

Vol 2 No4

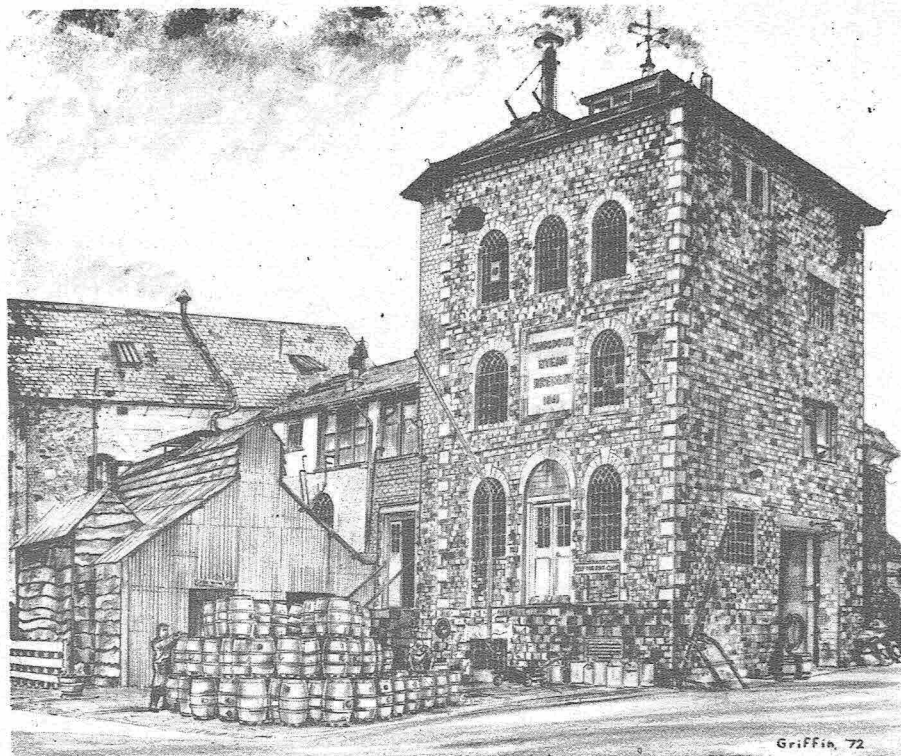
MAY 80

THE

LONDON DRINKER

10p

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

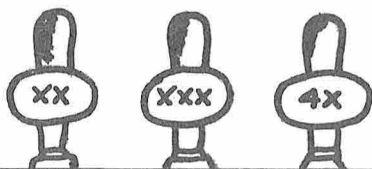


ARKELLS OF SWINDON

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Attractions include
helicopter rides,
camel races and many
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vehicles.

★ NEW CAMRA LANDLORD

THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH in Woolwich, owned by the CAMRA investment company, has a new manager.

He is Nick Winnington, well-known in CAMRA circles as the former Chairman of the South-West Dorset

Branch. He was also one of the first to dispense Eldridge Pope's Royal Oak - at, appropriately enough, the pub of that name in Dorchester. More recently, he was the landlord of the ROYAL ADELAIDE in Weymouth.

LONDON DRINKER

Design Editor: Mike Hammersley

Copy Editor: Ron Atkins

News Editor: Keith Wildey

Contributing Mostyn Lewis
Editors: Louise Joselyn

Distribution: Robin Bence

Advertising: Caroline Bennett
(101a High Street
Ruislip, Middx.
Tel. 943 1122)

Subscriptions: Stan Tompkins

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Full of Yorkshire flavour

MOST OF the regional beers to be offered to us in London (writes MOSTYN LEWIS) in recent years have been Real; cask-conditioned and served without gas or air pressure. The names (and the beers) roll back over the tongue with easy familiarity: Ruddles, Sam Smiths, Brakspears, Everards. After all, if you are going to the trouble of humping the stuff to town you might as well bring something worth the effort.

Even the big brewers have followed along, Ind Coope Burton the most obvious; Whitbread from Marlow and Faversham almost counts, though Charrington beers from Birmingham and Ipswich are just the spasm of a transport policy conceived sometime in the Early Oil Age, when the idea of using vast amounts of fuel and draymen's time to transport a liquid 96% water vast distances instead of brewing within the area supplied seemed the best thing since sliced bread- which is just about what it amounted to.

However, it is in the nature of the big brewer that if there is a good idea around, there must also be an inferior version which is obviously preferable; he must never let the public come to expect quality, just attractive mediocrity (Mostyn's First Law of Political Economy). So enter the Carpetbagger beers: processed beers bearing the names of famous cask beers:

Stones from Sheffield (Bass)
Wilsons from Manchester (Watneys)
John Smiths from Tadcaster (now only a
processed beer there too)- (Courage)

To anyone who fondly recalls these from their native haunts, the sight of these pale imitations must be invigorating. If this were the beginning of a trend, the North might be on the move at last, and the M1 soon be choked with lorries bearing those choice delicacies which London has had to limp along without for so long:

Instant Freeze-dried Black Pudding
Wensleydale Cheese slices (with Vanilla)
Tripe (with added tripe)

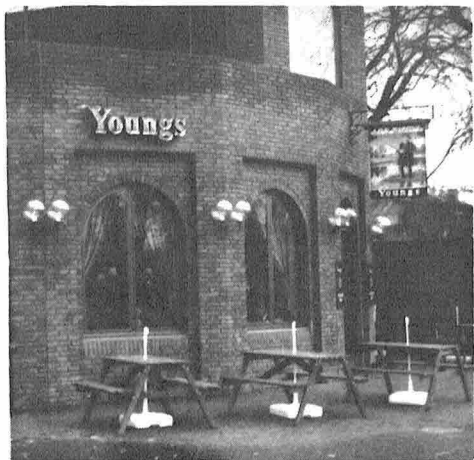
Before that day comes, however, the carpetbaggers will have to sell a lot better than they have so far (although John Smith's apparently sells 100% more than it did before it was available - courtesy Con-U-Market Research). John Smith's is being heavily promoted on television, unlike Courage's seemingly-doomed cask beers. My favourite John Smith's advertisement is the one that reaches the helpful conclusion that the beer is more interesting than the average mayfly. Commendable accuracy: the mayfly lives about 24 hours, flapping around and laying an egg.

