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August 79

THE LONDON DRINKER

10p

Produced by the London branches of the Campaign for Real Ale Ltd



This month

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Our Cover Photo shows Croydon and Sutton CAMRA members demonstrating their approval of a new "guv'nor" in an old-established Real Ale House in Sutton.

The New Inn in Myrtle Road Sutton has been selling Wethered's Bitter for some years. When the pub was recently modernised and enlarged, the former manager and now tenant, Tony Welfare, insisted on retaining the handpumps despite protests from the brewery. The result is that the tastefully redecorated pub now boasts three handpumps. Tony, a keen CAMRA supporter and Real Ale enthusiast, and keeps an excellent pint of Wethereds. With prospects of other Real Ales from Whitbread, as we mention elsewhere in this issue, Tony is looking forward to offering a wider choice.

CAMRA's South West London Branch will be staging the Second Norwood Beer Festival next month in Norwood Hall, Knight's Hill, SE27. The festival will run from Thursday August 23 to Sunday August 26th. As well as a range of Real Ales, there will be food and entertainment. Opening hours are 5.30p. to 10.30 p.m. on the Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. to 11p.m. Saturday, and 12noon to 2p.m. on the Sunday.

Norwood Hall is opposite West Norwood (Southern Region Station)

LONDON DRINKER is published by the London Branches of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale Ltd.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the individual contributors and are not necessarily the views of either the London Branches of CAMRA or the Campaign for Real Ale Ltd.

Advertising in LONDON DRINKER is not expensive - and the magazine is reaching an increasing number of Beer Drinkers and pub users every month.

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THE LONDON DRINKER

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Prices

"I feel I must reply to your erroneous snippet regarding the Anglesea Arms. The implication that the beer is overpriced is far from true. Obviously a free house will be dearer; Young's Special at 40p doesn't seem expensive if I can pay 38p in a Young's House.

As a regular who doesn't live in the area, nor park a Ferrari outside, and the only chauffeur I employ drives a large red thing with a number on the front, I think you boobed. The days of ale at 4d a pint are long gone, and I can only presume that CAMRA employs people with a combination lock on their wallets who bring tears to the eyes of the Queen with their grip on the note!

If you want cheap beer, then you can always buy a beer kit. Don't knock a pub which hasn't got musical wallpaper, or people who are so young they think Chuck Berry is a fruit. Rumour has it that the Nag's Head will soon be seen in the American Express Commercial! As for selling Wells' Bombardier, the publican has no intention of selling it. Your reporter should use his typewriter before his glass, not vice-versa.

On a different point, what I.Q. is required for employment in the Promotions Department at Charles Wells? What with "Wells Fargo" and now "Bombardier" - no doubt for bars where brawling is commonplace - the mind boggles as to what comes next. Perhaps "Tunbridge", sold at Southern Region stations to commuters, "Sadlers" for opera buffs, or "Artesian" for Watney drinkers."

Yours critically,

J. Tuthill
Loughborough Park, SW9

We felt that the above letter was worth featuring on our Prices Page because it demonstrated well the kind of muddled thinking on prices that too many people display. We felt it worthwhile to point out the fallacies of Mr. Tuthill's arguments.

For a start, CAMRA is not complaining about all prices or saying that all ale is overpriced. We are perfectly aware of the existence of high rates of inflation and all that that entails. What we have been taking to task is the overpricing practiced by some brewers (often nearly monopolistic and caused by inefficiency) and the excessive prices that some London pubs charge.

Of course it is the attitude of people like Mr. Tuthill which helps to exacerbate the problem. For a start, it is not 'obvious' that a Free House will be dearer. There is a body of received wisdom that this is normal, but like so much received wisdom it is wrong. And even if it were the case, it makes little sense to compare the Anglesea's 40p with a Young's house's 38p if the latter is also overpriced. That some Young's tied houses overcharge is fact. Before the Budget increases, we knew of several pubs charging 40p for bitter (eg the New Town in

Gutton - locally a West End location) and one (The Guinea in Mayfair) which charged 42p. Then at the same time, pubs like the Windmill on Clapham Common sold bitter at 33p in the public and 36p in the Saloon, you may see what we mean.

Indeed, John Young, at Young's recent AGM, expressed concern at the level of prices being charged by some houses. It was once John Young's boast that he could supply good beer at a penny or two less than the competition. Although Young's managed houses still maintain that ideal, the avarice of some tenants (not all) and of Free House licensees, is undermining that principle. That they are able to do so is made easier by those like Mr. Tuthill who are lacking in discrimination, who fork out the extra few pence and then rationalise it afterwards with such feeble excuses as 'Well, it's in Central London' or 'It is a Free House' or 'It's a nice pub' or 'There are other places as dear' etc etc.

It could be maintained, of course, that is the individual's concern if he is happy to pay more for his ale than he needs. Unfortunately it just isn't that simple. While a large section of the drinking public are willing to behave like mugs and pay excessive prices, the tendency is for pubs to put the prices up. That means that we are all asked to pay these daft prices, unless we are able to shop around - not always too easy in some areas. There is something of an analogy with lager. As long as the consumer of lager is willing to pay prices far in excess of those for ordinary bitter when the production cost of lager is about the same, then there will be brewers who try their best to push this overpriced piss down our throats. Were it not for the excessive margins on lager, brewers would have no interest in it - and might be a little more concerned to produce more decent Real Ale.

