

AUG
1987

LONDON

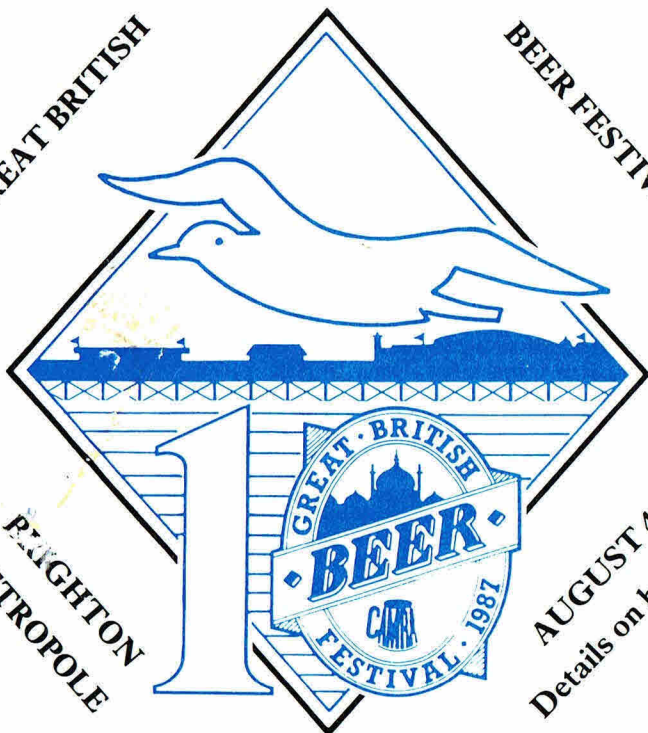


20p

DRINKER

GREAT BRITISH

BEER FESTIVAL



RIGHTON
METROPOLE

AUGUST 4-8
Details on back cover

Vol 9

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

No 7

BRANCH DIARY

If your branch is not mentioned please ring the branch contact. Dates for August of which we have been notified are given below. Branches please send information to Andy Pirson. Branch Contacts on Page 11

CROYDON & SUTTON: Fri 7 Coach trip to GBBF. Details from Branch Contact — Thur 13 (8.00) Branch Meeting. NEW INN, Sutton (outside if fine) — Tue 18 (8.00) Sutton Crawl. Start BLACKWATER TAVERN, then ROBIN HOOD; SECOMBE CENTRE — Wed 26 (8.00) East Croydon Crawl. Start BUILDERS ARMS, then CHERRY ORCHARD; OVAL; PORTER & SORTER — Tue 1 Sept (8.00) Open Committee Meeting. WINDMILL, St. James Road, Croydon.

EAST LONDON & CITY: Tue 11 (8.00) Branch Meeting, BOLEYN TAVERN, 1 Barking Road, E6 (by West Ham F.C.) — Mon 17 (8.00) Three Pub Social, LORD HOOD, 89 Dunbridge Street, E2; SPORTING LIFE (9.00), 36 Wilmot Street, E2; JJ'S (10.00), 180 Brady Street, E1 — Fri 21 (5.30) EC1 Crawl. Start HORSESHOE, 24 Clerkenwell Close; BETSEY (6.00), 56 Farringdon Road; CITY PRIDE (6.30), 28 Farringdon Lane; METROPOLITAN TAVERN, 96 Farringdon Road; HAT & TUN (7.30), 3 Hatton Wall; CASTLE (8.00), 43/5 Cowcross Street; THREE COMPASSES (8.30), 66 Cowcross Street; BARLEY MOW (9.00), 50 Long Lane; BISHOPS FINGER (9.30), 8 West Smithfield.

ENFIELD & BARNET: Tue 4 (9.00) Social. ALEXANDRA, 135 Wood Street, Barnet — Wed 12 (9.00) Social. TURRETS, 43 Friern Barnet Road, New Southgate, N11 — Thur 20 (8.30) Barbecue & Open Evening. GREEN DRAGON, 889 Green Lanes, Winchmore Hill, N21 — Thur 27 (9.00) Social. UPPER WELSH HARP, 109 West Hendon Broadway, Hendon, NW9.

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD: Tue 11 (8.30) Business Meeting. SURVEYOR, West Molesey — Sun 16 (12.00) Joint Social with Reading & Mid Berks Branch, HOOK & TACKLE, Reading (with meal) — Thur 20 (8.30) Social. NEW INN, Long Ditton — Sun 6 (7.00) Evening Social. BOATERS, Canbury Gardens, Kingston — Wed 9 (8.00) Barbecue. BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Hawks Road, Kingston (Details of tickets to be announced).

NORTH LONDON: Tue 4 (8.00) Two Pub Social. STEPTOE'S then ROSE & CROWN, both Stoke Newington Church Street, N16 — Tue 11 (8.00) Two Pub Social. BELGRAVE, Abbey Road, NW8 then CLIFTON, Clifton Hill, NW8 — Tue 18 (8.00) Two Pub Social, GREEN MAN, Slough Lane, NW9 then GEORGE, Church Lane NW9 — Tue 25 (8.00) Two Pub Social, FUZZOCK & FIRKIN (formerly Trafalgar), Castle Road, NW1 then DUCK INN, Kentish Town Road, NW1 — Sunday lunchtime Social for August, LAMB, Lambs Conduct Street, WC1.

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW: Thur 13 (8.30) Committee Meeting. MITRE, 20 St. Marys Grove, Richmond — Mon 24 (8.30) Branch Meeting. O'RIORDAN'S TAVERN, 3 High Street, Brentford.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Sat 8 New Members Coach Trip to GBBF. Ring Paul Streatfield on 01-697 4482 for details of coach tickets etc. — Mon 10 (8.00) Combined Committee/Branch Meeting. WISHING WELL, 80 Choumert Road, SE15, All Welcome — Thur 27 (8.00) Social. JOLLY FARMERS, 354 Lewisham High Street, SE13 — Fri 25 Sept (8.00) Greenwich Real Ale Festival Staff Party. All those involved with the 1987 Festival are invited. BUNCH OF GRAPES (Upstairs Room), 2 St. Thomas Street, SE1.

SOUTH WEST ESSEX: Wed 12 (8.30) Branch Meeting. KINGS HEAD, The Green, West Tilbury (OS: TQ 661780) — Thur 20 (8.30) Out of Area Social. VIGO INN, Gravesend Road (A227), Fairseat, Kent (1 mile off M20 — 15th century free house) — Thur 27 (8.30) Social. THATCHERS ARMS TAVERN, Great Warley Street (B186), Great Warley — Wed 2 Sept (8.30) Social. PRINCE OF WALES, Roman Road (B1002) Mountnessing.

SOUTH-WEST LONDON: Wed 12 (6.00) Presentation to the Management of the Duke of Devonshire, Balham High Rd, SW12 in conjunction with Youngs. All members and friends of the Branch warmly welcomed.



In March 1989 this magazine will celebrate the 10th anniversary of its first issue. A lot of beer has passed down the gullet during that time, and a review of the whole period will hopefully appear in the decennial edition. However, this issue marks the fiftieth (out of a total published of 104) put out by the present Editorial team, and we feel it appropriate to comment on the changes which have happened since assuming the mantle of office from Mike Hammersley and Ron Atkins.

To start with — the price of beer has gone up. What's new about that? Nothing. It seems that the Brewers take it as their God-given right to charge the drinker more with the smallest pretext. There are more pubs selling real beer — about 90%. But how many are selling *decent* real beer? Nowhere near that number. Despite CAMRA's success in persuading pubs to stock the real thing, in all too many cases (which rightly means even *one*) it is neglected, mistreated, adulterated and then served with the attitude — if you complain — "Well, that's what you asked for — it's always like that". Anyone deliberately ordering rubbish deserves just that. But if your money is good so should the beer be.