★ INDEPENDENTS WIN AT BREWEX

AT BREWEX '80, held at the Birmingham National Exhibition Centre, all the prizes went to the independent brewers. Ruddle's won the cask-conditioned draught

beer Challenge Cup from Timothy Taylor. Young's won the lager, amazingly enough, but this was with their new effort and not Saxon.

●Profile of a Bishop



SITUATED in a new shops-and-offices complex on the site of the Bishop's Hall owned by William de Wykham, Bishop of Winchester in the 14th century, THE BISHOP OUT OF RESIDENCE is a 2-storey building which, writes DOUG BATEMAN, is a most impressive sight when seen after dusk from Kingston Bridge or from the river walkway which forms a part of the complex.

Access to 'The Bishop', as it is bound to become known, is from the walkway and from a narrow turning off Thames Street, where ample car parking space is provided.

Upon entry, the customer will find a huge semi-circular split-level drinking area decorated in Regency style, with a staircase to the similarly-decorated Terrace Bar at the far end.

There are outside drinking areas on both floors, which offer the chance of a pint in a tranquil setting during the summer months.

Straight bars have been chosen in preference to the current trend toward horseshoes, and the counters have an impressive array of wooden-handled Gaskell & Chambers beer engines, 11 downstairs with a further 7 upstairs. Can there be any tied

house in London with more pulls than this?

Draught beers are Young's Mild, Bitter, Special & Winter Warmer when in season. Other delights are Worthington White Shield, and a range of bottled ciders from Weston's. Draught Weston's is also a possibility for the future.

The Bishop is managed by Ralph and Susan Ibbotson, who will certainly be missed at their previous pub (also Young's), the GRAND JUNCTION ARMS at Harlesden, where they are said to have trebled the turnover in three years. Several members of their staff have moved with them, and the feeling of a friendly and harmonious workforce is immediately apparent.

An excellent mid-day and evening meal is provided, for which a full time chef is employed, but, true to Young's pub philosophy, this is principally a drinking house so there is no separate restaurant. The lack of a dartboard is perhaps a pity, but other absentees, such as muzak, electronic machines which make noises like racing cars and popcorn are most welcome.

●Sam's for Kingston

DESPITE OPPOSITION from Courage, Whitbread and Young's, the Yorkshire brewers, Samuel Smith, have won the approval of Kingston Council to build a 3-storey pub by the Thames. It will be called the GAZEBO.

Although it is to be built next to the new Young's pub, THE BISHOP OUT OF RESIDENCE, Smith's claimed that if the BISHOP was busy now it would not be able to cope in the summer. They pointed out that there had been a 40% increase in shop and office development in the area, over a period when five pubs had closed.

Through the roof – marking up

THE PROFIT ON a pint of beer in London can be twice that found in the rest of Britain. This news, which will hardly come as a tremendous shock to our readers, is revealed in the latest bit of secret Government information to be leaked to the press.

Lists allegedly used by VAT inspectors to assess profits in pubs give the so-called "mark-up" between the price which a landlord pays for his drink and the price at which he sells to the public. Beers tend to be marked up less dramatically than wines, spirits or soft drinks. Even so, London landlords are said to put anything between 70 and 100 per cent on a pint, compared to an average of around 50% elsewhere.

We agree with the landlords' union, as quoted in the 'Guardian', that these broad averages can mislead when it comes to assessing the net profit made by an individual pub. As basic information for us as consumers, however, the figures are invaluable. When you consider also that the mark-up in supermarkets or off-licences is so much lower,

AS THE COST of beer goes up every time you blink, the 'Drinker' has the problem of lasting the pace. We try to give readers a clue as to what to pay for a pint, but it is not easy. The Merton crawl in our April issue was written in December and up-dated around February when Bass put their beers up. Prices have, of course, increased again thanks to G. Howe. As for a pint of Frailpool's bitter, following the Budget you would have to pay more than 35p even if you could find it!

One solution might be for us to band the prices into suitable

ranges, as some hotel guides do - A = 52p-55p; B = 48p-51p, and so on. We would welcome suggestions on this or on any other system, especially from readers who have used it, so please let us have your ideas.

On beer in clubs, MARTIN GANNON writes enthusiastically about the Civil Service Recreation Centre. He includes a price list (Pre-Budget), which illuminates the difference between pub and club and the modern tendency to overprice real ale in comparison with keg:

Keg bitters (4) - 38p-40p a pint
Lagers (7) - 43p-49p a pint
Young's Special - 47p a pint
I.C. Burton - 46p a pint
Courage D'tors. - 42p a pint
Watney's London - 42p a pint (DCL)

As you spend far less money processing and packaging draught beer, the differential in favour of keg must be due to market forces or, if you want to be paranoid, to a plot to price real ale out of the market.