The Real Ale drinker in London is not getting all that good a deal. We at LONDON DRINKER are doing our modest best to dispel a little of the 'Price Illusion' which many drinkers have. Real Ale is not a product which justifies fancy prices. We should not be quite so keen to pay them.

An interesting footnote on prices. CALRA Investments' Hampstead pub, the Nag's Head, is offering a Special Offer 'Beer of the Week' To quote just one example, the other week saw Godson's Black Horse Bitter (1048 O.G.) selling at only 33p a pint. We hope others will copy and that the jackals over at the 'Morning Advertiser' will have the guts to print the news.

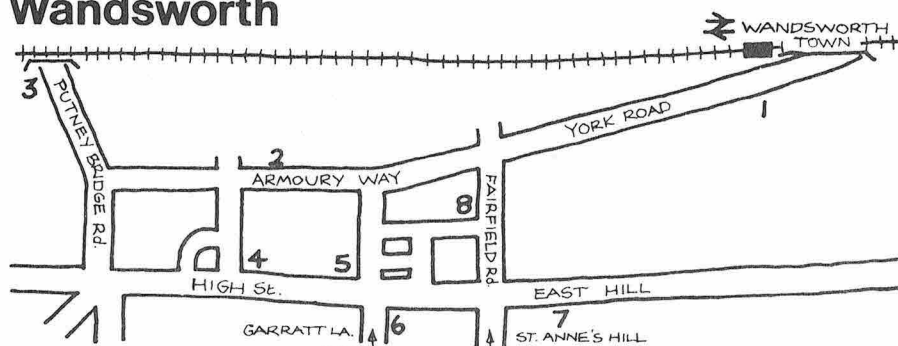
We do however take Mr. Tuthill's point regarding Bombardier. This was a misunderstanding on the part of our informant. As for Welis' choice of names, we feel that they at least make a change from 'Best Bitter', 'Special Bitter' and the like. We hear on the old grapevine that the brewery are considering a Communion Ale, to be titled 'Bishop of Bath and'

● It seems as if for some people, Watneys can do nothing right. After hearing about the London Bitter TV ads, Susan Fincham pointed out that this rather messed up her golden rule about beer - if it's advertised on telly, forget it.

2 Pub crawls

As a bonus, we describe two pub crawls this month. First, LAURIE BISHOP writes about a very short urban crawl round the Real Ale Mecca of South London.....

Wandsworth



- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. Alma | 4. King's Arms | 7. Royal Oak |
| 2. Crane | 5. Brewery Tap | 6. Grapes |
| 3. Queen Adelaide | 6. Spread Eagle | |

This crawl is a little short on variety, but there are nonetheless four excellent brews to choose from all the year round, and an extra one (Young's Winter Warmer is available in some houses) in winter. The quality of the ale is consistently high as well, the pubs mentioned being the best of a large number in this area.

We start at the ALMA, which is opposite Wandsworth Town (BR) Station. This is certainly one of the most popular pubs in the area. The full Young's range is on sale here and the pub has a cheerful atmosphere that is difficult to resist. The gov'nor of this pub won the Regional award in the recent Guinness "Local Life" competition for his services to the community.

Walking down York Road towards the Brewery and crossing the road, we come into Armoury Way where on the right is the CRANE. A small pub where the Saloon Bar gets crowded if attendance reaches double figures, it offers both Young's Bitters. It has not suffered through having recently been renovated, as it has kept its public bar and its dart board. (All Young's pubs in Central Wandsworth have a public bar and all have a variety of pub games.)

Continuing along Armoury Way, passing Young's Brewery on the left, and turning right at the T-junction into Putney Bridge Road, we find, on the left, the QUEEN ADELAIDE. This superb pub has been featured in several books on beer (apart from Guides, that is) and is justly famous. The full range of Young's beers is on tap and the place is a must for traditional

pub addicts. Make sure you don't pinch one of the regulars' seats in the saloon!

Retracing our steps as far as the traffic lights just before the Crane and turning right towards the church we reach, on the corner opposite, the KINGS ARMS. The pub offers both Young's bitters and its reputation grows daily. The saloon is often crowded and the public bar once sold the cheapest pint in Wandsworth. CAMRA South West London Branch hold meetings in the back room to the saloon at regular intervals.

Leaving the pub and walking along the High Street towards the brewery, we find, just the other side of the river Wandle (Wandsworth was formerly called Wandlesworth), the BREWERY TAP. As the name suggests, the pub is really part of the brewery buildings and is a convenient point to meet before (or after) visiting the brewery. The full range of Young's beers is sold here. This very large pub has an excellent upstairs restaurant.

The full range of brews is also available at the SPREAD EAGLE just opposite. This cavernous pub is an excellent example of pub architecture both inside and out, and the place is deservedly popular. It is another regular meeting place for South West London CAMRA.

