

Going for a Burton

Summer 2026

Burton and South Derbyshire CAMRA Magazine

Burton Ale Trail 2026

FANCY A PUB CRAWL?

BURTON BRIDGE BREWERY PROUDLY SPONSORS

BURTON ALE TRAIL



THE ALFRED BEEROPOLIS BURTON BRIDGE
BURTON TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB
THE CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB COOPERS TA
THE COPPERSMITHS INN THE DEVONSHIRE
THE DOG THE ELMS INN-UENDO'S
THE LAST HERETIC THE OAK & IVY
OUTWOODS BREWING THE ROEBUCK
STAPENHILL INSTITUTE CLUB THE WATERLOO

4TH-7TH JUNE 2026

GROUPS/SURTONALETRAIL SURTONALETRAIL SURTONALETRAIL

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Pub Opening

BERNIE'S x BLUNTROCK



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Editors Ramblings

Welcome to the Summer edition of Going for a Burton.

It was great to have another successful Burton Beer Festival in March, it made a small profit thus ensuring another one next year. In a few months these volunteers will start this process all over again. However, that's all water under the Bridge now (no pun intended) and we will soon have the next major event, the Ale Trail. I think Ian has a few surprises to make each Ale Trail unique. We may even have a few pubs that will be new to the Ale Trail.

I will not dwell on my usual pub closures theme as it's still going on, so I won't go on, but must make this short comment; pubs generally are still popular and fairly well attended. The problem is the massive burden of VAT, beer duty and other taxes. I know Jacob Collier has tried and helped but he can only help within tight borders of government policy as he is not yet the Prime Minister.

The Pub of the Year results are out and all winners must be congratulated but a special mention for the Devie, Carl and his family and staff for winning again. This is an unprecedented winning run.

Finally; what on earth is going on at Carlsberg? There have now been 3 occasions when the pubs in Burton and probably everywhere have run



Theo Hollier, Editor

out of Padi and/or Bass. The Xmas period was a disaster for some pubs that even had ties to pubcos had to scrat around to have some beer, it is simply not good enough from Carlsberg!

As far as I know there has been no statement from Carlsberg, let alone an apology. I think they should drag some people off the street and replace the current shambolic management, they couldn't possibly make a worse job of it. I know that the employees are largely Burton based and knowing how businesses operate it will undoubtedly be top management that are failing and the employees and even middle management take the flack for incompetent top managers and executives. It could be a plan, I have heard several times that Carlsberg want to ditch real ale but didn't believe it!

Burton & South Derbyshire CAMRA Facebook

Find out everything that is going on in your branch.

Meetings, cycle rides, brewery visits, socials, voting awards (members only), festivals, pub news, real ale news, award ceremonies, lunch meet ups, pub crawls, dining out experiences with pubs before and after, visits to other branches and much, much more.

facebook.com/BurtonCAMRA



Bernie's Is Born

A New Chapter for Brews of the World



Nancy Collins didn't just play Brews Of The World, she fell for it.

While performing there with her band Dirty Bomb, something clicked.

"I really enjoyed my gigs there and really liked it as a pub," she says. "Then the opportunity came up... and it meant I could work with my brother in a really cool space."

It helps that her brother George Collins makes his own beer.

George is the co-founder of Bluntruck Brewery, launched in 2021 in Rock, Cornwall alongside Hugo Roads. A Burton lad by birth, George cut his teeth at Sharp's Brewery before a five-year stint at Padstow Brewing Company. Bluntruck itself began life in four converted yellow shipping containers, directly opposite Sharp's, brewing on a tiny 150 litre plant and serving everything through its own taproom.

Back in Burton, Nancy honed her craft at The Elms and yes, plenty of you will

recognise her from behind that bar.

"I always told myself I wouldn't run a pub," she laughs. "But this was too good to turn down."

Now, after a full transformation, Bernie's opened on 9th May, a fresh, funky, colourful reinvention of Brews Of The World. The name? A tribute to her dog, adopted during her time at The Elms, who now features proudly across the branding and artwork.

And the vision is clear.

"We're passionate about supporting independent brands," Nancy says. "Everything we serve will be independently produced and high quality." That means no Doom Bar, no Carling, no Madri, just carefully chosen beer, alongside wines, spirits, softs and snacks that have all been thoroughly (and happily) taste-tested.

From the bar, George will be bringing Cornwall to Burton.

"There's a full line-up of Bluntrock beers," he promises, "alongside a constantly rotating selection from other independent breweries."

Bluntrock's range spans styles and traditions, from hazy modern pales to crisp Japanese rice lagers, and even a nod back to Burton with classic bitters.

Core keg and can range:

- Pagan Juice (5.0%) – Hazy Pale Ale
- Chub (4.0%) – Bright Pale Ale
- Helles (4.2%) – Munich Helles Lager
- Kanpai (5.0%) – Super Dry Japanese Rice Lager

Cask favourites:

- Bluntrock Gold (4.8%) – Golden Ale
- Ambassador (4.0%) – Best Bitter

No alcohol:

- Zen (0.5%) – Hazy Pale Ale
- Yop Rock (0.5%) – Lager

Alongside these, expect a rolling cast of one-offs and seasonal specials, landing not just in Burton but across Bluntrock's Cornish sites in Rock and Newquay.

