

Vol.4 No.9  
**October  
1982**

**12p**

# **LONDON DRINKER**

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



**“Made of Ale — See inside”**

# BRANCH DIARY

The following events will be held by CAMRA branches during October. For branches not mentioned, please ring Branch Contact.

**BEXLEY:** Wed 20 (8.30). *Branch.* Volunteer, Church Rd., Bexleybeath – Thu 28 (7.30). *Old Bexley Crawl.* Meet at Rising Sun.

**CROYDON & SUTTON:** Tue 5 (8.00). *Wallington Green Crawl.* Meet Duke's Head. – Tue 19 (2.00). *Trip to Ringwood Brewery.* Ring Branch Contact. – Wed 13 (8.00). *Branch.* Fox & Hounds, Carshalton. – Thu 28 (8.00). *Pub of the month.* Albert Tavern, South Norwood.

**ENFIELD & BARNET:** Mon 4 (8.30). *Joint Social.* King & Tinker, Whitewebbs Lane, Enfield – Tue 19 (8.30). *Social.* Railway Hotel, Edgware – Wed 13 (8.00). *Branch.* Ye Olde Mitre, High Barnet – Thu 28 (8.30). *Social.* Orange Tree, Highfield Rd., N21.

**KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD:** Thu 7 (8.00). *Branch.* Earl Beatty, Motspur Park.

**NORTH LONDON:** Tue 5 (8.00). *Social.* Prince Albert, Acton St., WCI – Tue 12 (8.00). *N22 Crawl.* Start Lordship, Lordship Lane. – Tue 26 (8.00). *Branch.* Ring Branch Contact. – Every Sunday (12.00). *Social.* Lord Wolseley, White Lion St., N1.

**RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW:** Thu 7 (8.00). *Open committee.* Anglers, Broom Rd., Teddington – Thu 14 (8.30). *Social.* Plough, Kew Bridge Rd., Brentford – Mon 18 (8.00). *Branch.* Red Cow, Sheen Rd., Richmond (Guest: Peter Lerner) – Fri 29 (8.00). *Richmond Crawl.* Meet Red Cow; the Bull & Bush etc.

**SOUTH-EAST LONDON:** Monday 11 (8.00). *Branch.* Princess of Wales, 18 Wilmount Road., SE18 – Wed 20 (8.00). *Social.* Fox & Hounds, Royal Hill SE10.

**WEST LONDON:** Thu 7 (8.00). *Pub of the Month.* Swan, 119 Acton Lane, W4 – Thu 21 (8.00). *Branch.* Denmark, 102 Old Brompton Rd., SW7 – Sun 31 (12.00). *Sunday Social.* Spreaegale, Grosvenor Rd., SW1.

## CAMRA BRANCH CONTACTS

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BROMLEY	ROGER MASON	464 2909 (H)	407 4466 x 294 (W)
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E. LONDON & CITY	PETER ROBERTS	Upminster 23581	213-7374 (W)
ENFIELD & BARNET	TONY MORGAN	440-2186 (H)	283 1000 x 2944 (W)
KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD	JOHN NORMAN	546 3476 (H)	Weybridge 47282 x 2659 (W)
NORTH LONDON	LAURIE GORDON	448 1692 (H)	359 1340 (W)
RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW	ANDY PIRSON	977 1633 (H)	
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SOUTH-WEST LONDON	JOHN DAVIS	670 0734	
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The Views expressed in this publication are those of the individual contributor and are not necessarily the view of either the London Branches of CAMRA or the Campaign for Real Ale Ltd.

# News & Views

## DOWN AND UP

BEER CONSUMPTION down by 10 pints per person over the previous year. Nearly 30,000 jobs lost. This is the story of 1981 as revealed in statistics put out by the Brewers Society. The best that can be said about 1982 is that the fall might be less dramatic.

Can we expect stable prices until the recession lifts a little, if it ever does? Whitbread, whose prices have remained steady for some time so that they have been caught up by another brewers, look like widening the gap again. The result will be about 4p on a pint. The managed part of Truman, actually a Chef & Brewer company called Heritage Inns, have also put on 4p.

One can justify these increases by referring to increases in rates, raw materials and anything else. The fact remains that a sizeable part of the people of Britain, even in London, are not able to take the same steps to maintain their own profitability. This is why we continue to stress that brewers and publicans should do all they can to absorb costs at least until the next Budget. If the Government slaps another duty increase on beer at that point, then the people will know exactly who is to blame.

One cheerful piece of news from the Brewers Society is that we still prefer as a nation to drink in pubs. Nearly four out of every five pints of beer sold was draught, though presumably a few of these were carted home and not drunk on the premises.

## WATNEY WIN AGAIN

THERE IS NO holding those terrors from Mortlake these days. Watney have won four medals, two gold and two silver, at the international 21st Monde Selection, organised by the Belgian Institut pour les Selections de la Qualite and held this year in London. One of the gold medals went to Stag bitter, the stronger of the two draught beers brewed at Mortlake.

Gold does not necessarily mean first prize, it appears, as the rating is done on a percentage basis with gold equalling 90% of the points and silver 80%. Sounds confusing and we should have been in a position to clear this up when Watney invited us to a press-plus-drink celebration. Unfortunately, we got the dates mixed up (happens all the time these days — must be eating too much). Anyway, congratulations.

## WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

YOU MAY HAVE seen a piece in the *Observer* some weeks ago about CAMRA. It was someone called Andrew Martin and was vaguely nasty about us, though the trained eye could see that he was casting around pretty desperately for material.

One story concerned the "landlord at my village local" who told him that a dozen or so CAMRA members "took over" his Saloon Bar one evening and drank only a half-pint of mild each during that time. This is not merely material for the *Guinness Book of Records*.

This is impossible. Either someone has got their wires crossed or someone is having someone on.

We can offer a six-month subscription to *London Drinker* to the first person who can give us proof that any group of CAMRA members ever spent over 1½ hours, say, in a pub without averaging considerably more than a half of mild each. We would be pleased to think it can happen, but we doubt it.

## EAST END FESTIVAL

A REAL ALE festival with live entertainment will take place in Bethnal Green this month. Organised by CAMRA's East London & City branch, it will be held in the York Hall, Old Ford Road E2 from Thursday 14 to Saturday 16 October.

