

SUMMER 2015

Ale & Apple

Magazine of Mansfield &
Ashfield CAMRA

2015 Mild Trail

1st to 25th MAY

**See inside for details
of how to join in
and win prizes**



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**



<http://www.mansfield.camra.org.uk>



Welcome to the Summer 2015 Edition of Ale&Apple. As some of you may know I'm a bit partial to the darker ales, so Mild in May is a special treat that I look forward to all year. Take a look at our Mild trail in the centre section of the magazine and I hope you'll join me on 'The Dark Side'. May 7th will also see the general election – CAMRA has launched its Election Manifesto aimed at getting all candidates to support local pubs and breweries in the next government – take a look at page 6 to find out more. Finally I'd like to wish all the best to Pearl on her retirement (see pg. 26).



If you've any comments or articles you'd like included in our Autumn/Winter edition please mail them before 31st of August 2015 to :

aleappleeditor@gmail.com

Stafford (Editor)

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Ale&Apple is also available to download from our website at www.mansfieldcamra.org.uk

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our website

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CAMRA

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230 Hatfield Road,

St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW

Tel: 01727 867201 or

www.camra.org.uk



Summer 2015 Edition Page 2

THE BOLD FORESTER

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Saturday Sojourn – Ravenshead & Arnold – Richard

Our February Sojourn took us out of area to Arnold after picking up a couple of pubs in Ravenshead. A near full bus of thirsty drinkers set off from the Railway in Mansfield as usual. The Little John Inn was the first port of call where a couple of offerings from the Marstons range welcomed us in the form of Pedigree & Jennings Cumberland. It's a more up market establishment with the focus being on dining.



A very nice feature was the 2 impressive suits of armour guarding the doorway. From there we went just around the corner to the Sherwood Ranger. A larger range of beers are available here which include Greene King Abbott & IPA Reserve, and a couple of guests from Black Sheep & Skinners. Food is available but they also don't mind if you wish to sit and drink whilst waiting for a table in the VeRaj Indian restaurant attached.

A 10 minute bus ride then took us into Arnold to visit the Robin Hood & Little John pub owned by Lincoln Green Brewery. As to be expected there were plenty of beers from the brewery itself alongside the likes of Oxfordshire Ales and Potbelly Brewery as well as Everards Tiger, the pub being part of the award winning Project William scheme.

Alfie the dog (who was on our trip) had a friend here in the form of Beau, the brewery dog. The pub had just been awarded both the Nottingham CAMRA Pub of the Year & Cider Pub of the Year 2015. I particularly enjoyed the Archer from Lincoln Green 4%, always a favourite.

Last stop was to be the Abdication but due to poor planning from our Social Secretary this pub did not open for another hour! So time being short we went a little further down Mansfield Road towards Nottingham and called in the Doctors

Orders. A micro pub based in an old pharmacy, hence the name. Here they had 5 beers and 6 ciders available. I ended the trip with a nice pint of the Castle Dungeon Stout from Cathedral Heights, a bit of a hitter at 5.4%.



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If you wish to join us on a Saturday Sojourn just drop a mail to socialsecretary@mansfieldcamra.org.uk. Full details for future events can be found on the website.

CAMRA launches General Election Campaign

With voters heading to the polls on 7th May, now is the perfect time to ensure pubs and real ale are priorities for the next Government.

CAMRA has now launched its General Election campaign and has produced a Manifesto for Pubs and Real Ale.

So far more than 649 candidates have pledged to:

- Support well-run community pubs
- Promote Britain's 1,300 breweries
- Represent pub-goers and beer drinkers



CAMRA's goal is to improve on the 649 candidates who supported us before the 2010 General Election.

CAMRA's Head of Communications Tom Stainer said: "CAMRA now has around 170,000 members, more than many of the main political parties, so it's important politicians listen to and reflect the views of our members when it comes to real ale, real cider and perry and pubs.

"Supporting pubs as vital community assets as well as ensuring Britain's brewing industry gets the support it deserves should be high on any prospective candidates list of priorities."