Continues on next page...



SHOULDER of MUTTON

📍 16 Main Street, Barton under Needwood, Staffordshire, DE13 8AA

- Former 17th-century coaching inn and long-established village pub, located in the centre, opposite the church.
- Home-cooked food with a regularly changing menu and Sunday roasts, served in the restaurant and lounge.
 - Spacious, landscaped patio garden to the rear.



Opening Times:
Mon–Thu: 12pm–9pm
Fri–Sat: 12pm–9:30pm
Sunday: 12pm–7pm

For Nancy, though, it's about more than beer.

"I've made so many great memories on my pub journey so far," she says. "And I'm really excited to make many more. I just hope the people of Burton love it as much as I do."

Bernie's opened at midday on Saturday 9th May and the people flocked in to try the newest chapter in Burton's proud pub scene.

"It was amazing to see Bernie's full of happy customers yesterday," says Nancy reflecting the following day. "It's been a lot of hard work getting the venue ready and I wanted everyone to love it and also feel like there was a good range of drinks for them to choose from. We had so much lovely, positive feedback and a lot of people very excited about drinking Bluntrock beer in Burton! I hope the people of Burton continue to enjoy it!"

Ian Webster



THE RED LION



Hayley and the team welcome everyone to The Red Lion.
Come on in and enjoy a real community village pub!

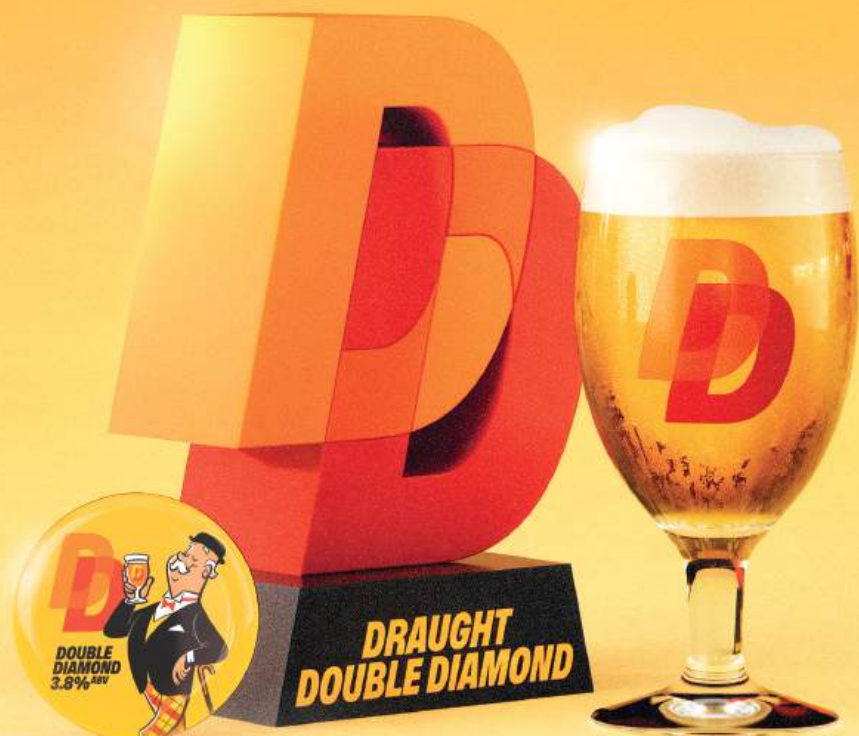
- Open 7 days a week.
Children and dogs welcome.
- Selection of cask ales,
ciders and lagers
- Live music every Saturday night
- Live sports shown regularly
- Front and rear beer gardens



**Farmers Market 4th Saturday
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 **The Red Lion at Repton**
 **3 Burton Road, Repton, DE65 6FL**

DOUBLE DIAMOND



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DRINKS LIKE A LAGER
TASTES WONDERFUL!**

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Dangle Your Toes In The River



When it comes down to it, most pubs have something outside to loll around on those warm summer evenings when even the beer tastes better and consumption rises. The Oak & Ivy and the Alfred have areas that were back gardens. The Coopers, Devie, Bridge and Leopard etc have created outside areas that are great, even covered to keep you dry. But how many pubs have large area's outside where you could almost dangle your feet in the river from the pub's property? The answer is three.

Probably the most spectacular beer garden would be the Sump on Newton Road, Winshill. Sitting on the southeastern bank of the River Trent next to the old defunct flour mill. The sluice that used to power the flour mill now acts only as a weir about 100 yards long. The Pub has panoramic windows for those who admire the view. There is also a good size eating/drinking area outside on a flat area

carved out of the river bank. There is also a mock up of the Ferry Bridge sticking out over the river. The pub is Marstons and also has guest ales.



The Sump, Newton Road, Winshill

STAPENHILL INSTITUTE CLUB CAMRA CLUB OF THE YEAR 2026

Enjoy Award Winning Ales and a Proper Pub Atmosphere at the CAMRA Club of the Year 2026.

