

NOV  
1987

# LONDON



25p

# DRINKER



Photo: John Elliott

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

**BEER PRICES  
TO RISE YET  
AGAIN**

Editorial comment  
on page 3.

Vol 9

No.10

# Where to buy London Drinker

## OUTLETS — EAST and SOUTH EAST PUBS

EC1 ARTILLERY ARMS, 102 Bunhill Row.  
 EC1 HORSESHOE, 24, Clerkenwell Close.  
 EC1 STICK & WEASEL, 273 City Road.  
 EC1 YORKSHIRE GREY, Greys Inn Road.  
 EC2 FLEETWOOD, 36 Wilson Street.  
 EC4 BLACKFRIAR, 174 Queen Victoria Street.  
 EC4 DANDY ROLL, Gateway House, Bread Street.  
 EC4 TIPPERARY, Fleet Street.  
 EC4 WILLIAMSON'S TAVERN, Groveland Ct. Bow Lane.  
 E1 FISH & RING, 141A White Horse Road.  
 E1 PRIDE OF SPITALFIELD, 3 Heneage Street.  
 E2 APPROACH TAVERN, 47 Approach Road.  
 E2 MARKSMAN, 254 Hackney Road.  
 E3 PEARLY KING, 94 Bromley High Street.  
 E8 LADY DIANA, 95 Forest Road.  
 E9 CHESHAM ARMS, 15 Mehetabel Road.  
 E9 FALCON & FIRKIN, 274 Victoria Park Rd.  
 E9 ROYAL STANDARD, 84 Victoria Park Road.  
 E10 AUCTIONEER, 597 Lea Bridge Road.  
 E11 NORTHCOTE, 110 Grove Green Road.  
 E17 COLLEGE ARMS, 807-809 Forest Road.  
 SE1 ANCHOR & HOPE, The Cut.  
 SE1 ANCHOR TAP, 28 Horselydown Lane.  
 SE1 BUNCH OF GRAPES, 2 St Thomas Street.  
 SE1 COPPER, 208 Tower Bridge Road.  
 SE1 DOGGETTS, Blackfriars Bridge.  
 SE1 GOOSE & FIRKIN, 47 Borough Road.  
 SE1 HORNIMAN AT HAYS, St. Martins Walk, Tooley St.  
 SE1 KINGS ARMS, Roupell Street.  
 SE1 WELLINGTON, Waterloo Road.  
 SE5 PHOENIX & FIRKIN, Denmark Hill Station, Windsor Walk.  
 SE5 WICKWOOD TAVERN, 58 Flaxman Road.  
 SE7 McDONNELLS, 428 Woolwich Road.  
 SE9 GREYHOUND, High Street.  
 SE10 ROYAL GEORGE, Bisset Street.  
 SE13 FOX & FIRKIN, 316 Lewisham High Street.  
 SE16 BLACKSMITH'S ARMS, 257 Rotherhithe Street.  
 SE16 MANOR TAVERN, 78 Galleywall Road.  
 SE16 MAYFLOWER, 117 Rotherhithe Street.  
 SE16 SHIP, St. Marychurch Street.  
 SE18 MELBOURNE ARMS, 81 Sandy Hill Road.  
 SE18 QUEEN VICTORIA, 118 Wellington Street.  
 SE18 VILLAGE BLACKSMITH, Hillreach.  
 SE19 RAILWAY BELL, Cawnpore Road.  
 SE19 ROYAL ALBERT, Westow Hill.  
 SE20 GOLDEN LION, Maple Road.  
 SE20 HOP EXCHANGE, Maple Road.  
 SE24 COMMERCIAL, 11 Raiton Road, Herne Hill.  
 SE25 ALBERT, Harrington Road.  
 SE25 GOAT HOUSE, 2 Penge Road.  
 SE25 SHIP, 55 High Street.  
 SE26 DULWICH WOOD HOUSE, 39 Sydenham Hill.  
 SE26 GREYHOUND, 315 Kirkdale.  
 SE27 GIPSY QUEEN, West Norwood High St.  
 SE27 HOPE, 49 West Norwood High St.  
 BEXLEY BLUE ANCHOR, Bridgen Road.  
 CROYDON DOG & BULL, Surrey Street.  
 CROYDON LION, Pawsons Road.  
 CROYDON TWO BREWERS, 221 Gloucester Road.  
 SIDCUP JOLLY FENMAN, 66 Blackfen Road.  
 THORNTON HEATH FOUNTAIN HEAD, 114 Parchmore Road.

## OFFTRADE

E4 Waltham Wines, 72 Sewardstone Road.  
 SE3 Bitter Experience, 128 Lee Road.  
 SE10 Hardy's, 90 Trafalgar Road.  
 SE23 2 Brewers, 97 Dartmouth Road.  
 BEXLEYHEATH Bitter Experience, 216 Broadway.  
 BROMLEY Bitter End, 139 Masons Hill.  
**CLUBS**  
 CROYDON Ruskin House, 23 Coombe Road.

## OUTLETS—

### WEST CENTRAL AND NORTH PUBS

WC1 CALTHORPE ARMS, 252 Grays Inn Road.  
 WC1 CITTIE OF YORKE, 22 High Holborn.  
 WC1 DOLPHIN, 44 Red Lion Street.  
 WC1 HANSLER ARMS, Kings Cross Road.  
 WC1 LAMB, Lamb's Conduit Street  
 WC1 MABEL'S, 9 Mableton Place  
 WC1 MARLBOROUGH ARMS, Torrington Place.  
 WC1 MOON, 18 New North Street.

WC1 PAKENHAM ARMS, 1 Pakenham Street.  
 WC1 SUN, 63 Lamb's Conduit Street.  
 WC2 CHANDOS, 29 St Martin's Lane.  
 WC2 CROWN & ANCHOR, 22 Neal Street.  
 WC2 GEORGE IV, 28 Portugal Street.  
 WC2 MARQUESS OF ANGLESEY, 39 Bow Street.  
 WC2 SHIP & SHOVEL, 2 Craven Passage.  
 N1 CARPENTERS ARMS, 21 Bridport Place.  
 N1 CLOTHWORKER'S ARMS, 52 Arlington Avenue.  
 N1 COMPTON ARMS, 4 Compton Avenue.  
 N1 GEORGE IV, Copenhagen Street.  
 N1 HEMINGFORD ARMS, 158 Hemingford Road.  
 N1 KINGS HEAD, 59 Essex Road.  
 N1 LORD WOLSELEY, 55 White Lion Street.  
 N1 MALT & HOPS, 33 Caledonian Road.  
 N1 PRINCE ALBERT, 16 Elia Street.  
 N1 PRINCE ARTHUR, 49 Brunswick Place.  
 N1 ROSEMARY BRANCH, 2 Shepperton Road.  
 N1 ROYAL OAK, 140 Offord Road.  
 N2 OLD WHITE LION, Great North Road.  
 N2 WINDSOR CASTLE, The Walks, Church Lane.  
 N4 MARLERS, 29 Crouch Hill.  
 N4 MORTIMER ARMS, Green Lanes.  
 N4 WHITE LION OF MORTIMER, Stroud Green Road.  
 N6 WRESTLERS, 98 North Road.  
 N6 VICTORIA, 28 North Hill.  
 N7 BALMORAL CASTLE, Caledonian Road.  
 N7 FAT HARRY'S, 60 Isledon Road.  
 N7 FLOUNDER & FIRKIN, 54 Holloway Road.  
 N7 RAILWAY TAVERN, 10 Roman Way.  
 N12 MOSS HALL TAVERN, 283 Ballards Lane.  
 N12 TILTED GLASS, Ballards Lane, North Finchley.  
 N14 MERRYHILLS, Bramley Road.  
 N15 GOAT, 414 West Green Road.  
 N15 K.K. McCools, 265 West Hall Road.  
 N16 ROSE & CROWN, 199 Stoke Newington Church Street.  
 N16 TANNERS HALL, 145 Stoke Newington High Road.  
 N17 BOAR, 413 Lordship Lane.  
 N19 DOG, 19 Archway Road.  
 N19 J.J. MOONS, 37 Landseer Road.  
 N20 BULL & BUTCHER, 1277 High Road, Whetstone.  
 N20 CAVALIER, 67 Russell Lane.  
 NW1 PRINCE GEORGE OF CUMBERLAND, 195 Albany Street.  
 NW1 VICTORIA, 2 Mornington Terrace.  
 NW1 VICTORIA & ALBERT BARS, Marylebone Station.  
 NW3 SWISS COTTAGE, 98 Finchley Road.  
 NW3 WASHINGTON, 50 Englands Lane.  
 NW4 GREYHOUND, Church End, Greyhound Hill.  
 NW4 MIDLAND HOTEL, Station Road.  
 NW4 WHITE BEAR, 56 The Burroughs.  
 NW6 BRITANNIA, Belsize Road.  
 NW7 RAILWAY TAVERN, Hale Lane.  
 NW7 RISING SUN, Highwood Hill.  
 NW8 CROCKERS, Aberdeen Place.  
 NW8 ORDNANCE, 29 Ordnance Hill.  
 NW9 GEORGE, 234 Church Lane.  
 NW10 GRAND JUNCTION ARMS, Acton Lane.  
 BARNET ALEXANDRA, Wood Street.  
 BARNET SEBRIGHT ARMS, Alston Road.  
 BARNET WEAVER, Green Hill Parade.  
 ENFIELD KINGS HEAD, Market Place.  
 ENFIELD OLD WHEATSEAF, 3 Windmill Hill.  
 NEW BARNET BUILDERS ARMS, 3 Albert Road.

## OFFTRADE

N1 Beer Shop, Pitfield Street  
 N13 Originales, 68 Aldermans Hill.  
 NW1 Camden Real Ale, 4 Ferdinand Street.  
 NW6 Grogblossom, 253 West End Lane.

## OUTLETS — SOUTH-WEST/WEST

SW1 BARLEY MOW, Horsellery Road.  
 SW1 BUCKINGHAM ARMS, Petty France.  
 SW1 FOX & HOUNDS, Passmore Street.  
 SW1 MORPETH ARMS, Millbank.  
 SW1 PAVLOURS ARMS, Page Street.  
 SW2 RED LION, 48 Parliament Street.  
 SW2 TWO WOODCOCKS, 45 Tulse Hill.  
 SW3 ROSE, 86 Fulham Road.  
 SW3 SURPRISE, 6 Christchurch Terrace.  
 SW4 RAILWAY, Clapham High Road.

Continued on p. 31



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## EDITORIAL



This year's bad summer has resulted in a poor harvest and that, it seems, is to be the next excuse for putting up the price of beer. As cereal crops are stockpiled for years, it will be some time before the shortage is felt - and then, no doubt, the same excuse will be used. It's high time something was done to bring the price of beer **DOWN**.

*Mart Smith*

*Branch Diary is on Page 9*



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## BEER GUIDES

The 1988 GOOD BEER GUIDE is now available from your local Branch, or direct from CAMRA Headquarters, 34 Alma Road, St. Albans, Herts AL1 3BW.

Local Guides **SHOULD** be available from Branches, but in case of difficulty the suppliers are as follows:

**EAST LONDON & CITY:** Pete Roberts, 34 Meadow Way, Upminster, Essex — £2.25 plus 38p postage.

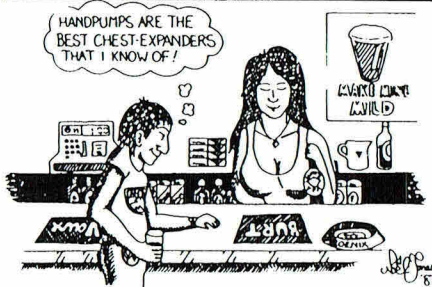
**ESSEX:** Phil Cunningham, 4 Hilltop Close, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 7TD. £2.50 inc. p&p, cheques payable to CAMRA Essex.

**NORTH LONDON:** Steve Barnes, 25 Old Kenton Lane, London NW9 9ND £2.50. Cheques and Postal Orders payable to CAMRA North London.

**SOUTH EAST LONDON:** Now out of print. New guide available in May 1988.

**SOUTH WEST LONDON:** Martin Smith, 64 Brailsford Road, London SW2 2TF. £2.50 inc. p&p. cheques payable to CAMRA South-West London Beer Guide.

**SURREY:** William Hill, Pendennis, Frimley Road, Ash Vale, Aldershot, Hants GU. £1.95 plus 26p s.a.e. 9x5".



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

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Andy Pirson, 22 Fulwell Road, Teddington, Middx. TW11 0RA. 01-077 1633.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** (£4.60 for 1 year) should be sent to: Stan Tompkins, 122 Manor Way, Uxbridge, Middlesex.

**ADVERTISING:** Barry Tillbrook. Tel: 403 7500 (W) or 989 7523 (after 7pm).

Camera-Ready Copy to Martin Smith — address above

Deadline for the December/January edition, 2nd November. Material for February edition to arrive by 2nd January. Please be sure to send diary material to Andy Pirson.