Enough of the beer situation. What of the magazine? How do you feel about the present format, which we introduced just over 3 years ago? Let me remind you of the situation we inherited, bearing in mind that it was the best set-up then available. From what you see now, take away the glossy paper, colour and quality of presentation. Add a cover in some pastel shade

printed in black, and a hell of a lot of mistakes — and there you have the old image. We hasten to add that the mistakes and presentation were not the fault of the editorial teams involved; everything was handed to the printer in manuscript or typescript form. All typesetting and layout was done at the "other end" — literally at the furthest extremity of London from where the preparation work was done. The only stage of production we (and our predecessors) actually saw was the finished article — often widely at variance from the original plan. The changeover to typesetter and printer nearer home have given us much better control over content and presentation. We do all our own layout planning and a professional artist puts it into effect. Given that we have a good team of writers (all volunteers, it must be added), we think that CAMRA has in London Drinker a product to be proud of, and one that is highly thought of throughout the Campaign. That in no way detracts from the sterling efforts put in by our predecessors under conditions far more difficult than we now endure. It is always easier to take over and improve on someone else's work. It's good fun if damned hard graft and a real team effort. Despite that, only a few months ago the whole magazine nearly went down the pan. Difficulty in getting an advertising manager before Barry Tillbrook stepped into the breach led to a drastic drop in revenue, and although things are looking up this magazine's future is by no means assured up to its tenth birthday. Perhaps we are getting complacent because of the profusion of real beer in London, but we enjoy less than 100% support from London branches, of which 13 theoretically contribute to London Drinker and on whose behalf we put in the work. "Divide and Conquer" is a time-honoured military adage. How sad it would be if the wound were self-inflicted. I've said enough — probably too much — so here's to the rest of the first ten years — and the next. "United we stand" — well, don't we, London CAMRA?

Martin Smith — on behalf of the Editorial team.

WEST LONDON: Thur 20 (8.00) Branch Meeting. WHITE HORSE, 1 Parsons Green, SW6 — Tue 11 (8.00) Westminster Wander, Start BUCKINGHAM ARMS, Petty France, SW1 then WESTMINSTER ARMS (8.45), 9 Storeys Gate; CLARENCE (9.30), 53 Whitehall; OLD SHADES (10.15), 37 Whitehall — Sun 23 (12.00) Sunday Social, SUN & 13 CANTONS, 21 Great Pultney Street, Soho, W1.

WEST MIDDLESEX: Tue 4 (8.00) Games Evening. WINDMILL, Ruislip Manor — Thur 13 (8.30) Social. PRESTON, Preston Circus, North Wembley — Wed 19 (8.30) Branch Meeting. VINE, Hayes End — Wed 26 (7.45) South Harrow Crawl. Start CONSTELLATION, South Harrow Station; TIMBER CARRIAGE (8.45); WHITE HORSE (9.30); HALF MOON (10.15) — Tue 1 Sept (8.00) Games Evening. ROYAL VICTORIA, Boston Road, Hanwell, W7.

Deadline for the September edition, 1st August. Material for October edition to arrive by 1st September. Please be sure to send diary material to Andy Pirson.

GOOSE EYE BREWERY AND HOTEL

**Turkey Mills, Goose Eye,
Keighley, West Yorkshire**

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SQUEEZED IN).**

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with its steam railway and Bronte
connections

5 Miles from the Dales

**A Mile from Keighley with its
Taylor Pubs.**

Or stay in and sample:
**Pommy's Revenge Bitter,
Thwaites Bitter & Mild.**

*For Tariffs please ring or write to
Bryan or Sandra — as above.*

Brewery launches regulars bus pass

South London independent brewer Young's is getting together with London Transport in an eight-week pilot scheme aimed at persuading its customers to leave their cars at home.

The brewery is to give away more than 6,000 pints of beer as well as annual and seven-day bus-passes to customers in the Richmond area of south-west London.

Customers at Young's pubs who can produce a valid bus-pass or Travelcard are entered in a free draw for the prizes.

Chairman John Young said: 'We are determined to do something positive to help combat drink-driving, rather than just shaking our heads and taking about it.

'The Richmond area has been chosen as a pilot scheme, and if it is a success we shall consider extending the campaign to many more of our pubs later in the year'.

From Morning Advertiser

ON THE GRUB STREET PUB BEAT

News from Fleet St. EC4; the lease held by Greene King at the 'Tipperary' is due to expire on 4 November 1987 and GK have definitely **not** won the contract for its continuation.

The whole site is to be redeveloped around the pub, which itself is a listed building and cannot be substantially changed. However, could it end up as a wine bar in the new complex? There is no hard news on this yet.

As many readers will know, the pub sells Greene King IPA and Abbot plus the elusive Rayments BBA. It also charges some of the most reasonable prices up and down the street, which brings me to mention the 'Poppinjay'. This is a Charrington pub just next to the obscene 'Express' building, and has recently started taking Young's Bitter in addition to its customary range of IPA and Bass.

On venturing inside to try the Young's however, I was rather shocked to be charged £1.08 for the pleasure (and it was a good pint). IPA was 94p and Bass £1.02. The barparson volunteered the explanation that this was after all, a Charrington's pub and therefore charging a high price was OK! I don't think that Courage, who have been doing Young's as a guest beer for some years in selected pubs, have quite this sort of pricing policy: why should Charries?

So if you're visiting Fleet Street soon, make a point of having a pint in the Tipperary while it's still there in its present form, and consider raising a Euroloan for Young's in the Poppinjay.

PAT HANSON.

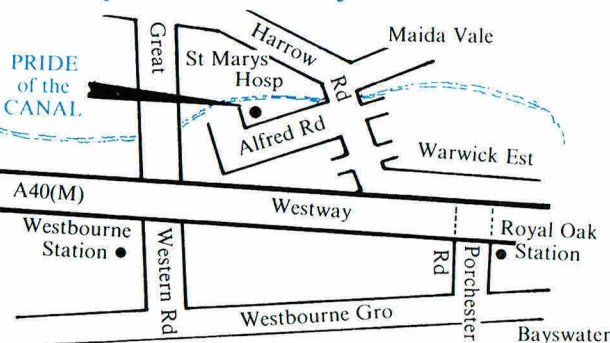


CAMRA — the Campaign for Real Ale — is a consumer organization run by beer drinkers for beer drinkers. We believe that beer brewed from traditional malt and hops, matured in casks in the pub and dispensed via handpumps, electric pumps or by gravity — without the use of gas pressure — is not only better 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.

PRIDE OF THE CANAL

64 Alfred Road, Paddington, London W2 5EU

*Cordially invites you to sample any of our traditional ales
& our fine home cooked food*



FULLERS

Pride & ESB

plus a
Guest ale

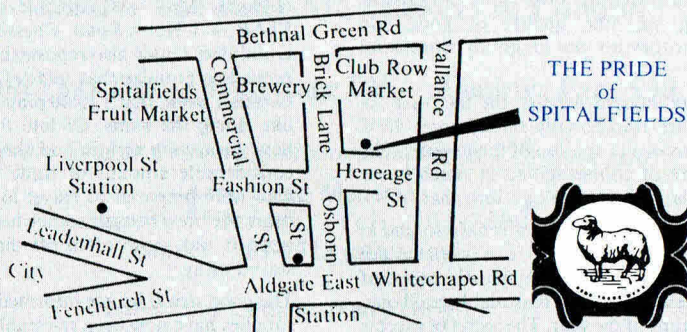
YOUNGS

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we are near to the City*



FULLERS

Pride & ESB

plus a
Guest ale

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Special & Ordinary

CAMAL COMMENT

THE CAMPAIGN FOR



AUTHENTIC LAGER

By way of an up-date on the home-brew lager kit situation (See February number), we have to report having discovered a kit under the 'GEORDIE' banner which uses bottom fermenting yeast, involving lower temperatures than would be the norm for top fermented beers.

