

March
1985



15p

LONDON DRINKER

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



Song Time
Page 4

REAL MILD GUIDE INSIDE

COME EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT



Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, WC1
WED 13th TO FRI 15th MARCH

See back cover for details

Vol
7

No 2

BRANCH DIARY

If your branch is not mentioned below (and we regret not many are this month) please ring the branch contact. Dates for March of which we have been notified are as follows. Branches please send details of events to Andy Pirson.

EAST LONDON & CITY: Fri 1 (8.00) Social. COBORN ARMS, 8 Coborn Road, E3 — Tue 5 (8.00) BRANCH AGM. WINDMILL, Tabernacle Street, EC2 — Fri 8 (5.30) City Social. MONUMENT TAVERN, 60 King William Street, EC4 — Tue 12 (8.00) GBG Selection Meeting. APPROACH TAVERN, 47 Approach Road, E2 — Tue 19 (8.00) Committee Meeting. ROYAL CRICKETERS, 211 Old Ford Road, E2 — Wed 20 (8.00) Darts Social. LORD TREDEGAR, 50 Lichfield Road, E3 — Mon 25 (8.00) Social. DOWNS HOTEL, 75 Downs Road, E5 — Sat 30 (9.00) Beerbashers' & Currygulers' Social Night. PRIDE OF SPITALFIELDS, 3 Heneage Street, E1 — Tue 2 April (8.00) Branch Meeting. RODING, Southend Road, E6.

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD: Sun 3 (12.00) Lunchtime Social. RAILWAY GUARD, Epsom — Thur 7 (8.30) Branch Meeting. PLOUGH, Stoke D'Abernon (3 mins from Cobham Railway Station) — Thur 21 (8.30) Social. DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, Kingston Vale, SW15 — Sun 31 (12.00) Lunchtime Social. PLOUGH & HARROW, Long Ditton.

NORTH LONDON: Wed 13 to Fri 15 FIRST LONDON DRINKER BEER FESTIVAL. Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, WC1 (See advert for more details) — Tue 19 (8.00) Two Pub Social. GEORGE & VULTURE, N1 then CAMPBELLS FREE HOUSE, Bridport Place, N1 — Tue 26 (8.00) Two Pub Social. QUEENSBURY RULES, St. Jude Street, N16 then THE SUSSEX, Culford Road, N1 — Every Sunday Lunchtime in March. Pub of the Month Social. GLOUCESTER ARMS, Ivor Place, NW1.

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW: Thur 7 (8.30) Committee Meeting. WHITE HORSE, The Market Place, Brentford — Mon 18 (8.30) Branch Meeting. THE CROWN, Richmond Road, Twickenham — Thur 28 (8.30) Social. WHITE CROSS, Riverside, Richmond.

SOUTH WEST LONDON: Thu 14 (8.00) BRANCH AGM. BREWERY TAP, Wandsworth High Street, SW18 (Upstairs Room — Good Beer Guide entries vote and South West London Guide Discussion) — Fri 22 Local Guide Survey Crawl. Meet 7.30, HOP POLE, Putney Bridge Road, SW18 — . . . Local Guide Survey Crawl. Meet 7.30, RAVEN, West Bridge Road, SW11.

BRANCH CONTACTS

BEXLEY	DES WARD	Erith 45716 (H)	Orpington 38321 x29 (W-Fri only)
BROMLEY	JOHN WATERS	8515111 (H)	
CROYDON & SUTTON	DAN ALLEN	642 5553 (H)	405 9222 x2432 (W)
E.LONDON & CITY	CHRISTIAN MUTEAU		703 6996 (W)
	JULIAN FARROW	980 0564 (H&W)	
ENFIELD & BARNET	TONY MORGAN	440 2186 (H)	283 1000 x 2944(W)
KINGSTON &	JOHN NORMAN	546 3476 (H)	Weybridge 47282
LEATHERHEAD			x2380 (W)
NORTH LONDON	ANNE LODGE	888 5300 (H)	
RICHMOND			
& HOUNSLOW	ANDY PIRSON	977 1633 (H)	
SOUTH-WEST ESSEX	ANDREW CLIFTON	Romford (0708) 65150	(H)
SOUTH-EAST LONDON	ALLAN COOK	690 5104 (H)	632 4869 (W)
SOUTH-WEST LONDON	CHRIS COBBOLD	674 0556	
WEST LONDON	RODNEY HOLLOWES	723 2798 (H)	
WEST MIDDLESEX	KEITH WILDEY	423 1243 (H)	

April edition available end of March. Copy should reach editors by 2nd. March. Closing date for may issue 1st. April.

Editorial.

Transport yourself a little under 200 miles to Manchester, find an equivalent boozier to one you frequent, buy a pint comparable in strength to your regular tippie, and the chances are that you have paid 20p or so less than usual. Go into a supermarket anywhere in the country and you will find little variation in the price of beans, bogrolls or whatever, irrespective of the geographical location. So what's wrong?.

In the national price survey published in February's **What's Brewing**, it was shown quite conclusively that London drinkers are being taken for a ride every time they buy a pint. Now I'm sure you work just as hard for your money as your counterparts elsewhere in the country. Maybe, like me, you get an allowance for working in the London area. But is it over a quarter of your actual earnings? Because that is the mark-up that 20p represents on the average national price of 67p for a pint. A report based partly on the CAMRA survey led to demands in Parliament for a Government inquiry. On January 25th, the Daily Star, which sparked this off, reported:—

Bar prices vary by up to 37p a pint between the North of England and the South – with bitter costing 94p in London and 57p in Manchester.

The price of the same brew can vary by as much as 34p and big brewers regularly charge more than smaller, local rivals.

Brewers even charge their own pubs widely varying prices for a barrel of beer, which can put 9p on a pint.

The sting? Breweries seek to make a bigger profit out of beer sold in the South. They feel the Southerners will pay more for a pint – and they're right.

The big three brewers – Bass, Allied and Whitbread – have always blamed higher rates, wages and transport costs for the fact that prices vary so much.

But their secret trade price lists show that this is only part of the story.

The big breweries alter their wholesale prices according to the region, charging more per barrel in the South than in the North.



Other food and drink manufacturers charge the same wholesale prices all over the country.

MPs called for an immediate investigation. Senior Labour Whip John McWilliam said: "The breweries seem to operate as an effective monopoly – and what's more, there seems to be a conspiracy of silence between them about their pricing policy."

Mr. McWilliam, MP for Blaydon, Tyne and Wear, added: "The Daily Star has done a service to the huge number of men and women who like a glass of beer and are being exploited by the breweries."

Tory Robert Hayward, who is campaigning to change pub licensing hours, said:

"There is no justification for such a variation in pricing within areas or from any particular brewery."

"I shall be seeking the comments of brewers in my constituency of Kingswood and considering what action to take."

Mr. Hayward described the price of a pint in London pubs as "prohibitive."

A Consumer Affairs spokesman said there was nothing to stop brewers from charging what they liked.

The Star gives the breakdown of the cost of the average 67p pint as: 9p VAT; 4p profit to the pub; 18p publican's costs; 7p brewery profit; 14½p duty; 4p distribution; 2½p advertising and marketing; 5½p factory costs and 2½p ingredients. Somehow I can't find anywhere to fit in the extortionate mark-up in the Metropolis.

No excuses or bleating about higher overheads please, brewers. You're just plain greedy. **Give us Londoners a fair deal.** You have only your customers to lose.

Editorial Team

Fifth Sandown Park Beer Festival

Kingston & Leatherhead Branch is organising this festival at Sandown Park, Esher on 3/4/5 May this year. It is planned to have over 50 real ales and ciders plus bottled beers and pub games.

Entertainment includes Basil's Balls-Up Band on the Friday evening, and the Pete Smith Dixieland Jazz Band on the Saturday evening and Sunday lunchtime. Admission will cost £1 for lunchtime and £1.50 for evening sessions, to include a souvenir festival glass.

The Festival will be open as follows:

Friday 3rd 11-2.30, 5.30-11pm.

Saturday 4th 11-2.30, 5.30-11pm.

Sunday 5th 12 noon-3pm.

Further information and tickets are obtainable from:

Ian Amy, 41 Greenwood Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey.



SING A SONG OF SUPPIN'

Since time immemorial, music has been used to spread messages. Once a song has proved popular, nothing is easier than to set words of your own choice to the melody, which is the part everyone remembers. Wesley said "Why should the Devil have all the best tunes?" to justify doing just that with bawdy-house ballads whose strains now accompany our best-known hymns.

It is human nature to exploit the success of others to one's own benefit, and nowhere is this more apparent than in the world of advertising. That's how the music of that giant of Victorian composers, Sir Arthur Sullivan, has come to extol the virtues of fish fingers on T.V. now that the copyright has expired.

"Come landlord fill the flowing bowl" epitomizes English drinking songs, and a few years back its tune poured out of the box with the lyrics:

*What's the beer we all love best?
Watney's keg Red Barrel.
The special brew that beats the rest,
Watney's keg Red Barrel.
Drink Red Barrel near or far,
In pub or club or any bar,
It's always good wherever you are:
Drink Watney's keg Red Barrel.*

The Advertising Standards people might have something to say about that nowadays, but you can judge its veracity by the fact that the foul concoction no longer exists. Another old song was amended by the same company to contain these immortal lines:

*Three men and their ale –
What they want is Watney's.
What they want is – you know what!
Watney's Pale! Watney's Brown!
What we want is Watney's!*



More recently Courage have taken to commissioning their own songs which in due course ended up in the pop charts in amended form, but you can't keep a good tune down. How many of us, I wonder, have heard of Percy French? Some ninety years ago this Irish song writer composed a ballad about one Abdul Abul bul Amir and his adversary Count Ivan Skavinsky Skavar, little suspecting that this jolly piece (which has nothing to do with drink) would one day re-surface with the closing line –

The best Best needs no etiquette.

No question that the adverts are clever, entertaining and expensive to produce – just look at the bum-wagging "Trojan" lady camel and the pedal-powered aircraft. But if Whitbread really think their Best deserve that title, what little faith they have in their own products! However, their recent offerings follow in the tradition pioneered by Guinness long before the advent of the Toucans. In 1892 Harry Dacre composed what is arguably the best-remembered popular song ever. You probably know an inaccurate version of the chorus of "Daisy Bell". Shortly after its debut, an advert appeared with the following words:

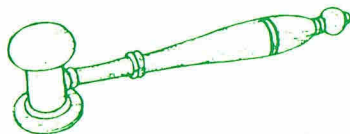
*Daisy, Daisy, pass me a sandwich do!
Don't be lazy, give me my Guinness too.
For lunch, isn't lunch without it –
So hurry up about it!
It's nice to drink, and it's nice to think
That a Guinness is good for you!*

There was no breach of copyright – indeed the words were original even if the idea wasn't, and the tune was not used. But anyway, Victorian song sheets usually bore an inscription to the effect that the piece could be performed at any time without fee, except in Music Halls.

A whole volume could be written about that company's brilliant advertising record, but let me close with an example of an ingenious type of advert – a musical tankard. This curiosity was a white china mug of apparently a pint capacity. In fact it was divided in two by a false bottom, and the lower half was a musical box wound from below. Difficult to wash and useless if liquid gets into the wrong end, it is hardly surprising that few have survived. One rare example is in a pub in Arundel. It plays the tune of "Grandfather's Clock" which was composed by an American, Henry Clay Work in 1876 and gave that name to what had until then been known as a long-case clock. On the outside is a cartoon of Grandfather in nightcap, peering at his clock which indicated 7.45, and the following jingle:

*My grandfather's clock looked superb in the shop,
But at home it would never go right.
Though we wound it and wound it, it always would stop
At a quarter to eight every night.
But my Grandfather swore, "That's exactly what it's for,
I don't want it to tick and to chime.
But I do want to look at the clock,
And to see that it's Guinness time!"*

Guinness, by the way, is good for you – the bottled version is Real Ale.



THE BRIXTON BREWERY



in the Warrior,
242 Coldharbour Lane,
Loughborough Junction,
SW9



BRIXTON BITTER O.G. 1036 at 72p per pint.
BRIXTON BEST O.G. 1040 at 77p per pint.
WARRIOR O.G. 1050 at 87p per pint.

