

vol. 6 no. 3
April 1984

12p

LONDON DRINKER

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



THE CHISWICK EYOT - see page 3.
Photo: John Elliott.

BRANCH DIARY

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

CROYDON & SUTTON: Thu. 5 (8.00) 10th Anniversary Social, ROYAL ALBERT, 42 Westow Hill, Crystal Palace, SE19. NB. First night of 11 p.m. closing in Croydon Licensing District.

EAST LONDON & CITY: Tue. 3 (8.00) Branch Meeting. BACCHUS BIN, 79 Leytonstone Rd. E15. (Clubs Licence only - bring your membership card) - Wed. 4 (8.00) Darts Social MANBY ARMS, 19, Water Lane, E15 - Wed. 11 (8.00) Darts Social. ANGEL, 21 Church St. E15 - Tue. 17 (8.00) Committee Meeting. CHISWELL STREET VAULTS, Chiswell St. EC1 - Wed. 18 (8.00) Darts Social. FISH & RING, 141a, White Horse Rd, E1. - Mon. 23 (12 noon) Lunchtime Social. GEORGE & DRAGON, 240 St. John Street, EC1 - Mon. 23 (8.00) Evening Social PRINCE OF WALES, 146 Lea Bridge Road, E5 - Tue. 24 (6.30) ELAC 10th Anniversary Dinner. YE OLDE CHESHIRE CHEESE, Wine Office Court, 145 Fleet St. EC4 (all welcome - contact Branch for details) - Wed. 25 (8.00) Darts Social. SCARBOROUGH ARMS, 33 St. Mark St. E1 - Thu. 26 (5.30) 10th Anniversary Marathon Crawl. Meet at LAMB TAVERN, 10 Leadenhall Market, EC3.

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD: Sun. 1 (12noon) Lunchtime drink. RAILWAY TAVERN, 1 Ewell Rd. Surbiton - Fri. to Sun. 6th to 8th BEER FESTIVAL at SANDOWN PARK. Open Fri/Sat. 11-2.30 & 5.30 - 11, Sun. 12-3 - Wed. 18 (8.00) Branch Meeting. THE ALBERT, Kingston Hill, Kingston (Albert Bar) - Thu. 26 (8.00) Pub Crawl of Surbiton. Start at THE PLOUGH, Ewell Road.

NORTH LONDON: Tue. 3 (8.00) Branch Meeting. PRINCE ALBERT, 2 Acton Street, WC1 - Tue. 10 (8.00) Stoke Newington Crawl. Start MARLERS, High Street, then STEPTOES, 102 Church Street and finish ROSE & CROWN, 199 Church Street, all N16 - Sat 14 Joint Social with Cardiff CAMRA. Meet outside ticket office, Paddington Station at 8.30 a.m. More details at socials. (Pleserdaith i Cyfarfod a gangen Gaerdydd. Cyrraeddwech tu Allan O'R swyddfa docyn orsaf Baddington am Hanner wedi wyth. Manyonlion yn y cyfarfodydd.) - Tue. 17 (8.00) Two pub Social with Enfield & Barnet. Start WINDSOR CASTLE, The Walks, Church Lane, then WELCH BROS., 130 High Road, East Finchley, both N2 - Wed. 24 (8.00) Two pub social. Start CARNEY ARMS, 317 Finchley Road, then NORTH STAR, 104 Finchley Road, both NW3 - Sat. 28 (7.30) Joint Social with SW London in Wandsworth. Meet at THE GRAPES, 39 Fairfield Street, SW18 - Every Sunday lunchtime in April, Pub of the Month. PRINCESS ALEXANDRA, Park Road, N8 - Tue 1 May (8.00) Branch Annual General Meeting. THE VICTORIA, Mornington Terrace, NW1. Arrive early for a prompt start.

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW: Tue 3 (8.30) Open Committee Meeting. POTTERY ARMS, 25 Clayponds Lane, Brentford - Mon. 16 (8.30) Branch Annual General Meeting, RED COW, Sheen Road, Richmond - Thu. 26 (8.30) Social. ALBANY, Station Yard, Twickenham.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Wed. 4 (8.00) Open Committee Meeting. LADYWELL TAVERN, 80 Ladywell Road, SE13 - Mon. 9 (8.00) Branch Meeting. BRITISH OAK, 109 Old Dover Road, SE3 - Thu. 26 (8.00) Social. HENSHAW ARMS, 94 Balfour Street, SE17 - Tue. 1 May (8.00) Open Committee Meeting. THE ANCHOR, 165 Lewisham Road, SE13.

SOUTH WEST LONDON: Thu. 12 (8.00) Branch Meeting BEDFORD, Bedford Hill, SW12, (Function Room) - Thu. 19 (8.00) Battersea Dogs' Home Ramble. Meet DUKE OF CORNWALL, Ascalon St. SW11. (Phone branch contact for further details) - Sat. 28 (7.30) Joint Social with North London - Wandsworth Waddle. Meet at GRAPES, Fairfield St. SW18.

WEST LONDON: Tue. 10 (8.00) Acton Crawl. Start KINGS HEAD, 214 High Street, W3. Finish RED LION & PINEAPPLE, 281 High St. - Thu. 19 (8.00) Branch Annual General Meeting, DEVONSHIRE ARMS, 21a Devonshire St. Marylebone High St. W1.

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.

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

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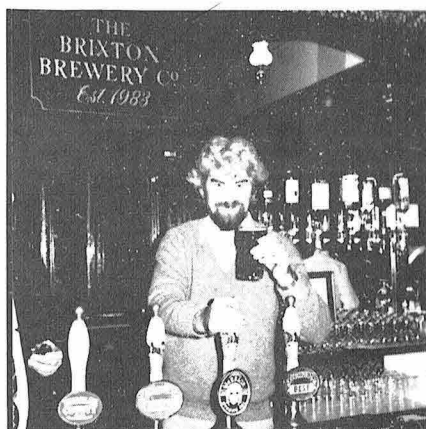
SUBSCRIPTIONS (£1.40 for 6 months) should be sent to: Stan Tomkins, 122 Manor Way, Uxbridge, Middlesex.

May edition available end of April. Copy should reach editors by 2nd April. Closing date for June edition 4th May



CAMRA's watchword has always been choice - you drink your tippie, I'll drink mine and let's not twist each other's arm. Frequently you will be told in a pub selling only one beer that the brewery tie prevents the sale of other companies' products. What rubbish. At the beginning of next month a Truman's tied house, the Chiswick Eyot in Chiswick High Road, is holding a three-day beer festival in which no less than Real Beers will be featured. Not just the full Truman range of Mild, Bitter, Best Bitter and Sampson, plus Hammerton Porter which also comes under the Grand Met. umbrella, but also Timothy Taylor's Landlord, Ringwood Old Thumper, Eldridge Pope Royal Oak and Brixton Brewery Warrior. It's not as if landlord Nobby has been there long - he only took over as manager five months ago. Jolly good luck to him. The festival runs from May 3rd to 5th, and beers will be priced at not more than 75p per pint.

Still on choice, you would have thought that when the Ind Coope giant split up into a plethora of smaller companies, a number of different beers would materialize. And so they did - the late lamented and short lived



In his other guise as (then) Chairman of S.W. London Branch, Joint LD Editor Chris Cobbold pulls the first pint of Brixton Brewery's Warrior Strong Ale. Photo: John Elliott.

Mainline is one example. But work this out. A few days before going to press I visited a pub off Kingsway with a few freinds. The choice seemed to be Burton, Taylor Walker or Ind Coope Bitter. Two chose Burton, two ordered a pint of TW and the other IC. The Burton fanciers each got a pint of what looked and tasted like dishwater, the others a pint each from the Taylor Walker pump. When questioned about this discrepancy, the barperson responded, "oh, they're both the same." Something was decidedly wrong. To give the pub its due, though, after this complaint the Burton was changed without even needing to ask. So I should hope.

Martin Smith.