The latest on the Budget is that beer will go up again not only because of the petrol increase; we can thank also an increase in the price of carbon dioxide! Nice to think that real draught beer will not be affected.....

THE 1980 GOOD BEER GUIDE now on sale

from leading bookstalls
or direct from:

**CAMRA 34 Alma Road
St Albans Herts AL1 3BW
price £2.60 post free.**

Beer from the Ark



WE KICK OFF a series of articles on those independent brewers which regularly sell their beers in London with DAVE BACKHOUSE writing about Arkell's of Swindon.

Arkell's history and prosperity have been inexorably tied up with the establishment and expansion of new Swindon. John Arkell set up his brewery in the nearby village of Upper Stratton in 1843 shortly after the coming of the Great Western Railway. In 1861, he built and moved to the present brewery at Kingsdown which lies on the Roman Road Ermin Street just to the north-east of the town.

The company continued to expand, building many new pubs to cater for the increasing army of railwaymen which at its peak totalled some 26,000. With the run-down of the railway works after the last war, the local council embarked on a far-sighted policy of attracting new industries and today Swindon presents a cheerful contrast to the desolate state of some Northern one-industry towns.

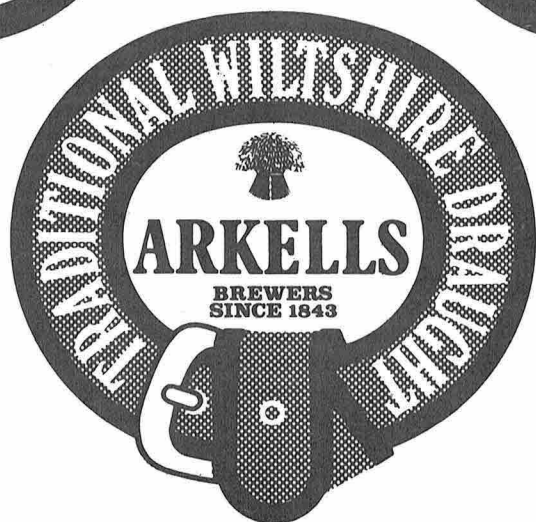
Arkell's reflect this happy situation. They are still completely family-owned and have turned down several takeover bids from other brewers. There are sixty-three tied houses spread within a radius of twenty miles of the brewery with rather more pubs to the North and West than to the South and East.

In general, Arkell pubs are clean, cheerful, chintzy places with a refreshing lack of fake beams, softwood pretending to be oak and those hideous wrought-iron-scrolled bar canopies. There is a definite "house style" and I swear I have seen the same glass cat and clown ornaments in at least three of the managed houses! Virtually every pub has both dartboard and jukebox.

The brewery is totally traditional in style and all beer is brewed from a mash that is 85% malted barley, the balance being made up of sugars and a little flaked maize. Leaf hops only are used and all fermentation is in open vessels. All cask beers are dry-hopped in the cask. Five different brews are produced:

KINGSDOWN ALE (OG 1060.5) A really rich strong amber-coloured bitter which for my money is a far superior beer to the similar-gravity over-published Old Peculier. It is produced by the partigyle system from the same mash as the ordinary bitter. It is relatively hard to find in its home town as local drinking habits tend toward quantity rather than quality.

BBB (OG 1038.5) It's easy to spot a stranger in an Arkell pub - he asks for "Treble Bee" or "Bee Bee Bee" when as every idiot knows, it's "Three Bees"; an abbreviation of its proper name: Best Bitter Beer. This beer was originally introduced in 1920, discontinued in 1937 and reintroduced in 1948 with an OG of 1043, which was upped to 1046 in 1950. Around this time, the then Chancellor of the Exchequer actually reduced the tax on beer! Since then, there have been fluctuations in its strength (at one time it was as low as 1036) until the present gravity was established in the early 1970's. It's a beer with a distinctive flavour that's all its own.



Enjoy the true country taste
of our traditional beers

J. ARKELL & SONS LTD
KINGSDOWN BREWERY
SWINDON

BB (OG 1033.5) Yes - you're right, it's "Two Bees" to the locals despite brewery efforts to rechristen it "John Arkell Bitter" accompanied by beermats depicting the founder of the company looking rather like John Wesley, who I am sure would not have approved. A large order in an Arkell pub on darts night sounds almost like gibberish to a stranger; "Three and a half of twos, two and a half of threes, Bottla Bees, Six Bees, Lemon Top, Loiten bir, enarfer largur for the missus". Anyway, BB is a refreshing, well-hopped light bitter which sells well in Swindon, unfortunately often mixed with bottled beer.

BROWN JACK (OG 1033) is a brown ale produced exclusively for bottling. There is no intention to introduce a draught version.

NORTH STAR (OG 1036) A brew introduced around five years ago, mainly for the club trade, although it appears in most Arkell pubs. Prior to this, the keg was a filtered version of BBB marketed as "King Keg". North Star (which is both filtered and pasteurised) is a darkish beer which if slightly less hopped might pass for a keg version of Hook Norton Mild.

Kingsdown, Brown Jack, BBB and BB (as Pale Ale) all have a filtered bottled version. None is pasteurised.

In the past, both stout (draught and bottled) and mild ale were brewed. The mild (OG 1030 primed to 1032) was bottled as "Arkell's Home Brewed" whilst the draught version was known as 4X. The latter was phased out in 1956 after years of declining sales (a portent of what is happening elsewhere?) and the bottled version renamed "Arkells Brown Ale".

