

**ISSUE No 91** 

**AUTUMN 2002** 

FREE

# Era ends as Everards **buy Brunswick**

GOLDEN ERA IN DERBY'S PUB AND BREWING history ended on 30th August 2002 as the Brunswick Inn and microbrewery on Railway Terrace, passed into the hands of Everards Brewery after almost 15 years under the inspirational guidance of Trevor Harris. 'Things may not change', as Stan Laurel once said, 'but they sure will alter'.



reopening of the Brunswick in October 1987 was a monumentally important event regarding beer choice in Derby. Standing at the apex of the Railway Cottages Triangle, the country's first purpose-built railway workers pub was restored in the early 1980s by the Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust. Trevor stepped in to buy it when Hoskins Brewery decided not to and he created the city's first multiplechoice real ale pub with an array of handpulls and gravity

Dead Poets Inn Holbrook Seven traditional ales Poet's night - 1st Tuesday of every month Derby CAMRA Pub of the Year 1999 tel.: 01332 780301

dispense from the cellar.

Outside of the Beer Festival it became the first chance Derbieins had to sample Taylor Landlord, Old Hooky and the like on a regular basis and the pub soon found national acclaim. The brewery followed in June 1991 with beers such as First and Second Brew. Railway Porter, Old Accidental and the award-winning Triple Hop. Annual beer festivals have also become the norm, let's hope that they continue.

Everards are not the first to show interest in buying the jewel of the railway village, Trevor reports offers coming in from the very early days of reopening, but he says he is 'ready for a rest, a spot of house decorating' and is 'glad to have done the deal that is right for the pub, people we like'. As for the Leicester brewer, seeking to gain a

greater foothold in the city, it is some act to follow but as Tim Butterworth, Sales Manager said:"We haven't bought it to

change things around. We well aware of the success of h Brunswick and it would be silly to lose sight of

what it has achieved. We see it as one of our Flagship Ale Houses."

Everards have got a pretty good reputation over the Leicestershire border for some quality pubs and beer, particularly the underrated Tiger and (Old) Original, and indeed some ten or so years ago their pubs were amongst the first to offer some different guest beers like Adnams,

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Pendlewitch and Moles in pubs like the Ferrers at Sinfin and the Honeycomb, Mickleover.

The brewery and recipes

have also gone with the deal and Everards are looking for a tenant brewer to brew special beers and to supply the pub,

things may not be all that different after all.

We may not have seen the last of Trevor in the Derby beer scene as he says: "Who knows I may get bored in six months so watch this space!"

Let's hope that we will be reporting of his involvement in pubs and brewing again soon and thank him for his efforts in running a fantastic pub for 15



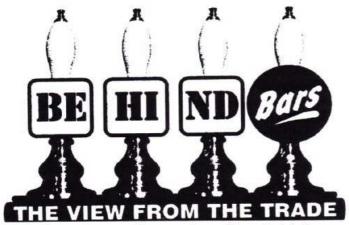
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This series makes a welcome return after a brief absence. This time we talk with Simon Marriott co-partner of the Blue Dog, Sadler Gate (above right). As you probably realise this pub was until recently the Shakespeare and we gave the name change a bit of flak in the last DD. Well Simon has reintroduced some cheap real ale to an area that has seen little of it for a couple of decades, and as he tells us, knows a decent pint when he drinks one, so perhaps we can't have everything we want. Beer is of prime importance. Read on.

Having read the Derby Drinker, and the scathing article relating to our name change, let me explain the thinking behind this decision. Firstly let me say it was not a decision taken lightly, and came about only after two months of much discussion with my colleagues and a great deal of research, many hours were spent at the local library to identify the origins of the original name (apart from the obvious) and as far as we could ascertain William Shakespeare had never even visited Derby. Of course we may be wrong about this but we couldn't find any historical reasoning linking him to either Derby or our alehouse.

There were of course commercial reasons as well for the name change, being a small operator (I have one other pub House, also called the Blue Dog) paying extortionate rent it is essential that we moved the Shakespeare forward in

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terms of levels of trade and we felt The Shakespeare as it was had a very tired and outdated feel to it. For the record the name the Blue Dog relates to my Staffy Cross Terrier who when I got her from the RSPCA some three years ago had already been named Blue!