BRANCH CONTACTS

**BEXLEY
BROMLEY
CROYDON & SUTTON
E.LONDON & CITY**

**ENFIELD & BARNET
KINGSTON &
LEATHERHEAD**

**NORTH LONDON
RICHMOND
& HOUNSLOW
SOUTH-WEST ESSEX
SOUTH-EAST LONDON
SOUTH-WEST LONDON
WEST LONDON
WEST MIDDLESEX**

**DES WARD
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JULIAN FARROW**

**TONY MORGAN
JOHN NORMAN**

**MEL WARREN
ANDY PIRSON
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ALLAN COOK
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**Erith 45716(H)
467 1160(H)
647 0992 (H) Epsom**

**980 0564(H&W)
440 2186 (H)**

546 3476 (H)

609 0252 (H)

**977 1633 (H)
Romford(0708)65150(H)
690,5104(H)
670 0734
723 2798 (H)
423 1243 (H)**

**Erith 33020 x 4 (W)
407 4466 x 294(W)
41511 x 66 (W)
636 2169 (W)**

283 1000 x 2944 (W)

**Weybridge 47282
x 2659 (W)**

218 4261 (W)

LONDON DRINKING

by Red Rover

As I leave the office at 16.45, there is not a cloud in the sky - however, arriving at Blackhorse Road three quarters of an hour later I find it raining rather heavily and I have just missed a 158, so I am not very happy. In good LT fashion though, there is a 58 right behind which I board gratefully. Passing the Common Gate in Markhouse Road (I was told this was going to re-open soon, but it certainly shows no sign of it at the moment), I eventually alight in Church Road, Leyton opposite a pub called the Alma. A rather plain one bar pub a fruit machine, juke box and a dart board, hung above which is a notice stating "Ear Piercing Available;" I leave you to draw your own conclusions. The landlord is chatting to the other three customers about stabbings and assorted other East London habits. Despite all this, the 'Charrington IPA I am drinking is most pleasant. On the wall opposite the dart board is a large painting with a script explaining the origin of the pub name; evidently in the Crimean War a battle was fought for the 'Heights of Alma' - I will have to remember to ask Syd if he was there.

At the end of Church Road in Leyton High Road I enter the Lion & Key where I am told that the IPA is not on ('we're taking it out altogether'), so I board a 97A and alight at the Prince of Wales opposite Leyton Bus Garage. The last time I came in here the IPA was unavailable and unlikely to be resumed, but I am delighted to find it not only available but only 68 pence per pint! On the other hand, it is so warm and flat that I would certainly have been unhappy at paying any extra. The pub has a somewhat multi-racial clientele, as well as an interesting helping of 60's music. There is a fruit machine and a pinball machine called 'Fathom' which I attempt to but find I can't.

Just up the road and only a couple of doors from the famous Bakers Arms, is an establishment called Nancy's, a perfect palace for posing poofers if ever I saw one. All the windows are blacked out, there are threatening notices at the door about what you may or may not look like or do and the whole outside is brilliantly lit. Despite all this exterior effort, I am unable to sample it's inner delights as it is well and truly closed! Maybe the local skarns are unable to find their Pringle's much before 2000. Undeterred, I leap on a 55 which takes me to the Hare and

Hounds in Lea Bridge Road, next to Leyton Wingate Football Club. I am not sure whether it is the overpowering smell of paint or the rather insipid Charrington IPA I am drinking, but this place gives me migraine. The clientele are skarny and my ears are buffeted with poxy disco music. There are two pool tables in the rear area of the pub in completely unplayable positions, but as there is a stage of sorts set up on a pile of bottle crates I begin to speculate on the possibility of some live music later on. At this moment three cowboys and a cowgirl walk in with cases of equipment which turn out to be not musical instruments, but gear for a Country and Western disco! Why it should take four of them to play a few records I know not, but shuddering in horror, I gulp my beer and leave. Shame, this could be a nice pub.

Outside I leap on a 38 (it's actually the correct length) and get off by the Prince of Wales (Yongs) and the Ship Aground (Charrington), both of which I can thoroughly recommend, though I don't visit either of them tonight. Instead, I make my way along the towpath to Middlesex Wharf, anxious to sample something other than Charrington IPA. Arriving at the Kings Head, guess what, it's closed! Whilst appearing to be a rather obscure location, there is a large housing estate just down the road, so why it is not open half-way through the evening I cannot imagine. Needless to say, there are no 'opening hours' posted outside - how do shopkeepers manage this simple courtesy and yet publicans find it completely beyond them? The time I have wasted standing outside interesting looking pubs all over the country probably totals weeks rather than hours or days. Very disgruntled, I plod in desperation out to Upper Clapton Road and catch one of the two 253's that arrive at the Swan in Clapton Common, where the Charrington IPA is unavailable! Having counted to 10 (twice), I spot some bottles of White Shield, which the barmaid has never heard of so I have to point it out. She is completely bemused at my insistence on pouring it myself but it is just as well that I do, as it is exceedingly lively. Now the thought of Worthington White Shield tasting thin is unbelievable - but this stuff does - maybe you would like to draw your own conclusions about that as well. The pub itself has a smallish public bar with pool and a very large lounge with a stage at one end and the inevitable fruit machine and jukebox. Emerging, I cut down the street at the side (Braydon Road) and convolute along some of Stamford Hill's seedier back doubles until I emerge at a Truman pub called the Bird Cage in Stamford Hill itself. The barman is sceptical

of how drinkable the Truman Bitter will be but kindly lets me try it before I commit my hard earned cash in his direction. It's not all that - but it's fairly drinkable so I accept while he explains that they don't sell very much of it and they might stop doing it. Again a shame, because the pub is an excellent Victorian local with superb glass windows, an island bar and an excellent Truman mirror. There are two pool tables, darts, a television, fruit machine and an unlabelled video machine which I investigate.

I immediately recognise the petite young damsel with the yellow bow in her hair (no it's not Howard it's Ms. Pacman) and proceed forthwith to the day's high score. As this was supposed to be an East London crawl and I have now strayed, in an attempt to find a pub open that isn't Charrington, into darkest N16, I board an approaching 106 and return to E5 and the Windsor Castle in Lower Clapton Road. A surprisingly pleasant Watney pub serving Manns IPA and Websters Yorkshire Bitter, the latter of which is not up to it's usual high standard.

There is darts, fruit machine, juke box, pool and a keen card school whose participants are drinking 'Guinness Top' which they are explaining to the barmaid 'relieves the gravity a bit.'

Outside I catch a 35 and alight at the Norfolk in Shoreditch High Street, a fringe City pub which seems not too sure which market it is aiming for. It is a long narrow establishment, comfortably furnished in Charrington's red style and has many plain mirrors presumably supposed to make the place seem bigger than it actually is. There is music which is probably Genesis (or rather, Phil Collins' disco group as they now seem to be - whatever happened to the real Genesis?) and as a group at the bar have just left I am one of the very few people in the place. Back on the streets I catch another 35 to take me homewards.

As a crawl, I don't think I could recommend this to anyone; as you can see, some of the pubs didn't even bother to open, and the others were often some way apart. Still, perhaps I'll have better luck next month.





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London Drinker in Portugal



Surprise, surprise! It wasn't until my 4th visit to Portugal last January that I found a beer worth drinking. It was not a lager, although there are plenty of those. None are impressive, even on draught, they are heavily gassed up. I found a genuine, top-fermented, beer-type beer and it's a Porter type too. Something like Guinness but not as good. It has a similar "bite" to it but is not as creamy, smooth or well-balanced.

It's very hard to find. I only came across two outlets, both in Albufeira; a supermarket and an "off licence" sort of place.

It is only one of the SAGRES Brewery's many products. It's the one in a 33cl bottle with the green label and costs about 25 Escudos (about 13p or equal to 25p a pint). Well worth looking for on your next visit.

John Davis.

The Mensahib writes:

If the local beer does not take your fancy, then Portugal is the ideal country for exploring the vast range of alternatives at prices which are so low that you are amazed at the consistently high quality. It seems that they manufacture locally almost anything except Scotch!

There are endless red and white wines, not to mention their celebrated rose's. You can expect to pay, according to vintage and other factors, 50p upwards for really good table wine (much less for cooking). Although making a choice is almost impossible, I liked the Dao red, Casel Mendes rose and Avalada vinho verde (green wine).

Liqueurs, locally made under licence, are about £1.50 per litre and well worth thinking about for bringing home, and of course,

sampling them during your holiday.

Local brandies are excellent and again will cost under £2 per litre. The same goes for local gin.

Also made under licence are drinks such as Compari, Martini and many others.

Port, unique to Portugal, is a fortified wine in a class of its own. The range of different types of Port is somewhat bewildering and you should taste several from the very dry through to the sweet ones. If you can lash out to one of the vintage ports, you will be in for an experience. We were given a taste of a 50 year old costing £30 a bottle locally - an unforgettable experience - and I shudder to think what that bottle would cost in England.

Everything else in Portugal seems to be very cheap by our standards, UNLESS IT IS IMPORTED!! Then it is very expensive - petrol is over £3 per gallon for instance.

So if you feel like taking a holiday from Real Ale, Portugal is certainly the place for Real Wine - at a price that's very nice indeed.

