

GBPA Regional Winners

London



Black Lion
Hammersmith, W6

Judges' citation: "Under Chris Kemp's leadership, the Black Lion has undergone a truly remarkable transformation from a venue needing some TLC into a vibrant pub befitting its prime position on the banks of the Thames. The pub now features a quality food offering and a varied and innovative events programme."

Transformation: Chris Kemp, left, and Fuller's London Pride brand marketing manager David Spencer

regional partner
Fuller's
LONDON
Pride

Managed pub of the year



category partner
MAGNERS

Black Lion Hammersmith, London W6

Entrepreneurial flair: Bill Turnbull, Black Lion general manager Chris Kemp and Magners senior brand manager Richard Barnes

Members of the judging panel were impressed with the management and entrepreneurial skills of Chris Kemp, which have helped transform the fortunes of the Black Lion. Chris arrived in May 2008 and immediately set about changing the food offer and raising service standards at the New Pub Company outlet. Chris employed former colleagues including the head chef to help. The varied events programme also impressed the judges. In addition to favourites including quiz and themed food nights, Chris has organised events – such as casino nights, operatic music, psychic fairs, and variations of TV game shows like *Blind Date* and *Weakest Link* – which have helped boost trade at the pub.