

HIGHLY COMMENDED

If you managed to read our previous newsletter you may recall that we'd been nominated for a Punch Tavern's 'Shine' award. This is a national competition for Punch's seven and a half thousand pubs. There were four categories and we were put forward for a 'community' award. Well we've just heard we didn't win but we did get a 'highly commended' from the judges and as such Cinders and I are off to the ball; a gala award ceremony held at Leeds Castle later this month. That's not bad considering we're new to the trade and have only been here for six months. Give it another year and we'll take the prize! Thanks to all our customers for the continued support. This is **your** local and we can't do it without **you**.

Four Weddings and a Funeral

Well not quite, but we are being asked more and more to provide catering for wakes, birthday parties, celebrations and, increasingly, to run outside bars for weddings.

The Culloden room, pictured below, has now become the room of choice. Newly carpeted, and with the old original fireplace restored, (previously plastered over), the room is as cosy as it gets. Roaring log fires, hops and fairy lights finish the effect. Many customers don't seem to have realised the room even existed until recently! It provides the perfect venue for parties up to fourteen. If what you are planning requires more space we can annexe the Jacobite room which can hold around thirty more. Or do as one of our regular customers is doing and take over the whole pub!



Festive Fun



The Festive Season was a great success. Above are just a few snaps taken during the period. We had Carol singers in the bar on

two occasions and gave out mulled wine to all those who came. Another evening saw a performance from the Mummers; 'Up the Downs'. We had a great Christmas Eve and we were busy on Christmas Day too although we only opened for drinks, 11 - 2. Boxing Day lunchtime was heaving! The climax of the season was our New Year's Eve Party which we limited to around 75. Dinner Jackets and Evening Gowns were the order of the day, we had a very powerful vodka punch available as revelers arrived, a lovely buffet, disco and the all too necessary bagpiper. Everyone agreed it had been a splendid evening. We're just sorry we couldn't fit more of you in. So book your tickets early next year!

DIARY DATES

14th February - Valentine's Day - Special 'lovers' menu and live music from Acoustic Guitar Duo. Book your table early as we're bound to sell out.

1st March - Blues Abuse - The ever popular Blues Band. If you haven't seen them yet then don't miss out again. Mexican food on the night. Book now.

10th March - Quiz Night. Always good fun. Avoid disappointment and book your table early. Teams of up to six per table. £6 per head, to include buffet. Prizes for winners.

29th March - TBC - The Culprits. This band are a real knockout. Steak night specials that evening too. Other events likely to be arranged over the next couple of months. Keep your eyes open for our blackboard outside the pub and the web site.

Senior Citizens

Back by popular demand we will be re-starting our bargain lunches for senior citizens commencing Thursday 7th February and every Thursday thereafter until further notice. Example menus:

Cottage Pie, Chips & Peas followed by Apple Crumble & Custard - £5.95

Battered Cod, Chips & Peas followed by Orange Bread & Butter Pudding - £5.95

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