Please help support this campaign by:

- Urging your Parliamentary Candidates to sign our pledges
- Ask your Candidate to support CAMRA's Manifesto via our General Election website: <http://ge2015.camra.org.uk/>
- Organise a meeting with your local candidates to discuss how they can support CAMRA's key campaigns
 - Attend Hustings events in your local area and ask questions about beer and pubs (for question suggestions contact campaigns@camra.org.uk)
- Use social media to promote the campaign by tweeting [@CAMRA_Official](#) or using [#ge2015](#)

Share this campaign: Tell your friends and family all about how they can also get involved.

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Ask Michael

Dear Mick,

Has CAMRA any immediate plans to increase membership by recruiting folk from distant galaxies? It would surely be interesting to compare our brews with those made at the extremities of space. As you clearly know the answers to Life, the Universe and Everything how could we make contact and how would we cope with the enormous distances involved?

Yours,

A. Leehan.

Dear A. Leehan,

While our membership continues to grow at both national and local level it is always useful to have more help, but whether extra-terrestrials will have an interest in ale and brewing is debatable. What is far more certain, if there are no Martians on Mars, we would have to delve deeper into space to recruit new members. Long before ET said “on yer bike” or Patrick Moore uttered the question is that Uranus? Jazz exponent Sun Ra visited this world from unknown interstellar regions to lead his Solar High Arkestra. Sun Ra allegedly said he “was here under the jurisdiction of other forces which wanted to help this planet”, adding “I never wanted to be part of planet Earth, (which orbits the sun at 67,000mph), but am compelled to be here so everything I do is because the Master-Creator of the Universe is making me do it. I am another dimension. What I am dealing with is so vast and great that it cannot be called the truth. It is above the truth.”

Fact or science fiction? Well, he would have us believe at his European debut at the ‘Foundation Maeght’ in Saint Paul-de-Vence, that Ra and his band of cosmic angels beamed down to Earth from Saturn an inter-galactic message of hope and musical freedom. Now, let me tell you something; with a diameter of 75,000 miles this gaseous planet is 9.5 astronomical units from the sun around which it orbits once every 29.5 years and not only has an outermost cloud layer with a temperature of -260F but a ring of small rocks and frozen water 40 miles wide. I would say that regardless of what music they play there, it is too cold even for a chilled craft keg

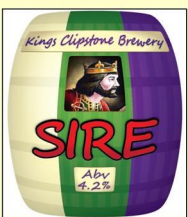
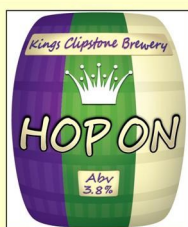
beer to be in a drinkable condition. I doubt that life forms out in space are going to be thumbing through the GBG looking to see which six breweries make Galaxy beer, and given that places like Andromeda are 1 million light years away I doubt we will get there before closing time. But was it not Frank Zappa while recalling the Nazca desert patterns out in southern Peru who asked..."did a vehicle come from somewhere out there just to land in the Andes. Was it round and did it have a motor or was it something different?"

Sleep well in your cosmos dear readers and I hope your Milky Way doesn't give you indigestion!

Cheers,

Mick.

Got a quandary? In a dither? don't hesitate - submit your question to Michael via e-mail to aleappleeditor@gmail.com



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Dear Mick,

We have recently celebrated Easter and I was wondering which came first an Easter bunny or an Easter egg?

Yours troubled.

E Fudd, Whaley Thorns.

Dear E

As you know rabbits have a second pair of upper incisors, these are the so called peg teeth immediately behind the first set, and they have extra premolars compared to other rodents, enabling them to effectively eat Easter eggs.

A little known fact is that the first rabbit hutches were most likely to have been found at the monasteries in Britain where Coney (the original name for *Oryctolagus cuniculus* in the Middle Ages, which, by late 15th century had been re-named rabbit) would be raised for meat. However new born or even the unborn 'feti' which had been a delicacy since Roman times, were classified along with eggs as not being meat and so could be eaten at Lent. Easter eggs on the other hand had to wait until the invention of aluminum foil to wrap them in so for my money rabbits win hands down. By the way mine's a pint of Bunny Chaser by Longdog if you don't mind.

Cheers,

Mick.