Cask beer appears in every one of the company's tied houses but in the sixties a big pub modernisation programme was commenced. Village pubs had cellars built and the barrels removed to them from behind the bar with the beer put on top pressure service. In the interests of uniformity, beer engines were removed from other pubs also to be replaced by gas pressure. In the early days of 1974, the situation had deteriorated to two pubs retaining handpumps and one gravity service.

In the light of a remark made later by a company director that "At that time landlords were begging us to let them sell Tartan", it seems that Arkell's were trying to camouflage the fact that their beers were cask and not keg. However, a handpump experiment in one of their busiest Swindon pubs in late 1974 was a great success and set them back on the paths of righteousness; at the time of writing, thirty-seven of the sixty-three pubs have Real Ale. Most of the managed houses have handpumps and tenants can obtain them on very low hire-purchase terms from the brewery. Free Houses can get them on demand.

The company has always enjoyed a considerable free trade in the Swindon workmen's clubs (of which there are many) and a limited amount with Free Houses. The latter has until recently been somewhat restricted, as Swindon had none and the major brewers had not embarked in selling off village pubs as going concerns. With the coming of Nick Arkell (who had trained at Fullers), a big effort was made to extend the trading area and the beers are now available throughout the Thames Valley as far as London.

Where to find Arkells in London

MERRIE-GO-DOWNE BAR, Gloucester Hotel, SW7.
DICKENS INN, St. Katherine's Way, EC1.
KNIGHT'S & HERALD'S BAR, Paddington Station, W2.
THE CLARENCE, Whitehall, SW1.
COMPTON ARMS, Compton Avenue, N1.
PAKENHAM ARMS, Pakenham St., WC1.
NEW MERLIN'S CAVE, Margery St., WC1.
LONDON APPRENTICE, 333 Old St., EC1.
OSTERLEY MOTEL, Isleworth, Middx.
SUN, Lambs Conduit St., WC1.
THAMES BAR, Waterloo Station, SE1. (North Star only)
THE WELLINGTON, Waterloo Road, SE1.
TANNER'S HALL, Philpot St., EC3.
PONTEFRACCT CASTLE, Wigmore St., W1.

Glossary

Three and a half of Twos = Three and a half pints of ordinary
bitter, my man.

Two and a half of Threes = Two and a half pints of best bitter and
less of your lip.

Bottla Bees = a half pint bottle of BBB, please.

Six Bees = a half pint of bottled and half of draught BBB in the
same glass.

Lemon Top = half-inch of lemonade in a pint of BB.

Loiten Bir = Not to be confused with the London Light-and-Bitter
where one receives $\frac{3}{4}$ -pint of bitter and a bottle of Light Ale to
do it oneself. Canny Swindon landlords pour in the Loit first. The
resultant fizzy head provides an extremely profitable "pint" re-
tailing at around 7p more than straight bitter! Loiten Bir is
usually requested in a "Sleeper" (i.e. pint glass) which provides a
better view of head and bubbles.

Enarfur Largur = An afterthought. It's Carling in Arkell pubs.

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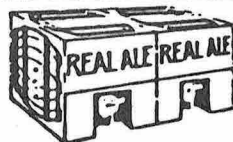
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3rd MAY

10th MAY

17th-24th MAY

Letters

★LANDLORD'S REPLY

Dear Sir,- I have recently had the letter (Feb. issue) concerning my pub brought to my attention.

Whilst agreeing with Mr.C.C.Romer that 2p had been added to most prices after my alterations I maintain that the drinks in my House are still good value for money. Dealing with his suggestion of discrimination against Draught Drinkers, this is nonsense. The only drinks on a two-tier system are DD, Draught Bitter, Keg Bitter, and Skol. Long Life, Artic Lite, Lowenbrau, Guinness and Burton are all at one price and, I would say, rounded down to Public price rather than Saloon.

As a tenant, my overheads constantly increase. My capital outlay to make my House a place of comfort and good cheer could not be borne at the very low prices I had.

To conclude, I would add that "real beer" has become a large and profitable part of my trade, especially Burton Ale. And CAMRA Members, especially Mr. Romer, will be especially welcome, together with any ideas, complaints or thirsts to promote "Real Beer".

E.J. Weakner
ROYAL SIX BELLS
Colliers Wood, SW19.

★LAMENT FOR THE LADIES

Dear Sir, - Assuming all boozers must also be piddlers, it amazes me that Camra writers appear to have completely neglected this ancient art in print, if not in usage. I am appealing to you on behalf of a much beleaguered minority - the female beer drinker.

Not for us the joys of one deep breath, a plunge into the fetid

depths, a shot in the dark, and a dive back to the comparative delights of the smoke-filled bar! Oh no! Rare is the publican, at least in London, who considers that females even need to see what they're heading into, least of all might like to make use of that greatest of sanitary innovations, soft toilet paper - any toilet paper! Not for us the long distance "flick, flicking" which biology happily left us unable to perform, however useful it may be on such occasions.

What we really need now is "The Good Pee Guide" to go with our annual beer guide. Or might I suggest an additional symbol to go alongside those for carpark, picnic area, eating, etc?

Lady boozers, unite!

Jan Edwards,
London, N.13.

★NAGGING

Dear Sir,- I see that you carry a big advert for the CAMRA pub the NAG'S HEAD - Hampstead.

I have been in this pub on several occasions and although the variety of beers is very good and well kept, the decoration of the place leaves much to be desired. You get as much enjoyment from drinking there, as you would in a doctor's waiting room. No "pub" atmosphere at all, and as for the carpet. I would bet a lot of money that the floor covering in the "Nag's Head" is the dirtiest, most threadbare in any London pub.

Surely CAMRA should set an example to others? They should walk across the road to the Young's establishment to see how to do things.