Walking up East Hill to the traffic lights, passing the Two Brewers, we reach the ROYAL OAK. By way of a change, this pub offers Charrington IIA, served in good condition. It makes something of a change to the otherwise uninterrupted diet of Young's.

Turning back to the lights and then right into Fairfield Road leads us to the final pub - the GRAPES. Both Young's bitters are on sale in this splendid little pub which has a remarkable saloon bar. A really superb finale to this crawl of South West London's premier drinking area.

But perhaps not. Those who have travelled by train can finish off back in the ALMA by continuing along Fairfield Road and turning right into York Road. The Alma is on the right, about three minutes' walk away.

All pubs mentioned in this crawl serve food both at lunchtime and in the evenings. The larger pubs, like the King's Arms, Brewery Tap and Spread Eagle do full meals at lunchtime and snacks throughout the evenings whereas the smaller pubs normally offer snacks at all times. In some cases, snacks may only be available for part of the evening session.

The second crawl provides a complete contrast, being over a longer distance and in the country. DENYS VERRALL takes us.....

From Hanwell to Brentford

Although we often bewail the fact that there is very little country -side left around London, this walk passes through some of the most pleasant country in Middlesex.

The walk starts at the 'Red Lion' in Boston Road, Hanwell. This pub may be reached by travelling to Boston Manor Tube, turning left outside the station, and walking for about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. Buses passing the station

offer an alternative, but as the ramble ahead is one of over 4 miles anyway, another quarter mile is not going to make much difference.

The Red Lion is a large, recently re-decorated pub which sells an excellent pint of Courage Directors' or of Best Bitter. The pub has had great connections with CAMRA for years.

Leaving the Red Lion, cross the Road and walk down the road opposite; turn right and then left and you reach 'The Fox'. This is an old barges' pub which sells Courage Directors'

Proceeding from the Fox to the nearby canal, turn right and cross the canal at the lock. From there a footpath takes you across two stiles to a disused railway line. Turn left here and follow the perimeter of the playing field right round until you reach the main road (Windmill Lane). Turn left and about 200 yards down the lane is the 'Hare and Hounds'. This is a delightful country pub which serves handpumped Fullers ESB, London Pride, and Hock. Meals are available at lunchtimes and sandwiches evenings and weekends.

On leaving the Hare and Hounds, cross the road and walk across Wyke Green opposite. This should lead you to the top of Wood lane; walk down Wood lane and you reach the 'Osterley Lodge Motel'. Do not be put off by the name; the bar is very friendly and offers Bass, Sam Smith's and Arkell BEB.

Next, cross over the main road and turn left. When you reach St. Francis of Assissi Church turn right down a wooded path, right at the bottom over a railway footbridge and carry on down Quakers' Lane until you reach London Road. Turn left and walk a further 100 yards. On the other side of the road is the 'Coach and Horses'

This is an old coaching inn which is immortalised in Dickens' book, 'Oliver Twist'. It sells Young's Special and Bitter, Best Malt Ale, and Winter Warmer in season.

The crawl ends at the George and Dragon Brentford - soon to become a Charrington's House. (Photo - Skunt of Ottawa)



From the Coach and Horses, continue along London Road, avoiding the Watneys pub, until you reach the 'George and Dragon', Brentford.

In the writer's estimation, this is one of the most friendly pubs in London and it currently sells an excellent pint of Fullers' Hock, ESB, or London Pride. The pub is, however, due to change hands in the Fuller/Charrington swap deal, so do not be surprised if you are faced with the choice of IPA and Bass.

As by now you will have walked over 4 miles, you may prefer to relax in the George and Dragon. The more energetic may prefer to continue on into Brentford where more Real Ales can be sampled.

Pub news

● A fair crop of new Real Ale outlets has been notified to us this month. A rare event is the news that one pub, "The Seven Stars", on the corner of Whitechapel Road and Commercial Street, has ceased to sell the real thing. May the curse of LONDON DRINKER descend upon it.

● But now the good news. A nap hand of new outlets for Wethered Bitter in West London starts us off. The Marlow brewed ale is available on handpump in "The Bunch of Grapes", Dering Street and "The Hope", Tattanham Street, both in W1. Visitors to Shepherd Market looking for a good £ pint can sample Wethereds in "The Grapes". The other two pubs concerned are "The Wilton Arms", Kinnerton Street, SW1 and "The Wheat-sheaf", 562 Kings Road, SW6 (this last not until late August/early Sept)

● One new outlet for handpumped Fullers. Both ESB and London Pride are now on sale in "The Cardinal Wolsey", The Green, Hampton Court.

● Seven new outlets for Courage Directors' come next. They are:-

"Dartmouth Arms", Dartmouth Road, Forest Hill, SE23

"The Brook", Shooters' Hill, Woolwich, SE18

"The Running Horse", Davis Street, W1

"The King's Arms", Sloane Square, SW1

"The Prince Alfred (Ducks and Drakes)", Queensway, W2

"The Crown and Woolpack", 394 St John Street, EC1 (Public Bar only)

"The Two Chairmen", Warwick House Street SW1

● Courage Best Bitter is also being added to two of the above - "The Prince Alfred" and "The Crown and Woolpack". Best Bitter has been added to two houses already selling Directors' - The King's Arms, High Street, Eltham, SE9 and The Nightingale, Nightingale Lane, Wanstead.