Dear Mick,

Like your correspondent in the Spring issue, as a chemistry graduate (retired) I welcome the increased amount of scientific information in your pages. However it must be accurate.

- The first oxidation product of ethanol is ethanal or acetaldehyde
- The chemical formula of ethanoic acid is better written as CH_3COOH to more accurately reflect the structure of the molecule.

Keep up the good work.

Yours sincerely,

P.E. Dantic B Sc.

Dear P E Dantic.

Blimey! A telling off! So someone does read my pages! You are so correct I really must try harder and I apologise for any stress caused by my misinformation. Even as I type I am sat in the corner writing out 1000 lines 'I must be more attentive to the facts contained within my words of wisdom'.

I hope you don't know much about space travel or you will be telling me that given a rate of one star every 2 seconds it would take longer than 4756 years to count all 300 trillion stars in our own galaxy.

A quick swallow of Ridgeside Stargazer anyone?

Good luck with the chemistry O level.

Cheers, Mick.

Got a conundrum that's keeping you awake at night? - Send it to Michael via aleappleeditor@gmail.com

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Young Members Update – Getting involved with your local CAMRA branch – Clare

As the branch's young members contact my aim is for more of Mansfield and Ashfield CAMRA's young members to get involved with socials such as brewery tours, pub crawls, survey trips, and local festivals, and volunteering at the festivals organised by our branch.

Volunteering at beer festivals is great fun, you get to make new friends and, with the



support provided from fellow volunteers who have more experience, there is the opportunity to learn new skills (always good for

the CV!).

New volunteers are always welcome and festivals require more than just serving the ales, ciders and perries. Perhaps you have a skill or talent such as poster design or advertising experience that you could bring to the table?

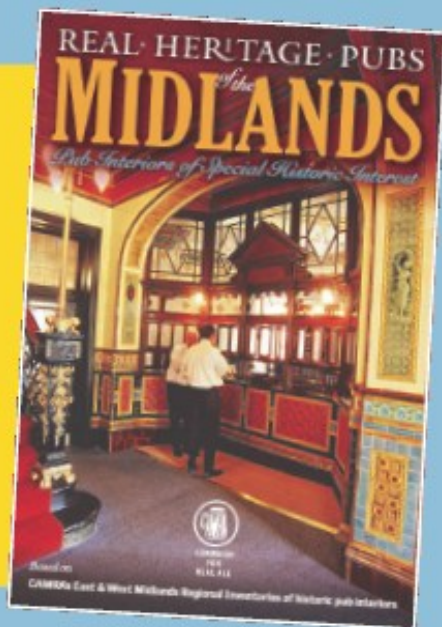
Socials, which involve being on the other side of the bar, brewery tours and survey trips are a great way to meet others with a passion for real ale and to get to know those great people who produce your favourite tipple! Maybe you might get the bug to start home brewing?!

If you want to get in touch with me or find out more about the branch, please check out our page on Facebook, give us a Like and post a question or comment. You can also follow us on Twitter @MANSFIELDCAMRA.

We love to hear from members who want to get more involved, or from those who are not members but who love real ale and cider and are interested in finding out more.

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All prices correct at time of publication but are subject to change.

Ale&Apple Quiz—Answers on page 30

1. In 1963 American Jim Whitaker took a can of Rainer Beer to where?
2. According to a passenger on the Mayflower, the pilgrims made their landing at Plymouth Rock rather than continue to their destination in Virginia, why?
3. Which beer was invented by untrained brewery workers during a strike in 1930?
4. Beer is the second most popular drink in the world – what is the first?
5. Who is the patron saint of brewing?
6. Name the Belgian beer style which relies on wild yeasts for fermentation.
7. The first hopped beers appear around 1000 years ago, where?
8. What is the common term for a beer head sticking to the side of your glass?
9. Who said 'I have two ambitions in life: one is to drink every pub dry, the other is to sleep with every woman on earth'?
10. What beer style was "officially" invented in the Bell Brewhouse, Shoreditch, in 1722?
11. Which Manchester bar has the shortest pub name in Britain?
12. The Title 'Oldest Pub in Britain' is much disputed – what does The Guinness Book of Records list it as?
13. Who wrote Cider With Rosie?
14. Which two Nottingham breweries will you find on Meadow Lane?
15. Which ale was named Champion Beer of Britain in 2011?
16. Where is The Cantina Bar in the film Star Wars?

