

Ale & Apple

Magazine of
Mansfield &
Ashfield
CAMRA

Summer
2016
Edition



The Railway Inn Mansfield

**Mansfield & Ashfield Branch
Pub of the Year 2016 goes to...**



**CAMPAIGN
FOR
REAL ALE**



The Devonshire Arms South Normanton

Welcome to the Summer 2016 edition of Ale & Apple.

It has been a busy time for CAMRA and real ale drinkers in our branch since the last edition, so we have lots for our readers to enjoy. We had the very successful Mild trail "Mildopoly", a branch visit to the Spire Brewing Company and Prior's Well Brewery, plus our branch AGM was held at the Brown Cow, Mansfield. Also the magazine has a new Editor, some of you will already know me from meetings, festivals, social trips and maybe had a drink with me. I want to say thanks to Stafford for his work as the outgoing Editor and I hope to keep up the good work he has done.

If you have any comments or articles you would like included in the next edition please email them before September 30th 2016 to aleandapple@mansfield.camra.org.uk

Cheers,
Richard



Keeping You Informed

To find out more about Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA events why not follow us on:



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www.camra.org.uk

Article submission deadline for
the Autumn 2016 issue of
Ale & Apple
is 30th Sept 2016

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Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA Pub of the Season-
Winter 2010, Spring 2013, Summer 2014, Autum 2015
Good Beer Guide entry since 2012

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Three Thirds - News in small measures



Survey Trips

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. The bus is free to all CAMRA members and usually takes place on the last Tuesday of every month. See our website for further details.

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

Did you know that as well as a monthly survey trip your branch also runs a Saturday Sojourn that often goes out of area? For instance, earlier this year we visited Spire Brewery Company near Chesterfield and Prior's Well Brewery in Mansfield Woodhouse (both write ups elsewhere in this magazine) and in August we will be running a bus around Kirkby in Ashfield to try 3 brand new beer outlets. 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

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Mansfield & Ashfield

CAMRA Pub of the

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straight from the fermenter. This may have been a little too green for everyone's taste but it was nice to get the opportunity to taste beer at this stage of the brewing process. After working a thirst up with all the beer talk we retired to the bar area where 3 handpulls were available. Chesterfield Best, a 4.5% classic bitter;

Spire Brewing Company

Sutton Scarsdale near Chesterfield was the destination for our Saturday Sojourn in April after arranging a brewery visit with Gareth Jones of the Spire Brewing Company. Gareth had recently been host at a Meet the Brewer night in the Court House in Mansfield and was only too happy to show us around. This was Gareth's first brewery tour since setting up Spire Brewing Company. Brewing began at this new location around the middle of 2015 with brand new brewing equipment, the old kit was relocated to Kent. Gareth and his brewing assistant Alan showed us the 15 barrel plant and fermenters and we were allowed to sample the 5.9% Jailbreak American IPA

Whiter Shade, a 4.0% pale session beer, this went down very well as an early afternoon citrusy tippie; and Yaroslavna Stout, a big hitting 6.0% stout full of roasted coffee and liquorice flavours, yum. We were also offered a few bottles to crack open so we got to taste the Jailbreak we had previously sampled from the



fermenter and Dark Side, a 4.3% ruby ale. We took this opportunity to quiz Gareth on his pump clips which all carry the tagline "There's a beer for you!" It comes from the



idea that Spire should brew a small core range but with a wide variety i.e. it doesn't matter what your favourite beer is we brew one for your tastes. This certainly was the case on the day with all 5 beers tasted having completely different characteristics. Thanks were given to Gareth and Alan for a great day out. If you want to join us on a future day trip check the events page at the back of this very magazine. The brewery is not open to the public at the moment but there is an onsite bottling plant capable of 250 bottles an hour and plans are to open a shop and public bar. Gareth informs us that a bar will be opening at the brewery by the end of July this year.

If you are interested in purchasing beer for your pub, club or event simply contact the brewery direct.

Tel: 01246807940.

www.spirebrewing.co.uk or

info@spirebrewing.co.uk



FESTIVAL SEASON

By the time you are reading this the British summer should well and truly have arrived, in fact it is quite likely the longest day will have past and we can look forward to the nights drawing in! But now is the ideal time to be sat out relaxing in the pub garden or seeking out the numerous beer and cider festivals that will be springing up around the area.