● For the drinker who doesn't mind about prices, The Cafe Royal Bar (Bobby's), in Glasshouse Street W1 has Ruddles Bitter and Ind Coope Romford Bitter.

● Ruddles Bitter is now also on sale at "The Running Footman", Hays News, W1.

● The Star and Garter, High Street, Bromley, Kent, now offers handpumped Ind Coope Romford Bitter.

● As expected, the CAMRA Investments pub in Woolwich, The Village Blacksmith, Hillreach, SE18, has put on a Mild. The brew selected is, wisely enough, Shepherd Neame Mild.

The Bitter Experience



Bringing you the best in real ale, Fine Wines, and Home brewing. Now in SE London you can have traditional ale fresh from the barrel in your Home, just bring along your own container, or if you prefer, take away in one of ours, for only a small deposit extra. We also stock a complete range of Fine Wines including a specially selected House Wine, offering extremely good value. Popular varieties of bottled and canned beers and lagers plus 30 or more bottled beers from traditional real ale breweries are also available. The range of draught beers varies each week, with always 6-8 to choose from. A wide range of Polypins and firkens are available for parties. Glasses for loan, no charge.

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New London guide

Publication day for the new Guide to Good Ale in the Capital, "Real Beer in London" has been set for early August. The eagerly-awaited guide will list details of 1600 pubs which sell Real Ale - all those known to the compilers at the time of going to print. Of that 1600, some 400 are new to the book. Thirty three different brewers, and sixty six of their Traditional Beers, are represented in the pubs included.

The pub entries all give details of the beers available, facilities such as food, gardens, live music, games, etc and there are short, though often inane, descriptive comments on many pubs.

The Guide is illustrated with sketches of breweries and "breweriana" and there are twenty eight maps which help you to locate over 300 of the pubs in areas such as the West End and the City and in several other parts of London where an interesting choice of pubs or beers may be found.

The Guide is printed in two colours throughout and contains 112 pages. It costs 95p and copies will be available from many bookshops, pubs as well as at the Great British Beer Festival in September. You can also obtain copies for £1 post free by writing to REAL BEER IN LONDON, Dept VSA, Flat 5, 2 Talbot Road, London W2. Cheques should be made payable to CALRA London.

Cooking with Una

This month's recipe is for SPICED BEEF which can be eaten hot, or cold with salad. Preparations should be started 1 week in advance.

You will need:-

6lb joint of beef	1 clove garlic
3 bay leaves	2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 teaspoon cloves	1 teaspoon allspice
6 heads mace	1 lb coarse salt
1 teaspoon peppercorns	

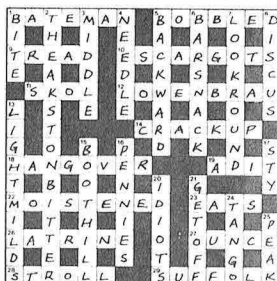
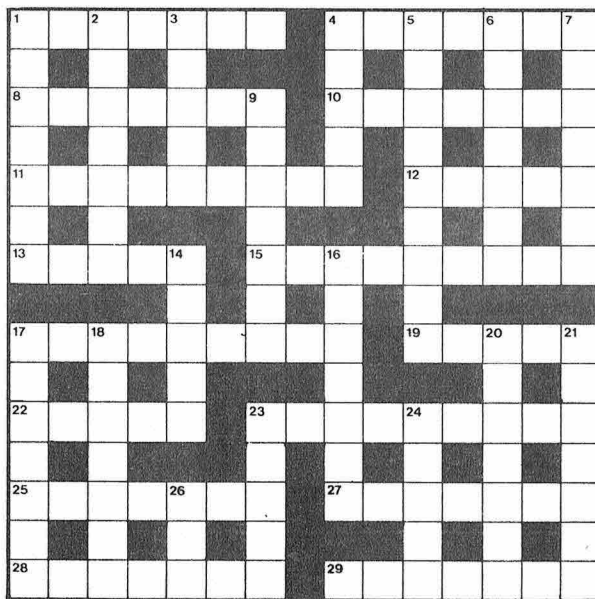
Put the meat into a large dish. Mix all the other ingredients together. Each day rub some of the mixture into the meat. After 1 week wash the meat and tie into shape.

So So!

3 sliced carrots	1 teaspoon allspice
3 sliced onions	1 teaspoon ground cloves
mixed herbs	2 pint bottle Guinness

Put the vegetables into a large saucepan and place the meat on top. Sprinkle with the spices. Cover with warm water and simmer for 5 hours. During the last hour, add the Guinness.