ALSO:

The Battersea Brewery

in THE PRINCE OF WALES

339 Battersea Park Road,

Battersea SW11

Tel: 01-622 2112



Battersea Bitter - 76p Best Bitter - 80p Power House - 90p

Every Wednesday Night:

Live Jazz with the Ron Juniper Trio

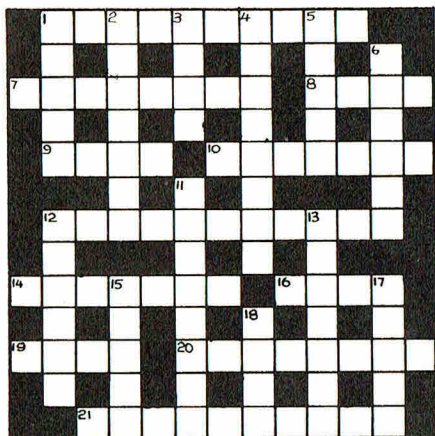
Pianist Thurs Night

Sunday Lunch

POLYPINS AVAILABLE from £19.75
AT BOTH PLACES

DRINKER CROSSWORD

Compiled by DAVE QUINTON £5 PRIZE TO BE WON



ACROSS

1. A hundred and one in the target area consumed after being set fire to. (10)
7. Musician found a short time before the holy men partly relents. (8)
8. Dead letter, rest in peace, though wet. (4)
9. Accidental holiday? (4)
10. Dance around in the road for a jumper. (7)
12. Able, after phone pick up, to get drink container. (4-4,3)
14. Gaoler found at a certain point in the country
16. Nip back for nipper. (4)
19. You might fall out at these. (4)
20. Devil wandered and got better. (8)
21. Fools first, then people in the way, make an evaluation. (10)

Name.....

Address.....

.....

All correct entries received by first post on 26th March will be entered into a draw for the prize.

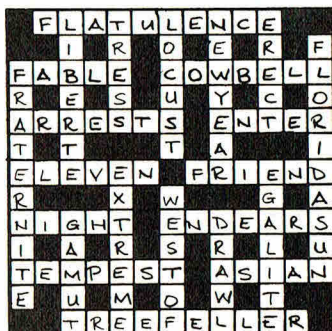
Prize winner will be announced in the May edition of London Drinker. Solution next month.

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

DOWN

1. To one princess returns a fool. (5)
2. You may sit on what's found between the pockets. (7)
3. He's only an average bloke. (4)
4. Responsible again, responsible. (8)
5. Going in and out. (5)
6. A bone and half a sweet found in the hair. (6)
11. A quiet little French girl gives one a desire to eat. (8)
12. You'll see postmen on them and drinkers in them. (6)
13. Find comfort with an ice cream out of the sun. (7)
15. Pole among the opposition uncovers smells. (5)
17. Spoil what's in the theatre at night. (5)
18. There's nothing a Manx cat will do to get work. (4)

Last Month's Solution



Winner of the prize for the December/January crossword:
Iain McFarlane, 7 Thorney Hedge Road, Chiswick, London W 4.

Other correct entries received from:
Pat Andrews, B.E.Bradley, F.C.Dunkley, B.H.Felton, Eileen Graves, Anthony Greenbury, P.R.Hanson, 'Arry Hart, Chris Hoggarth, J.C.Long, D.M.Lucas, J.R.Mason, P.Oliver, Bill Raison, B.Sheridan, Dave Wallington.

OUT OF TOWN.

In the October 1984 issue of LD¹ I described my favourite three pubs within striking distance of London. This time, dear reader, we head for Suffolk, for my ideal of a weekend cycle-pub tour, which encompasses some fine rural scenery and more wonderful village pubs, including the finest in the land.

My tour starts at Woodbridge BR Station (local pay train from Ipswich) from which we strike north to the beautiful village of Easton. This is real hunting, shooting, fishing country, and in the middle of the village lies "The White Horse" (Tolly Cobbold). Although it has a very picturesque exterior, the interior has been radically altered; though the old public bar section retains some character.

Cycle on towards Framlingham past the longest "Crinkle crankle" wall in the country. When you arrive in Framlingham, cycle past the old terminus station (long closed) to "The Railway".



The Railway, Framlingham.

This superb pub is owned by Adnam's Brewery, and like many of their tied estate has recently been sympathetically restored. The Saloon Bar is very comfortable and modern, but it is the public bar that makes this pub stand out from many others. We enter the bar via an interior passageway adorned with old railway prints and signs. Inside, it has remained unaltered in the

past 30 years, retaining its wooden benches and settles, though modern handpumps have recently replaced the stillage behind the bar. Here indeed is a place to relax for at least a couple of pints of Bitter or Old Ale.

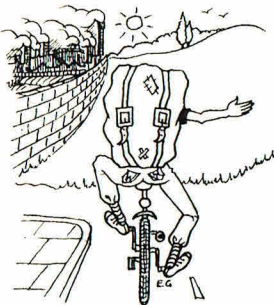
Leaving "The Railway", take the Baddingham road towards Laxfield. There are a number of ways to approach Baddingham; our choice was a minor unfenced road, which winds its way over gentle hills and open fields to the "White Horse" (Adnams) at Baddingham which stands back from the crossroads just before the village. When we last visited the public bar here, it was with dismay that we saw the inglenook fireplace being knocked out, but the very friendly landlord assured us that he was merely excavating an even earlier fireplace which would be restored to its former glory. He also stated that the curved settles would remain, as people who needed more luxurious padded creature comforts could find them in the saloon. Here is another superb country pub well worth a visit.

Another glorious ride took us to our next port of call which is well worth visiting for a full session drink. When Adnam's reluctantly decided to close "The King's Head" (otherwise the "Low House") at Laxfield the present landlady went to see the local farmer with a view to him purchasing the pub privately and installing her as tenant. To everyone's relief he agreed, and this wonderful pub has been preserved intact to bring enjoyment to the ordinary villagers (some of whom were not welcomed at the trendy free house up the road) and to admiring car-borne drinkers from the outlying area. The pub retains its small rooms and fireplaces surrounded by high backed circular wooden surround. The only changes in progress were taking place in the barn, where a games room was being set up. The Adnams beers remain, although the landlady might add Greene King Abbot at a later date. As with all the best pubs, here one would expect to be engaged in conversation with the regulars, as well-behaved visitors are very welcome. The relaxed, convivial atmosphere of this beautiful boozer is the **perfect** way to finish a lunchtime or evening.



The King's Head, Laxfield.

Continued opposite



Bidding a sad farewell, our ride takes us along more charming country lanes past Yoxford — (sadly the Blois Arms opens late in the evenings) to Leiston where we find “The Engineer’s Arms” which is open on time every session. This is yet another Adnams house and derives its name from the factory opposite, Garratts, now sadly closed, which, is its heyday in the industrial age produced steam traction engines and later, shaping machines. Many mementos of these are to be found on the walls of this basic town pub. We arrived at opening time on a Saturday night and decided to stay and work our way through the grand selection of records on the jukebox and try to thrash the very friendly throng of

youngsters at pool. If you try, watch out for rule variations (Suffolk rules) which seem to change to suit your opponent. “The Engineers’ Arms” will guarantee you a lively evening drinking beer in excellent condition at competitive prices.



The Engineers’ Arms, Leiston.

If you are camping, there is a camp site nearby in the summer, and in winter months we have found the beach at Sizewell to be ideal. Waking up in the bay of Sizewell is quite an experience in the morning! If it’s a Sunday, there is no rail service from Woodbridge, so start early on the 35-mile run to Ipswich for the train home — especially if you want to make opening time at the “Fleur de Lys”.

CAMPBELLS FREE HOUSE

21 BRIDPORT PLACE, ISLINGTON, N1



**HOXTON HEAVY
SAM SMITHS
CHUDLEY
+ 1 Guest Beer**

*Happy Hour
5.30 to 7.00*

**All hand drawn beers
at 65p per pint.**

**Buses 141, 271, 76
pass close by
5 mins walk from
Old Street and Essex Road
Stations**

**Lunchtime Pub Grub
Easy evening parking
Beer Garden**

REAL BEER IN LONDON UPDATE 15

Updates to CAMRA'S comprehensive guides to Greater London's real ale pubs are published monthly in *London Drinker*. The Updates include confirmed information on additions, deletions and changes to real ale pubs in Greater London. The information is not only of general interest but also enables CAMRA in London to monitor progress by the brewers in installing real ale. From time to time *Research Lists* are issued listing pubs where information on real ale is awaiting confirmation.

If you know of any outlets for real ale not listed in CAMRA'S guides or updates or outlets where changes have taken place, or if you would like to help with surveying the sector guides under preparation please write to:— **RBIL Update, 2 Sandtoft Road, London SE7 7LR**. A copy of the latest *Research List* (No.7) is available free from the same address — please enclose a S.A.E.

ADDITIONS CENTRAL

- EC1 CITY PRIDE, 28 Farringdon Lane.
Fuller: Chiswick Bitter, London Pride,
ESB, formerly WHITE SWAN.
Finally reopened as Fullers tied house
(re-instatement).
- EC3 RAVEN, Fenchurch St. Station
Arkell: BB
Bass
Temporary bar whilst station is rebuilt.
- EC4 HORN TAVERN, 29 Knighttrider St.
Eldridge Pope: Dorset IPA
Extensively rebuilt pub,
part of office complex;
reopened after two years.
Emphasis on expense account food.
Eldridge Pope's third London pub,
but no outward sign.
- EC4 ST BRIDES TAVERN, 1 Bridewell Place
Websters: Yorkshire Bitter.
- EAST
E3 BLUE ANCHOR, 67 Bromley High St.
Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E3 BROMLEY ARMS, 51 Fairfield Rd.
Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- E3 RISING SUN, 14 Gillender St.
Ruddle: County
Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
- E6 RODING, Southend Rd.
Ind Coope: Burton Ale
Taylor Walker: Bitter
The latter beer rotates with
Friary Meux: Bitter.
- E15 ALBERT HOUSE, 39 Forest Lane
Mitchells & Butlers:
Springfield Bitter.
- E15 EAGLE, 157 Chobham Rd.
Charrington: IPA
Younger: Scotch Bitter
now a free house.
- NORTH
N20 THREE HORSESHOES, 1166 High Rd.
Wethered: Bitter.

SOUTH EAST

- SE9 CASTLE, 140 Eltham High St.
Charrington: IPA.
- SE17 KINGS HEAD, 204 Walworth Rd.
Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- SE19 WHITE SWAN, 79 Westow Hill.
Bass
Charrington: IPA.
- SE20 ALEXANDRA, 163 Parish Lane,
Watney: Combes Bitter.
- SE20 RAILWAY, 1 Anerley Station Rd.
Watney: Combes Bitter
Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- SE20 THICKET TAVERN, 75 Anerley Rd.
Courage: Best Bitter,
Directors.
- SE23 RAILWAY SIGNAL, 7 Devonshire Rd.
Watney: Combes Bitter
Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.

THORNTON HEATH

- WHEATSHEAF, 759 London Rd.
Charrington IPA.

SOUTH WEST

- SW4 RAILWAY TAVERN,
18 Clapham High St.
Bass
Charrington: IPA
Mitchells & Butlers:
Highgate Old Ale.
- SW16 COBBLESTONES,
440 Streatham High Rd.
Courage: Directors
reopened wine bar.
- SW18 ROUND HOUSE, 2 North Side.
Ruddle: County
Webster: Yorkshire Bitter.
- WEST
W3 ROCKET, 11 Churchfield Rd.
Courage: Best Bitter, Directors.
- W5 THREE PIGEONS, 23 High St.
Courage: Best Bitter
(re-instatement).
- W9 PADDINGTON STOP, 54 Formosa St.
Brakspear: Bitter
(re-instatement).