"Pubs wishing to place quarter page greetings adverts in the December issue should contact Martin Smith **IMMEDIATELY**".

## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS



Dear Editors

A piece of pub news for your magazine. The Lord Raglan, 392 Wandsworth Road, London SW8 has now re-opened as Buckleys after internal and external re-furbishment.

Despite the 'cafe-bar' sounding name, the pub is now a cleaned-up lounge with new timber overbar; decorative glassworks and screens; cast-iron furniture and new seating bays. There is a small food service area offering very reasonably priced snacks and meals. Upstairs is a refurbished function room and roof garden. The beers on handpump are — Brakspears Bitter (94p — I think!) Fullers London Pride at approx. 96p and Youngs Special Bitter at 99p/£1.00. Guest beers may be considered later if the demand is there.

There are no pub games as the licensee is trying hard to live down the old reputation of this house! (dodgy customers playing pool upstairs!) There is a juke box and a quiet fruit machine.

The landlord also runs the Chequers at Iver in Bucks. (Mr. Tim Buckley after whom the pub is named!).

Yours sincerely

Dave McKerchar, Reading.

Dear Editors,

On perusing my pre-publication copy of the 1988 Good Beer Guide, I was more than somewhat dismayed to see that an excellent pub — the Goat House, South Norwood S.E.25, a superb Fuller's tenancy — has, for reasons known only to the Croydon & Sutton branch of CAMRA, been omitted. Having visited this remarkably pleasant hostelry on numerous occasions over the years, I am at a loss to understand why, especially when members of South-East London and Bromley Branches use it as their "local". One even rates it as his top pub in Greater London, and he is known for being ultra-critical! One can only

presume that C & S's taste buds were on the blink.

So, despite the fact that many London Branches did not take up their full GBG allocations, those of us who appreciate a good atmosphere, superb beer, and a good 'guvnor' and staff, will continue to use and recommend "The Goat House" to all our friends. Roll on the 1989 GBG nominations, by which time the CAMRA 'heavies' will — hopefully — have brought pressure (sic!) to bear on Croydon & Sutton Branch's "inspectors"!

Regards,

*Christian Muteau*

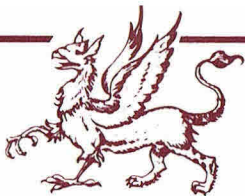
Stephen Green, E.1.  
One of the smaller "heavies".

**Editor's comment:** The above letter came too late to give Croydon & Sutton the opportunity to reply, and this will be offered to them in the next issue should they so wish. However, these columns will not be allowed to become a debating chamber for the merits or otherwise of individual GBG entries, past or present, and no further correspondence on the subject will be published. The correct time to discuss possible entries is at the appropriate selection meeting, and certainly not after the Guide has been published, when it is too late to do anything. Pubs have been known on rare occasions to be struck OUT of a current Good Beer Guide; to insert a substitute is clearly impossible. I know; one former GBG entry I knew well has only just re-appeared after 13 years, despite moves on my part to have it considered throughout that period. Perhaps it is as well to point out that the Good Beer Guide is a SUBJECTIVE selection of pubs — CAMRA doesn't define any particular "best beer" except in competitions, neither does it claim that a pub not included does not sell good beer. Branches have their own reasons for not including pubs, and until the selection system is changed there is no alternative to trusting their discretion. We can, of course, offer our individual selections for their consideration, which they can hardly dismiss out of hand.

Christian was lucky in obtaining an early copy of the 1988 GBG; I had requested one for review in this edition — as happened last November — but none was forthcoming. Now that I do have one, a review will be prepared for inclusion next time.

Martin Smith.





**LATEST PUB:**

**ROSE TAVERN,  
86 FULHAM ROAD, SW3**

*MANAGED BY HUSBAND & WIFE TEAM*

**PAT AND BARRY CANNON.**

**GOOD FOOD. THEATRE CLUB.**

**EXTRACTS FROM THE SUNDAY EXPRESS, 11th OCTOBER 1987 —**

**"THE SUNDAY EXPRESS . . . DECIDED TO SCOUR THE LAND  
FOR THE FINEST PINT MONEY COULD BUY."**

**" . . . WE SAMPLED OVER 70 BREWS."**

**THE SEARCH IS CONCLUDED "FULLERS . . . WITHOUT  
ANY DOUBT IS THE BEST IN BRITAIN!"**

**FULLERS**

**NEWS FROM TAYLOR WALKER**

News has just been received that Taylor Walker have entered into a trading agreement with Youngs. Under this agreement Taylor Walker will sell Youngs Bitter in a number of their houses but we have not yet heard whether Youngs will be taking any beers from Allied to balance the situation.

As we were going to press we received news that Youngs is to go firstly into thirteen pubs which are all located to the west of London. Local CAMRA members have already visited a couple and confirm that the beer has arrived in those. The list of the thirteen pubs received from Taylor Walker by CAMRA's Brewery Liaison Officer, Laurie Gordon, is as follows:—

Mill Hill Hotel	Acton
Pleasure Boat	Alperton
Black Horse	Eastcote
Vine	Hillingdon
Swan	Ruislip
Tally Ho	South Ruislip
Green Man	Stanmore
General Elliott	Uxbridge
Three Tuns	Uxbridge
Royal Oak	Wealdstone
Greyhound	Wembley
Green Man	Wembley

Of these the Tally Ho is currently shut for refurbishment but should be open again by the time that you read this. Similarly, the Vine is also due for temporary closure but should reopen during November.

We understand that this arrangement is intended to be permanent and must therefore, to be economic to Taylor Walker spread to further houses in their estate. We understand that Youngs will also be found in a number of Benskins houses before very much longer.

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**SW LONDON  
OLD FRIENDS DEPT-3**

The branch have recently said farewell to Kevin at The Spread Eagle, Wandsworth, who has supported the Branch and London Drinker over the years. He has left the pub trade to run his family furnishing and carpeting business of Pring & Wheeler Ltd. at 61-63 High Street, Shanklin, I.O.W. He will welcome visits by friends after the usual settling-in period. The Branch wish him every success in his new venture.

C.C.

## ALL IN A PICKLE

As a result of the tasting, by certain of the editorial team and their friends, of some home made pickled eggs that were to be my lunch after visiting the hostleries of Hereford, I have been pestered to produce an article describing the preparation of these delights. Therefore in response I give you not only the directions for pickled eggs but also the recipe for pickled onions, which I understand are a particular favourite of at least one member of the editorship, who it is rumoured is capable of consuming an entire jar at a sitting and whose brother drinks the liquor as a "pick me up" after a night on the beer — still it takes all sorts.

For the Pickled eggs you will need a dozen small eggs (size 5), about a pint of malt vinegar (it is not possible to give a precise amount of vinegar as the quantity required is dependant on the size of the eggs and the pickling jar, what is important is that the eggs be fully covered), a couple of cloves of crushed Garlic, a teaspoon of Allspice, half a teaspoon of Black Pepper and either a teaspoon of ground Ginger or 2 inches of minced fresh Ginger.

Hard boil the eggs for about 15 minutes in water to which a splash of vinegar has been added (this will prevent the egg white from spreading should the shells crack before the eggs have cooked). Remove the eggs from the water, allow to cool then remove the shells. Arrange them in layers in a wide-mouthed jar being careful not to damage the white parts. Heat half of the vinegar with the Allspice, Black Pepper, Ginger and crushed Garlic to extract the flavour from the spices. When this is done, about 20 minutes should be long enough, add the rest of the vinegar and bring to the boil. Strain the hot spiced vinegar over the eggs being sure to cover them completely. When they have cooled seal the jar and store in a cool dark place for at least one month.

Pickled eggs were traditionally prepared around Easter time, when eggs were plentiful and cheap but may be made at other times.

It is the practise when you buy pickle eggs in pubs in certain parts of the country for them to be served up in a packet of crisps. This not only does wonders for the sale of crisps but provides the customer with a minor gourmet delight that goes down well with a pint.

For the Pickled Onions you will need 4 pounds of small onions or shallots and sufficient spiced vinegar to cover the onions. You will also require a quantity of brine sufficient to totally immerse the onions. The strength of the brine should be one tablespoon of salt to every pint of water.

For a quart of spiced vinegar simmer a quart of malt vinegar with an inch of crushed fresh Ginger,

an ounce of Black Pepper corns, an ounce of Mustard seed, eight Cloves, four blades of Mace and two crushed cloves of Garlic for about 20 minutes. Remove from the heat and allow to cool.

Peel the onions and put them to soak in the brine for at least 24 hours. This is most important if the onions are to be crisp as apparently the soaking in the salt solution reduces the amount of water that is held in the cells which make up the onions. During the pickling process the vinegar makes up for the cell's reduced water content and restores the crispness to the onions. If this soaking is omitted the onions will turn out to be soggy as the cells expand and burst as they absorb the vinegar.

When ready, remove the onions from the brine, rinse, drain and dry carefully, arrange them in a wide-mouthed jar and pour in the cooled vinegar, making sure that the onions are fully covered (any surplus vinegar can be bottled and used for your next batch of onions). Seal the jar and store in a cool dark place for at least one month. Optionally, for those who like rather hotter onions, a couple of fresh green Chillies may be placed in the pickling jar with the onions. The best time of year for pickled onions and shallots is during mid August.

MIKE MORAN.

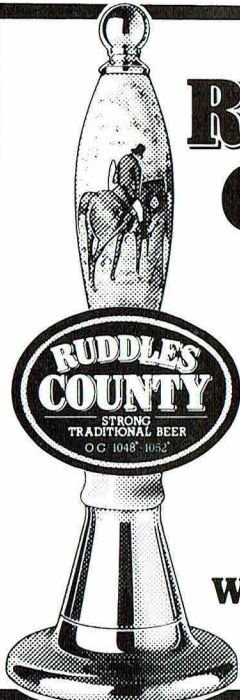
## Strength revealed

ALL alcoholic drinks will have to display their strength in the future. The Government ruling follows an EEC directive that all packaged drinks must show their alcohol percentage by volume. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food decided this should be extended to draught products in pubs. The ruling is expected to come into force by 1989.

Commented CAMRA chairman Jim Scanlon: "This is something we have been working on for a long time. The effects will be very interesting, and I look forward to a great many drinkers being surprised by the actual strength of their session lagers."

*From What's Brewing*





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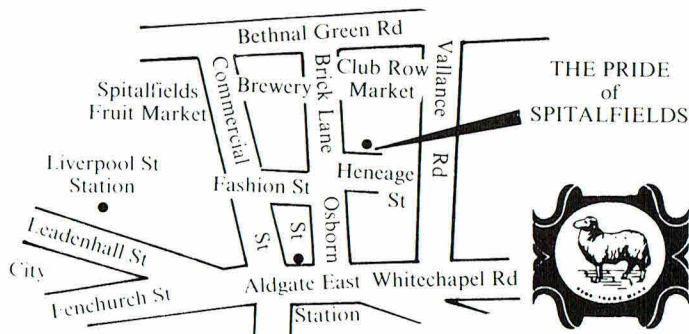
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*Traditional Ales & fine cooked food  
we are near to the City*



**FULLERS**

Pride & ESB

plus a  
Guest ale

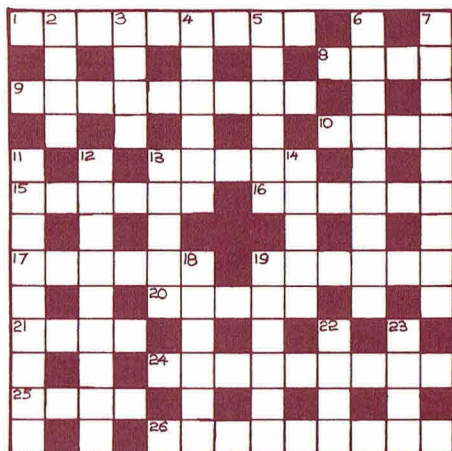
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Special & Ordinary

# LONDON DRINKER CROSSWORD

COMPILED BY DAVE QUINTON

£5 PRIZE TO BE WON



Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

All correct entries received by first post on 25th November will be entered into a draw for the prize.

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

All entries to be submitted to:  
London Drinker Crossword  
25 Valens House  
Upper Tulse Hill  
London SW2 2RX

## ACROSS

1. Point to cheekier supporter. [9]
8. Bet returns to the mountain. [4]
9. Tina's face may captivate. [9]
10. River quietly comes to the sea. [4]
13. Trace broken box. [5]
15. Wish of the French king. [6]
16. Give power in the middle of having spoken a blessing. [6]
17. Move to knock off queen may be a duty. [6]
19. He does nothing but get thinner. [6]
20. He may shuffle with a pack. [5]
21. Also left the instrument. [4]
24. Achiever loves becoming singer. [9]
25. Soldiers drive to attack. [4]
26. Ride range off guard. [9]

## DOWN

2. Study some rare adaptations. [4]
3. Dismiss wine. [4]
4. One thousand on round about. Pay no attention. [6]
5. Decay consumed wheel. [6]
6. It plays the drums. [5,4]
7. Make mistake in file next to fruit. [9]
11. Vegetable top in a plate causes excitement. [9]
12. Mad to find out why I pee scotch. [9]
13. Credit refuse. Disaster will ensue. [5]
14. Go in on tenterhooks. [5]
18. Alternative to the oriental object that woman makes. [6]
19. Agent in rising, even the French Revolution. [6]
22. Grand boy, I'm pleased to say. [4]
23. Only a lake. [4]

## Last Month's Solution



Winner of the prize for the September crossword:  
Sue Warsop, 8 Devonshire Way, Shirley,  
Croydon, Surrey, CR0 8BR.