- 4 Hand Pulls + More Gravity Poured from the Cellar
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- Function Room + 3 Dart Boards ● Pool Table
- Check Google/Facebook for Opening Times



📍 23 Main St, Burton-on-Trent DE15 9AP

The Long Hop will continue the river theme of beer gardens but now on the north western bank of the River Trent. It is in the centre of Burton, accessed via Manor Drive. The pub/eatery is a Grade II listed building. Behind the pub is a massive garden which has an almost stagnant part of the river. Also at the far end of the garden is a relic of a crumbling wall that was once part of the Benedictine monastery founded sometime between the 7 - 9th century. This pub was bought by cricketers Stuart Broad and Harry Gurney. The pub usually has several cask ales with Bass and ales from the Burton Bridge Brewery.



The Long Hop, Burton Town Centre

The last pub rollin' on the river with a beer garden in Burton is the Riverside on Riverside Drive, Branston. Situated on the north western bank of the river we have this pub, restaurant and hotel, all in one building. The building goes back to the mid 19th century and stands on a sweeping curve of the river. They have a golf course as a next door neighbour. The pub serves 2 regular beers and 1 changing beer, Greene King beers and Morland Old Speckled Hen, the pub being a Chef & Brewer, which offers a 10% discount on real ales by showing a CAMRA membership card.

Theo Hollier, Editor



The Riverside, Riverside Drive, Branston

THE GROVE

Enjoy cask ales, cosy surroundings
and a proper pub welcome in Stapenhill

- 4 Cask hand pulls • Pool table • Beer garden • Sky TV and TNT • Function room for hire
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Burton Ale Trail

4th to 7th June 2026



The Burton Ale Trail isn't just a pub crawl it is a journey through one of the most important brewing towns the world has ever known. Burton upon Trent built its reputation on beer. Its unique water helped create pale ales that travelled the globe, putting Burton firmly on the world map.

Burton Ale Trail brings that story to life, linking the historic with the newer modern venues, each adding their own chapter to Burton's ongoing beer story. It attracts drinkers from all over the United Kingdom and beyond, this year there is even a wedding with the happy couple heading out for beers after the service.

Each year there's a theme which is reflected across the poster and t-shirts, this time we're going with full on World Cup! By early June the nation will start to be gripped by football fever, so it felt only right to bring the beautiful game to the pubs of Burton.

There's also a nominated charity, this time out it is Prostate Cancer UK, which is the most common cancer in men. If caught early, it is treatable, Burton Ale Trail hopes to raise awareness and money during the weekend.

Our headline sponsor is Burton Bridge Brewery, who have been brewing since 1982 and hold the accolade of being the town's oldest brewer. There are two other Burton brewing legends: Samuel Allsopp & Sons Limited and Bass, as well as Double Diamond, G3, Joules and Real Ale Finder. We are delighted to work in partnership with all of them and are grateful for their belief and support.

Continues on next page...



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BURTON ALE TRAIL

**THE ALFRED BEEROPOLIS BURTON BRIDGE INN
BURTON TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB
THE CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB COOPERS TAVERN
THE COPPERSMITHS INN THE DEVONSHIRE ARMS
THE DOG THE ELMS INN-UENDO'S
THE LAST HERETIC THE OAK & IVY
OUTWOODS BREWING THE ROEBUCK INN
STAPENHILL INSTITUTE CLUB THE WATERLOO INN**

4TH-7TH JUNE 2026

Facebook.com/groups/burtonaletrail @burtonaletrail @burtonaletrail.com

The Pubs

Your line-up awaits!



A record breaking seventeen pubs and clubs, each with their own character, story and take on what makes Burton beer special. From hidden gems to town centre favourites, from heritage interiors to fresh new faces.

Opening times can and do change, so it's always worth checking ahead with the venues themselves or visiting www.burtonaletrail.com for the latest information.

By the time you reach your last stop, you'll have done more than follow a trail. You'll have walked through a living brewing heritage, the Burton Ale Trail only works because of the people behind it, the licensees, brewers, staff and drinkers who keep these places alive and worth visiting.

So don't rush it. Don't treat it like a checklist. Take it in, enjoy the beer, the pubs and the company.

Because this isn't just anywhere; this is Burton.

The Alfred

Landlord: Gareth Massey

51 Derby Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 2LD

Tel: 07584050579

Having made one appearance in September 2022 and feared as closed permanently, The Alfred is back. Now a freehouse, it promises an impressive array of real ales, a large beer garden at the rear and entertainment.

Thu 1100-2300 / Fri 1100-0000 /

Sat 1100-0000 / Sun 1200-2230



Beeropolis

Landlord: Ash Ayling

Manager: Dan Hornsby

81 High Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1LD

Tel: 07715097797

A friendly, laid-back, independent Micropub, located in a Grade II listed building on High Street offering something for everyone. The name Beeropolis was a term coined for Burton back in the early Edwardian era. There is a large amount of beer and brewing memorabilia from past and present decorating the walls.