CHANGES CENTRAL

- W1 BLUE POSTS, 81 Newman St.
-Truman: Bitter, Best Bitter
+Samuel Smith: OBB
now Sam Smith's 13th London tied house (28 & S6).
- W1 ONE TUN
+Mitchells & Butler
Springfield Bitter (30).
- WC1 CALTHORPE ARMS
-Wethered Bitter
+Young: Bitter, Winter Warmer
now a Youngs tied house (32).
- WC1 PRINCESS LOUISE
-beers listed in RBIL except Brakspear:
Special Bitter, Greene King: Abbot,
Ruddle: County
and Samuel Smith: OBB
+Darley: Thorne Best Bitter (OG1038)
+Greene King: IPA
+Vaux: Sunderland Bitter (OG1040),
Samson (OG1042.3)
+Ward: Sheffield Best Bitter (OG1038)
now a Vaux owned 'free house' (32).
- WC1 RUSSELS renamed BLITZ
-beer listed in RBIL
+Truman: Bitter, Sampson
+Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
now video disco bar
(32 & S8).
- WC1 YORKSHIRE GREY
+Yorkshire Grey: Headline Bitter
(OG1037),
Holborn Best Bitter (OG1047)
Clifton Inn's latest brew pub. (33).
- WC2 BLACK HORSE
renamed BRIEF ENCOUNTER
real ale still only downstairs.
Bass now correctly labelled (34).
- WC2 PRINCE OF WALES
renamed CHARLIES (59).
- EC1 ARTILLERY ARMS
-Fuller: Chiswick Bitter
-Greene King: Abbot
-Samuel Smith: OBB
+Fuller: ESB
now a Fullers tied house (37).
- EC1 LEOPARD
-Ind Coope: Burton Ale
-Taylor Walker: Bitter
+Greene King: Abbot
+Young: Bitter
now a Free House (37).
- EC1 SURPRISE
-Benskin: Bitter
-Ind Coope: Burton Ale
+Bass
+Charrington: IPA
+Marston: Burton Bitter, Pedigree
now a Free House (S10).
- EC2 BULL
renamed COLLINS
-Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter
+Manns: IPA (S11).

- EC3 CANTERBURY ARMS
+Brakspear: Bitter (40).
- EC4 GOLDEN FLEECE
-beers listed in RBIL
+Samuel Smith: OBB
Another Free House
acquired by Sam Smiths
with a consequent reduction
in beer choice. (42)
- EC4 PUNCH TAVERN
+Boddington: Bitter
+Courage: Directors
+Tetley: Bitter
+Wadworth: 6x
a renovated Nicholsons free house.
- EC4 RIVERSIDE INN
-Eldridge Pope: Dorchester Bitter,
Dorset IPA
+Arkell: Kingsdown
+Truman: Bitter (43).
- EC4 TIPPERARY
-Everard: Tiger, Old Original
+Greene King: IPA, Abbot
+Rayment: BBA
now a Greene King tied house (43).
- EAST
E3 COBORN ARMS
-Wethered: Bitter
+Young: Bitter, Special Bitter (H),
Winter Warmer (G)
now a Youngs tied house (S15).
- E3 LORD TREDEGAR
+Ind Coope: Burton Ale (47).
- E3 MORGAN ARMS
-Watney: London Bitter
+Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (S15)
- E3 PALM TREE
-Truman: Samson
+Truman: Bitter(H) (S15)
- E11 ELMS
renamed LINCOLNS
-Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter
+Manns: IPA
+Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
a Host Group 'Open House' (52).
- E18 FIR TREES
renamed FIRS
-Manns IPA
-Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter
+Watney: Combe Bitter
+Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
another Host Group 'Open House'
(S19).
- NORTH
N1 GEORGE IV
-Taylor Walker: Bitter
+Thwaites: Best Mild (OG1033)
Bitter (OG1035.5)
now Thwaites first London tied house
(59 & S23).
- BARNET LORD NELSON
-Ind Coope: Bitter
+Greene King: IPA, Abbot
+Ruddle: Bitter, County
now a Free House (67)

ENFIELD	ENFIELD ARMS +Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (S29)	SE21	CROWN & GREYHOUND +Chudley: Local Line Bitter (90).
ENFIELD	PRINCE ALBERT -Truman: Mild +Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (S29)	SE27	RAILWAY renamed BUFFERS (S39).
NEW BARNET	RAILWAY BELL renamed RAT & PARROT -Ind Coope: Burton Ale -Taylor Walker: Bitter +Arkell: Kingsdown. +Darley: Thorne Best Bitter +Marston: Pedigree +Samuel Smith: OBB +Vaux: Samson +Ward: Sheffield Best Bitter now a Vaux owned 'free house' (69 & S29)	SOUTH WEST	
NORTH WEST		SW1	MORPETH ARMS -Watney: London Bitter, Stag Bitter +Young: Bitter, Special Bitter, Winter Warmer now a Youngs tied house (S44).
NW1	NEPTUNE -Taylor Walker: Bitter +Wells: Bitter, Bombardier now Charles Wells fifth London tied house. (71).	SW1	PERSEVERANCE renamed QUEEN OF DENMARK -Watney: London Bitter +Manns: IPA +Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (S44).
NW1	PEMBROKE CASTLE -Flowers: Original Bitter +Brakspear: Bitter (71 & S30)	SW2	HOP POLES -Truman: Bitter, Best Bitter +Webster: Yorkshire Bitter now a Watney tied house (S45)
NW1	WHEATSHEAF +Courage: Best Bitter (72).	SW6	DUKE OF WELLINGTON -Charrington: IPA +Samuel Smith: OBB +Young: Bitter (U10).
NW3	SIR RICHARD STEELE +Mitchells & Butlers: Springfield Bitter (73)	SW6	NELL GWYNNE -Watney: Stag Bitter (S47).
NW3	SWISS COTTAGE -Truman: Sampson +Samuel Smith: OBB now Sam Smith's 14th London tied house (U10).	SW6	NEW GOLDEN LION renamed LEOS -Webster: Yorkshire Bitter +Watney: Combes Bitter (U3).
NW8	CROWN renamed CROCKERS -Brakspear: Special Bitter -Chudley: Bitter -Fuller: London Pride, ESB +Vaux: Sunderland Bitter, Samson +Ward: Sheffield Best Bitter now a Vaux owned 'Free house' (74).	SW6	WHITE HORSE +Mitchells & Butlers: Highgate Dark Mild (OG1036), Highgate Old Ale (OG1055) (109 & S47).
NW10	BUCCANEER renamed BUCKS -Watney: Hammertons Porter +Watney: Coombes Bitter +Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (U12).	SW8	NOTTINGHAM CASTLE -Truman: Prize Mild, Best Bitter +Webster: Yorkshire Bitter +Younger: IPA (U12).
SOUTH EAST		SW10	SWIFTS -Taylor Walker: Bitter, Main line (110 & S48).
SE1	OLD MILLER OF MANSFIELD renamed PERGOLA (80)	SW11	PRINCE OF WALES +Battersea: Nine Elms Mild (OG1040) (U1)
SE1	WINCHESTER +Courage Directors now open 7 days a week (82).	SW11	WOODMAN -beers listed in RBIL except Godson: Black Horse. +Chudley: Local Line Bitter +Hall & Woodhouse: Badger Best Bitter, Tanglefoot now owned by Hall & Woodhouse (111).
SE9	FALCON -Courage: Directors (83)	SW15	FOX & HOUNDS +Greene King: Abbot (113).
SE16	QUEEN VICTORIA -Courage: Directors (U12)	SW15	FRENCH REVOLUTION renamed CRICKETERS (113).
SE18	ANGLESEA ARMS +Shepherd Neame: Mild, Invicta Best Bitter (88).	SW15	HORSESHOE renamed SPORTS -Watney: Stag Bitter +Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (S52).
SE20	DR W.G. GRACE renamed GRACES (S39)		

SW16 GREYHOUND
+Greyhound:
Pedigree XXX Mild (OG 1038)
(113, U12/13)

SW19 OLDE LEATHER BOTTEL
subtle name change to
OLD LEATHER BOTTLE ! (\$50).

KINGSTON
FAIRFIELD TAVERN
renamed NEWT & FERRET
+Bass
+Newt & Ferret: Bitter
+Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
now a Free House.
the "house beer" is thought to be
Truman/Sampson—further information
welcome. (118)

MORDEN
GEORGE
+Courage: Best Bitter (120).

RICHMOND
GREEN CARNATION
renamed BLUE ANCHOR (U3).

SURBITON
MAYPOLE
-Fremlin: Tusker
+Brakspear: Bitter
+Flowers: Original Bitter (122).

WEST
W8 CATHERINE WHEEL
-Bass
+Boddington: Bitter
+Courage: Directors
+Tetley: Bitter
+Wadworth: 6x
A renovated Nicholson's Free
House (127 & S54).

W8 GAIETY
+Brakspear: Bitter (127 & S54).

W8 MACAULEY ARMS
+Brakspear: Bitter
+Flowers: Original Bitter (127)

W10 LADS OF THE VILLAGE
renamed VILLAGE INN
+Ruddle: County
+Young: Bitter (127 & U7)

W12 PRINCESS VICTORIA
-Watney: Stag Bitter
+Ruddle: County
+Watney: Combes Bitter
+Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
Richard Bransons first Virgin pub (\$56).

W14 RADNOR ARMS
-Green King: Abbot
+Marston: Pedigree
+Samuel Smith: OBB
+Bulmer: Traditional Cider
(129, S56 & U12).

HAMPTON COURT
GREYHOUND
-Bass
-Courage: Directors
-Young: Special Bitter
+Greene King: Abbot (132).

HAMPTON HILL
STAR
+Courage: Best Bitter (132).

HARLINGTON
ARIEL HOTEL
-Webster: Yorkshire Bitter
+Truman: Bitter (\$58)

TEDDINGTON
HOGARTH
-Charrington: IPA
+Fuller: Chiswick Bitter,
London Pride, ESB
now a Fullers tied house (\$60).

TWICKENHAM
EEL PIE
-Bass
-Courage: Directors
-Devenish: Wessex Best Bitter
-Everard: Tiger
-Watney: London Bitter
+Chudley: Local Line Bitter
+Flowers: Original Bitter
+Hall & Woodhouse: Badger Best Bitter,
Tanglefoot
now owned by Hall & Woodhouse (136).

UXBRIDGE
FALCON
renamed CONTINENTAL
+Ruddle: County
+Watney: Combes Bitter (U3).

DRINKER QUIZ

This month we offer a quiz designed to tell how well you read each month's issue. Each question can be answered from information in one of last years' Drinkers and the answer in every case is the name of a brewery.

1. Who went East to make it a gross?
2. They teamed up with the Pope's descendants.
3. It isn't a long way now to celebrate your Bingo win with their brews.
4. Dropping the prize leads to a bleak outlook.
5. Their crowning a folly seems to have immortalised the instigator.
6. First a millionaire, now you might think he's in partnership with the bank.
7. Their Star rose over Copenhagen . . .
8. . . whilst their pride became monumental.
9. Their warriors change at Loughborough.
10. Who trained half a kil to twin with a Dublin park?
11. Whose new American could 'spare a dime' ?
12. They put a tiger into Kensington tankards.
13. The north has stranger ways of supplying a pint.
14. Who made it halves in Tolworth ?
15. Do the Maidstone coaches bring their beer all the way to London?

Answers on page 24

I.P.W.

1984: BIG BREWER WE'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU!

The growth in real ale availability in Greater London has slowed down at last. After increases of 11% in 1982 and 13% in 1983, the year 1984 saw a mere 1½% overall increase in pubs selling real ale. In some areas for the first time there was an actual decline in real ale pubs, due mainly to the weeding-out by the brewers of outlets which had shown little enthusiasm for keeping or promoting real ale. To some extent this has been welcomed since such pubs only give real ale a bad name.