Other correct entries were received from:  
B.E.Bradley, Brendan Casey, Damien Farrell,  
B.H.Felton, Tom Finucane, Signalman Freud,  
Eileen Graves, Anthony Greenbury,  
Pat Hanson, 'Arry Hart, D.J.Hilditch,  
Maxine Lukehurst, Sharon Moore,  
P.Seud O'Nym, R.Prince, Mrs E.G.Roach,  
Peter Simcox, Eddie Sizsons.

There was also 1 incorrect entry.



## BRANCH DIARY

If your branch is not mentioned please ring the branch contact. Dates for November of which we have been notified are given below. Branches please send information to Andy Pirson. Branch Contacts on Page 29

**EAST LONDON & CITY:** Tue 3 (8.00) Branch Meeting. PRINTER'S DEVIL, 98 Fetter Lane, EC4 — Mon 9 (5.30) Social. EAGLE, 159 Farringdon Road, EC1 (New Banks & Taylor House) — Mon 16 (8.00) Two Pub Social. ACE OF HEARTS, 60 Stepney Green, E1 then BRICKLAYERS ARMS (9.00), 71 Redmans Road, E1 — Mon 23 (5.30) Social, PRINCESS ROYAL, 76/8 Paul Street, EC2 (Recently reopened Whitbread House — Note the smart decor).

**ENFIELD & BARNET:** Tue 3 (9.00) Social. BALD FACED STAG, 69 High Road, East Finchley, N2 — Tue 10 (8.30) Branch Meeting. GREEN DRAGON, 889 Green Lanes, Winchmore Hill, N21 (Guest Speaker: Andrew Marler. Note change of day for this month. Please arrive in time for prompt start). — Wed 18 (8.45) Two Pub Social. BLACK HORSE, Wood Street, Barnet then LORD NELSON (10.00), West End Lane, off Bells Hill, Barnet — Thur 26 (8.45) Two Pub Social, SUN & WOOLPACK, 640 Hertford Road, Enfield Wash then PRINCE ALBERT (10.00), 611 Hertford Road — Tue 1 Dec (9.00) Social, NEW CHANDOS, 31 Colindale Avenue, The Hyde, Colindale, NW9.

**KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD:** Sun 1 (12.00) Two Pub Social. NORBITON, Norbiton; then FLAMINGO & FIRKIN, Kingston — Thur 5 (8.30) Business Meeting. COCOANUT, Mill Street, Kingston — Mon 16 (8.30) Social. FOLEY ARMS, Claygate — Wed 25 Joint Social with Surrey/Hants Borders Branch in Farnham. Ring Branch Contact for details — Sun 6 Dec (12.00) Two Pub Social, BEAR, Oxshott; then VICTORIA, Oxshott — Mon 7 Dec (8.30) Business Meeting. LAMB, Kingston — Sat 19 Dec (8.00) Branch Christmas Party. SWAN, Mill Street, Kingston. Ring Branch Contact for details (Tickets approx. £2.00 Midnight extension applied for) — ADVANCE NOTICE: WED 13 Jan (8.00) Branch AGM, DRUIDS HEAD, Market Place, Kingston.

**RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW:** Wed 11 (8.30) Committee Meeting. BUILDERS ARMS, 38 Field Lane, Teddington — Mon 23 (8.30) Branch Meeting. OLD ANCHOR, 71 Richmond Road, Twickenham.

**SOUTH EAST LONDON:** Mon 2 (8.00) Open Committee Meeting. STREETS, 121 Lower Marsh SE1 — Mon 9 (8.00) Branch Meeting. STATION TAVERN, 18 John Ruskin Street, SE5 — Thur 26 (8.00) Branch Social/Pub Crawl. Start at TANKARD, 111 Kennington Road, SE11.

**SOUTH WEST ESSEX:** Wed 2 (8.30) Social. ALEXANDRA, Warley Hill (B186) Warley (Near to Brentwood Station & Warley Hospital) — Wed 11 (8.30) Branch Meeting, DR JOHNSON, 175 Longwood Gardens, Barkinside (off A406, Woodford Avenue) — Tue 17 to Sat 21 (Lunchtimes? & evenings). Southend Festival of Winter Ales, ESPLANADE PH, Western Esplanade, Southend on Sea — Tue 24 (8.30) Social. TWO BREWERS, 57 Lambourne Road, Chigwell Row — Wed 2 Dec (8.30) Social. ALMA ARMS, Horsemanside, Navestock (O.S. TQ 544961).

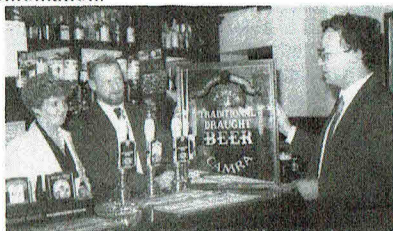
**SOUTH WEST LONDON:** Thur 12 (7.30) Open Committee Meeting. PRINCE OF WALES, Cavendish Road, SW12 — Tue 24 Streatham Crawl. Start MANOR ARMS (7.30) Mitcham Lane, SW16; then EARL FERRERS (8.30), Ellora Road then play it by ear — Thur 10 Dec Putney Social. Warm up at FOX & HOUNDS (6.30), Upper Richmond Road; then ARAB BOY (7.30 — same road) for social.

**WEST LONDON:** Thur 19 (8.00) Branch Meeting. WHITE HORSE, 1 Parsons Green, SW6 — Wed 11 (8.00) Pub of the Month Social, PRIDE OF THE CANAL, 64 Alfred Road, W2 — Sun 29 (12.00) Sunday Social. SUN & 13 CANTONS, 21 Great Pultney Street, Soho, W11.

**WEST MIDDLESEX:** Tue 3 (8.30) Games Evening, L.T. District Line Social Club, Park Place, Acton, W3 (or meet Acton Town Station Booking Hall 8.00 — depart 8.15) — Sat 7 (All day) Out of Branch Crawl to Marlow. Meet Ealing Broadway Station at 9.30 for 9.57 train (Change at Maidenhead). Start MARLOW DONKEY (11.00), Station Road; then PRINCE OF WALES; TWO BREWERS (12.15); CARPENTERS ARMS (1.45 till closing). For further details ring Branch Contact — Tue 10 (8.30) GBG Social. SUDBURY ARMS, Allendale Road, Sudbury Town — Wed 18 (8.30) GBG Branch Meeting, BEACONSFIELD ARMS, West End Road, Southall — Thur 26 GBG Crawl in Fuller Triangle. Start PLOUGH (8.00), Little Ealing Lane; then GLOBE (9.20), Windmill Road, Brentford; LORD NELSON (10.00), Enfield Road, Brentford — Tue 1 Dec (8.30) GBG Games Evening. STAR, Blenheim Parade, Hillingdon.

## SOUTH EAST LONDON — PUBLIC HOUSE OF THE SUMMER SEASON

Ian Warrender and his wife Kirsty of the Anchor Tap Public House near Tower Bridge were delighted to be presented with a Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) Mirror in recognition of their services to the drinking public. Dave Foord Chairman of the local branch said that being voted best pub of the summer season by the members of the South East London Branch of CAMRA was a reflection of the standard of the recent refurbishment and the friendly atmosphere that Ian and his wife had generated in the short time they had been managing the pub following its purchase from Courage and subsequent refurbishment by Samuel Smiths; this had proved to be an unbeatable combination.



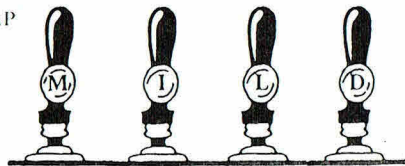
Ian and Kirsty Warrender receiving the mirror for the Anchor Tap, from Dave Foord, South East London CAMRA, on the 1st of September at the Anchor Tap.

## MILD NEWS

Last month we reported that the KINGS ARMS, Hampton Court had stopped selling Adnams Mild owing to a lack of demand. When the manager, Tim Monroe read this piece (which was actually a month later than intended in being published) he told me that they were going to order some more which should be back on by the time that you read this.

Furthermore he reported that the mild has been available continuously at the EEL PIE in Twickenham and that they will also be selling it at the RAILWAY TAVERN in Mortlake (SW14) and the WOODMAN in Battersea (SW11). All of these pubs are, of course, London Drinker outlets.

AP



## BAD BEER TASTINGS

ENJOY AN EVENING WITH SOME WICKED BREWS

- \* PROFILE YOUR TONGUE \*
- \* DETERMINE TASTE SENSITIVITIES \*
- \* IDENTIFY BEER FLAVOURS \*
- \* COMPARE BEER TYPES \*
- \* IDENTIFY OFF FLAVOURS \*

FOR DETAILS AND BOOKINGS CONTACT

**BREWLAB**  
The Brewers Laboratory

c/o Department of Biology  
City of London Polytechnic  
Old Castle Street  
LONDON E17NT  
01283 1030 EXT 413 / 01 801 0610

## JAZZ AT THE AMERSHAM ARMS

338 New Cross Road, London SE14 (opposite New Cross BR/Tube Station)

Jazz sessions are continuing on Thursdays, with late opening until 9pm and Courage Directors and Cask Best Bitter available. The CBB has been on very good form lately, and on special offer (70p) during September. There may be some continuing offers, but this is not certain.

A jazz audience is beginning to build, overcoming local incredulity that jazz should appear in this famous Irish pub. Excellent sessions in September and October have included the well-known Ian Bird Quintet and a "Big Band Special" night with the Johnny Skinner Orchestra and popular vocalist Ron Rogers. Along with other local jazz, the Amersham Arms sessions have formed part of the Lewisham Jazz Festival in October.

The programme for November is expected to include some of the very best of local talent in mainstream and modern jazz and blues. Detailed programmes will be published in the usual magazines, radio stations and local press.

For those who like to combine their real ale drinking with live entertainment, a visit to the Amersham Arms is highly recommended.



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90 AMHURST ROAD  
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WHEN YOU PRODUCE THIS PAGE**

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\* ONE PER CUSTOMER, ONLY AT THE PEMBURY, UNTIL 31st DECEMBER 1987.

CAN'T GET MILD  
IN LONDON?

XXX  
PEDIGREE  
MILD  
O.G. 1034-1036

*Then you can't have been to The Greyhound Brewery.*

The highly acclaimed dark, nutty brew of The Greyhound Brewery at  
151 Greyhound Lane, Streatham, London SW16.

At the 1987 CAMRA Wimbledon Beer Festival it was

**XXX PEDIGREE MILD**

that proved a runaway winner.

Just one of a range of beers – **Greyhound Special**, **Streatham Strong**  
and **Dynamite** – to satisfy the taste of true beer drinkers in South London.



*Hare down to  
The Greyhound now!*

NOW ALSO AVAILABLE AT  
THE SUN  
LAMBS CONDUIT STREET,  
HOLBORN



## NORTH LONDON NEWS

- \* Since my last bulletin, three new pubs have opened in North London. The Wise Serpent at 45 Turnpike Lane, N8 is the latest Liberty Taverns freehouse. The Maid of Muswell at 121 Alexandra Park Road, N10 opened early in September. This is a Charrington house with IPA and Bass, the interior is comfortable, and although there is no special character, it is at least free from muzak and pool tables. The Elbow Room, the latest J.D. Wetherspoon free house at 503 High Road N17 (near Bruce Grove station) opened its doors on September 15th.
- \* Andrew Marler's Liberty Taverns chain is reported to have acquired the architecturally interesting George in Liverpool Road, N1 and the long-closed Hope and Anchor in Upper Street, both formerly Watney houses. The Narrow Boat on the River Lea towpath in Tottenham has been acquired by the J.D. Wetherspoon organisation and is scheduled to re-open this month. This pub was built relatively recently but despite being a free house has not sold Real Ale for some time. More pubs are on the way from both Liberty and Wetherspoons.
- \* Ron and Joyce Skinner have retired from the Jolly Anglers in Station Road, Wood Green, after running this Whitbread pub in traditional style for 11 years. Mrs. Gillian Knight has retired from the historic Flask in Highgate village, also after 11 years. Mrs. Knight took over the tenancy following the death of her husband Stuart, who had been licensee since 1964.
- \* The threat to the well-known boxing pub, the Wellington in Archway Road, Highgate, has been renewed. Esso wish to demolish the pub to expand the adjacent filling station and Watneys, the pub's owners, are apparently willing to go along with these plans. A public enquiry is to be held in December.
- \* The Swiss Chalet at the top of Muswell Hill has been extensively altered and extended and is now a complex called the Swiss Village. Real Ale can be found in "Flanagans Village Bar" where Marstons Pedigree, Courage Best, Old Hookey and Greene King Abbot are on handpump, with Pedigree and Hook Norton Bitter on gravity from water-cooled casks. Inn Leisure, the owners, are featuring the Devenish range of bottled "steam beer" in the Steam Boat cafe in the complex.
- \* The Woodbine in Blackstock Road, N5 is now selling Charrington IPA.