The logo we use for the Blue Dog is 'A Traditional Ale House With A Modern Twist', and if you have visited us then I hope you can get an appreciation of what we are trying to achieve, we are committed to serving traditional real ales of a high quality in a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere. It would be difficult for us to compete with the likes of the Dolphin, Brunswick and Flowerpot but hopefully we offer a different type of environment in which to enjoy your ale.

We are very much on a learning curve in terms of our Real Ale (my manager has completed a cellar course), however once we feel more comfortable with the keeping of our current range we are looking to expand to more ales and guest ales if we can sustain the levels of trade in this area. There is a good possibility that Pedigree will be introduced - I know it's not that different but so many customers ask for it.

Having spent much of my youth in the likes of the Derby Tup, the Holly Bush and the Barley Mow, I hope you'll



understand that I am a fan of what I call real pubs and the introduction of Bass and Timothy Taylor Landlord (my particular favourite) to Sadler Gate is at least a step in the right direction. Landlord is outselling Bass by 2 pints to 1, and both are available at £1.70 a pint from 5 - 8.30 pm but I have had to redirect some of the old Tetley drinkers away from the smooth.

The pub has a trad feel, original sash windows and the back courtyard is it's hidden secret, surrounded by old gabled buildings. We are looking to attract a slightly older crowd than the pub's been used to. Only Friday and Saturday

night will feature the louder music.

My personal opinion as to why some pubs don't stock real ales is that people just can't be bothered with that little bit more effort you need to put in to keep cask ale.

**Route Beer** 



A series dedicated to promote the use of public transport as a means to visit real ale pubs. Trevor Spencer heads off up to Openwoodgate to sample some of it's cask ale delights.

This month's Route Beer destination is Openwoodgate, which is situated around a crossroads comprising routes to Kilbun, Holbrook, Belper and Ripley. There are three pubs in Openwoodgate, all of which serve Real Ale.

The Bulls Head is a Kimberley tied house with Classic, Mild and Bitter, excellent on my visit, as well as the seasonal beer. Opposite the Bulls Head is the Hop Inn, which serves Bass and Pedigree and offers accommodation. Just down the hill from the Hop Inn, heading towards Belper is the Seven Stars, which has Bass and a guest beer.

It is possible to walk between all three pubs in less than five minutes, making Openwoodgate quite a compact area easily reached via the R71 bus from Bay 15 Derby Bus Station, leaving at 5 past the hour every 2 hours in the evenings.

Openwoodgate, thankfully no relation to Jonathan, is the destination for the next

CAMRA Transport Social, where we try to use public transport to visit out of city locations.

Please feel free to join us on this jaunt into Amber Valley on Tuesday 24th September. All three pubs detailed here will be visited using the R71 bus from Derby bus station at 19:05 (or 21:05). The journey is one of half an hour and the last bus back to Derby leaves Openwoodgate at 22:30 (yes, half-ten) arriving back in the city at 23:00.

For more details contact Social Secretary Gareth Stead on (01332) 331854. :

### King William Milford (on A6 bus route)

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### Soft Words Turneth Away Wrath

THE QUIET WOMAN, EARL STERNDALE

East Midlands Pub of the Year

The Quiet Woman at Earl Sterndale has been chosen from a wealth of nominations across the East Midlands as CAMRA's pub of the year. **Reg Newcombe**, who has known it most of his life, tells us why.

The Peakland village of Earl Sterndale lies 5m south of Buxton in England's first national park, the stone from which it was built being quarried close by. Not far from the source of the Dove on Axe Edge, the village is ringed by some of the Peak's most impressive eminences, of which the steep-sided, sharp-ridged Parkhouse and Chrome to the south-west are the most beautiful of all the limestone hills, and Chrome is the county's highest. High Wheeldon and Hitter Hill complete the encirclement.

The village church has the dubious distinction of being the only one in Derbyshire to be hit by enemy bombs during World war Two, which did much damage and shattered the Saxon font. Church and font have since been repaired.

Before the school was built in 1850 the local children received their education in the village's only inn, facing the green. The most interesting feature of the Quiet Woman is...well, the quiet woman. She is depicted on the innsign in fine period costume, except for the headgear - because she has no head. Underneath is the Biblical proverb, 'Soft Words Turneth Away Wrath'.

