

vol.5 no.10
Nov.1983

12p

LONDON DRINKER

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



The Black Friar

BRANCH CONTACTS

BEXLEY	DES WARD	Erith 45716(H)	Erith 33020 x 4 (W)
BROMLEY	ROGER MASON	464 2909 (H)	407 4466 x 294(W)
CROYDON & SUTTON	DAVE HAMER	647 0992 (H) Epsom	41511 x 66 (W)
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KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD	JOHN NORMAN	546 3476 (H)	Weybridge 47282 x 2659 (W)
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SOUTH-WEST LONDON	JOHN DAVIS	670 0734	
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WEST MIDDLESEX	KEITH WILDEY	474 1243 (H)	

BRANCH DIARY

If your branch is not mentioned below please ring the branch contact. Events for November of which have been notified are as follows. Branches please send details to Andy Pirson.

BROMLEY: Thu. 10 (8.00) Social - WHITE HORSE, High Street, West Wickham. Thu. 24 (8.00) "Red Rover" Pub Crawl of Bromley. Mon. 19 ARWOLD ARMS, Farwig Lane, Bromley. Thu 15 (8.00) Branch Christmas Party, ring branch contact for venue.

EAST LONDON & CITY: Tue. 1 (8.00) Branch Meeting HOLLY BUSH, 32 Grange Road, E.10. Thu. 3 (5.30) City Social. CHESHIRE CHEESE, 48 Crutched Friars, EC3 (near Fenchurch Street Stn.) Tue. 8 (5.30) Near City Social and Border Raid - NEW CHESHIRE CHEESE (Basement Bar), Milford Lane, WC2 (off Aldwych end of Strand). Tue. 15 (7.00) Committee Meeting WHITE HORSE, 48 White Horse Road, E1. Thu. 17 (5.30) - Social & Darts Challenge, ELAC v. DHSS STATE HOUSE, High Holborn, WC1. Tue. 22 (8.00) Social TRAVELLERS REST, 12 Cemetery Road, E7. Tue. 29 (8.00) - Social ROYAL NAVY, 53 Salmon Lane, E1. Sunday Lunchtimes in November "Hair of the Dogs" FISH & RING, 141A White Horse Road, E1.

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD: Sun. 6 (12.00) Lunchtime Drink, BARLEY MOW, Epsom. Thu. 10 (8.30) Branch Meeting, CRICKETERS, Weston Green. Thu. 17 (8.00) - Pub Crawl of Walton-on-Thames start at the SWAN.

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW: Thu. 10 (8.30) - Open Committee Meeting, HOGARTH, Broad Street, Teddington. Thu. 17 (8.30), Social, ROYAL OAK, Ham Street, Ham. Mon. 21 (8.30), Branch Meeting - GRIFFIN, Brook Road, Brentford.

SOUTH-WEST LONDON: Thu. 10 (8.00) Branch Meeting. RAILWAY, High St, Putney (near station). Thu. 17 (8.00) - Open Committee, BATTERSEA BREWERY CO, PRINCE OF WALES, 339 Battersea Park Road, SW11. Fri.25 (8.30), Social, ALEXANDRA, High Street, Wimbledon.

WEST LONDON: Tue. 8 (8.00) - Pub of the Month Social, CHISWICK EYOT (formerly Roebuck), 122 Chiswick High Road, W4. Thu. 17 (8.00) - Branch Meeting. DENMARK, 102 Old Brompton Road, SW7.

NORTH LONDON: Tue. 22 Nov. (8.00). Branch Meeting upstairs room at the LAMB, Lambs Conduit Street, WC1 (Youngs). Tue. 1 Nov. N1 - Crawl, start PRINCE ARTHUR, Brunswick Place, 8.00 (Sheps) then GEORGE & VULTURE, Pitfield Street, 8.45 (new Fullers), MARIE LLOYD, Chart Street, 9.30 (Websters) and CAMPBELLS, Bridport Place, 10.15 (Free). Tue. 8 Nov. 8.00 PRINCESS ALEXANDRA, Park Road, N8 (Hammonds outlet). Sat. 12 Nov - BRANCH SOIREE TO LINCOLN - Details available at socials. Tue. 15 Nov. 8.00 - TOM TIDDLERS(!), Tolmers Sq. then JOLLY GARDNERS, 60 Coburg St., both NW1. Tue. 29 Nov. 8.00 TARMONS, 270 Caledonian Road, N.1, then BALMORAL CASTLE, 427 Caledonian Road, N7 (both Free). Tue. 6 Dec. 8.00 PINT POT, 54 Pentonville Road, N1. (Free), then LORD WOLSELEY, 55 White Lion St., N1 (Sams). Every Sunday Lunch in November - Pub of the Month - PRINCESS ROYAL, 11 Circus Rd, N8(Charringtons) Sat. 10 Dec. - Annual Pilgrimage to Manchester.



Are you getting what you pay for? I refer not to the quality or substance but the amount. If I order a pint of anything - be it milk, paint, beer or blood, I expect full value for my hard-earned money, no more and no less (although I'd accept more without a quibble).

Some time back it was ruled in court that the head of a certain beverage constituted part of the pint (which a physicist would deny, as bubbles are empty). More recently, an equally learned and presumably sober judge ruled that if you accept a less than 100% full pint you agree it is the amount you pay for, unless you ask for a top-up - which **should not** be necessary. After all, if you offered a damaged coin the bar steward is perfectly justified in demanding full, legal tender - so why shouldn't

it work the other way?

NOW here in London we are paying well over the odds for beer. Even taking into account the higher rates, etc. in the Metropolis and the fact that the local workers are as a whole paid more than their counterparts elsewhere, some prices are absolute **rip-offs**. The dearest (normal) pint reported to me cost £1.02 in a well-used hostelry in Whitehall (perhaps the tourists don't recognise a con? There is never a dearth of customers!) By contrast, the cheapest pint in the country in a public house, excluding those with special offers, is 44p at the time of writing.

Not so long ago a beermat was issued by the West Midlands County Council Services Department which added its own "opinions" on the amount served in a capacity fill glass - i.e. where a pint reaches the top. By means of a cut-out "step" - which you place on the top of the glass - various markings show how honestly you have been served. In order they are - "Do you need a top up?" "Do you need a Trading Standards Officer?" and "Do you need another local?"

We are preparing our own more sophisticated version, but meanwhile you might care to apply to Capital Radio for an original. Incidentally, the reverse is inscribed with a message to the effect: "The Law says a pint

YE OLDE BRIDGE HOUSE

THE BRIDGE BREWERY'S OWN PUB

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*We welcome brewery visits - please 'phone for appointment.

THE BRIDGE BREWERY

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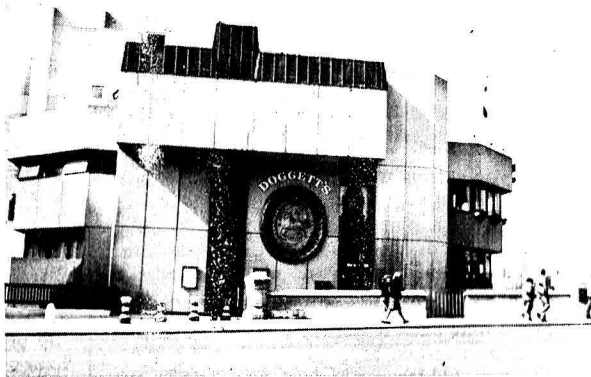
of beer can include the head. We want beer drinkers to get what they pay for - without asking for more"

What do our readers think?

Martin Smith.

Nice One, Nicholson

Doggett's, Blackfriars Road.



Good news from Nicholson, the chain of free houses taken over last year by Allied Breweries. They have launched an extensive programme of renovation and have completed work on the Black Friar, the William and Mary Tavern and, most recently, the Argyle Arms off Oxford Circus. Pubs to be tackled in the future include the Old Bell and the Ranch Tavern in Fleet Street and the Catherine Wheel in Kensington Church Street.

Nicholson hope to increase their number of pubs to about 50, though some presumably will be out of London. One that has switched from the parent Ind Coope Company is Doggett's, the enormous modern pub which stands on the south side of Blackfriars Bridge. This was the scene of last month's presentation of CAMRA's "Best Beer" awards for 1983. Winners were Ansell's for the mild, the new Burton Bridge Brewery for bitter, Timothy Taylor's Landlord for premium bitter and, almost inevitably, Fuller's ESB for mind-blowing. Taylor's Landlord, equally inevitably it seems, also won the overall prize.

Nicholson's have adopted a policy which should appeal to the purest CAMRA ideologue. They claim that "you will not find plastic and chrome (in their pubs) and the serious drinker's peace of mind is not shattered by juke boxes or stomping space invaders. Our philosophy is to provide the very best of British inn keeping." We must admit that on a subsequent visit to Doggett's the music was belting out quite loudly in the basement bar, but this is not to detract from Nicholson's overall achievement.

The range of beers will no doubt change. At

present, the Black Friar sells Bass and bitters from Wethered, Morrell and Adnam. Beers on sale at Doggett's include Fuller's London Pride, Greene King IPA, Arkell's BBB and Aldridge Pope's Dorchester bitter.



OUT NOW!