- \* My news of the Victoria in Highgate in the September issue of London Drinker is already history. Nev and Carol have left, a relief manager has been installed and it seems that Baldwin Inns are to relinquish the tenancy.

JOHN CONEN

### WELCOME ABOARD!

## THE SHIP

55 HIGH STREET  
SOUTH NORWOOD  
SE25

SALOON, SNUG &  
GAMES ROOM

BRAKSPEAR BITTER  
GREENE KING I.P.A.

GREENE KING ABBOT ALE  
PLUS REGULAR GUEST BEERS

*Including:*

ADNAMS BITTER  
BADGER BEST  
EVERARDS TIGER

ONLY 5 MINUTES  
FROM NORWOOD JUNCTION STATION

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

I do not believe God means us to divide life into two halves — to wear a grave face on Sunday, and to think it out of place to even so much as mention Him on a week-day. Do you think He cares to hear only tones of prayer ?

Rev. Charles Dodgson (Lewis Carroll): An Easter Greeting.

*Although this was written in a totally different context, these lines might well be applied to Sunday licensing hours — surely, by definition, Sunday is a day of happiness — in celebration of the Resurrection. And equally by definition a pub is the very place to do such celebrating. Yet of all days access to a pub is more limited on Sunday than any other.*

M.S.

# Time to talk to the lager drinker

I HAVE been re-reading John Braine's *Room At The Top*, one of the most famous and influential novels written since the war. It was first published in 1957 and there is a lot about beer and pubs in it.

Joe Lampton, the upwardly mobile prole, drinks in pubs, gets horrendously drunk in one, and arranges his sex life in them. His mistress, Alice, introduces him to the pleasures of the Old Ale in one pub and Joe privately bemoans the fact that it costs two bob a pint.

Alice complains that most men do not take her seriously when she asks for beer and offer her bottled ale or lager. It is the only reference to lager in the book and is dismissed as an irrelevance.

Reading the book again after a break of many years, I was struck by the fact that it could have been written in 1937 or 47, so little does it reflect life in the late 1980s. I suspect that, had it been written a dozen years later, then both Joe and Alice would have been soaking up the lager after a brief flirtation with real ale.

1957 was also the time when I first started drinking in pubs. Like Joe, I did not question the prevailing pub culture of the time. Being grown up meant emulating my father and other adult males by drinking pints of mild or bitter and smoking Woodbines.

The generation that followed kicked over the cultural traces. In the 1960s, many young working-class people followed Joe Lampton by clambering out of the strait-jacket of their social background.

They had money in their pockets and they dumped, often cruelly, the attitudes and mores of their parents. They drank keg bitter because it was modern and "trendy", unlike

that flat, warm stuff their fuddy-duddy elders preferred. They were the flag bearers of the lager revolution.

CAMRA developed rapidly in the early 1970s because it was caught up by a different wave. There was a revulsion against the excesses of the "swinging sixties". It was fashionable to ape tradition. Orchestras played in the style of Glen Miller. Houses reverted to open fires and sash windows. Drinkers extolled the virtues of "traditional beer".

But the young, by and large, did not jump on to that particular bandwagon. They refused to be dragged backwards. They cherished their new-found economic and cultural freedoms. But they did not much like keg beer. They offered a lucrative mass market for large breweries that had been transformed by mergers and takeovers into a vast "leisure industry". Lager had found its launching pad.

If CAMRA is to save and sustain cask beer — and there is nobody else with the commitment to do it — then we must grasp the reality of modern drinking attitudes and the market that cynically and cleverly exploits them. The Campaign often gives the impression that its members still live in 1957.

The world has moved on and threatens to leave us and the beer we cherish behind. Unlocking the door to the lager generation will not be achieved if we use a rusty bent pin borrowed from a museum dedicated to 1950s nostalgia.

Appeals to "tradition" and "heritage" fall on deaf ears. The lager generation does not know the tradition to which we refer. In conjuring up some halcyon past, we have about as much impact as poor old

Michael Foot constantly banging on about Nye Bevan during the 1983 election campaign. The days of welfare orange juice, free false teeth and unquestioning devotion to handpumped beer have gone and will not come back again.

It is not just younger drinkers who consume lager. We have also lost headway among the "opinion formers". Ten years ago, the knowing middle class drank real ale and, just as important, spoke and wrote about its virtues. Pubs were full of people in weekend jeans and Guernsey sweaters prattling about the excellent of Abbot Ale and the exciting news that the original gravity of Draught Bass had been increased.

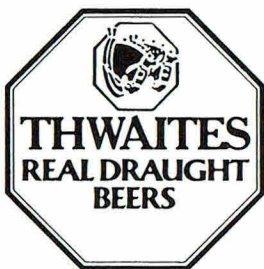
Today they, too, are drinking lager. Not the standardised, blandified mass lagers consumed by the Young Herb-erts in the rock and disco pubs, but quality bottled lager imported from Germany and Holland. They are concerned with healthy living, believe that lager keeps them slim, but may give up alcohol altogether in favour of chilled Perrier with a slice of lemon.

Time is not on our side. I am not one of those who believe that fashions will change and cask beer will become the "in" drink again. The national breweries have too much capital and profit potential built into lager production to let that happen.

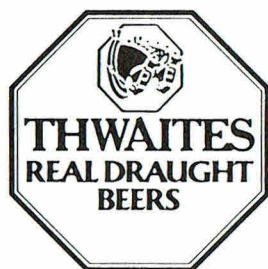
If cask beer is to hang on to a small niche in an increasingly internationalised market then CAMRA, as its champion, has to forge fresh tactics and new ideas. I do not offer any simple solutions or easy panaceas here, just the suggestion that we should devote some time and energy to preparing a strategy for the next

*Continued over*





**GEORGE IV**  
**Copenhagen St.**  
**Islington N1**  
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*Thwaites' first house in London. A home from home  
for all Northerners offering pleasant traditional, warm  
surroundings and our famous traditional ales on  
handpumps:-*

**Thwaites Bitter (O.G. 1036)**  
**Thwaites Best Mild (O.G. 1034)**

Nearest tube: Angel or Kings Cross.

## WHAT ?

September 3, 1887. We sometimes hear from convicts, bitter complaints that they are never forgiven by the police, and that their attempts to gain an honest living on emerging from prison, are counteracted by this unforgiving attitude.

We trust that as a rule this is not true. At the same time we are surprised to notice that at a recent petty sessions court, when the licensing

business came on, a police complaint was made against a landlord, that he was guilty of having a convicted thief in his employ.

It has been rumoured that police are not above employing thieves to catch thieves, so surely a publican has got a right as any man to employ a former thief and give him the chance of turning into an honest man.

*Essex County Times Archives*

few years.

It is a strategy that should eschew appeals to "tradition" and flag-waving, because they are largely meaningless to drinkers who are impressed by the pseudo modernity of lager and the appeal of fake American and Australian brands.

We need a major survey to determine what drinkers think about beer and pubs. We need to stress to brewers willing to listen that their cask beers will not survive — or deserve to survive — if they are churned up like lukewarm frog's spawn.

We may need to make a small concession to modern preferences by arguing for a small reduction in the cellar temperature at which cask beer is kept. We may have to learn to live with the cask breather for low-volume beers — unless, like some obscure political splinter group, we would prefer the principled oblivion of the graveyard to survival in the real world.

We need, above all, a debate in which we talk to other drinkers and pub users and not just to ourselves. If cask beer disappears then CAMRA in-

evitably goes with it, reduced to a grace note in a forthcoming novel about the lager generation called, of course, *Room At The Bottom*.

## Roger Protz

*From What's Brewing*



## OUT OF TOWN – TISBURY, WILTSHIRE

**Editors' Note:** When this article reached us, Merton was preparing for a visit to Salisbury in order to write his April article (leaning spire – did you spot the catch in time?) Tisbury is only a couple of stations further down the line, he decided to visit the town, and his additional comments are shown in *italics*.

Tisbury lies about 15 miles west of Salisbury, and is a little under 2 hours journey from Waterloo station, (a little over on Sunday due to engineering works). The OS grid reference for the station is ST946290 on 1:50,000 sheet 184.

*Enquiries about the origin of the place name brought forth one theory that it comes from the teazel, which grows locally. Unlikely, as the original name – in the late 6th century – was Tissebiri.*

1) The South Western Hotel (Tel.0747 870160) is the first port of call, a free house selling a range of beers from the Wiltshire Brewery Company and Ushers. In common with many pubs in the area they do good grub, reasonably priced bed & brekky (£12 single), and a welcoming log fire in the corner. Heading up the main street on the left is the Brewery.

2) The Crown Inn is just down the road on the right, a very pleasant basic Gibbs Mew local with an outdoor skittle alley at the back, although I didn't try it out myself as I visited it in the depths of winter.

*I did on the way from the station – nice pub,  
friendly guv'nor, good beer – well worth a visit.  
Retracing your steps to the High Street,*

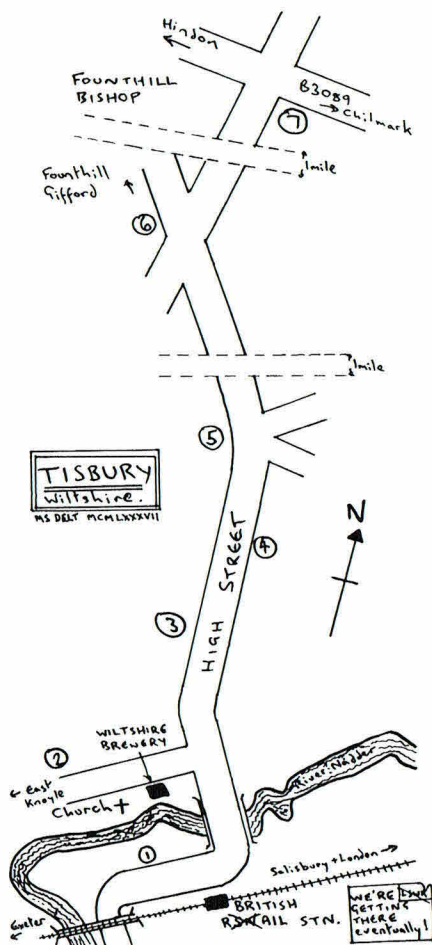
3) The Benett Arms Hotel is on the main street going up the hill, another free house taking beers from the Wiltshire Brewery. Worthy of note amongst the range is a brew called "Weedkiller" mats advertise it as "reaches the roots"!

If you walk down the A350 from East Knowle to Shaftesbury you will come across a road to Tisbury signposted as being 6 Miles away. The enterprising gov'nor of this establishment has erected his own sign to the Benett Arms Hotel-1 1/2 miles.

*At the time of my visit the beers available were Hall & Woodhouse Hector's Ale, Tanglefoot and Badger Best Bitter, Wiltshire Stonehenge and Weedkiller. A large number of other pump clips were also in evidence.*

4) The Boot Inn is a fascinating Eldridge Pope house bearing in the stonework a barely decipherable legend, Bennett and Independence.

*This was the slogan of a politician, John Benett, who used the building as his committee rooms in the eighteenth century. I had some difficulty in finding anything about him, but it seems he married into money and changed his surname to Benett-Stanford. His son reversed this to call himself Stanford-Bennett. In 1762 the pub had 3½ acres of land including a maltster's cottage next door, and paid £1.17.6d rates. On the day of my visit it was closed when I went back for a last drink at 2.25 – five minutes before closing time. The Benett Arms was also busy locking up and I had to return up the hill to the pub described next. The beers on sale are Dorchester Bitter and IPA.*



# LONDON DRINKER



5) At the top of the hill is a Courage house, the Cross Inn. I was there about 9pm one Saturday evening, there being only one other customer in the place, and I had to make do with a bottle of Guinness as a delivery had been missed due to the bad weather. Mind you, every other pub in town had plenty.

*On my visit both Director's and Best Bitter were on offer, but instead I opted for handpumped Taunton Cider as it is something less prolific in London than Courage's admittedly tasty beers. The landlord claims there was once a gallows at the crossroads outside, and indeed the sign shows such a structure. Regulars at the Boot dispute this, and in fact the pub is the last building as you leave the town. It's also as far as I got, so I'll leave the original script intact from this point – Merton.*



6) About 1¼ miles up the road approaching Fonthill Gifford is the Beckford Arms (0747 870385), a very friendly Wadsworths house. B&B here is £10; although my room was freezing cold the breakfast more than made up for any discomfort, but in any case a few pints of 6X (on gravity dispense) in the spit'n sawdust public bar soon put me to sleep.