A local story has it that she is the nagging wife of a previous landlord whose constant nagging so incensed him that he hacked off her head. If this was put about to make the local wives more pliant, it didn't work. Since the name is not unique in this realm, it is more likely that the sign commemorates the unfortunate Anne Boleyn, one of Henry V111's disposable wives.

Not much to look at from the outside, the interior of the Quiet Woman is a pub of quite exceptional character, with

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Hot food Monday to Saturday Sunday lunches a speciality LARGE FUNCTION ROOM quarry-tiled floor, heavily beamed ceiling, open stone fireplace and panelled bar. Beside the bar stands a well-worn old piano and in the far corner an equally well-worn table-top tells of countless hours of domino duty.

Now and then a scratching at the outside door announces the return of the pub Jack Russel, wanting to come in and stretch out in front of the hearth.

The absence of piped music, juke-box and fruit machine ensures that nothing detracts from the timeless feel of this essentially rural local. Apart from the measured chimes of the wall-clock the only music to be heard is folk music on Sundays, provided by local musicians.

There is also a local poet, Tom Wise, whose slender collection is on sale at he bar. Best known is the one about the village local entitled 'Er Wi' No 'Ead, in which he celebrates the variety of people who call inramblers, campers, anglers, twitchers, tourists and, of course, the locals, who are a pretty mixed bunch themselves.

A former Marston's house, now free, it still sells Pedigree and Burton Bitter, complimented by Mansfield cask Mild and a couple of guests, all handpulled. Also on the bar are very good pork pies and pickled eggs and occasionally stilton cheese from nearby Hartington. A disused shippon attached to the pub is soon to converted into a campers barn, and if this summer is a foretaste of summers to come it won't stand empty for long!

## A Mild Coup Helps Saves Cains Brewery

Derby Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale pulled off a major coup recently when Branch members persuaded its oldest hostelry and current City Pub of the Year, the Old Dolphin Inn on Queen Street to stock a Real Mild again on a permanent basis. This in itself wasn't that significant but the success of the brew at the pub has resulted in it being



listed across the entire Enterprise Inns chain which numbers not far short of a thousand pubs.

The mild in question was Cains award winning Dark Mild chosen by the Branch so that they could their little bit to help save the threatened Liverpool brewery from closure. 'Save Cains Beer' posters were displayed around the pub and a competitive sales price of £1.60 a pint helped

make the beer an instant hit. Landlord, Terry Holmes admitted that the success of the Dark Mild had taken him completely by surprise and he enthused, "I can't believe it !! Sales have been incredible. 13 firkins were downed in the first fortnight and it's now one of my most popular beers." He went on to explain that he was initially reluctant to put a mild on as they had got poor reputations and were not usually best sellers but the quality of the Cains product was such that it had now built up quite a following at the pub.

As a big thank-you to the Old Dolphin and Derby CAMRA, Cains organised a special trip around the Brewery recently for pub regulars and Branch members and by some strange coincidence it coincided with the saving of the brewery as drinks firm Gardner-Shaw clinched the deal on the same day of the visit. Our crew are pictured at the Brewery Tap.

Derby CAMRA Social Secretary, Gareth Stead said that, "The Branch can be justifiably proud that not only did we do our bit to promote Real Mild but also to save Cains Brewery as well. We have always supported May Mild Month with trails and crawls but this must rank as one of our greatest achievements to date in the cause of Real Mild."

A major coup for Derby CAMRA then, which just goes to show that no matter how small the achievement may seem at the time, it could eventually blossom into something truly momentous.

Oh, and if you've still yet to sample this excellent ale then why not call in and give it a try, as it's a deeply enjoyable drink with a distinctive and satisfying flavour all of its own. A smooth full flavoured truly dark mild with a rich creamy head.



## 25th Derby Beer Festival - another successful year

Well it came and it went and what a great festival we had in 2002. The attendance was 11,322 the biggest total for six years and the fourth successive yearly increase. Friday night saw our busiest session ever



(2,285), Saturday saw the 250,000<sup>th</sup> visitor to the Derby Beer Festival since the first back in 1978. The lady in question is pictured receiving a *Good Beer Guide* from Julian Hough.