It will be open each evening from 5-11, and on Friday and Saturday from 11-2.30 as well. A nominal charge will be made for admission and commemorative glasses will be available "at a small cost". The event will be known as the 'Pig's Ear Real Ale Festival', after the name of the branch newsletter, and a live *Pig's Ear* is expected to turn up from time to time.

## LOOKING AFTER IT

A NEWLY-OPENED free house near me, writes *John Conen*, is displaying the following notice:

**Traditional Beer:** *Occasionally, due to reasons completely beyond our control the beer we serve you may not be up to standard. If you are in any doubt about the quality of your beer please do not hesitate to bring it to our attention.*

I think it should be pointed out to the owner that the quality of traditional beer is never completely beyond his control. Consistent beer is achieved by good cellar management, good stock control and adequate training of bar staff.

If the beers on sale are regularly checked for

taste, especially at the beginning of a session, there should be no reason for any being below standard. At the prices being charged today, the customer has a right to expect decent beer without the hassle of attempting to change sub-standard pints.

#### ● MINOR MISHAP

APOLOGIES FOR missing out the name of the author of last month's short story *A Minor's Dream of Home*. It was written by Mostyn Lewis.

#### ● BEXLEY CRAWL

DES WARD of CAMRA's Bexley Branch has written up the crawl of Old Bexley which the branch are carrying out on Thursday 30 October. Unfortunately we have not been able to publish it this month though it will certainly appear in the November *Drinker*.

As it happens, that issue should be expected to reach London on the previous day. If it arrives in time and if someone from Bexley remembers to pick up the branch copies – and we do not recommend putting money on either event happening – then those undertaking the crawl will have the change to read all about it before they start.

#### ● LION PLEA

In his piece on the Lion Brewery in this issue, Mostyn Lewis refers to the blitz and how the lion remained standing even when much of the building was bombed. Last year we were given a cutting from a wartime edition of the *London Evening News* which included a photograph of just this. Unfortunately, we seem to have mislaid it. If you know the date of the paper or if you can identify the photograph please let us know as we are keen to print it if possible.

### WICKED LADY

YESTERDAY'S "Morning Advertiser" reported that Goldwell is relaunching its Wicked Lady bottled cocktail under the slogan "now with extra Brandy for the lady who drinks."

The slogan should have read "for the lady who dares"?

*Morning  
Advertiser  
17/8/82*

# REAL ALE and REAL JAZZ

AT THE

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118 LOWER ROAD

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RESIDENT REAL ALES: TRUMANS MILD, BITTER AND BEST BITTER.

3 MINUTES FROM SURREY DOCKS UNDERGROUND

BUSES 1, 47 and 188 PASS THE PUB

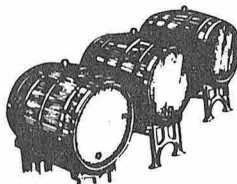
# *The Bitter Experience*

REAL ALE OFF LICENCE

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**MANNS IPA**

**LONDON BITTER**

**64p Pint**

**SUPER STAG**

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**7 days a week**

**A La Carte Restaurant**

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# A PRIDE OF LIONS

*For our third look at London's brewing past, Mostyn Lewis recalls Huggins of Westminster and gives the beer background of a well-known landmark.*

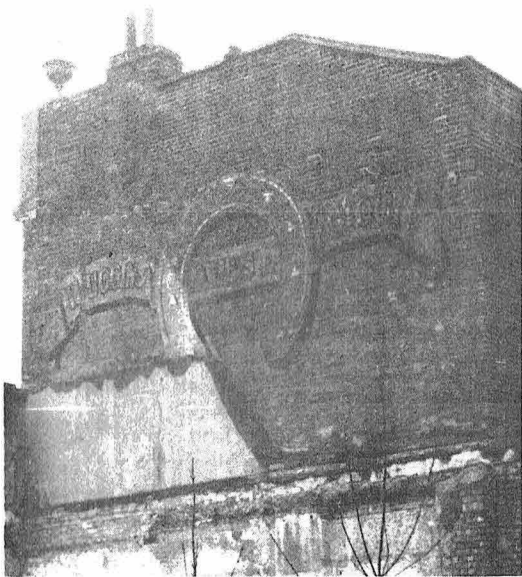
THIS FADING advertisement on the side of the Horseshoe in Tower Bridge Road is a surprising survival, most surviving brewery ephemera being more solid than paint. It only re-emerged to the light a few years ago, when the building next to the pub was demolished.

Huggins' Lion Brewery was in Broad Street (now Broadwick Street) Golden Square, Westminster W1, and was founded in the 1840s, remaining a family concern until taken over by Watney, Combe, Reid & Co. in 1929 (The Horseshoe is a Watney pub). The survival of the advertisement for another 53 years speaks well of the paint, but can anyone remember the beer? Huggins has the right ring to it for a brewer's name: presumably the hops were all Fuggles, the beer came in hogsheads and customers asked for a noggin of Huggins . . . . .

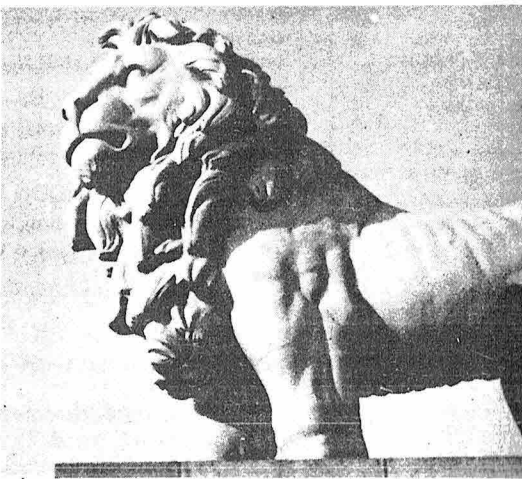
ALONGSIDE County Hall stands a white stone lion, who has become one of London's most familiar land marks. He is an interesting relic in his own right, with a brewing connection that brings his biography to our pages.

The Lion brewery, which stood on the site now occupied by the Festival Hall, was an old foundation, dating back to the 18th century. Known around 1813 as Goding's Brewery (brewing Ale rather than the then predominant Porter), it had become the Lion Brewery by 1837, when the stone lion was placed on the roof facing the river. The lion is not carved, but moulded and finished in the material known as Coade Stone after its nearby manufacturers, the Coade family of the Artificial Stone Manufactory. Coade Stone was made to a secret recipe that died with the family business, and was widely envied as its wearing properties were superior to anything since Roman mortar!