But we have been lucky in so far as we did not have to wait till summer for festival season. There have been some cracking real ales and ciders to be sampled from early spring.

Sutton-in-Ashfield

The Masons Arms at Sutton in Ashfield started the ball rolling with their 7th festival taking place on 10th – 12th March featuring 14 real ales and 4 ciders including a



mystery cider. Ralph is still wondering what happened to the label off the box! A contingent from our branch called in on

the opening night. The pub was packed when we arrived, with folks sampling such delights as Welbeck Abbey's Watermeadows, Falstaff's Woodstock, Fuller's Olivers Island, Abbeydale Black Mass and their Wet Your Whiskers, an attempt at a white coffee stout, which for me just didn't work. Apart from 4 hand pumps on the bar the beers and ciders were all served from the conservatory at just the right temperature. Although we didn't get to see them The Mustangs Ride Again played a belter of a set on the Friday night to a packed bar, and the bar staff were kept on their toes serving to a thirsty audience. Nigel kept up his unbeaten record and became the first customer on the opening day! Well done that man!

Mansfield

To celebrate the little known, to many, Earth Day on April 23rd Forevergreen Cafe held a one day event in Ransom Woods behind the cafe and hosted a real ale and cider bar run by Kings Clipstone Brewery. The family fun day featured among other activities, story telling, poetry, woodland craft demonstrations, nature walks, birds of prey and music culminating with Salmagundi, a 7 piece band from Nottingham. Fortunately the rain that had





some great sets by local musicians, with BlitZ closing the festival on Sunday evening. In contrast to the last event when Kings Clipstone's Sire did not sell well 27 gallons went over the weekend proving to be the most popular beer. All but 2 boxes of cider were opened proving the locals have a taste for

been forecast held off till the evening when most of the activities had finished. Even the bar had a special guest pulling the pints with Stan's daughter Laura on hand to pull a pint or two after having just returned from 2 years in Australia and New Zealand only the day before and still adjusting to the temperature change!

apple and pear juice! Although the weather was dry it remained very cold showing how vulnerable outdoor events are but Hanks cafe were on hand to provide warming food. Hopefully the next one September 23rd - 25th will be much warmer!

Kings Clipstone

Encouraged by the success of the two festivals last year Kings Clipstone Brewery also decided to put on their 3rd Music Real Ale and Cider festival to coincide with the May Day bank holiday weekend. Again this proved very popular with the nearby communities and showcased some excellent real ales and cider and featured

Chesterfield

A little out of our area but a place that always proves popular was the Rail Ale



festival at Barrow Hill that saw 4 members from our branch helping out



on the bars on Friday evening. Now in its 15th year it is even bigger than ever. Back in 2002 there were just 60 ales from 18 breweries plus cider on offer. As well as live music and food, there is also a free shuttle bus from Chesterfield, CAMRA discount and of course the unique atmosphere that is Barrow Hill, the last remaining working roundhouse in Britain. Work started on the Roundhouse in 1869 by I. E. Hall and was completed the following year and now remains a unique example of 19th century railway architecture. The structure, costing £16,445 4s 9d, comprises 24 'roads' the longest being 80 feet, the shortest 60 feet, and a turntable which was originally operated by steam and by hand. It is now a Grade II listed building of Architectural and Historical Interest and run by volunteers of the Barrow Hill Engine Shed Society and still connected to the main line. So what has changed? Well nothing really, except the scale of the festival which this year had over 300 beers and ciders to choose from as well as the chance of trying some craft keg beers

and continental brews and even fruit wines.

Mansfield

Bringing us right up to date the Brown Cow in Mansfield held its May Bank Holiday beer and cider festival on 28th - 29th May. Surprisingly for a bank holiday the weather was warm and sunny so the outdoor areas were taken advantage of. The garden played host to live acoustic entertainment in the afternoon before moving into the tap room for the main band of both evenings, namely The Wayward Brotherhood on Saturday and Tight 5 on Sunday. Both bands had the packed tap room rocking and the beer was flowing with all 12 hand pumps downstairs in action and frequent visits to the cellar were needed to change barrels, as well as more beer and cider being available upstairs in the newly refurbished function room where some Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA members could be spotted helping out.



Outside the BBQ and the Rustic Crust pizza were also kept busy. All in all a good time was had by everyone and I for one am looking forward to the next event, the Sardinian festival on 15th - 16th July.

