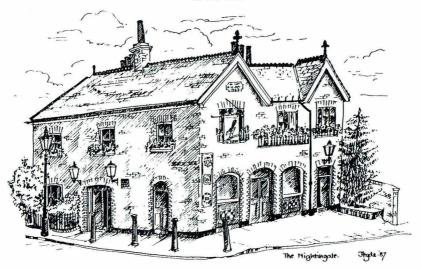


DRIKER

Nightingale, SW12



Where to buy London Drinker

The following is a list of all of the current outlets for London Drinker. Where the full addresses of outlets are not given, these pubs are to be found in one of the local beer guides, covering the whole of Greater London.

these pubs are to be found in one of	the local beer guides, covering the who	le of Greater London.
OUTLETS - EAST and SOUTH	SE20 HOP EXCHANGE	N4 OLD SUFFOLK PUNCH
EAST PUBS	SE22 CRYSTAL PALACE TAVERN	N4 WHITE LION OF MORTIMER
EC1 ARTILLERY ARMS		
EC1 CROWN	SE24 COMMERCIAL	
	SE24 PRINCE REGENT	
EC1 EAGLE	SE25 ALBERT	N7 FLOUNDER & FIRKIN
EC1 PHEASANT & FIRKIN	SE25 GOAT HOUSE	N8 TOLL GATE
EC1 PRIDE OF SPITALFIELD	SE25 SHIP	N10 MAID OF MUSWELL
EC1 SEKFORDE ARMS	SE27 HOPE	N12 MOSS HALL TAVERN
EC1 SMITHFIELD'S PAST &	SE27 GIPSY QUEEN	N12 TILTED GLASS
PRESENT	BEXLEY, BLUE ANCHOR	N15 GOAT
EC1 STICK & WEASEL	CROYDON, DOG & BULL	N15 K. K. McCOOLS
EC1 THOMAS WETHERED	CROYDON, LION	N16 ROSE & CROWN
EC2 FLEETWOOD	CROYDON, TWO BREWERS	N16 TANNERS HALL
EC2 RAILWAY TAVERN	SIDCUP, JOLLY FENMAN	N17 BOAR
EC4 BLACKFRIAR	THORNTON HEATH, FOUNTAIN	N17 ELBOW ROOM
EC4 HATCHET	HEAD	N17 NARROW BOAT
EC4 WILLIAMSON'S TAVERN	THORNTON HEATH, WHEAT	N19 DOG
E1 FISH & RING	SHEAF	N19 J. J. MOONS
		N20 BULL & BUTCHER
E2 APPROACH TAVERN	OFF TRADE	N20 CAVALIER
E2 MARKSMAN	E4 Waltham Wines, 72 Seward-	N21 DOG & DUCK
E2 OWL & THE PUSSYCAT	stone Road.	N22 MOON UNDER WATER
E2 SHIP & BLUE BALL	SE3 Bitter Experience, 128 Lee	N22 NELSON
E3 PEARLY KING	Road.	BARNET, ALEXANDRA
E8 LADY DIANA	SE23 2 Brewers, 97 Dartmouth Road	BARNET, MOON UNDER WATER
E9 CHESHAM ARMS	BEXLEYHEATH, Bitter Experience,	BARNET, WEAVER
E9 FALCON & FIRKIN	216 Broadway.	EAST BARNET, CAT & LANTERN
E9 ROYAL STANDARD	BROMLEY, Bitter End, 139 Masons	ENFIELD, JOLLY BUTCHERS
E11 NORTHCOTE	Hill.	ENFIELD, KING & TINKER
E17 COLLEGE ARMS		ENFIELD, KINGS HEAD
SE1 ANCHOR & HOPE	CLUBS	ENFIELD, OLD WHEATSHEAF
SE1 BUNCH OF GRAPES	CROYDON, Ruskin House, 23	NEW BARNET, BUILDER ARMS
SE1 FOUNDERS ARMS	Coombe Road.	THE TOTAL POLICE THE TANK
SE1 GEORGE INN	WANTSHIME DATES AND AND MAINTENANCE CONTRIBUTION OF THE PARTY OF THE P	OUTLETS - NORTH-WEST
SE1 GOOSE & FIRKIN	OUTLETS - WEST CENTRAL,	NW1 DUCK INN
SE1 HORNIMAN AT HAYS	AND NORTH PUBS	NW1 GLOUCESTER ARMS