The lion presided over an active concern until 1923, when the Lion Brewery was taken over by Hoare & Co. of East Smithfield, EC1, and closed. (Hoare's were the Red Lion Brewery, so that must have saved some signwriting!) In 1929 the London County Council offered the site to the Southern Railway for a station



to take the place of Charing Cross, thereby enabling the removal of Hungerford Bridge, a continuing obsession of the old LCC. After a great deal of manoeuvring the scheme was dropped in 1931, and the lion was left in peace for a few more years of guarding his idle home (Hoare's themselves disappeared in the meantime, being taken over by Charringtons in 1933)



The Blitz saw the empty brewery and neighbouring South Bank buildings heavily damaged but each morning saw the lion still there, defiantly standing out against the sky, as striking a symbol of survival as the dome of St Paul's on the other side of the river. (It helped being a lion of course – somehow a Badger, Elephant or even a Ram wouldn't have been the same. A Unicorn might have carried it off, but a Phoenix, whilst appropriate, would have been a bit over-literary, besides which it would probably have been taken down in the previous War for looking like one of the Kaiser's eagles.) The lion was just right for the Pathe Newsreels.

After the war, the South Bank site was taken for the Festival of Britain and the Arts Complex, but when the remains of the Brewery were being demolished, the lion was saved on the personal intervention of King George VI, and set up on his plinth as a memorial. The mystery of the secret recipe remained, and hopes were raised when a covert compartment was found in the lion's back – but all it contained was a beer bottle and the sculptor's trade card.

So he remains on his plinth, a symbol of London's beer, Blitz and bravado, and a bit baffling to boot .....

### REAL BEER IN LONDON

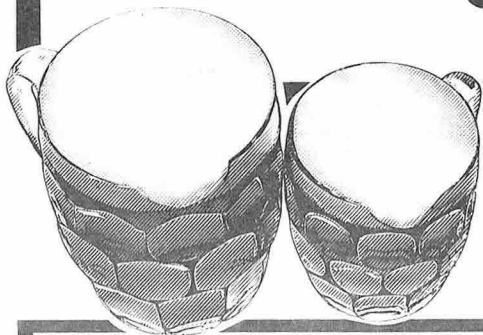
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- 61 Breweries
- 48 Maps

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The craft of brewing  
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INTRODUCING. . . . .

# J.J. MOON'S

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LANDSEER ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON N.19

(ESTABLISHED JUNE 1982)

## TRADITIONAL ALES

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89 COLNEY HATCH LANE, N.10 AND "DICK'S  
BAR", 61 TOTTENHAM LANE, N.8.



# Alan Greenwood's Beer Notes ●

SO, WE'VE TRIED them all. Earthenware, pewter, plastic, glass. Thin straights, thick chunky/dimple ones with handles, line filled, brim filled. They can be either too bulky, too expensive. They taint the flavour or they spoil the texture. They can leave a pint well short of the glass, or well short of a head.

It is possible there could be any more drinking vessel innovations to further torment poor London Drinkers? Of course, the powers that be have got a beauty to spring on us at the first sign of complacency. It's called metrication. We shall have to get used to measures that are either too short to be satisfying or too large for comfort.

Whatever type we prefer or detest we really cannot do without drinking vessels. It may be an idyllic dream to spend ones evenings lying open-mouthed, under a constantly pouring beer barrel tap, but it is only a dream. A nightmare would be having to drink beer through a straw or a vision of a futuristic processed beer capsule!

Well if we are saddled with them there are some treatments that can make them more tolerable in all aspects. Firstly, choice. How pleasant to order your pint and be offered a straight, or a dimple; a fresh or a refill glass. Whilst I realise publicans will seldom have the space or perhaps the finance to stock all types of vessel, it would also be pleasant to be offered a choice of lined or brim fill.

Cleaning, as readers of the previous articles will know, is all too often inadequate. Glasses dunked once or twice into warm water will seldom remove the greasy smear of the previous user's crisps. Even worse is to see this compounded by clean glasses being stacked on to sticky or dirty shelves.

A large number of pubs have relatively small servaries for the number of customers they have. Their seating gets overcrowded, but they have plenty of standing areas. This is fine for people like me who prefer, by standing, to fill up their legs first and substantially increase their intake capacity.

However there are occasions when it is necessary to put one's drinking vessel down, to turn the pages of *Sporting Life*, to demonstrate the length of the one that got away, to throw one's dart or even to visit the loo. How

thoughtful are these pubs whose interior design includes a courtesy shelf or plinth on which standing customers can place their glasses. The inside of pubs is not always the responsibility of the brewers and this may be coincidence, but there are indications that such shelves were once the policy of two London brewers, Truman's and Wenlock's. Good for them.

There are two aspects about the collecting of glasses. One is when they are not collected, and sitting down at a table means putting up with the stale remains of previous users or doing the staffs work for them. The second is far more interesting, the situation of the pot man. Often sitting quietly at the end of the bar, he at the same time knows everyone and they know him. A compulsive doer he usually approaches the job as a career although quite often his only wage is a few free drinks.

If you use a pub on a regular basis it is good service to find your favourite tippie prepared as you walk through the door. I recently heard of a Ridley's pub in Essex that went one step further in drinking vessel service. The Plough at White Notley have their glasses specially painted by a local artist with caricatures of their regulars.

The final aspect of drinking vessels is that they make such good gifts. Shepherd Neame and other brewers are often seen to present new drinking pots to faithful customers with a certain number of years dedicated drinking. Companies to employees with a certain number of years service, editors of *London Drinker* to writers with perhaps fifteen years of contributions – we can but dream!



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# Made Of Ale

TO THE EAST, Lord's Cricket Ground; to the West, Tim Chudley's Brewery; to the South, Marble Arch; to the North, Shamrock City.

Not every district can boast that it owes its name to a pub, but that appears to have happened here. It all goes back to 1806 when the English beat the French at a place called Maida in Italy (sounds rather like the World Cup). Three years later, a pub called the Hero of Maida was built on the main thoroughfare which was then known as Hill Street. In the fullness of time, Hill Street became Maida Vale and so did the area immediately to the West.