Newton



1st May the CAMRA Sojourn called in at 2 pub festivals to the western end of our branch. The New Inn Newton had, alongside its usual range of Dukeries beers, guests from Leadmill, Oldershaws, Kelham Island, Raw and Phipps. There were also



around 6 ciders available. This village pub has become the hub of the community after Tony & Mandy have turned its fortunes around. With the inside and frontage completed to their liking the focus is now on the beer garden. Hopefully before the end of the summer you should be able to enjoy your beer basking in the last of the Derbyshire sunshine!

South Normanton

The second pub was the Clock Inn South Normanton where 12 of the guest ales came from within 12 miles. These included Lincoln Green, Blue Monkey, Landlocked, Bumpmill, Spire, Muirhouse, Amber, Ashover and Kings Clipstone. A Peak Ales selection was also available as these are usually the house ales. A tent had been



erected in the car park to house the extra beer which gave us a good view of the pub pig. Yes you read that correctly, not content with a pub cat Mrs Snuffles lives at the bottom of the car park in a large pen. Come and say hi but watch those fingers kiddies!



In Praise of beer Gods and Goddess, Part 1

I'm sure there are more than a few of the readers to this magazine who in their drinking career, will have raised a glass of their favourite tippie and looking through the clear liquid given praise to the quality, the beauty, the clarity of the brew and the craftsmanship of the brewer, especially after they have a downed a few.

Certainly back in Hogarth's day beer was seen as the better option to gin for giving pleasure and enjoyment. Dutch trade brought beer to Britain and by the 1520's it was well established. In the Dark and Middle ages when water was unsafe to drink beer was a healthier alternative and provided protein and carbohydrates in times of food scarcity.

There is little wonder then that the benefits of beer have been long praised, becoming an important commodity and necessity in ancient cultures, and that beer has been regarded in high esteem so you would expect that somewhere along the line some culture would have a God dedicated to the drink. Just the one? Read on...

The ancient Egyptians, thought by some to have invented the brewing process, dedicated a God to the drink. Osiris was the Egyptian God of Agriculture, Beer and the Underworld who taught people how to brew a beverage made of barley that was, apparently, not greatly inferior to wine in odour and potency. Let there be beer!



At funerals, the dead were given beer to help them on their journey to the underworld, where Osiris would be waiting for them with

more beer. Why waste it on the dead!

But, hang on one moment, if the Egyptians invented beer then who is Ninkasi? Apart from being featured in 2002 on CAMRA leaflets tempting females to try beer, she is the ancient Sumerian Goddess of Beer blessed with the power to satisfy human desire. It was she, in her capacity of brewer to the Gods, who gave the recipe of beer to the world and presided over its manufacture.

Her name 'Ninkasi' means 'lady who fills



the mouth'; she was charged with providing beer to the temples of the

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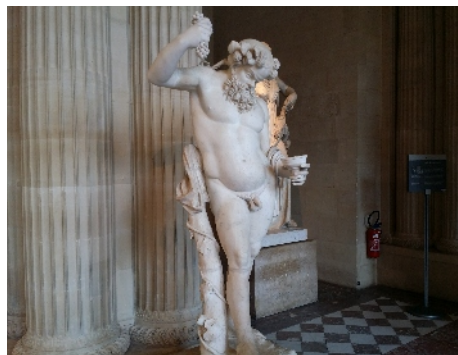
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Latest News



Mesopotamian sacred city of Nippur. Her brother, Siris was also a minor deity of



alcoholic beverages appearing on God lists in the Early Dynastic period around 2900 to 2350 BC. Some family! Back in 1800 BC a Sumerian poet wrote a hymn to Ninkasi that included a recipe for brewing beer. But then the Namibian's got in on the act claiming their God, Shadipinyi, was the

inventor of beer who gave it to mankind to cause trouble. He was the God of drunken behaviour (Isn't that our Chair?! - Ed).

Back in ancient Greece while not claiming to have invented beer, Silenus, was the God of Beer and drinking companion, who also gave those who drank the liquid special powers such as prophecy. He was usually portrayed as a fat man with a beer belly being carried around on a donkey or by satyrs.

Dionysus, the son of Zeus, was the Greek God of Sex and Intoxicating drinks, considering Silenus to be his tutor. Some authorities suggest he was the God of Wine.