Table 1

Real Beer in Greater London by RBIL sector (December 1984)

		Total No of pubs	Real Ale pubs	Real Ale pubs (%)	% change over December '83
Central	West End	336	318	95	+1
	City	257	228	89	+1
East	LPD	768	394	51	-4
	OLD	181	123	68	0
North	LPD	550	353	64	-1
	OLD	98	74	76	+5
N.West	LPD	314	230	73	+3
	OLD	101	78	77	-1
S.East	LPD	885	528	60	+4
	OLD	350	297	85	+4
S.West	LDP	617	508	82	+3
	OLD	244	218	89	0
West	LPD	376	256	68	+1
	OLD	377	296	79	+15
TOTAL		5454	3901	71.5	+1.5

LPD = London Postal Districts. OLD = Outer London Districts. RBIL = Real Beer in London, CAMRA guide

Table 1 shows the relative progress in conversion of pubs to real ale in the different sectors of London. Good progress has been maintained in inner parts of North West, South East and South West London and outer parts of North, South East and West London, where the continued installation of real ale by Courage, Watney and Whitbread has had the most impact. The above average increase during 1983 in East London, however proved to be over-ambitious and 1984 saw an overall decline with real ale being removed mainly from certain Allied, Charrington, Truman and Watney pubs where supplies have been erratic and quality dubious. A similar weeding-out process in North London has however been largely offset by the continuing installation of real ale elsewhere. The West End continues to offer the best chance of obtaining real ale in London with 95% of pubs selling the real thing — at a price. Out in the suburbs, South West London is the most favoured area — estate agents please note !

A more worrying development however, has been an increase in the number of pubs owned by the Big Brewers, insensitively converted to cafes, cocktail and fast-food establishments, almost invariably accompanied by the removal of real ale. Many of these outlets are in prime locations and have previously been popular with real ale drinkers. Roger Warhurst, CAMRA London's Pub Information Co-ordinator analyses the 1984 changes below:—

The major brewers' progress in installing real ale is shown in Table 2. After several lethargic years in which they slipped behind the big brewers, Fullers have finally taken heed and recorded the highest percentage increase of 7%. On the other hand, the number of Allied pubs selling real ale, saw a marked decline of 5% over the year due to a combination of circumstances including indifferent cellarman ship and erratic beer quality. Of the rest, Watney, Whitbread and Courage have maintained steady progress and continue to catch up. Younger and Trumans showed virtually no progress over the year.

The provincial brewers continued to make inroads into London with 80 pubs now owned by out-of-town brewers compared with 63 a year before (see Table 3). Everards, Vaux, Hall and Woodhouse and Thwaites all entered London during the year, although all except Thwaites continue to operate their pubs as 'free houses'. In addition Greene King, McMullen's, Sam Smiths

and Charles Wells all increased their London tied estates. All but 4 of the 80 'provincial' brewers' pubs sell real ale. Not to be outdone, Fullers and Youngs have also been active and both increased their estates in London over the year. Finally 308 (84%) out of 366 free houses sell real ale.

The year sadly saw the loss of two London beers; Trumans Mild finally disappeared after some effort by the brewery to keep it alive — perhaps a greater price differential would have helped. Also Watneys ceased brewing Hammertons Porter thus ending prematurely a short-lived experiment to market a full flavoured dark beer — some would say the best beer Watneys have brewed for years. Ironically as two dark beers

disappeared, two of the most respected dark milds in the country made their first appearance in the Capital, albeit in only one outlet each, namely Thwaites and Highgate Milds.

The squeeze on the small breweries has continued as they fight the big brewers for a place in the 'free' trade. The two main London small breweries, Chudleys and Godsons, wisely amalgamated to combine their efforts. Four new home brew pubs opened during the year; Bruce's Phoenix and Firkin emerged from the ashes of Denmark Hill station, and Clifton Inns (a subsidiary of Grand Metropolitan who own Watneys and Trumans) have commenced brewing at the Greyhound, Streatham SW16, the Jolly Fenman, Blackfen, Sidcup, and the Yorkshire Grey in WC1.

Table 2

Real Ale in Greater London — Big Brewers and Major London Independents (December 1984)

Position	Brewery	Total No of pubs	Real Ale pubs	Real Ale pubs (%)	% change over Dec'83
1 (1)	Young	131	131	100	-
2 (2)	Younger	*46	39	*85	0
3 (3)	Allied	770	588	76	-5
4 (4)	Charrington	994	735	74	+1
5 (6)	Fuller	112	80	71	+7
6 (5)	Watney	1247	855	69	+4
7 (7)	Whitbread	386	254	66	+3
8 (8)	Courage	927	597	64	+2
9 (9)	Truman	395	238	60	0
	TOTAL	5008	3517	70	

(Last year's position in brackets) * 1983 figures corrected

Table 3

Real Ale in Greater London — Provincial Brewers (December 1984)

Brewery	Total No of pubs	Real Ale pubs	Real Ale pubs (%)
†Shepherd Neame	21	21	100
MacMullen	18	15	83
†Samuel Smith	15	15	100
Charles Wells	5	5	100
Greene King	4	4	100
*Hall & Woodhouse	4	4	100
Gibbs Mews	3	2	67
† *Vaux	4	4	100
Eldridge Pope	3	3	100
*Everards	1	1	100
Thwaites	1	1	100
Tolly Cobbold	1	1	100
TOTAL	80	76	95

* Pubs owned by these brewers (together with one Gibbs Mews pub) are operated as 'free houses' also selling real ales from other brewers.

† The above figures do not include a further pub acquired by Sam Smiths but not yet open, a Shepherd Neame pub, closed and for sale, and a Vaux outlet in New Covent Market, not normally accessible to the general public.



REAL MILD in GREATER LONDON

A Guide to the Few Remaining Outlets



The George IV, N.1. Photo: John Elliott

A LONDON DRINKER SUPPLEMENT

A LONDON TRADITION

London has a long but recently faded tradition of brewing mild ales. It is a sad fact that cask conditioned mild is now available in only 14 out of the 5,454 pubs in Greater London, as within the past few years real mild has all but disappeared from the Capital. Courage Mild, Ind Cooper KK, Fullers Hock, Wethereds Mild and, more recently Youngs BMA and Trumans Prize Mild have all been lost over a ten year period with a consequent lack of choice for the London beer drinker.

Despite this sad saga, a stalwart few brewers, against all the odds, maintain supplies to a handful of pubs. Most encouragingly two excellent milds from the Midlands and North West, M&B Highgate and Thwaites, have recently appeared in London on a regular basis and in addition two home brew pubs are showing their commitment by brewing real mild.

There is only one way of enjoying the continued availability of real mild and helping to reverse the trend and that is to go out and drink it! Why not give it a try and help maintain a London tradition.

REAL MILD IN GREATER LONDON

A guide to all known outlets for cask conditioned Mild in the Greater London area.

CENTRAL

WC2 COVENT GARDEN

NAGS HEAD 10 James Street

McMullen: A K Mild

Large busy pub opposite Covent Garden Tube and near Market Hall. Popular meeting place. Country Bitter also available.

NORTH

N1 ISLINGTON

GEORGE IV 60 Copenhagen Street

Thwaites: Best Mild

Tastefully refurbished pub located between the Caledonian and Liverpool Roads. Popular with ex-patriot Lancastrians. First Thwaites pub in London. Bitter also available.

N1 KINGS CROSS

MALT & HOPS, 33 Caledonian Road.

Gibbs Mew: XXX Mild

Enterprising free house owned by Gibbs Mew with a varying selection of real ales. Close to Kings Cross Station. The cask conditioned Mild is unique to the pub.

N7 HOLLOWAY

ADMIRAL MANN, 7 Hargrave Place

McMullen: A K Mild

Popular local tucked away in side street off Brecknock Road near junction with Camden Road. Unspoilt front bar with renovated back bar. Country Bitter also available. Expensive.

BARNET

SEBRIGHT ARMS, 9 Alston Road.

McMullen: A K Mild

Welcoming back street local in middle of residential area, to north of town centre. Excellent traditional public bar with small cosy saloon. One of Barnet's best pubs and has always retained handpumped Mild. Country Bitter also available.

ENFIELD

WONDER, 1 Batley Road.

McMullen: A K Mild

Fine locals' pub with largish traditional public bar and small comfortable saloon. Hidden away behind Holly Bush at corner of green just off Chase Side. AK is on pressure in saloon but will be fetched through from public. Honky tonk piano every Sunday. Two real fires. Country Bitter also available.

NEW BARNET

LORD KITCHENER,

49 East Barnet Road.

McMullen: A K Mild

Recently refurbished pub with public bar and cosy saloon. Near to New Barnet BR station. Also close to two other rarities in London — Builders Arms (Greene King) and Rat and Parrot (Vaux). Country Bitter also available.



NORTH WEST

NW3 HAMPSTEAD

NAGS HEAD, 79 Heath Street.

McMullen: A K Mild

Erstwhile CAMRA Investments free house recently acquired by McMullens. The banks of handpumps now rather sadly offer up only two beers. Just up the hill from Hampstead Tube station. Country Bitter also available.

NW8 ST. JOHNS WOOD

BLENHEIM ARMS, 21 Loudon Road.

Greene King: XX Mild

Former Courage pub fairly recently acquired by Greene King. Comfortable L-shaped bar and rather refined clientele as befits the area. Close to South Hampstead North London line BR station, and a short walk from Swiss Cottage Tube. IPA and Abbot Ale also available.

SOUTH EAST

SE18 WOOLWICH

ANGLESEA ARMS, 71 Woolwich New Road.
Shepherd Neame: Mild
Recently renovated one bar Shep's pub not far from the Tramshed Theatre and Woolwich Arsenal BR station. Deservedly popular with workers and shoppers at lunchtime and locals in the evenings. A recent convert to real mild. Pool table. Bitter and Invicta Best Bitter also available.

SE23 FOREST HILL

RAILWAY TELEGRAPH 112 Stanstead Road.
Shepherd Neame: Mild
Imposing corner pub at bend on South Circular Road. Boisterous saloon bar and austere public bar. Has always dispensed handpumped Mild. Bitter, Invicta Best Bitter and Stock Ale also available.



MARKETING BOARD

SOUTH WEST

SW6 PARSONS GREEN

WHITE HORSE, 1 Parsons Green
Mitchells & Butlers: Highgate Dark Mild
Spacious up-market Charrington pub on northern edge of green, popular and often crowded with a fair sprinkling of 'Hoorays' and 'Sloanes'. Only London outlet for Highgate Mild. Well kept cellar with consistent quality. Close to Parsons Green tube station. M&B Springfield Bitter, Bass and Charrington IPA also available, plus Highgate Old in season.

SW11 BATTERSEA

PRINCE OF WALES, 339 Battersea Park Road.
Battersea: Nine Elms Mild
Refurbished home brew pub in spartan style run by Conway Taverns. Jazz on Wednesday and piano Thursday and Sunday lunch. Brewery can be seen through glass window at rear of bar. Home brewed Bitter, Best Bitter and Powerhouse also available.

SW16 STREATHAM

GREYHOUND, 151 Greyhound Lane
Greyhound: Pedigree XXX Mild
Imposing multi-bar mock Tudor Clifton Inns home brew pub, just off Streatham Common. Basic public bar, saloon and lounge, large garden and own car park. Brewery can be viewed at corner of lounge. Home brewed Special Bitter and Streatham Strong also available.

THE MILD BREWERS AND THEIR BEERS.

BATTERSEA, Prince of Wales, Battersea SW11 (home brew) Nine Elms Mild (1040) — a sweet beer.

GIBBS MEW, Salisbury, Wilts.
XXX Mild (1033) — dark and sweet.

GREENE KING, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk and Biggleswade, Beds.
XX Mild (1030.8) — malty and dark.

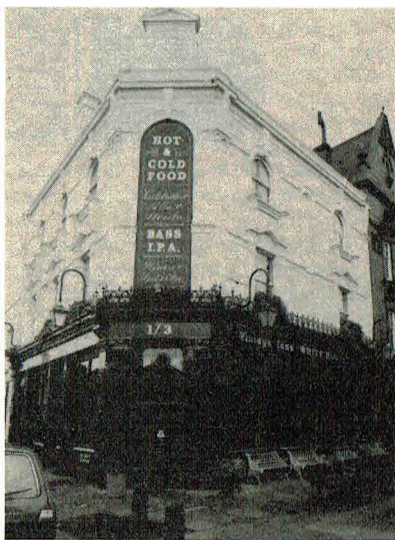
GREYHOUND, Greyhound, Streatham SW16 (home brew).
Pedigree XXX Mild (1038) — fine dark ale.