There was some galloping consumption too as 43,200 pints were supped in total and the continental bar was drunk dry, as was the cider. The 25 Special brews were a feature and were very well received by most,

while the range in general was wide enough to satisfy both purist and ticker alike in another adventurous selection. An impressive 94 new members were recruited to CAMRA during the festival.

Thanksonce again to our sponsors Batemans, Marstons and Kimberley and to all the volunteers who gave their time to ensure that the event could take place.

#### **Beerfest Pioneers reunited**



The organisers of the first Derby Beer Festival at the Kings Hall in 1978, reunited in 2002 at the opening of the 25th event at the Assembly Rooms. L-R Back: Reg Newcombe, Steve Wigley, Nick Potter. Front: Keith Normington, Derek Blackmore, David George, Sam Kenny, John Quipp and Tim Williams.

### **Dean pulls Cathedral Ale**

One of the 25 festival special beers this year was Cathedral Ale, a 4.7% brew from Abbeydale Brewery in Sheffield. None other than the Dean of Derby himself was on hand to pull the first pint of it just prior to the opening of the Beer Festival.

The Dean, the Very Reverend Michael Perham (right) was himself celebrating a personal jubilee as 2002 marks 25 years since his ordination.

Many thanks to Anne Johns for the photograph.



#### CLUB ALES FROM THE RIVERBANK

There was a time not too long since when going to a function at many of the clubs in the Derby area meant a pretty good chance of keg beer, a tasteless evening however cheap. Things are improving though, indeed many clubs are now far more adventurous in ale choice than plenty of our pubs.

The Rowing Club, Darley Grove is a leading light, with a Burton Bridge beer always available (often the Golden Delicious), and many other independent breweries beers such as Dent, also feature. It has a great location on the Derwent and has hosted several CAMRA Branch Meetings. Guests are welcome but why not give them a call and discover the benefits of joining.

Upriver, a major new player on the cask beer scene is Haslams bar, on the lane of the same name. New home to Derby Rugby Club, things are developing apace, membership is free to what is effectively a pub and the emphasis is on the cask end of the market as you may expect amongst the rugby fraternity!. Brunswick Triple Hop was

among the first beers on offer when the bar opened, Bass, Landlord and Burton Bridge since, including some excellent Top Dog Stout. Mine host is Rob Falkner of Red Cow, Allestree fame who knows a thing or two about keeping a good pint. Rob had been running the Shoulder of Mutton, Lichfield, which featured eight real ales, and has already converted an Irish customer from Guinness to real stout!

Mickleover Sports Club have also been plying the public with real ale this summer with Adnams Broadside being a popular choice.

If you have a club that can offer real ales, preferably with a decent range and varied choice please let the editor know and we will check you out for the next issue.

# SCOTTISH BEER WINS CHAMPION BEER OF BRITAIN CHAMPION BEERS OF BRITAIN 2002

The annual Champion Beer of Britain awards were presented at the Great British Beer Festival at London Olympia in August. Caledonian Brewery's Deuchars IPA took the overall award of Supreme Champion. Here is a list of all the 2002 medal winners.

#### SUPREME CHAMPION:

**Deuchars IPA** - Caledonian (Edinburgh)

Silver: East Street Cream - RCH (Somerset)

Bronze: Moondance - Triple fff (Hampshire)

#### STRONG BITTERS

Gold:East Street Cream Silver:ESB - Fuller's (London) Bronze:Hop Garden Gold -Hogs Back (Surrey)

#### MILDS

Gold:Pressed Rat & Warthog
- Triple fff
Silver:Man In The Boat - Boat

(West Yorks) Bronze:Black Cat - Moorhouses (Lancashire)

#### BITTERS

Gold:Deuchars IPA

Silver: Viking - Rudgate (York) Joint Bronze: Hewish IPA -RCH and JHB - Oakham (Peterborough)

#### BEST BITTERS

Gold:Moondance - triple fff Silver:Brewers Gold - Crouch Vale (Essex)

Joint Bronze:Red Macgregor -Orkney (Orkney) and London Pride - Fuller's (London)

#### SPECIALITY BEERS

Gold: White Dwarf - Oakham Silver: Schiehallion -Harviestoun (Clackmannanshire) Bronze: Umbel Magna -Nethergate (Suffolk)

#### GUARDIAN/CAMRA AWARD FOR BOTTLE-CONDITIONED BEERS

Gold: 1845 - Fuller's Silver:Live Organic - Brakspear (Oxfordshire)

Bronze: Summer Lightning
- Hop Back (Wiltshire)

# Last Call For Pub Design Award Entries

The deadline for the CAMRA/English Heritage Pub Design Awards has been extended to Friday 11th October 2002 due to fewer quality entries received than in recent years of the competition.