Tucked away around the corner is the Fonthill Vineyard, which I didn't have time to look at. (In fact I know bugger all about wine apart from the occasional bottle of George Gale's country wines and a slurp of Merrydown now and again). However from a leaflet I picked up in the next pub I learned that it is in the heart of what was William Beckford's Fonthill Estate, that the first planting of 1 acre was in 1979, the first crop in 1982, and by the latest planting in 1983 there were 5 acres containing nearly 6,000 vines.

Apparently they are aiming to become the first producer of red wine in England. As harvesting is usually in the second half of October, group visits are welcome by prior arrangement from June to September. Contact C.P.M. Craig-McFeely at the Old Rectory (0747-870231) or J.F. Edgington on 074789-365.

7) At the Beckford Arms take the right fork, walk another 1¼ miles north to Fonthill Bishop,

turn right and you will find the King's Arms (Tel.074789 523). This is a free house, and has



been run by a very pleasant young couple since August. B&B rates are single £11 and double £20, and in my opinion its the most comfortable of all I have tried in this area. They carry Wadsworth IPA, 6X and Old Timer.

Slightly further afield, its worth mentioning the Black Dog, a Courage pub at Chilmark 2½ miles east of Fonthill Bishop on the B3089. 1½ miles to the west is the village of Hindon in which I found myself one Sunday morning. There is an Ushers pub which I didn't try, and a Wadsworths whose name I forget which I did, and found the most snotty-nosed upper class wallies one could ever wish to meet. They are quite common in these parts, so as a rule I try to stick to public bars wherever possible.



Going South-West from Hindon and turning off the B3089 (A303), after a couple of miles is the village of East Knowle, about 6 miles from Tisbury. There is a Wadsworths pub here, the Seymour Arms (Tel. 074983 374) which does B&B for £10 single.

The whole area is well worth a visit; not only for the beer and pubs but also for some of the most beautiful countryside in the UK and lots more besides.

LARS TORDERS



## HEROES & VILLAINS

When entering some splendid old pub (or even some splendid new pub, although they tend to be more scarce), little thought is given at first to the landlord, especially if the visit is on a passing basis. However, should return visits be contemplated, the landlord becomes an extremely important factor; the making or breaking of the pub.

I have been to numerous pubs which would appear to be wonderful from the outside and even inside all the requirements for an evening's conviviality are present ..... but there is something not quite right. It may be something subtle such as a strained landlord/customer atmosphere or something a little more obvious, such as service with a scowl or threatening to re-arrange your teeth when you point out that his best bitter has all the appearances of a snowstorm paperweight. You've all encountered them. Perhaps your local changed hands and somehow things just weren't the same again.

It's very easy to criticise, but a lot more difficult to define what makes a good landlord, and by good I don't necessarily mean efficient although it certainly helps. I've known great landlords in run-down pubs; the brand of beer wasn't exciting, the pub scruffy and each time I've visited the place I've sworn not to go back, but the landlords have been such good company and the atmosphere just right. When a landlord with all the right qualities can also run a pub efficiently, the result will be a welcoming haven where everyone can relax and unwind from the pressures of the outside world.

Some would say that good landlords are born, not made and I would agree that you certainly need to like people, but experience counts for a great deal. The specification for a good landlord is daunting and generally runs a fine line between undesirable extremes – friendly without being patronising, intelligent and well-informed without being opinionated, witty without being offensive, taking time to talk to both new and familiar faces, and most of all to be master of the mechanics of his trade (a well-kept pint of cask-conditioned ale is one of the best indications of this).

With such requirements, it would not be surprising if the so-called "good" landlord was as common as a vegetarian vulture, but thankfully this is not the case, and a little diligent exploration can usually uncover some prime examples of this much-sought-after species, only too pleased to welcome you to their establishments.

Now – what makes a good customer? Ah, but that's a completely different story!

## CREDIT WHERE CREDIT'S DUE

Not necessarily following on from above, I like to give little plugs now and then to establishments offering exceptional value. This example that I have stumbled upon is not necessarily exceptional, were it tucked away in the countryside; indeed north of Watford it would be regarded as a rip-off, but located where it is in the heart of London, on an embankment

location a few yards away from the Tate Gallery, it most certainly is exceptional.

The Morpeth Arms in Pimlico is a refurbished Young's pub of the high-ceilinged early Victorian style liberally scattered with learned tomes that ought to look out of place but don't. The beer is of consistent quality, the ordinary bitter costing 94p. The service is instantaneous, even when crowded, which it invariably is. I have only visited the place at lunchtime so cannot comment on the evening food, but a home-cooked meat and two veg. of diverse shape and form is a mere £2.

Not surprisingly, the pub was short-listed for last year's Evening Standard Pub of the Year. Having experienced one or two of London's appalling tourist-trap pubs, it is a very fortunate tourist who, after visiting the Tate, stumbles across this superb example of a proper London pub. So for all the culture vultures amongst you who intend going to see the Turners, a further treat awaits you nearby.

*Rob Tough - from Thanet Valley Drinker*

## No way home

It is well known that HM Government is currently looking at proposals making it a criminal offence to serve alcohol to anyone known to be intending to drive themselves home. Merthyr Tydfil Borough Council is planning to go one step further.

Due to the amount of vandalism performed upon late-night bus and train services, the Council is asking licensees in the town not to serve alcohol to anyone planning to go home on public transport. If they think anyone would be likely to walk home with all those drunks about they have another thing coming.

## LAGER

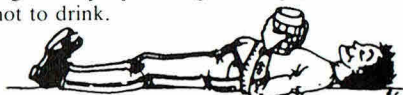
In 1960, just one British beer drinker in 100 ordered lager. Now, only fifty-three in 100 drink bitter.

Women drink five times as much lager as bitter.

Britain's breweries produce about three times as much lager as real ale. About 1.8 million gallons of lager are brewed every day, compared with around 600,000 gallons of real ale.

Last year, £29.6 million was spent advertising ale (bitter and stout). But £53 million, nearly twice as much, was spent advertising lager.

Lager is usually weaker than bitter. A *Which?* report once described British lager as 'more suitable for a maiden aunt of moderate habits than a man who uses his muscles'. But brewers argue that people now go to the pub to socialise, not to drink.





**TIRED OF THE SAME OLD CITY HAUNTS?...**

**WHY NOT TRY —**

## **THE SEKFORDE ARMS**

**FREE HOUSE**

**34 SEKFORDE STREET (off Clerkenwell Green) EC1**

***BEER RANGE FROM:***

**BODDINGTONS BITTER**

**GREENE KING I.P.A. & ABBOT ALE**

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## **JACK SOLDIERS ON**

The Isle of Wight hangs on to its sole remaining independent brewer — thanks to the principled stance taken by its chief, Jack Phillips.

Nationals Bass and Watney are known to have expressed an interest and last year a bid was put on the table. 'There was an offer made', confirmed Jack Phillips, 'but they weren't able to meet our requirements so far as keeping the business going was concerned. They wouldn't give an undertaking not to close the brewery'.

Jack is 70 years of age and 'due for retirement and some rest', and would wish to move on — but only if the brewery stayed working.

'We shall not sell unless guaranteed that the brewery will remain in operation — that's our policy', he declares. 'So far as the future is concerned, we owe a certain allegiance to our staff and to our tenants'.

Meanwhile, Isle of Wight drinkers can continue to enjoy Burt's excellent real ales — at some of the cheapest prices anywhere in the country. Despite a recent increase, after a rents review, Burt's leading brand, the 1040 VPA, costs an average of 70-73p in their 11 houses.

Jack Phillips reports that business is going well

and that two thirds of sales are made to the free trade, mainly on the island. Little goes to the mainland.

The brewery's 150th anniversary comes up in 1990 and one person looking forward to that is liaison officer Martin Milne. 'The beers and the pubs are excellent, so too is Jack Phillips', he says. 'The brewery is extremely important as it is our last. I'm full of admiration for Mr. Phillips'.

---

## **Lacon insult**

How to tarnish a famous brewing name the Whitbread way: the Chiswell Street Charlies have launched 'Lacon's Brewery Lager and Lime'. To add insult to injury the cans even feature the former Great Yarmouth brewers falcon logo. Lacons was taken over by Whitbread in 1965, and closed, of course.

• *For the not too squeamish: Whitbread reveal that 'Lacons is a full-strength quality lager (OG 1030-1034!) with the addition of natural lime concentrate'.*

**LONDON  
DRINKER**

## REAL BEER IN LONDON UPDATE 34.

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. The number in brackets after each entry refers to the page number in 'Real Beer in London'; the Supplement (S prefix), the London Drinker Update number (U prefix), the East London & City Beer Guide, 2nd edition (E prefix), the North London Beer Guide 2nd edition (N prefix), Real Ale in South East London (SE prefix), Real Beer in South West London (SW prefix), or Essex Beer Guide, 7th edition (X prefix).

If you know of any outlet 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.**

### ADDITIONS

#### CENTRAL

**EC1 TURNMILLS**, 63B Clerkenwell Rd. Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. Large basement Free House in former horse bus stables. Open until 1am (2am Friday with music admission charge) closed Sundays.

**EC3 BRITANNIA**, Gartmore House, Monument St. Bass, Charrington: IPA. New Charrington basement bar office development, replacing former pub in Fish Street Hill. Opens 11.30-3, 5-9.30 Mon. to Fri. and 11.30-3 Saturday. Closed Sat. evening and Sunday all day.

#### EAST

**E1 SHIP**, 387 Cable St. Taylor Walker: Best Bitter (re-instatement) (E67).

**E3 ROSE & CROWN**, 8 Stroudley Walk. Ind. Coope: Burton Ale (re-instatement) (E86).

**E9 BRIDGE HOUSE TAVERN**, 179 Ponsford Street. Fuller: ESB, Ruddle: County, Tolly Cobbold: Original. A newly opened Free House, in premises last used as a pub; the **DUCHESS OF KENT**, in 1955 Beers vary.

**E12 VICTORIA CROSS**, Jack Cornwall St. Taylor Walker: Best Bitter (re-instatement) (E127).

**E13 ABBEY ARMS**, 384 Barking Rd. Taylor Walker: Best Bitter (re-instatement) Note correct address (E129).

**E16 TIDAL BASIN TAVERN**, 31 Tidal Basin Rd. Fuller: London Pride, ESB. Latest Fullers tied house, ex Truman. Reverted to original name after spell as **RIVERS**. (E155).

#### NORTH

**N5 WOODBINE**, 215 Blackstock Rd. Charrington: IPA (N57).

**N8 WISE SERPENT**, 45 Turnpike Lane. Boddington: Bitter, Marston: Pedigree, Ruddle: County. Plus 2 house beers entitled 'Liberty Best Bitter' (OG1036) and 'Old Habitual' (OG1047) — origins unknown, information welcome. Latest 'Liberty Inns' Free house in former restaurant premises.

**N10 FLANAGANS VILLAGE BAR**, Swiss Village, 260 Muswell Hill Broadway. Courage: Best Bitter, Greene King: Abbot Ale, Hook Norton: Old Hooky, Marston: Pedigree. Large but gloomy bar at rear of complex including a railway carriage restaurant. (See also **SWISS CHALET** under Deletions).

**N10 MAID OF MUSWELL**, 121 Alexandra Park Rd. Bass, Charrington: IPA. New Charrington pub in former Off Licence premises.

**N17 ELBOW ROOM**, 503 High Rd. Green King: Abbot Ale, Marston: Pedigree, Wadworth: 6X, Younger: Scotch Bitter. Latest Free house from Wetherspoon chain run by Tim Martin in former shop premises. Comfortably furnished with wooden panelling, tilework and rock garden.

#### NORTH WEST

**NW1 EDINBORO CASTLE**, 57 Mornington Terrace. Bass, Charrington: IPA. Formerly **EDINBURGH CASTLE**, re-opened after fire, 3 years ago (re-instatement) (N117).

**NW5 JUNCTION TAVERN**, 101 Fortress Rd. Courage: Best Bitter (re-instatement). (Already in N. guide).

#### SOUTH EAST

**SE1 SWAN & SUGARLOAF**, 55 Dockhead. Ruddle: County, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (SE36, SE-A1).

**SE27 BRICKLAYERS ARMS**, 1 Hamilton Rd. Courage: Directors Bitter (SE174).

**BEXLEY BLACK PRINCE**, Southwold Rd. Bass, Charrington: IPA. Bar now part of Crest Hotel (SE182).

**BEXLEYHEATH ROYAL STANDARD**, 59 Lion Rd. Ind Coope: Burton Ale. (re-instatement) (SE188).

**CRAYFORD DUKE OF WELLINGTON**, 92 London Rd. Ruddle: County, Watney: Combes Bitter, Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (SE201).