How Did You Do?

- 0-5—We don't serve their kind in here
6-10 - Death sentence on twelve systems
11– 15 - I've got a bad feeling about this
16 - Scruffy looking nerf herder



Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**

Mild in May

Mild Trail 2015

1st-25th May

Now in its 5th Year the Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA Mild Trail 2015 will run throughout May. The trail is aimed at promoting the Cask Mild style of beer, which is sometimes overlooked. It also gives people taking part in the trail a chance to go and discover pubs where they may not generally venture to. Please be mindful that from time to time due to unforeseen circumstances pubs may not receive casks and therefore a Mild may not be available so please be understanding. We are encouraging all publicans to make sure that a Mild is available over the weekends.

Interested by what you have read so far?

Then here's how to get involved:

To take part in the trail visit at least 8 of the pubs listed on this form during the month of May and either have a half or a pint of Cask Mild and collect a sticker from that pub.

Also if you discover another pub in the Mansfield and Ashfield Branch Area that is serving Cask Mild you can use the wildcard boxes on your trail form.

Prizes: 8 stickers or more—a beer bottle draw courtesy of Hops in a Bottle, Bottled Beer Shop, Mansfield

18 or more stickers will go into a draw for a meal for 2 courtesy of the Boundary, South Normanton; the Devonshire Arms, South Normanton (or Hilcote Country Club); & Pub People Co.

Completed card will go into the draw for a gallon of beer courtesy of the Boundary, South Normanton.

Mild In May

<u>Annesley</u>	Badger Box	<u>Mansfield</u>
<u>Hilcote</u>	Hilcote Country Club	Court House
<u>Selston</u>	Horse & Jockey	Stag & Pheasant
<u>Edwinstowe</u>	Black Swan	Dukeries Lodge
<u>South Normanton</u>	The Boundary	The Devonshire Arms
<u>Sutton</u>	Cart & Horse	Masons Arms

Collection Card

Beer Shack	Bold Forester	Brown Cow
Hops In A Bottle	Oak Tree	The Railway
The Swan	The Olde White Lion	Widow Frost
Forest Lodge	<u>Pleasley</u>	Nags Head
The Villager	<u>Kirkby</u>	The Regent
Picture House	Wild Card	Wild Card



Completed forms should be returned by 15th June
to: Mansfield & Ashfield Mild Trail 2015,
82 Market Street, South Normanton, Derbyshire,
DE55 2EJ

Name.....

Address

.....
.....
.....

Favourite Mild

Best Pub Serving Mild.....

Pub	Location	Opening Times	Transport
Badger Box	Derby Road, Annesley Woodhouse	11-11 M; 11-11.30 M-Sa; 11.30-11.30 Su	TB 3's, Black Cat
Beer Shack	White Hart St, Mansfield	12 -2.30, 5-10 Tu-Th, 12-2, 4-10.30 Fri 12-10.30 Sa	Mansfield
Black Swan	High Street, Edwinstowe	12-11 Su-Th; 12-12.30 F-Sa	SC 10, 14 & 15
Bold Forester	Botany Avenue, Mansfield	11-11.30 M-Th; 11-12.30 F-Sa; 12-11.30 Su	Mansfield
Boundary	Lea Vale, South Normanton	11-11 M-Th; 11-12 F-Sa; 12-11 Su	TB 9's with walk
Brown Cow	Ratcliffe Gate, Mansfield	12-11 Su-Th; 12-12 F-Sa	Mansfield