J.G. Warren,
Petts Wood, Kent.

The Nags Head

Heath Street, Hampstead, NW3



Adnams Bitter
Brakspears Bitter
Gales HSB
Godsons Black Horse
Greene King Abbot Ale
Ruddles County
Sam Smiths Old Brewery Bitter
Simons Tower Bridge Bitter
Home-made Bar Foods

The Village Blacksmith

Hillreach, Woolwich, SE18

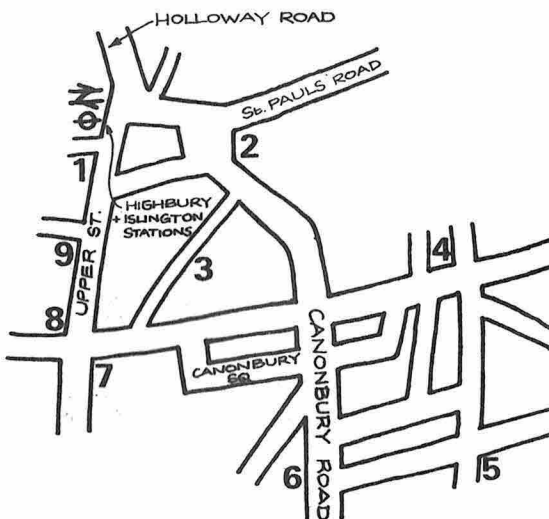
Andover Ale
Andover Wallop
Everards Tiger
Godsons Black Horse
Sam Smiths Old Brewery Bitter
Shepherd Neame Best Bitter
Simons Tower Bridge Bitter
Youngs Special Bitter
Home-made Bar Foods



Both these real ale free houses are owned by CAMRA (Real Ale) Investments Limited.

The Canonbury Circle

- 1 Cock
- 2 Hen & Chickens
- 3 Compton
- 4 Canonbury Tavern
- 5 Marquess Tavern
- 6 Belinda Castle
- 7 Four Sisters
- 8 Hope & Anchor
- 9 Angel & Crown



The middle-class magnet of the 1960's has, not surprisingly, turned into a likely place to find real ale.

EIRON WALTERS reports.

IF YOU START at Highbury and, Islington BR/Underground Station, the first pubs you see facing the Highbury Corner Roundabout are the COCK (1) and, appropriately enough, the (2) HEN AND CHICKENS. Neither are really Canonbury pubs. The former is a large Watney's establishment boasting two large illuminated Watney's 'Fined' signs - the beer is on air pressure. The HEN & CHICKENS has a large "Draught Bass" sign and does sell the beer but at a ridiculously high price.

Leaving via Canonbury Road and, with Compton Avenue (which despite its grand name is only a back lane) on your right, you will find that the only building actually facing the street is a small box-like white building bearing the legend 'OLD ENGLISH PUB' in large Gothic letters. This is the COMPTON ARMS (3), which sells Arkells BBB, Greene King Abbot, Everard's Tiger and Sam Smith's OBB, all at moderate prices by free-house standards. The pub is small and extremely crowded and cannot be recommended for people who suffer from claustrophobia.

Turn left at the bottom end of Compton Avenue along Canonbury Lane until you reach Canonbury Square and Canonbury Road; cross both and you will reach the Tower Theatre and Canonbury Place. Here you will find the CANONBURY TAVERN (4), a large, well-kept Bass Charrington emporium, with the emphasis on Bass - as is often the case in this area since no Charrington Beers are sold on draught. Possibly one can put this down to the late, lamented Wenlock's Brewery having been just around the corner. In any event, here you get an extremely good pint of Bass.

After a left turn outside the pub, you walk to the Willow Bridge Road where you turn left yet, again, to reach the MARQUESS TAVERN (5). This is Young's newest pub, recently a free house selling Bass, Charrington Crown and occasionally other beers as well as Young's Bitter and Special. Now only the latter are left, plus the seasonal addition of Winter Warmer. The pub is very large, elaborate, slightly neglected and also boasts a public

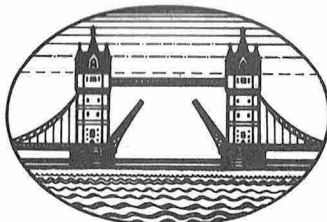
bar. It is the most attractive area of N.1. and no doubt Young's have picked a winner here.

Walk down Canonbury Grove on leaving the MARQUESS until you reach Canonbury Road, where you turn right. The first pub is the BELINDA CASTLE (6), an Ind Coope house which has boasted a set of temporary inn signs for a number of years! It also sells an above-average pint of Burton Ale but unfortunately the Bitter is on fizz. Further up Canonbury Road you return to Canonbury Square; from here, re-trace your steps up Canonbury Lane until about twenty yards past the end of Compton Avenue you reach the FOUR SISTERS (7), a very small and plush Courage house selling both Director's and Best Bitter on hand pump, both comparatively recently installed. It is generally quieter than the COMPTON ARMS, which is only 50 or so yards away.

The FOUR SISTERS is only a few yards from Upper Street and a

hundred yards from Highbury Corner. Between the end of Canonbury Lane and Highbury Corner, you will pass two pubs. The HOPE AND ANCHOR (8) is a Watney's pub, a well-known venue for rock music, and the ANGEL AND CROWN (9), a pub with a genuine, austere public bar, occasionally serves real Wethered's Bitter.

