

SALOPIAN, Shrewsbury, Shropshire

GOLDEN THREAD (ABV 5.0%) Light gold colour. Triple hopping of English First Gold gives powerful citrusy flavours. Barley, wheat and lager malt give body and sweetness. *Good. Nice!*

LEMON DREAM (ABV 4.5%) Gold wheat beer. Small amount of fresh lemon compliments the citrusy flavours of the wheat malt. Goldings, Saaz and Cascade hops add fresh lemony flavours.

SARAH HUGHES, Sedgley, West Midlands

DARK RUBY (ABV 6.0%) Strong ale with a good balance of fruit and hops, leading to a pleasant, lingering hops and malt finish. *Excellent. Hard work.*

SEVEN SISTERS (ABV 7.0%) Golden and well-balanced. Sweetness is balanced by use of the floral Zeus hop.

SNOWFLAKE (ABV 8.0%) Rich, well-rounded strong barley wine, reminiscent of a good Madeira.

THORNBRIDGE, Bakewell, Derbyshire

HARK (ABV 4.8%) Warming winter ale with a spiced fruit taste.

JAIPUR (ABV 5.9%) Complex, well-balanced IPA with a fine blend of citrus and other fruit flavours, mixed with a slight sweetness and ending with a lingering bitter finish. *Bitter strong light ale.*

WILD SWAN (ABV 3.5%) Light bodied, pale gold beer with a subtle lemon and spice aroma. Citrus notes continue in the taste, leading to a bitter aftertaste. *Summer ale. bitter*

TIGERTOPS, Wakefield, West Yorkshire

BILLY BOCK (ABV 6.6%) Wheat beer. *Strange Pleasant.*

TITANIC, Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire

LAST PORTER CALL (ABV 4.9%) Dark, strong, well-rounded, late-hopped with Goldings.

NIGHT TO REMEMBER (ABV 4.3%) Clean tasting with a distinctive balance of hops and malt.

WRECKAGE (ABV 7.2%) This sweet malty winter ale has a port-like aroma, oranges and lemons play around the edges of the tongue whilst dried fruit and cinnamon drive home a warming effect, walnut aftertaste.

TOWER, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire

TOWER OF STRENGTH (ABV 7.6%) Rich, dark winter ale.

WINTER SPIRIT (ABV 5.0%) Chestnut in colour. A well-balanced premium bitter. *Happy with that*

WOOD, Wistanstow, Shropshire

CHRISTMAS CRACKER (ABV 6.0%) A dark ruby brew with a port wine flavour.

WONDERFUL (ABV 4.8%) A mid-brown, fruity beer, with a roast and malt taste. *Not so.*

WYE VALLEY, Stoke Lacy, Herefordshire

AUTUMN GLORY (ABV 4.6%) Rich brown/red, brewed with Maris Otter Pale Malt, Wheat Malt and Crystal Malt; the only hop used is Target, both for the boil and late-hopping.

DOROTHY GOODBODY'S WHOLESOME STOUT (ABV 4.6%) A smooth and satisfying stout with a bitter edge to its roast flavours. The finish combines roast grain and malt. *Nice not too heavy.*

All beers listed are subject to availability. Tasting notes are from a variety of sources.

BEER GUIDE TO DUDLEY WINTER ALES FAYRE 2007

Cask labels colour-coded as follows - Green: up to ABV 4.5% Amber: ABV 4.6% to 5.9%
Pink: ABV 6.0% and above Blue: dark beers of all strengths.

ACORN, Barnsley, South Yorkshire

GORLOVKA IMPERIAL STOUT (ABV 6.0%) Deep malt and hoppy aroma with liquorice throughout. Roast, fruit and hops also carry through this full-bodied stout. *Not Imperial but good.*

PROGRESS IPA (ABV 5.0%) Traditional India Pale Ale dominated by fruit and hops, light golden in colour with a floral aroma.

AMBER, Ripley, Derbyshire

IMPERIAL PALE ALE (ABV 6.5%) A substantial malty base with a big hop character from dry hopping in the cask. *Nice strong*

ATOMIC, Rugby, Warwickshire

BOMB (ABV 5.2%) Golden ale combining Maris Otter malt with three spicy aromatic hops. Floral flavours followed by a smooth well-hopped fruity finish.

BANKS'S, Wolverhampton, West Midlands

BARLEY GOLD (ABV 9.1%) Strong, sweet, old ale.