McMULLEN, Hertford, Herts.
A K Mild (1033) — a light mild — almost a light bitter.

MITCHELLS & BUTLERS HIGHGATE, Walsall, W. Midlands.
Highgate Dark Mild (1036) — a fine dark malty brew.

SHEPHERD NEAME, Faversham, Kent.
Mild (1031) — medium dark, and hoppy.

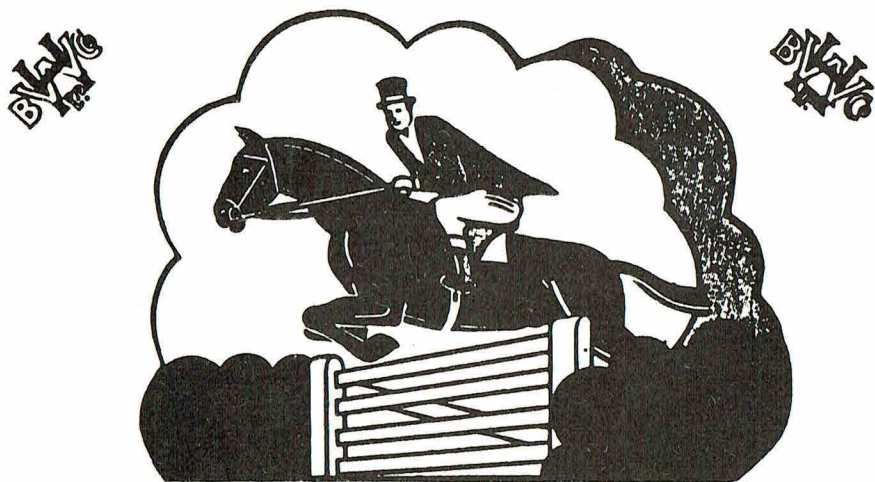
THWAITES, Blackburn, Lancs.
Mild (1031) — Nutty and dark.



The White Horse. Photo: John Elliott

Real Mild is mild brewed from traditional ingredients — malted barley, hops and yeast, kept in casks which allow it to continue 'working' in the pub cellar and dispensed by any method that does not involve the use of extraneous carbon dioxide.

THE HIGHGATE BREWERY



Highgate Dark Mild o.g.1036

now on draught at

THE WHITE HORSE

on Parson's Green

CAMRA COMMEMORATES THE RETIREMENT OF VALUED LANDLORD.

Ken and Val Blincko retired from the Lord Derby Public House in Plumstead SE18 on Monday 24th November 1984. The licence had been in the family for over 30 years during which time only the highest standards were maintained. Despite the 'get-rich-quick' policies of the Big Breweries in the 60's and early 70's Ken insisted on providing what the customer wanted — GOOD QUALITY REAL ALE.

During the early 70's when the Lord Derby was one of the few remaining outposts of Real Ale in the London area, a small group of people got together to form the South East London Branch of the Campaign for Real Ale (SEL CAMRA). It was to commemorate this event and to show our gratitude for his unstinting support to the Real Ale Movement that we made a small presentation to mark his well-earned retirement:



**BRANCH CHAIRMAN JOHN WAINWRIGHT
PRESENTS FRAMED CERTIFICATE TO KEN
BLINCKO**

The Blinckos retire with the Branch's heartfelt thanks and the hope that the incoming 'govnor' is as sensitive to the needs of the community as was Ken and that Courage also see the need to retain this unspoilt local and match the standards of the past 30 years.



*Presented to
Kenneth Frederick Hercules Blincko
at "The Lord Derby" Plumstead
on 26 November 1984*

In recognition of the consistently high standards maintained for the past 30 years both in the provision of excellent real ale, even at a time when this was actively discouraged by brewery policy, and the continuation of a first class traditional local, sensitive to the needs of the neighbourhood.

We are extremely grateful for the past support we have received since the formation of the branch at "The Lord Derby" in 1973, and would like to wish you and your wife a long, healthy and happy retirement, on this the occasion of our Tenth Anniversary.

*Chairman
South East London Branch*

CABBAGE PATCH TO BE DUG UP

Watney Combe Reid plan to close one of their most profitable pubs in Twickenham and build a multi-million pound office development on the site. The pub in question, the Cabbage Patch in London Road, has been a great favourite for many years with the crowds who flock to the Rugby internationals just up the road. The Cabbage Patch was an early nickname for the world-famous Rugby ground. Of more interest to the discerning drinker is that a variety of Watney's draught beers can be supped there in very good condition. Local community groups, including CND and FoE are also concerned with the future of the Cabbage Patch, because the pub has one of the very few function rooms in the area.

Richmond Council, who traditionally have only been too keen to help speculative office development, have rejected Watney's plans to build a four storey 21,500 square feet office block on the site. Now the brewery has appealed to Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, and it seems likely that a public inquiry will be held shortly. Meanwhile local residents are protesting at Watney's plans. A petition, organised by Central Twickenham Labour Party, has already attracted hundreds of signatures. Petition forms are available from John Boaler, 114 Holly Rd, Twickenham (891 5760). It is hoped that readers of *London Drinker* will add their voices to the protest by writing to the Stag Brewery, Mortlake, London SW14. After all there can be very few readers who would rather see yet another office block instead of a traditional pub.

Simon Fowler.

BREWERY NEWS

WATNEYS

We recently heard an interesting tit-bit of news about Websters Yorkshire Bitter, the nationally distributed real beer of the Grand Metropolitan chain; we learn that the beer for the majority of the country is being brewed at Mortlake rather than Websters' brewery in Halifax. Furthermore, we understand that they are proposing to change the Halifax recipe to match the Mortlake one.

We are currently wondering whether trading standards officers may be interested in this news in connection with the Trades Descriptions Act — after all, the Websters pump clip clearly states that the beer is brewed in the Pennines.

On the subject of Websters, we understand that they are unable to meet the demand for Yorkshire Bitter because they are churning out the recently-introduced Budweiser which, some say, they are intending to become the biggest selling lager in the country. (Question — Will it be the World's first pale imitation of a pale imitation?)

Talking about Budweiser we recently heard via a slightly inebriated PR person that the special glass that Watneys are having produced for the brew is being made deliberately undersized — to hold just a little less than a bottle. That way when you (We don't mean you personally — we know you've got too much taste.) pour out your bottle you will think you are getting good value through receiving more than a half pint or whatever. Actually, our informant did his sums by comparing the price with the bottle contents and came up with a price of near enough £1.60 a pint. That's value?

CHARRINGTON,

The Enemy Without . . .

Without feelings for their old customers, that is. For some time CAMRA has been concerned with the actions of the Host Group (The "entertainments" side of Watneys) who, it would appear, want to tamper with the traditional image of the pub. But it seems that as far as East London is concerned our energies should be turned towards Charringtons. After messing about with two pubs in Romford Road, E7, the Live and Let Live and the Rising Sun they have turned their attention towards Stratford. The Queen's Head in West Ham Lane was described in the East London and City Beer Guide as "Basically comfortable red furnished lounge and spartan but friendly public". The

pub sold Charringtons IPA. In December it opened, complete with a wartime-type barrage balloon or blimp flying from the roof, as Le Pub. Gone are the public bar and the real ale. The East End is known for its patriotism (Indeed, the nearby Edward IV was only renamed so when the East Enders took a disliking to its former name, the Empress of Russia during the First World War) so what has French got to do with Stratford?

ALL CHANGE AT ALLIED.

Allied Breweries have announced major boardroom changes and a re-organisation of senior management.

The announcements were made shortly after the resignation of Managing Director Douglas Strachan last month. Five directors have left the Board and three new directors have been appointed from various Allied trading companies.

Richard Martin, from Ind. Coope's Romford Brewery, replaced Douglas Strachan as Managing Director.

Michael Griffiths (ex-Taylor Walker) replaces Roy Moss as joint MD of Ind Cooper; Peter Bentley (ex-Benskins) replaces Tony Warde-Newbury as MD of Joshua Tetley. Both men join the Board under the continuing Chairmanship of Sir Derrick Holden-Brown.

Griffiths is replaced at Taylor Walker by Tony Hales (ex-Halls). The new Halls MD is Roger Young, formerly Allied's technical director. Benskins is now led by David Longbottom, former sales director of Joshua Tetley.

In addition, two new assistant Managing Directors of Allied have been appointed: Warde-Newbury for the South and Moss for the North.

The moves have been widely interpreted as resulting from Allied losing percentage share in the market to major rivals Bass and Whitbread, particularly in lager. And Watneys (with Websters) and Courage (with John Smith) have been successful in selling Yorkshire beers in the South, where as Allied have dragged behind with Tetleys.

However, the changes have been more of a reshuffle of top management, rather than brining in any outsiders, as expected by the City. Allied have so far remained tight-lipped over any resulting changes in beer policy. But they have said that the changes are a further step towards devolution of the company.

This is a prospect that heartens CAMRA's group liaison officer with Allied, Paul Dickinson. He said: "I do hope the changes will result in more devolution, especially on the production side."

When you order your next pint of ale



Ask for the original

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Everards

A Matter of Original Gravity

Not until the beginning of this year has it been compulsory for an indication of alcoholic strength to be given on the label of packaged beer. This surprisingly late development comes not as the result of a flash of inspiration on the part of British brewers, but because of an EEC ruling that came into effect in January.

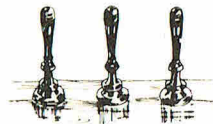
Until this point the strength of bottled beer and lager was indicated by a series of often misleading descriptions whereby a Light Ale is the bottled equivalent of draught 'ordinary' Bitter, but a Pale Ale was its stronger counterpart. But this was not always the case.

Whatever the intention of this ruling, it does have the effect of allowing the consumer to tell, for the first time, if he is getting value for money.

Until the appearance of CAMRA (the Campaign for Real Ale) in the early seventies it seemed likely that traditional and highly individual beers would disappear forever. But CAMRA was a success, forcing the 'Big Six' breweries (Charrington, Allied Breweries, Whitbread, Courage, Scottish and Newcastle, and Watney) to make natural cask-conditioned beer available again. The efforts of the brewers to have us all drinking low-strength, high-profit kegged bitters and British brewed lagers have met with little success. While the rest of the world drinks lager to the exclusion of almost everything else, Britain still sticks solidly to ale, a top-fermenting vessel) and therefore less stable, but usually more complex and satisfying drink.

Most popular British brewed lagers, such as Harp, Skol, Carling, etc are no stronger than an 'ordinary' Bitter or Light Ale but they are likely to be among the most expensive pints available at your local.

Stronger beers will generally cost more to produce than lighter ones because they need a higher concentration of fermentable materials (principally malt) for the yeast to convert into alcohol. The measurement of the amount of fermentable material in the beer before fermentation (original gravity) is also used as the basis, in this country, for the payment of Government excise duty. These two factors should govern the price paid for the beer by the retailer or publican.



Different systems for the measurement of strength operate in different parts of the world. The United States uses percentage by weight, Canada measures by volume and Britain uses the measurement of 'original gravity'.

Although 'original gravity' is not the most accurate method of measuring final strength, it is the most appropriate for use in this country for two reasons. Firstly, as we have seen, it is used for the basis of taxation and, therefore, has a closer tie to price than any other method. Secondly, with so much of the beer drunk in Britain being the cask-conditioned, real ale variety, the beer may vary in strength as it continues to ferment naturally in the cask.

'Original gravity' is a measurement using a hydrometer of the specific gravity of the wort (unfermented beer) before the yeast is added. A measurement of 1000 indicates no sugar present at all. Any figure above that indicates the amount of sugar present in the liquid. This sugar, derived from the malt and cereals used in the brewing process, reacts with the yeast to produce alcohol and carbon dioxide. The higher the 'original gravity', the higher the potential for alcoholic strength.

Finally, it must be remembered that the strength of the beer does not necessarily say anything about the quality. Indeed, some of the finest traditional draught ales available in Britain are the light strength 'ordinary' Bitters as it is these that have been the more popular session drinks in public bars and consequently have received more attention from enthusiastic brewers. Brakspears Bitter (1035), Shepherd Neame Master Brew (1036) and Youngs 'Ordinary' (1036) come to mind in this category.