CAMRA's Press Manager, Tony Jerome said "Although we have already received some very good entries for this year's awards, we have decided to extend the deadline in case we have missed any little gems out there. Jerome continued:"It is important that CAMRA gives recognition for innovative and imaginative pub design in a time when our towns are full of pubs with off-the-shelf interiors. Last years winners received a wide range of media coverage and a specially designed bronze plaque to display in the pub."

Anybody can enter a pub into the four categories: New build, Conversion to pub use, Refurbished pub, English Heritage Conservation. All work must have been completed in the calendar year 2001. If you think you know a pub that deserves to be considered for the Design Awards then please call Tony Jerome on 01727 867201 for an entry form or email on tony.jerome@camra.org.uk

# New guests admitted at Exeter

The Exeter Arms, Exeter Place, has had some different guest beer available since July when the W&D Guest List was extended. Some 20 or so beers are on offer on a monthly rotation. August saw Jennings Cocker Hoop and McMullens Country Best, while for September Archers Golden and Batemans Combine Harvest are on the menu. Definitely good news but still no Whim beers allowed. Presumably other W&D pubs can obtain beers from this list, so if your local hasn't got them, get them to enquire.

# Winter-fest dates 2003

The 25th Derby Beer Festival may not long have ended but don't forget Derby now has TWO annual beer festivals.

Following this years inaugural (and hugely successful) CAMRA Winter Beer Festival in February, next year's Winter-Fest will go ahead at the Assembly Rooms from Thursday 6th - Saturday 8th February 2003.

Hope to see you all there for some winter warmers! More details will appear in the next issue of *Derby Drinker*.

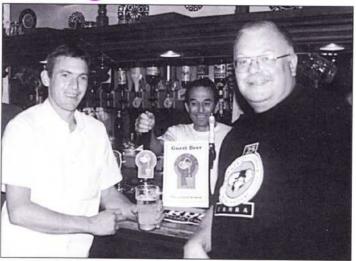
#### BEER FESTIVAL IN RURAL VILLAGE

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## Leadmill brewery - new outlets in Kilburn and the high roads



GREAT NEWS FROM KILBURN where the Travellers Rest is now permanently stocking a Leadmill brewery beer. A super coup for both pub and brewery. Credit also to Punch who have sanctioned the arrangement, if only there were more like it, then micros such as Leadmill would have a more even playing field.

Wendy and Terry Cockroft have been at the helm at the Travellers for a little over a year and are getting through two nine's of Leadmill beer a week, alongside Pedigree, Abbot, DBA and Tetley all on draught. Former bakery delivery driver Terry looks after the cellar in their first pub. Our photograph sees Richard (left) supping some of the fruits of his labours with Terry and Derby CAMRA Chairman Julian Tubbs. (Or Telly Tubby as he might well be called following his jubilee appearance on Breakfast TV!)

The Travellers Rest is the closest pub to Richard Creighton's admirable Denby microbrewery and Leadmill Saigon has been on sale at £1.75 a pint. Plans are to alternate Richard Creighton's flavoursome ales with pale beers in summer and dark ones for the winter months, so why not take the High Road to Kilburn and sample some for yourself.

Richard, whose latest brew is Curly Blonde (4.6%), is also nurturing another new outlet with the White Hart at Moorwood Moor. They have

Leadmill beers as a regular feature served on gravity in jugs and plan to hold a beer festival with the brewery.

The Denby-brewed ales can also be found on a regular basis at the Thorn Tree, Belper, Wheel at Holbook, the Rising Sun at Middleton-by-Wirksworth, Boat at Cromford, Makeney's Holly Bush, the Old Crown at Shardlow, King Willam at Milford and the Boundary at Alfreton.