Thu 1300-2230 / Fri 1300-2230 /

Sat 1200-2230 / Sun 1200-2000



THE ALFRED

Burton's Reopened Legend

- Sunday Lunches Every Sunday ● Hot & Cold Food Served Daily
- Large Car Park & Beer Garden ● 5 Cask Ales on Tap (Bass + 4 Guests)
- Open 7 Days a Week from 12pm



Beer Festival • 4th July • From 12pm
● Up to 11 Real Ales ● Live Entertainment ● Beer Garden Event ● £2 Entry
● Supporting Local Organisations & Children's Air Ambulance

 Find us on Facebook

 51 Derby St, Burton-on-Trent, DE14 2LD

Burton Bridge Inn

Landlord: Steve Morgan

24 Bridge Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1SY

Tel: 01283 536596

The tap for our headline sponsors Burton Bridge Brewery, who have been producing fine ales since 1982. Burton Bridge Inn sell a wide range of cask beers, now including Heritage Brewing Company beers, all of which are brewed on the premises plus eleven rotating keg lines and an eclectic bottle selection. A good old fashioned no nonsense English pub with a beer garden to the rear.

Thu 1200-2230 / Fri 1200-2300 / Sat 1200-2300 / Sun 1200-2200



THE BURTON BRIDGE INN



OWN
BREWED ALES BY



24 BRIDGE STREET, BURTON ON TRENT, DE14 1SY
INFO@BURTONBRIDGEBREWERY.CO.UK
PUB: 01283 536596
BREWERY: 01283 510573



Burton Tennis & Squash Club

Landlord: Steve Green

**Ashby Road, Winshill, Burton
upon Trent, DE15 0LQ**

Tel: 01283 565043

Making its Burton Ale Trail debut, the Burton Tennis & Squash Club was established over a century ago. This family-friendly racquet sports club quietly blends sporting heritage with something Burton does best: excellent beer. A club that's been hiding in plain sight, a little off the beaten track, but absolutely worth finding. Please note the club operates as cashless.

**Thu 1200-2200 / Fri 1200-2200 /
Sat 1200-2200 / Sun 1200-2200**

Constitutional Club

**Staff: Liz, Laura, Anne-Marie,
Lynn, Ruth, John & Kev**

150 High Street, Burton, DE14 1JY

Tel: 01283 568040

A Private Members Club funded by monies from brewer Michael Arthur Bass, opened in 1911. The Edwardian interior is stunning, a timeless venue that the photos do not do justice to. With two snooker tables and a bowling green to the rear, this is a hidden gem.

**Thu 1100-2300 / Fri 1100-2300 /
Sat 1100-2300 / Sun 1000-2200**



Barbara Brooks World Tour 2025–2026

The photo to the right was taken in December 2025 at the Dog Inn, where her CAMRA friends gave her a send off and wished her luck on her world tour.

I think our words "luck and fun" have been taken literally as Barbara is still not back! We are in May 2026 now! We have had a few updates and her locations, like a tropical rain forest for example have amazed us all.

Theo Hollier, Editor



BURTON ALE TRAIL



- LINEUP
- 1 - THE ALFRED
 - 2 - BEEROPOLIS
 - 3 - BURTON BRIDGE INN
 - 4 - BURTON TENNIS & SQUASH CLUB
 - 5 - THE CONSTITUTIONAL CLUB
 - 6 - COOPERS TAVERN
 - 7 - THE COPPERSMITHS INN
 - 8 - THE DEVONSHIRE ARMS
 - 9 - THE DOG
 - 10 - THE ELMS
 - 11 - INN-UIENDO'S
 - 12 - THE LAST HERETIC
 - 13 - THE OAK & IVY
 - 14 - OUTWOODS BREWING
 - 15 - THE ROEBUCK INN
 - 16 - STAPENHILL INSTITUTE CLUB
 - 17 - THE WATERLOO INN

MAP SPONSOR

Beeropolis



COOPERS TAVERN

"The joyously eccentric Coopers Tavern is my favourite pub in the world"

- Pete Brown, The Times



- ✓ Beer Garden ✓ Cask Ale From The Barrel ✓ Keg Beer and Ciders ✓ Dog Friendly
- ✓ Live Music Inside & Outside ✓ Road Side Parking ✓ Meeting Room ✓ Buffet Packages
- ✓ Fresh Butcher's Pork Pies ✓ Real Log Fires ✓ Bespoke Wine List

Wed-Thu: 3-11pm | Fri-Sat: 12-11pm | Mon-Tue: Closed

📍 43 Cross Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1EG 📱 [Facebook.com/cooperstavernburton](https://www.facebook.com/cooperstavernburton)



Coopers Tavern

Landlady: Cheryl Gibson

**43 Cross Street, Burton
upon Trent, DE14 1EG**

A traditional back street pub that still serves some ales direct from cask including Bass. The pub is unique and is the only place in Burton selling Joules' Ales. Pork pies on sale, direct from the butchers. Coopers Tavern is steeped in history and lends itself to the olden days, so no jukebox, no gaming machines, complete strangers talking and enjoying themselves. A beautifully conserved real pub with its four quirky rooms and lovely ale yard.

**Thu 1200-2300 / Fri 1200-2300 /
Sat 1200-2300 / Sun 1200-2300**



The Coppersmiths Inn

Landlord & Landlady: Philip Chilton & Laura Illsley
Millers Lane, Burton upon Trent, DE14 2JJ

The Coppersmiths Inn is a reimagining of The Weighbridge Inn, which quietly closed its doors back in January, but you'd barely recognise it now. Under new management and with a thoughtful renovation, the space has been opened up, trading old familiarity for a brighter, more inviting feel.