SAUDE! (pronounced Sa-ood, meaning "your health").

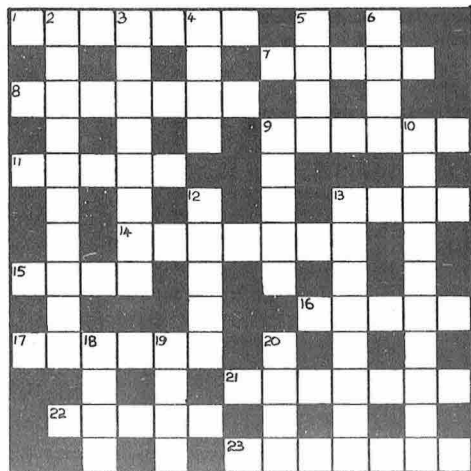
June Davis.



DRINKER CROSSWORD

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON

£5 PRIZE TO BE WON



ACROSS

1. Boozer. (7)
7. Mechanical Man. (5)
8. Ought a short road be hot? (7)
9. Correspondance. (6)
11. Love. (5)
13. Money. (4)
14. Get closer for the window cover. (7)
15. Aid. (4)
16. Cake topping. (5)
17. Improved gambler? (6)
21. You shouldn't lose it. (4,3)
22. Sounds like the horse refuses. (5)
23. Tightest? (7)

Name.....

Address.....

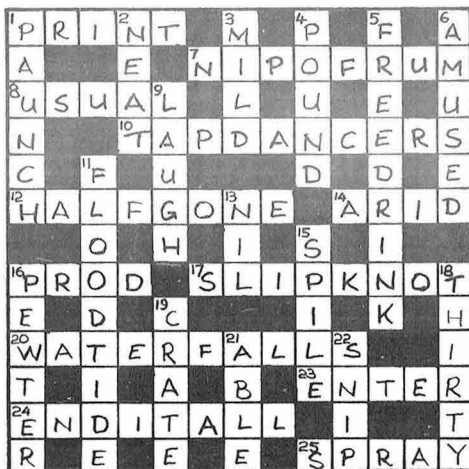
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Winner of the prize for the February crossword:

J.R.Bentley, 28 Starling Close,
Buckhurst Hill, Essex.

Last Month's Solution



DOWN

2. Arthur's eating place? (5,5)
3. Nudist. (8)
4. Make money. (4)
5. It means nothing to McEnroe. (4)
6. A drinker or a boxer may have one. (4)
9. High sounding nickname. (5)
10. Oriental Cockneys? (4,6)
12. King or queen. (5)
13. Nutty biscuits? (8)
18. It's got branches everywhere. (4)
19. Rim. (4)
20. Smashed face at eating house. (4)

All correct entries received by first post on 24th April will be entered into a draw for the prize.

Prize winner will be announced in the June London Drinker.
Solution next month

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

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In the Vertical I met this bloke with the hippopotamus. They were playing SKITTLES and drinking BRAKSPEARS SPECIAL. (Actually, come to think of it, maybe the hippo was drinking YOUNGS). Nearby was this gorgeous lady playing CAPTAIN HOOK and drinking wine. She was with a feller quaffing GREENE KING IPA and filling any gaps with a pizza. All the darts players seemed to be into THE FLOWERS ORIGINAL (but there again I'm not too sure one wasn't at the WETHEREDS).

I noticed that the hippo seemed to be winning the SKITTLES. Just then someone asked me to make up a game of SHOV HA'PENNY. I thought I'd better stoke up with some more BEEF GOULASH and just to be on the safe side I ordered another pint of draught BECKS; one needs a steady hand for SHOV HA'PENNY.

About to order a cocktail for a girl when I saw her break off from a game of BAR BILLIARDS and get in a clinch with a hippo. "It's hippohuggability" she squealed delightedly. "Looks like pure hippocrassy to me" I sniffed and stomped off.

Of course, I could have been wrong; it was only a hippothesis.

Just a night in the lives of those who enjoy Refreshing at The Vertical.

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and also at

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REAL BEER IN LONDON UPDATE 7

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.

ADDITIONS

EAST

- E4 FOUNTAIN, 51 Sewardstone Rd. Ind Coope: Bitter.
E6 TROPICANA, 419 Barking Road. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
E17 WHITE SWAN, 84 Wood St. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.

NORTH

- N7 DEVONSHIRE CASTLE, 67 Axminster Rd. Truman: Best Bitter.

NORTH WEST

- NW5 CARLTON TAVERN, 73 Grafton Rd. Wethered: Bitter.
NW5 MAMELON TOWER, 149 Grafton Rd. Wethered: Bitter.
NW5 MOTHER SHIPTON, 1 Malden Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
NW5 NEWBERRY ARMS, 40 Malden Rd. Charrington: IPA.
NW6 PRINCE OF WALES, 37 Fortune Green Rd. Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
HAREFIELD HORSE & BARGE, Moorhall Rd. Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.

SOUTH EAST

- SE1 YORKSHIRE GREY, 99 Bermondsey St. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors.
SE8 BROWN BEAR, 154 High St. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (re-instatement)
PURLEY BOURNE TAVERN, High St. Truman: Best Bitter, Sampson.

SOUTH WEST

- SW4 EVERGREENS, The Pavement, Manns: IPA
SW6 LORD PALMERSTON, 648 Kings Rd. Charrington: IPA
SW6 WELLINGTON, 56 Haldane Road, Charrington: IPA
SW17 FORESTERS ARMS, 76 Mitcham Rd. Courage: Best Bitter.

WEST

- W2 KINGS ARMS, 254 Edgware Road Watney: Stag Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
W4 ROBIN HOOD & LITTLE JOHN, 450 Chiswick High Rd. Charrington: IPA.

- W7 WHITE HART, 324 Greenford Avenue Fuller: London Pride, ESB.

- W13 KENT HOTEL, 2 Scotch Common, Fuller: London Pride, ESB.

Corection to Update 6

- EC2 LORD ABERCROMBIE should read LORD ABERCONWAY

DELETIONS

CENTRAL

- WC2 JUBILEE BAR Closed
Free House (S9)

EAST

- REDBRIDGE BEEHIVE HOTEL Converted to Sullivan's Restaurant. No real ale Courage (S6)

NORTH

- N7 RAILWAY TAVERN Closed for sale Charrington (63)

NORTH WEST

- NW1 CONSTITUTION H removed
Watney (S34)
NW5 ROSE OF ENGLAND H removed
Free House (U5)
NW5 RED HOUSE Closed
Courage (75)

SOUTH EAST

- SE16 SHIP & WHALE H Unused
Truman (U5)

SOUTH WEST

- SW9 COACH & HORSES H Unused
Taylor Walker (110)
SW19 SULTAN H Unused
Friary Meux (116)

WEST

- W3 OAK TREE H Unused
Watney (S53)
W7 KINGS ARMS H Unused
Watney (U3)
RUISLIP BELL H Unused
Taylor Walker (S60)

CHANGES

CENTRAL

- WC2 BEDFORD HEAD - Watney: London Bitter - Stag Bitter. + Boddington: Bitter + Ruddle: Bitter (S8)

NORTH

- N11 ORANGE TREE - renamed THE GROVE (U1)

N16 RAILWAY TAVERN -renamed
QUEENSBURY RULES (65)

NORTH WEST

NW1 GREEN MAN renamed PORTLANDS
(S30)

NW4 LITTLE HOUSE renamed TEDDY'S
(S31)

SOUTH EAST

SE1 PINEAPPLE now a Freehouse
— Ind Coope: Burton Ale. — Taylor
Walker: Bitter. + Greene King: IPA,
Abbot. + Marston: Pedigree. + Shepherd
Neame: Bitter. + Youngs: Bitter.

SE1 SHIP, 68 Borough Rd. — beers listed
in RBIL. + Fullers: London Pride, ESB.
+ Vaux: Sunderland Bitter. Now a
Fullers tied house (81)

SOUTH WEST

SW3 CROWN & SCEPTRE — Watney:
London Bitter.+ Eldridge Pope: Dorset
IPA. + Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
+ Wells: Bombardier (S45)

SW13 BROLEAU ARMS renamed OLD
RANGOON (111)

WEST

W10 LADS OF THE VILLAGE
— Charrington: IPA. + Mitchells &
Butlers: Springfield Bitter. + Webster:
Yorkshire Bitter (127)



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(Any additional amount will be welcomed as a donation)

FULL NAME

(block capitals)

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS

(block capitals)

SIGNATURE

DATE

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

Pub Profile

The Golden Lion, Penge.