How to achieve these low temperatures is left to the ingenuity of the home brewer and as this article is due to appear in the August number of L.D., it is perhaps a good time to delve into the subject.

It is difficult enough for the home brewer to brew ale and stout at this time of the year and not end up with a batch of fusel oil. To ferment lager at 10°C to 15°C and lager it at 0°C, even during a British summer, seems at first glance to involve a set-up which is a bit beyond the scope of the average home brewer. The response of the real ale purist will no doubt be 'why bother — who wants lager anyway?'

The regular visitor to Munich, Bremen, Hamberg or Dortmund will, unless we are very much mistaken, reply 'we do!'

If a good pint of Brakspears, Sheps or Boddies is our idea of bliss, it does not prevent us appreciating the fine quality of good (we concede that they are not all good) continental beers.

In the balmy days of August, the fact that the good ones are traditionally served some 10°C lower reinforces our opinion of their merits. The bad ones are of course served at much lower temperatures, but we won't go into that.

Unfortunately, good lager beer is hard to find in this country, which of course is why we are campaigning, but it is not beyond the scope of the home brewer to brew a reasonably good one, even at this time of the year. The secret of success is to brew in small batches, or lengths as the professional brewer would say; not more than ten litres at a time. It is much easier to handle this quantity than the usual 24 litres. The temperature problem can be solved by installing

a battered old fridge in a corner of the garage (or other suitable place).

Brewing small quantities at a time enables the home brewer to blend different batches as they do in commercial practice, thus ensuring a consistent product. Two ten litre batches can easily be accommodated in an average size domestic fridge. After the seven or eight days it takes to ferment the wort at 10 to 15 C, the heavy yeast and trub sediment is removed, leaving only the suspended yeast. An air lock is fitted and the green beer cooled to 0°C to 5°C at which it is maintained for from seven to fourteen days. The remaining yeast breaks down the diacetyl (problem with bottom but not top fermentation) to less unpleasant substances and releases some of them to atmosphere, via airlock. Blending can be done up to this stage, but not later.

The clear, preferably filtered beer is then transferred either to a bulk storage container or bottles, and sealed (Commercial practice is to fit a pressure release valve, but this is not essential) to permit conditioning at around 0°C for a further three to four weeks.

Bulk conditioning is satisfactory if the beer is intended to be consumed in its entirety at one session, or if a gas injector is used (not to be mentioned within earshot of CAMRA purists). Otherwise, bottling is best. Be sure to allow the temperature of the beer to rise to between seven and nine degrees C before tapping, or opening the bottle.

Comment on the ingredients of the 'Geordie' kit justifies an article in itself, so we will deal with that subject next month.

MILD NEWS

We have reported in the past that M&B Highgate Mild was available at the NORTH STAR, 271 Hook Road, Chessington; the 1987 Good Beer Guide also reports this fact. The beer proved so popular that sales of it were up to 5 barrels a week, that's 1,440 pints if you don't feel like doing the sums. Of late though, supplies have been very erratic and the pub has lost a considerable amount of trade because people who were prepared to travel long distances to drink the brew became somewhat disenchanted when it was more often off than on and they stayed away.

The good news, we are informed, is that regular supplies have now been re-established so all you devotees of a good dark, fruity quaffing beer let's see you boosting those sales figures again to prove to Charringtons (and any other brewers who care to look) that there IS still a demand for a good mild ale in London.

LONDON



DRINKER

ADVERTISING
in "LONDON DRINKER"
is inexpensive

*And reaches those parts
that other advertising doesn't reach*
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Full Page £80 Half Page £45 Quarter Page £30

10% Discount for 3 or 6 months continuous bookings, 15% for a year.

Advertising Manager:

**Barry Tillbrook, Tel: 403-7500
(work) 989-7523 (after 7pm.)**

**Please send Camera-ready copy to:
Martin Smith, 64 Brailsford Road, SW2**

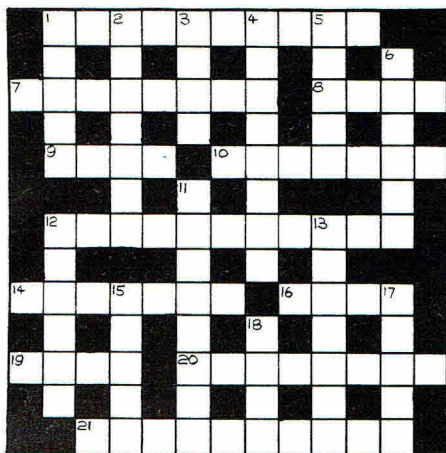
The deadline is the 1st of the preceding month

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

LONDON DRINKER CROSSWORD

COMPILED BY DAVE QUINTON

£5 PRIZE TO BE WON



ACROSS

1. Four hearts aflutter for illegal drinking. (5,5)
7. Persuade friend out to return Roman four. (8)
8. Quiet work is a business. (4)
9. Make a system relatively simple. (4)
10. Can Dave progress? (7)
12. Anything Dad repaired goes forever. (3,3,5)
14. Vehicle containing big car that is a transporter. (7)
16. Do they understand beer? (4)
19. Season of the Winter months. (4)
20. Virginia accountant, a heavyweight I admit, has a break. (8)
21. Lido for ex-hero? (6,4)

DOWN

1. A warning for old prior. (5)
2. Their hovel out east is dry. (7)
3. Spanish royal is not fantastic. (4)
4. Extravagant topless Juliet fiddled. (8)
5. Initially it prevents disasters. (5)
6. Animal cut tomato out of first crop. (3,3)
11. Bury Mr. Doonican. Take a break. (8)
12. He controls the pack leader badly. (6)
13. Old king raved, it is allowed. (7)
15. Spirit and who drinks it back at dance. (5)
17. Show disapproval of skinhead habit. (5)
18. Image of the first person to deceive. (4)

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

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

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

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

Last Month's Solution



Winner of the prize for the June crossword:
'Arry Hart, 24 Hamilton Road, Wimbledon,
London SW19

Other correct entries were received from:
B.E.Bradley, A.P.Comaish, Kenneth Dunjohn,
Ian Fairweather, Damien Farrell, B.H.Felton,
Tom Finucane, Elaine Glover, Eileen Graves,
Anthony Greenbury, Alison Henley,
D.J.Hilditch, Mrs G.M.Lines, Pseud O'Nym,
David Parker, Eddie Sissons, P.Spires,
M.J.Trowell, Yak, Grizelda Whiplash

THE QUEST Part 6

The story so far: Simon and his chums are about to start their search for the last CAMRA branch hidden somewhere in London.

"So," Simon said, "Where do we start? I can't imagine that many of the pubs mentioned in the guide are around now and in any case names are changed to fit in with whatever scheme is flavour of the month. This is going to be like looking for the proverbial needle in a haystack".

"That's where my contacts come in," replied Emerald, "I have built up quite a network in the past three years since I found the 1987 Guide but we always needed someone who could tell Real Ale from rubbish. It is clear that the Last Branch have gone deep underground but if they are true to their ideals they will be waiting for someone who enjoys the Real thing. Once Simon can prove to them that he is the Chosen One of the Final Proclamation we can set up our new Campaign and try to restore a society in which the consumer has a proper say in what is put on the plate and in the glass and at a reasonable price."