However, with the drop in beer consumption that has accompanied the recession, good, stronger beers have become more popular and more widely available as pub customers arrive later and drink two or three pints of a stronger ale, rather than five or six (or more) of a light beer.

Martin Davies

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AROUND AND ABOUT

Dropped any clangers lately? Here is your opportunity to put them into motion, if not exactly drop them. Campanology (nothing to do with smokey cooking fires or Larry Grayson), I have just discovered, is an activity whose majority of adherents have a predilection for the good stuff, real ale in this case. One or two of you may be aware that in the East London and City Branch area is one of the few bell foundries in the Country. Are you also aware that there exists the chance to meet members of the band from the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in either the Pride of Spitalfields, Heneage Street, E1 on Thursdays or in the Fish and Ring, White Horse Road, E1. Peter Rayner of the foundry undertakes to give

bell ringing instruction assisted by his wife Liz. "Friday night is music night" could take on a new meaning for you if you turn up at 7.30pm at St. George's in the East, corner of Cannon Street Road and The Highway, E1. Bus 22A goes by the door; also Shadwell tube is only four minutes walk away by fast shanks's. If you get there a bit early the Old Rose sells both Trumans Bitter and Best Bitter.

Staying with things musical, are you jazz buffs aware that Peter Ind, whom most of you will recognise as bass player with Oscar Peterson, has opened a jazz club/bar? It is in Coronet Street, N1 and is called Bass Clef. Pianists perform every weekday lunchtime and there is big band music at weekends. We are not sure if the beer is real, but if not here is an ideal opportunity for doing some campaigning.



China calls

New brewery pioneer, Peter Austin of Ringwood Brewery, has been invited by the Chinese Embassy in London to visit China to discuss the advantages of each community in the rural areas having its own small brewery producing draught beer, as against a few high technology breweries mass producing bottled or canned beer.

Give it the quick elbow!

Just when you thought it was safe to go in the pub again, now that space invaders have been repulsed, along comes a muscle-bound machine to kick sand in the screens of all the video games.

The Mr Universe of the bar gimmick trade is the Arm Wrestler, which was launched last month by MILL (Modern International Leisure Limited for long). And I can tell you there will be trouble at MILL if one of these monsters invades my bar.

Looking like a cross between a Dalek and a dustbin, the Arm Pit is out "to muscle-in on the lucrative leisure market."

It replaces the traditional sleeves-up, elbows-down contest, with an electronic imitation in which sex and weight are taken into account.

It also stops cheating by fitting sensors into the pads, grips and seats to check you are not rising up or moving your elbow. Sounds like it has taken all the fun out of what used to be a good rough and tumble contest.

And at the same time made you pay 10p for the privilege of taking part.

Landlord devises beer dispense system

From "The Pubican"

A Berkshire pubican has developed a device which, he says, can dispense first class cask-conditioned ale with the minimum of effort and at the same time prolong the beer's peak quality. The Top Draft Dispense System was devised by Bill Rice of the Fox and Castle, Old Windsor, originally for personal use. Rice, who is also an engineer, sought an alternative to the traditional stillage method of dispense, to cut down on heavy work.

Top Draft is a retractable spear system which fits into the tapping bung of a cask placed on end in place of an ordinary tap. The cask is vented initially through the tapping bung.

But Rice stresses, the device is not connected with any other syphon system. It is of stainless steel construction throughout and consequently cannot affect the quality or flavour of the beer. Advantages which Rice is claiming for the system include: no lifting onto stillions; the barrels are vertical with tapping in that position — if key breaks there is no mess or wastage in the cellar; space saving; clear beer is obtained immediately; the design of the unit ensures that when the beer pump is activated no disruption occurs in the cask at any stage throughout its life; cleaning beer lines is easier.

A Pint a Day Keeps The Doctor Away

Did you know that if you enjoy a drink you are less likely to suffer from chronic illness, disability or infirmity than a teetotaler? The Government's General Household Survey for 1982 (just published) reveals that the section of the population reporting the highest incidence of long-term sickness was among those who did not drink — 50% of men and 53% of women abstainers had long-term illness, disability or infirmity compared with 35% of men and 38% of women in the population as a whole, and says the survey, a similar pattern was evident in the relationship between drinking and acute sickness.

The message seems clear, for a long healthy life, pop into your local regularly for a few pints of elixir!

Adrian Wood

Family way

London independents, Fuller, Smith & Turner, are keeping the Chiswick brewery firmly in the family, with the election last month of 35-year-old Tim Turner and 33-year-old Michael Turner to the board. Tim is the Griffin Brewery's tied-trade director; Michael handles wines and spirits. The appointments perpetuate an unbroken line of the Turner family with the brewery since 1845.



Answers to DRINKER Quiz.

1. Young
 2. Whitbread (with Brakspear)
 3. Greene King (Tipperrary)
 4. Truman (Mild)
 5. Vaux (Crockers)
 6. Chudley (& Godson)
 7. Thwaites
 8. Fullers
 9. Brixton Brewery
 10. Bruce (Phoenix)
 11. Watney (Budweiser)
 12. Everard (Radnor)
 13. Boddington (Strangeways)
 14. Courage
 15. Shepherd Neame (Invicta)
-

A Terminal Case

Merton gets chuffed

When you come to the end of the line and departure time approacheth, what better way to take leave of friends and familiar surroundings than over a pint of good ale? When King Edward VII, while still Prince of Wales, was believed to be dying of typhoid in 1871, the first intelligible words he uttered on recovering were a request for a bottle of Bass's Ale. In fact it was only his mother, Queen Victoria, who couldn't understand – his friends were too tactful to translate his largely unprintable ramblings. Anyway, his words were wise indeed – he lived nearly 40 more years and reigned for just under a decade. Incidentally, the Bass brewery gave 10,000 gallons of beer to celebrate his coronation, which almost didn't take place; on the day appointed Good King Edward was undergoing emergency surgery for appendicitis, but insisted that the festivities proceed (you can't do much with all that stale beer, let alone the food which would have gone to waste) to be followed by a very modest "Half-Crownation" as it was popularly termed, at a later date.



Our Victorian forebears were great railway travellers; the infernal combustion engine was in its infancy, planes hadn't been invented, and only a few balloonatics travelled in the air. As you may have already guessed, my opening lines refer not to departure for a better world but to a different location. It is perhaps inevitable that many railway stations have a buffet and, more to the point, a bar. As partial compensation for its multifarious shortcomings, British Snail usually comes up with a good pint of real ale at a reasonable price. Due to various rules and regulations, London's mainline termini are, by and large, some distance from the centre of the Metropolis. The Royal Commission for Metropolitan Termini of 1846 forbade the building of any termini nearer to the City than the line of New Road (now Euston Road), City Road, Finsbury Square and Bishopsgate Street – hence the line of Paddington (1854), Marylebone (1899), Euston (1837), St. Pancras (1868) and King's Cross (1852). Only one line was allowed inside the City of London – despite the fact that it was the centre of World commerce – before; the closest the

world's first Underground railway, the Metropolitan, was allowed to come in 1863 was some yards outside the boundary at the junction of Farringdon Road and Cowcross Street.

This isn't actually a crawl, although some sections can be treated as such. But it is a comprehensive guide (at the time of writing) to real ale at London rail termini, with one or two venues added for good measures. It follows a clockwise, vaguely circular route, from the most Westerly terminus to the most Southerly. All are near the Underground, and most, but not all, are on the Circle Line. My notes are laid out as follows:

- (a) Reference number – see map.
- (b) Name.
- (c) Date of opening on the site.
- (d) Name of original and subsequent owners (initials only after the first reference) – it may help to bear in mind that all were formed into the "Big Four" of the Great Western (which remained as such from 1833 to 1947), London, Midland & Scottish, London & North-Eastern, and Southern, on 1st January 1923, and merged as British Railways (which I have not indicated) on 1st January 1948.
- (e) Notes of interest.
- (f) Real Ales available or alternative source.
- (g) Opening hours if different from the local norm.
- (h) Name of nearest tube station if different from that of the terminus. Also the line if it is not on the Circle Line.

1. PADDINGTON. 16th Jan 1854, Great Western Rly. Built by Brunel to replace the original building a few yards away (on the site of the Goods Station) which was opened on 4th June 1838; and on 13th June 1842 was the station chosen by the 23 year old Queen Victoria for her first rail journey, accompanied by Prince Albert, to Slough (max. speed 44mph) for transfer to Windsor by coach. The 2 latter towns were later connected by a branch line built largely to serve Windsor Castle.

The present station has changed little in 130 years, although no grass has grown in living memory on the concourse, still sometimes referred to as The Lawn. This was the first major station to be lit by electricity, in November 1880, when it must have been quite a sight with highly-polished Broad Gauge locomotives hauling such exotically-named trains as the Zulu, the Flying Dutchman and the Cornishman. There were Royal

apartments on Platform 1, until recently used as a bar selling Real Ale, which is now obtainable in:

THE KNIGHTS AND HERALDS BAR
Bass, Arkells BBB, Chiltern Beechwood

2. MARYLEBONE, 9th March 1899. Great Central Railway; London, Midland & Scottish Railway.

London's most recent terminus, built for the last main line into the Capital, which was also the first to close; it now only serves 35 miles of the former G.C.R., as far as Aylesbury, and is currently under threat of closure in 1986. The former Hotel is now the Headquarters of British Rail.

VICTORIA and ALBERT BARS.

Chiltern, Ruddles Rutland & County, Sam Smiths, Greene King IPA, Boddingtons, Shepherd Neame Bitter.

Happy Hour 7 to 9pm Tuesdays & Wednesdays, a third off. Interesting railway photographs on the walls. The Albert Bar was formerly a dining room, and was opened in 1977. Good Beer Guide entry. Closed Sunday. Evening closing 10.30.



3. BAKER STREET. Metropolitan Railway; London Transport. 10th January 1863. Terminus of the Metropolitan surface lines to Uxbridge and Watford, Platforms 5 & 6 have been restored to almost their original appearance as a through station on the world's first Underground. Originally built to take trains on the G.W.R. broad gauge of 7'0½" (hence the extra-wide tunnels) with a third rail to take Standard (4'8½") gauge. The changeover took place soon after following a disagreement between the G.W.R. and the Met., who then borrowed stock from the Great Northern Railway until their own was built. The first trains were, of course, steam hauled, and all of the stations were originally open to the sky. The line was built by Cut and Cover which involved digging a trench in the road, laying the track then building the tunnels

before refilling to ground level. The first engines were heated by white-hot bricks and steam condensed in the water tanks after use — which naturally led to boiling-over. Nevertheless, a masterpiece of Victorian ingenuity. You might as well take a train ride to or from here and see the station, as you need a valid ticket to get past the barrier and into:

MORIARTY'S

Truman Bitter, Best and Sampson.

For the uninitiated, Professor Moriarty was the sworn enemy of Sherlock Holmes, whose fictional home was 221B Baker Street, and the decor reflects this connection.

4. EUSTON. 13th July 1837. London & Birmingham Railway; London & North-Western Railway; L.M.S.R.

Terminus of the first main line to reach London, very little remains of the original building in this architectural equivalent of Red Barrel, which was opened by the Queen 16 years ago. The first train to arrive here marked the occasion by running into the buffers, much to the chagrin of 150 passengers in its 14 four-wheeled carriages. The 10 am departure has been known as the Royal Scot since 15th February 1848, although the timing has since altered. The first train in London ran on a circular demonstration track in Euston Square in 1808, and the world's first Railway Hotel was built here in 1839. On 22nd August 1895, at the climax of the Railway Races to the North, a train from Euston set a world record by covering the 541 miles to Aberdeen in 512 minutes, averaging 63.39 mph including three 2-minute engine changes at Crewe, Carlisle and Perth. Its rival the same day, on the 52½ mile East Coast route from King's Cross, took 6 minutes longer, averaging 60.66 mph.

CONCOURSE BAR.

Taylor Walker Bitter and Bass.