In Part 2 in the next edition of Ale & Apple, we look at beer gods closer to home.

The Ale & Apple Quiz

Don't waste your brain cells, exercise them!

1. What was left for 20 years in a box marked 'Costa Cider'?
2. The USA grows the most hops by weight but which country boast the most acreage of hop growth?
3. In which city would you find the Goose Island Beer Company?
4. Berk and Zip are popular beers in which country?
5. St Brigid was noted for tuning what into beer?
6. In which Leicestershire town is Tollgate brewery based?
7. What term is used to describe beer which has undergone fermentation but has not yet been conditioned?
8. What is a Growler?
9. Name the brewery who's range includes Black Bull Bitter, Grouse Beater and Lightfoot
10. Name the pub traditionally located at 46 Albert Square
11. What do the beers Churchill's, Aspen Beer and Newton & Ridley have in common?
12. Which is the odd one out The Queen Victoria, The Woolpack or The Rovers Return and why?
13. Name the 70's and 80's Emmerdale resident who moved allegiance to the Woolpack as his regular drinking location
14. The famous Munich Oktoberfest is held in which month?
15. Which Premiership football club is sponsored by Singha Beer?
16. Name the bar in Blues Brothers that has 'both' kinds of music

How did you do?

- | | |
|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 1-6 | I hate Illinois Nazis |
| 7-12 | We're putting the band back together |
| 13-15 | The light was yellow sir |
| 16 | We're on a mission from God |

Answers on page 30



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Mild Trail 2016 review – Paul

Dear Mild Lovers, thank you for making the 2016 Mansfield & Ashfield Mild Trail the most successful yet. After a disappointing response last year we decided to revitalise the trail and have a separate collector sheet from our magazine in the form of a Monopoly style board called 'Mildopoly'. This certainly created lots of interest and it was pleasing to see all the pictures on social media of proud participants displaying their completed trail sheets. The entries received accounted for nearly 400 pub visits, this was up considerably on last year. As usual the 3 most visited establishments were in Mansfield Town Centre and in no particular order were Stag & Pheasant, Railway Inn & Beer Shack. Special mention should go to Hops in a Bottle Beer Shop by missing out on a top 3 spot by just 1 visit. The shop sourced some CAMRA approved Real Ale in a Bottle Mild which proved very popular with both the general public and 'trailers' alike. This will be the third year we have presented the 'David Brett Award for Pub serving Best Mild' which is decided upon by anyone entering the trail and I am very pleased to announce the Forest Lodge in Edwinstowe as this year's winner. The

award will be presented during our branch meeting there on Tuesday 9th August from 8pm. There will be a full write up of the Forest Lodge, which will include the presentation, in the next issue. Come along, all are welcome.

Thank you to our prize sponsors; Hops in a Bottle Beer Shop Mansfield, and The Pub People Co & the Devonshire Arms both in South Normanton. Prize winners will be announced next issue.

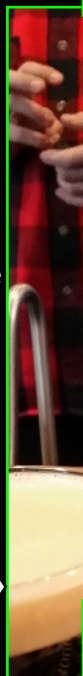
Once again I would personally like to thank everyone who entered a form this year. You have shown there is still interest in the mild style of beer.

Expect to see 'Mildopoly II' next year.

Did I see you ?

Recognise any of these Milds? Just a few that were on the great Mild trail this year. If you have any pictures or stories Mild related send them in.

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Prior's Well Brewery

Hot on the heels of the opening of the Black Market Brewery, which was featured in the last issue of Ale & Apple, comes Mansfield & Ashfields latest brewery addition the Prior's Well Brewery in Mansfield Woodhouse.

This plant was previously situated at Hardwick village Clumber Park in a National Trust property but relocated to its present site in January 2016. Dave Vann and his brewing partner Phil Scotney acquired the kit from its previous owner Rob from Maypole brewery and completely re-piped the whole setup from scratch.