Maple Road, Penge is a pub crawl by itself - as became apparent in last November's issue. It has three free houses virtually in a row, of which the earliest and best known is the Golden Lion, first mentioned in the 1976 Good Beer Guide as selling Young's Bitter and Special.

Understandably the choice has now widened considerably, but lets deal with first things first. The proprietors, Bill and Dot Edmeads, took over this street corner local as tenants in 1974, buying the freehold five years later. Bill started out as a hairdresser and entered the licensed trade as an evening and holiday relief, largely at the Mitre in Croydon Road, Anerley, where he stayed for two years after selling his house. After numerous interviews with national brewers he was introduced by the brokers to Bernie Coleman, who then owned the Golden Lion. At first Bernie was dubious - the pub had only a one-bedroomed flat, and Bill's family consisted of two young sons. However, things worked out, and they haven't looked back since.

Young's - the first "resident" beer - was followed by Fuller's and Sam Smith's on a regular basis, but then these companies bought pubs in the area. Fuller's remained a good seller and is still in residence, but as Sam's local tied house is only a few minutes walk away sales began to drop.

In due course the one-bar pub was too small for its popularity and in 1979 the shop next door was acquired to open two years later as "upstairs bar". Both are part of the same structure, which, being built on a hill, needs four connecting stairs to allow for the difference in floor levels.

This was a beer and cider house in the 1950s, and beer accounts for a considerable portion of sales. On one visit I found Fuller's London Pride, Young's Bitter and Special, Crouch Vale Woodman, Eldridge Pope Royal Oak and Greene King Mild on trial, Regular "guest" beers appear from Morland's Felinfoel, Greene King, Harvey's and Crouch Vale. Bass and Mitchell & Butler's Springfield Bitter are available most of the time - the latter is going well despite its relative lack of demand in so many London pubs. On a pole in one corner is a cluster of pump clips which sees occasional use. Amongst them appear Shipstone's King & Barnes, Raven and Wadworth. An interesting collection of "celebration" ales and a display of china plates appear in the downstairs bar, which has a juke box and background music. There is no music in the

upstairs bar, which provides a pleasant venue for a meal or a snack - Bill assures me that these are available at all times "Unless we're that busy we run out." Games are also available - knockout darts and Cribbage, shove h'penny, Toad in the Hole and Dominoes.

Last year Bill and Dot took another free house in Seaford, E. Sussex. Formerly the White House Hotel, it is now the White Lion. I stumbled upon it by accident on a recent visit to the area, by spotting a Young's sign from the train. At present the hotel bar serves Young's Special and Hall & Woodhouse Badger Bitter. A much larger "public" bar is in preparation - very comfy it looks too. The intended range consists of the two already mentioned, plus Bass and a guest beer. The White Lion is run by Bill and Dot's elder son Shaun and wife Gill - under their guidance except at weekends when the former are at the Golden Lion.

Seaford is another good area for a crawl - if the local branch would like one prepared I'd be happy to oblige!

The hours at the Golden Lion are 11 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. (11 p.m. Friday and Saturday) each day except Sunday, when the usual times apply.

Martin Smith.

CHARRINGTON "HUNDRED"

As the Charrington Collection scheme draws to its close, Charrington's have celebrated the completion of the first "hundred" in the London Area. Pictured is John Davis after receiving his tokens for 50 free pints from Adam Montefiore, Charrington's local marketing manager, in the Leigham Arms, Streatham on 10th February, celebrating with Tom the guv'nor.

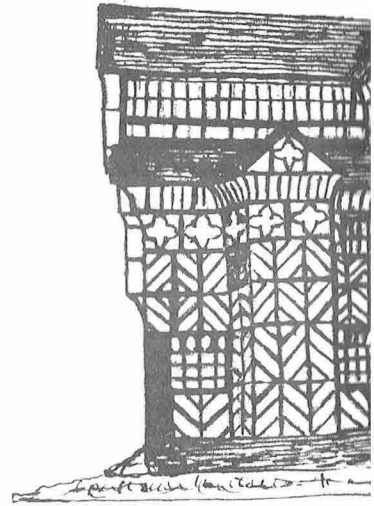


CRUDGI

The Unbelieval

Little enough has been said in the pages of CAMRA publications about one of the breweries that, while small, has found a place in the hearts of all beer enthusiasts - Crudgingtons of Blagdon.

Though largely ignored by the London free trade - their beers are still unavailable outside the pleasant Derbyshire dales - their beers are spoken of with reverence. Indeed CAMRA has been reluctant to spotlight its virtues in the past for fear of encouraging a massive descent upon Blagdon by the sort of people who have made Theakstons what they are today. The brewery has long been omitted from the Good Beer Guide, as the Crudgingtons' Chairman, Thomas Crudgington Snr., succeeded in copyrighting the address. However, past misunderstandings and caution are now cast to the winds as now all can be told.



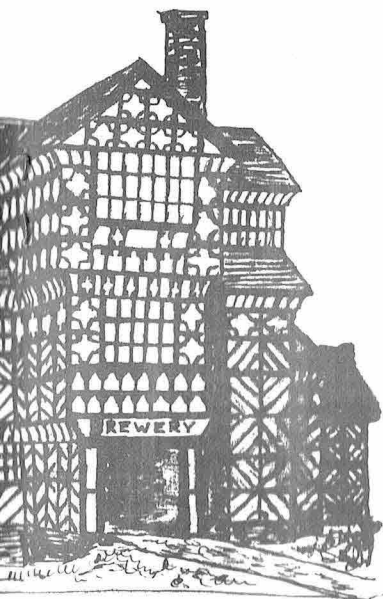
Crudgingtons' brewery lies at the North end of Blagdon in a picturesque angle of the small river Widdel. Whilst the river no longer supplies the brewery with water direct, the oxen that pull the Crudgington "Town dray" often water there and seem to thrive. Not for long, though as Leatherette and Macassar and their fellows must soon become the victims of progress. On April 15th the oxen give way to mules and their sad passing will be marked with due solemnity in the traditional way with a Grand Supper at which guests will be served ample portions of roast beef, beef stew, beef steaks. . .

Time stands still in Blagdon; we shall not.

The brewery building itself calls for little comment, being merely a typical element of New Blagdon (the part of the town rebuilt after the Peasants' Revolt). Its cruck-built ceilings and pendant garderobe are unexceptional feature characteristic of "Brewers for sale" building for centuries until Queen Elizabeth's time. The thatched roof, often the home of the otherwise rare Lesser Flying Shite, gives its own distinctive nuances to the wattle-and-daub open fermenters below. But the brewery does not stand still. The new

CRUDGINGTONS

ole traditionalists



beam engines an order from Messrs. Boulton & Watt will soon boom into life and allow the horse-gins to be dismantled, with Foxhunter retiring to his new home at the Kenno-meat Farm in Clapham.

But we go there for the beer itself. Crudginton Gold Medal Bitter (1049og) has been brewed to the same recipe for generations. Locals say that the distinctive, full-bodied, well-balanced, pleasant flavoured beer tastes much better now that the brewery uses hops. Then there is the Mild "Widdeljuice" to the cognoscenti (1035) a popular dark, wholesome flavoured, fruity, nutty brew available in one pub; and the famous "Old Crudgie" (1169) a dark, wholesome flavoured, fruity nutty brew sold during the winter months and the 1976 draught. We sample these famous tipples at legendary hostelrys in Blagdon like the Brewery Tap, the Kings Arms, the New Inn, the Clog and Bells and the Thatchers Inn (soon to be renamed the Down and Out). First we will be struck by the unchanging nature of these pubs - even the Space Invaders are hand-cranked, though the rebuilt Clog and Bells has been much criticised for introducing handpumps and glasses.

So if you think you know your beer and have never known Blagdon and Crudgintons perhaps now is the time to think about a visit. Remember it is an awkward journey by road as the Turnpike Trust has been in financial difficulties and is behind with its potholes. It will be a little easier when the railway branch line is brought into use (delays in locomotive deliveries by Hackworth & Stephenson), but the more usual route (the only one in Winter months when the local section of the Pennine Way is impassible) is by National Express 572 from Matlock Bath. There is usually room on the back of the wagon behind the fish-boxes for one or two casual travellers on the mid-morning (9.05) service. The journey is quite comfortable as the wagon now has rubber tyres and springs and the extra horse power has reduced the twelve-mile journey to less than five hours. I think you will like Blagdon and Crudgintons; the air of the old-fashioned service was best summed up by Marketing Director Samuel Crudginton on my last visit:

"If yer don't like Crudgie yer can get stuffed"

Mostyn Lewis, Crudginton BLO.
(With Best Wishes to Bill Tidy.)