**ERITH RUNNING HORSES**, Erith High St. Bass, Charrington: IPA (SE217).

**ST MARY CRAY RED LION**, 259 High St. Courage: Best Bitter (SE225).

**WELLING ROSE & CROWN**, 15 High St. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter (SE238).

#### SOUTH WEST

**SW16 EARL FERRERS**, 29 Eldora Rd. Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter (SW48).

**KINGSTON FLAMINGO & FIRKIN**, 88 London Rd. Bruce: Flamin' Ale (OG1037), Royal Borough Bitter (OG1044), Dogbolter (OG1059). Plus guest beers. Bruce's latest brew pub and eleventh London house. Originally a Watney pub **THREE TUNS**, it has latterly been used by a club. House beers are believed to be kept under a blanket of CO<sub>2</sub>.

### DELETIONS

#### CENTRAL

**EC4 SQUARE RIGGER**, Charrington, demolished (S12, E47).

#### EAST

**E1 BLACK HORSE**, 168 Mile End Rd. Charrington (S14, E54).

**E1 KATHERINE WHEEL**, Charrington (S64, E62).

**W6 COCK**, Charrington (U2, E97).

**E6 WHITE HORSE**, Charrington (S16, E99).

**E9 BEDFORD HOTEL**, Charrington, closed after fire (S17, E113).

**E10 COACH & HORSES**, Charrington (U14, E119).

#### NORTH

**N10 SWISS CHALET**, Now called **STEAM ROCK CAFE AT THE SWISS CHALET**, H removed, (U32, N78) (see also **FLANAGANS VILLAGE BAR** under Additions).

**SE27 BRICKLAYERS ARMS**, 29 Chapel Rd. Charrington, H unused (S39, SE173).

**BELVEDERE HALFWAY HOUSE**, Courage, H removed (U2, SE181).

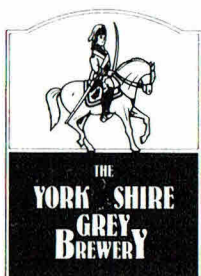
**BEXLEYHEATH KINGS HEAD**, Courage, closed and boarded up (94, SE187).

**ERITH TRAFALGAR**, Truman, H unused (S42, SE218).



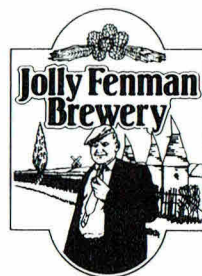
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## **SOUTH WEST**

**SW4 DUKE OF YORK**, Charrington, H removed (S47, SW24).

**SW8 SHAFESBURY**, Charrington, H Unused (109, SW35).

**SW9 PRINCE OF WALES**, Charrington (fizz), closed (SW37).

**SW11 LORD RANELAGH**, Watney (fizz) closed (SW40).

**SW15 DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE**, Charrington, H unused (112, SW46).

**SW16 TUDOR TAVERN**, Free House, fake handpumps (113, SW49).

**MITCHAM POLLARD OAK**, Whitbread, H unused (119, SW68).

**KINGSTON CAMBRIDGE ARMS**, Watney, H removed (S51, SW65).

## **WEST**

**W6 GOLDEN GLOVES**, Charrington, H removed (U33).

**W10 BARNS**, Watney, H unused (U33).

## **CHANGES**

### **CENTRAL**

**EC1 KINGS ARMS**, -Bass, -Charrington: IPA, +Banks & Taylor: Shefford Bitter, St Albans Ale, SOS, SOD. Banks & Taylors 6th London pub, ex Charrington. (37, E18).

**EC4 POPPINJAY**, +Young: Bitter (43, E44).

### **EAST**

**E8 TAYLORS**, Reverted to original name **ROBIN HOOD** (U3, E111).

**E18 NAPIER ARMS**, +Young: Bitter (S19, E167).

**BARKING FLY HOUSE**, Reverted to original name **ROYAL OAK**, +Tetley: Yorkshire Bitter (U23, X14).

**HORNCHURCH HARROW**, -Romford: Brewers Best Bitter, +Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. +Tetley: Yorkshire Bitter (139, S21, X64).

## **NORTH WEST**

**NW8 PORTLAND ARMS**. Renamed **THE THIRD MRS GLOCONDA** (74, N158).

**WEMBLEY GREYHOUND**. +Young: Bitter (U30).

## **SOUTH EAST**

**SE1 TRINITY ARMS**, -Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter. +Banks & Taylor: Shefford Bitter, SOS, SOD. Banks & Taylors 5th London house, ex Courage (81, SE37).

**BEXLEY OLD MILL**, -Ruddle: County, -Watney: Combes Bitter, Stag Bitter. (U12, SE185, SE-A1).

**BROMLEY COMMON BECKETTS**. Reverted to original name **CROOKED BILLET**, (96, SE196).

**KENLEY ROSES**. Reverted to original name **ROSE & CROWN**. +Benskins: Best Bitter, +Ind Coope: Burton Ale, +Tetley: Yorkshire Bitter (102, SE220).

# **BREWERIANA AUCTION**

On Wednesday, the 18th November, Watford & District branch of CAMRA will be holding an auction of various brewery related items. These will include bottles (some of the rarer Silver Jubilee bottles will be available), a set of Victoria brewery pump clips, bar towels, beer mats, glasses (including a genuine Red Barrel mug!), ties (impress your friends with a Hansa lager tie!) and many other items. The location will be the

**PURLEY BOURNE TAVERN**. Renamed **DOG & DUCK**, -Truman: Best Bitter, Sampson Ale. +Ruddle: County, +Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. (U7, SE224).

**ST PAULS CRAY WANDERER**. +Courage: Best Bitter (103, SE227).

## **SOUTH WEST**

**SW8 LORD RAGLAN**. Renamed **BUCKLEYS**. (109, SW33).

**SW9 COACH & HORSES**, -Ind Coope: Burton Ale (SW36).

**SW9 PLOUGH**, -Truman: Best Bitter, +Ruddle: County (SW36).

**SW11 CLOCKHOUSE**, -Bass (SW39).

**SW11 GREYHOUND**, +Bass (SW40, W33).

**SW13 SUN INN**, +Tetley: Yorkshire Bitter (SW43).

**SW18 COUNTRY HOUSE**, -John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter (SW51).

**SW18 ROYAL STANDARD**, +John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter (SW54, U33).

**SW19 ROYAL SIX BELLS**, +Tetley: Yorkshire Bitter (SW56, U29).

**SW19 WOODMAN**, -Boddington: Bitter, +Truman: Sampson Ale. (SW56, U29).

**MITCHAM RAVENSBURY ARMS**, +Tetley: Yorkshire Bitter (SW68).

**MITCHAM THREE KINGS**, -John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter (SW69).

**MITCHAM WINDMILL**, +Tetley: Yorkshire Bitter (SW69).

**MORDEN BEVERLEY**, -Watney: Stag Bitter, +Ruddle: County (SW70).

**MORDEN MORDEN TAVERN**, -Truman: Best Bitter, -Webster: Yorkshire Bitter (SW70).

**SURBITON RENES**, -Gales: HSB, +Tetley: Yorkshire Bitter. Beer varies (U32).

## **WEST**

**W3 MILL HILL TAVERN**, -beer listed in guide, +Taylor Walker: Best Bitter, +Young: Bitter (125).

**W8 JOHNSON ARMS**. Renamed **HILLGATE** (S55).

## **CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 32**

### **ADDITIONS**

**NW7 SWISS HOUSE**. Correct address is 420 Watford Way.

## **CORRECTIONS TO UPDATE 33**

### **ADDITIONS**

**ROMFORD AMALIAS**. Formerly **WOOLPACK**.

**W2 PRINCE OF WALES**. Correct address is 2 Cleveland Terrace.

### **CHANGES**

Headings 'CHANGES' and 'CENTRAL' omitted in error (yet again!) before **W1 BEEHIVE** on page 24.

**ENFIELD TOLLY BUTCHERS**. Should read **JOLLY BUTCHERS**.

upstairs function room of the Wheatsheaf, Lower High Street, Watford (by Bushey arches) and the auction will start at 8.00pm.

**Do you have difficulty in getting your copy of London Drinker? If so, please ask your local outlet to increase its order. It helps us greatly to know of increased orders before printing as we work to a tight budget. It also ensures that potential readers are not disappointed.**

## SOUTH WOODFORD WALKABOUT

*Editor's Note -*

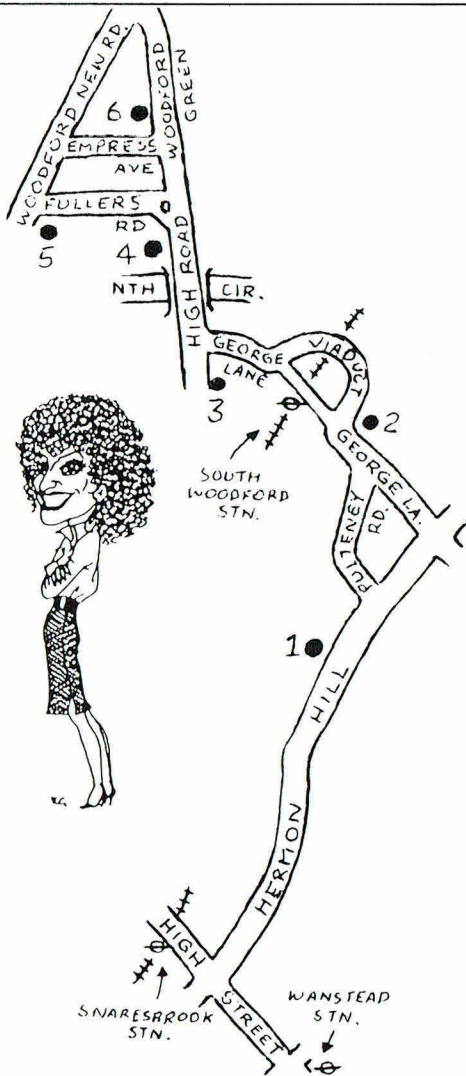
*This article was written in October 1986 and lost in the post for a long time, so the prices are bound to be out of date.*

South Woodford — or E18 — is one of the few London Postal Districts which can claim to be 100% real as regards their pubs. On the other hand though, it is one of the smallest, and indeed only has five pubs to its name. The name Woodford is, as might be expected, derived from a former ford over a river near a wood. The river is the Roding, which flows to the east of the area, whilst the wood was Epping Forest, which still exists, albeit in a much reduced form. South Woodford is bisected by the Epping branch of the Central Line, which first opened in the guise of the Eastern Counties Railway in 1856, being taken over by London Transport in 1947.

It was London Transport which nearly frustrated my attempt to do a crawl of E18. After waiting an age for 148 bus in Ilford to take me to Wanstead, I board instead a (privatised) 145, alighting at its Redbridge Station terminus. Deciding to reach Wanstead by the Central Line, a 20 minute wait on the platform still brings no westbound train (whilst two have gone east). Eventually an announcement is made stating that the next train will be in approximately 7 minutes. At this I decide to bail out, I leave the station and am just in time to catch a Wanstead-bound 148, the very bus I'd been after in the first place! What with traffic congestion along the Eastern Avenue, I arrive at Wanstead considerably behind schedule, and not in the best temperament.

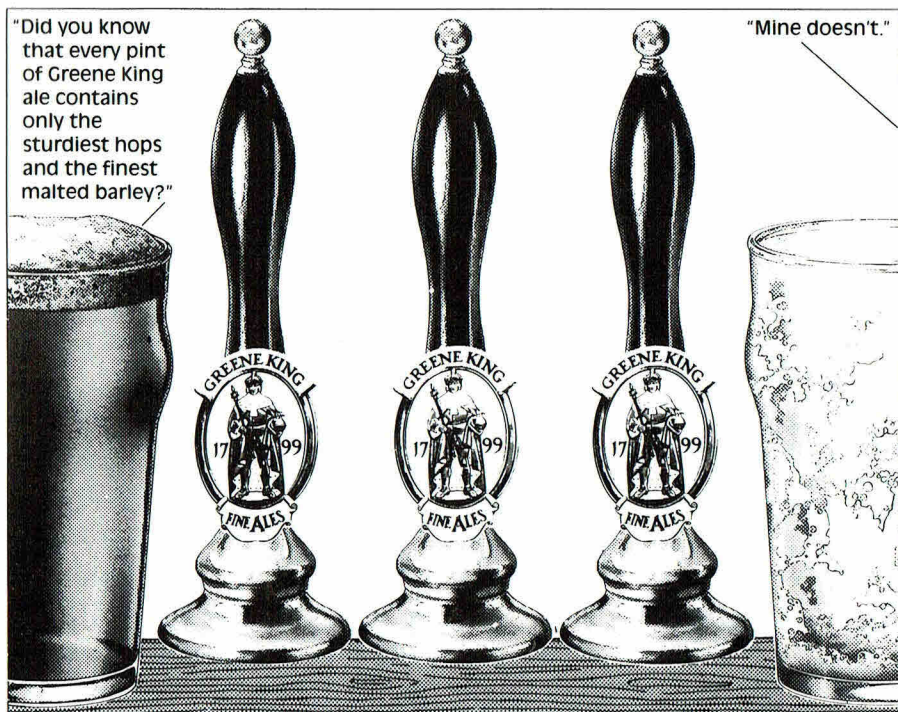
I ignore the keg-only George Hotel on the corner of the High Street, and head north-west along it. I consider having a quick pint in the Cuckfield Hotel, a Charrington house, but reject the idea as I'm running late. Just before I reach Snaresbrook Station, I turn right into Hermon Hill. It is a long slog up this road, but there are some interesting Victorian iron porches and canopies on some of the houses, many of which have been divided into flats.