Drinker Xword 6



JUNE WINNERS

F. BELL
WEST MOLESEY, SURREY

G. WALKER
CROYDON, SURREY

N. KIRKE
THORNTON HEATH, SURREY

Across

1. Footballer Johann's mixed up and untidy (7)
4. Brewer of pedigree (7)
5. Meaningless hippy expression (2,5)
10. River writes? No, gets more water (7)
11. Brewer from Sospa. Fach town (9)
12. Chinese dynasty sounds like old act of masturbation (5)
13. Song to sing when drunk on keg (5)
15. Was the only English Pope a brewer (9)
17. Makes pleasanter - though not to beer (9)
19. Jackson's brewing partner in the North (5)
22. Ms Rantzen loses point - it's a knockout (5)
23. Pay a visit and pay for the ale (4,5)
25. Tory Government? Even worse! (3,4)
27. Seal spirits - from Hebrides (7)
28. News of Xmas Carols (7)
29. Is erect, confused, and spouts poetry (7)

Down

1. Put tobacco up nose and expired (7)
2. R.T. Alert! There's a snake here! (7)
3. Oliver's mentor was certainly twisted (5)
4. Gold one is rare for Britain (5)
5. Sussex spirit? American rotgut! (3,6)
6. Thirteen to twenty (7)
7. All malt in brew - or slimmer's coffee (2,5)
9. Russian currency under threat initially - that's bother (7)
14. Ms Rantzen loses first tooth in Surrey (5)
16. Second city's second brewer (7)
17. Seldom found under glass in London! (4,3)
18. "The glory is departed" (7)
20. Imported pollutant found in London streets during the summer (7)
21. Unhappy is Eliot for cruel folk (7)
26. Make money we hear, for container (3)

Three more copies of the new 'Real Beer in London' to the winners drawn on September 8th.

Send entries to Brian Sheridan, 6 Ashburton Road, Croydon to arrive by that date.

Lager corner

We continue our serialisation of the fizzing and fruity novel of romance among lager men - HARRY STAINES' best-selling novel..

Love From Denmark

The Story so far

Nigel has met Sven, a visiting Danish lager brewer, in Northampton. As a result of their mutual love of lager-and-lime they have fallen in love. Nigel has moved in with Sven and has found a job at the Tjördborg Brewery. Nigel's job, that of measuring the correct quantity of dioxy-chloromethylmetachromophilophlogistate into each vat of Rosencrantz and Gildensternbrau, is one which gives him tremendous satisfaction, since it involves the time-honoured art of the brewer. However, doubts begin to creep into Nigel's mind.

Now Read on.....

Nigel often wondered about the attitudes of Society to him and his kind. The hostility of the "straight" community was seldom expressed outright, but the certainty of that hostility could not be disputed. The strange looks, the snide remarks, the uneasiness displayed - all of these left Nigel in no doubt. Then there were the jokes told in bars, the graffiti on lavatory walls, and countless other indications. At best, Nigel and his kind were figures of fun; at worst, objects of the most basic hatred and contempt.

Nigel yearned to be as strong as Sven. The older man seemed to be oblivious to the hostility of the "straights" - even, it seemed to Nigel, capable of drawing strength from the adversity of his situation. Sven often explained that the attitudes displayed were the result of ignorance and bigotry and should be ignored. A man was what a man was, and had to do what he had to do. As long as he could walk tall, walk straight, and look the world right in the eye, then a man was a man for all that.

Nigel saw the logic of Sven's arguments, but could nevertheless not accept them totally. Sven, being what he was, was bound to rationalise the position in this way. But what if the majority were right? What if Nigel's orientation was a perversion, a corruption, a sin even? Was not the distaste of the "straights" a primeval instinctive manifestation of some ancient wisdom still relevant to to-day? Nigel grew ever more unsure.

Of course, treatment was possible. The medical profession had long since ceased to offer help, but there was a group of people who were willing to help. The treatment, Nigel knew, was severe - aversion therapy, enforced substitution, group therapy and, if all else failed, the operation. Nigel had considered asking their aid, but could not face the treatment.

No, if he wanted to regain his position in straight society, he must do so by a conscious act of will. He would do it tonight - or not at all.

Deep in thought, Nigel had not seen Sven arrive. Sven had observed him in his anguished deliberations, and knew. Nigel looked up and saw Sven; from the look on Sven's face, Nigel knew that Sven knew, and that Sven knew that Nigel knew that Sven knew.

This was it then. Nigel would reject his way of life, and reject Sven with it. Sven's face gave no clue to his thoughts, save that he knew. "Damn Sven" thought Nigel. "He knows, and yet he seems so impassive."

The silence was at last broken by the Dane. "Well Nigel" he said in a gentle voice that revealed his compassion for the younger man's inner tortures. "What is it to be?"

Nigel's heart was pounding and his whole body trembled. He must say the words that would end it all. But his lips would not move, and his mouth was dry.

"I'll..... I'll....." Nigel could not get any further.

"Yes Nigel?" said Sven.

"I'll.....I'll...have...a lager-and-lime"

As Nigel said the words, he felt as though somebody else had spoken them for him. They were not the words he had wanted to say. But as he looked at Sven, and saw the ghost of a gentle smile on his face, Nigel realised that he did not want it any other way. He was committed. He was forever lost.

That night, their lovemaking reached new heights of intensity. Sven had taken from the fridge a bottle of Kraftdurchfreudebrot, and he poured the ice cold liquid liberally over Nigel's madly palpitating
(continued page 69)

Last month's lager crossword attracted a bumper entry - although no one has managed to get it all correct. One nearly correct entry came from a member of CAMRA's Executive, but we are sorry Tim - you are not eligible. So keep trying folks.