Our crawl sticks close to the main road, with the detours being short ones, though most of the actual walking is done in parallel. You do not have to go far afield in any direction to find other pubs, but our ten include eight tied to five brewers between them (six, if you separate Benskin from Taylor Walker) and two free houses. This adds up to beer from around twenty breweries. Six of the pubs are included in Map 1 of *Real Beer In London* and the rest should be easy enough to find from the instructions.

We start where it all began, in the Hero of Maida. Not the 1809 model, but a later red-brick version. For all our talk of Hill Street and Maida Vale, the pub address places it, just, in Edgware Road and in the London postal district of W2, whereas your true Maida Valean inhabits W9. We are here in a natural boundary area, reflected by our crawl passing through no less than four postal districts. Even if the last local government carve-up put all the pubs into the same borough, they are divided equally between two CAMRA branches. Funnily enough, not one of the pubs is actually in the street called Maida Vale!

Our Hero includes a small Public Bar with dartboard and a larger L-shaped Saloon. It is not one of Allied's more notable interiors but they have carried out the modernisation with their usual taste, dividing the interior into three sections. Beers are Benskin bitter and Burton Ale.

Turn left outside the pub and take the first turning on the right, which is Aberdeen Place. You are now leaving Maida Vale for a plunge into St. John's Wood and the Crown, on the left where the road curves. This is the pub known as Crocker's Folly because it was

built by the unfortunate Mr. Crocker in grandiose style, anticipating the crowds from Marblebone Station which would pour into his hotel. When Marylebone was eventually built further to the east than he had expected, Mr. Crocker went bust.

The Crown became a free house a few years ago when it was restored to much of its former splendour. The old billiard room which was functioning at least up to the late 1960s now doubles as a lounge and music room, where groups appear on several nights a week. The main bar has a long marble counter, set rather low for comfortable propping, and dispenses around eight beers. Darts and pool can be played in the other bar.

During the summer, the Crown is perfect for patrons of Lord's, while the more general attraction is that it is the only pub on our crawl which serves the local brew. Chudley's Local Line is on tap along with beers from the likes of Fuller and Brakspear, with smaller brewers being represented by Litchborough and Sussex. Prices are not cheap overall, but 64p for a pint of Sussex County is very reasonable. The beer is usually well looked after though there has been some falling off recently and one hopes that the new management — it is now in the same hands as the Princess Louise in Holborn — can sort things out.

Back to the main road and right along Maida Vale until you reach Clarendon Terrace, just past the Clarendon Hotel. Turn left and follow the road round to the Windsor Castle. This is a friendly little Watney house, by far the smallest pub on the route and dominated by its horseshoe bar which seems to fill all available space. It serves just one draught beer and that is London bitter, currently on the DCL air-pressure system.

Across the road, on the corner with Clifton Road is the Eagle. A modernised Truman pub, the Eagle seems to be symptomatic of the problems some pubs are having with the new Truman draught beers. At least one of these is supposed to be on sale, but both our visits have been greeted with the ominous sign of a clip reversed. Perhaps another crawler may have better luck.

If this part of the trip has been disappointing, do not despair because now comes the good bit. Cross over into Lanark Road, carry on to Sutherland Avenue, turn left and there, on the roundabout, is the Warrington Hotel. This still retains the style of its Edwardian heyday when it enjoyed a racy reputation, as suggested by the exotic mural above the curved marble-topped bar in the Saloon.

The staircase leading to the Lillie Langtry Restaurant looks fairly unobtrusive today but it once caught the imagination of writer Maurice Graham, who described it in his book *Back To The Local* as "magnificent & heavy old-fashioned, imposing. The mere sight of it makes you think of Edwardian Revelry." The Warrington sells Fuller's London Pride and ESB, Arkell's BBB, Brakspear's Special and Shepherd Neame's bitter. They are usually in prime condition and the prices are very reasonable by free house standards, with the majority of beers in the middle-sixties per pint.

Cross over to the right of the roundabout and walk down Randolph Avenue towards Maida Vale Underground. Turn right up Elgin Avenue and on the opposite corner is the Lord Elgin. A long narrow interior, with wooden floors and cartwheels suspended from the ceiling. The beers on tap at present are the two Watney bitters and Webster's Yorkshire.

Turn left to the lights, cross Maida Vale again and walk uphill, past Hamilton Terrace until you reach Nugent Terrace. Here you have a choice. Turn right at the next street where, tucked in the extreme right-hand corner opposite, is another military commemoration, the Heroes of Alma.

The British and the French were on the same side this time when, together with the Turks, they scored an away win over the Russians by the River Alma in the Crimea. The pub stands in Alma Square (which came first?) and is another small Watney house, though more roomy than the Windsor Castle. The main attraction is Webster's Yorkshire bitter, and it also sells the two Watney bitters on DCL.

Back along Nugent Terrace and cross Abercorn Place, which brings you to Violet Hill and the Abbey Tavern. A recent refurbishment of this two-bar Whitbread pub has put in draught beer, so that both Wethered bitter and Fremlin's Tusker are on tap. The pub has plenty of space and potential, not to mention three dartboards in the Saloon.

Back to Hamilton Terrace and turn right along this spacious tree-lined boulevard, typical of Maida Vale and never mind that it is technically in St. John's Wood. At the end turn right, first left and first right up Clifton Hill. Opposite is the most exclusive pub on our crawl, the creeper-covered Clifton. Once a Friary Meux house, it boasts an Ind Coope sign outside but actually sells Taylor Walker bitter along with the Burton Ale.

A Picture taken before the last war shows that ivy climbed the walls even then; now it is perhaps truer to say that the ivy obscures

the walls. There is a small bar which has been decorated in the best Ind Coope tradition, together with a lounge and a games room which lead off to one side.

Turn right at the bottom of Clifton Hill and then left down Greville Place which takes you back to Maida Vale. Only our final pub is not in Maida Vale proper, because the name of the road changes yet again. If you see a few leprechauns about as you cross the road, this may not be blamed on the alcohol consumed during the crawl because you are fast approaching Kilburn, with its large Irish population.

The Queen's Arms stands in fact at No.1. Kilburn High Road. It is a typical Young's pub in the sense that the Clifton is obviously Allied and that the Abbey's dark-panelled Saloon suggests Whitbread. Although the Public Bar in the Queen's is not particularly small, it cannot compare in size with the Saloon, which stretches back much further than you might imagine from the entrance. Both bitters are served, and this is one of those Young's houses where you can buy the Ordinary in the Public Bar for 60p a pint.

