PRESS RELEASE

Derby Book Festival to celebrate Derby's Real Ale tradition

Real Ale will be celebrated at the second Derby Book Festival with a special event including Roger Protz, editor of CAMRA's (Campaign for Real Ale) Good Beer Guide**,** and the Dancing Duck Brewery.   The Festival, which runs from 3 – 11 June 2016, aims to include events to embrace Derby's special character and appeal to people in and around the city.

Roger, who is also a writer, journalist and campaigner, will visit the city on Saturday 4 June for the event, which will be held in the newly restored Ballroom of the Old Bell Hotel in Sadlergate. He will talk about CAMRA, how the Good Beer Guide is put together, why so many Derby pubs and breweries are listed in it and why Real Ale matters. The event will also include a Real Ale tasting led by Derby Brewster Rachel Matthews, owner of the Dancing Duck Brewery. The Brewery won "Supreme" Bronze for their Dark Drake beer in CAMRA's annual Champion Beer of Britain 2015.

Derby has developed an excellent reputation for its Real Ale pubs and breweries and in 2012 travel gurus at the Lonely Planet Guide described Derby as the "best place to drink real ale in the World".

The event will be a first for CAMRA as they have not previously attended a book Festival to promote their books.

Liz Fothergill, Chair of Derby Book Festival said: "Derby has so much to offer and we want the Festival to be different from other book festivals by celebrating Derby's distinctive character with events to appeal to local people. As well as internationally renowned authors and Real Ale, we will include book related talks on topics such as railways, cycling,

football, cricket, birding and local history, which we hope will interest people locally and from further afield."

Rachel Matthews from Dancing Duck Brewery is delighted to be involved with the Festival: "We are thrilled to be the current "Supreme" Bronze Award holders of CAMRA's Beer of Britain and look forward to meeting Roger in June and sharing our real ale with him and the audience."

Roger Protz said of his impending visit: "I am delighted to be appearing as part of this prestigious book festival, to be talking about the importance of books about beer and not least to be performing with the Dancing Duck!"

Real Ale fans don't need to wait until June to enjoy their beer, as the Winter Ales Festival returns to the Roundhouse from 17 – 20 February 2016.

Tickets for Derby Book Festival will be on sale from 5 April 2016. To find out more about the Festival visit: www.derbybookfestival.co.uk or sign up to our social media: Twitter @derbybookfest Facebook: /derbybookfestival

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Notes to Editors

Derby Book Festival

The first Derby Book Festival was held from 31 May – 7 June 2015 in venues across the city with a programme packed with book related activities and events for all ages and interests. Derby Book Festival is a registered charity.

The Festival celebrates the joy of books and reading, from author talks, discussions, live performances, workshops for budding writers, to a children's book trail, storytelling, theatre performances and 'Make It' sessions. The Festival will include internationally acclaimed writers, as well as those with a Derby connection, covering a range of interests, including cycling, railways, birding, Real Ale, football, cricket, climbing and photography.

CAMRA

CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale is an independent, voluntary organisation campaigning for real ale, community pubs and consumer rights.

http://www.camra.org.uk

Dancing Duck Brewery

Dancing Duck brewery was founded by husband and wife team Ian and Rachel in December 2010. Rachel runs the brewery on a day-to-day basis and believes brewing is the best job she's ever had!

http://www.dancingduckbrewery.com