hartington itself and the Lathkill Hotel at Over Haddon being merely two examples. Nearer home the Whim winter ale *Black Christmas* is around and available at the Flowerpot.

Small victories in rural pub closure battles

South Derbyshire District Council refused the planning application at the **Wheel**, Ticknall on 4 September 2001. This represents a great victory for the village and for CAMRA. Furthermore at nearby King's Newton, the **Hardinge Arms** has won a reprieve after villagers fought a planning application to turn it into houses. They argued that it was a focal point for community events that the village could ill afford to lose. This battle may not be at an end, however as some unusual events at the pub are forecast.

Contact CAMRA and fight pub closures

If your pub is threatened with closure please contact CAMRA. Locally and nationally CAMRA has a good record of opposing unsuitable planning applications, not just closures. *Derby Drinker* is circulated to pubs in the following planning authorities: Derby City Council, South Derbyshire District Council, Amber Valley District Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Erewash District Council and we take an interest in pubs further afield. Even though local authorities are beginning to get their planning information onto the internet it is not always possible for us to monitor all these authorities all the time. Please contact Derby CAMRA at derbycamra@derbycamra.org.uk or telephone 01332 701152 if you hear of a planning application that affects your local pub.

Royal Oak



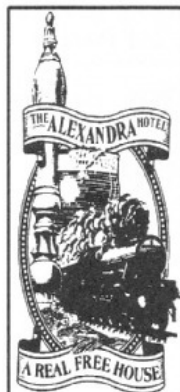
Ockbrook

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East Midlands Pub of the Year 2000

Derby Pub of the Year 2000/01

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Presentation to Tynemill and new gold beer for their pubs

Derby CAMRA chairman Julian Tubbs is pictured presenting a certificate of thanks to Chris Holmes of Tynemill Ltd for their contribution to the Derby National AGM of the Campaign. The East Midland independent company are the current *Publican Newspaper Pub Chain of the Year*. Castle Rock, the brewing arm of the company have also launched a new "Gold" beer which is 3.5% and priced at about £1.50. The brand will be treated as a house beer named appropriately for each pub it appears in, although Mark Robins at the Alexandra is sticking to its original name of Nottingham Gold when it appears at his pub.

Picture courtesy of Graham Percy, Hotspur Press



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Edited by Pip Southall, 7 Marina Drive, Shelton Lock, Derby. DE24 9DS
Tel: (01332) 690003
email: pipsouthall@ukonline.co.uk
WebSite: www.derbycamra.org.uk

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Advertising Manager: Trevor Spencer, 5a Gerard St, Derby.

Other Contributors this issue: John Argulie, Les Baynton, Tony Beech, Ian Forman, Ian Jakeway, Terry Morton, Reg Newcombe, Graham Smith, Trevor Spencer, Gareth Stead, Julian Tubbs.

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George Cross has cask beer - Buxton return to follow?

After years of not having been particularly famed for its real ale, the George Cross (formerly the Buxton) on Boyer Street has recently changed hands, and new licensees Dave and Yvonne Shaw are now serving decent Pedigree, with every intention of adding guest beers soon. They are also interested in renaming the pub as the Buxton, the name most of the locals maintain anyway.

Tower at the Castle

The Castle Inn at Hatton, next to Tutbury & Hatton railway station, has been a good place for guest beers lately. A regular supplier is Tower Brewery of nearby Burton Upon Trent, with their distinctive-flavoured brews.