Northern & Victoria Lines.

Euston Square, Circle Line.



Chug along to p 27



A Terminal Case Continued

5. **ST. PANCRAS.** 1st October 1868. Midland Railway, L.M.S.R. Possibly the epitome of Victorian architecture, the Midland Hotel (which forms the view from the road) was reputedly built to a design originally intended for the Houses of Parliament. Built well above road level so that trains could pass over the station, it stands on cast-iron pillars — the undercroft was for years a store for casks of beer. The roof, when first built, was the largest single span roof in the world.

THE SHIRES BAR.

Greene King Abbot, Ruddles County & Rutland, Arkell's BBB, Sam Smith's, Boddington's, Ind Coope Burton, Chiltern Beechwood. 14 pumps. GOOD BEER GUIDE.

6. **KING'S CROSS.** 15th July 1852. G.N.R., London & North Eastern Railway.

Built by Cubbitt to replace a temporary terminus in Maiden Lane nearby, (opened 7/8/1850), from the outside this station looks remarkably modern considering its age. Queen Boadicea is said to have been buried below where Platform 7 now stands after her defeat by the Romans in AD 71. Leaving here, trains dive under the same canal which caused its

neighbour to be built so high. The station, unusually, has 2 real ale bars.

YORK BAR.

Bass, John Arkell Bitter, Sam Smith's, Ruddle's Rutland, Courage Directors. Old prints of York on the walls.

EUROPA LOUNGE.

Sam Smith's, Arkells BBB.

Next door Potter's Bar in the Great Northern Hotel sells Ruddles County and Rutland Bitter, and Sam Smith's.

7. **FARRINGDON.** 10th January 1863, Met & L.T. The original City terminus of the Metropolitan Railway, now part of the Circle Line.

The JOINT & GEM by the street entrance. Truman Bitter, Best and Sampson.

UNDERGROUND

8. **BROAD STREET.** 1st November 1865. North London Railway, L.M.S. Built high above street level without vehicle access, this architectural curiosity has a war memorial on the concourse. Real ale is served below the terminus in: *TURNER'S* — a free house. *Greene King Abbot & IPA, Monday to Friday, 11.30-3, 5-9. Liverpool St. underground.*

9. **LIVERPOOL STREET.** 2nd February 1874. Great Eastern Railway, L.N.E.R. Replaced the Bishopsgate terminus (formerly Shoreditch — opened 1/7/1840) of the Eastern Counties Railway which was first built to the unusual gauge of 5 feet and renamed the G.E.R. in 1862. *APPLES & PEARS BAR.* Predictably under a staircase, opposite Platforms 16-18. *Arkells, Wethereds, Ind Coope Bitter & Burton, Bass, Tolly Cobbold Original. Mon-Sat 11.30-3, 5-10.30. THE JAZZ BAR opposite platforms 5 & 6. Ruddles County, Bass, Taylor Walker Bitter, Arkells. Hours as above. The name of this bar is taken from the nickname of the rapid service of brightly painted commuter trains in the period 1920-6. The adjective which springs to mind concerning jazz is erratic — surely that wasn't meant? The photos on the wall will delight the railway enthusiast.*

Students of the bizarre might like to know that on this station the Police had to go to the rescue of the original Elephant Man from a curious and hostile crowd. In the pocket of this hideously deformed man — whose real name was John Merrick — they found the visiting card of Frederick Treves, a doctor at a nearby hospital, who had seen him at a freak show. The good doctor was contacted and managed to arrange for him to live the rest of his short tragic life in some degree of comfort, privacy and, one hopes, happiness. **Next time: Into the City.**

DEAR DIPSY

DEAR DIPSY, You perform such a wonderful service for people who find life rather a trial and I'm sure that those in trouble gain great help from your words of wisdom. I thought it might help other readers to hear of a success story. Thanks to Dipsy!

I wrote to you when I was made redundant as a beer taster at Yates and Jackson and you advised me to make a fresh start. I gave it great thought and then it came to me in a sudden flash of inspiration. There are kissograms, strippograms, fat ladygrams, tarzangrams, suckagrams etc. Why not offer a similar service to London Drinker readers?

I got together a group of like-minded enthusiasts and we now offer a wide range of services to make that special occasion extra-special. We have; the bearded man with the huge beer gut-ogram; the pee in a yard of ale-ogram, the beer bore of the year-ogram, the "How many ticks have you got in your Good Beer Guide?"-ogram.

Future services to be offered (when the right kind of person can be recruited) are; the drink you under the table-ogram, the "I thought women were more than mere sex objects until I discovered real beer,"-ogram. A popular birthday treat will be the "I can drink 20 pints without puking up"-ogram, closely followed by the "I can puke up 20 pints without having a drink."-ogram.

So, dear reader, do not lose hope. With Dipsy, you can make it!

S.RADGE.

DEAR S. RADGE, Thank you for such a heartening letter. More power to your elbow!

DIPSY.

DEAR DIPSY, I have this overwhelming desire to wear women's underwear under my pin-stripes when I go to work. Somehow without their support I feel uneasy drinking lunchtime lager. Is this wrong?.

CLAUDE, Poncers End.

DEAR CLAUDE, If you're French, there's no problem because you're a woman. If not, the one thing that you won't get from women's underwear is support – in the appropriate places. But I think your problem is a deeper one of a deeply traumatic nature, possibly caused by drinking lager at an early age and failing to grow out of it. Perhaps you could wean yourself out of this uncomfortable fixation by stages. Start with a little rubber with an imported lager, then drinking German beer

with lederhosen under your trousers. By the time you graduate to Young's Special and jockstraps you will feel a new man – but of course you will no longer want to, if you see what I mean.

DIPSY.



DEAR DIPSY, My husband says that if he does not go to the pub every night and drink at least five pints of Fuller's ESB he will turn into a frog. Can this be true?

EGGBURTHA, Strood.

DEAR EGGBURTHA I think your husband is having just a harmless little joke with you, don't you? Perhaps you should tell him that you have always fancied frogs (with or without garlic butter) so the risk might not be too great!

DIPSY.

DIPSY, I have just read the letter what you sent to my dear wife Eggburtha. I have had a good number going these past ten years and now you sod it up. If you don't write back to her sharp and straighten her out I will come round the London Drinker Office and use your fingers for a xylophone.

HENGIST, Strood.

DEAR EGGBURTHA, Since my last letter I have read some interesting medical research in the Auchtermuchty Medical Practitioners' Journal to the effect that 1 in 500 men are affected by a strange condition called Grimm's disease, where a deficiency in Alpha Acid and malted riboflavin can lead to the skin turning green and the voice harshening in tone to a croak. Extreme cases can lead to a lengthening of the legs and a craving for water. Perhaps therefore you should approach this matter a bit more delicately. He may be being brave.

DIPSY.

Continued opposite

JOIN CAMRA NOW and have fun protecting your pint!

FULL MEMBERSHIP OF CAMRA offers you:

- A member's handbook
- 12 copies of "What's Brewing" - the Campaign's entertaining and highly regarded monthly newspaper.
- Generous discounts on a wide range of CAMRA products and publications (including the best selling GOOD BEER GUIDE).
- An invitation to join in all CAMRA activities such as brewery trips, branch meetings, socials, conferences and beer exhibitions.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I/We wish to become a member(s) of the CAMPAIGN FOR REAL ALE LTD.

I/We agree to abide by the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the CAMPAIGN.

I enclose £7 (£10 overseas) for FULL MEMBERSHIP

We enclose £7 for HUSBAND AND WIFE MEMBERSHIP

(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.



DEAR DIPSY, What kind of dingo's kidneys are you feeding me? He WAS a bloody frog till I kissed him. Now I can't get rid of him and he's eating me out of house and garden pond. I ask you a straight question and I get this. All I want to know is if the sod can get by on McDonnell's Sledgehammer because it's a bloody sight cheaper.

EGGBURTHA, Strood.

DEAR EGGBURTHA AND HENGIST - Dipsy is not a ruddy vet, and Strood isn't even in London.

This correspondence is now closed.

THE EDITORS.

P.S. We suggest you approach a Mr. Whitta from your area who managed to change back from a frog by giving up ESB.

DIPSY will shortly become the operator of an Escort Agency which will provide young ladies of a sheltered background with 15st real-ale-drinking bearded escorts to accompany them to the public bars of Stoke Newington, Bermondsey and Wandsworth. Very small charges will be made for this valuable public service, designed to show that there is life beyond Duran Duran (wherever that is). Readers wishing to assist in the operation of this service as "gurgolos" are asked to contact Dipsy as soon as possible for audition sessions. Please bring diplomas, Camra membership cards and kidney donor cards. Massage Couch will be supplied.

RARE REMAINS

Archaeologists who stumbled upon an old Roman civic centre in Southwark, London, recently, have announced an even stranger find on the surface, discovered before digging down to unearth their fourth-century coins and other relics. It is believed to be a 20th century brewery. Historians are claiming this to be evidence of ale brewing by one of the six biggest tribes of the Britons - Courage. The tribe are known to have fallen foul of the dreaded disease Megakergerus, and had to decamp to Reading, Berks.

Where to buy London Drinker

OUTLETS — EAST and SOUTH EAST PUBS

- EC1 ARTILERRY ARMS, 102 Bunhill Row.
 EC1 STICK & WEASEL, 273 City Road.
 EC1 THREE HORSESHOES, Clerkenwell Green.
 EC1 YORKSHIRE GREY, Greys Inn Road.
 EC4 BLACKFRIAR, 174 Queen Victoria Street.
 EC4 WILLIAMSON'S TAVERN, Groveland Ct. Bow Lane.
 E1 FISH & RING, 141A White Horse Road.
 E1 PRIDE OF SPITALFIELD, 3 Heneage Street.
 E1 ROMFORD ARMS, 3 Heneage Street.
 E2 APPROACH TAVERN, 47 Approach Road.
 E2 MARKSMAN, 254 Hackney Road.
 E5 BACCHUS' BIN 5-9 Leytonstone Road.
 E9 CHESHAM ARMS, 15 Mehetabel Road.
 E9 ROYAL STANDARD, 84 Victoria Park Road.
 E10 NORTHCOTE, 110 Grove Green Road.
 ONGAR KINGS HEAD, High Street.
 SE1 ANCHOR & HOPE, The Cut.
 SE1 BUTTS, Elephant & Castle.
 SE1 COPPER, 208 Tower Bridge Road.
 SE1 DOGGETTS, Blackfriars Bridge.
 SE1 GOOSE & FIRKIN, 47 Borough Road.
 SE1 HORSESHOE, Melior Street.
 SE1 MUDLARK, Montague Close.
 SE1 PINEAPPLE, 53 Hercules Road.
 SE1 UNION JACK, Union Street.
 SE1 WELLINGTON, Waterloo Road.
 SE3 BRITISH OAK, 109 Old Dover Road.
 SE4 WICKHAM ARMS, Upper Brockley Road.
 SE5 PHOENIX & FIRKIN, Denmark Hill Station, Windsor Walk.
 SE5 WICKWOOD TAVERN, 58 Flaxman Road.
 SE7 ANTIGALLICAN, 428 Woolwich Road.
 SE10 NORTH POLE, 131 Greenwich High Road.
 SE10 ROYAL GEORGE, Bisset Street.
 SE12 SUMMERFIELD TAVERN, Lee.
 SE13 DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, High Street.
 SE15 MAN OF KENT, Nunhead Green.
 SE15 OLD NUN'S HEAD, Nunhead Green.
 SE16 BLACKSMITH'S ARMS, 257 Rotherhithe Street.
 SE16 PRINCE OF ORANGE, 118 Lower Road.
 SE17 TANKARD, Walworth Road.
 SE18 MELBOURNE ARMS, 81 Sandy Hill Road.
 SE18 QUEEN VICTORIA, 118 Wellington Street.
 SE18 VILLAGE BLACKSMITH, Hillreach.
 SE19 QUEENS ARMS, Westow Hill.
 SE19 ROYAL ALBERT, Westow Hill.
 SE20 GOLDEN LION, Maple Road.
 SE24 COMMERCIAL, 11 Raiton Road, Herne Hill.
 SE27 GIPSY QUEEN, Norwood High Street.
 SE27 HOPE, Norwood High Street.
 BECKENHAM JOLLY WOODMAN, Chancery Lane.
 BEXLEY BLUE ANCHOR, Bridgen Road.
 CROYDON LION, Pawns Road.
 CROYDON SHIP, 47 High Street.
 CROYDON TWO BREWERS, 221 Gloucester Road.
 HADLOW DOWN (E.Sussex) NEW INN.
 SEAFORD (Sussex) WHITE LION, Claremont Road.