There are buses outside, or you can walk up Kilburn High Road to the station of that name and, after a left turn, to Kilburn Park Tube.

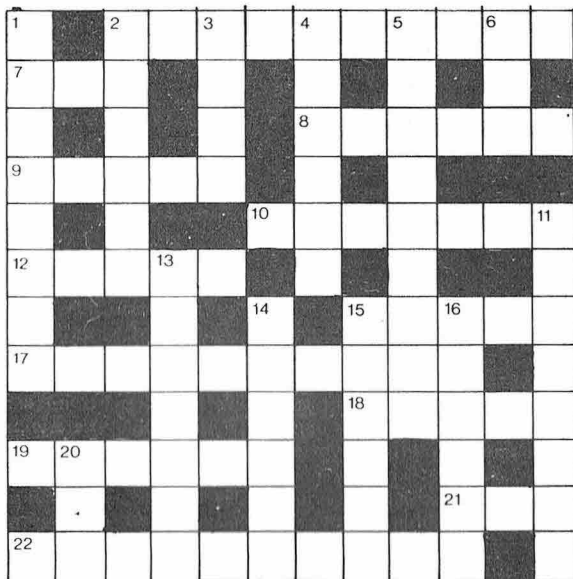


# GOOD BEER GUIDE 1982

6,000 of the best pubs in the U.K.

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# DRINKER XWORD 35



Compiled  
by  
Dave Quinton



## clues

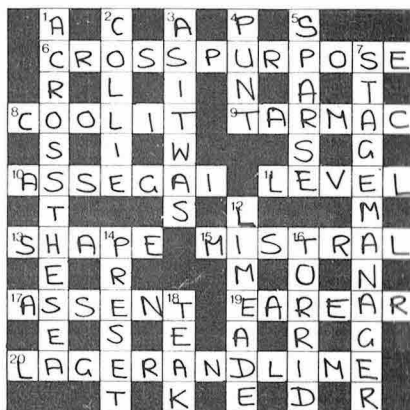
### ACROSS

2. A free one may be a take-away but its not a give-away (3,7)
7. Slippery customer (3)
8. Non-drinker in last carriage has beer (6)
9. Spoon in ballad Elvis sany (5)
10. Sailor Mark, do without! (7)
12. Easterly gale blows up and gives us a flier (5)
15. Still outside so get beer ingredient (5)
17. Steady drinker (7)
18. Fire in bogus toddy (5)
19. Drunk kind of bends and finds leg warmers (6)
21. Whisky type in merry exploits (3)
22. Even an awful one is a lawful one (6,4)

### DOWN

1. Rebel uprisings are producing good drink (4,4)
2. He'll stick with the same tricks (3,3)
3. Extra special brewer without hesitation! (4)
4. The limb I bend holds drink (6)
5. Upset Len Tite when you call him names (7)
6. Sounds like you use the Queen's Head for snooker (3)
11. You're no judge with a few drinks inside you (3,5)
13. Huge lad fell about and showed amusement (7)
14. The beers up to standard or it's down the loo (6)
16. Promise to be equally certain (6)
18. Desert first person after doing over toilet (4)
20. It's cool when you lose 500 from dice (3)

## Xword Solution 34



*D'ye ken*



# John Peel

SPECIAL BITTER

Now available at the Sun Inn,  
Lambs Conduit St. WC1.

# ● LOCAL ●

## ● PLUM CRAZY

**YET ANOTHER** new venture for Roger Berman. We mentioned in our last issue that the **King of Beasts**, once Ind Coope's **Duke of Bridgewater** and lately a home-brew pub, was up for grabs. Now we learn that it has been snapped up by Free Trade Inns, a company run by Berman's B & W and the spirits firm Matthew Clark.

The pub has already re-opened under the name of **Plums**. It is supposed to be the first in a series of show pubs where the accent is on entertainment and in which anything can happen. The bar staff are encouraged to liven up the place by telling jokes, singing and dancing whatever.

Perhaps not to everyone's taste, but there is probably some kind of market for such pubs and if they sell draught beer so much the better. We stuck our head round the corner late one evening and withdrew it sharply, as the lack of air-conditioning together with the noise suggested a rapid withdrawal. We did notice that, if not full, the pub contained far more customers than we had ever seen during either of its two previous incarnations.

**Plums** will be an interesting test of the concept of fun pubs, since Graham Street, Islington is not exactly Kings Road, Chelsea.

## ● MIRROR VIEW

**WE CAN NOW** put a name to the pub which is selling Truman beers in wooden casks and where the cellar can be seen from the bar via a mirror. This turns out to be the **Railway Hotel** in Station Road, Edgware, which is currently selling all four (including the strong Samson) Truman draught beers.

## ● OPENING TIMETABLE

**WE NOTICED** that the **Falkland Arms** in Bloomsbury, the recently-converted **Bull & Mouth**, has a sign outside which gives the opening and closing times of the pub.

We have always believed that all pubs should do this, especially those in the centre where tourists are most likely to wander. Perhaps Chef & Brewer might consider making this a policy in all their pubs.

As another example of good practice which could be extended we hear that the **Adam & Eve** in Petty France, SW1 has a price list on the door so that those outside can read it.

## ● BARGAIN BEERS

The **Duke of Cambridge** in Battersea Bridge Road, SW11 sells Young's bitter for 58p in the Public Bar.

This one needs to be confirmed, but we understand the the **Cricketers** in Chase Side Place, Enfield is selling McMullen's Country Bitter for 60p in the Public Bar.

Last month we said that **Marler's** in Pentonville, N1 had become the **Pint Pot**. New owners Regent Inns tells us that the pub sells Chiltern Bitter for 60p, though we are not sure if this is going to be available regularly and would be grateful if someone would check it out.

The **Crown**, 23 Aberdeen Place, S.W.8., is now featuring one bitter at 55p a pint between 5.30 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. every Friday, while at the **Princess Louise**, High Holborn, WC1., bitter is also available at 60p a pint between 5.30 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. every Friday.

Here follows our consolidated list. As before, those marked with an asterisk indicate pubs where the beer is of exceptional value (57p a pint or below). As usual, we ask for information about all such pubs and please let us know if we have included any in error or left out deserving cases.