Hopefully these fresh locations for Leadmill will help to compensate for the loss of Richard's main city centre outlet at the Liversage Arms on Old Nottingham Road earlier in the year, leaving the Crompton and Flowerpot as the only regular Derby outlets for these tasty beers.

On behalf of Derby CAMRA, a heartfelt thanks to Richard for his excellent hospitality at the Branch's August meeting, held at the Leadmill brewery.

It was definitely the first in it's history to be attended by two fluttering swallows. (You really should have attended!)

# Vanished pubs of Derby

### 7. Corporation Hotel, Cattle Market



The Corporation Hotel, as you will read here, seems to have enough folklore to merit a book of its own. Placing the pub geographically today is difficult, so changed is the road pattern of the area but the tall, brick and stone pub in Itallianate style was built to serve the newlyopened cattle Market, situated in the area roughly between what is now Cockpitt (sic) Island and the Smithfield pub. The land has been artificially built up here to facilitate the inner ring road.

For the story of the Corporation Hotel, CAMRA stalwart Jok Arguile recalls some halcyon days: "I remember the Corporation Hotel well, it was almost a home to me, so named as it was, like its successor the Meadows, owned by the Corporation of Derby. It was itself the successor to the Dusty Miller demolished to make way for the new Cattle Market. It was built in the 1861 and run/leased for most of the latter years by the Groome family.

Firstly George (1915-44), then Dorothy (1944-5), Herbert (1945-57) and finally Roger (1957-1970). Originally leased to George (ex-Coach & Horses, Mansfield Rd) for 7 years for £225 pa, whose rela-

## 23rd Burton Beer Festival 19th-22nd September

The 23rd Burton upon Trent beer festival is upon us shortly. As usual there will be 100+ Real Ales, 20 ciders, country wines and Bavarian bottled beers. Ales to be cooled by water jackets. Hot food at all sessions and music in only one of the three halls. Reduced price beer on Sunday lunchtime and the World Barrel Rolling Championship takes place outside on Saturday. Derby CAMRA will again be represented in an event it is beginning to dominate.

As ever the Town Hall plays host to what is an essential event to attend in this area so let us give it our support.

> Opening times: Thurs 19th Sept 19-23.00 Fri 20th Sept 12-15.00; 18.30-23.00 Sat 21st Sept 11.30-16.00; 19.00-23.00 Sun 22nd Sept 12.00-14.30

Entertainment: Thur Wide Parting, Fri and Sat lunch Martin Atterbury on the Wurlitzer, Fri eve The Casuals, Sat eve Drowsy Maggie and Sun Mike Turner Band.

tions ran a good many of Derby's pubs - it was a noted farmer's pub which in the late 1950s onwards was also known for its jazz.

Originally run by a Nottingham promoter, Bill Kinell - the one armed bandit, he really did have a wooden arm - it opened featuring Trevor Jones and his band. When he quit, I and a number of friends took it on and upgraded the bands which were a mixture of London, and the better known provincial bands (we ran it for several years before two of us went on to found the Pippin Jazz club at the Hardinge Arms - Ron Williamson, ex-Derby CAMRA took over from us at the Corporation).

When the pub gave way to the onslaught of the ring road, Roger brought Trevor Jones back for the final night (reported for the Telegraph by one Roy Hollingsworth) and when predictably the beer ran out, someone (me) managed to 'find' a last keg (I do mean keg) for the end of the night.

The sale of fittings was fascinating as the pub had for many years imported West Indian rum by the barrel which it then, blended and sold on to the farmers on cold winter days, so it had a variety of measures to mix, blend and measure the rum strength.

The Hotel was large and so was Roger - the youngest licensee in the town when he took on the pub. He could, and did, pick up an errant youth by the jacket with one hand (all the seams of the jacket split - I was there but no, I wasn't the youth in question that was a good friend - and it was all a mistake anyway).

Roger was a big boxing fan as well and the place was in uproar and Roger was beside himself when Henry Cooper knocked Cassius Clay down in 1963 - it was also a jazz night - so the place was crowded. One of many great nights there.

Roger was offered the Meadows but declined, instead he and Mary took the Exeter Arms over from the Jacksons before retiring from the trade.