Thu 1100-2300 / Fri 1100-2300 /
Sat 1100-2300 / Sun 1200-2100



Devonshire Arms

Landlord & Landlady: Carl & Nicki Stout
86 Station Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1BT
Tel: 01283 480022

A family owned Freehouse with a traditional bar, lounge and large beer garden serving a wide and everchanging range of cask ales. One of the oldest pubs in town, Grade II Listed dating back to the 1830s. Current Burton & South Derbyshire CAMRA Pub of the Year, also won this award in 2020 & 2023, 2024, 2025 and runner-up in 2022. Joint winner of The Best Bass in Burton 2023.

Thu 1400-2300 / Fri 1200-2300 /
Sat 1200-2300 / Sun 1200-2230

THE DEVONSHIRE ARMS

**A friendly and welcoming family-owned freehouse,
operating in the heart of Burton-on-Trent.**

- Burton & South Derbyshire CAMRA Pub of the Year 2026, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2020 and runner up 2022
- Serving a wide range of cask ales • Large beer garden at the rear • Themed food nights



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The Dog

Landlady & Landlord: Glenn & Lesley Bull
5 Lichfield Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 3QZ
Tel: 01283 517060

Busy town centre pub that has the largest range of ales in Burton with ten ale hand pulls, four hand pulls of cider, also three craft lines. This Black Country Ales pub promises a warm and friendly welcome!

Thu 1200-2300 / Fri 1200-0000 /
Sat 1200-0000 / Sun 1200-2300



The Elms

Landlady & Landlord: Loz & Craig Pearce
36 Stapenhill Road, Burton upon Trent, DE15 9AE
Tel: 01283 535505

Victorian pub with a stunning wooden interior, it overlooks the River Trent and Washlands. Beautiful beer garden to the rear. Expect a wide range of ales, including one of the best pints of Bass in the town and homemade food including their famous Burton Tapas.

Thu 1200-2300 / Fri 1200-2330 /
Sat 1200-0000 / Sun 1200-2200

Inn-Uendo's

Landlord: Richard Peace
2 Britannia House, Station Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1AX

Inn-Uendo's is run by Richard who used to manage the Burton Bridge Inn, it blends an upmarket wine bar image with cheeky seaside postcard humour. Sells a lot of real ale and boasts the funniest cocktail menu this side of Benidorm.

Thu 1600-2230 / Fri 1200-2300 /
Sat 1200-2300 / Sun 1200-1800



The Last Heretic

Landlord: Pete Spittles

95 Station Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1BT

Tel: 07715097797

Multi-CAMRA award winning pub that is a small, cosy and intimate real ale house. An everchanging range of ales from all over the UK, all of which are kept in excellent condition and consumed in a friendly, safe environment. The décor inside is welcoming and includes old photos of Burton years ago and there is a large beer garden. The name "The Last Heretic" always has people intrigued...

Thu 1400-2230 / Fri 1400-2230 /

Sat 1100-2130 / Sun 1300-1900



The Oak & Ivy

Landlady: Michelle Keen

119-120 Wellington Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 2DP

Tel: 01283 538032

A modest pub serving Pedigree, Directors and a guest ale. Visitors are invited to enjoy the large "secret" garden to the rear. The regular exchange of gossip and rumour gave rise to the pub being known locally as "The Jungle" (from "Jungle Telegraph"). A warm welcome awaits you!

Thu 1200-2300 / Fri 1200-2300 /

Sat 1200-2300 / Sun 1200-2300



The Oak & Ivy

Burton's Best Kept Secret

- A warm welcome always awaits you
- Dogs are welcome inside and out
- Enjoy live entertainment every month
- Relax in our large garden at the rear





Outwoods Brewing

Landlord: Colin Trowell

21-22 Station Street Yard, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1AZ

Formerly known as The Arches, this is the brewery tap for Outwoods Brewing Company, a nano-brewery located next door. Opened in July 2024 and serves a wide range of cask and keg beers, most brewed on the premises. Spotless single room bar with beer garden to the front.

Thu 1500-2200 / Fri 1200-2200 / Sat 1200-2200 / Sun 1300-1800

Roebuck Inn

Landlady & Landlord: Julie Latham & Martin Stokes

101 Station Street, Burton upon Trent, DE14 1BT

Tel: 01283 511213 or 07932227042

Old-fashioned style pub with wooden floors, open plan with coal fire. The Roebuck is the closest pub to the railway station, just two minutes' walk away and is an old Ind Coope house. Unofficial brewery tap for Gates Burton Brewery. Winner of The Best Bass in Burton in 2022 and joint winner in 2023. If you are looking for a traditional old pub, this is it!

Thu 1200-2300 / Fri 1200-2300 / Sat 1200-2300 / Sat 1200-2200



Stapenhill Institute Club

Club President: John Berrisford

Stewardess: Trish Berrisford

23 Main Street, Stapenhill, Stapenhill, Burton upon Trent, DE15 9AP

Tel: 01283 533351

The current Burton & South Derbyshire CAMRA Club of the Year has everything you could want, function room, snooker table and a warm, lived-in atmosphere that regulars clearly take pride in. The beer is tended with love and care. Never been in? Make sure you visit this Burton Ale Trail debutant.