Cart & Horse	Station Road, Sutton in Ashfield	4-11 Tu-W; 4-11.30 Th; 12-12 F-Sa; 12-11.30 Su	TB 3C & Black Cat
Court House	Market Place, Mansfield	9am-11 Su- Th; 9am-12 F-Sa	Mansfield
Devonshire Arms	Market St, South Normanton	12-12	TB 9.1 & 9.2
Dukeries Lodge	High St, Edwinstowe	12-11	SC 10, 14 & 15
Forest Lodge	Church St, Edwinstowe	11.30-3, 5.30-11 M-Th; 11.30-3, 5-11 F; 11.30- 3, 5.30-11 Sa; 12-3, 6- 10.30 Su	SC 14,15 & 15a
Hilcote County Club	Hilcote Lane, Hilcote	12-10.30 Su-Th; 12- 1am F-Sa	TB 9.1 & 9.2 with walk
Hops-In-A-Bottle	Market Street, Mansfield	11am-5pm M-Sa	Mansfield
Horse & Jockey	Church Lane, Selston	12-3.30, 5-12 M-Sa; 12 -4, 7-1am Su	TB Ninety
Masons Arms	Eastfields, Sutton in Ashfield	12 - 11	TB 3's & 9's SC 1
Nags Head	Chesterfield Road, Pleasley	4.30-11 M-Fr; 12-11 Sa- Su	SC 23 53 & Pronto
Oak Tree	Southwell Road West, Mansfield	12-11 Sun-Th; 12-12 F- Sa	TB 141
Picture House	Fox Street, Sutton in Ashfield	8am-12 M-F; 8am- 12.30 Sa-Su	TB Threes, Nines & 90 SC 1
Railway	Station St, Mansfield	11-11	Mansfield
Regent	Kingsway, Kirkby in Ashfield	8am-12 Su-Th; 8am- 1am F-Sa	TB Threes & 90
Stag & Pheasant	Clumber Street, Mansfield	8am-12 Su-W; 8am- 1am Th; 8am-2am F; 8am-3am Sa	Mansfield
Swan	Church Street, Mansfield	9.30am-11 M-Sa; 7pm- 10.30 Su	Mansfield
Villager	Church St, South Normanton	3-11; 12-1am Fri & Sat; 12-11 Sun	TB9.1 & 9.2
Olde White Lion	White Lion Yard (off Church Street) Mansfield	11-11	Mansfield
Widow Frost	Leeming Street, Mansfield	8am-12 Su-Th; 8am- 1am F-Sa	Mansfield

You expect me to talk.... about Ale&Apple?

Branch member Nicholas Edwards had the misfortune of bumping into 'Jaws' recently. Subjected to a head lock until he produced the latest copy of Ale&Apple, Nicholas made Jaws an offer he couldn't refuse (wrong franchise!), why not subscribe and get Ale&Apple delivered to your door? Just send 4 first class stamps and your address to 82 Market Street, South Normanton, Derbys, DE55 2EJ and we will send you the next 4 editions of Ale&Apple on release date. So whether you are being thrown from a train, battling sharks, or surviving the destruction of Stromberg's lair you can always be sure your local CAMRA magazine is waiting for you on your return home.



A family-run freehouse offering up to 6 Real Ales and an impressive menu of freshly prepared local food

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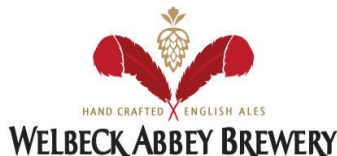
(Sun) 12 - 3 & 6 - 10.30

2012 Good Beer Guide Entry



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Latest News



Survey Trips—Paul

Ever wondered how we nominate pubs for Good Beer Guide selections? As a branch we try to survey as many pubs and clubs as we can in a year. These are then scored on beer quality, and entered into WhatPub. Any establishment that meets the selection criteria goes forward to a round of voting where any CAMRA member can cast their votes for their preferred pubs (provided they have supplied a beer score for that establishment in the past year). So if you know of anyone who complains their favourite real ale pub is not in the Good Beer Guide then why not tell them to come along on our survey trips. They usually take place on the last Tuesday of every month and the bus is free to all CAMRA members. See our website for further details.