The Corporation was a free house which meant it sold Bass and Worthington (in the 1960s not many Derby pubs sold Bass) and latterly the new (to Derby) Scottish & Newcastle beers that arrived when the Seven Stars on King Street was bought by that brewery.

Roger's father, (Herbert George) unlike his grandfather was a railwayman who had to be persuaded that the pub was for him before he would quit the LMS hence the gap after the death (I think) of George."

If any readers have memories or photographs of Derby's lost pubs, the editor would be only to pleased to hear from you.

The Sinclair family welcome you to the

# **Cross Keys**

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# **NEWS**

The former Football Tavern, Osmaston Road has reopened after some years closed, as the Beer Barrel. removing for future historians the local link to the Baseball Ground. Regrettably the Football Tavern cartouche on the exterior wall, has been crudely cemented over, possibly reversibly. The interior has been given a cheap and cheerful once-over, oak-effect laminated floor, freestanding furniture and coopered barrel-effect objects in place of fireplaces. Despite the name there is no real ale at the Beer Barrel. Meanwhile there are changes in the pipeline at the Old Bell in Sadler Gate. For many year a keg only remnant of a oncegreat coaching inn, the pub that once threw out Bob Geldof in 1977 is attracting attention of Wetherspoons, but as one of their Lloyds No1 music based pubs. The editor confesses bewilderment over the idea behind this (nationally-badged) name for this chain and wonders what is wrong with 'The Bell'? The return of some real ale, as is usual in these establishments, will be most appreciated however. Refurbishments are in progress at the Corner Pin, Chellaston, where the range of beer has featured some different guests of late. The Durham Ox, Burton Road has reopened again, with no real ale available as yet, although it is promised and Jimmy's/Knights/Whatever is now called Sugaz. Again no cask beer on offer in what may be the gateway to 'The Lanes' complex linking St James Street and Sadler Gate. Bars are said to be a prominent feature of this development, let,s have one real ale one please!

## Pub Beer Festival round-up

September sees the first King William beer festival, Milford with around 20 beers, including a couple of specials. It starts on Thursday night the 12th September and runs till Sunday, open all day Friday and Saturday. 15 Beers and food available. Regular buses from Derby and Belper and late bus back to Derby on Friday and Saturday night at 11.35pm

4th-6th October Clock, South Normanton beer festival featuring 20 beers.

10th-12th October Royal Oak beer festival, Ockbrook. Atound 40 beers at this now annual event, this time a Somerset brewers theme resulting from Steve visiting many interesting and varied breweries in that county during August.

#### **Ron Cox**

Local real ale enthusiast, CAMRA member and *Derby Drinker* distributor Ron Cox, better known as 'Smurf died in June.

Ron was a regular helper at Derby Beer Festival and the GBBF, where he found fleeting national fame when the Independent published a view of him and Des Hargreaves enjoying the event! He was well-known to all at the Alex. Our condolences to Alison, and fond memories of a great character.

A full tribute to Ron will appear in the next Derby Drinker.

### Bryn

More condolences as Dolphin regular Bryn (Pikey) a staunch Bass drinker, who went in the pub every night without fail, passed away acouple of days after a trip to the GBBF in August.

# Green Dragon Willington

Newly refurbished and reopening
September 18th
Claire & Scott welcome
friends old & new

Real Ales

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Traditional Sunday lunch
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## The sound of the suburbs

CITY DRINKERS OFTEN NEGLECT THE MORE suburban areas of their boundaries, and Derby is no different. A couple of pubs a mile or two (or a short bus ride) out of the centre have been doing their bit in fighting the cask ale corner lately.

Firstly the Nags Head, Mickleover has undergone a major refurbishment and reopened in July. Half a million has been spent in restoring the pub as more of a traditional inn with a wider choice of beers than the Theakstons and Directors which were on before. The Orchard pub company is behind the changes and there is a portfolio of some 25 different ales from which they can choose. St Austell Tribute was an early offering, certainly not a beer found often in these parts, and on the editors visit Old Mill Nellie Dene, a 4.5% pale brew was on fine form, alongside Reverend James, at a similar strength. If you live in Mickleover, I'm sure you have welcomed a new outlet for different cask beers, and if you don't, now is the time to hop on the bus for a crawl round the village.