"I certainly agree with that, but there is one more problem we haven't dealt with yet. I know for a fact that I can't stand the kind of beer we are given these days, but obviously I have never tasted any Real Ale so how will I know when I have found it?"

"Again, this is something I have been working on. Although no beer worthy of the name is brewed these days, the old recipes do still exist and Wally has been ferreting out the necessary ingredients and brewing vessels."

"Yes," said Wally. "It's been quite a job getting it all together. The basic raw materials were damned difficult for a start. Nobody has been using hops commercially for about a century. We had to find some ancient herbalist who grew the last cultivated hops in Kent. We were able to grow our own from that stock. Barley for malt was an easier one but the malting process we have had to learn by trial and error — you can't learn everything from computer files. Water was easy of course, but then we decided to use natural spring water rather than risk the public supply with all the chemicals they put in it these days. Lastly we had to find a yeast culture, and that proved to be our biggest headache. In the end we had to borrow some from the Megakeggery at Mortlake. That was a hairy operation by all accounts. Lead by dear Em, of course."

"Hardly a commando raid," she rejoined smiling broadly, "We bluffed our way through with phoney passes and plenty of orders. Always works with these bureaucrats."

"I am impressed," said Simon, "This whole set-up is much bigger than I had dreamed. I thought that it was just the three of us against the world. Now it looks as if I'm part of a large well-organised resistance movement."

"Not large, but certainly well-organised thanks to Em. It's her crusade."

"Yes. In memory of my Great—Great Grandfather and everything he fought for. I like to think that his spirit lives on in me."

"But when do I get to try this Real Ale? I take it that is the next step."

"It sure is. The problem we have had all along was not knowing if we had got it right. Now you have joined us at least we've got someone who can really taste what we are producing. So our next step is to head down to Old Wandsworth where we have our Brewery. Then when you are familiar with the taste of our ale we can move on to phase two, setting out to find the Last Branch."

So it was that two days later Simon and his companions reached a non-descript warehouse near to what had once been a famous Brewery. They were shown the ramshackle equipment made from whatever had been to hand. It looked like a museum rather than a Brewery. Simon was taken to the improvised tasting room where he was poured his first pint of Real Ale. He sniffed it suspiciously and with some trepidation took a big mouthful. It was not the nectar he had expected but it was nothing like as foul and as horribly chemical as the beer sold with such lavish advertising throughout the country. "Promising," he said to the assembled company. "But I suppose you just can't brew a perfect pint from scratch. A little more bitterness and less malt perhaps. But one thing I can say is that it is wonderful to taste natural ingredients. I think that once we have located the Last Branch we can use their expertise to make this the best Brewery in the country, the first of many independents that will one day release us from the stranglehold of the Megakeggaries." He had begun to pick up the convert's zeal, he thought to himself.

In the next few weeks he learnt at first hand the whole brewing process, and gradually became able to distinguish a good pint from a bad one. Finally he felt confident enough to start the great search with Emerald and Wally. Emerald had not been wasting her time meanwhile. "I think I have a possible candidate," she announced one morning. "If you are ready to give it a try I suggest we go right now. The bar is in what used to be Twickenham, by the River Thames".

And so the Quest begins in earnest. To see if the friends are successful in Twickenham please read the next episode.

A CENTURY OF SERVICE FOR RETIRING DIRECTORS.

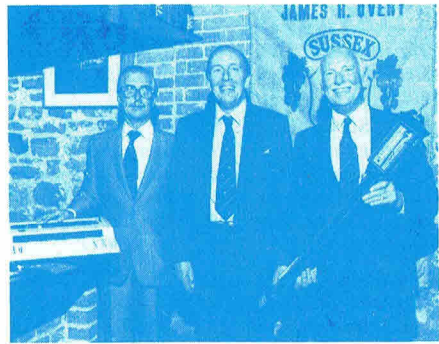
King & Barnes of Horsham are said farewell on 30th June to two Directors who together have given over a Century of Service to the Company.

John King (great-grandson of James King, who founded the Company in 1850), and Jim Street both retire feeling justly proud of their achievements.

In the last fifty years, together they have helped the Company safely through the difficult times of brewery take-overs, patiently increased the Company's stock of 56 Tied Houses and responded to the re-birth in interest in "Real Ales" with the rebuilding of much of the factory; to meet increased demand. Finally, they have ensured the future of the Company by the development of the first Lager to be brewed in Sussex — J.K. LAGER, which was most successfully launched in 1985.

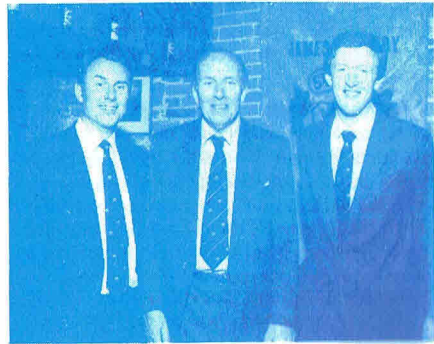
John King started his career in 1937 as a Brewer, commencing his "pupillage" at King & Barnes, progressing to Morrell's Brewery in Oxford, and returning to King & Barnes in 1939. During the War he served as a Squadron Leader in Bomber Command both from England and Italy, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He returned in 1946 as a Brewer, was appointed to the Board of Directors in 1949, becoming Chairman and Managing Director on the death of his Father in 1972. In 1984, at the age of 65, he relinquished those duties to his brother, Jim King, whilst retaining his seat on the Board.

Jim Street joined King & Barnes straight from Collyers in 1936 as an Accounts Clerk at the then Head Office in the Carfax, and has been involved in the Accounting Function ever since. He joined the Territorial Army during the Munich Crisis, and was called up in August 1939. He served as a Captain in Italy and Greece with the East Surrey Regiment. He was appointed to the Board in 1955 and was Company Secretary from 1972 until 1984.



In this photograph the Chairman, Mr. Jim King (centre) is presenting his brother John with a Barometer, and Jim Street with a Typewriter; and at the end of the day, the entire staff paid tribute to their careful stewardship with a further presentation.

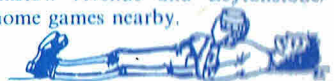
But the family tradition continues at King & Barnes. As John King and Jim Street leave, Jim King and his nephew, Peter King are joined on the Board by Jim's son Bill, who, having obtained a post-graduate Degree in Brewing at Birmingham University, takes on responsibility for both Brewing and Sales. The second photograph shows the new Board, (from left to right) Peter King, Joint Managing Director, Jim King, Chairman and Joint Managing Director, Jim King, Chairman and Joint Managing Director, and Bill King, Production Director.



BARGAIN BEERS

The CRICKETERS at 81 Clayton Road, Chessington still sells beer at less than 90 pence a pint; Charrington IPA is available for a mere 84 pence. The pub is described in Real Beer in South West London as a friendly locals' pub with public and saloon areas in one bar. If you want to know just how they manage that you'll have to go along and have a look. By the way, the pub has a bar billiards table as well as darts.

- * Bargain (relatively) Beers corner: the Lord Palmerston, E17 (corner of Palmerston Rd. and Forest Rd.) is a large, lively Charrington local with IPA at 84p in the public bar. It also does excellent rolls and sandwiches at reasonable prices, and the pub is handy for matchgoers heading to or from Walthamstow Avenue and Leytonstone/Ilford home games nearby.