The COMPTON ARMS



SIMON'S TOWER BRIDGE BITTER

A dryish bitter of 1042 O.G. from London's newest brewery. Now on sale at:—

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Nags Head	—	Heath Street, Hampstead, N.W.3.
Moon	—	New North Street, W.C.1.
Bitter Experience (off-licence)	—	129 Lee Road, Blackheath, S.E.3.
Sailor Prince	—	Gordon Road, Peckham, S.E.15

HAVE YOU HAD YOUR PINT OF SIMON'S YET ?

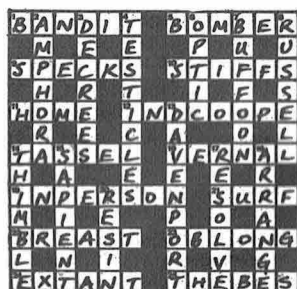
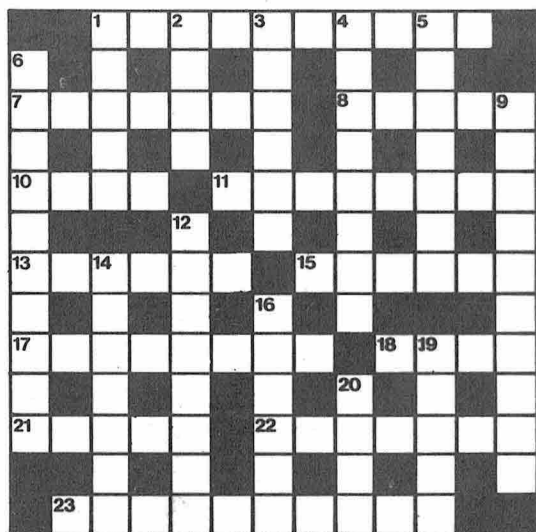
(Orders & enquiries to Simon's Tower Bridge Brewery, 218 Tower Bridge Road, S.W.1.

Distribution by B & W Beer Co. Ltd.,

(01-403 2276)

Drinker Xword 12

Last months solutions



Across

1. Added spark ignites Welsh XV: (7,3)
7. Wandered along the same way for a canal trip (7)
8. Poem, points, points. (5)
10. Compete with keg to the letter.(4)
11. All PR tie-up with Ale is of a muchness (8)
13. Value of horse cornered by tricky tune? (6)
15. Keg country is model spun cloth (6)
17. Rain, Clio took two ways (8)
18. Sign of approval, in hiding? (4)
21. In each event, a drunken nuisance and fed up withal. (5)
22. Reverse measure he carries for you! (7)
23. The opposite of 18? (4-6)

Down

1. "Round and about" (Anon) (5)
2. Foreign type of beer. (4)
3. Sailor in rain-shower getting wet! (2,1,3)
4. Musical cup places book on land-mass. (8)
5. DD Rules KO! (7)
6. Extend the King And I - in sage preserve? (10)
9. 13 found herein? (6,4)
12. Jerks a bird and charge by request. (8)
14. Mature note, type of scale on backward joke. (5,2)
16. Country swallows its tattered currency but attracts her. (6)
19. Tip-top by the sea, as directed. (5)
20. Pale half of keg - Magic?(4)

Branch news

For details of other branch meetings, please ring Branch Contact concerned.

THE FOLLOWING events will be held by CAMRA branches during May.

- BEXLEY: Tuesday 6.(8.00). Darts Social v. Bromley.
SAWYER'S ARMS, Bromley Common. -Tue.13 (8.30).
Branch. VICTORIA, Belvedere.
- BROMLEY: Tue.6 (see 'Bexley').-Tue.13.Darts Social v.
Sevenoaks. CHALTERTON ARMS, Chalterton Rd. -
Sun. 18 (12.00) Social.GEORGE & DRAGON,Downe.
- ENFIELD & BARNET Mon.5 (12.00) Mayday Social BEEHIVE, Little Bury St.
N9.- Mon.12 (8.00) Folk & Ale.WILLIAM IV, Hertford
Rd. N9. - Wed.14 (7.30). Branch & Auction. MOSS
HALL TAVERN, Ballards Lane, N.12. - Thu.29 (8.00)
Social. SUN & WOOLPACK,Hertford Rd. Enfield.
- NORTH LONDON: Tue.6 (8.00) Social FLASK,Flask Walk,NW3.- Tue.13
(8.00) Darts PRINCE ARTHUR, Brunswick St. N1. -
Tue.20. (8.00). Social ADMIRAL MANN, Hargrave Place,
N7. Sat.7 June. Coach to St. Neot's, Stamford and
Bishop Stortford. Departs Finsbury Park 9.45. £4.50.
Ring Branch Contact for more details.
- SOUTH-EAST LONDON: Mon.12.(8.00) Branch SULTAN,238 St.James Road,SE1.
(Guest speaker from Shepherd Neame).
- SOUTH-WEST LONDON: Thu.8.(7.30) Any Questions? KING'S HEAD,Merton High
St.SW19.
- WEST LONDON: Thu.8 (5.30) Pub of the month RED LION, Duke of York
St., W1. - Sun. 18 (12.00) Social.WHITE CASTLE,6
Warwick Pl. W9.- Thu.22 (7.30). Branch.CROWN & ANCHOR,
Chiswick High St. W4.
- WEST MIDDLESEX: Tue.6 (8.30) Social. NORTH STAR, Ealing Broadway.
- Tue.13. (8.30) Social. NORTHCOTE ARMS, Northcote Ave.
Southall. - Sun.18. (12.00) Crawl. Start TIMBER
CARRIAGE, Northolt Rd. South Harrow. - Tue.27. Social.
BRIDGE, Western Ave. Greenford.