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OUT NOW!

DOWN THE TUBES

Watch out for Real Ale on the Underground when London Transport introduces its first buffet service since 1939. Advance information tells us that a London company has devised a gyroscopically controlled mounting for a barrel which prevents beer being shaken by the motion of a train. The result - you can now serve real beer on the railways.

The specially modified LT train will test the market on commuter services out to Bucks. Beer prices will rise when crossing the county border because in London the GLC subsidy to LT is higher. The buffet cars, which will be in service for an experimental period will, if successful, be extended to the entire Underground service. The buffet cars, which have been converted from standard rolling stock, will be located in the centre of the train and will serve a selection of hot and cold snacks, hot drinks as well as spirits and real ale.

The microprocessor control was designed only just ahead of completion by the Japanese of a miniaturised rival. However, it turned out to be so small that it could only handle halves. An LT spokesman said that this is all part of a modernisation scheme which also includes the cleaning and refurbishment of stations and the replacement of old rolling stock. The spokesman continued by saying that plans were well advanced for the introduction of a luxury sleeping car service on the Circle Line which will enter service in late 1984/early 1985.

When told that he could soon be able to fit a few pints in on the train in between the 30 or so pubs he gets in on one of his crawls, our correspondent Red Rover is reported to have fallen over.

The first train is expected to run on April 1st.

See Page 26

Pub News

The PINEAPPLE, Hercules Road, SE1, formerly a Taylor Walker House has just been sold by Allied Breweries and re-opened on Friday 2nd March as a free house after being closed for just over a week. The beers on offer include Greene King IPA and Abbot, Marston's Pedigree, Shepherd Neame and Young's. It is intended to have a "guest" beer on one of the 11 handpumps.

The owners, Mike Finney and Philip Adams, formerly had the Fisherman's Cottage in Reading, now a Fuller's tied house, and came across the Pineapple totally by chance. The conversion and redecoration must hold some kind of record - work only began on 23rd February, less than 8½ days before reopening. CAMRA was present from the start: the first pint of Greene King IPA - was pulled for LD Editor Martin Smith, who pronounced it excellent.

Licensee Mike Simpson is ably assisted by Rodney Nunn and Adrian Garry from Norfolk. Rod's technical experience includes work on oil rigs, and he's no newcomer to cellaring!

The Pineapple has a classical Victorian public bar with wooden floor. In due course it is hoped to produce a pub profile.

The Pineapple has always been a very accommodating pub to the producers and distributors of the Drinker and we look forward to a long and happy friendship with its new owners. It has been arranged for the

May edition to be issued there to Branches on Wednesday April 25th.

The THREE COMPASSES in Cowcross Street, EC1 re-opened on 28th February after being closed for a complete refurbishment. The pub is described by its owners, Trumans, as having the "atmosphere of a truly old fashioned London pub replete with interesting nooks and crannies on three levels" with traditional wood panelling although "the building only dates from the fifties, the previous pub having been levelled by a V2 in the last war."

Landlord Bill Hutchison has, however, traced the history of the pub back as far as 1723 and is convinced that it goes back even further as Cowcross Street is one of London's oldest streets, being just outside the city walls close to the line of the, now culverted River Fleet.

The pub, which takes its name from the coats of arms of the masons, carpenters and joiners of London sells Trumans' Bitter, Best Bitter and Sampson on handpump as well as a wide range of malt whiskies, reflecting the origins of the landlord. Upstairs is a new 45 seat restaurant specialising in cordon bleu cookery.

The opening ceremony was performed by Frank Dickens, the author of the Standard's 'Bristow' cartoons who is seen second right in the picture together with (from the left) Bill and Ellen Hutchison, Michael Aiken, Managing Director of Truman Limited and Trumans' Area Manager, Nigel Turpin.



Letters to the Editor

The February 1984 issue of London Drinker lists (on page 8) nine London postal districts (and some outer London areas) with "100% real ale availability."

I know Muswell Hill (N10) pretty well and if there is a pub in that postal district which does not sell real ale I should like to know where it is (so I can stand outside and jeer?). Perhaps it was omitted from the list because it straddles the boundary between two CAMRA branches (part of N10 is in the Borough of Barnet).

I reckon that there are eight pubs in N10 all of which have been included in either RBIL, the supplement or an update with no deletions, as follows:

Wetherspoon's (Martin's)	RBIL
Alexandra Arms	RBIL
John Baird	RBIL
Royal Oak	RBIL
Green Man	Supplement
Oscars	Supplement
Minstrel Boy	Supplement (late entry)
Victoria Stakes	Update 2

Yours sincerely,

Tony Hunt, East Finchley, N2.

YES JOHN

As the Chairman of the Brewery, the continuing increase in prices worries me. As a customer in a pub it depresses me. Like you I know that it is a combination of brewer's price increases, duty increases and VAT . . . Each of them can be justified but the combination of the three is a burden.

Thus John Young in his Chairman's Statement in the Young's Annual Report produced in May 1983. Less than a year later there are a lot of other customers feeling depressed in Young's pubs following the recent announcement of a 4p per-pint price increase. In many houses this comes on top of a 2p rise in the Autumn and the total effect in many areas is to remove the low price image enjoyed by the company in the past.

Around Wandsworth 75p or so seems to be the typical level for a pint of the "Ordinary" bitter which cost only 69p last summer. If we deduct VAT (previously 10p, now 9p) and duty (approximately 15p per pint) then the price after taxes has gone from 45p to 50p or 11%. It would be interesting to see how a rise which is getting on for twice the rate of inflation can be *justified*.

Not long ago we reported in these pages how their new brewery development has given Young's more capacity than at present needed, but at a time when sales have been falling. In the 70s the big brewers made the drinker pay for their massive, underused, keggeries. Is the same sort of thing going to happen in the 80s with the smaller companies?

Some four years ago John Young commented in another Annual Report about the price disparity between some managed houses and nearby tenanted premises. He advised those who didn't like the prices in one to vote with their feet and go to the other. Perhaps nowadays some punters will be going further than the next Young's pub.

IPW

LICENSING HOURS

Following a successful application for a change in licensing hours in the Borough of Richmond early last year, we learn that Edmonton Licensing Division (covering the Borough of Enfield and the Tottenham and Wood Green areas of Harringey) has recently also changed its licensing hours in line with the majority of London. The new weekday hours are 11 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. and 5.30 to 11 p.m. (formerly 10.30 to 2.30 and 5.30 to 10.30). This means that these hours now apply throughout Harringey.

A similar application in Brent was, however, unsuccessful this year, while in Hounslow, where the Council instructed the Borough Solicitor to submit an application for the same hours, we learn that the hearing has been adjourned. Hopefully we shall hear of a successful application here by the time the next edition goes to press. Currently the hours in Hounslow are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5.30 to 10.30 p.m.

None of these changes, of course, affect Sunday opening hours which are 12 noon to 2 p.m. and 7.00 to 10.30 p.m. throughout England.

TRUMANS SELLING OFF PUBS?

In the East London & City area over the last few years Charringtons have sold off over 30 pubs, Ind Coope over 11 and now it seems that Trumans are about to follow. The Carpenters Arms in Cheshire Street, E2, (the Club Row area) has become a free house. The Lord Hood also in E2 is up for sale and now the Castle in Leyton Road E15 is up for sale, 'free of tie'.

LONDON'S LATEST BREWERY
THE BRIXTON BREWERY

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242 Coldharbour Lane,
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BRIXTON BITTER	O.G. 1036 at 70p per pint.
BRIXTON BEST	O.G. 1040 at 75p per pint
WARRIOR	O.G. 1040 at 75p per pint

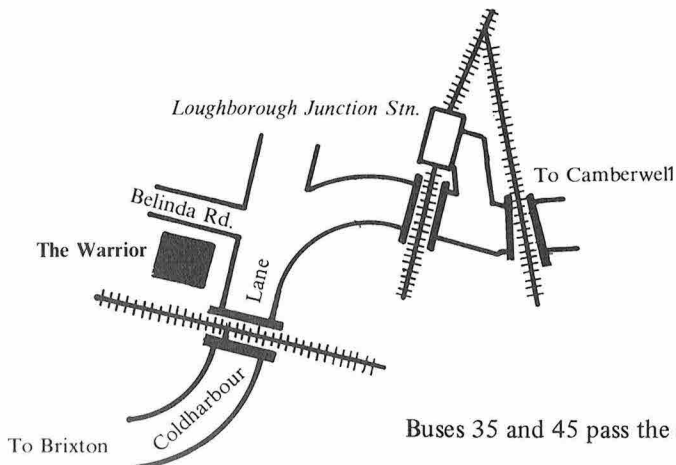
Brewed on the premises in a Hickey 15 Barrel plant

also selling

New this month:

AMBER KNIGHT LAGER - O.G. 1036

Ruddle's County - Manns IPA - Webster's Yorkshire Bitter.