Whatever your taste whatever your style



**The Bridge House
(and Canal Cafe Theatre)
13 Westbourne Terrace Road
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The Bridge House.

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



... at a

CHARRINGTON
house.

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)	407 1000 x4190 (W)
KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD	ALLAN MARSHALL	942 9115 (H)	227 3376 (W)
NORTH LONDON	ANNE LODGE	889 0513 (H)	
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Editors: Martin Smith, 64 Brailsford Road, SW2, Chris Cobbold, Tel: 674 0556,
Andy Pirson, 22 Fulwell Road, Teddington, Middx. TW11 0RA. 01-077 1633.

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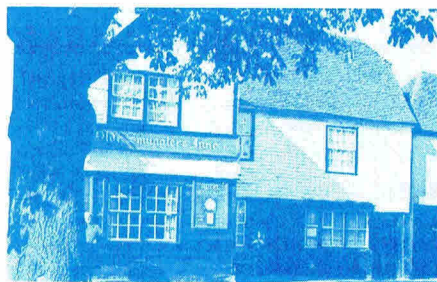
OUT OF TOWN — Alfriston, East Sussex

Usually I plan a historicrawl well in advance. In the case of my last offering, it was mooted almost six years ago. (The final part of Stane Street Stagger should hopefully follow next time). I had been intending to write on the present subject for some time, and the impending Great British Beer Festival in Brighton prompted me to say to Chris at a lunchtime rendezvous: 'How about Alfriston for August? — I'm not busy this afternoon'. So here is an INSTANT MERTON, a large portion of which was scrawled in a swaying train on the way home, less than an hour since the last pint of the crawl.

Alfriston lies $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles off the A27 and 9 miles somewhere east of Lewes (where the best is like the worst; where there ain't no ten commandments, and a man can get a thirst — or perhaps I'm getting confused; probably because Kipling lived locally). It's served by buses from all local main townships, and the nearest station is Berwick some $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the north. If you try this crawl and find yourself passing Doncaster or York, you're on the wrong line; this one isn't on Tweed, it's one stop before Polegate (hourly service from Lewes and Brighton). I borrowed a bike from Martin's museum (sorry, collection) and that is the most convenient form of transport from that direction. Anyway, get yourself to Waterloo Square (which happens to be triangular) in the centre of the village.

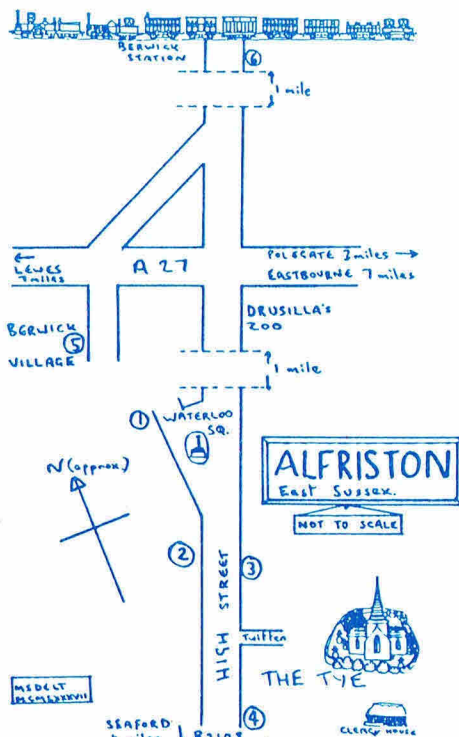
Facing the coast — southwards within a few degrees, to your right you will find YE OLDE SMUGGLERS INN (I) serving Courage Best and Directors. It was first known as the Market Inn, a hanging sign still proclaiming the title but the brewery decided to re-name it in memory of one Stanton Collins leader of the local gang of smugglers who used the inn as their centre of operations. It was built in 1358 as a butcher's premises — meat hooks can still be seen in the ceiling, as can the blood well of the slaughterhouse round the back.

Alfriston was a market town, having received its market charter from Henry IV in 1405. The market cross — one of only 2 in East Sussex —



was to remind traders to treat their customers honestly. I am informed that this seemingly small hostelry has six staircases, 47 doors, 22 rooms and one ghost, possibly more. There is no apparent explanation for the haunting but she has been seen by several people and during the winter vapour from her breath is seen (after her disappearance) on an upstairs window. Be that as it may . . . On the way out note the original cast iron Cyclists' Touring Club sign — going back to the days when the word bicycle usually meant what you would call a penny-farthing, and cyclists were unwelcome in most hotels.

My liking for old place names took me back as far as Domesday — which, having been written a mere 901 years ago isn't very far. However, that work gives the name as ALVRICESTONE, neatly squashing a story I once heard that it comes from King Alfred burning cakes in the area. Quite why he should ever have been around, let alone a fugitive minding the cookery, is beyond my research or credulity. (By the way, Domesday records settlements at BRISTELMESTUNE and BORNE, now known as Brighton and Eastbourne).



Despite the fact that I'd known the village for quite a few years, I decided to get a guide book in order to confirm/dispute/plagiarize the facts, and this I obtained a few doors down at the post office-cum-village stores. This interestingly old-fashioned emporium (with bang up-to-date prices) has a cableway which sends cash and bills across the ceiling in a wooden pot. In this case it works — the assistant was kind enough to demonstrate — but it only travels some ten feet and the motive power is provided by the sort of elastic straps you use on a bike's carrier, so it obviously came from somewhere else, unless some vandal of the Beeching mould cut off the rest of the network.



Going down the High Street, we reach two ancient hosteleries almost facing one another. THE STAR (2) is much photographed despite the insistence of motor louts in parking outside, ignoring various car parks in the area. The beers sold are Bass and John Smith's, and the history goes back to the 13th century when it was a pilgrim's hostel owned by Battle Abbey. The present building dates from 1450. The origin of the name is ecclesiastical, as it pre-dates the 16-pointed star forming the arms of the Innholders Company of London, incorporated in 1514. On the corner is the figurehead of a Dutch ship wrecked (one version says deliberately) nearby in the 17th century.

Almost opposite we come to THE GEORGE (3), owned by Cinque Ports Inns and serving King & Barnes Festive and Webster's Yorkshire. This is the oldest building amongst Alfriston's inns, having first changed licensees in 1397. ➡

Geographically the next point of interest for the purposes of this crawl is the church, though you might care to consult your watch in case it's near closing time. Turning left out of The George, you soon encounter on the same side a signposted twitten (Sussex word for alleyway). Follow this down to The Tye, a classic village green — across which you can't miss St. Andrew's Church,

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known because of its size as the Cathedral of the Downs. Cruciform in shape and measuring 115 feet long by 70 wide at the crossing, it is remarkably unspoilt by Victorian 'improvements'. And, having been built all at the same time, it is not a hotch-potch of styles. There has certainly been a church on the site since 1272 (though there was none recorded in Domesday) and the present building dates from 1360. According to legend, it was first planned to build a church on the other side of the High Street, but each night the foundations were uprooted, presumably by supernatural force, and found on The Tye next morning. Then someone noticed four oxen lying down on-top a knoll in a loop of the River Cuckmere, their rumps together so that

Continued on p. 15



PUB NEWS

- * London borough of Kingston now has only one fizz pub — The Jolly Brewer (Watney), which is by the way due for closure anyway. Beat that South West London! P.S. DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE at Shannons Corner is real.
- * We hear from Alan at The Brewers Arms, Lewes that Youngs will in future be dealing through a beer agency (in his case Beards) so consequently he has refused to stock Youngs Beers. Alan's argument is that the quality is bound to suffer as a result. He also feels that the market will soon be flooded with Youngs in the Beards area. He also states that the Youngs draymen were the most efficient he had dealings with.
- * The George (Clifton Inns) in Great Portland St. W1 has a notice in the window saying 'Bargain Beer at 99p per pint. Please form an orderly queue!'
- * The Cheshire Cheese, Essex St. WC2 (Courage) now sells Youngs Special, while Princess of Wales, Blackheath (Charringtons) is now selling Youngs Ordinary.
- * The Phoenix Sports and Social Club in Kingston has now been leased to David Bruce by Watneys. Another Firkin pub?
- * The Paviers Arms, Page St. SW1 has changed hands from Courage to Fullers. Meanwhile St. Stephens Tavern opposite The Houses of Parliament is apparently closed. Has anyone any further information?
- * The Princess Louise, High Holborn, WCI is now serving Princess Louise Best Bitter (1036) at £1.01 per pint. The beer is brewed at The Sheaf Brewery, Sheffield.