At long last I sight a pub, or at least I think it's a pub. With its garish grey and red Host Group livery, FIRS (1) (Watney), sticks out like a sore thumb in this suburban road. Frankly, the very name is enough to normally deter me from entering, but in the interest of research — and this article — and with some trepidation, I enter. Yes, there are handpumps on the bar, and the clips are turned the right way around. I have a pint of Webster's Yorkshire, which is quite acceptable, but at 98p so it should be. I don't ask



how much the Ruddles County is. Needless to say, there are no London-brewed Watney or Truman products on sale. . . I sit down on a sort of raised drinking area in order to make my notes. The interior decor is a bizarre jumble of mirrors, fake ferns and lights. Behind the bar a hideous pink neon sign proclaims 'cocktails'. Red, it seems, is the keynote colour. Red seats, tables, chairs, walls, lampshades etc., — a new 'Red Revolution' perhaps? There is a full complement of Space Invaders, Trivia Quizzes, fruit machines and of course, a juke box. The latter is on at a reasonable level, but the place must be Bedlam on a Saturday night. The few customers are mainly young, and are clustered





around one of the electronic machines. A fair sprinkling of suits, so they must be office workers from the town centre up the road. A notice on the door states 'Strictly over 18 — ID required'. How typical of the breweries to gut the insides of a pub, in doing so getting rid of most of the old regulars, then redesign it to appeal to youngsters, and then object to under-age drinking. The pub was formerly called the Fir Trees, and though the builders were in during my visit, I doubt whether it was to re-convert it back to original.

Not with regret I leave, continuing north along Hermon Hill before turning left into Pulteney Road. This curves round to bring me out in George Lane, where on the corner opposite the station is the RAILWAY BELL (2) (Courage). A single L-shaped bar within, with one end a sort of public bar with no carpet, and with a pool table, dart board, and television — the latter fortunately not in use. Courage Best and Directors are on offer. I choose the Best, and at 87p it is considerably cheaper than in my local. Custom is good, and there seems to be a good trade at the food counter too. This is far more of a local's pub than the previous flashed up emporium, and I wonder how many are refugees from the Fir Trees' new image. The interior is mainly green, with plain varnished walls. The

pub has its own beermats, and I'm amazed they still sell Miller Lite, (well, they still stock it, whether they sell any of it is another matter). A notice behind the bar announces that 'wine is now available in larger glasses'. Fine I think, but is the measure any greater?

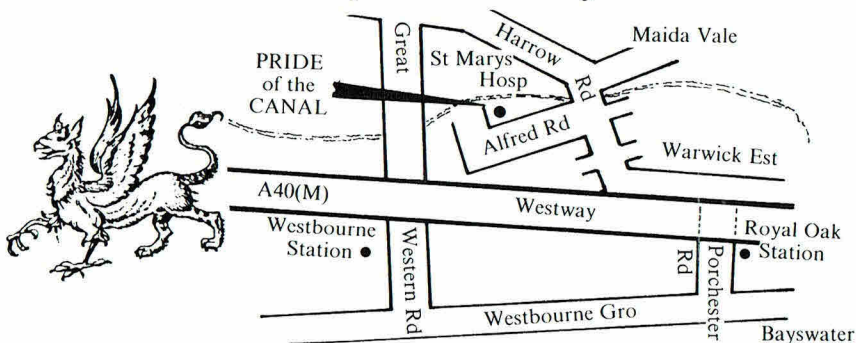
After extricating myself from a conversation about the ways of the world, I leave and cut through South Woodford Station in order to use its footbridge to cross the Central Line. There is also a public footbridge, which takes slightly longer, whilst road traffic is diverted by a bridge appropriately named The Viaduct. When the LNER handed over the railway to LT, the level crossing here was removed to make way for the present arrangements. George Lane was cut in half, to create two totally separate shopping areas. The station was called George Lane until 1937, when it was renamed South Woodford (George Lane). The suffix was dropped in 1950, but can still be seen on some signs around the Underground system.

At the far end of George Lane I reach the GEORGE (3) (Charrington). Another busy single-bar pub, with some attractive etched-glass windows featuring scenes of swans, in the front lobby. IPA at 88p a pint and the usual lunchtime food trade, without which no pub can do without nowadays it seems. Traditional

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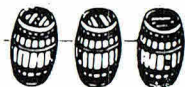
plus a  
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Special & Ordinary



CAMRA — the Campaign for Real Ale — is a consumer organization run by beer drinkers for beer drinkers. We believe that beer brewed from traditional malt and hops, matured in casks in the pub and

dispensed via handpumps, electric pumps or by gravity — without the use of gas pressure — is not only better tasting but usually cheaper than heavily advertised kegs and "lagers". We don't want to tell you what to drink (though we hope you'll give real ale a try!) but we hope that you believe in choice.



## APPLICATION FOR CAMRA MEMBERSHIP

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Victorian/Edwardian bar fittings, with some interesting decorative mirrors behind the bar itself. The walls have several pictures of various King Georges, even the clock bears a 'GR' cypher. The usual music again, whilst the 'trivia' and fruit machines belt out their own inane noise.

Back in the open air, I find the trickle of rain which had begun earlier is now falling quite heavily. I walk north, along the High Road. A bridge carries the road over the ten-lane North Circular, to the east lies a seedy council housing estate, with many of its walls disfigured by 'New York'-style graffiti. In view of the weather, I am glad it is only a short distance to the next pub, the WHITE HART (4) (Charrington). A large building, which though having no division between bars, has a large central bar which divides the premises up into several drinking areas. This time I have the choice of Bass, as well as IPA, so I have the former, which at 96p is I support reasonable for a 'premium' beer, given that any prices in the South East are reasonable. There are several photographs of old Woodford on the walls, including one of the pub when it was owned by Hoare & Co., The barman commiserates me on my pub-crawling weather, and though I don't really want to venture outside, there's no choice if I'm going to complete the crawl. Battling though the rain, I continue north.

The High Road runs into Woodford Green, but at about this point I divert left into Fullers Road. At its other end is Woodford New Road, and on the corner of which is the NAPIER ARMS (5) (Charrington). Yet another Charrington pub, but at least it still serves real ale. This is another genuine local's pub, this time without music for a change. The IPA costs me 88p in the public, and there are most definitely two bars, so ignore what's printed on page 167 if the East London & City Beer Guide. A nice etched mirror adorns one wall, advertising 'Bass & Co. Pale and Burton Ales'. 'Woodford, Napier Arms', was for many years famous as the northern terminus of trolleybus routes 581, 623 and 625, on which one could reach such exotic destinations as Bloomsbury, Manor House and Wood Green. Until 26th April 1960 that is, when the trolleybuses were swept away by the slower, less fuel efficient, but more mobile motor bus. The trolleybus lay-by, or turning circle, still remains though, but is no longer used by LT buses.

Although I've completed my E18 crawl, there is still almost an hour of 'permitted hours' left. Having had enough of the products of the Bass Group, I decide not to retrace my steps, but go north along Woodford New Road, taking the first turning on the right, Empress Avenue. At its

other end I go left into Woodford Green. A short distance along on the left is the CRICKETERS (6) (McMullen). The first, and only, independent brewers' pub on this crawl. As I'm not sure when closing time is in this part of Essex, I dive in the first door I come to, which turns out to be the public, and order a pint of Country. The handpump *is* real, and at 84p a pint is the cheapest of the day. The public bar is basic, as befits its title, so after drinking half of my pint I move into the saloon. This is naturally more comfortable, decorated with photos of cricketers and heraldic shields of cricketing counties. A former local MP is also commemorated in photographs, a certain Winston Churchill, who I believe found fame elsewhere as well. As it appears to be 3 o'clock closing, I have time for one more pint. A request for 'Country' brings a lunge for the fizz tap, but I am able to point the barman in the direction of the handpump, 'oh you want that one' he says. Why do bar staff always try to get rid off the keg beers first, which will keep, instead of the cask beers, which won't? At 2p dearer, it is still cheaper at 86p than in any other pub visited today. No music again, but it is soon time to leave as closing time comes. Outside it is still raining indeed its almost dark, so the delights of the pubs in Woodford Green and Loughton must wait for another day. I wait for the excuse of a vehicle which passes for a bus in this part of the world (though at least it's still red), where will I go next time — who knows?

EASTENDER.

---

## Holt's the cheapest top pint

Manchester-based independent brewers Joseph Holt has the lowest priced strong pint in the country, according to a CAMRA survey, and a national newspaper poll of the nation's favourite tipple.

At its cheapest — 60p in the vault for a pint of mild — it's around half the price of the dearest pint in the trendiest southern pubs and at least 10p less than its north west rivals.

According to administration manager Tom Dempsey the low prices and high quality can be put down to an 'independent family firm run very efficiently'.

Mr. Dempsey said that despite the low prices — it's 64p for a pint of bitter with an original gravity of 1039.5 — only the best ingredients are used in the traditional brewing process.

The 'fiercely independent firm' — run by the Kershaw family who are direct descendants of the Holt founding family — is proud of its strong beers.

**From Morning Advertiser**

**Whatever your taste .... whatever your style ....**



*The Spaniards Inn.*

*You can be sure  
of the perfect pint ...*

**The Spaniards Inn,  
Spaniards Row,  
Hampstead NW3.**

**...at a**



**CHARRINGTON**  
**house.**

## THE BEEHIVE S.W. 11

CAMRA's South West London branch made their first Pub of the Year award for many a year — to the Beehive at St Johns Hill, SW11.

The Beehive is a Fullers house, which has been run for the past eleven years by ex-bookmaker Joe Trindle and his wife Betty.



**A happy buzz outside the Beehive for hosts Joe and Betty Trindle (centre) as they are presented with a mirror by CAMRA'S Chris Cobbold (right) watched by Fullers brewery director Tim Turner (left).**

The hosts joined with Fullers to give lucky visitors arriving before 7pm on September 10th a complete free bar with food. Not surprisingly, therefore, there was a great buzz from the assembled S.W. London branch outside the pub awaiting opening!

Branch Chairman Chris Cobbold presented Joe and Betty with a CAMRA mirror to mark the award.

Said Chris: "The Beehive is an excellent small traditional pub with superb real ales and one of the finest atmospheres you can find anywhere. It won the vote by a landslide and deservedly so".

High praise indeed for this gem of a local which has gone from strength to strength since coming to Fullers under a pub-swap with Bass in the late 1970s.

## Newton & Ridleyed

The world's most famous pub, the Rovers Return, Coronation Street, will be opening to the public for the first time next year — and will be serving real ale.

Granada TV are opening an American-style 'Theme Park' near their Quay Street studios in the centre of Manchester.

An exact replica of the Rovers Return Inn, one of the buildings which stars in the TV soap opera 'Coronation Street', will be constructed for the delight of the expected 750,000 visitors per year.

The irony is that in order to make way for the construction of this make-believe, a real live pub, the Pineapple, will have to be destroyed!



## DEAR DIPSY



DEAR DIPSY, I am writing to you in desperation as even my vet has been unable to help me. I have been put in charge of a Mini-Zoo in South West London and am unable to cope with the eccentric habits of some of the exhibits. In particular, my Gorilla has exchanged personalities with one of his mates, and has started eyeing up young Boys. My Giraffe meanwhile, has turned into a Tony Hart cartoon character, and burbles so much that when he says 'six' it sounds like 'one'. I am praying for early retirement, but all my former colleagues seem to be jumping the queue.

M.G. ENEMA, Woodbridge.

*DEAR M.G., You don't need to worry about your Mini-Zoo, soon you will be recentralised and your indigenous livestock will be joined by a walrus and certain other aquatic beings. Just make sure you have plenty of fish, bananas and young branches to hand and life should become just one long party. If ever it's unpleasant again, just ignore him.*

DIPSY.

DEAR DIPSY, I feel I am suffering from a rare and incurable problem that I think only you can resolve. My analyst describes it as Devolution Delirium but can offer no cure. As soon as I am put under any pressure I act like a demented windmill, blaming everyone in sight (or not in sight) for the crises that I seem to leap between. When I get home at night I have fearsome visions of Penguins and Whizz-Kids stabbing me in the back, and of being bitten by a snake-in-the-grass On Broadway. I feel that my credibility is being undermined, but can't remember if I ever had any.