CAMRA BRANCH CONTACTS

BEXLEY	BOB BELTON	303-4590
BROMLEY	BOB DARVILL	697-1631 (H) 491-7050 x.246 (W)
CROYDON & SUTTON	DAVE HAMER	647-0992 (H) 215-3686 (W)
E. LONDON & CITY	BAS CLARKE	531-6933 (H) 222-4213 (W)
ENFIELD & BARNET	TONY MORGAN	440-2186 (H)
KINGSTON & L'HEAD	ANDREW HAYWARD	942-9834 (H) 623-7511 x.2706(W)
NORTH LONDON	DEREK THORNE	637-7141 x.66 (W)
RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW	CHRIS BRUTON	940-8270 (H)
SOUTH.WEST ESSEX	CHRIS CASHMORE	Brentwood 211703(H) 283-1030 x.356
SOUTH WEST LONDON	ROY RANDALL	644-3252 (H) 680-7755 (W)
SOUTH EAST LONDON	MIKE WARNER	852-7759 (H) 222-5600 x.560(W)
WEST LONDON	ROBIN PLOUGH	991-1272 (H) "early evening please"
WEST MIDDLESEX	KEITH WILDEY	423-1234 (H) 828-7733 x.61(W)



"Any gimmick to get us in line with the Common Market!"

Alan Greenwood's Beer Diary

MAY, in my diary is the beer drinkers' sports month; not that you are likely to see hoards of jolly, red-nosed, inebriates in tracksuits and shorts, all lined up, waiting a starters call of 'last orders' before a 100-yard sprint to the bar.

Beer drinkers have always been great patrons of sport, often enriching it. Were not such sports as Javelin and Archery inspired by the popular pub game of darts, Bowls from shove ha' penny and Tennis and Grand Prix from pub video machines? More significantly, May is the change of seasons and finals of the various competitions.

Before joining a cricket or tennis club, what must be considered? The standard and facilities, of course, but also whether you will enjoy yourself. A club attached to a real-ale pub or club-house is an advantage, as you will be with people of similar (high) tastes. The game on the pitch is often appreciated more with the after match refreshment and this is spoilt if half the team are not catered for and charge off early for their favourite pint elsewhere.

Before the new season begins, the old one is seen off, and that usually means a dinner, dance or party. Whilst the pub or hotel you plan to hold this in may serve real ale in the bar, the less-used function room is not always connected to the real ale cellar so specific arrangements will have to be made.

It has been a debatable point for some time now whether beer should be allowed at sporting events, but many people attending the Middlesex 7 this month would consider a ban most unjustified. However there is no doubt about the dangers of glass and metal containers in any crowd, if only from the possibility of a genuine accident, and it is more sensible to take plastic containers.

For me, May is a spectators' month and with so many important finals and top fixtures being televised it will be my favourite armchair, favourite slippers and, of course, my favourite pint.



Pub news

EDMONTON GRN.	CROSS KEYS, 1 The Broadway,N9. (Everard's Beacon and Old Original -H).	
HAMPSTEAD	KING OF BOHEMIA, High St.NW3. (Wethered's bitter-H).	
MITCHAM	POLLARD'S OAK, Chestnut Grove, (Wethered's bitter-5Op in saloon)-H.)	
SUTTON	ANGEL, Angel Hill, (Add Courage bitter -H).	
THORNTON HEATH	PRINCE OF WALES, Parchmore Rd. (Ind Coope Burton and bitter -H).	
CAMBERWELL	SUN AND DOVES, Coldharbour Lane, SE5. (Courage Director's and Bitter -H).	
DEPTFORD	BROWN BEAR, 158 High St.,SE8. (Ind Coope Burton and Bitter - H).	
LEWISHAM	COACH AND HORSES, High St.,SE13. (Fremlin's Tusker and Wethered's bitter -H).	
NEW CROSS	GOLDSMITH'S TAVERN, New Cross Road,SE14. (Courage Director's and bitter-H).	
PECKHAM	LORD LYNDHURST, 63 Lyndhurst Way,SE15.(Courage Director's and bitter-H).	
WOOLWICH	QUEEN VICTORIA, 1 Rectory Place, SE18. (Add Godson's BH - H).	
WEST END	GILBERT & SULLIVAN,28 John Adam St.WC2. (Wethered bitter, Winter Royal, Fremlin's Tusker-H)	
	YE OLDE ROUND TABLE,26 St.Martin Ct.WC2. (Younger No.3-H)	
	SPREAD EAGLE,Woodstock St. W1.	(Well's Bombadier, Brakspear's Special,Eldridge Pope Royal Oak-H; Watney's Stag-E)
BELGRAVIA	RED LION, Ebury St. SW1.	(Bass,Charrington IPA -H)
CHELSEA	IFIELD TAVERN,59 Ifield Rd. SW10.	(Ind Coope Bitter, and Burton -H)
FULHAM	KING'S HEAD,4 Fulham High St. SW6.	(Charrington IPA-H)
PIMLICO	REGENT ARMS,53 Regency St. SW1.	(Bass,Charrington IPA -H)
WESTMINSTER	RED LION, Duke of York St. SW1.	(Ind Coope Bitter and Burton-H)

We also have a change of name - MARLER'S of Colney Hatch Lane,N.10 is now known as MARTIN'S FREE HOUSE.

Two pubs disappear from the lists. The COAT & BADGE, SW15 and the IMPERIAL,WC2 no longer sell real ale.

The Flying Pykett

Episode 5 of "The Sixth Mole".