SOUTH EAST NEWS

- * Sam Smiths have bought The Royal George at Tanners Hill, SE8 from Courage (Fizz) and is now trading. Sams have apparently made a superb refurbishment.
- * There is a party for all Greenwich Festival workers at The Bunch of Grapes, St. Thomas St. SE1 on Tuesday 25th September at 8.00 pm in the upstairs room.

MORE BARGAIN BEERS - under one roof:

The **PAKENHAM ARMS**, 1 Pakenham Street W.C.1 has two Happy Hours, on Saturdays between 12.30 & 1.30, and 7.30-8.30. ONE THIRD off the following beers, whose REGULAR prices appear in brackets:

Hacker-Pechorr - Munchen (£1.40/pt), Brakspear Special (£1.05), Greene King Abbot (£1.10), Boddingtons (£1.02), Adnams Bitter (£1.02), and Ruddles County (£1.20). Also on offer at 3 off is Murphy's Stout (£1.10).

NORTH LONDON NEWS

- * The tendency for North London free houses to pass into the tied trade continues, with the acquisition by Tolly Cobbold of the six pubs sold by the J.D. Wetherspoon organisation. Guest beers from other breweries will continue to be available in these pubs.
- * A reversal of this trend has occurred with the acquisition of the Trafalgar in Castle Road by David Bruce, who has renamed it the Fuzzock and Firkin, and refurbished it very tastefully including the provision of a children's room. The house beers are brewed at another Bruces pub, but there are also guest beers on sale. A far cry from the half-hearted efforts Greene King made in the short time they owned this pub.
- * The bar at the Tricycle Theatre in Kilburn fortunately survived the recent disastrous fire which destroyed the theatre, and continues to serve Real Ale. The nearby Bird in Hand in West End Lane has been refurbished as a one-bar pub. Truman Sampson on handpump has been introduced at a very reasonable 94p a pint.
- * Thanks to a trading agreement, Young's beers are now appearing in some Courage and Charrington houses in North London. Amongst pubs serving Young's are the Queens in Crouch End N8 and the Angel in Highgate.
- * Changes seem likely at the famous and popular Flask in Hampstead when the long-serving tenant departs in August. Rumours have been heard that the screen dividing public and saloon bars is to be removed — this would drastically alter the atmosphere of the pub.
- * The Golden Lady in Clissold Road, N16 is now selling Real Ale, Taylor Walker at an extortionate £1.10 a pint!

Profitable year for Fuller's

One of the capitals leading independent brewers has announced an £800,000 increase in profits.

Fuller Smith and Turner saw pre-tax profits on ordinary activities climb from £5m to £5.81m in the 12 months ended April 3.

Noel Chambers, finance director of the Chiswick, West London brewer, said the trading year included a £950,000 increase in operating profits and increased beer volumes.

Managed houses and the two Middlesex hotels, the Master Robert at Heston and the Master Brewer at Hillingdon, had also turned in good performances.

Earnings per share were 25.04p (20.39p)
From Morning Advertiser

Continued



they formed a cross, and this was taken as a sign that the church should be built on that spot. Such a story is also told about Durham Cathedral among others, but it's a nice thought. My recent visit was the first since 1970 when — along with other members of a youth cycling group — I sheltered from a hailstorm which was heavy enough to damage the new paintwork on Martin's tandem — on which I had been riding a few moments before. I dread to think what it would have done to my skin, as at the time I was clad in trousers considerably shorter than my regular apparel nowadays.



Facing across the churchyard is the Clergy House, an oak-framed daub-and-wattle cottage built in 1350 and acquired as its first property by the National Trust for £10 in 1896. Certainly worth a look around.

Backing on to The Tye but more easily accessible from the High Street is the WINGROVE TAVERN (4), an impressive Victorian pile and formerly a large racing stables. It has been known as the Potters Wheel and the Chateau Anglais, but when sold in 1919 it was Wingrove House, so we're nearly back to normal. The beers on offer are Harvey's Bitter and King & Barnes Festive, and other facilities available are a garden, restaurant, children's room and live Jazz on Sundays for charity.

This brings me to the end of Alfriston proper, but there is one other pub of sorts. Back by the junction with the A27 Drusilla's Zoo has signs

advertising a pub on the premises open at lunchtimes. Country wines are mentioned and a local told me he thought Harvey's is on sale, but I had no chance to check. Some day I may go there to check out the railway (reputed to be steam), but unfortunately zoos leave me cold — the only animal life which interests me is dead — and cooked.

If you have your own transport, a half-mile diversion is well worthwhile from the crossroads to the CRICKETERS (5) in Berwick village. Formerly two cottages in lush gardens which make it nigh impossible to photograph, it serves Beard's on gravity — bitter, mild and in winter Old Ale.

If you are travelling by train, the station is 1½ miles away. If you have to wait, a pint in the BERWICK INN (6) is more acceptable than the platform. Courage and Badger Best are on sale. There is also a garden, and you can keep an eye on the level crossing gates.

Happy Historicrawl — MERTON.



BOOK REVIEW NORTH LONDON BEER GUIDE

The London Branches are now on Round 2 of Local Real Ale Guides (with the exception of West London — Due August '87). Following hard on the heels of The 2nd East London and City Guide is this further offering from the North London Branches.

The guide covers the areas in North or North West Postal districts with the addition of WC1, Barnet, Enfield, Cockfosters and Elstree (and lists over 650 pubs). As before this handy guide includes fizz houses at the end of each section. Each area has a brief historical description, and the maps are a big improvement on the last guide. It also includes an excellent article by Roger Protz about the wanton destruction of solid traditional pubs as we know them, into big brewers' 'fun pubs' and the one bar mentality.

With plenty of other editorial content for the pub crawler to read during his travels, this guide will make a welcome addition to a beer drinkers' collection. Copies can be ordered from Steve Barnes, 25 Old Kenton Lane, London NW99ND at £2.50. Cheques and Postal Orders payable to CAMRA North London.

CAPES AND ALE by P. Sartist

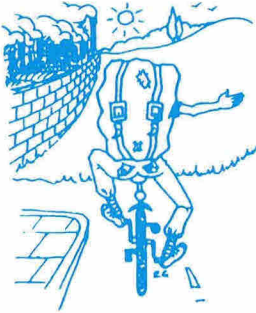
Four cyclists on a week's pub crawl from Southampton to Northampton. Those taking part:—

Movement — Route planning, navigation and persuading people out of pubs before they get too comfortable.

Whip — Keeper of the money and buyer of beer.

Nosh — Buying food and preparing picnics.

Log — Writing the diary.



Saturday May 23rd.