Thu 1200-2300 / Fri 1200-2300 / Sat 1100-2300 / Sun 1100-2300

The Waterloo Inn

Landlord: Luke Woodward
50 Ashby Road, Winhill, Burton
upon Trent, DE15 0LQ

Perched on Ashby Road, The Waterloo Inn is determined to make a mark on its first Burton Ale Trail. Buzzing atmosphere, live music throughout Saturday and a lineup of top-quality food vans to keep you going. Behind the bar, it's all about great beer, local favourites alongside well-loved classics, all kept exactly as they should be.

Thu 1200-2330 / Fri 1200-0000 / Sat
1200-0000 / Sun 1200-2200



CAMRA Members Pub Discount



The number of pubs that offer CAMRA members discount has doubled since the last edition!

We now have 2 pubs offering CAMRA members a discount, 10% in both cases. Remember that a valid CAMRA membership card must be presented when purchasing.

The Oak & Ivy has offered the discount for a couple of years since Michelle took over. I think it's likely that the Riverside has also offered the discount for more than now. It was only discovered now as no-one Burton & South Derbyshire CAMRA knew. So if there are any others in our area, please let me know and it will be published in our quarterly magazine.

Theo Hollier, Editor



CAMRA DISCOUNT ON PRESENTATION OF MEMBERSHIP CARD			
PUB	LOCATION	DISCOUNT	RESTRICTION
Oak & Ivy	Wellington Road, Burton	10%	Only Real Ale gets the discount.
Riverside	Riverside Drive, Branston	10%	Only Real Ale gets the discount.



From Weighbridge to Coppersmiths

Burton pub reopens with new owners



Following the announcement that they would be shutting for a period of refurbishment at the turn of the year, the sudden closure of the Weighbridge Inn in mid-January came as a surprise to many regulars.

The award-winning pub had been part of the Muirhouse stable since 2019, run by Mandy and Richard Muir, and its walls proudly told the story of that success. Framed awards celebrated their much-loved beers Tick Tock Boom and Magnum Mild, while a string of honours from the Burton & South Derbyshire CAMRA Pub of the Year competition marked it out as one of the town's standout locals: third place in 2022, runner-up in both 2023 and 2024, and third again in 2025.

So when the doors closed unexpectedly, it felt like the end of a chapter.

But as it turns out, it was only the interval.

In early March came the news that the pub would be reopening, a new name, new management and a new start.

"My name's Phil Chilton, most people call me Chillo, and my other half is Laura Illsley," he says, introducing himself. Though in truth, many Burton drinkers will already know him.

Chillo has spent most of his working life in the pub trade. He first stepped behind a bar in the late 1980s before taking on his first pub, the Berkeley Arms in Waterloo Street, in 1993. He ran it until 1996, and over the years that followed he became a familiar face in pubs across the town.

In 2011 he took on the Royal Oak in Horninglow, running it for five years before moving on to the Oak & Ivy. "I had seven mostly enjoyable years there," he says.

"But after COVID things changed. Carlsberg got involved and it wasn't the same, in the end I decided it was time to call it a day."

For a while, the pub game seemed to be behind him, until an unexpected opportunity reminded him how much he missed it.

"Last September we were asked if we'd look after the Navigation in Horninglow for a couple of weeks until the new landlady could take over," he explains. "We really enjoyed it and realised how much we'd missed being behind the bar."

And there was one pub in particular that had always caught their eye.

"We used to drink in the Weighbridge and always liked its quirkiness and relaxed atmosphere," he says. "We'd even said before that if it ever became available, we'd love to have a go at it."

When the pub closed earlier this year, Chillo picked up the phone and contacted the previous owners. Conversations followed, plans were made and before long a new future for the building was taking shape.

When the doors reopened the pub had a new name: The Coppersmiths Inn.

The name is a personal tribute to Laura's father, Tom Flanagan, who worked in the Ind Coope engineering department as a coppersmith from the 1970s until his retirement in 1997, a small but fitting nod to Burton's proud brewing heritage.

The name isn't the only change. The couple have given the place a refresh, the interior now sports a new blue colour scheme and one of the most noticeable alterations is



Chillo & Laura

to the wall that previously split the bar into two. "We've put a window through it which really opens the space up, we'd have loved to take the whole wall down, but it's load-bearing, the landlord wouldn't allow that!" laughs Chillo.

Behind the bar, meanwhile, the focus will firmly be on good beer, four cask ales are on offer: a traditional bitter, a modern Citra-forward ale, a stout and an IPA.

Chillo is a passionate supporter of real ale and is particularly excited to be running a free-of-tie pub.

"As we build the trade we'd like to expand the choice of both cask and keg," he says. "And we'll always listen to customers about what they'd like to see on as guest beers."

He's also well aware that he's stepping into a pub with a strong reputation.

"The Weighbridge had built a great following," he says. "We respect that and want to make it our own at the same time. The aim now is to make The Coppersmiths Inn a success on its own merit."

And for Burton drinkers, it means the lights are coming back on behind another bar, proof that in a brewing town, good pubs rarely stay closed for long.