BATHAM, Brierley Hill, West Midlands

XXX (ABV 6.3%) Mid-brown in colour, malty and fruity. Hop flavour present but malt predominant through to the aftertaste.

BAZENS', Salford, Greater Manchester

BLUE BULLET (ABV 4.5%) Yellow in colour, this golden ale has a fruity aroma. Hops, fruit and bitterness are in the taste and linger in the finish. *Very pleasant. good nice session*

BEARTOWN, Congleton, Cheshire

BEAR NECESSITIES (ABV 4.8%) Copper coloured, creamy and bitter with crisp hoppy character and rich aftertaste. *Nice good best very nice!*

BEOWULF, Brownhills, Staffordshire

CHILLER (ABV 4.5%) Pale, light, aromatic, hoppy bitter.

DRAGON SMOKE STOUT (ABV 4.7%) Black and smoky, full of roast flavours and dark chocolate with a touch of fruit and hops, and a creamy head to add sweetness. Bitterness develops, supported by the roast bitterness.

BLACK COUNTRY ALES, Lower Gornal, West Midlands

PIG ON THE WALL MILD (ABV 4.3%) A refreshing chestnut brown beer with a complex flavour of light hops giving way to a bitter-sweet blend of roasted malt. Suggestions of chocolate and coffee undertones.

BRIDGNORTH, Bridgnorth, Shropshire

IPA (ABV 5.0%) Dark golden well-balanced beer. Hoppy, very fruity, with pineapple overtones.

WESTGATE (ABV 7.0%) Well-balanced and fruity amber-coloured ale. *Disappointing*

BURTON BRIDGE, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire

OLD EXPENSIVE (ABV 6.5%) Amber coloured barley wine. Smooth and bitter.

THOMAS SYKES (ABV 10.0%) Rich and warming, fruity, heady and hoppy. A true barley wine to be handled with caution.

CANNON ROYALL, Ombersley, Worcestershire

FRUITERER'S MILD (ABV 3.7%) This black-hued brew has rich malty aromas that lead to a fruity mix of bitter hops and sweetness, and a short balanced aftertaste. *paper mild*

WINTERS ALE (ABV 5.0%) Pale amber, well-hopped. The initial bitterness fades and returns in a powerful long finish.

- CHURCH END**, Nuneaton, Warwickshire
ARTHURS WIT (ABV 6.0%) Pale, strong beer that is also a bitter. Has a slightly spicy hop finish. *Mike Stuygord*
- GRAVEDIGGERS ALE** (ABV 3.8%) A premium mild. Black and red in colour, with a complex mix of chocolate and roast flavours, it is almost a light porter. *proper mild*
- PEWS PORTER** (ABV 4.5%) Rich roasted porter, moderately hopped with a dry finish.
- COORS**, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire
CZAR'S IMPERIAL STOUT (ABV 8.0%) A library of tastes: roast, liquorice, toffee, molasses, Christmas pudding, rum, chocolate, blackberry, blackcurrant.
- CROUCH VALE**, Chelmsford, Essex
TOPSAIL (ABV 4.3%) Full-flavoured yet easy drinking beer with US Cascade hops.
- DURHAM**, Bowburn, Durham
EVENSONG (ABV 5.0%) Based on an original recipe from 1937, this deep ruby coloured bitter has the character of early 20th century ales.
- MAGNIFICAT** (ABV 6.5%) Rich, golden, original style IPA. Malty base with complex bitterness.
- ELLAND**, Elland, West Yorkshire
IPA (ABV 6.5%) Brewed with Pale Malt and a generous quantity of Goldings hops. Initial malty sweetness is followed by a powerful hoppy kick.
- EMPIRE**, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire
STRIKES BACK (ABV 4.0%) Pale golden bitter with a hoppy aroma and good hop and malt balance with a citrusy flavour, very light on the palate.
- ENVILLE**, Enville, Staffordshire
GINGER (ABV 4.6%) Golden bright with gently gingered tangs and an aftertaste of sweet hoppiness.
- GOTHIC** (ABV 5.2%) Malt, hops and caramel combine with a strong roast malt taste in this dark, stout-like beer. Well-balanced, with lurking hints of honey.
- FERNANDES**, Wakefield, West Yorkshire
SIMCOE (ABV 4.1%) Hoppy light beer. *refreshing*
- GRAINSTORE**, Oakham, Rutland
NIP (ABV 7.7%) A true barley wine. A good balance of sweetness and bitterness meld together so that neither predominates over the other. Smooth and warming.
- HOBSONS**, Cleobury Mortimer, Worcestershire
BEST BITTER (ABV 3.8%) A pale brown to amber, medium-bodied beer with strong hop character throughout. It is consequently bitter but with malt discernible in the taste.
- MILD** (ABV 3.2%) A classic mild. Complex layers of taste come from roasted malts that predominate and give lots of flavour.
- HOLDEN'S**, Dudley, West Midlands
GOLDEN GLOW (ABV 4.4%) A pale golden beer with a subtle hop aroma plus gentle sweetness and a light hoppiness.
- OLD ALE** (ABV 7.2%) Strong, dark, sweet winter ale.
- SPECIAL** (ABV 5.1%) Sweet, malty full-bodied amber ale with hops to balance in the taste and in the good, bitter sweet finish.
- SUPER NOVA** (ABV 4.5%) Gold in colour, hoppy aroma, full-bodied malty sweetness. *good sets in ale*
- KELHAM ISLAND**, Sheffield, South Yorkshire
GRANDE PALE (ABV 6.6%) A strong, full-bodied pale ale with a mellow hop aroma.