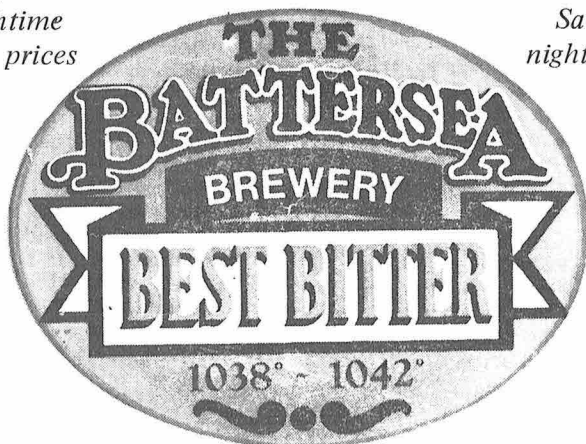
64 page booklet fully updates the 6th edition listing 1250 additional pubs, plus changes to entries in RBIL, including details of newly introduced beers, home brew pubs etc.

Price 80p + 9" x 6" 12½p
SAE Special price for both publications
£2 plus 9" x 6" 27p SAE. Send cheques/
PO (Payable to CAMRA London) to RBIL,
82 Cavendish Avenue, Harrow, Middlesex.

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The Prince of Wales
339 Battersea Park Road
Battersea SW11

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All at give away prices*

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Saturday, Sunday
nights + Sunday lunch*



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Battersea Best Bitter at 70p per pint
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Polypins of
Battersea Bitter Av.
Bitter 50p per pint Best Bitter 55p per pint

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5.30 p.m. — 7.00 p.m. Monday-Friday

London Drinking By Red Rover

It is a late September evening and, as the brewers/publicans excuses for poor quality beer (an English summer!) sink slowly in the west, I find myself dozing on the 1657 from Waterloo and alighting at Fulwell. Now the last time I ventured to this part of the world I understand that the local landlords were less than happy about my own personal but honest comments about their pubs and beers. Well I'm sorry lads, but if your pub is a pit and your beer tastes like the inside of a stable boys judhpurs I will damn well say so. The only reason I don't say so at the time is that I don't like being banned from pubs for politely asking for my beer to be changed, which is often the standard publicans defence/over-reaction.

Now, having got that off my chest, I am wandering past Fulwell Garage (scene of London's last Trolleybus on 8th May 1962 – I was only seven!) and as I am about to pass a pub called the Jolly Blacksmith of which I know nothing, and what's more it is open, I decide to look in. Therein lies Watney Stag and Websters Yorkshire Bitter, the latter of which is in good condition and is served by a most hospitable guvnor. The public bar has a dartboard and a rather unusual pinball table with a roulette wheel in the middle of it. The carpet is somewhat threadbare but the whole place seems rather friendly...I am sorry to leave...especially as the next pub is closed! However, further up the road is the Prince of Wales, serving Watney Stag & London and Websters Bitter in comfortable but unspectacular surroundings. There are many plants, a few brass nicknacks, two cases of butterflies, a painting of the pub and a brief history beneath. It explains that the Prince of Wales used to be a coaching inn on the London to Windsor run, with stables for the change of horses. The garden has evidently won the Watneys Garden Competition five years running and the pub is the HQ of the Thames Valley Grammar School Rugby Club! Back now to the pub which was closed, the Nelson, and I am delighted to find it now open. Good Maritime Food is advertised outside and indeed a large menu occupies a prominent place on the bar. What is on offer sounds exceedingly appetising and seems to be quite good value. The pub is very, very comfortable and is adorned (in a restrained and tasteful fashion) with seafaring items – pictures of ships, messages in bottles and

Victorian clay pipes! The beer? Ah, well, this is not a drinking mans pub I would guess. Courage Best and Directors are on offer and the Best is predictably over warm (like the pub) and is rather syruppy and uninteresting. I am also not too impressed with the nicotine intake of the barman, which seems somewhat incongruous with the general 'hygienic' atmosphere. To sum up, a good place to go if you want to impress the new posh girlfriend but not if you want a good beer-up.

A fair walk down the road at the side (Stanley Road) finds me outside the Red Lion which proclaims 'Traditional Ales' on a plaque outside – so I investigate. Two unmarked handpumps serve Courage Best and Directors and the Best is quite excellent. The saloon bar has food, comfortable seats and a pool table, whilst the public must have at least a television, as I can hear the start of Crossroads which sends me scuttling into the farthest possible corner of the pub where I find that the saloon has tables with maps of the world on – are they trying to educate the local skarns? Leaping outside onto a 33 bus back to Fulwell Garage and then onto a 90B, I arrive at the Fountain at the end of Sixth Cross Road, a Beefeater Steak House. Inside it is the usual scenario of bare bricks, hanging gardens and 'Mr. Pearce, your table for 69 is ready now, sir.' The Wethereds on offer tastes thin, but is in good condition nonetheless. I continue through some suburban back streets. Crane Park and some alleyways between suburban back streets. I emerge into Great Chertsey Road where I have to negotiate one of these footbridges that take you a mile and a half in circles just to cross the road (why should the poor pedestrian always suffer in favour of the motorised moron?) in order to reach the Winning Post (yes that is the name of the pub and not just another awful Gorril joke).

Despite its austere exterior (try saying that after a few pints!) it is comfortable within, though again a little steakhouse in style, being equally divided between bar and restaurant. Websters Bitter and Ruddles County are on offer and the former is most drinkable. The low piped music is struggling against the roar of the traffic outside and as I am not sure which is preferable I leave.

A short walk down the road and a short wait for a 110 bus and I arrive at the Duke of York in Hanworth Road. A large uninspiring locals pub, the public bar containing a pool table and the saloon bar a pool-style snooker table, a video machine and two fruit machines. Watney Stag and Websters Bitter are for sale and the latter is good. There are two ways

from here to the next pub; either catch a 110/111 to the Warren Hotel and walk down Nelson Road, or catch a 110 in the other direction until it meets the 202, upon which you travel to Whitton. Which all goes to show what a nebulous place Whitton is – has anyone outside the immediate area even heard of it? Anyway I take the latter route as there is an excellent connection in the evenings (must be a mistake) and alight at the Admiral Nelson, a large corner Fullers house dispensing the full range. As the bars have silly names I go in the nearest door to the bus stop which is called the Mess Deck and turns out to be pretty rough. Why do pubs choose to label their bars with odd names and leave everyone mystified as to what they are about to encounter? Looking in my well-used copy of 'Real Beer in London' I find it described as 'plush rather than authentic' – I must be in the wrong bar. Despite all this, the Chiswick Bitter is excellent. A short walk down the road opposite (Hounslow Road) to investigate the Prince Albert, where Courage have told us they are installing handpumps. No sign of them yet though, so another visit seems to be required at a later date. Turning right and along to the far end of Kneller Road to the Duke of Cambridge, where Manns IPA and Websters Bitter are served. The Websters is excellent and the pub, though smallish inside, is very friendly and comfortable. Darts and a fruit machine are on the blinds. Back now to the pub I've just passed, the White Hart, yet another Watneys house serving Watney Stag and Websters Bitter, the latter again being very good. One large, rather uninteresting area contains a table video game and a dart board. There is an attached Wine Bar which is not open. As I am almost the only non-skarn in the whole place and the music is getting worse and worse I don't stay long, but return to the other end of Kneller Road and into Whitton Road to the South Western Hotel. More Watney Stag and Websters Bitter are on offer but I can't honestly say I remember what they were like. There is darts in the public and fruit machine and Frogger in the saloon. I do remember getting the high score on Frogger but I couldn't tell you how. Fortunately Hounslow Central Station is only just up the road and I lurch onto the 2236 to head for home.

Assuming I have found my head by next month I might be in your area, so lock up your pubs, breweries, daughters etc, as the dark evenings make me feel like a good pillage. See you...

GBBF - A PERSONAL VIEW

I hadn't missed a GBBF for five years – it was held in London for my first two and I've a friend in Yorkshire with whom I visited the festival the two years it was held in Leeds – so a trip to Birmingham had to be made in order to see that the GBBF lived up to its reputation of being the real ale highlight of the year. I'm pleased to say that my impression from the short time I was there (just the Friday lunchtime session) was that this was the best I'd been to yet.

I had arranged to meet some fellow enthusiasts (who had ingeniously devised a plan to stay in a camper van parked in the car park outside the Bingley Hall for the duration!) at the Timothy Taylor stand at 12, and judging by the number of anxious faces in the vicinity this was a popular rendezvous point, or there was some danger that the "Landlord" was running out! It's always a great problem which beers from the 250 or so on show to sample but I decided to start with the Mansfield Breweries' recent introduction 4X, which was excellent and goes to show what an all-keg brewer (albeit with a tradition dating back to 1854) can do if they try – **J. Smith please note.** You cannot visit the West Midlands without trying some of the native mild so next up was Bathams Mild which was everything a mild should be – if only Southern breweries could follow this example. Another mild followed, that of Oldham Brewery, which was even better, an excellent subtle mild, the like of which hasn't been seen in London for too long. I would have sworn if I hadn't seen it drawn myself that the Belhaven 60/- was Shepherd Neame, so similarly distinctive was the taste. Several more ales followed, mainly from small breweries like Bailey's of Malvern, Bartlett's of Newnham Bridge and the highly distinctive and unusual Three Tuns. The hall was packed, with a great atmosphere by this point – it was interesting to observe that about one o'clock many people dressed in three-piece suits arrived. At two o'clock the same people were seen jovially staggering back to their offices, accompanied by some extremely unsteady secretarial staff – I very much doubt if much work was done on Friday afternoon in Birmingham.