Movement, Log and Nosh pick-up two part-timers, Green Badge and Merton, on the way and cycle in steady rain to Clapham Junction for the Southampton train. We arrive at 10.14 dead on time. The rain has stopped. Whip is waiting for us on the platform and so is Mike, from Southern Hampshire branch of CAMRA, who is to be our guide. After picking-up essentials at the bike shop, we do a rapid crawl of Marston's pubs finishing up in — THE JUNCTION INN (Marston) at St. Denys, a pub of character with many screens and lots of cut glass, where we enjoy a game of bar billiards and five quick pints.

We then have our first hiccup. After finding a café, Movement discovers he's left his wallet containing cheque book, credit cards and £180 cash "somewhere". He cycles off at some speed and returns with a smile on his face. It was in the last pub! The meal over, we cycle into town to catch the train to Romsey and commence to fall apart at the seams. The signpost says right to the station, ten pints says left. There follows a mystery tour of Southampton. We re-group behind the bus station, just manage to catch the train, then enjoy a pleasant cycle from Romsey to Salisbury.

We arrive, worn out, and cycle past the cathedral into — THE WYNDHAM ARMS (GFB: Gilbert's First Brew), home of our friend, John Gilbert, recently moved here from Brixton. After two pints, we move onto — THE HAUNCH OF

VENISON (Courage) then to — THE PHEASANT (Courage) then back to THE WYNDHAM ARMS for a gigantic bender with fun, frolics, farting and finally falling fast asleep on the floor. We rise from the grave about nine, gradually return to life and, with breakfast inside us, ride to Porton, of germ warfare fame — THE PORTON HOTEL (Gibbs Mew, Wiltshire). Five miles ride past Boscombe Down defence establishment, "Keep Out", "Photography Banned", into Amesbury — THE ANTROBUS ARMS HOTEL (Wadworth's, Bass and Bunce). Fifteen miles over Salisbury Plain past numerous tank crossings and restricted areas and against the wind into Collingbourne Ducis — THE SHEARS (Bishop's and Wadworth's) which boasts a "Closed on Tuesdays" sign.

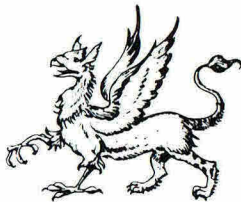
Five miles under the glow of the setting sun to golden thatched Easton Royal and — THE BRUCE ARMS (Whitbread). A marvellous pub; brick floor, scrubbed wooden tables, open fire, beer served from the barrel by Rose, who's only been there sixty-eight years. The saloon, also is immaculate, with wooden-armed chairs and a piano along one wall, sadly no longer used. Everyone talks in hushed tones, including the bikers, who seem to keep the pub going. We all leave, meekly, dead on time and, after a puncture we sleep satisfied, on an old rubbish tip.

Monday May 25th.

A morning ride through beautiful Great Bedwyn. Later, in open country, we hear the alarm call of a lapwing and watch as it drives away a startled hare. We cross the Kennet and Avon canal, under reconstruction at Crofton with the steam driven pumping station and on into Hungerford, Berkshire. Breakfast over, we need a whip. Once more, Movement has lost his money, only £115 this time. Out on the pavement we search through every bag and pocket. It is well hidden in the bedding roll, opened last.

Relieved, we enter — THE SUN (Morland) Four excellent pints of mild/bitter later, we move to — THE BEAR for a ropy pint of Arkell's, then five miles, under the M4 to — THE PHEASANT (Wadworth's). Our hopes of afters are not realised and we move on to Wantage where, after a top class Chinese take-away, we enter a pub recommended by the governor of THE SUN in Hungerford. It's called THE SHOULDER OF MUTTON (Morland). We've gone out of our way to get here and it's worth it! A basic bar, friendly landlady. We are playing a quiet, losing, game of dominoes with the remarkably welcoming regulars when the peace is shattered by the arrival

Continued opposite



**Now Open: Paviours Arms Page Street,
Westminster, SW1P 4LR.**

Previously owned by Courages, it has been refurbished in 1930's Art Deco style. **Mark and Pauline Campbell** will be serving a good lunch time fare for all to enjoy.

Now Stocking our ale:—

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Battersea Arts Centre, Old Town Hall, Lavender Hill, SW11.

Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, W6.

FULLERS

of a mad Scotsman in a woolly hat. We then spend a fabulous, funny laugh-a-minute two hours. Great blokes!

Ten miles late evening's cycling finds us in Faringdon. The town is pulsating with life as there is a disco in the market square and hundreds of people are milling about. After a pint in — THE FOLLY (Morrells), Movement does his job and forcefully leads us past an Indian to — THE EAGLE (Arkell's) in Little Coxwell. (It must be the booze). We've sussed out a camp site but are offered a field by a farmer in the pub. It turns out we're already decided to camp in one of his fields.

Tuesday May 26th

We rise to a misty, mild morning. Movement repairs a puncture, a tractor chugs into the field, a girl on a chestnut mare rides up the bridle path, Whip has a crap in a corner of the field. We cycle one mile back into Faringdon on the morning after the night before. Everything is quiet, peaceful and litter free. After a full breakfast and postcard writing session, we cycle five miles through fly-infested countryside to Langford — THE BELL (Morland, Archers), a cosy, friendly pub with peacocks out the back.

Then on to — THE JUBILEE (Wadworth's) at Hampton (seven pubs within half a mile) for a good laugh with the locals. We ride into Brize Norton village past the air base. The village itself seems oblivious to the sleeping giant in its back

garden. In THE CARPENTER'S ARMS (Morland) we discover that the governor's wife is a member of the England Women's Bar Billiards Team.

A short cycle, a picnic and a long kip are followed by — THE SWAN (Morland), a lovely, old fashioned pub with a stone floor, high-backed settle, log-burning stove and two friendly bearded collies. A ride past beautiful stone clad houses finds us in Burford. After THE HIGHWAY HOTEL (Hook Norton) we enter — THE LAMB (Wadworths), a magnificent pub with flagstone floor and full of antique furniture. It was described in the first Good Beer Guide (1974) as "A noble Cotswold pub". A relaxed two pints, then a three mile ride along a tiny, grass-covered road to Little Barrington. This is one of the most beautiful views in England, with a terrace of stone cottages overlooking a sweeping green; the whole view enhanced on our visit by a traditional gipsy caravan whose wood fire sends whisps of sunlit smoke above the ponies and goat as they graze contentedly on the lush grass. We cycle by and are greeted by jolly cries from the ageing hippies who partake of their meagre repast beneath the firmament.

Past the caravan, we find — THE FOX INN (Donnington). Little do we know that the idyllic charm of the Cotswold countryside is about to be shattered by . . . ?

Continued next month.

Young's looks to improve results

Major efforts to improve trading results are being made by Young & Co's Brewery said chairman John Young recently.

His comments came as the independent South West London brewer revealed a small increase in pre-tax profits on ordinary activities of £3.56m for the year ended March 31 compared to £3.35m.

Mr. Young said he was aware 'some disappointment' had been expressed on the company's trading results.

The company had improved and increased its range of drinks available.

Young's had negotiated a licence to brew and market Tuborg Pilsener within the M25 and also aimed to improve profitability in the free trade by concentrating its direct sales efforts within the same area.

Outside the M25, selected agents have been appointed to distribute and sell Young & Co's products. A sales director had been appointed to 'sharpen activities' backed up by a firm of marketing consultants.

In his report, Mr. Young points to the stocking of 14 'foreign' beers by Young's and says the addition of such beers shows the Monopolies and Mergers Commission that the brewery tie is not as tightly drawn as some say.