THE HOUND OF The Baskervilles took off into the Dartmoor mist, trailing phosphorescence like the Cheshire cat's grin. "Blasted pony out on the tiles most likely, or whatever passes for tiles in this God-for-saken desert," Arthur Droopy muttered to himself as he wound his muffler even tighter, blew into his gloved palms and pressed ever onward.

In recent times, the establishment which was proving so elusive on this cold winter's night had been known as Gurglepis (West-South-West) Ltd., a depot where beer from the main plant was dumped for onward transmission. But now it was once again Blodge, Bull & Tiddler, the name that used to strike terror into the hearts of militant Devonian teetotallers. Word was about that restored brewing equipment would soon erupt with the first brew of the awesome Tiddler's XSB in two decades, while the well-loved slogan 'Taste A Little Tiddler!' had already re-appeared in the local press.

No signs of such activity when Droopy finally staggered through the back gates. An enormous pile of kegs was stacked in the yard and beneath this, huddled inside a tin hovel and fitfully warming his hands on a brazier which fought a losing battle against the damp, was his quarry.

"Sydney 'Flying' Pykett!" Droopy proclaimed. "A legend in his lifetime."

"Very civil of you, Guv," Pykett replied. "Not many people would credit, seeing me looking after this rubbish, that I could make a nation tremble."

"It started after we formed our party. The 'Socialist, Communist and Trotskyist Party of Catford, Rushey Green and Perry Hill (Marxist-Leninist) (Tirana)'. Only ten of us, but strength beyond our

numbers was what we had. Sixteen leading articles in the Daily Telegraph, questions in the House, sued by the Warriors For Freedom, ticked off by Lord Denning....

"Look!" He fumbled in his overalls and produced what turned out to be a withered copy of the front page of the Daily Wail. Above a deliberately unflattering likeness of the young Pykett, the headline screamed 'A MENACE TO BRITAIN!' "Cost them a few copies in the following weeks, that did," Pykett pointed out with satisfaction.

"Sorry to break this halo of nostalgia," said Droopy, "but I don't have time. You were 'Cods-wallop', were you not?"

At this, Pykett became very withdrawn. "Listen," said Droopy earnestly, "just one thing."

Everyone knows you make Arthur Scargill seem like Keith Joseph. Everyone knows Walter Blithering makes Mrs. Thatcher seem like Vanessa Redgrave. How did he talk you into it?"

"Course I smelled a rat! The trouble was," Pykett sighed, "my mate Harry from Catford was a foreman there and I reckoned that between us we could bring the entire brewing industry to a halt. No bother. 'Course, when I got to the Big One, Harry was missing. 'Sick', they said. Only one thing ever kept Harry away from his place of work and that wasn't sickness! Had they nobbled him? So, I decided to grab the sample and get out."

"But I was greedy. I knew where they kept their brewing recipes. So I crept down in the dead of night and had just got my hands on the books, when it happened. The lights came on and there were the directors, management, the lot - all singing the Gurglepis Golden SuperKeg TV song."

(next month - "Up the Khyber!")

Young's mild

**Real ale
at a mild
price**

THIS IS OUR new list of outlets for the 'Drinker'.

EC2	BRICKLAYER'S ARMS, 63 Charlotte Road.
EC2	WINDMILL, 27 Tabernacle Street.
N1	PRINCE ARTHUR, 49 Brunswick Place.
N2	WINDSOR CASTLE, The Walk, Church Lane.
N6	ANGEL, 37 Highgate High Street.
N12	MOSS HALL TAVERN, 283 Ballard's Lane.
NW3	NAG'S HEAD, 79 Heath Street.
NW5	BULL & GATE, 389 Kentish Town Road.
SE3	HARE & BILLET, Eliot Cottages.
SE13	DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, High Street.
SE20	LONDON TAVERN, Maple Road.
SW15	JOLLY GARDENERS, Lacy Road.
SW19	ALEXANDRA, Wimbledon Hill.
SW19	KING'S HEAD, Merton High Road.
W8	BRITANNIA, 1 Allen Street.
W8	CHURCHILL ARMS, 119 Kensington Church Street.
W14	RADNOR ARMS, 247 Warwick Road.
CARSHALTON	FOX & HOUNDS, High Street.
CARSHALTON	GREYHOUND, 2 High Street.
CROYDON	LION, Pawsons Road.
CROYDON	SHIP, 47 High Street.
ENFIELD	FALCON, 115 South Street.
ENFIELD	OLD PARK HEIGHTS HOTEL, Old Park Road.
HAMPTON	WINDMILL, Windmill Road.
HOUNSLOW	CHARIOT, High Street.
SUTTON	NEW INN, 18 Myrtle Road.

Off Licences

N1	2 Brewers, 8 Pitfield Street.
NW3	North-West Vintners, West Heath Road.
SE3	Bitter Experience, 128 Lee Road.
SE11	Alan Greenwood's, 226 Kennington Park Road.
SE13	Alan Greenwood's, 252 Lewisham High Street.
SE23	2 Brewers, 97 Dartmouth Road.
W14.	Alan Greenwood's, 17 North End Road.
W14.	Outside Inn, 156 North End Road.
KINGSTON	Alan Greenwood's, 1 Hawks Road.
TOLWORTH	Alan Greenwood's, 120 The Broadway.
WALLINGTON	Alan Greenwood's, 8 Butter Hill.

I wish to become a member of The Campaign for Real Ale Limited. I agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Campaign, and I enclose £5 (£6 for combined husband-wife membership; £7 for overseas members) for my annual membership subscription. (Any additional amount will be welcomed as a donation).

FULL NAME (Block capitals).....

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS (Block capitals).....

SIGNATURE DATE.....

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.