### *All Day*

The **Packenham Arms**, WC1; the **Clarence\*** in SW5; the **Hop Picker** in E2; **Dick's Bar**, N8; **Welch Bros.**, N2; the **Sun\*** in Carshalton; the **Royal George** in SE10; the **Royal Albion** in Hounslow; the **Pied Bull** in SW16; the **Windsor Castle**, N1; the **Ranelagh**, N11; the **Ironbridge\*** in E14; the **Crane**, SW18; the **Grand Junction Arms**, NW10; the **Castle**, SW15; the **Anchor & Hope**, E5; the **Good Samaritan\***, E1 and the **Queen's Arms**, NW6.

### *Early Evening*

**Ship & Shovel\*** in WC2; **Percy Arms**, WC1; the **Moon\*** in WC2, the **Old Windmill** in Hadley Highstone; the **Salisbury** in Barnet; the **Wattenden Arms** in Kenley; the **King William IV** in NW3; **J.J. Moons** in N19; the **Malt & Hops\*** in N1; and the **Red Lion**, EC1.

### *Other Evening*

**Leather Exchange Tavern\*** in SE1; **Worcester Arms**, W1; **King's Head**, SW19; the **Golden Lion**, SW1 and the **King's Head**, W3.

### *Lunchtime (part)*

**Bricklayer's Arms**, EC2; **Edinburgh**, SE15; **Ship & Shovel\*** in WC2; the **Worcester Arms**, W1; the **King's Head**, W3; the **Golden Lion**, SW1; the **Ebury Arms**, SW1; **J.J. Moons**, N19; the **Salisbury**, Barnet and the **King William IV**, NW3.



## Specials

The Malt & Hops\* in N1 (Weekends and Tuesday), J.J. Moons in N19 (Fridays). and the King's Head, W3 (Sunday eve.)

## Beyond Category

Mitcham Mint in SW16 and the Prohibition in Croydon.

## ● FREEDOM FROM YOUNGER

SOME TIME AGO we referred to the rumours about London pubs owned by Scottish & Newcastle, which down here are generally Younger's houses, selling beer from Shepherd Neame. Four such pubs were identified.

We now learn that the Horse & Groom in Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 does not only sell Shepherd Neame bitter but Fuller's Chiswick bitter as well. And it continues to sell two of S&N's own cask-conditioned beers.

This is slightly surprising, as we understood that the point of the exercise was that S&N were having trouble sending their cask beers all the way from Edinburgh. Perhaps these outside beers are meant to compliment their own cask beers, not to replace them?

Please let us know if you hear of any more such developments.

## ● Footnote to 'Lambeth Walk'

The scaffolding round the Hercules Tavern has now been removed to reveal a spick and span pub behind. Also, the Director's bitter has been available on every visit since I wrote about the place. In good condition, too.

I have been back to the Spanish Patriot a couple of time but not declared myself to the landlord, so I still do not know what lies behind the mysterious door. However, they now sell White Shield so there is an additional reason for a visit as well as the superb Tusker and Wethered.

Incidentally, when I described the pub as slightly scruffy I meant it as a compliment. Some of the most enjoyable things in life are slightly scruffy as anyone who has a freckled-nose nine-year-old son will know.

See new article by Howard Gladwin "Swedish Sojourn" on Page 17.

# Real Beer in London ~ Update 8

All Beer served by handpump

## Additions

WC2	<b>Pullman Bar</b> , Charing Cross Hotel, Charing Cross Stn. Bass; Courage: Directors.
SW4	<b>North Pole</b> , 29 North St. Wethered: Bitter.
SW6	<b>Cock</b> , 360 North End Rd. Truman: Prize mild, bitter, Best bitter
SW6	<b>Imperial</b> , 8 Lillie Rd. Courage: Directors.
SW6	<b>*Lillie Langtry</b> , 19 Lillie Rd. Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
SW7	<b>*Tea Clipper</b> , 19 Montpelier St. Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
SW8	<b>Canton</b> , 177 South Lambeth Rd. Charrington: IPA.
SW8	<b>Cavendish Arms</b> , Hartington Rd. Wethered: Bitter.
SW10	<b>*Somerset Arms</b> , 214 Fulham Rd. Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
SW11	<b>Fishmongers Arms</b> , 225 St. Johns Hill. Charrington: IPA.
SW11	<b>Latchmere</b> , 503 Battersea Park Rd. Mann: IPA: Tamplin: Bitter; Watney: London bitter, Stag;

	Webster: Yorkshire bitter. Availability of beers varies.
SW11	<b>*Northcote</b> , 2 Northcote Rd. Webster: Yorkshire bitter
SW15	<b>Spencer Arms</b> , 237 Lower Richmond Rd. Watney: London bitter, Stag; Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
SW18	<b>Horseshoes</b> , 21 Alma Rd. Watney: London bitter; Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
SW19	<b>Albion</b> , 413 Church Rd. Merton. Watney: London bitter
SW19	<b>Prince of Wales</b> , 2 Hartfield Rd. Webster: Yorkshire bitter
CHESSINGTON	<b>Blackamoors Head</b> , Moor Lane. Charrington: IPA
KINGSTON	<b>Fighting Cocks</b> , 56 London Rd. Courage: Best bitter, Directors
KINGSTON	<b>Gazebo</b> , Thames Walk. Samuel Smith: Old Brewery bitter.
KINGSTON	<b>Richmond Park</b> , 178 Kings Rd. Courage: Best bitter, Directors.
SUTTON	<b>Crown</b> , 285 High St. Charrington: IPA.
W3	<b>*Duke of York</b> , 86 Steyne Rd. Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
W4	<b>*Barley Mow</b> , Heathfield Terrace. Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
W5	<b>Queen Victoria</b> , 1 Ealing Green,

	Mann: IPA; Tamplin: bitter Watney: Stag; Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
W6	*Raven, 375 Goldhawk Rd. Webster: Yorkshire bitter
W8	Johnson Arms, 24 Hillgate St. Mann: IPA.
W11	*Ladbroke Arms, 54 Ladbroke Rd. Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
W14	*Fox, 3 North End Crescent. Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
W14	Kensington, Russell Gardens. Watney: London bitter.
CRANFORD	Jolly Gardeners, 144 High St. Ind Coope: Burton Ale; Taylor Walker: Bitter.
HARLINGTON	*Red Lion, 287 High St. Watney: London bitter; Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
HAYES	*Crane, North Hyde Rd. Webster: Yorkshire bitter.
RUISLIP	Bell, West End Rd. Taylor Walker: Bitter.