A new lager competition this month, with the chance to win copies of Harry Staines' best seller 'Love from Denmark' autographed by the author.

Below are printed the names of some well known lagers. The letters are jumbled up. If you can unscramble the names and send the answers to Lager Corner, Max Josef Strasse 33, Holsten, Bavaria, Near Luton, by 1st April 1980, you may be one of the lucky winners!

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. HENNEKE | 4. CARIBERG | 7. MCEWANS CAVALIER
LAGRE |
| 2. KSOL | 5. UTBOG | |
| 3. HOLFEISTER | 6. KRONENBOURG ELGAR | 8. HOLT'S LAGER REGAL |
| | | 9. COLT 54 |

Letters

Dear Sir,

I picked up a copy of your newsletter (July - ED) and read of the Hackney Marsh Real Ale Tent on Saturday July 14th. I went along to Clapton Park. Would that you could have provided more information for this East London fiasco - I wouldn't have gone!

Charrington IPA at 45p a pint; no Mild Ale; "Wimpy Bar" style drinking vessels - you must be joking. CAMRA's name is mud! I wouldn't think you would ever get any new members from this event, or others of its kind.

I didn't bother to argue with CAMRA branch members at this place, as I imagined that if they could be that bad, they must have been pissed.

Yours lissed Off,

Basil Thompson
Cripington
Kent.

(We spoke to Dave Wakefield of CAMRA's East London Branch regarding Mr Thompson's letter. Various points emerged. To begin with, the Beer Tent was not run by CAMRA. The Campaign did have a Products Stall selling Beer Guides, Newsletters etc etc, but was not involved in the selling of beer. The prices of all beers were 45p and while this is certainly too high for Charrington IPA, it is on the low side for brews such as Everards Old Original or Eldridge Pope Royal Oak which were also on sale. Mind you, that is no consolation if your taste is for IPA! The need for plastic cups was at the insistence of the Local Authority, who wished to avoid the risk of broken glass in a public park.

We would like to offer Mr. Thompson the chance to see a CAMRA run Festival in action. If he will get in touch with the Editor, we will invite him to be our guest at the West Norwood Festival one evening, where the Editor will be supervising the serving of around sixteen Real Ales (including Mild). - ED)

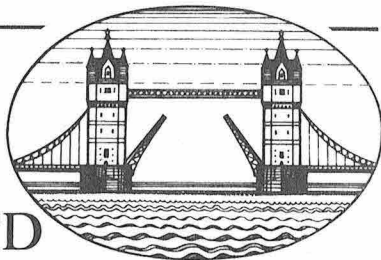
A date to note...

The West Middlesex Branch are staging for the third year the Beer Tent at the Annual Southall Show. The show will take place in Southall Park, Uxbridge Road, Southall from Saturday August 25th to Monday 27th. Opening hours will be 10am to 7pm on the Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 5pm on the Monday.

Among the breweries expected to be represented are Fullers, Ind Coope, Bass, Whitbread, Hook Norton, Morlands, Morrells, and Brakspears. There will also be Food and Entertainment as well as a Snuff Counter! Admission is Free.

New ales

SIMON'S TOWER BRIDGE BREWERY LTD



The first pints from the new Tower Bridge Brewery are expected soon. The main items of equipment have been delivered to the site, and the job of installing these is under way.

Before the beer goes on sale, however, various test brews will be made. Only when good quality beer has been brewed will the company put it on to the market. Depending on progress, Simon's Tower Bridge Bitter, may be in the first few pubs by the end of this month. In any event, the aim is to have the beer ready for the Great British Beer Festival at Alexandra Palace which starts on September 2nd.

Four outlets for the new brew have been signed up already, and others will be added in due course. They are:-

"The Nag's Head", Hampstead

"The Sun", Lambs Conduit Street, WC1

"The Village Blacksmith", Woolwich

"The Mocrn", New North Street, WC1.

The Goose & Firkin

London's first "Home Brewed" pub for many years opened last month, and though the opening was not widely publicised, the first few days' trading was heavy.

The "Goose and Firkin", in Borough Road, Southwark is the brainchild of David Bruce, a former brewer with the Yorkshire brewers Theakstons. The tiny brewery on the premises turns out Bruce's Bitter (1045°) one 54 gallon hogshead at a time for sale only in the pub.

Although the beer is currently brewed using malt extracts, David Bruce hopes to add a malt mill and mash tun later to enable him to brew from malt grains. Whole hops are used, and the beer is racked into hogsheads and conditioned naturally.

The pub itself is decorated in a basic style which provides a good solid alehouse atmosphere without the poncey frills which ruin so many London pubs. A good, though small, menu of home made food is on offer at lunchtimes and in the evening.

When we visited the pub, the Bruce's Bitter was, understandably, the centre of interest. However, Shepherd Neame Bitter and Bass were also available on handpumps, and plans were afoot to add Devenish Wessex Best Bitter to the range on offer.

One grouse, however. At 48p a pint, we felt that the Bruce's Bitter was considerably overpriced (after all, transport costs cannot be very high) and that the other brews could also have been cheaper.