Ian Webster



The Colvile Arms

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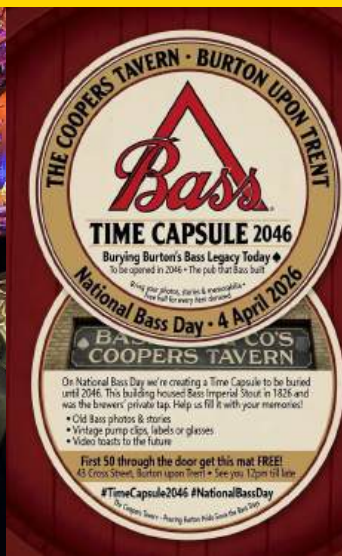
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The Coopers Tavern: Burying Burton's History



Walking over the threshold of The Coopers Tavern is, in many ways, like stepping back in time. With no televisions, no jukebox, and very little to distract from conversation and good beer, it remains a proper Victorian pub with a deep, almost stubborn connection to Burton's brewing past.

"It's the combination of that deep history, the warmth of the locals, and the feeling that you are part of something that's been here for generations," observes new landlady Cheryl Gibson, who took over after the much-loved Mandy Addis left last year. "It's not just a building, it's a proper community hub with real character. As custodian, my job is to cherish that and gently enhance it for everyone who walks through the door. I signed a contract on 1st April on a five-year lease. There are many reasons; I love the pub, the people, and the history. I understand that nothing needs to be changed, just cherished. Joles are a fantastic brewery to work with and have been constantly supportive."

For Cheryl, The Coopers was already special long before she took the keys, she'd spent evenings inside its famously untouched interior, surrounded by the ghosts of Burton brewing history. What she did not fully realise at first, however, was just how

deeply rooted the pub's links to Bass were. Since taking over, preserving that heritage has become as important to her as serving the beer itself.

"Most of my career was in events, but during the pandemic I ended up learning how to build websites and even completed a university course in machine learning and AI," she explains. "I've always loved marketing and data and I enjoyed that work, but deep down I missed people, the atmosphere, the energy, the buzz of live events. When The Coopers was looking for a temporary manager, I applied, and the rest is history."

Talking of history, the idea for filling a Time Capsule on National Bass Day came after a busy weekend when Cheryl found herself staring at the old innkeeper's board hanging on the wall and wondering about all the generations who come before.

"I was looking at the names and thinking how incredible it would be if we could actually see what The Coopers was like back then. I mentioned it to the team, we started throwing ideas around, and that's how the Time Capsule was born. "We had a fabulous response from customers old

and new. We are still receiving items now and new customers who call in mention it and it's something for future generations. For all items that were too large we will be doing a display in the accordion cupboard with a replica capsule"

The Time Capsule was sealed and buried on April 11th, with pub owners Joules keeping the exact co-ordinates safe until it is reopened in 20 years' time.

"I hope when it's opened it gives people a real sense of what The Coopers meant to Burton, the connection to Bass, the community spirit, the stories, the people, why this pub has always been such a special place."

Ian Webster



BRICKMAKERS ARMS

— NEWTON SOLNEY —

Bruce and Caroline are proud and delighted to announce that the Brickmakers Arms, Newton Solney has been awarded **CAMRA Pub of the Year 2026 for South Derbyshire & Staffordshire**.

Our warmest thanks to everyone who have supported and assisted us during our first year of trading – special mention to our fantastic team, all our customers and the village collective who made us so welcome.

As a family-run, independent pub this award means so much to us as recognition of our commitment to quality real ales, premium drinks, and creating a warm, welcoming environment for everyone who visits us. Whether its for a relaxed drink or food, you can expect excellent service and a great, friendly atmosphere.

Our very own food truck, **Main Street Kitchen**, is now open, serving freshly prepared food every **Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday**, perfectly complementing our drinks offering. Alongside this, we have restarted our live music sessions for the summer.

For the latest updates and upcoming events, please follow us on social media or visit our website. (www.brickmakersarm.co.uk)

We look forward to welcoming you to The Brickmakers Arms.

Opening Times:

Tue–Thu: 4pm–10pm | Fri: 3pm–11pm
Sat: 12pm–11pm | Sun: 12pm–9pm | Mon: Closed

📍 Main St, Newton Solney, Burton, DE15 0SJ

🍷 Brickmakers Arms Newton Solney



PotY Awards 2026



The process that started towards the end of last year has recently finished and we were lucky to have a fairly large number of judges. The judging takes place during several months as there were originally 15 pubs shortlisted to be put through the process. The competition started with 15 pubs but unfortunately the Weighbridge closed and that reduced the pubs to 14. It was really unfortunate as the Weighbridge was always near the top but never made the winner.

The process is akin to be a secret shopper, except it is much better as it involves drinking beer. The judges should never let the Pub staff know what you are doing and it would be a hanging offence to let them know you are coming! There are 8 categories to judge, obviously the quality and condition of the ales is most important and gets a double score. Promotion and knowledge of the real ale is equally important. Cleanliness and staff hygiene and even the condition of the toilets is checked and rated! The same general criteria apply to real cider and perry but it is not always possible to find cider judges let alone a cider rep!

The first stage of the overall process is carried out at branch level and this is the subject above. Winning this gives an opportunity to progress to the regional

level which for us is the West Midlands and could eventually lead to being the CAMRA Pub of the Year.

