

Winter Pub of the Season 2004 The Old Poets' Corner - Ashover

The snow was coming down in bucketfuls as we headed off to Ashover on the 18th November. Presenting our branch's Winter Pub of the Season Award to the Old Poets Corner therefore seemed very appropriate! The fire was burning bright inside as we headed for the bar and commenced drying and thawing out. There was an excellent beer selection on and we HAD to have a few drinks to help landlord and landlady Kim and Jackie Beresford celebrate now didn't we?



As we dried out we sampled a couple of pints of Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby, Ashover Gold and Leatherbritches Hairy Helmet. All were excellent and from what we heard the rest of the beers and ciders went down well! The band was a rather humorous skiffle group called Kick & Rush and, consequently, all was merry as our Chairman, Nigel Mower, stepped up to the microphone.

He summed up why we thought the Old Poets was a worthy winner of this season's award and Kim and Jackie accepted the certificate with obvious pleasure. They have built up a popular pub that supports CAMRA campaigns (they showcase a range of beer often from local breweries and always keep a selection of cask ciders, for example) and have managed to make their mark in a relatively short time. Kim and Jackie assured us that they would try to carry on as they had begun and keep the beer flowing!

Looking around a pub full of happy faces, both local and visitors, on such a cold and snowy evening, I could see we had made a good choice! Great range of beer, friendly hosts, good client mix and a warm and cosy bar with an open fire - it's where we'd like to spend a few winter nights!