BREWERY NEWS

*GRAND METROPOLITAN, the present company of Watney's and Truman, achieved sales nationally of £651 from their brewing activities in their latest financial year. This for the whole country, was up from £589 million in the previous year but much of the rise seems to have been due to lager where the company increased market share by two points. In their Annual Report Grand Met comes down in favour of flexible pub licensing, which is also of course the subject of a CAMRA campaign. They say that the case for flexible hours is "strongly supported by Scottish experience".

* for MACMULLEN their last year also showed increases in lager sales but with a small drop in beer volume. Profits before tax were up by 19% and for the seventh successive year after-tax profits were up, at £1.9 million.

*IMPERIAL GROUP, which owns Courage, has come out with a 22% profit increase in its brewing related activities, to £71.6 million. The brewing and 'retail' (pubs, Happy Eaters & c) sides are now being separated. A review of licensed properties is under way and it is likely that a "significant segment" will become "strongly food influenced". We last heard this from Host Group (ex Chef & Brewer) of course - will the effect be the same?

*GUINNESS now sells half its stout in the UK in draught form with the other half being the well known bottles, saviour of CAMRA members in many a keg pub. This reflects a rise of up to 9% in draught sales but a small decline in bottles (could there be any relation to the increase in the number of pubs with real ale?) Half the beer comes from Dublin with the rest being brewed at London's Park Royal plant. UK sales are now at 1.6 million barrels.

* On the bad front, BRIGHTLINGSEA, a small Essex brewery whose products were briefly seen in the London free trade, has ceased business. The effect of subsidised sales by their big competitors was blamed.

*Another pub video system has been launched this time by ASSOCIATED TELECOMMUNICATIONS. Despite the failure of the Telejector venture, the company hopes to install 2000 systems this year. So far they have been on test and are claimed to have shown good results. The machines are coin operated rather than being dependent on advertising and will be available on rental.

IPW

WHAT'S IN A FIRKIN?

A firkin' lot of beer, some might say. But it is in fact part of the mediaeval scale of liquid measures, now only partly used. It represents 9 gallons today although originally it was eight. The thirteenth century scale used what we would now call binary arithmetic and which is central to the operation of our computers. Perhaps you could get edible chips with your beer years ago?

The scale can be called binary because every measure is twice the previous one. Thus 2 pints make a quart. The full list is -

2 of	Make a
gill	chopin(old name for ½!)
chopin	pint
pint	quart
quart	pottle
pottle	gallon
gallon	peck
peck	demibushel
demibushel	firkin(or bushel)
firkin	kilderkin
kilderkin	barrel
barrel	hogshead
hogshead	pipe
pipe	tun

Although a firkin is now taken as 9 gallons the larger measures still follow on in a binary sequence so that a kilderkin is 18 gallons, a barrel 36, & c. Brewers still use the barrel as their measure of production and it refers to an amount of 288 pints produced, not the size of container used to despatch the beer from the brewery. The term 'tun' is also used, eg to refer to the mash tun which is found in the brewing process and after this several pubs have been named.

IPW

IT GOES TO SHOW

Sweden is one of the last places in Europe that the drinker would want to be. The average price of beer works out at about £2 a pint, and there are few places to sup it. Yet the effects of high tax and a generally anti-drinking attitude in the government have led to

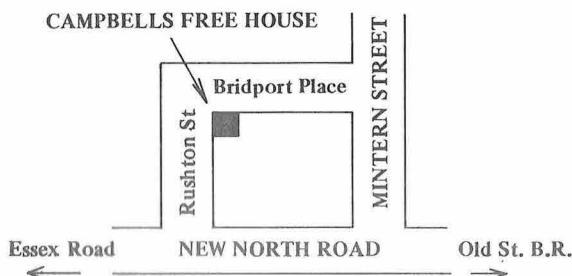
- a 4% drop over the last 20 years in the proportion of male teetotallers and a 13% drop for women.
- a four fold increase in liver cirrhosis deaths
- an eight fold increase in diagnoses of alcoholism

It all goes to prove the old Drinker's warning -
GOVERNMENT CAN SERIOUSLY
DAMAGE YOUR HEALTH

cont. on p.22

CAMPBELLS FREE HOUSE

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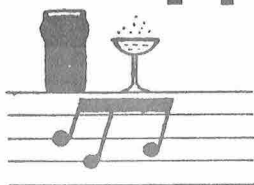
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3 MINUTES FROM SURREY DOCKS UNDERGROUND

BUSES 1, 47 and 188 PASS THE PUB

Hot Food! — Cocktails! — Free Admission!

Round the Houses

The further adventures of a North London idiot on the Youngs passport.

The more astute among you will have noticed an omission in the title. No it isn't the word 'boring fart' but the /Fullers bit. The reason it is missing is that old age is creeping up on me and I don't think I could handle two passport schemes at the same time (I am also put off somewhat by the prospect of having to visit the delightful area called Hillingdon). However on to this month's crawl.

Once again a meeting in Balham and once more an opportunity to knock of a few more pubs. I planned an expedition to the Merton/Mitcham area as they are only a few inches apart on the map (my skill in map reading probably does leave something to be desired).

I caught a Northern Line train to South Wimbledon station and from here headed South on the Morden Road for about five minutes until reaching the Prince of Wales. The pub has two bars and as I had my boiler suit on I selected the saloon bar which I found to be smartly decorated. The ordinaire was in good condition and was drunk in an affable atmosphere. It was here that I noticed that Youngs have started selling those armless type flak/shooting jackets with the brewery motif on the right breast. Whatever will they think of next, underpants probably (subtle CAMRA joke there).

From the Prince of Wales I walked back to South Wimbledon station and by hanging (US colloq) a right along Merton High St. one eventually comes to the Kings Head.

The Kings Head, which is next to Merton Bus Garage, is a large two bar pub set back from the road. When entering the pub don't go into the centre door as this is the off-licence. Apparently it was until recently a freehouse which had become somewhat run down. The ordinaire, however, was in good condition and was drunk in a bar big enough to swing whatever you want to swing in it

As you leave the Kings Head you may wonder what the smell is. Don't worry it's only the mighty Wandle making its way north. Cross the road and go down Priory Road the Christchurch Road, and Church Road to Mitcham. This is quite a hike and so was delighted to find a chippy mid-way down Church Road. At the bottom of Church Road one comes to the Bull.

I found the Bull to be a small basic but friendly two bar pub which was a complete contrast to the last

one. Once again the ordinaire was in good condition.

From the Bull take the right hand fork by the Green and at the main road turn left and one falls over the Cricketers. This pub overlooks the Cricket green and as one would expect it is full of cricket memorabilia. I used the tiny public bar on the right hand side of the pub where I had another good pint of ordinaire.

From the Gorrings Park Hotel I continued along the main road to Tooting Broadway. Turn right and cross the road and you find yourself outside the Castle. My journey to this pub had been fraught with danger as I had been caught by ritual turning out of the Tooting Granada Palais de Bingo. The Castle has one long bar which is wood panelled. I found the beer to be good and the surroundings pleasant.

So at Tooting I decided that I had walked far enough and so caught the tube to Balham. Those of you still on two feet could return to the traffic lights and wander up Garroth Lane to the other two Tooting Youngs pubs. I however will cover these pubs at a later date. TTFN.

TRUE STORY **cont. from p.20**

A fellow walked up to the bar of a Cardiff pub and stood there tapping his forehead. The barman, who was new looked puzzled and went over to the guv'nor. "I think we've an odd one here - shall I put him out?"

"No boyo, serve him" said the landlord - "he's deaf and dumb and uses sign language. He just wants a pint of Brain's". "There's funny now" replied the barman, "What does he do if he wants Hancock's?"

The come right up to date, Whitbread are now using the Hancock name again - for a Real Ale.

FAME AT LAST

"For Real Ale in Scotland - (P.S. No Hoax!)"

ALLISON ARMS, Pollockshaws Road
11.00-2.30, 5.00-11.00 (Mon-Sat)
normal Sunday

Maclays 60/- (Air), Belhaven 80/- (Air)

An old fashioned family run local which is justifiably proud of its beer. A recent innovation is that pints are now served in the lounge. The Allison is the only pub outside London to sell 'London Drinker' and probably has the heaviest concentration of CAMRA members in Glasgow among its customers.