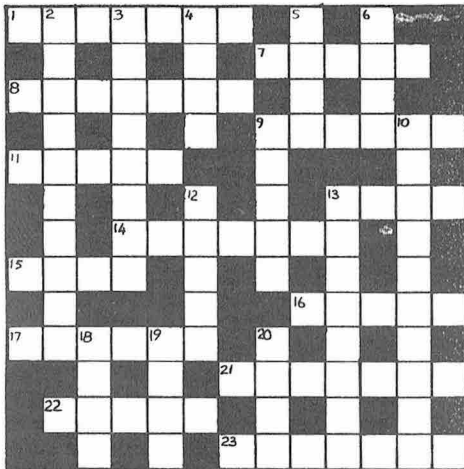
The food at the Festival was of a very high

DRINKER CROSSWORD

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON

£5 PRIZE TO BE WON

ACROSS



1. Very soft and clear piece of the bell. (7)
7. Part of the plant that produces pales? (5)
8. First lady and others find the mountain. (7)
9. In Fred you may have a mate. (6)
11. Aristocrat with pub attached. (5)
13. Ales could be binding. (4)
14. Take off place where there's gas left. (7)
15. Ale spilt right round aristocrat. (4)
16. What may shake up yards of ale. (5)
17. Jar not anti-Greek? (6)
21. Fat young con man? (4,3)
22. A spirit without a church may race here. (5)
23. See Bill about boozers' hangovers! (7)

Name.....

Address.....

.....

All correct entries received by first post on 28th November will be entered into a draw for the prize.
Prize winner will be announced in the February London Drinker.
Solution next month.

Last Month's Solution



DOWN

2. Offal I rave about may be passionate. (4,6)
3. Forn and ales together could be insulting. (8)
4. Rising place for some yeast. (4)
5. Drink last of beer and see a sad sign. (4)
6. Story of the end of flat beer. (4)
9. Floored, about out, through too much liquid. (5)
10. Ale Ed and Ronny almost finished? (6,4)
12. You may find thinker in bar. (5)
13. What to do for a sweet drink? (4,4)
18. Throw out of University Street. (4)
19. Unknown alcoholic shorty. (4)
20. The lager additive to get you stoned? (4)

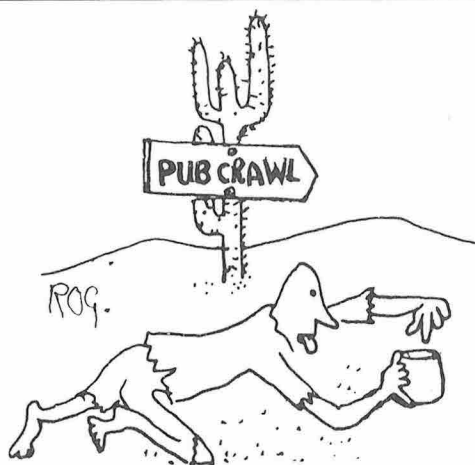
All entries to be submitted to:
London Drinker Crossword
25 Valens House
Upper Tulse Hill
London SW 2.

Winner of prize for September crossword:
Jane Swaffield, 54 Tranmere Road,
Whitton, Middlesex.

standard and wide range. After recovering from the blow that the mushy peas had run out I sampled some good value and highly original vegetarian food, and I noted that the carnivores were provided for. I didn't see (or maybe I missed) any Bat & Trap, which is a shame but probably sensible as games have been known to get a bit out of hand after a few, but the Skittle Alley and other games were doing a brisk trade. All though this there was some excellent entertainment from a marvellously uncompromising jazz band and a colourful and enthusiastic "Ansell's Caribbean Connection" steel band who succeeded in prompting a swinging Conga Line just before closing time.

All the beers I sampled were sensibly priced and in good condition, except, sadly a nationally-available beer, which tasted like it had been strained through one of my old football socks. It was a pity that I couldn't have spent more time there to sample such esoteric delights as Bass Blackpool Best Mild, Blue Anchor Special, Border Old Master, Devanha Triple X and Allsopp's Gold Cross Cask Lager – What more can you say except that the GBBF is unique in bringing such a collection together in one place and due to the efforts of CAMRA members it's the real ale event of the year.

Steve Millam.



Anerley & Maple Road BEERABOUT

We'll start by getting the train to Anerley from London Bridge, Waterloo or Charing

Cross. Outside the station is the Anerley Arms, (1) serving a brilliant pint of Sam Smith's OBB – a Sam's tied house, a very plush boozer, serving the nearby Anerley Estate.

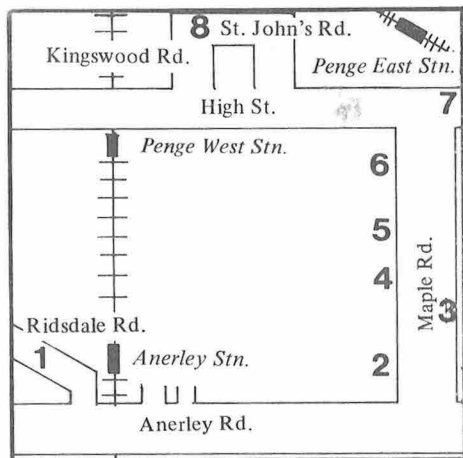
The next boozer on the crawl is the Golden Lion (2). Go up to the main road, cross the railway bridge and take the third turning on the left – Maple Road. The pub, 250 yards on the left, is a free house serving a wide range of beers, including Young's Bitter & Special, Bass, Fuller's London Pride and ESB, and Springfield, plus guest beers including Morlands BB, Felinfoel DD, Badger Best, King & Barnes, Sussex Bitter & Festive and Eldridge Pope Royal Oak. The pub has a certain clique to it – if you aren't a member the bar staff rarely take to you. Two bars. The beer varies like the weather. Opposite the Golden Lion is the Maple Tree (3), another free house, selling Shepherd Neame Bitter & Best, Courage BB and Director's and Webster's Yorkshire Bitter. A plush boozer, shame the beer isn't up to scratch. It deals mainly in lager and Guinness. Formerly a run-down Courage House, this pub was doubled in size during re-building by the addition of an adjacent house. Next, on the left, we come to the Lord Palmerston (4), a Watney's house selling Mann's IPA and Webster's Yorkshire. Again the beer is very poor in quality. It is a typical back-street boozer with a genuine landlord and good public bar with a TV and loyal darts following.

Next we come to the London Tavern (Murphy's) (5), selling Godson's Black Horse, Everard's Tiger, Adnam's Bitter, and a monthly guest beer. In September it was Wadworth's 6X, October Marston's Pedigree and in November it could be Boddington's Bitter, subject to confirmation. Recently re-decorated, and with a real character of a landlord, this used to be a really run-down pub.

Still on the left, we now come to the Dewdrop Inn (6), a recent convert to real ale, with Charrington IPA. A two-bar, real Irish local.

Next port of call is the Crooked Billet (7), a Courage house selling Best and Directors in very good condition. A very plush pub with outdoor drinking area.

Last stop is the Park Tavern (8) by Penge East Station. The beer is again Charrington IPA in very good condition. It caters for the nearby estate, and never gets really busy. If travelling by train, it is as well to remember that the trains from Anerley stop after 10 p.m. and from Penge West Station after 7. Penge East is served from Victoria and Bromley.



Buses in the area are the 12 (Norwood Junction Oxford Circus), 12A (Forest Hill-South Croydon), 75 (Woolwich), 194 (Forest Hill-Croydon Airport), 227 (Chiselhurst-Crystal Palace) and 157 (Crystal Palace-Raynes Park.)

PAUL THOMAS - Bromley Branch.

■ FULLERS

We have recently heard that Fullers are increasing the size of their tied estate by the purchase of two more pubs, the Hop Blossom in Farnham, Surrey and the Hogarth in Teddington down in the far South West corner of Greater London.

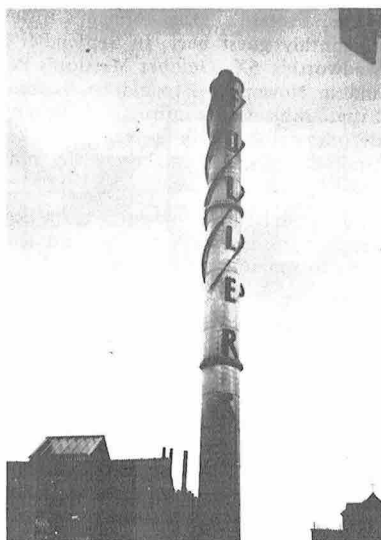


Photo: John Elliott

In fact, the Hogarth which was formerly a Charrington pub selling IPA on handpump started trading under the Fullers banner on Friday 30th September. It will increase the choice of beers in an area which tends to be locally dominated by Watneys although situated in Broad Street, it finds itself almost equidistant between the two excellent Youngs pubs in Teddington, the Abercorn Arms in Church Road and the Queen Dowager in North Lane.