Dave invited us round for a pre-opening visit to sample his brews and we weren't disappointed. We piled up in a packed minibus (amazing what a bit of free beer can do!) and had 2 ales to sample. His first brew was Priory Gold, a 4.7% pale containing plenty of USA hops which gave a fantastic bitter finish. Next came

Resurrected, a 4.8% traditional English ale, chestnut in colour with a smooth nutty aftertaste. With beers and a generous amount of pork scratchings to hand we



were told a little about his wonderful Victorian bar. This gem was basically a barn find and was restored to its former glory by Dave. The bar area (known as The Well) is on a mezzanine level, how they managed to heave this behemoth up a small wooden staircase is beyond me but the end result is amazing, it's the last think you would

expect to see in a modern industrial unit. Plans are afoot to oak clad the whole bar area, this should be really impressive when it's finished. The brewery equipment itself consists of a 5 barrel plant alongside two fermenting vessels which





allows brewing twice a week. Dave has since brewed 2 more beers Bin Thinkin' a 4.3% light amber beer with American, New Zealand and English hops (Bramling Cross) and Priors Pale also at 4.3%, I have yet to try the latter so I cannot comment on this beer but go hunt it down and try it for yourself as all 4 beers are now regularly seen in and around Mansfield. Word on the grapevine is his next brew will be an I.P.A. somewhere in the region of 5.5%, also a bottling plant has been purchased so look out for those



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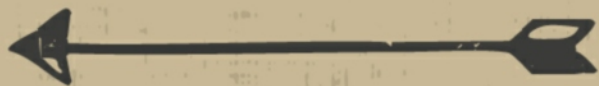
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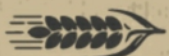


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Mansfield Woodhouse Reopening's

2 Pubs on Leeming Lane North in Mansfield Woodhouse reopened recently under new management. The Jug & Glass is in the hands of a private owner, Christopher Dilon, and alongside Doom Bar the offering was 2 local beers from Kings Clipstone Brewery. A pool table and sports TV have been reintroduced and plans are to do food in the near future. The Fairways has reopened under the wing of Black Cat Bars as the Tap Haus. This beer and dining emporium focus is on 'craft' ales with over 100 European & World beers. There are 5 hand pulls though, 2 for cider, the other 3 being ales from Welbeck Abbey, Blue Monkey and Prior's Well. Loyalty scheme in place, buy 6 get 1 free on all beers.



Ask Michael



It's all true, Honest!

Dear Michael,
Being avid readers of Ale & Apple we are beginning to wonder if your correspondents are all bona fide. Do you screen these people before giving them the benefit of your profound wisdom? We believe their motives for gaining abstruse knowledge could be construed as sinister. Best Wishes,
Sue D'Eau-Nim & Nick Name

Dear Readers,
It is heart warming to know you take a keen interest in our esteemed publication, but do not have sleepless nights worrying over the genuine nature of my correspondents. You see, to weed out those who are not the real McCoy, and retain those written in good faith, I operate on the principle of Hanlon's Razor, an aphorism expressed along the lines of, never attribute to malice that which is adequately explained by stupidity. Good luck with the detective work.
Cheers,
Mick.

Want to ask Michael a question?

Send them to us at

aleandapple@mansfield.camra.org.uk

Dear Michael,
It is indeed an excellent photograph on page 5 of the recent Ale & Apple, but we are extremely concerned as to whether the polar bear survived its encounter with you. Furthermore, on reading the accompanying text, we became increasingly puzzled as to when you turned into an item of furniture i.e. a Chair. When next you are seen against a table or the bar of your local are we expected to drink our pint seated on you? Do you now require any extra attention or treatment to keep you in good condition? Please advise.

Rick Lyna, Otto Mann & Sid Ann

Dear Rick, Otto and Sid,
I get the feeling here that you are getting confused with the work of Allen Jones the first artist of many to be associated with the British Pop Art movement that began in the 1960's. Mr Jones, as you will recall, caused controversy when he cast slightly larger than life size models of the female form in fibreglass called Hatstand, Table and Chair, causing him to be classed as a cultural hot potato. The Chair was finished in 1969 but as far as I'm aware has never been used in a pub. Probably not surprising as one of the sets of 'furniture' was sold for £2.6M in 2012. Now that kind of money would get a few rounds of Paradise Brewery's 5.2% full bodied tawny ale, Artist, down at your local! Probably better to stick with the Chippendales. Did you know that track 2 on Ivor Cutlers CD Dandruff, relates to an incident with a polar bear in Canada?
Good luck,
Mick.

