

Press Release

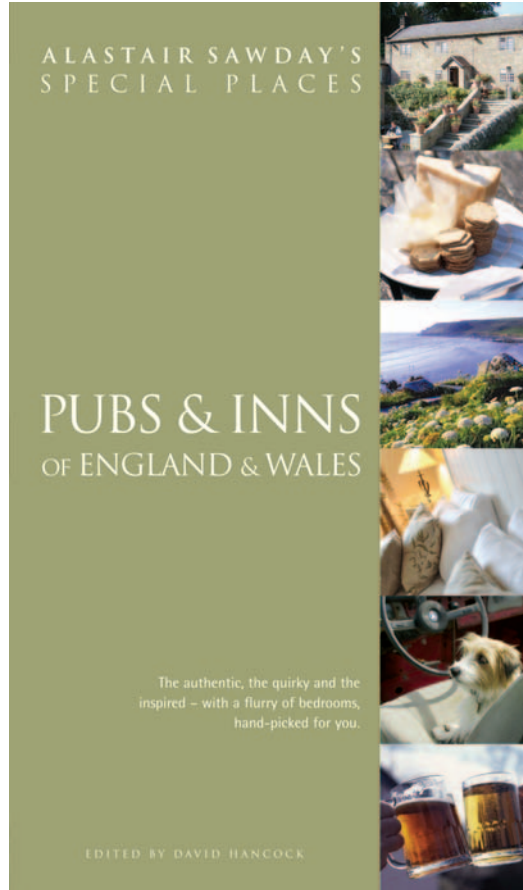
ALASTAIR SAWDAY'S SPECIAL PLACES TO STAY PUBS AND INNS OF ENGLAND & WALES

Things we can do for you:

- Suggest ideas for features and compile them
- Provide photos
- Special offers on the guides

Coming soon:

- British Bed & Breakfast edition 12 - September 2007
- Big Earth Book edition 1 - September 2007
- French Holiday Homes edition 4 - October 2007
- British Hotels & Inns edition 9 - October 2007
- French Hotels & Châteaux edition 5 - November 2007



There's not much that beats settling down by the fire with a pint and a paper in a great pub after a wild and wintery walk. Or how about that first summer spritzer perched on a wall, sun glinting, sea shimmering and the freshest crab salad sidling towards you? Or how about sauntering into a near empty pub, with only the sounds of fruit machines and an approaching coach party tipping up for the £4.99 two-for-one lunch special? No, no, NO - arm yourself instead with our trusty Pubs & Inns guide and follow us to some of the finest pubs around.

- 12 pubs receive special awards. Four categories include: best Seasonal, Local and Organic Produce, best Authentic Pub, best Community Pub and best Pub with Rooms. Turn to pages 28 and 29 to discover this year's winners
- Spoil yourself in unspoilt villages with unspoilt village inns
- Fancy some real ale or a pub with a crackling fire? Find your ideal pub with our useful "Best for ..." lists at the back of the book
- Pitch up for Parma ham and porcini lasagne followed by damson, honey and whisky fool at a Herefordshire inn - real pub grub

About Alastair Sawday Publishing

Our first guide, French B&B, was published in 1994 and celebrated homes owned and run by 'people' rather than corporations. The notion of 'special' is at the heart of what we do, and highly subjective. We take huge pleasure from finding people and places that do their own thing; places that are unusual and follow no trends; places of peace and beauty; people who are kind and interesting - and genuine. We now have 20 titles recommending around 5,000 special places.

Environmental policies are a priority at ASP and we are always looking at ways of improving our 'green' credentials.

Facts and Figures

No need to toss up to see who's driving - pubs with rooms are highlighted in a fetching shade of green and have a special section too.

650 full entries and a further 250 smaller entries in the 'Worth a visit' section.

Can't tell your panna cotta from your pancetta? Use our handy food guide to gen up before you go.

Every entry has been inspected and written about by us.

For more information or review copies, due early April, call: Sarah Bolton on 01275 395433 or email: sarah@sawdays.co.uk

- Publication date: 26 April 2007
- 650 entries with colour photos
- Price: £14.99
- 4th edition
- ISBN: 978-1-901970-89-0
- Pages: 480
- Maps: 15

Visit our web site to see a full range of books and places to stay.

There is also a press area where journalists can request review copies or download pdfs of the latest press releases.

www.specialplacestostay.com

Durham

Authentic Pub Award



Black Bull Inn
Frosterley

Here is an enticing village pub run just as its owners like it. It is atmospherically lit – Duncan Davis was a photographer before the Black Bull came his way – and you’ll love the solid tables and high-back settles (cushioned for comfort), the stone flags, the ticking clocks, the glowing ranges, the warmth and good cheer. No lagers, but coffee and scones from 10.30am (truly!), followed by cider from the cask and beers from a few villages away. How about a dark malty porter from Wylam Brewery or a bitter from Allendale? The hop is treated with reverence here, and the inexpensive food is a joy. Rather than devising a menu then searching for suppliers, Diane and Duncan, ever perfectionists, source the produce first: local as much as possible, and in tune with the seasons. A shin of

Broomhill Farm beef braised in ale on root vegetables with dumplings and roast potatoes is the sort of thing they do brilliantly. Once a month local musicians play classical, folk or jazz. . . hey, this place even has its own peel of bells.

- directions Beside A689 in Weardale between Wolsingham and Stanhope.
- meals 12pm-2.30pm; 7pm-9pm.
No food Sun eve.
Main courses up to £10.50.
Sunday roast £7.50.
- closed Open all day. Closed Mon eve.



Duncan & Diane Davis
Black Bull Inn,
Bridge End,
Frosterley DL13 2SL
tel 01388 527784



map: 12 entry: 157