

1st June 2013

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Dear Sir/madam,

I am writing in reference to Pub companies exploiting lease holders. It would be easy for me to agree with all the bad press towards pub companies regarding high rents, unfavourable beer ties and beer prices. However, I have to be realistic and remind myself that I would not have been able to afford the freehold for the venue I currently have and as difficult as the past few years have been I have survived and have provided an adequate lifestyle for my family. This is partly down to a good relationship with my punch development manager who has provided me with essential support such as yearly road shows, improved drink ranges, partner forums (marketing, food, etc training), promotions, etc.

Yes, I would ideally like to be out of my beer tie, yes, I want to pay a lower rent and yes, I would like to own the freehold for my business but the bare truth is that I entered this lease with open eyes, I knew exactly what I was getting into and took professional advice before doing so. So as unhappy as I may be with the situation, the truth is I would not be running a busy pub if not for the Pub companies and the opportunity to take a business in a prime location without the need for a huge mortgage.

Thank you for your time