Saturday Sojourn (Verb, sojourn - pass time in a specific way) - Paul

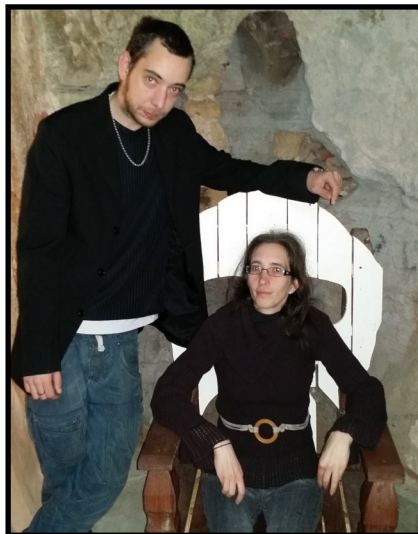
Did you know as well as a monthly survey trip that your branch also runs a Saturday Sojourn that often goes out of area? For instance, in February we surveyed Ravenshead then went on to the new Lincoln Green Pub, The Robin Hood and Little John in Arnold. In April we will be using public transport to enjoy an afternoon at the Double Top Brewery, Worksop, along with some traditional pub games in the cellar of The Mallard on the train station. If a bus is provided this is generally subsidised by the branch but a small fee may apply, non CAMRA members welcome. Brewery tours may also incur a small charge. Interested? Further details can be found on our website, or drop an email to socialsecretary@mansfieldcamra.org.uk



Mansfields Micropubs – Paul

It's been well over a year now since Mansfield joined the Micropub revolution with not one but two Micropubs introduced to the town centre, so I thought it was time to catch up with the proprietors and see how the town had welcomed them and what their future plans were.

First on the scene was the Olde White Lion in the White Lion Yard, off Church Street. This pub can be a little hard to find but if you go past the Swan, under the viaduct, there is an entrance on the left opposite the post office. Entering the White Lion Yard there is a small covered seating/smoking area which leads through into a bar entirely hewn from the sedimentary limestone cliff face. When your eyes become accustomed to the low lighting it is understandable why this pub is referred to locally as 'The Caves'. The main bar opened in



March 2014 and since then has offered up to 10 real ales at any one time straight from the barrel on stillage behind the bar. The Olde White Lion was formally a restaurant called Aficionados but has been closed for about 7 years. Since opening the pub has added a lager bar upstairs and opened a separate area on the opposite side of the yard which features a DJ at the weekend. Also, a cider wall was added mainly featuring Thistly Cross and Scrumpy Wasp. Sounds like this Micropub could be becoming a bit more mainstream? Matt Bell explains why this is not the case, "Offering Real Ale was always the reason for opening the White Lion and the Real Ale bar remains the heart of the pub. We have a growing youngish customer base that enjoys the option of lager and music. But on the other hand we offer free cheese and pork pie on a Sunday for the ale connoisseurs. We like to think we cater for all tastes". Matt and his wife Heidi, along with his father Paul, are understandably proud of their achievements on dipping their toes into the pub scene and also offer a 5% discount on beer and cider to card carrying CAMRA members. Dogs and children always welcome.

Next came The Beer Shack. On 26th April 2014, James Mansfield from Essex opened his first Micropub in Hucknall (everyone following so far!). His second Beer Shack followed in Burnley, so this is the third in his chain of pubs. No stranger to the brewing world also, James owns the Medieval Brewery in Colston Bassett where he produces, amongst others, the formidable 8% Dragon Slayer which featured on the main bar last year at our October beer festival. The 'Shack' is a 2 storey building with a 13 and a half foot long main bar (imported mixed mahogany from Europe)



downstairs with bar stool seating, and 2 rooms upstairs with more comfy armchairs (check out the chintzy light shades, James chose them himself apparently). 5 hand pulled beers are always on offer alongside 5 real ciders.

The pub is managed by Julia who along with her sidekick Martha, a staffie puppy (so cute), run a tight ship when it

comes to the use of a mobile phone, "I don't care if it's chucking it down, take that call outside!" So with no other distractions such as TV, fruit machine, or jukebox the only entertainment is good conversation. James says "Things have gone really well for us in Mansfield and we have just introduced an acoustic night the first Friday of the month. This has been really well received so we have artists booked until the end of the year". The usual bar snacks are available in the form of crisps and scratchings. Dogs are welcome and will always receive a treat from Julia's goodie box!

Both of the pubs are participating for the first time on the Mild Trail so if you haven't visited them yet this would be a good opportunity. The Beer Shack can be found on White Hart Street which leads up directly from the Olde White Lion so it is only a 2 minute walk between the two.