Following the piece about Fullers in the September edition of *Drinker*, we have been informed that the statement that the Britannia in Hammersmith does not sell real ale is incorrect. Our source informs us that London Pride and ESB are served through electric pumps from cask syphons with the casks on end. Can anybody confirm this since the pub is listed in neither *Real Beer* in London nor its recent supplement?

■ IND COOPE

Ind Coope recently announced a new promotion for their Burton Ale to representatives of CAMRA branches from all over the country who were invited to a special presentation at their Burton Brewery. The promotion takes the form of the "Draught Burton Ale Guide of Master Cellarmen" and is aimed at maintaining the quality of the draught beers in their pubs, particularly Burton Ale.

Existing and potential outlets for Burton Ale will shortly receive application forms for landlords to join the guild and membership will only be granted after a thorough inspection by technical and area managers. Members will then receive a pump licence plate bearing their own personal Burton Ale licence number. New outlets will only be allowed to sell Burton Ale after a full inspection of the pub has been carried out by the Brewery.

After being accepted as a guild member, a licensee will undergo a three month initiation period (who knows what that could mean?), overseen by Ind Coope Burton Brewery's Head Brewer. Then, once accepted as a master cellarman, a licensee will be presented with a licence disc mounted on a special plaque to be placed behind the bar. This licence will be renewable annually and will be withdrawn if standards are not maintained.

This strikes us as something of a gimmick but it does indicate that Ind Coope do take seriously the quality of the beer in their pubs, rather than just the image of real beer. Hopefully though Area Managers will monitor the quality of the beer in their pubs

continuously rather than just once a year. Another aid, we feel, to the quality of Burton Ale would be to make it freely available to pubs in smaller casks if landlords feel that turnover is not high enough for them to sell a whole cask in a reasonable time in order to ensure consistent quality.

Still on Burton Ale, Ind Coope have just announced a major television advertising campaign for the beer. In the words of the Brewery, "A special animatic technique has been used to produce a commercial which set in the time of the Industrial Revolution, conveys the importance of the art of traditional brewing in producing the excellent Draught Burton Ale of today." So now you know. In a lighter vein, the advert will introduce the slogan, "When you've deserved a good pint, you deserve to go for a BURTON."

The campaign was due to start on October 24th on Channel 4 in the London and Central television areas. First Charrington with IPA and now Ind Coope with Burton – it seems that real beer drinkers are finally becoming recognised by the admen: as a real market force. We only hope that we don't have to pay for all this extra attention with inflated prices, as do those who believe what the lager adverts tell them.

COVER STORY: The Black Friar

The name of this pub commemorates the Dominican Priory which was established in this part of London in the late thirteenth century. The priory buildings filled a large site to the east of the present railway viaduct, from Carter Lane south to Printing House Square. The pub stands, in fact, outside the boundaries of the original priory and is, comparatively, a building of no great antiquity.

The jovial Black Friar, though, has gazed down on Londoners from his exalted position at the apex of this curious triangular pub for some years. The original building was erected in 1875 and was substantially altered by the third owner, Alfred Pettitt, between 1904 and 1906. But it was not until 1917 that the final masterpiece – the snack bar or grotto – was added.

What makes The Black Friar unique is its design and interior decor. Alfred Pettitt, inexplicably, used an architect – H. Fuller Clark – and two designers – Frederick Calcott and Henry Poole – none of whom

were particularly associated with public houses. Both Calcott and Poole were noted Arts and Crafts sculptors of their day and Fuller Clark is not known to have completed any other pub designs. There can be no doubt that The Black Friar was created on a whim of its owner. It is quite exceptional and reflects in its design and decoration not the usual public house atmosphere, but the artistic preoccupations of its age.

Jovial and bibulous friars were a common subject in turn of the century art – abbots with barons of beef, fishing monks and drinking ecclesiastics were all popular. The Black Friar's decoration includes them all. There are friars in relief, friars in mosaic and even friar candelabra.

In 1972, the importance of The Black Friar was recognised and it was listed Grade II by the Department of the Environment. It was not until 1983, however, that any serious restoration work was carried out. Now, finally, the pub stands as it originally did – a reflection of its period and a monument to one of London's most imaginative landlords.

PUB PROFILE THE WHITE CROSS, RICHMOND

Situated on the East Bank of the Thames between Twickenham and Richmond bridges, the White Cross is on a relatively quiet side but still very central in Richmond. It is known to have existed as a pub in 1780 and is on land reclaimed from the Thames, once occupied by a Friary which existed for 35 years prior to the Reformation of Henry VIII. There remain legends of secret passages running from the White Cross although no evidence of these has ever been found.

Five pubs once existed in Water Lane, which runs from the White Cross to the main street in Richmond, but now the Waterman's Arms is the othersurvivor. At one time Richmond had more pubs than any other town in London until the local court stepped in during 1781.

Dick Mullis, formerly of the Good Beer Guide-listed Britannia Tap in West Kensington, has been licensee for about a year now and is working on a programme of improvements planned to enhance the character of the pub. Some of the work will normally be unseen by the drinker, such as enlargement of the cellar to ease the task of keeping the beer in its present excellent condition. The cellar once housed a skittle alley and has

REAL BEER IN LONDON & SUPPLEMENT UPDATE 3

Updates to CAMRA London's comprehensive guide to Greater London's real ale pubs 'Real Beer in London' and its accompanying 'Real Beer in London Supplement' booklet are published monthly in 'London Drinker'. Information is included on additions, deletions and changes to real ale pubs listed in the Guide and Supplement.

Such information is not only of general interest but also enables CAMRA in London to monitor progress by the various brewers in terms of real ale availability.

If you know of any outlets for real ale not listed in 'Real Beer in London' and its Supplement, or outlets where the details listed are incorrect or have changed, do not assume we know already but put pen to paper and write to: - RBIL Update, 2 Sandtoft Road, London SE7 7LR.

Apology

Update 2 included two entries not submitted by the compilers. Regular readers will have noted that the Duke of Cornwall, SW8 had already been listed in Update 1 and Pub Continental, SW8 already appears in 'Real Beer in London' under its previous name Queen.

CENTRAL

- W1 CITY OF QUEBEC, 12 Old Quebec St. Flowers: Original Bitter, Wethered: Bitter.
- W1 SUN & 13 CANTONS, 21 Great Poulteney St. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
- WC2 LADY HAMILTON, 7 Duncannon St. Bass (G), Charrington: IPA (G)
- EC1 BRITISH QUEEN, 167 White Cross St. Wethered: Bitter.
- EC3 HOOP & GRAPES, 47 Aldgate High St. Bass, Charrington: IPA, Mitchells & Butler: Springfield Bitter.

EAST

- E1 CAXTON, 50 The Highway, Manns: IPA: Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E2 BUSKERS, 2 Pollard Row, Friary Meux: Bitter, Taylor Walker: Mainline.
- E2 DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, 101 Queens bridge Rd., Charrington: IPA.
- E2 OLD KING JOHNS HEAD, 90 Whiston Rd. Charrington: IPA.
- E2 PANTHER, 15 Turin St. Wethered: Bitter.
- E2 PERSEVERANCE, 125 Gosset St. Watney: Stag Bitter. Websters: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E3 BEEHIVE, 104 Empson St. Taylor Walker: Mainline.
- E3 BRICKLAYERS ARMS, 171 Devons Rd. Manns: IPA, Watney: London Bitter.
- E3 RAILWAY TAVERN, 30 Grove Rd. Charrington: IPA.
- E3 ROSE OF DENMARK, 612, Roman Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E7 ALBION HOTEL, 141 Boleyn Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E8 AMHURST ARMS, 240 Amhurst Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter, Websters: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E8 BELGRAVE ARMS, 217 Queensbridge Rd. Charrington: IPA, Mitchells & Butlers: Springfield Bitter.
- E8 BROWNLOW ARMS* 10 Scriven St. Charrington: IPA
- E8 CROWN & CASTLE, 600 Kingsland Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E8 HORSE & GROOM, 255 Mare St. Charrington: IPA.
- E8 HUSTLER, 451 Queensbridge Rd. Charrington: IPA
- E8 RAILWAY TAVERN, 59 Kingsland High St. Charrington: IPA
- E8 RAILWAY TAVERN, 339 Mare St. Charrington: IPA
- E8 ROBIN HOOD, 42 Shacklewell Lane, Taylor Walker: Bitter, Mainline.