S. PANTS, Surrey

*DEAR MR. PANTS, You seem to be taking things much too seriously. Who could ever imagine a Penguin turning up in time to stab you in the back. And as for Kids with poor eyesight, black shorts and a whistle, you must be joking! The snake-in-the-grass is also below you, and should be trodden on forthwith. Ask for some extra staff from the east, coat yourself in glory by really proving that you are master of technology, and you can rest easy that the Woodentops really are credible, after all.*

DIPSY



## BRANCH CONTACTS

BEXLEY	DES WARD	Erith 45716(H)	Orpington 38321 x29 (W-Fri only)
BROMLEY	PAUL THOMAS	778-9324(H)	
CROYDON & SUTTON	DAVE HAMER	647 9148 (H)	
E.LONDON & CITY	JACK LONG	594 0770 (H)	
ENFIELD & BARNET	TONY MORGAN	440 2186 (H)	283 1000 x2944 (W)
KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD	ALLAN MARSHALL	942 9115 (H)	227 3376 (W)
NORTH LONDON	ANNE LODGE	889 0513 (H)	
RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW	ANDY PIRSON	977 1633 (H)	
SOUTH-WEST ESSEX	ANDREW CLIFTON	Romford (0708) 765150 (H)	
SOUTH-EAST LONDON	DAVE SULLIVAN	699 8476 (H&W)	
SOUTH-WEST LONDON	CHRIS COBBOLD	674 0556	
WEST LONDON	ROBERT McGOWAN	692 1663 (H) 242 0262 (W)	
WEST MIDDLESEX	TED BRADLEY	573 8144 (H) 997 8880 x 2153 (W)	

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## THE QUEST (Part 9)

The story so far: *Our intrepid adventurers have been captured by some unpleasant heavies and are about to be interrogated.*

'Well', the landlord began, 'Let me introduce everyone,' I'm John Palmer and these two gentlemen are Kevin and Clive. I'm afraid they do tend to be on very short fuses, so I think it would be best for all concerned if I come straight to the point. We know quite a lot about what you have been up to in the past few months and your attempts to find CAMRA. My organisation is as interested in them as you are. Come along, Mister Cress, I know you are a realist so how about disappointing my two colleagues and telling me everything you know right now, before things get unnecessarily unpleasant'.

Wally took a deep breath and risked a quick glance at Emerald; she was controlled but obviously scared silly. However Wally, clung to one seed of hope; if these three heavies really were part of Market Research then he, Emerald and especially Simon would not now be in a cellar under a pub but in the nearest Consumer Testing Department, drugged to the eyeballs, connected to an Output Terminal and suffering a permanent brain drain. So he took the only chance he had and told the whole story of the search for the Last CAMRA branch and the part the three of them had played in it. As he related the events of the past few months he realised just what a lot of ridiculous nonsense it all was. He wondered if Emerald would ever speak to him again as he betrayed all her silly dreams of consumer revolution but perhaps if their captors could be made to believe that the whole thing was a fairly harmless eccentricity then they might get away unharmed.

When Wally's narration ended John Palmer stood up and without a word walked to the back of his cellar and disappeared from view. This effect certainly startled the friends but Palmer's reappearance was even more surprising for he came carrying a tray with three half-pint glasses each containing a full measure of beer. All he said was 'Try this'. They each took a mouthful. To Wally and Emerald it was a very pleasant taste but Simon leapt to his feet with a cry. 'This is Real Ale! It's everything I expected it to be. It's the most delicious drink I have ever tasted'.

'And if this is Real Ale', said an excited Emerald, 'Then this must be . . .' 'The Last CAMRA Branch!' she and Wally chorused together.

'Yes indeed', said an equally excited John Palmer. 'I'm sorry about the rough stuff earlier but we had to be sure you were genuine. Market Research have been very active since Simon went

underground, I still don't know how you managed to avoid them. And please be reassured that Kevin and Clive really are gentle giants. With friends at any rate'.

The next few hours passed swiftly. John organised a special CAMRA meeting for that evening so that Emerald could be introduced and put her case for an expansion of activity, especially on the brewing side. The trio were shown the secret brewing room reached by a hidden door at the back of the cellar. John explained that the beer was only produced in small runs for the benefit of the members and then only taken in half pints. 'It must be treated with respect,' he told them. 'As it contains a large measure of alcohol, a by-product of the yeast. I don't know if you found out for yourselves, but over the years the brewers, at the insistence of the Government, began to lessen the amount of alcohol in drink. The idea was to replace it with a cocktail of drugs which would produce a passive and undemanding workforce. Such a 'cooperative' mass would make it so much easier to implement the kind of social policies the government thought desirable'.

Emerald was radiantly happy now that her faith in the Final Proclamation had been rewarded. The evening's events were therefore very important to her. The Committee meeting of the Last Branch took place after closing time in the hidden brewing room. There were eleven members, of all classes but everyone with a link to one of the original twelve Last Members who had signed The Final Declaration all those years ago. John Palmer chaired the meeting and introduced Emerald, Simon and Wally. Emerald was able to establish her CAMRA lineage to the satisfaction of the committee and to her great delight she was unanimously elected to serve as Campaigns Organiser. Her first proposal was to change the name of the Branch from the Last CAMRA Branch to the First CAMRA Branch. As she said in her speech, she felt that the time was right, the idea was right and CAMRA was once again a force to be reckoned with. Everyone cheered and clapped and then voted for an unprecedented second beer all round.

*All seems well for our chums but even as they celebrate the forces of tyranny are gathering. To find out what danger the new CAMRA branch is in, read the next episode of THE QUEST.*

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'Life isn't all beer and skittles; but beer and skittles, or something better of the same sort, must form a good part of every Englishman's education'.

*TOM BROWN'S SCHOOL-DAYS* Thomas Hughes

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SW4 ROSE & CROWN, The Polygon, Clapham Old Town,  
 SW6 WHITE HORSE, 1 Parson's Green.  
 SW7 ANGLESEA ARMS, 15 Selwood Terrace.  
 SW8 SURPRISE, 16 Southville, 357 Wandsworth Road.  
 SW8 NOTTINGHAM CASTLE, Wandsworth Road.  
 SW9 CROWN & ANCHOR, 246 Brixton Road.  
 SW9 WARRIOR (Brixton Brewery Co.) Coldharbour Lane.  
 SW10 CHELSEA RAM 32 Burnaby Street.  
 SW10 FERRET & FIRKIN, 110 Lots Road.  
 SW11 ANCHOR, Holgate Avenue.  
 SW11 BEEHIVE, 197 St John's Hill.  
 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 NIGHTINGALE, Nightingale Lane.  
 SW12 PRINCE OF WALES, 270 Cavendish Road.  
 SW14 HARE & HOUNDS, Upper Richmond Road West.  
 SW14 RAILWAY TAVERN, Sheen Lane.  
 SW15 ARAB BOY, 289 Upper Richmond Road.  
 SW15 FOX & HOUNDS, Upper Richmond Road.  
 SW15 WHITE LION, 14 Putney High Street.  
 SW16 GREYHOUND, Greyhound Lane.  
 SW18 COUNTY ARMS, Trinity Road.  
 SW18 THE GRAPES, 39 Fairfield Street.  
 SW18 SPREAD EAGLE, Wandsworth High Street.  
 SW19 ALEXANDRA, Wimbledon Hill Road.  
 SW19 BREWERY TAP, Wimbledon High Street.  
 SW19 GROVE, 2 Morden Road.  
 SW19 KINGS HEAD, Merton High Street.  
 SW19 LEATHER BOTTLE, Kingston Road.  
 SW19 PRINCESS ROYAL, Abbey Road.  
 SW19 PRINCE OF WALES, Morden Road.  
 SW19 TRAFALGAR, High Path.  
 CHESSINGTON NORTH STAR, Hook Road.  
 EAST MOLESEY BELL INN, Bell Road.  
 EAST MOLESEY NEW STREETS OF LONDON,  
 Bridge Road.  
 KINGSTON FLAMINGO & FIRKIN, 88 London Road.  
 KINGSTON NEWT & FERRET, 26 Fairfield South.  
 KINGSTON WYCH ELM, Elm Road.  
 DRUIDS HEAD, Market Place.  
 LONG DITTON MASONS ARMS, Portsmouth Road.  
 MITCHAM CRICKETERS, 340 London Road.  
 MITCHAM RAVENSBURY ARMS, Croydon Road.  
 RICHMOND WHITE CROSS, Riverside, Water Lane.  
 SURBITON VICTORIA, Victoria Road.  
 WEST MOLESEY SURVEYOR, Island Farm Road.  
 WESTON GREEN GREYHOUND  
 WEYBRIDGE PRINCE OF WALES, Anderson Road, Outlands  
 Park.  
 W1 ARGYLL ARMS, 18 Argyll Street.  
 W1 BRICKLAYERS, Aybrook Street.  
 W1 RED LION, Kingly Street.  
 W2 ARCHERY TAVERN, 4 Bathurst Street.  
 W3 RED LION & PINEAPPLE, 281 High St.  
 W4 BELL & CROWN, Strand on the Green.  
 W4 WINDMILL, 214 Chiswick High Road.  
 W5 GREYSTOKE, 7 Queens Parade.  
 W5 PLOUGH, 297 Northfield Avenue.  
 W5 RED LION, St. Mary's Road.  
 W5 ROSE & CROWN, Church Place, St Mary's Road.  
 W6 BLACK LION, Black Lion Lane.  
 W6 BROOK GREEN HOTEL, 170 Shepherds Bush Road.  
 W6 RICHMOND ARMS, 54 Shepherds Bush Road.  
 W9 TRUSCOTT ARMS, Shirland Road.  
 W10 NARROW BOAT, 346 Ladbrooke Grove.  
 W10 VILLAGE INN, Kensal Road.  
 W11 FROG & FIRKIN, Tavistock Crescent.  
 W12 CROWN & SCEPTRE, Melina Road.  
 W13 DRAYTON COURT HOTEL, 2 The Avenue.  
 W13 FORESTER, 2 Leighton Road.  
 BRENTFORD LORD NELSON, Enfield Road.  
 CRANFORD QUEENS HEAD, 123 High Street.  
 GREENFORD BLACKHORSE, Oldfield Lane.  
 HAMPTON HILL WINDMILL, 80 Windmill Road.  
 HAMPTON COURT KINGS ARMS, Lion Gate,  
 Hampton Court Road.  
 HILLINGDON RED LION, Hillingdon Hill.  
 HILLINGDON STAR, Uxbridge Road.  
 HOUNSLOW CHARIOT, 34 High Street.  
 HOUNSLOW CROSS LANCES, Hanworth Road.  
 HOUNSLOW EARL RUSSELL, Hanworth Road.  
 SOUTHAL BEACONSFIELD ARMS, West End Road.  
 SUDBURY BLACK HORSE, Harrow Road.  
 TEDDINGTON QUEEN DOWAGER, North Lane.  
 TWICKENHAM EEL PIE, 9 Church Street.  
 TWICKENHAM POPE'S GROTTO, Cross Deep.  
 TWICKENHAM PRINCE ALBERT, 30 Hampton Road.



WEALDSTONE ROYAL OAK, Peel Road.  
 WHITTON ADMIRAL NELSON, 123 Nelson Road.  
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 COLCHESTER ODD ONE OUT, 28 Mersea Rd.  
 ELLAND (Yorks) BARGE & BARREL.  
 GLASGOW ALLISON ARMS, 720-722 Pollockshaws Road.  
 GODSTONE (Surrey) BELL INN, High Street.  
 HITCHIN (Herts) NEW FOUND OUT INN, Stevenage Road.  
 LEWES BREWERS ARMS, High Street.  
 LINCOLN QUEEN VICTORIA, Union Road.  
 MANCHESTER JOLLY ANGLER, Ducie Street.  
 PETERBOROUGH STILL, Cumbergate  
 READING (BERKS) ELDON ARMS, Eldon Terrace.  
 READING HOOK & TACKLE, Katesgrove Lane  
 SALISBURY (Wilts) WYNDHAM ARMS, Estcourt Road.  
 STEVENAGE (Herts) RED LION, High Street, Old Town.  
 SOUTHAMPTON JUNCTION INN, St. Denys.  
 STOCKPORT (Gtr.Manchester) NEW INN, Wellington Road  
 South.  
 TILLINGHAM (Essex) CAP & FEATHERS, South Street.  
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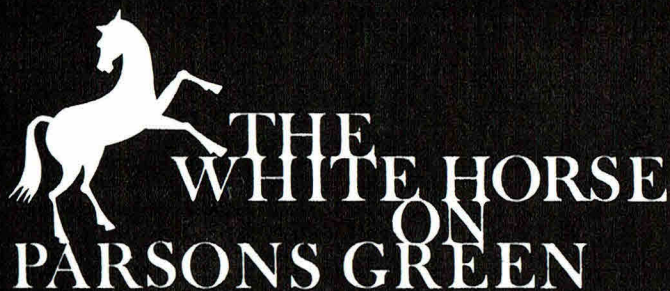
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