- KINVER**, Kinver, Staffordshire
MISS HAWKSWOOD'S BEST (ABV 4.4%) Gold with a hoppy aroma and malty background. Citrus hops dominate but are tempered with fruit for a bittersweet balance.
- OVER THE EDGE** (ABV 7.6%) A strong pale golden ale, with a powerful taste and hop flavour. Brewed with all pale Maris Otter with a proportion of wheat, and a single hop variety.
- WHITE HARES** (ABV 5.8%) Light, well-hopped bitter.
- MALVERN HILLS**, Malvern, Worcestershire
BLACK PEAR (ABV 4.4%) A sharp citrus hoppiness is the main constituent of this golden brew that has a long dry aftertaste. *very fruity not too fruity!*
- PRIESSNITZ PILSEN** (ABV 4.3%) A mix of soft fruit and citrus give this straw-coloured brew its quaffability, making it ideal for quenching summer thirsts.
- MILLSTONE**, Mossley, Greater Manchester
TIGER RUT (ABV 4.0%) A pale, hoppy ale with a distinctive citrus/grapefruit aroma.
- TRUE GRIT** (ABV 5.0%) A well-hopped strong ale with a mellow bitterness. *Liked*
- MORTON**, Coven, Staffordshire
BEER MARIA (ABV 4.6%) Light beer with a warming glow from the addition of Tia Maria.
- NEUADD ARMS**, Llanwrtyd Wells, Powys
HIGH AS A KITE (ABV 9.5%) Sweet, light brown, moderately hopped new brew.
- NEWBY WYKE**, Little Bytham, Lincolnshire
WHITE SQUALL (ABV 4.8%) Pale and blonde with a full hoppy taste and fruity finish.
- OAKHAM**, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire
ATILLA (ABV 7.5%) Fruit notes and elder flower on aroma. Taste of ripe red berries and citrus fruit with a long bitter fruity finish.
- OLDE SWAN**, Netherton, West Midlands
BLACK WIDOW (ABV 6.7%) Clean, full-bodied, well-rounded and luscious with a distinctive alcoholic, roast malt and hop finish. *Good*
- WHITE WIDOW** (ABV 9.0%) Much stronger version of Pardoe's Original.
- PICTISH**, Rochdale, Greater Manchester
BLUE MOON (ABV 6.0%) Strong IPA style beer with a lingering bitter aftertaste and a massive spicy hop aroma. *Very good not as strength*
- BREWERS GOLD** (ABV 3.8%) Yellow in colour, with a hoppy, fruity nose. Soft maltiness and a strong hop/citrus flavour lead to a dry, bitter finish.
- PROSPECT**, Wigan, Lancashire
GOLD RUSH (ABV 4.5%) A lighter beer with hoppy finish from Nugget and Cascade hops.
- RED LION**, Ossett, West Yorkshire
CHARDONNAYLE (ABV 5.1%) Complex, stylish strong pale ale with hints of lemongrass and fruits, with Willamette hops for aroma.
- WHITE LION** (ABV 4.3%) Pale, flowery, lager-style beer using American Cascade hops.
- RINGWOOD**, Ringwood, Hampshire
XXXX PORTER (ABV 4.7%) Rich aromas of hop and toast. Smooth drinking dark beer. Dry in the mouth with burnt malt notes, dry nutty finish.