OFF TRADE

- E4 Waltham Wines, 72 Sewardstone Road.
 SE3 Bitter Experience, 128 Lee Road.
 SE11 Majestic Wine Warehouse, Vauxhall Cross.
 SE23 2 Brewers, 97 Dartmouth Road.
 SE27 Traders, 8 Norwood High Street.
 BEXLEYHEATH Bitter Experience, 216 Broadway.
 BROMLEY Bitter End, 139 Masons Hill.
 SEAFORD, (E.Sussex) Betta Wines, Broad St.

OUTLETS—

WEST CENTRAL, AND NORTH PUBS

- WC1 LAMB, Lamb's Conduit Street
 WC1 MOON, 18 New North Street.
 WC1 PAKENHAM ARMS, 1 Pakenham Street.
 WC1 SUN, 63 Lamb's Conduit Street.
 WC2 CROWN & ANCHOR, 22 Neal Street.
 WC2 GEORGE IV, 28 Portugal Street.
 N1 CAMPBELLS, 21 Bridport Place.
 N1 CROWN, Cloudesley Road.
 N1 GEORGE IV, Copenhagen Street.
 N1 LORD WOLSELEY, White Lion Street.
 N1 MALT & HOPS, 33 Caledonian Road.
 N1 PRINCE ARTHUR, 49 Brunswick Place.
 N1 SWAN TAVERN, 125 Caledonian Road.
 N2 FIVE BELLS, East End Road.
 N2 WELCH BROS. 130 East Finchley High Road.

- N2 WINDSOR CASTLE, The Walk Church Street.
 N4 MARLES, 29 Crouch Hill.
 N6 DUKES HEAD, 16 Highgate High Street.
 N6 VICTORIA, 28 North Hill.
 N7 BALMORAL CASTLE, Caledonian Road.
 N8 HARRINGAY ARMS, 153 Crouch Hill.
 N8 PRINCESS ALEXANDRA, Park Road.
 N12 COACH STOP, Ballards Lane.
 N12 MOSS HALL TAVERN, 283 Ballards Lane.
 N16 ROSE & CROWN, 199 Stoke Newington, Church Street.
 N19 MARLERS, 19 Archway Road.
 N20 BULL & BUTCHER, 1277 High Road, Whetstone.
 N20 CAVALIER, 67 Russell Lane.
 N22 NAGS HEAD, 203 High Street.
 N22 STARTING GATE, Buckingham Road.
 NW1 LANDSDOWNE, 90 Gloucester Avenue.
 NW1 VICTORIA, 2 Mornington Terrace.
 NW3 WELLS HOTEL, 30 Wells Walk.
 NW4 GREYHOUND, Church End, Greyhound Hill.
 NW4 THE MANNINGS, Brent Street.
 NW4 MIDLAND HOTEL, Station Road.
 NW4 WHITE BEAR, 56 The Burroughs.
 NW7 RAILWAY TAVERN, Hale Lane.
 NW7 RISING SUN, Highwood Hill.
 NW10 GRAND JUNCTION ARMS, Acton Lane.
 BARNET ALEXANDRA, Wood Street.
 BARNET SEBRIGHT ARMS, Alston Road.
 EDGWARE CORNERHOUSE HOTEL, Stonegrove.
 EDGWARE RAILWAY HOTEL, Station Road.
 ENFIELD CRICKETERS ARMS, 19 Chse S&C Placc.
 ENFIELD GOAT, 27 Forty Hill.
 ENFIELD KING & TINKER, Whitewebbs Road.
 ENFIELD KINGS HEAD, Market Place.
 NEW BARNET BUILDERS ARMS, 3 Albert Road.
 GLASGOW ALLISON ARMS, 720-722 Pollokshaws Road.
 RICHMOND (Yorks) TAN HILL INN, Keld.
 MANCHESTER JOLLY ANGLER, Ducie Street.
 STEVENAGE (Herts) RED LION, High St. Old Town.
 STOCKPORT (Gtr Manchester) NEW INN, Wellington Rd. Sth.

OFF TRADE

- N1 TWO BREWERS, Pitfield Street
 N11 Originales, Friern Barnet Road.
 N13 Originales, 68 Aldermans Hill.
 N15 Majestic, Colina Mews Park Road.
 NW3 Vinebins, 150 Haverstock Hill.
 NW6 Grogblossom, 253 West End Lane.

CLUBS

- N22 Wood Green Labour Club, Stuart Crescent.

OUTLETS — SOUTH-WEST/WEST

- SW1 BARLEY MOW, Horseferry Road.
 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 Square.
 SW2 ELM PARK TAVERN, Elm Park Road.
 SW4 JOLLY GARDENERS, 115 St. Alphonsus Road.
 SW4 RAILWAY, Clapham High Road.
 SW6 WHITE HORSE, 1 Parson's Green.
 SW7 NORFOLK TAVERN, 2-10 Harrington Road.
 SW8 NOTTINGHAM CASTLE, 257 Wandsworth Road.
 SW8 SURPRISE, 16 Southville, 357 Wandsworth Road.
 SW9 WARRIOR (Brixton Brewery Co.) Coldharbour Lane.
 SW10 CHELSEA RAM, 32 Burnaby Street.
 SW10 FERRET & FIRKIN, 110 Lotts Road.
 SW11 ANCHOR, Holgate Avenue.
 SW11 HABERDASHERS ARMS, Culvert Road.
 SW11 PRINCE OF WALES, Battersea Park Road.
 SW11 WOODMAN, 60 Battersea High Street.
 SW12 BEDFORD HOTEL, Bedford Hill.
 SW12 DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, Balham High Road.
 SW12 PRINCE OF WALES, 270 Cavendish Road.
 SW14 RAILWAY TAVERN, Shen Lane.
 SW15 ARAB BOY, 289 Upper Richmond Road.
 SW15 FOX & HOUNDS, Upper Richmond Road.
 SW15 RAILWAY, Upper Richmond Road.
 SW16 GREYHOUND, Greyhound Lane.
 SW16 LEIGHAM ARMS, 1 Wellfield Road.
 SW18 THE GRAPES, 39 Fairfield Street.
 SW18 BREWERY TAP, Wandsworth High Street.
 SW18 FORESTERS, St. Annes Hill.
 SW18 OLD EAST HILL, Alma Road.
 SW18 SPREAD EAGLE, Wandsworth High Street.

ISLINGTON'S FIRST IN LONDON

Islington's new gateway to the North is the George IV in Copenhagen Street, N.1., a beautifully refurbished pub which is the first in London for Blackburn brewers, Thwaites. The George IV's landlord, Mike Hyslop is encouraging Northern football teams to call in and enjoy a drop of their favourite Northern drink after playing 'down South'. Recently Second Division leaders Blackburn Rovers called in following their one-all draw with Wimbledon. Future sides to visit the George IV will include Bury and Preston.

The George IV is the first of twelve pubs which Thwaites Brewery plan to open in London in the next few years, and although Mike originally comes from Bury, future managers will all be London residents.

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- * The Victory in Kingsland Road E.2 is the only pub in London selling beer at the correct price — i.e. Greene King IPA at 60p and Abbot at 70p a pint!
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Mike Hyslop, landlord of the George IV (centre) with members of Second Division leaders Blackburn Rovers' team. Photo: Rick Osman.

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- * The death occurred in January of Bob, the landlord of the Railway Tavern, E.15. The East London & City Branch of CAMRA sends its sympathy to his family. Former ELAC chairman Brian Marsh who has been a customer there for 20 years, attended the funeral. The Railway Tavern, which has an early morning licence, has been in the Good Beer Guide for many years.
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SW19 ALEXANDRA, Wimbledon Hill Road.
 SW19 KINGS HEAD, Merton High Street.
 SW19 LEATHER BOTTLE, Kingston Road.
 SW19 PRINCESS ROYAL, Abbey Road.
 SW19 TRAFALGAR, High Path.
 ARUNDEL, W.Sussex. Museum of Curiosities, High St.
 CARSHALTON SUN INN, North Street.
 EAST MOLESEY STREETS OF LONDON, Bridge Road.
 KINGSTON GAZEBO, Thames Walk.
 KINGSTON KINGSTON MILL, High Street.
 KINGSTON WYCH ELM, Elm Road.
 MITCHAM CRICKETERS, 340 London Road.
 MITCHAM RAVENSBUARY ARMS, Croydon Road.
 MOTSPUR PARK EARL BEATTY
 NORBITON THE NORBITON, Clifton Road.
 RICHMOND ROSE OF YORK, Petersham Road.
 RICHMOND WHITE CROSS, Riverside, Water Lane.
 TORQUAY UPTON VALE
 SURBITON RAILWAY TAVERN, Ewell Road.
 SURBITON VICTORIA, Victoria Road.
 WESTON GREEN GREYHOUND
 W1 ANGEL, Thayer Street.
 W1 ARGYLL ARMS, 18 Argyll Street.
 W1 BRICKLAYERS, Ayrbrook Street.
 W1 BRICKLAYERS, 31 Gresse Street.
 W4 BELL & CROWN, Strand on the Green.
 W5 RED LION, St. Mary's Road.
 W5 NEW INN, St. Mary's Road.

W6 BLACK LION, Black Lion Lane.
 W6 RICHMOND ARMS, 54 Shepherds Bush Road.
 W9 TRUSCOTT ARMS, Shirland Road.
 W10 NARROW BOAT, 346 Ladbroke Grove.
 W10 VILLAGE INN, Kensal Road.
 W11 FROG & FIRKIN, Tavistock Crescent.
 W14 BRITANNIA TAP, 150 Warwick Road.
 W14 RADNOR ARMS, 247 Warwick Road.
 ALPERTON PLEASURE BOAT, Ealing Road.
 BRENTFORD GRIFFIN, Brook Road.
 CRANFORD QUEENS HEAD, 123 High Street.
 GREENFORD BLACKHORSE, Oldfield Lane.
 HAMPTON WINDMILL, Windmill Road.
 HILLINGTON RED LION, Hillingdon Hill.
 HILLINGTON STAR, Uxbridge Road.
 HOUNSLOW CHARIOT, 34 High Street.
 HOUNSLOW CROSS LANCES, Hanworth Road.
 HOUNSLOW EARL RUSSELL, Hanworth Road.
 SUDBURY BLACK HORSE, Harrow Road.
 TEDDINGTON QUEEN DOWAGER, North Lane.
 TWICKENHAM EEL PIE, 9 Church Street.
 TWICKENHAM POPE'S GROTTTO, Cross Deep.
 WEALDSTONE ROYAL OAK, Peel Road.

OFF TRADE

SW11 Majestic Wine Warehouses, Hester Road.
 SW11 39er Webbs Road.
 SW12 Alma's Real Ale Off Licence, 20 Bedford Hill.

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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WED 13th TO FRI 15th MARCH

40 REAL ALES
AND CIDER
FOR EIGN BEERS

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LIVE MUSIC every evening

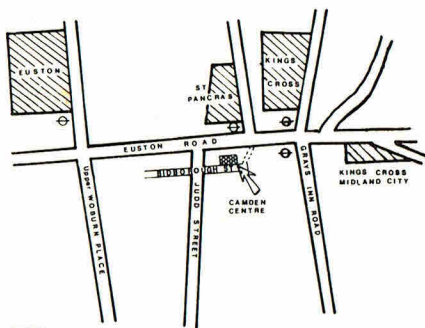
OPEN: 11:30 - 3:00

admission free

5:00 - 10:30

admission £1

no admittance after 10pm



HAPPY HOUR

5-6 pm

on selected beers