Goose and Firkin, Borough Road

(Photo - Virgil Beaton)

Fullers swap pubs

In a recently announced swap deal, Fullers of Chiswick are to gain seven new outlets in return for four of their own. The deal is with Charrington, and the swaps will take place over the next few months.

The first swap was due to take place on July 23rd, when the "Adam and Eve" Uxbridge Road, Hayes, was to pass from Fullers to Charrington. The other three Fullers' pubs to go to Charrington are:-

- "The Rifleman", Hounslow
- "The Star", Hillingdon
- "The George and Dragon", Brentford

Of these, only the last named currently sells Real Ale. The others, in common with the majority of Fullers' pubs, sell cask-conditioned beer on a rather quaint system which involves Carbon Dioxide under pressure.

Of the seven Charrington houses, only one, the "Builders' Arms" in Croydon, has handpumps. Fullers have said, however, that the licensees of all of their new acquisitions will be offered handpumps if they want them. The pubs which may soon be offering Real ESB, London Pride, and,

we trust, Hock, are the following:-

"The Crown and Sceptre", Croydon

"The Boathouse Tavern", SE25

"The Barley Mow", Epsom

"The Moss Hall Tavern", Finchley

"The Railway Tavern", Carshalton

"The Beehive", St. John's Hill, SW11

It is not yet known whether Charrington will offer their new pubs the chance of handpumps, but since the company have recently been increasing availability of cask beer - particularly Bass - there is every hope that the swap deal will add to the ever-growing number of London pubs offering the Real Thing.

Whitbread hope

The prospects for Real Ale from Whitbread seem to be improving, at least as far as London is concerned. At the Whitbread company AGM held on July 24th, Harold Jenkins, Chairman of Whitbread (London) Ltd gave a firm commitment to increasing the number of Real Beer outlets in the London Trading Area.


In response to questions from CAMRA's Liaison Officer for Whitbread, Robin Bence, Jenkins also said that in addition to the Marlow Bitter, currently on sale in about a quarter of Whitbread pubs in London, a second cask beer would be introduced - Fremfins' Tusker, a stronger bitter brewed at Faversham. (This beer is already on sale in three pubs in S.E. London, including the 'Hare and Billet' in Blackheath.)

A second Marlow cask beer, Winter Royal, which in 1979 is, for the first time, being brewed all year round, will also be made more widely available. No further details of these moves were available, but we shall try to keep readers informed of developments.

NORWOOD
BEER
FESTIVAL
1979



ADMISSION
FREE



Opening Hours

Thursday	23rd	5.30 - 10.30
Friday	24th	5.30 - 10.30
Saturday	25th	11.00 - 10.30
Sunday	26th	12.00 - 2.00

23rd - 26th August

A WIDE CHOICE of REAL BEERS,
Natural Food and Entertainment
plus much, much more
at
NORWOOD HALLS, Knights Hill, West Norwood, SE 27

Presented by the South West London Branch of CAMRA and LAMBETH Amenity Savers.

Branch diary

ALL LONDON

Saturday 11th (11am) 'Courage Campaigning Crawl' to publicise Courage Real Ale in South Lambeth. Starts at Hanover Arms (by Oval Station) thence Fentiman Arms (Fentiman Street), Wheatsheaf (South Lambeth Road), Prince of Wales and the Gladstone (both in Wilcox Road), Britannia, Bell, Lord Westbury, Nag's Head (all Wandsworth Road)

BROMLEY

Thursday 9th (8pm) "Bat and Trap" versus Sevenoaks Branch at "The King's Head", Bessels Green, Near Sevenoaks.

Thursday 23rd (8pm) Social at "George and Dragon" High Street, Downe.

BEXLEY

Tuesday 14th. Branch Meeting "Victoria", Belvedere.

CROYDON AND SUTTON

Tuesday 7th (8pm) Branch Meeting at the 'Horse and Groom' Croydon.

Thursday 23rd (7.30pm) Sutton Pub crawl. Commences 'Cricketers' thence 'Dolphin', 'Robin Hood'

Thursday 30th. Joint Social with Kingston and Leatherhead Branch, 'Amato', Epsom.

EAST LONDON AND CITY

Tuesday 21st. Branch Meeting at "The Roding", Southend Road, E6 (East Ham Tube) - 7.30pm

ENFIELD AND BARNET

Wed 8th. (8pm) Branch Meeting, "Prince Albert", Golders Green Road, NW11

Wed 22nd (8pm) Social, "Trent Tavern", Cockfosters (in the garden)

KINGSTON AND LEATHERHEAD

Tuesday 7th (8.30) Pool match versus locals, "Southborough Arms", Hook (on A3)

Thursday 16th (8pm) Branch Meeting, Oak Tavern, Surbiton. Joe Goodwin, Chairman of CAMRA Ltd will attend to answer members' questions.