RM, Sn, Darts, Doms.

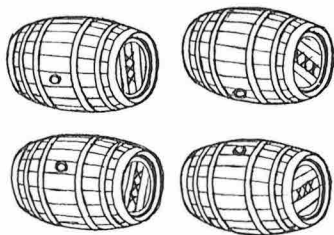
BR (Queens Park) - 3 mins.

A FISHY TALE What goes down well with a pint on a Sunday lunchtime? Forget smoking - I only wish we could, having no taste for a cigarette and objecting to sharing someone else's secondhand, in the form of exhaled tobacco fumes. I admit to being shellfish in my pleasure (although it is shared by many), the pure and simple fruit of the sea. The fish stall is peculiar to, and an integral part of, the London Pub scene. In years gone by Londoners had an abundant supply of cheap (free!) nourishing and delicious food which was theirs for the taking in the Thames - enough to warm the cockles of your heart, you might say.

Many a Cockney - and plenty who aren't - carries a pin to winkle out the tiniest crustaceans from their shells. And it doesn't take much mussel to peel a prawn or its darker cousin the shrimp. Those with more expensive tastes might care to indulge in an oyster (alive-yuk!) as did the Romans and Normans in the past, or scampi, which have so many different definitions. Or a lobster - how does that crab you? The only other one I can think of doesn't seem to have a pun. Whelk now (done it!) the sad thing is that the fish stand is rapidly becoming a thing of the past, despite the provision of non-shelled products, such as eels, kippers and rollmops. Imported produce, though delicious, are expensive, and

many's the stand which has gone out of business for lack of trade. And yet those itinerant sellers with baskets still find plenty of custom for their pre-packed, frozen wares which bear as much resemblance and taste to their origins as keg does to real beer. What a load of cod's (roes?). You can even buy some varieties from wall-cards, like peanuts. So what about a Campaign for Real Shellfish - or for that matter, Real Peanuts? But somehow I can't envisualize a Good Seafood or Peanut Guide - even though we could do with one, the way some of our pleasures are served up nowadays!

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AVAILABLE NOW AS REGULAR OR GUEST BEERS

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Famous Pendle Witches Brew 1050 O.G.

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Brewex Winner 1983

TIMOTHY TAYLOR: KEIGHLEY

Beer of the year 2 years running
Great British Beer Festival

VAUX: SUNDERLAND

OLD MILL: GOOLE

CLARKS: WAKEFIELD

WEST RIDING: HUDDERSFIELD

GOOSE EYE: KEIGHLEY

TROUGH: BRADFORD

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ALAN GREENWOOD'S BEER AGENCY

Offers London's largest range of Real Ales

for home and party drinking

It is always advisable to order barrels
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Alan Greenwood's No. 5 Best Bitter

*A 1042 original gravity,
mature tasting beer
available from all
Alan Greenwood's
Beer Agency Off-licences
The Original Pub Take-aways*

Mention this ad for 5% discount off
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OPEN MON-SAT

10.30-1.30, 5.45-9.30pm

*Open 10.30am-9.30pm

SUN 12-2.00, 7-9.00pm

***OVAL SE11**

226 Kennington Park Rd
01-735 3036

OLYMPIA W14

17 North End Road
01-603 4978

***LEWISHAM SE13**

252 Lewisham High Street
01-852 8360

WIMBLEDON SW19

308 Haydons Road
01-542 3725

***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

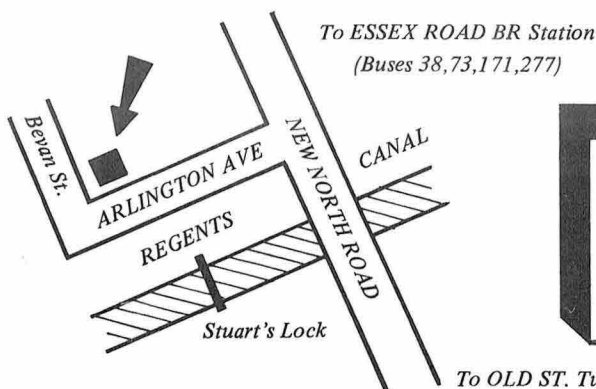
HAMPSTEAD, NW3

150 Haverstock Hill
01-586 8382

THE CLOTHWORKERS ARMS

52 ARLINGTON AVENUE, N1

01-226 3842



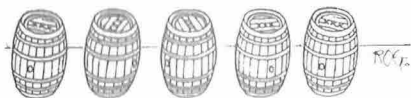
REAL ALES FROM:
ARKELLS
FULLERS
GREENE KING
SAMUEL SMITH

Near to BR Essex Road or Old Street Tube,
then buses 76,141 Or 172 along New Road North.

OLYMPIAN BREW

Paine's of St Neots, whose beers are to be found in the London free trade, have been selected to brew a special bottled beer to aid the British Olympic Association Appeal for funds to help competitors in this year's Olympic games. The beer is being sold in bottled form during the next few months in half pint bottles and Paines will donate £1 for each case of 243 sold towards an Olympic Appeal fund.

The brewers are doing this on a non-profit basis and the bottles seem very likely to become sought after by collectors as well as those simply wishing to do their bit to help our athletes. The original gravity of the brew is 1032 and readers are recommended to keep a look out for this one, especially if sports minded.



CASTLE'S LICENSE SAVED

Last month's cover featured the Castle, Surbiton, and the Pub Profile ended with the news that its license renewal had been refused, subject to review. At the review hearing on March 2nd, the objection which had led to the refusal, was dropped, and consequently the Castle, which won the 1983 Evening Standard Pub of the Year Award, is no longer in danger of closure.

THAT WAS THE BEER THAT WAS

The continuing rise in the proportion of pubs with real ale (Feb LD) is a great achievement for CAMRA but there is still a lot to do, not least in trying to get the number of pubs actually with real ale on sale up to the number supposed to have it. In not much more than a week and in different parts of London I have found on two occasions that only one pub out of three visited had real beer on, although all had handpumps, usually with pumpclips, and all were supposed to have the beer. On another day it was 3 out of 4 and on a fourth occasion, 6 out of 8. The worst offenders by far are Taylor Walker pubs and one now wonders whether they have any real commitment to real ale at all?

HIGH SEX BREWING

High Gravity Brewing sounds like something from Outer Space but is an idea now being tried out by a number of brewers, generally on a small scale. Basically it involves brewing the beer to a much higher strength and then in effect watering it down to the level at which it is to be sold. This causes problems of quality control since it is not easy to ensure that the flavour stays as intended.

Because of this any beer produced in bulk under the system would probably be a new brand - which could mean the end of some old favourites. Another problem for the consumer is that the process requires a lot less plant at the brewery, in terms of capacity. It has been estimated that full use of High Gravity brewing could to half of the breweries in the country becoming surplus, on a 'worst case' possibility. Any further developments are clearly therefore something that we need to watch.

Meanwhile Bass and Guinness are bringing sex into brewing with experiments on the mating habits of yeast. By genetic engineering it is hoped to end up with a 'killer' yeast which will prevent contamination of fermenting beer by wild yeast in the atmosphere, by generating a protein which is described as able to 'zap' the wild variety. At present chemicals such as sulphur dioxide or benzoates may be used to do the same thing, and it is hoped that yeasts will be more natural.

NEW LONDON BREWERY

The Dickens Inn by the Tower now has a house beer. Dickens Own was unveiled recently by Cedric Charles Dickens, great-grandson of the writer. It is produced in nearby Tooley Street Brewery (across Tower Bridge), part of the Dickens Inn Group, in equipment from John Hickey's works in Brixton. The present capacity is 40 barrels a week, which is expected to rise substantially.

NAG'S HEAD UP FOR SALE

The freehold of the Nag's Head, Hampstead is being sold on behalf of Midsummer Inns - formerly known as CAMRA (Real Ale Investments Ltd. Offers in excess of £425,000 are being sought for the freehold.

The Nag's Head, once called the Cruel Sea, has belonged to the group for nine years, but more recently its main trading areas have been in the East Midlands and East Anglia, where several pubs are to be bought this year.

Dear Dipsie



DEAR DIPSY, My husband and I are having trouble with our second son who never seems to get on with anything but seems to just want to rave it up with champagne and chorus girls. I keep trying to tell him to be more like his brother and find a nice girl to settle down with, but he just laughs, gets out his chopper, and flies off. What can I do?