- E8 ROYAL OAK, 83 Wilton Way, Manns: IPA, Ruddle: County, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E9 BRUNSWICK ARMS, 237 Well St. Bass
- E9 STAG, 37 Brooksby's Walk, Truman: Mild, Best Bitter.
- E10 PRINCE OF WALES, 777 High Rd. Charrington: IPA
- E13 PRINCE OF WALES, 35 Prince's Terr. Truman: Bitter, Best Bitter.
- E13 SWAN, 1 Balaam St. Ind Coope: Burton Ale, Taylor Walker: Bitter, Mainline.
- E13 VICTORIA TAVERN, 28 High St. Manns: IPA.
- E14 KINGSBRIDGE ARMS, 154 West Ferry Road, Wethered: Bitter
- E14 LORD STANLEY, 55 Carmen St. Manns: IPA, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
- E14 OLD SHIP, 17 Barnes St. Ruddle: County, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E14 ROSE & CROWN, 17 Pennyfields, Ruddle: County, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E14 SIR JOHN FRANKLIN, 269 East India Dock Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E14 YOUNG PRINCE, 60 Cordelia St. Wethered: Bitter
- E16 PAULS HEAD, 1 Watford Rd. Manns: IPA
- E16 PITTS HEAD, 2 Fords Park Rd. Mitchells & Butler: Springfield Bitter
- BARKING JOLLY FISHERMAN, 108 North St. Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- ROMFORD WHEATSHEAF, Wheatshaf Rd. Romford: Brewers Bitter.
- UPMINSTER OPTIMIST, Macton Lane, Charrington: IPA

NORTH

- N1 AGRICULTURAL, 13 Liverpool Rd. Truman: Sampson
- N1 GENERAL PICTON, 2 Wharfedale Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- N1 PERSEVERANCE, 194 Southgate Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- N1 PRINCE ALFRED, 38 Offord Rd. Fremlin: Tusker, Wethered: Bitter.
- N1 SUTTON ARMS, 193A, Caledonian Rd. Courage: Best Bitter.
- N2 MANOR COTTAGE, 57 East End Rd. Manns: IPA, Ruddle: County, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- N4 MARLERS, 29 Crouch Hill, A range of real ales.

- N9 EXHIBITION, 49 South Mall, Ind Coope: Burton Ale.
- N9 TOWN CRIER, 264 Town Rd. Wethered: Bitter.
- N12 COACH STOP, 713 High Rd. Flowers: Original Bitter, Wethered: Bitter.
- N16 MONARCH, 68 Green Lanes, Charrington: IPA.
- N17 SPURS, The Round Way, Manns: IPA
- N19 MULBERRY TREE, 563 Holloway Rd. Watney: London Bitter.
- ENFIELD SALISBURY, 155 Percival Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.

NORTH WEST

- NW1 CLARENCE, 99 Kentish Town Rd. Courage: Best Bitter.
- NW1 TOM TIDDLERS TAVERN, Tormess Square, Truman: Bitter, Best Bitter, Sampson.
- NW3 SPANIARDS, Spaniards Road, Bass, Charrington: IPA
- NW5 GLOUCESTER ARMS, 59 Leighton Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter.
- NW10 ABBEY HOTEL, North Circular Rd. Courage: Best Bitter.
- WEALDSTONE RAILWAY, The Bridge, Railway Approach, Watney: Stag Bitter

SOUTH EAST

- SE1 DOVER CASTLE, 6A Great Dover St. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- SE1 LOOSE VINE, 2 St. Thomas' St. Youngs: Bitter.
- SE1 ROSE, 123, Snowfields, Mitchells & Butlers: Springfield Bitter.
- SE1 THREE STAGS, 67 Kennington Rd. Bass, Charrington: IPA
- SE4 MAYPOLE, 1 Mantle Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
- SE5 FOUNTAIN, 43 Camberwell Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- SE6 GOVERNOR GENERAL, 360 Verdont Lane, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- SE7 ROYAL OAK, 54 Charlton Lane, Courage: Best Bitter, Directors.
- SE7 VALLEY, Elliscombe Rd. Courage: Directors.
- SE10 CROWN, 176 Trafalgar Rd. Wethered: Bitter.
- SE10 MORDEN ARMS, 1 Brand St. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors.
- SE10 WHITE SWAN, 13 Blackheath Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- SE13 ROSE OF LEE, 162 Lee High Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- SE14 COACH & HORSES, 125 Pomeroy St. Watney: London Bitter.

SE14 ROYAL ARCHER, 1 Egmont St. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors
 SE15 BRITANNIA, 45 Peckham High St. Bass: Charrington: IPA
 SE15 GLENCALL TAVERN, 1, Bird-in-Bush Rd. Courage Best Bitter, Directors.
 SE15 GREYHOUND, 109 Peckham High St. Charrington: IPA, Mitchells & Butler: Springfield Bitter
 SE15 SWAN, 55 Peckham Park Rd. Charrington: IPA
 SE15 TYRELL ARMS, 25 Nunhead Lane, Charrington: IPA
 SE15 WAYERLEY ARMS, 202 Ivydale Rd. Bass: Charrington: IPA
 SE15 WISHING WELL, 79 Choumert Rd. Ind Coops: Burton Ale
 SE16 CAULKERS, 126 Lower Rd. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors
 SE16 FITCHETTS, 1 Redriff Rd. Courage: Best Bitter.
 SE17 MASONS ARMS, 109 East St. Taylor Walker: Bitter.
 SE19 CAMBRIDGE, 2 Church Rd. Courage: Best Bitter.
 SE22 HEBER ARMS, 3 Heber Rd. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors.
 SE25 ALBION, 25 High St. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors.
 SE25 SPREAD EAGLE, 224 Portland Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 BROMLEY COMMON PLOUGH INN, 146 Hastings Rd. Wethered Bitter.
 CRAYFORD BEAR & RAGGED STAFF, 2 London Rd. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors.
 CRAYFORD CRAYFORD ARMS, 37 High St. Courage: Best Bitter.
 HAYES(Kent) GEORGE, Heyes St. Ruddle: County, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 ST. MARY CRAY BLACK BOY, 71 High St. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors.
 ST. MARY CRAY WHITE SWAN, 21 Kent Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 WEST WICKHAM WHITE HART, High St. Bass: Charrington: IPA

SOUTH WEST

SW1 ROYAL OAK, 2 Regency St. Manns: IPA, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 SW1 STANLEY ARMS, 147 Lupas St. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 SW4 ANGELL ARMS, 69 Binfield Rd. Courage: Directors.
 SW5 KINGS HEAD, 17 Hogarth Place, Charrington: IPA
 SW6 HALF-WAY HOUSE, 314 Lillie Rd. Charrington: IPA
 SW6 NEW GOLDEN LION, 490 Fulham Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 SW6 NORFOLK ARMS, 272 North End Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 SW6 QUEEN ELIZABETH, 58 Bagleys Lane, Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 SW6 WILTON ARMS, 205 Dawes Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 SW7 QUEENS ARMS, 30 Queens Gate Mews, Bass., Charrington: IPA
 SW8 BUILDERS ARMS, 8 Wyvie Rd. Bass
 SW8 KING WILLIAM IV, 354 Wandsworth Charrington: IPA
 SW8 VICTORIA, 166 Queenstown Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 SW18 HOP POLE, 64 Putney Bridge Rd. Truman: Mild, Bitter, Best Bitter.

CHESSINGTON CRICKETERS, 81 Clayton Rd. Charrington: IPA
 CHESSINGTON STAR, Leatherhead Rd. Hammertons: Porter, Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter, Bulmer: Traditional Cider.
 KINGSTON CASTLE, 13 Fairfield West, Watney: London Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 RICHMOND GREEN CARNATION, 86 Kew Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 RICHMOND RICHMOND ARMS, 20 The Square, Watney: London Bitter.
 RICHMOND THREE PIGEONS, 87 Petersham Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. back bar only.

WEST

W4 BOLTON, 81 Duke Rd. Charrington: IPA.
 W6 ANDOVER ARMS, 57 Aldensley Rd. Ruddle: County, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 W6 RAVENSCOURT ARMS 243, Kings St. Bass, Charrington: IPA
 W7 KINGS ARMS, 110 Uxbridge Rd. Watney: Antler Bitter.
 W7 WHITE HART, 13 Lower Boston Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 W10 MALVERN, 4 Bevington Rd. Courage: Directors.
 W11 ALMA, 175 Westbourne Grove, Flowers: Original Bitter, Fremlin: Tusker, Wethered: Bitter
 W11 PEMBRIDGE CASTLE, 45 Ledbury Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 W11 STEWART ARMS, 26 Norland Rd. Courage: Best Bitter
 W12 GREYHOUND, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 W12 MAIL COACH, 28 Uxbridge Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 W14 CLARENCE, 148, North End Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
 BEDFORD BLACK DOG, 201 Staines Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 BRENTFORD KINGS ARMS, 19 Boston Manor Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter.
 FELTHAM CROWN & SCEPTRE, 21 Staines Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter.
 GREENFORD RED LION, Ruislip Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 GREENFORD WHITE HART 37 Greenford Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 HANWORTH JOLLY SAILOR, Hounslow Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 HATTON CROSS GREEN MAN, Green Man Lane, Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
 HAYES QUEENS HEAD, 3 Wood End Green Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 HAYES VICTORIA INN, 32 North Hyde Rd. Courage: Directors
 HAYES VINE, 26 Angel Lane, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 HESTON OLD GEORGE, 129 Heston Rd. Watney: London Bitter.
 HESTON OLD QUEENS HEAD, 101 New Heston Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.

HOUNSLOW DUKE OF YORK, 175 Martindale Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 HOUNSLOW RIFLEMAN 50 Hanworth Rd. Bass: Charrington: IPA
 HOUNSLOW TANKERVILLE, 2 Hanworth Rd. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 ISLEWORTH COUNTY ARMS, 2 Hall Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 ISLEWORTH LONDON APPRENTICE, 62 Church St. watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter.
 NORTHOLT CIVIL ENGINEER, Ruislip Rd. Courage: Directors.
 UXBRIDGE CHILTERN VIEW 190 Cowley Rd, Watney: London Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 UXBRIDGE DOLPHIN 1 Rockingham Rd. Courage: Directors
 UXBRIDGE FALCON, 120 High St. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
 UXBRIDGE SWAN & BOTTLE, 98 Oxford Rd. Ruddle: County, Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter.
 WEST DRAYTON BRUNEL BAR, Post House Hotel, Sipson Rd. Wethered: Bitter, SPA
 WEST DRAYTON CHERRY TREE, 223 Station Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter.