The winner of the Branch's most prestigious award is the Branch Pub of the Year and the Devonshire Arms has won the 2026 award. In fact the Devie has now won this award for the 4th consecutive year, which is unprecedented. The Dog Inn won for 3 consecutive years from 2017-2019 and the Royal Oak, Barton under Needwood also 3 consecutive years 2011-2013. The Burton Bridge Inn won for 2 consecutive years, 2009 & 2010. The Alfred also won 2 consecutive years, 1998 & 1999. If you are wondering about the Coopers Tavern, they have won this top branch award on 3 occasions but not consecutive. The 2026 second place was taken by the Burton Bridge Inn with the Arches in 3rd place, congratulations to both.

South Derbyshire pubs are of course in the Branch pub of the year but also have their own South Derbyshire pub of the year which was won by The Brickmakers Arms this year. If a South Derbyshire pub wins the Branch PotY, there would be a Burton Town Pub of the Year.

Pub-of-the-Year Awards

Branch Pub-of-the-Year:
Devonshire Arms, Burton

Branch PotY Runner-up:
Burton Bridge Inn, Burton

Branch PotY Third Place:
Outwoods Brewing Tap (aka The Arches), Burton

Branch South Derbyshire PotY
& Branch Country PotY:
Brickmakers Arms, Newton Solney

Branch South Derbyshire PotY Runner-up
& Branch Country PotY Runner-up:
Colville Arms, Lullington

Branch East Staffordshire Country PotY:
New Inn, Tutbury

Club-of-the-Year Awards

Branch Club-of-the-Year:
Stapenhill Institute Club

Branch CotY Runner-up:
Tutbury Club

Branch CotY Third Place:
Stretton Social Club

No cider award again this year due to no cider rep to organise it. Any CAMRA members interested?

Finally, in a few weeks or months there will be a number of presentations taking place and everyone, not just CAMRA members will be welcome at their respective pub.

Theo Hollier, Editor

Promote your business or event in the next issue of Going for a Burton?



Our Branch magazine, Going for a Burton? is free. Those of us who write articles for inclusion are doing it for free and those of us who distribute the magazine to pubs and clubs are doing it for free. We drive our cars to almost the borders of Rugeley in the west, almost to Sudbury in the north, to Breedon-on-the-Hill in the east and almost to Clifton Campville in the south. Why? Because we believe in the real ale cause - promoting pubs, breweries and local businesses - and enjoy doing it.

Full Page: £175
Half Page: £95
Quarter Page: £55

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Advertising revenue covers the cost of design and printing the magazine. We help local businesses to increase awareness of their services across our distribution area and reach more potential customers. If you would like to promote your business or event in Going for a Burton?, we would be pleased to hear from you. See details on page 31.

We appreciate the support of all of our sponsors and hope that our readers will do the same by visiting them.

Upcoming CAMRA Events

May 2026 – July 2026



May

Tue 5th May, 7:30pm – Cellar Room @ The Swan, Fradley (May Meeting & Social)

Sat 16th May, 12pm – Tutbury Ale Trail – meet at The Dog, Burton to catch the bus to Tutbury

Sat 30th May, 4pm – Skittles Evening at Burton Bridge Brewery Skittles Alley (Social)

June

Wed 24th June, 7:30pm – Uxbridge Arms, Branston (June Meeting & Social)

July

Tue 28th July, 7:30pm – Brickmakers, Newton Solney (July Meeting & Social)

Upcoming Local Events & Festivals

Thur 14th to Sun 17th May – Tap into Tutbury (Tutbury Ale Trail) Weekend

Fri 22nd to Mon 25th May – The Milking Parlour (Tollgate Brewery) Beer Festival Weekend

Thur 4th to Sun 7th June – Burton Ale Trail Weekend

Thur 11th to Sun 14th June – Gluten Free Beer Festival at The Junction, Stretton

Wed 23rd to Sat 26th Sep – Shrewsbury CAMRA Beer Festival

Wed 14th to Sat 17th Oct – Derby Heritage Beer Festival, Derby Market Hall

Upcoming Branch Events

Pub of The Year and Club of The Year Awards Evenings (June/Jul/Aug – dates TBC)

Sat 19th Sept – Annual Cross-CAMRA Skittles Evening for the Geoff Mumford Memorial Trophy

2027 Marks the 250 Year Anniversary of Bass (looking for suggestions and ideas for the coming year)

For Upcoming Branch Events visit the Burton & South Derbyshire CAMRA Facebook:

www.facebook.com/BurtonCAMRA/events

For general Pub & Local Brewery news and updates:

www.facebook.com/BurtonCAMRA

Join CAMRA

www.camra.org.uk/join

On joining make sure you check the preferences options to “opt-in” for branch contact & branch communications, so that you are able to join your local CAMRA branch and we can contact you.



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Going for a Burton

Going for a Burton is published by the Burton and South Derbyshire branch of CAMRA. © Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA). Copies are distributed across the town of Burton upon Trent and beyond.

Read Going for a Burton? online and find out more at gfab.camra.org.uk

Advertising rates are available at gfab.camra.org.uk or from advert@gfab.camra.org.uk

Items for publication are welcome and should be sent to editor@gfab.camra.org.uk

Going for a Burton is designed by Hollier Creative @[HollierCreative](https://twitter.com/HollierCreative)

Going for a Burton is printed by Reflex reflexprint.com

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