

## Pub pair get a pizza the action

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A HUSBAND and wife team have completed an ambitious revamp of a historic pub after purchasing the business last year.



Richard and Loren Pope have managed The Bull's Head in Repton on behalf of Punch Taverns since May, 2007, and jumped at the chance to buy the freehold of the pub when it was put up for sale in September last year.

Since then the couple have installed a wood-fired pizza oven in the part of the 18th Century pub, which was originally a bakery.

The new pizza oven has boosted trade, leading Richard and Loren to increase the number of pizza chefs employed by the pub from two to five.

To fund the purchase of the pub, the couple approached Lloyds TSB Commercial, which provided a seven-figure lending package that included funding under the Government-backed Enterprise Finance Guarantee (EFG).

The £1.3 billion EFG scheme was launched earlier this year and sees the Government guarantee lending to viable firms with a turnover of up to £25 million to ensure that they can access working capital and investment funding.

Mr Pope said: "Running The Bull's Head over the past two years has been a great experience and we really feel we're at the heart of the local community.

"The new pizza oven has been a huge success and we received lots of positive feedback from our customers.

"We're now focused on establishing our reputation and attracting people from across Derbyshire to The Bull's Head."