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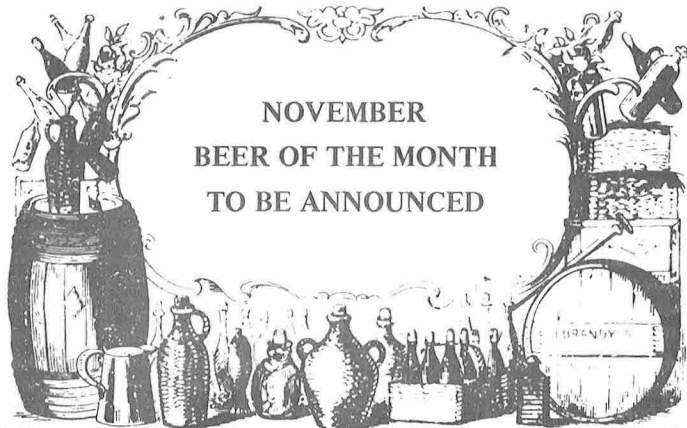
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also been at risk from flooding, which should now no longer be a problem.

Externally, the pubs corner position and white-walled finish gives it a striking appearance, especially at night under floodlighting. Between the road and the main entrance is a small garden with a bar for summer use, although so far real ale has not been sold here. A flight of stairs leads to the main entrance which opens into a corridor separating the main bar from the lounge and snack bar – which serves a wide range of food both at lunchtime and in the evenings. It is planned to remove the corridor so as to bring the lounge into the rest of the pub and create a type of island bar arrangement.

An unusual feature of the bar is the surrounding set of sash windows, enabling parts of the counter to be closed off. This has enabled a 'locals corner' to be created in the main bar, whilst maintaining the overall serving space. Another interesting feature in this room is the fireplace – the oldest of three in the building, located below a window.

Since Dick Mullis took over the White Cross his keenness to serve an excellent pint in a friendly atmosphere has made this a pub well worth a visit, recognised by its inclusion as one of only two Richmond pubs in the 1984 National Good Beer Guide. This is a pub which is not to be missed.

IAN WORDEN

Young's Don Speaks

Not even the rival attraction of Neil Kinnock speaking across the road prevented a good turn-out for CAMRA London's meeting on September 8th at the Spread Eagle, SW18 at which Young's head brewer Ken Don spoke on developments at the brewery. It is not always realized that over the past 6 years a £5 million rebuilding programme has been taking place, and behind the traditional "f acade" now lies one of the most modern breweries in the country.

The reason for the development was particularly the big rise in the sales during the 1970s, most markedly in the traditional bitters. Production climbed from 60,000 barrels per year (a barrel is 36 gallons) in the 1960s to 185,000 in 1980. Maximum weekly output was then 4,000 barrels and it was decided to enlarge this figure to 5,000 to cope with the still-expanding sales - a problem exacerbated by the success of Young's new lager introduced in 1980. Traditionally, Young's wish to end weekend

brewing and use a 5-day week, single shift system - this requires a larger plant than a round-the-clock operation.

1978 saw the first new plant in the shape of a new mash tun, an 8 x 40 ton malt silo block and associated equipment. The new brewhouse followed and the final phase covering wort receivers, new lifts etc., has just been completed. The brewhouse alone accounted for £1½ million including the installation of 88 45ft concrete piles at £500 each, needed because the nature of the subsoil caused major problems during building work. Another £1m. was spent on lager processing equipment including a set of "nearly new" storage vessels bought from Lorimer's of Edinburgh, and necessary because Young's, unlike many brewers, work to a minimum of 5 weeks process time for lager.

The brewery's yeast handling systems received particular attention and 'new plant for the purpose has been installed, part coming from the now closed Horsleydown Brewery (Courage). Yeast is an essential part of the brewing process, effectively being the catalyst necessary to turn the basic ingredients into beer during fermentation, but is also a delicate micro organism requiring careful attention. Youngs have experienced problems in past summers due to higher temperatures causing mutations in the yeast but this difficulty should have been overcome, following a great deal of research effort resulting in a much more consistent pint. Output can now be monitored by a new quality control laboratory, especially in relation to the 'yeast count' where maximum level has been established as 2 million cells per litre of beer.

Following Ken's talk a lively question and answer session covered much ground, too much to be gone over again here, but the following were the main points of interest.

- (1) The problem of ullage (covered extensively in recent London Drinkers) is appreciated by Youngs, but in the absence of specific complaints about particular pubs they can only deal with this through their regular cellar inspections.
- (2) Quality control in the free trade (now taking 23% of output) is difficult given that 750 accounts are serviced but the brewery is concerned to ensure that its products reach the customer in top condition and inspection is undertaken.
- (3) The demise of mild was regretted but, due entirely to lack of sales, only 17/18

barrels were being sold per week against a minimum brew of 90.

- (4) The new Young John's Ale was covered extensively. This beer has clearly had a mixed reception and slow sales in many pubs have led to a disappointing level of quality and non-availability in a few cases. Against this, some of those present confirmed that the beer has been very good in some outlets. Ken explained that Young John had been planned to be something a little different to the rest of the range produced and that it was expected that it would take some time to build up support. This initial lack of marketing effort is to be remedied and it is hoped that the beer, which has little or no competition from other brewers products, will attract new customers into Youngs pubs.

Numerous other points were touched on in the discussion, including an intriguing request for Winter Warmers to be made available in summer and Kens very honest and straightforward approach was much appreciated. Youngs may not be perfect, but on the brewing side at least, there is a clear interest in consumer's wishes and this is all to the good.

IAN WORDEN



Ken Don (4th from the left) with some of his audience on Sept. 8th

■ WHITBREAD

You may not have studied too closely the strange green pottery bar fittings that have appeared in Whitbread pubs in front of the taps selling their new keg Best Bitter which was introduced in April. Well, one or two eagle-eyed CAMRA members have got close enough to read the small print in the middle of one. It reads as follows: "Brewed by Whitbread PLC Brewery, Chiswell Street.

The National Executive of CAMRA are firmly of the opinion that this is misleading as to the point of origin of the beer, since

the Chiswell Street Brewery, once noted as the only brewery operating within the City of London, ceased brewing during the Spring of 1975 and is today used for large, expensive receptions and to house the Overlord Tapestry.

A suggestion has been made that a local authority should prosecute Whitbread for this misleading information under the Trade Descriptions Act. However, no local authority has proved enthusiastic about the idea so far. Apparently, the opinion among them is that 'it would cost them a lot of money and Whitbread would be likely to end up with an absolute discharge.

Also on Whitbread, news is that, following (or is it during – Have they finished yet?) a series of brewery closures they are starting on depot "rationalisation" (i.e. closures). In London a new megadepot will be opening soon in Camden Town and over the next year or so depots at Chiswick, Hornsey, Lewisham and Manor Park will close. To the north of London depots at Dunstable and Hoddesdon will close in favour of a new depot at Dunstable. Job losses are unspecified but are expected to be "low".

These depots will serve all outlets (managed, tenanted and free pubs; the off trade and clubs) and will be run by "Beer Delivery Services", a joint Whitbread/BRS company. It is claimed that all outlets will in future have access to all products in the range whereas in the past some were restricted to certain selected items from their local depots. It remains to be seen whether this will lead to a better range of products in tenanted houses which seem to have lagged behind managed outlets in obtaining recent additions.

This is all calculated to benefit Whitbread, of course, but it is suggested that a small number of outlets may suffer the loss of local back up with the closure of their local depots.

Fear is also being expressed over the future of the fine 19th Century brewery stores building at Lewisham. Do any of our readers have any views about the architectural merit of any of the other depots mentioned.

■ GBBF IN LONDON

In the August Drinker there was a brief piece by Mel Warren about the Great British Beer Festival returning to London. We can now add that the powers that be within the Campaign for Real Ale have made the decision that, subject to successful negotiations with the management of a suitable venue, the event will be staged in London in 1985 following one more year in Birmingham.

Alan Greenwood's Traditional Ways for Traditional Ales

DO PEOPLE REALLY WANT CHEAP BEERS

Ever since Alan Greenwood opened his first Beer Agency shop with the unique Pub Take-Away service, over 9 years ago, value has been an important factor. Not that all his beers are cheap, the stronger they are the higher the Tax and Duty so they cost more. At the same time many of the interesting beers available have travelled along distance which has to be paid for. However, now matter what price paid by Alan Greenwood the margins are all the same, nothing is inflated.

Even so, money only goes so far, and at the Beer Agency they are conscious that many people have to deprive themselves of the simple pleasure of a decent pint of Beer on some evenings. So they are introducing for a month a special offer of 10% off all bright, real ale, beer dispensed into take home jugs on Monday and Tuesday evenings.