Meanwhile down at Spondon, the Prince of Wales has been featuring some guest beers on a regular basis, as have the Malt Shovel, in nearby Potter Street, proving that you don't have to live in city centre locations to find good ale.



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## **Join CAMRA Now**

APPLICATION FORM
I/We wish to join the Campaign for Real Ale Limited and agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association. I enclose a cheque for £ Rates are Single £16, Joint £19, OAP/Unwaged/Under-26 £9 (£12 joint), Overseas £20 (£23 joint). If Under-26 please add date of birth: / /
Name(s):
Address:
Signed Date
Please send your remittance (payable to CAMRA Ltd) with this completed application form to: Membership, CAMRA, 230

Derby Drinker



Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 4LW



#### **Aussie Drinker**

Dear Editor.

Just a short note re *Derby Drinker* Spring Issue and the letter in the *Ale Bag* 'How far does the word spread?'

We receive the **DD** from my father-in-law Peter Flixon on a regular basis after his forays to The Boot @ Repton.

We are both from Derby having migrated out here in 1990 and whilst we both enjoy the sub tropical lifestyle out here, needless to say the lack of good beer and pubs is one of the few negatives of living here in Brisbane.

Great to see that Pedigree is back on at the Saracens, Sharon and I met while working behind the bar at the Saro's during the mid 1980's.

Keep up the good work, looking forward to our next

Steve and Sharon Bull Tanah Merah Brisbane Australia

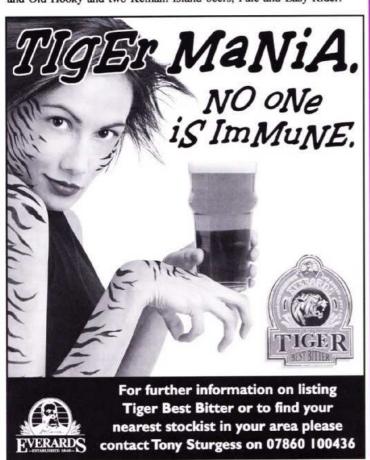
Hi

If any of you readers have spare copies of the Derby Beer Festival programme for the years 1978 to 1985 inclusive, we would like to hear from you.

Colin & Della Hammersley
52 Elmwood Drive
Breadsall Hilltop
Derby
01332 833577

### Haus opens in Jacobean gem

In July a new drinking establishment opened in the Grade II-listed 1611 built Jacobean House on the corner of Wardwick and Becket Street. Called the Haus, the owners are operating a European-style laid back café bar with extended opening hours. Although there are no handpumps bottled beers are available in the form of Hook Norton Best and Old Hooky and two Kelham Island beers, Pale and Easy Rider.



# Bell still chiming

Despite changes at CAMRA Pub of the Year the Bell at Smalley continues to thrive. SarahJayne Fletcher has left the pub but the new hosts Angie Bonsall and Ian are serving 8 Real ales, seven regulars and one guest. All beers are below £2 a pint including Mallard Duckling @ £1.68 Whim Hartington bitter and IPA, Adnams Broadside, London Pride, Oakham JHB, Pedigree on gravity and Springhead Roaring Meg. Should guarantee a roaring trade also!

Good to report that quality beer can survive licensee changes.

### Now fly the flag for English ale

Now that the World Cup is a summer memory, and pub early mornings have reverted to normal, the George Cross flags have become a little rarer in our streets. Perhaps all the people who so fervently waved our national flag for our national team could take on board a few of the qualities of our national drink - ale! It really did seem a shame to see hordes of fans watching the England game in the Walkabout, drinking to Aussie rules. A less likely place for a patriotic supporter would be hard to imagine!



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# Tynemill extend estate

East Midland independent pub chain Tynemill have completed the deal to take ownership of the New Barrack Tavern in Sheffield. It was a mutually happy deal and no change will take place other than it has now become a Tynemill operated pub.

From the team that brought you the

### The Smithfield Meadow Road on the banks of the Derwent

Quarter mile from Railway Station Quarter mile from Market Place

## Belper's Royal Oak bearing fruit

The Royal Oak on Mill Street in Belper re-opened in July and has Bass, Pedigree and Tetley's Imperial on. Another addition to Belper's real ale scene.





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