LIZ, Westminster.

DEAR LIZ, *The young can be such a trial can't they? Perhaps you have not raised his sights enough. Champagne is a bit immature (only a step up from cherry brandy): get his father to introduce him to a decent pint and he might fall into better company. At least you can console yourself with the thought that barmaids tend to have shorter memories than chorus girls and are less prone to writing their memoirs.*

DIPSY

DEAR DIPSY, I think my son may have been committing the sin of Oman, but I cannot bring myself to talk about it. But other people are asking questions. . . .

HILDA, Finchley.

DEAR HILDA, *Oh dear! This is the trouble with hot climates - sometimes you cannot keep it under your hat. Still, probably not too much harm done. Keep him away from dry countries in future and give him something else to play with.*

DIPSY

DEAR DIPSY, I don't know what to do. Last night I gave my all to a man who said he could get me an invitation to the Young's AGM Shareholders party. Have I cheapened myself?

LORRAINE, Battersea.

DEAR LORRAINE, *It really depends on whether he holds "A" series (full-voting, pint glasses) or "B" series (non-voting, drinking only) shares. If you're having second thoughts, do you still have his 'phone number?*

DIPSY

DEAR DIPSY, Please don't laugh at me. I had to talk to someone and I'm afraid my friends won't understand. The trouble started some time ago when I was getting ready for my regular trip to the Fog and Docks. I'd done everything right; had the beer shampoo, put on the Fuller's sweatshirt, tightened the truss and I was making the final adjustments to my clothing when I noticed that, from a vertical position, I couldn't see the ends of my shoes.

I thought at first my sweatshirt was billowing out so I took it off. Were the trousers too baggy? Away they went. String vest cut too generously? It was cast aside. I knew the Y-fronts weren't over-full but, in desperation they bit the dust.

So there I was, in nothing but a truss, a pair of CAMRA socks and size 9 brogues. Not even a hint of a toecap. What can I do?

Yours desparately, E.S.B.

Dear E.S.B., You are the victim of a condition known to medicine as Bellius Pendulus, commonly called boozers' hangover. The treatment is horrendous and involves giving up beer altogether for more than a week. A painless alternative would be to buy a bigger pair of shoes.

DIPSY.

DEAR DIPSY, I am eighteen next week and my spots still haven't shown. I have to go to the pub for the first time on my birthday to have my first lager, but I'm afraid they'll laugh at me. What can I do?

NOBBY, Leytonstone.

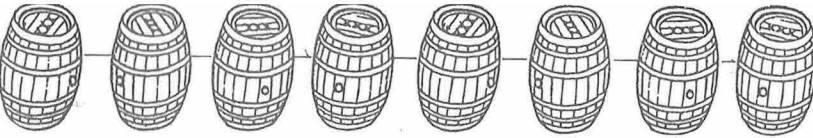
DEAR NOBBY, Try an extensive course of lanolin-enriched crisps; for the future, if you stick to lager, you won't need spots.

DIPSY.

DEAR DIPSY, My wife wants me to buy her a vibrator, which she says will make her the envy of her little circle. I'm puzzled at the response of the local electrical shops, who seem to find it amusing. Is it in anyway unwholesome?

GRANVILLE, Sudbury.

NB - The Editors accept no responsibility for readers of pages 14-16 who failed to take a pinch of salt on April 1st.



Where to buy London Drinker

OUTLETS - East and South East.

Pubs

- F11 STICK & WEASEL, 273 City Road.
- F14 BLACK TRAIR, 174 Queen Victoria St.
- F14 WILLIAMSON'S TAVERN, Giveland Ct. Bow Lane.
- F2 MARKSMAN, 254 Hackney Road.
- F9 HIGER TAVERN, 245 Wick Road.
- F10 NORTH COTE, 110 Grove Green Road.
- F14 VULCAN, 140 West Ferry Road.
- F17 FLOWER POT, 128 Wood Street.
- F17 LORD BROOKE, 47 Sberal Street.

ONGAR KINGS HEAD, High Street.

- M11 BARKERS, Southwark St.
- M1 COMPI R, 208 Tower Bridge Road.
- M1 DOWIE & FIKIN, 47 Borough Road.
- M1 HORN HILL, Melior Street.
- M1 LEATH R EXCHANGE, Leather Market St.
- M1 MUDLARK, Montague Close.
- M1 PINEAPPLE, 33 Hercules Road.
- M1 SPANISH PATRIOT, Lower Marsh.
- M1 TRIPS BAR, Waterloo Station.
- M3 BRITISH OAK, 109 Old Dover Rd.
- M4 WICKHAM ARMS, Upper Brockley Rd.
- M5 WICKWOOD TAVERN, 58 Flaxman Rd.
- M10 NORTH POLE, 131 Greenwich High Rd.
- M10 ROYAL GEORGE, Blisset Street.
- M13 DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, High Street.
- M15 MAN OF KENT, Hanford Green.
- M15 OLD NUN'S, 141 Hanford Green.
- M16 BLACKSMITHS ARMS, 257 Rotherhithe St.
- M16 PRINCE OF ORANGE, 118 Lower Road.
- M18 VILLAGE BLACKSMITH, Hulseach.
- M19 ROYAL ALBERT, Westow Hill.
- M20 ANERLEY ARMS, Ridulph Road.
- M20 GOLDEN LION, Maple Road.
- M20 LONDON TAVERN, Maple Rd.
- M24 COMMERCIAL, 11 Ralston Rd. Horne Hill.
- M25 GOAT HOUSE, 2 Penge Rd.
- M25 SHIP, 55 High St.
- M27 HOPE, Norwood High Street.

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- SW11 SOMERS ARMS, 96 Usk Rd.
- SW11 WOODMAN, 60 Battersey High St.
- 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, Lacy Road.
- SW15 LAILWAY, Upper Richmond Road.
- SW16 LEIGHAM ARMS, Wellfield Road.
- SW16 PIED BULL, 498 Streatham High Rd.
- SW18 THE GRAPES, 39 Fairfield Street.
- SW18 SPREAD EAGLE, 71 High Street.
- SW19 ALEXANDRA, Wimbledon Hill Rd.
- SW19 LEATHER BOTTLE, Kingston Rd.
- SW19 PRINCESS ROYAL, Abbey Road.
- SW19 TRAFALGAR, High Path.

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OUTLETS - West Central and North PUBS

- WC1 LAMB, Lamb's Conduit St.
- WC1 MOON, 18 New North St.
- WC1 PRINCE ALBERT, 2 Acton Street
- WC1 PRINCES LOUISE, 208 High St.
- WC1 SUN, 63 Lamb's Conduit St.
- WC2 CROWN & ANCHOR, 22 Neal St.
- WC2 GEORGE IV, 28 Portugal St.
- WC2 MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY, 39 Bow St.
- N1 CAMPBELLS, 21 Bridge Place.
- N1 CLOTHWORKERS, 52 Arlington Ave.
- N1 CROWN, Cloudeley Rd.
- N1 LORD WOLSELEY, White Lion St.
- N1 MALT & HOPS, 33 Caledonian Rd.
- N1 PINT POT, 54 Pentonville Road.
- 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, 29 Crouch Hill.
- 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.
- N8 HARRINGAY ARMS, 153 Crouch Hill.
- N8 PRINCESS ALEXANDRA, Park Rd.
- N9 COCK, Hertford Rd.
- N9 RISING SUN, Winchester Rd.
- N12 MOSS HALL TAVERN, 283 Ballards Lane.
- N16 MARLERS, 178 Stoke Newington High St.
- N16 ROSIE & CROWN, 199 Stoke Newington Church St.

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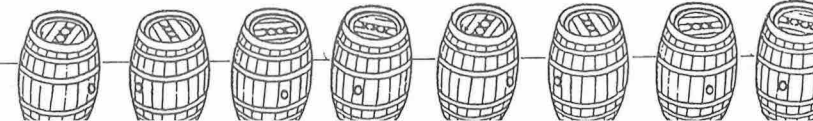
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OF

CAMRA

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BEER FESTIVAL

at

SANDOWN PARK



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11am - 2.30pm; 5.30 - 11.00pm

SATURDAY 7th APRIL 1984

11am - 2.30pm; 5.30 - 11.00pm

SUNDAY 8th APRIL 1984

12 noon to 3pm

at the

GRANDSTAND, SANDOWN PARK, ESHER

£1 LUNCHTIME

£1.50 EVENINGS

including Souvenir Festival Glass

REAL BEER

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Fifty varieties of Real Ale including a Special Festival Brew