The MMC inquiry into the tie could lessen rather than increase competition as greater free trade puts more emphasis on promoted brands and plays into the hands of the national brewers, adds Mr. Young.

From Morning Advertiser



IT MAKES YOU THINK!

Did you know that on an IBM personal computer the spellingcheck facility allows "John Smiths" and "Bass" but rejects "Whitbread"?

Alternatives given include "whispered, whimpered or windbreak".

Well, obviously it is a name that no one would shout and anyone attempting to drink it may well start whimpering. Some form of windbreak may also be needed to counteract the after-effects!

British are coming is Bavarian cry

West Country regional brewer Gibbs Mew of Salisbury is to start exporting some of its famous brews to Germany provided it sells a high class Bavarian later in its pubs.

Gibbs will be selling its heady Bishops Tipler and Sarum Special brews throughout Lower and Middle Bavaria by the autumn, on condition it sells the Bavarian lager, Graf Arco in this country.

The first consignment of the 150 barrels arrived at the Wiltshire Brewery last week. The beer, known as Bollbier Hell in its bottled form is particularly strong because more of its sugar has been turned into alcohol.

The long established Salisbury firm already exports to Italy, Holland, France, Canada and the Cayman Islands.

Meanwhile Gibbs has spent £200,000 on new tech machinery designed to cope with 100,000 pints of brewery conditioned beer an hour.

The British made equipment is about to be commissioned after a seven month running-in period.

From Morning Advertiser.

Eds Comment: Is Bishops Tipler brewed to German purity laws?

BEER GUIDES

The 1987 GOOD BEER GUIDE

is 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.

NORTH LONDON: See page 15

SOUTH-EAST LONDON: Dave Sullivan, 22 Panmure Road, London SE26. £2.75 inc. p&p. cheques payable to South-East London CAMRA.

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 GU12 5NN. £1.95 plus 26p s.a.c. 9x5".






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LETTERS TO EDITORS

Dear Editors

It seems to me that very few of the 'Letters to the Editors' mention the, in my opinion, major issue — the quality of the beer!

I know we should not have to pay £1 plus a pint but it is an accepted fact of London drinking, anything under £1 will soon qualify for a mention in your 'Bargain Beer Section'. The only alternative is to stop drinking!

Camra has certainly meant that most London pubs sport handpumps but, more importantly than that is what comes from the handpump — a decent drinkable pint — unfortunately more often I find that it is not.

I write this drinking a pint of moderate Palmers in the Eldridge Pope pub — the George in Old Bailey (cost £1.04). Roger Berman's recently sold pub the Sun is now a prime example of moderate beer. This pub was a Mecca for the real drinker a few years ago but is now the same as the others with indifferent beer. However the pub is always well patronised despite very expensive prices. Admittedly there is a choice of unusual beers for London on sale but can anyone tell me what Felinfoel Dousle Dragon really tastes like! I am sure it is better in Wales.

In conclusion it seems to me that, despite the price, people will buy any beer despite its condition on the basis that anything from a handpump is good real ale. Beer guides should quote which pubs sell good beer, something rarely done in local London guides.

My personal message to CAMRA is let's look at the quality of the Real Ale not the number of pubs selling it.

Keep up the good work with the London Drinkers.

Yours faithfully
M.C. Trowell, Harrow.

P.S. Why haven't I won the crossword yet!

Editor's comment: All correct solutions to our crosswords are placed in a random draw. I usually get it right — under a pseudonym — and have never been drawn yet! M.S.



Dear Editors

If London's got everything why does every pub I've been in during a week in the Midlands offer a decent pint of Mild, whereas back home I can't get it for love nor money?

J. Pearce, Brentford.



FEATURING

HIGHGATE MILD (1036).....	80p
HOOK NORTON BEST BITTER (1036)	88p
CHARRINGTON IPA (1039).....	90p
DRAUGHT BASS (1044)	94p
TRAQUAIR HOUSE ALE (1073-78)	140p
(ONLY REGULAR DRAUGHT OUTLET, NOV.-APRIL)	

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ANNUAL OLD ALE FESTIVAL

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 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 NORTH COTE, 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 DOGGETS, Blackfriars Bridge.
 SE1 GOOSE & FIRKIN, 47 Borough Road.
 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 DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, High 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.
 SE17 TANKARD, Waltham Road.
 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 ANERLEY ARMS, Ridsdale Road.
 SE20 GOLDEN LION, Maple Road.
 SE20 LONDON TAVERN, 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.
 SE27 BECKENHAM JOLLY WOODMAN, Chancery Lane.
 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.

OFF TRADE

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 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 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 SUFFOLK PUNCH, Grand Parade, 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.
 N22 STARTING GATE, Buckingham Road.
 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, 36 The Burroughs.
 NW6 BRITANNIA, Belsize Road.
 NW6 QUEENS, 1 Kilburn High 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 WHEATSHEAF, 3 Windmill Hill.
 NEW BARNET BUILDERS ARMS, 3 Albert Road.

OFF TRADE

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

CLUBS

N22 Wood Green Labour Club, Stuart Crescent.

OUTLETS — SOUTH-WEST/ WEST

SW1 BARLEY MOW, Horseferry Road.
 SW1 BUCKINGHAM ARMS, Petty France.
 SW1 FOX & HOUNDS, Passmore Street.
 SW1 MORPETH ARMS, Millbank.
 SW1 ORANGE BREWERY, Pimlico Road.
 SW1 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.
 SW4 ROSE & CROWN, The Polygon, Clapham Old Town.
 SW6 WHITE HORSE, 1 Parson's Green.
 SW7 ANGLESEA ARMS, 15 Selwood Terrace.
 SW7 NORFOLK TAVERN, Norfolk Hotel, Harrington Road.
 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 Lotts 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 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 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 RAVENSBUARY 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, Oatlands

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 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 Ladbroke Grove.
 W10 VILLAGE INN, Kensal Road.
 W11 FROG & FIRKIN, Tavistock Crescent.
 W12 CROWN & SCEPTER, 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 BLACK HORSE, 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.
 SOUTHALE BEACONSFIELD ARMS, West End Road.
 SUDBURY BLACK HORSE, Harrow Road.
 TEDDINGTON QUEEN DOWAGER, North Lane.
 TWICKENHAM EEL PIE, 9 Church Street.
 TWICKENHAM POPES GROTTTO, Cross Deep.
 TWICKENHAM PRINCE ALBERT, 30 Hampton Road.
 WEALDSTONE ROYAL OAK, Peed Road.
 WHITTON ADMIRAL NELSON, 123 Nelson Road.

CLUBS

SW19 WILLIAM MORRIS, 267 The Broadway,
 Wimbledon.
 W1 POLYTECHNIC of Central London S.U.Bar,
 104 Bolsover Street.
 W3 L.T.District Line Social Club, Park Place.
OFF TRADE
 SW11 Majestic Wine Warehouses, Hester Road.
 SW18 Paines Off Licence, Garratt Lane.
 KENTON Littlemore Wines, Kenton Road.

OUTSIDE LONDON

BRIGHTON BASKETMAKERS ARMS, Gloucester Road.
 BRIGHTON LORD NELSON, Trafalgar Road.
 BRIGHTON QUEENS HEAD, Opposite Station.
 COLCHESTER ODD ONE OUT, 28 Mersea Rd.
 ELLAND (Yorks) BARGE & BARREL.
 GLASGOW ALLISON ARMS, 720-722 Pollockshaws Road.
 GODSTONE (Surrey) BELL INN, High Street.
 HADLOW DOWN (E.Sussex) NEW INN
 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.
 WINCHESTER (Hants) GREEN MAN, Southgate Street.

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