This makes the value of the Draught Take-Away beer better value than ever. So don't sit in on Monday or Tuesday evening feeling depressed, make a note in your diary to go to your nearest Alan Greenwood's Beer Agency, there are now eight local ones for London and Surrey, and enjoy some decent low price real ale. If you dont, the price might as well go back up again.

ALAN GREENWOOD'S BEER AGENCY

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*LEWISHAM SE13
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01-552 8360

WIMBLEDON SW19
308 Haydons Road
01-542 3725

HAMPSTEAD NW3
150 Haverstock Hill
01-586 8382

TOLWORTH SURREY
120 The Broadway
01-390 3446

WALLINGTON SURREY
8 Butter Hill
01-669 5158

CLAPHAM SW4
215 Clapham Park Road
01-720 6999

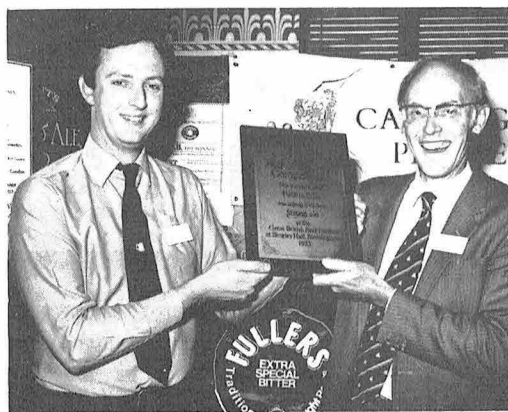
Real Ales (60 Varieties)

IT IS ALWAYS ADVISABLE TO
ORDER BARRELS IN ADVANCE



Princess Louise

The Princess Louise in Holborn, the free house recently acquired by Vaux Brewers, currently sells four beers from the Vaux stable. These are Ward's Sheffield Best Bitter, Darley's Thorne Best Bitter and Samson and Sunderland Bitters, both from Vaux. In addition, such beers as Greene King Abbot and IPA, Samuel Smith OBB and Ruddell's County are available.



E.S.B.- The Winner

Following the 1983 Great British Beer Festival, organised by CAMRA, awards were presented to the winning brewers by the organisers at the Doggett Coat & Badge public house.

Winner of the strong beer category was Fullers E.S.B. - a beer which has won more awards at the Great British Beer Festivals than any other.

Shown accepting the strong beer award is Reg Drury, Fullers Brewing Director, (right) from Tim Webb, the Festival Organiser (left).

BOOK REVIEW

The East London Real Beer Guide.

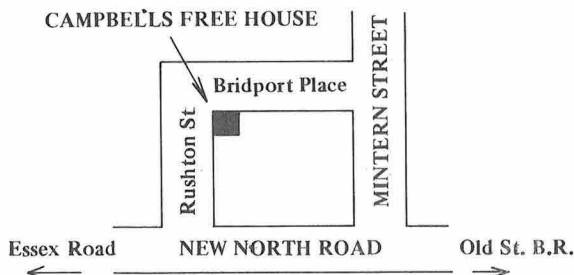
A guide to every known pub in the East London and E.C. postal district - that's what E.L.A.C. branch has produced for the cover price of just a pound. Containing 168 pages it includes 22 maps, 18 singles and 4 double pages with a ready-reference indication of real ale outlets. And comprehensive it is - no educational pun intended, although it certainly is thick-with useful information. You may ask what is the point of showing fizz pubs in a CAMRA production? Well, no printed matter can possibly be completely up-to-date. Since the press date, several pubs shown have seen the light, and the reader will have no trouble in changing the appropriate reference in due course - unlike the recent RBIL update, which is virtually impossible to incorporate into the publication to which it is a supplement. In

fact, of the 1045 pubs listed, only 390 (37.7%) are fizz and their entries, which list the name, address and brewer, plus such information as "about to re-open as a.....house" are only a line or two long and account for just 15.5% of the space devoted to pub details. *If any mathematician would care to check my figures, good luck. Working that bit out took me several hours.* The real ale outlets are shown in great detail, with address, location, brews and facilities available plus some fascinating background and historical information where appropriate. My only adverse criticism - and this is purely personal - is that the Guide is not easy to read casually - the small print defies scanning briefly while riding a bicycle in search of the next port of call. For the serious drinker this is a must - pity a few more branches don't do the same. Excellent value for money, even if your visits to the area are rare. Get a copy - you won't be disappointed.

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3 MINUTES FROM SURREY DOCKS UNDERGROUND

BUSES 1, 47 and 188 PASS THE PUB

ROMAN DRINKER

CAMRA can be a fairly fevered organisation on matters close to its collective heart; but from 1196 miles away the peculiar conditions that led to the Campaign that spanned this magazine look a little more peculiar than usual, our obsessions and complaints quite different. After all, Rome has hours as flexible as one could wish and an apparent trading freedom for the availability of a wide possible choice. It has of course, no beer we would call 'real' and I do get a bit worried about the "contenente antiossidante acido L ascorbico" on the bottom of the labels. Italy is not anyone's idea of a beer-drinking country, consumption per head being about a tenth of Britain's and much of that probably consumed by holidaying beer-league leaders from Northern Europe, the U.S.A. and the Antipodes (Earls Court to you). Odd how further south the consumption of longer drinks declines in favour of more self-destructive concoctions, when the need for sheer refreshment would have seemed uppermost to my Celto-Ligurian sensibilities at least.

The first thing that always strikes the visitor to anywhere that could supply any refreshment at pretty well any hour is that it does not. Around the main railway station perhaps and in the odd corner where tourists try to keep the night alive, but otherwise the city to all intents yawns, stretches and puts up the shutters as early, and probably earlier than London and not a moment too soon for there is hardly a last minute rush of custom.

The other related and less welcome discovery is the prices involved. An oddity of Britain arising from the custom of self-service and immediate payment is that the range of prices charged in different outlets for the same product is relatively small. The plush super-lounge or semi-restaurant in a prime situation may in London charge at most a third or half more than the run-down little place around the corner in a dingy street, as the relatively small number of premises makes price competition less necessary to survive; and an embarrassment when the premises are overwhelmingly in the same ownership. In Rome, sitting down at the wrong cafe can be financially painful, as such price differences can exist as to dwarf the differences in London. In a prime site, with table service, the difference can be fourfold or more compared with the unprepossessing corner cafe where you had breakfast.

The other trick learned early and painfully is to ask for 'Birra Italiana' since otherwise some exorbitant (and probably uninteresting) import appears. "Birra Italiana" is puzzling enough at first anyway, when confronted by names like Dreher, Wührer and Prinzbrau, but these three of the biggest names are Italian-brewed (although Prinzbrau is Dortmund-owned), and the names derive from past Austrian and German influence in Northern Italy. The southern-based companies are led by Peroni of Naples and Birra Messina but the archetype for me must be Moretti, whose labels show not some Latin hero or heroine or artistic design, but a solid customer: a middle-aged moustachioed beer drinker with a battered hat, intent upon a large foaming glass. At least one Italian takes his beer seriously.

Prinzbrau claims to be solely Hops, Malt and Water (interesting achievement to brew without Yeast) and seemed the beeriest of the selection, especially when served "alla spina" rather than bottled. Dreher is apparently now under the wing of Whitbread and Heineken, the Morecombe and Wise of international brewing; look out for brewery closures?

Mostyn Lewis.



Where to buy London Drinker

OUTLETS – East and South East.

Pubs

EC1 STICK & WEASEL, 273 City Road.
 E9 TIGER TAVERN, 245 Wick Road.
 E10 NORTHCOTE, 110 Grove Green Road.
 E17 ESSEX ARMS, Forest Road.
 E17 FLOWER POT, 128 Wood Street.
 E17 LORD BROOKE, 47 Sernal Street.
 ONGAR KINGS HEAD, High Street.
 SE1 COPPER, 208 Tower Bridge Road.
 SE1 GOOSE & FIRKIN, 47 Borough Road.
 SE1 HORSESHOE, Melior Street.
 SE1 LEATHER EXCHANGE, Leather Market St.
 SE1 MUDLARK, Montague Close.
 SE1 MARKET PORTER, Borough Market.
 SE1 PINEAPPLE, 53 Hercules Road.
 SE1 TRIPS BAR, Waterloo Station.
 SE1 VERTICLE REFRESHMENT Co.31 Toley St.
 SE4 WICKHAM ARMS, Upper Brockley Rd.
 SE10 NORTH POLE, 131 Greenwich High Rd.
 SE10 ROYAL GEORGE, Bissett Street.
 SE13 DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, High Street.
 SE15 MAN OF KENT, Nunhead Green.
 SE15 OLD NUN'S HEAD, Nunhead Green.
 SE16 BLACKSMITHS ARMS, 257 Rotherhithe St.
 SE16 PRINCE OF ORANGE, 118 Lower Road.
 SE18 ANGLESEA ARMS, 91 Woolwich New Rd.
 SE18 QUEEN VICTORIA, 118 Wellington Street.
 SE18 MELBOURNE ARMS, Sandy Hill Road.
 SE18 GATEHOUSE, Leda Road.
 SE18 VILLAGE BLACKSMITH, Hillreach.
 SE19 ROYAL ALBERT, Westow Hill.
 SE20 ANERLEY ARMS, Ridsdale Road.
 SE20 GOLDEN LION, Maple Road.
 SE20 LONDON TAVERN, Maple Rd.
 SE27 KINGS HEAD, 82 High Street.