The Talbot, Mansfield – Paul

News reached our ears of The Talbot on Nottingham Road undergoing a refurbishment so on the reopening day 20th March we went along to see what changes had been made. The old



magnolia exterior had been given a battleship grey make over, this colour scheme was repeated on the main bar frontage inside. All the old carpets have been replaced with flagstone tiles, and a general lick of white paint has brightened up the interior no end. Now part of the Golden Oak Inns chain (owned by Spirit Pub Company) the real ale choice has increased to 6 shiny new hand pulls each displaying description notes and a sight jar. The local

offerings were Castle Rock Harvest Pale and Nottingham Stag, presumably this beer would be very popular on match day. There is also a novel request box where you can pop a peg in the hole of your choice to help select future beer offerings. The 3 choices to vote for were from Milestone, Magpie, or Brown Ales. Card carrying members can enjoy 10% off real ale at all times and the pub is Cask Marque accredited. For entertainment there is a band every Thursday evening and a quiz every Sunday & Monday. The pub is open until 11.30pm Sunday to Wednesday and 12.30am Thursday to Saturday. Food is available until 10pm every day. Children are welcome until 9 pm. There is outdoor seating with dog bars offering refreshment for thirsty pooches.

Zara & Bas welcome you to the -



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2 Changing Real Ales



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Waggon & Horses, Arnold



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Pub People are one of the top 50 pub operators in the UK. They own an established estate of high quality food and drink pubs in and around Mansfield, Nottingham, Derby, Chesterfield, Sheffield and Lincoln.

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In the last three years we have invested heavily into our pubs and completed numerous refurbishments as well as completing sales of a few new pubs. Pubs recently invested in around Mansfield and Nottingham include **The Green Dragon** in Hucknall, **The Waggon & Horses** in Arnold, **The Angel** in Mansfield Woodhouse, **Dukeries Lodge** in Edwinstowe and our latest project at **The Great Northern** in Langley Mill.

We work with some of the best micro breweries in the county to offer the best range of cask ales as possible. In most of our pubs you can expect to see familiar faces such as **Nottingham Brewery**, **Castle Rock**, **Dukeries Brewery**, **Wellbeck Abbey**, **Clipstone Brewery** and **Blue Monkey** as well as many others locally and nationally.



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Railway POTY & Pearl's retirement

On 20th March many entered the party spirit to celebrate Pearl Hughes' last 18 years at the helm of the Railway Inn, Mansfield, and her subsequent retirement.

Railway regulars, family and friends were on hand to give Pearl the send off she rightly deserved, with live music and Graham's disco the evening was soon in full swing and folks were dancing well into the small hours.

Pearl, originally from Blidworth, moved to Mansfield aged 2 and spent her formative years in the town until she married and moved to Middlesex where she spent the next 11 years before personal circumstances saw her return to this area. Much of Pearl's career path had been in office work and the Civil Service, but a stint behind the bar at the Plough (now Il Rosso) put her in training for life at the Railway, where she moved in 1997 with her then husband Spike.



It wasn't long after they moved there that the Railway was the centre of media attraction when in 1998 local hero Geoff Smith chose the garden of the pub as the venue for his attempt on the European record for being buried alive underground in a coffin, previously held by his mother 30 years earlier, until it was broken in 1984. Pearl recalls the stunt was very good for trade as it attracted attention from as far afield as Japan and had camera crews in the garden, reporters in the bar and girls mooning at Geoff! In the end the record was beaten with Geoff managing an incredible 150 days underground!

Another memorable event saw a regular customer actually 'marrying' the pub as he spent so much time there and Pearl's two Alsatian dogs, Bella and Sadie, performed bridesmaid duties.

In 2006 Pearl went into partnership with Wendy buying the Railway from Bateman's, after the breweries plan to turn the pub into offices was successfully blocked after a high profile campaign.

Together with the help of a loyal staff team they have ensured that this community-focused pub has been at the forefront of the towns real ale scene, ensuring it a place in CAMRA's Good Beer Guide for the past 15 years.