Mansfield & Ashfield
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Dronfield & Mansfield Branch Bonding

One sunny Saturday in May a small contingent from Dronfield asked our branch if we would like to join them on the Nottingham Mild Trail, sounded like fun so we jumped on the train and met up at the Vat and Fiddle. Roger, Ruth, Graham & Jean were already there when Richard, Carl

Shopping Centre to get to the Keans Head in Lace Market for another Castle Rock Beer, Black Gold. A busy Annies Burger Shack was next. It was packed so we had to sit downstairs but a very nice beer from Dancing Duck was consumed (if only I could read my own notes I would tell you which one). Nicola from Mansfield joined us here so we were 4 apiece. From there it was a short walk into Hockley to the Lord Roberts, a recently refurbished pub serving mainly Flipside Brewery beers, here a Franc N Stein was ordered. An even shorter walk



& I arrived. A steady walk was agreed from the Broadmarsh area, through Lace Market, into Hockley then back to the station in time for a tea time train. I had already completed this area of the Mild Trail so the bar was my oyster! I started with a Screech Owl and an Elsie Mo in the Vat and Canalhouse respectively. We then utilised the escalators in the Broadmarsh

around the corner to one of the City's many Weatherspoon's, Lloyds No 1 where more local beer was on offer in the form of Nottingham Supreme Bitter. It was then decided to make our way back to the train station so we popped into the Cross Keys en route where a large range of Navigation beers were offered so I chose an Apus, a higher strength pale. We showed our Dronfield pals to the station but we

decided we needed food so we chose to try the new Pieminister restaurant on Long Row. I mention this because along with the Moo & Blue Pie (Beef & Stilton) they offered a bottle option of Blue Monkey Infinity. It wasn't until the next day whilst reading my notes I noticed that the Mild Trail for me had turned into a Locale Trail without me realising. Just goes to show the

range of local beers available in Nottingham and the support given to them by both free houses and chain pubs. Well done Nottingham. There are plans to visit Derby with Dronfield Branch sometime in September so if you would like to join us drop a line to socialsecretary@mansfield.camra.org.uk or check our website.

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)
Black Swan, Edwinstowe: 15p off pint only
Boundary, South Normanton: 10% off. 20% off food, excludes deals.
Court House, Mansfield: 20p off pint only
Dukeries Lodge, Edwinstowe: 15p off pint only
Fox and Crown, Skegby: 10% off
Hawthorns: South Normanton: 10p off pint, 5p off half
Hops in a Bottle, Mansfield: 10% off all bottles
Hutt, Ravenshead: 10% off
New Inn, Newton: 15p off pint only
Oak Tree, Mansfield: 10% off
Old White Lion at the White Lion Yard, Mansfield: 5% off (includes real cider)
Railway, Selston: 10p off pint only
Talbot Inn, Mansfield: 10% off

The following discounts are available to everyone.

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
Tap Haus, Mansfield Woodhouse: Buy 6 Pints cask ale, get one free. Loyalty card

Awards Roundup

Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA Nottinghamshire Pub of the Year 2016 & Pub of the Season Spring 2016



No stranger to CAMRA awards the Railway Inn Mansfield picked up a double presentation this year. Not only was it awarded the Pub of the Season Spring 2016, but it was voted by members as the Nottinghamshire part of our branch Pub of the Year 2016, a splendid achievement! Located a stones throw from both the bus and the railway stations this pub is well worth a visit by any real ale fan dispensing 4 ales along with Westons Old Rosie cider. Although the likes of Abbeydale and Full Mash ales are a regular feature being a true free house there is a wide range of breweries represented and these change on a regular basis, a list of beer waiting in the cellar is displayed near the bar. The Railway features 2 small rooms to the front of the pub either side of the main entrance which leads into the main bar from where both the garden and the smoking area can be accessed. The pub features good quality, home

cooked food at very reasonable prices and can get very busy on Sunday lunch. Also a regular feature is the monthly live music night which takes place on the 3rd Thursday of the month. The Railway is competently run by Wendy Parker but Wendy was not available on the night of our presentation so the award was accepted on her behalf by Sam and Julia. This dog friendly pub is located at 9 Station Street, Mansfield, NG18 1EF. Tel: 01623 623086.

Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA Derbyshire Pub of the Year 2016

When a pub picks up the Mansfield & Ashfield Derbyshire Pub of the Year 9 years running they must be doing something right. The first clue to their success is the 8 hand pulls adorning the bar with 3 dedicated to cider and 5 to beer. One of those beers being Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby 6.0% mild which is the house beer, and has been for the majority of those 9 years, and is lovingly referred to as 'Night Nurse' by some locals because of its medicinal properties. Theakstons XB is also seen regularly but being a true free house the remaining 3 dispense anything from Abbeydale through to Whim. On the day of the presentation Thornbridge Rattlesnake



6.5% West Coast IPA, Derventio Cleopatra 5% fruit beer and Oldershaws Blonde Volupta 5% were available. The second clue being the home cooked food. Owner Patricia Henry is passionate about the quality of meals offered and will cater for any needs whether it's on the menu or not, just ask. Sunday lunch is especially popular so booking is recommended but you can bring a plate if you want to take one away. Patricia was not available for the presentation so it was presented to the cellarman, and Patricia's son, Carl (pictured on front cover). The Devonshire Arms is serviced by Trent Barton 9.1 or 9.3 buses and can be found at 137 Market Street, South Normanton, DE55 2AA. Tel: 01773 810478.

Mansfield & Ashfield CAMRA Pub of the Season Summer 2016

The Brown Cow Mansfield was presented with Pub of the Season Summer 2016



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during our recent AGM and is a well deserved winner. The pub taken over by Everards several years ago under the Project William scheme has been turned around into a friendly real ale venue managed by Nic and Chris Johnson. It now features up to 12 real ales and also has 3 real ciders as well as craft keg beers. The house beer is Everards Tiger and Raw Brewery feature regularly along with a good selection of ales from independent breweries locally and further afield. The pub is split into 3 distinct areas the tap room and lounge, each with its own bar, and the Robert Dodsley

snug named after the local author and publisher born in 1703. There is a recently refurbished upstairs function room leading out into a garden area. The pub plays host to several beer festival a year and features live music in the tap room twice a month as well as weekly folk music nights and a quiz on Wednesday evening. As the managers were away on their honeymoon (congratulations to you both) at the time of the presentation the award was received by Michelle Hemstock of Raw Brewery on their behalf. The Brown Cow at 31 Ratcliffe Gate, Mansfield, is within easy walking distance of the bus and railway stations but is also on the main bus routes serving the east side of the town. Dogs are welcome in the tap room.

The pub can be contacted on
01623 645854.

Quiz answers

1. Einstein's pickled and sliced brain
2. Germany
3. Chicago
4. Turkmenistan
5. Her used bathwater
6. Ashby-de-la-Zouche
7. Green Beer
8. A vessel used to take draft beer for consumption 'off premise'
9. Theakston
10. The Queen Victoria
11. They're all fictional (appearing in Eastenders, Alien and Coronation St respectively)
12. The Woolpack as the exterior used for it is an actual pub – the others exteriors are false
13. Seth Armstrong
14. September
15. Chelsea FC
16. Bob's Country Bunker

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Branch Diary

Tuesday Branch Meetings - All meetings start at 8pm

12th July – The Black Market Venue, Warsop

9th August – Forest Lodge, Edwinstowe – includes presentation for Best Pub serving Mild

13th September – Courthouse, Mansfield

Tuesday Survey Trips – Depart the Railway Inn, Mansfield, at 7pm – Bus free for CAMRA members

26th July – Outer Mansfield

30th August – Brinsley/Underwood

27th September – Warsop/Meden Vale/Cuckney

Saturday Sojourns

9th July – Selston, including Selstock Music & Beer Festival - Subsidised bus from the Railway Inn, Mansfield, at 1pm.

22nd July – Final Whistle, Southwell – Thornbridge & Salopian Beer Festival including Farmers Market and BBQ – Transport tbc

20th August – Micropub tour of Kirkby in Ashfield – Subsidised bus from the Railway Inn, Mansfield, at 1pm

Contact – Paul Edwards

socialsecretary@mansfield.camra.org.uk or

pubsofficer@mansfield.camra.org.uk



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The Devonshire Arms

137 Market Street, South Normanton—Tel: 01773 810748



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Home cooked food available (Vegetarian, Vegan
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Booking advised for The Sunday Carvery

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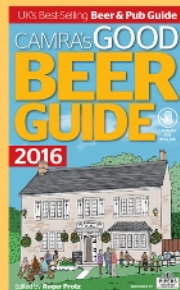
Sun 12 noon—12 midnight

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, 2015
& 2016