SE27 S.LONDON THEATRE, 1a Norwood Road.
 BEXLEY BLUE ANCHOR, Bridgen Road.
 CROYDON BIRD IN HAND, Sydenham Road.
 CROYDON CATHERINE WHEEL, High St.
 CROYDON HORSE & GROOM, Cherry Orchard Rd.
 CROYDON LION, Pawsons Road.
 CROYDON ROYAL STANDARD, Sheldon ST.
 CROYDON SHIP, 47 High Street.
 KENLEY WATTENDEN ARMS, Old Lodge Lane.

SIDCUP QUEEN MARY'S HOSP' SOCIAL CLUB
 OFF TRADE

SE3 Bitter Experience, 128, Lee Road.
 SE11 Alan Greenwood's 226 Kennington Park Rd.
 SE11 Majestic Wine Warehouses, Vauxhall Cross.
 SE13 Alan Greenwood's 252 Lewisham High St.
 SE23 2 Brewers, 97 Dartmouth Park Road.
 SE27 Shoestring Wines, 8 Norwood High Street.
 BEXLEY HEATH Bitter Experience, 216 Broadway.
 BROMLEY Bitter End, 139 Masons Hill.

OUTLETS—SOUTH-WEST/WEST

SW1 BUCKINGHAM ARMS, Petty France.

SW1 FOX & HOUNDS, Passmore Street.
 SW1 ORANGE BREWERY, Pimlico Road.
 SW1 RED LION, 48 Parliament Street.
 SW1 ROYAL COURT TAVERN, 8 Sloane Sq.
 SW1 SPREAD EAGLE, Grosvenor Road.
 SW1 WILTON ARMS, 71 Kinnerton Street.
 SW2 HOP POLES, Upper Tulse Hill.
 SW4 JOLLY GARDENERS, 115, St. Alphonsus Rd.
 SW4 OLDE WINDMILL, Clapham Common, Sth Side
 SW4 TIM BOBBIN, 1/3 Lillieshall Rd.
 Clapham Old Town.

SW6 WHITE HORSE, 1 Parson's Green
 SW10 FERRET & FIRKIN, 110 Lotts Rd.
 SW10 KINGS ARMS (Finch's), 190 Fulham Rd.
 SW11 ANCHOR, Holgate Avenue
 SW11 HABERDASHERS ARMS, Culvert Road.
 SW11 PRINCE OF WALES, Battersea Park Road.
 SW11 SOMERS ARMS, 96 Usk Road.
 SW12 BEDFORD HOTEL, Bedford Hill.
 SW12 DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, Balham High Rd.
 SW12 PRINCE OF WALES, 270 Cavendish Road.
 SW14 RAILWAY TAVERN, Sheen Lane.
 SW15 FOX & HOUNDS, Upper Richmond Rd.
 SW15 JOLLY GARDENERS, Lady Road.
 SW16 LEIGHAM ARMS, Wellfield Road.
 SW16 MITCHAM MINT, 1 Lilian Rd.
 SW16 PIED BULL, 418 Streatham High Rd.
 SW18 THE GRAPES, 39 Fairfield Street.
 SW18 SPREAD EAGLE, 71 High Street.
 SW19 ALEXANDER, Wimbledon High Rd.
 SW19 BURGHLEY HALL, Princes Way.
 SW19 KINGS HEAD, Merton High St.
 SW19 LEATHER BOTTLE, Kingston Rd.
 SW19 NELSON ARMS, Colliers Wood, High St.
 SW19 PRINCESS ROYAL, Abbey Road.
 SW19 TRAFALGAR, High Path.

KINGSTON WYCH ELM, Elm Rd.

MITCHAM BULL, Church Rd.

MITCHAM CRICKETERS, 340 London Road.

W1 ANGEL, Thayer Street.
 W1 BRICKLAYER'S ARMS, Aybrook Street.
 W5 PLOUGH, Northfields Avenue
 W5 RED LION, St. Mary's Road.
 W6 CROSS KEYS, 157 Black Lion Lane.
 W9 TRUSCOTT ARMS, Shirland Rd.
 W11 FROG & FIRKIN, Tavistock Cres.
 W14 BRITANNIA TAP, 150 Warwick Road.
 W14 RADNOR ARMS, 247 Warwick Road.
 BEDDINGTON PLOUGH, Croydon Road.
 BRENTFORD GRIFFIN, Brook Road.
 CARLSHALTON FOX & HOUNDS, High Street
 CARLSHALTON GREYHOUND, 2 High Street.
 CHEAM PRINCE OF WALES, Morden Road.
 CRANFORD QUEENS HEAD, 123 High St.
 EAST MOLESEY STREETS OF LONDON, Bridge Rd.
 GREENFORD BLACK HORSE, Oldfield Lane.
 HAMPTON WINDMILL, Windmill Road.
 HILLINGDON RED STAR, Hillingdon Hill.
 HILLINGDON STAR, Uxbridge Rd. Hillingdon Heat
 HOUNSLOW CHARIOT, 34 High St.
 HOUNSLOW CROSS LANCES, Hanworth Road.

HOUNSLOW WINDMILL, Bell Road.
HOUNSLOW EARL RUSSELL, Hanworth Road.
HOUNSLOW QUEEN VICTORIA, 121 Bath Road.
MOTSPUR PK EARL BEATTY.
NORBITON THE NORBITON, Clifton Road.
OSTERLEY HARE & HOUNDS, Windmill Lane Wyke Green.

RICHMOND WHITE CROSS, Riverside.
SUDBURY BLACK HORSE, Harrow Road
SURBITON RAILWAY TAVERN, Ewell Road
SURBITON VICTORIA, Victoria Road
SUTTON LORD NELSON, Lower Road.
SUTTON NEW INN, 18 Myrtle Road.
TWICKENHAM EEL PIE, 9 Church Street.
WESTON GREEN GREYHOUND

OFF TRADE

SW11 Majestic Wine Warehouses, Hester Road
 SW11 39er, Webbs Road.
 SW14 Alan Greenwood's, 215 Clapham Park Ru.
 SW19 Alan Greenwood's, 308 Haydon's Road.
 W14 Alan Greenwood's, 17 North End Road.
 TOLWORTH Alan Greenwood's, 120 The Broadway
 WALLINGTON Alan Greenwood's, 8 Butter Hill.

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 Street
 WC1 QUEEN'S HEAD, 66, Acton Street.
 WC1 SUN, 63 Lamb's Conduit St.
 WC2 GEORGE IV, 28 Portugal St.
 N1 CAMPBELLS, 21 Bridport Place.
 N1 CROWN, Cloudeley Road.
 N1 LORD WOLESEY, White Lion St.
 N1 MALT & HOPS, 33 Caledonian Rd.
 N1 PINT POT, 54 Pentonville Road.
 N1 POTTERS BAK, Gt. Northern Hotel.
 King X.
 N1 PRINCE ARTHUR, 49 Brunswick Place.
 N1 SWAN TAVERN, 125 Caledonian Road.

N1 TARMON, 270 Caledonian Rd.
 N2 FIVE BELLS, East End Rd.
 N2 WELCH BROS, 130 East Finchley High Rd.
 N2 WINDSOR CASTLE, The Walk Church St.
 N4 MARLERS, 54 Pentonville Rd.
 N6 ANGEL, 37 Highgate High St.
 N6 DUKES HEAD, 16 Highgate High St.
 N6 HAMPTONS, 385 Archway Rd.
 N6 VICTORIA, 28 North Hill
 N8 DICK'S BAR, 61 Tottenham Lane.
 N8 HARRINGAY ARMS, 153 Crouch Hill
 N8 PRINCESS ALEXANDRA, Park Rd.
 N9 COCK, Hertford Rd.
 N9 RISING SUN, Winchester Rd.
 N10 WETHERSPOONS, 89 Colney Hatch Lane.
 N12 MOSS HALL TAVERN, 283 Ballards Lane.

N19 Marlers, 19 Archway Road

N19 J.J. MOON, Landseer Road

N20 BULL & BUTCHER,

1277 High Rd. Whetstone

NW1 VICTORIA & ALBERT BARS
Marylebone Stn.

NW1 VICTORIA, 2 Mornington Terrace

NW3 HOLLY BUSH, Holly Mount'

NW3 NAG'S HEAD, 79 Heath St

BARNET ALEXANDRA, Wood St.

BARNET SEBRIGHT ARMS, Alston Road.

EDGWARE RAILWAY HOTEL, Station Rd.

EDGWARE WHITE LION, High Street.

ENFIELD KING & TINKER, Whitewebbs Rd.

ENFIELD KINGS HEAD, Market Place.

ENFIELD OLD PARK HEIGHTS HOTEL,
Old Park Road.

SCOTLAND ALISON ARMS, Glasgow.

OFF TRADE

N10 Finlay Wines, 392 Muswell Hill Bdwy.
 N11 Originales, Friern Barnet Rd.
 N15 Majestic, Colina Mews Park Road.
 NW3 Greenwood's 150 Haverstock Hill.
 NW6 Grogblossom, 253 West End Lane
BOREHAMWOOD Grogblossom, Shenley Road
CLUBS
 N22 Wood Green Labour Club, Stuart Cres.

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 Limited.

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