Excursion to "Royal Oak" Midhurst to meet Midhurst and Chichester Branches. Dwell-flonking, Beer Tent, Pub Games, Barbecue etc etc. Coach leaves Surbiton 10 am returning midnight. Tickets are £3.50, from Andrew Hayward 623-7511 ext 2706 (work) or 942-9834 (home)

NORTH LONDON

Tuesday 14th (8pm) Branch Meeting, "Railway Tavern" Crouch End Hill, N8

Thursday 23rd (8pm) Social "The Crown", Aberdeen Place, NW8

RICHMOND AND HOUNSLOW

Wednesday 8th. Social, "Hope and Anchor" Twickenham Road, Hanworth

Thursday 16th. Social, "Coach and Horses", London Rd Isleworth.

ROMFORD, BARKING,
IIFORD
DAGENHAM
(S.W. ESSEX)

Monday 20th. Branch Meeting, "Bull and Bush" Richmond
(Opposite Richmond BR Station)

Wednesday 8th. Branch Meeting "The Royal", Purfleet
Tuesday 14th. Social at "Victoria", Axe Street,
Barking.

Monday 20th. Social and Darts versus Gravesend and
Dartford Branch, "Victory", Dartford. A coach will be
organised if there is sufficient demand. Contact
Chris Cashmore (0277-211703 (home) or 283-0030 ext
356 (work))

Thursday 30th. Social, "Railway", West Horndon
Wed 5th September. Trip to Ruddles Brewery (Full
S.W. Essex Branch members only)

SOUTH EAST
LONDON

Monday 13th. (8pm) Branch Meeting, "Old Nun's Head",
Nunhead Green, Peckham, SE15

SOUTH WEST
LONDON

Thursday 9th. Branch Meeting, "White Hart", Barnes.
Sat 11th Courage Campaigning Crawl of South Lambeth
(see ALL LONDON entry)
Tuesday 21st. Social, "Prince of Wales", Cavendish Rd.
Balham SW12.
Thursday 23rd to Sunday 26th. Norwood Beer Festival

WEST LONDON

Thursday 16th (8pm) Branch Meeting, "Queen's Elm",
241 Fulham Road, SW3
Tuesday 21st. "Pub-of-the-Month" Social, "Sun in
Splendour", Portobello Road, W11
Wednesday 29th "Econo-Beer" Social, Public Bar,
"Rising Sun", Ebury Bridge Road, SW1

WEST MIDDLESEX

Wednesday 8th (8pm) "Harrow Hike", starting at "The
Timber Carriage", Northolt Road, Harrow.
Wednesday 15th. Branch Meeting, "Crown and Old
Treaty House", Oxford Road, Uxbridge
Saturday 25th to Monday 27th. Third Annual Beer
Tent at Southall Show.

Branch contacts

BEKLEY	Bob Belton	303-4590	
BROMLEY	Bob Darvall	697-1631 (h)	491-7050 x 246 (w)
CROYDON & SUTTON	Dave Hamer	647-0992 (h)	215-3683 (w)
E. LONDON & CITY	Bas Clarke	531-6933 (h)	222-4213 (w)
ENFIELD & BARNET	Brian Seymour	803-4062 (h)	366-1112 x 329 (w)
KINGSTON & L'HEAD	Andrew Hayward	942-9834 (h)	623-7511 x 2706(w)
NORTH LONDON	Derek Thorne		637-7141 x 66 (w)
RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW	Dennis Fruin	751-5335	
SOUTH WEST ESSEX	Chris Cashmore	Brentwood 211703 (h)	283-1030 x 356 (w)
SOUTH WEST LONDON	Laurie Bishop	942-2045 (h)	928-8933 x 438 (w)
SOUTH EAST LONDON	Mike Warner	852-7752 (w)	
WEST LONDON	Graham Johnson		969-2488 x 202 (w)
WEST MIDDLESEX	Keith Wildey	422-9560 (w)	



**The 1979
Great British
Beer Festival**

The beer festival that's something else.

What's a beer festival without beer? It's a firework display (see stars without downing a pint), it's a rousing German Evening (can an 'ommpah' band make whoopee?) and it's one helluva party for the family!

There's games and sideshows for everyone, plus nightly live music – top names during the week, extra-special attractions at the weekend. And you can walk in free!

Of course, if you want to take your fun seriously, there's nearly a quarter-of-a-million pints of real ale to be pumped-up and washed-down from Grand Opening Night (Monday 3rd September) to Last Orders (Saturday the 8th) Pick your pint from Britain's finest: over 200 brews in all!

Opening hours are 5.30 till 10.30, except Friday and Saturday when it's 11.00 to 11.00! And it all happens at Alexandra Palace, London. Take the tube (Piccadilly Line) or British Rail to Wood Green, and hop on a W3 bus to the door.

You don't even have to like beer to join in the fun!

Alexandra Palace, September 3rd to 8th inclusive. Admission Free.

I wish to become a member of Campaign for Real Ale Limited. I agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Campaign, and I enclose £4 (£6 joint husband and wife membership) as my annual membership subscription. (Any additional amount will be welcomed as a donation.)

FULL NAME (Block capitals) _____

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS (Block capitals) _____

SIGNATURE _____

Cheques should be made payable to Campaign for Real Ale Limited. Applications should be sent to Membership, CAMRA, 34 Alma Road, St Albans, Herts. AL1 3BW