#### Deletions

The following pubs listed in *RBIL* no longer sell real ale:

WC2	Crown, 43 Charing Cross Rd.
W1	Stetson (Update 5).
EC3	Three Lords.
EC4	Mermaid Theatre
E1	Archers
E1	Ship
E2	Bishops Bonner
E2	Weavers Arms
E3	Beehive
E3	Horn of Plenty
E3	Kings Arms

E3	Tenterden Arms
E13	Duke of Edinburgh
E14	Earl of Ellesmere
E16	Jubilee Tavern
E16	Spanish Steps
E17	Royal Standard
N1	Clarendon Arms
N1	Mitre, 183 Copenhagen St.
N20	Blue Anchor
ENFIELD	Plough, 132 Hartford Rd.
ENFIELD	Six Bells
NW1	Buffer Stop Bar
NW1	Jubilee
SE1	Windmill, 52 Park St.
SE5	Enterprise
SE5	Flying Dutchman
SE5	Silver Buckle
SE6	Squire
SE10	Duke of Wellington
SW1	Buckingham Bar
SW1	Ranelagh (Update 4)
SW13	Edinburgh Castle
SW13	Watermans Arms
KINGSTON	Old Crown
RICHMOND	Richmond Gate Hotel
RICHMOND	Spotlight
W4	Roebuck
HOUNSLOW	Beaver
HOUNSLOW	Lord Clyde

\* At the time of checking, these pubs were selling some other beers via DCL Air Pressure Pump. These should be replaced soon.  
If you know of any pub that has started selling draught beer or whose details in *Real Beers in London* are incorrect the compilers would be very pleased to hear from you.  
Please write to: *RBIL* Update, 2 Sandtoft Rd. SE7.

## SWEDISH SOJOURN by Howard Gladwin

YOU MAY THINK, from the title, that encouraged by the overwhelming response to my Lambeth Walk pieces (one letter to date) your Copy Editor, burning with his usual enthusiasm, had commissioned me to write an article on Swedish beer drinking. "Just pop over to Sweden, Howard. Travel around a bit. Visit as many bars and pubs as you can and write down your impressions for *London Drinker*. Don't worry about money. The boost to sales your article has given means that *London Drinker* can meet all expenses".

No such luck. I just happened to be holidaying in Sweden this year and the indefatigable Copy Editor — never one to miss an opportunity (or a drink) — suggested that

perhaps I could do a piece on Sweden when I got back. "Of course we can't afford to pay you anything, but I'm sure the pleasure of your research and the opportunity to contribute once again to such a distinguished journal will be adequate reward."

Who could refuse such an offer?

So at the beginning of August, armed with pad and pencil, accompanied by family, off I set for Gothenburg and, eventually, some 230 miles further north into the Klarälven Valley. The first part of the journey was achieved most comfortably with the DFDS/TOR Line Ferry 'Tor Scandinavia', a 15,000-ton ferry which plies the route from Felixtowe to Gothenburg.

It was here that I had my first opportunity to

sample Swedish beer – or la ger, as I should properly call it. There is a duty-free shop on board where you can buy canned beer: Carlsberg (Danish, of course) or Pripps Export, which is Swedish. I did not bother with the Carlsberg but bought a dozen 45-centilitre cans of the Pripps for about £3.40. These were to take to our destination as an insurance against the unavailability of beer there – a wise move, as you shall see.

Also on the boat are a number of bars. I patronised only one, the large one with bandstand, dance floor and plenty of large comfortable chairs. Here the emphasis was on spirits and cocktails mainly, I think because drink is so expensive in Sweden – about £24 for a bottle of Chivas Regal, for instance – that duty-free shipboard prices are very attractive to the Swedes. Even so, I thought that about £1.50 for a scotch-and-soda was rather steep and I stuck to beer while my wife was able to drink superb coffee and my son Coca Cola dispensed from a flexible hose with a nozzle that resembled an electric razor. The beer was either a keg version of the Pripps or keg Double Diamond! The beer-drinking Swedes on board seemed to go for the Pripps but, sad to say, the majority of Englishmen went for the DD. No spirit of adventure these day in the English.

I must say, I quite enjoyed the Pripps. It is sweetish, relatively strong (4.5% alcohol by volume, it says on the cans) and goes down well when served ice cold, as it usually is. Compared with some of the lagers I have tasted in this country and elsewhere it is really quite palatable – or maybe it's the holiday atmosphere?

On northwards to “middle” Sweden. I have to say at once that if you are expecting a beer (or lager) drinkers paradise you will be sadly disappointed. Sweden has a long history of temperance, has very strict drink and drive laws and strong drink is available normally only through the state-owned off licences – Systembolaget – of which there are about 300 in a country twice the size of Britain. The nearest Systembolaget to where we were staying was some twenty miles away and there was no bar in our village, so you can see that those twelve cans of Pripps came in very useful. My only regret was that I did not buy twenty-four!

Not that beer, or rather lager, is not available. All the supermarkets sell it but it is weak, either Class 1 (1.8% alcohol) or Class 2 (2.8%). Perhaps to make up for this rather depressing state of affairs, it comes under a bewildering variety of names and in attractively designed cans: Dart, Eagle, Three Towns, Falcon, Faxe (Whatever that means) etc., etc. Most of this is brewed by Pripps, a sixty-per-cent-State-owned firm with major breweries in Stockholm, Malmö and Gothenburg. Hence the Three Towns lager and not, as I thought, a tribute to some Swedish sub-Arnold Bennett.

Despite the variety of packaging it is sad to say that most of this lager tastes exactly the same – bland, but refreshing when served cold in hot weather such as we enjoyed. Its only other effect is diuretic. However, whilst browsing in the local supermarket I spotted a brightly-coloured can that was new to me. It was called ‘Rode Orm’ and had printed on the side, in English, the following:



“A Human Dray in a Malmö Square”

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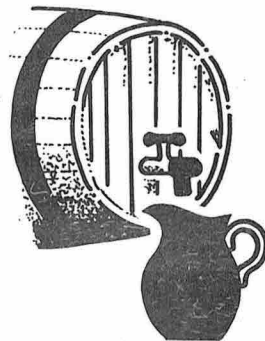
Alan Greenwoods Beer Agency, the original Real Ale Off-Licence Service have now installed the new Grundy Beer Dispensers at five of their shops; Wallington, Tolworth, Wimbledon, Kennington and the new one at Clapham. The new equipment dispenses beer accurately from 1 pint upwards for jug sales and polypin refills.