Three, sometimes four, real ales feature with local micro and independent breweries appearing on a regular basis, as well as one real cider. For the party a special brew had been commissioned from Double Top brewery in Worksop and was aptly named Pearl's Last Pint, and as a one off for Wayne (the brewer) it was brewed using pearl barley.

As well as being Pearl's leaving party there was also another cause for celebration as after gaining several Pub of the Season awards over the years, it was the turn of the Railway to be presented with Mansfield And Ashfield CAMRA's Pub of the Year 2015 award, jointly accepted by Pearl and Wendy.

Another noticeable omission to the Railway will be Cassie, the pub dog, as she will be moving in with Pearl, but I don't think we will have seen the last of either, as I'm sure retirement will provide plenty of spare time to pop in to this award winning pub.

Happy retirement Pearl!




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**Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA
Pub of the Season Spring 2013**

Local CAMRA Discounts

Please take advantage of these members' benefits to show the establishments that we do appreciate their generous offers. Please note these offers can change or be removed at any time. Please e-mail pubsofficer@mansfieldcamra.org.uk if you discover any changes.

The following offers can be obtained on cask ales by simply showing your valid CAMRA membership card.

Black Bull, Blidworth: 10% off (includes real cider)

Boundary, South Normanton: 10% off; 20% off food, excludes deals.

Dukeries Lodge, Edwinstowe: 15p Pint only

Fox and Crown, Skegby: 10% off

Hops in a Bottle, Mansfield: 10% off all bottles

Hutt, Ravenshead: 10% off

Oak Tree, Mansfield: 10% off

Old White Lion at the White Lion Yard, Mansfield: 5% off
(includes real cider)

Railway, Selston: 10p Pint only

Talbot Inn, Mansfield: 10% off



The following discounts are available to everyone.

Boundary, South Normanton: Buy 4 Pints cask ale, get one free. Loyalty card.

Brown Cow, Mansfield: Buy 8 Pints cask ale, get one free. Loyalty card.

Nell Gwyn, Mansfield: Buy a loyalty card for £8. Lifetime money off everything.

Oak Tree, Mansfield: Buy 7 Pints cask ale, get one free. Loyalty card

Plough, Warsop: Buy 10 Pints cask ale, get one free. Loyalty card

Swan, Mansfield: Buy 5 Pints cask ale, get one free. Loyalty card

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Branch Diary

Tuesday Survey Trips, Pick up at the Railway, Mansfield 7pm return at 10pm;
Contact Pubs Officer for further details and to book a seat

24th April - Westwood, Brinsley (including POTY Presentation, Devonshire Arms, South Normanton)

28th April - Scarcliffe, Warsop and surrounding area

19th May - Edwinstowe

30th June - Mansfield Woodhouse

28th July - Forest Town, Clipstone

Saturday Sojourns, contact Pubs Officer for details and to book a seat

9th May - Mild Trail Crawl, Mansfield Town Center, meet at 1pm The Brown Cow, Mansfield

June - TBA

11th July - Selston, including Selstock, meet at 1pm the Railway Inn, Mansfield - Transport provided

Branch Meetings, starting at 8pm. (All Members welcome)

12th May - Boundary, South Normanton

9th June - AGM, Nags Head, Pleasley

14th July - Beer Shack, Mansfield

Ale&Apple Quiz—Answers

1.To the top of Mt Everest (he was the first American to make a successful ascent) 2.They ran low on beer 3.Michelob 4.Tea 5.St Arnold (King Gambrinus in some parts of the world) 6.Lambic beer 7.Germany 8.Lacing 9.Oliver Reed 10.Porter 11.The Q Inn 12.Ye Olde Fighting Cocks in St Albans 13.Laurie Lee 14.Navigation & Totally 15.Mighty Oak Oscar Wilde 16.Mos Eisley Space Port on Tatooine

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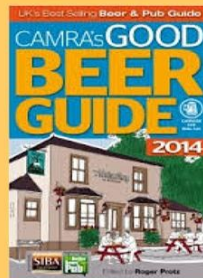
Sun 12 noon—12 midnight

Food Served

Noon—9pm Mon to Sat.

Bank Holidays Noon—4pm.

Carvery on Sundays Noon—3pm.



Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA

Derbyshire Pub of the year 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2014