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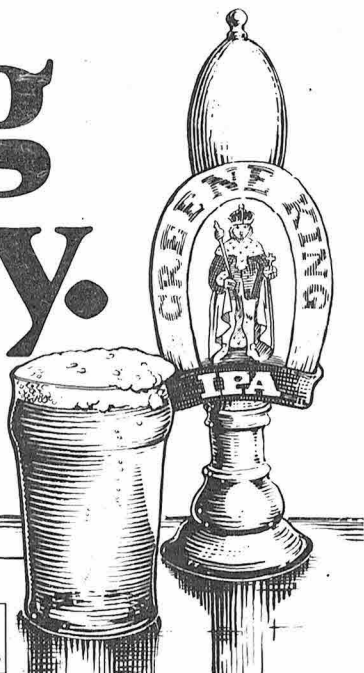
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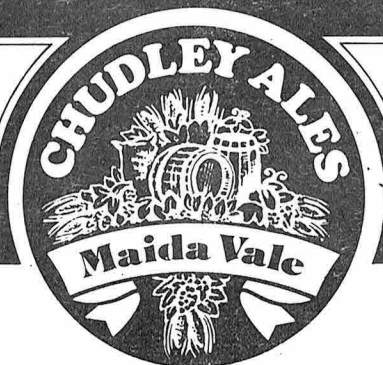
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*Mead or metheglin Brew of malt, spices and honey. Contents 16 US fl.oz. Serve ice cold. "It was the finest ale he had ever tasted... such as only kings could afford to brew, and he drank it with a will". (Red Orm in 'The Long Ships', a Saga of the Viking Age). 45cl. Klass 1. 1.8% alcohol. Till Bryggerier.*

Accompanying this was a picture of a fearsome Viking Warrior and, on the other side of the can, a Swedish version of the Red Orm tale. As this was virtually the first lager: I had seen not brewed by Pripps I bought a half-a-dozen cans and rushed back to our chalet. With eager anticipation I broke one open, poured the contents into a glass which I raised with trembling hands to my lips.

Now the cynical amongst you will expect me to say that it tasted exactly like all the other

lagers I had sampled to date, and I must confess that this was my expectation. However to be fair, whilst not exactly living up to the claim implied on the can, it was different and certainly sweet and spicy. I enjoyed it and bought more. But with an alcohol content of only 1.8%, its only lasting effect was diuretic. Well I don't seem to have told you a lot about beer drinking in Sweden – perhaps because there is not a lot to tell, particularly in the rural area. Stockholm may be a different story and maybe the Copy Editor (although I note he has now dropped the 'Copy' – promotion?) will send me there next year. But don't let this deter you from visiting Sweden. It is a beautiful country with friendly people, and two weeks away from White Shield does no-one any harm. You certainly appreciate it more when you get back.

## Where to buy London Drinker

### OUTLETS – West Central and North PUBS

- WC1 GOLDEN LION, 2 Britannia Street
- WC1 LAMB, Lamb's Conduit St.
- WC1 MOON, 18 New North St.
- WC1 PRINCE ALBERT, 2 Acton Street
- WC1 PRINCESS LOUISE, 208 High Holborn.
- WC1 SUN, 63 Lamb's Conduit St.
- WC2 GEORGE IV, 28 Portugal St.
- N1 CROWN, Cloudesley Rd.
- N1 EUROPA LOUNGE, Kings Cross Station.
- N1 KING OF BEASTS, 65 Graham Street.
- N1 LORD WOLSEY, White Lion St.
- N1 MALT & HOPS, 33 Caledonian Rd.
- N1 "PINT POT", 54 Pentonville Road
- N1 MARQUESS TAVERN, Marquess Rd.
- N1 POTTERS BAR, Gt. Northern Hotel, King X.
- N1 PRINCE ARTHUR, 49 Brunswick Place.
- N1 SWAN TAVERN, 125 Caledonian Road.
- N2 FIVE BELLS, East End Rd.
- N2 WELCH BROS. 130 East Finchley High Rd.
- N2 WINDSOR CASTLE, The Walk, Church
- N6 ANGEL, 37 Highgate High St.
- N6 DUKES HEAD, 16 Highgate High St.
- N6 VICTORIA, 28 North Hill.
- N8 DICK'S BAR, 61 Tottenham Lane.
- N9 COCK, Hertford Rd.
- N9 CROSS KEYS, Edmonton Green.
- N9 RISING SUN, Winchester Rd.
- N10 MARTIN'S FREE HOUSE.  
89 Colney Hatch Lne.
- N12 MOSS HALL TAVERN, 283 Ballard's Lne.
- N19 MARLERS, 19 Archway Road
- N19 J.J. MOON, Landseer Road
- N20 BULL & BUTCHER,  
1277 High Rd. Whetstone

- N20 RISING SUN, Oakleigh Rd.
- N22 STARTING GATE, Buckingham Rd.
- NW1 SHIRES BAR, St. Pancras Station.
- NW1 VICTORIA & ALBERT BARS,  
Marylebone Stn.
- NW1 VICTORIA, 2 Morningson Terrace.
- NW3 HOLLY BUSH, Holly Mount.
- NW3 NAG'S HEAD, 79 Heath St.,  
BARNET ALEXANDRA, Wood St.
- BARNET YE OLDE MONKEN HALT,  
193 High Street.
- ENFIELD CRICKETERS, Chase Side Place.
- ENFIELD OLD PARK HEIGHTS HOTEL, Old  
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### OFF TRADE

- N1 2 Brewers, 8 Pitfield St.
- N10 Finlay Wines, 392 Muswell Hill Bdwy.
- N11 Originales, Friern Barnet Rd.
- N15 Majestic, Colina Mews Park Road.
- NW3 Barrels, 150 Haverstock Hill
- NW6 Grogblossom, 253 West End Lane.

### CLUBS

- N22 Wood Green Labour Club, Stuart Cres.

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