SE1 KINGS ARMS	WC1 CALTHORPE ARMS	NW1 VICTORIA
SEI LEATHER EXCHANGE	WC1 CITTIE OF YORKE	NW1 VICTORIA & ALBERT BARS
SEI ROYAL GEORGE	WC1 HANSLER ARMS	NW3 FLASK TAVERN
SEI SOUTHWARK TAVERN	WC1 LAMB	NW3 WELLS HOTEL
SEI SULTAN	WC1 MARLBOROUGH ARMS	NW4 CHEQUERS
	WC1 MOON	NW4 WHITE BEAR
	WC1 PAKENHAM ARMS	
SE1 WELLINGTON	WC1 PRINCESS LOUISE	NW7 RAILWAY TAVERN NW8 CROCKERS
SE3 BRITISH OAK SE5 PHOENIX & FIRKIN	WC1 RUGBY TAVERN	
	WC1 SUN	NW8 ORDNANCE
	WC2 CROWN & ANCHOR	NW8 TOLL GATE
SE7 McDONNELS	WC2 GEORGE IV	NW9 GEORGE
SE8 DOG & BELL	N1 COMPTON ARMS	NW9 J.J. MOONS
SE8 ROYAL GEORGE	N1 GEORGE IV	NW10 GRAND JUNCTION ARMS
SE10 BRITISH SAILOR	N1 GEORGE & VULTURE	HAREFIELD, PLOUGH
SE10 FROG & RADIATOR	N1 HEMINGFORD ARMS	HARROW, KINGSFIELD ARMS
SE10 HARDY'S	N1 HOPE & ANCHOR	WEALDSTONE, ROYAL OAK
SE10 SPANISH GALLEON	N1 KINGS HEAD, 59 Essex Road.	OPE TRADE
SE13 FOX & FIRKIN	N1 LORD WOLSELEY	OFF TRADE
SE15 WHITE HORSE	N1 MALT & HOPS	N1 Beer Shop, Pitfield Street.
SE16 BLACKSMITHS ARMS	NI MARQUESS TAVERN	NW6 Grogblossom, 235 West End
SE16 MANOR TAVERN	N1 PRINCE ALBERT	Lane.
SE17 TANKARD	N1 PRINCE ARTHUR	CLUBS
SE18 EARL OF CHATHAM	N1 ROSEMARY BRANCH	
SE18 GATEHOUSE		WC1 UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
SE18 MELBOURNE ARMS	N2 OLD WHITE LION	UNION, Malet Street
SE18 PRINCESS OF WALES	N2 WINDSOR CASTLE N4 MARLERS	WC2 L.S.E. Houghton Street
SE18 VILLAGE BLACKSMITH	N4 MARLERS	

Continued on p31

MORTIMER ARMS

SE19 ROYAL ALBERT

EDITORIAL

Over the last few months a lot of time and words have been spent by the press in general, CAMRA in particular and ourselves nearly as much, discussing the report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the brewing industry. As you must all be aware by now the report, and particularly the later developments have mainly concentrated on curbing the power of the big brewers. The effect of the moves proposed under Lord Young, taken over by Nicholas Ridley with his move to the DTI, should be that we should all be able to go into our local Big Six pub and get a pint of real beer from one of the independents. What concerns me almost as much as this is what is happening to those very same independent brewers.

It is significant (but not byery reassuring) that the MMC report concentrates on brewers who own more than 2,000 pubs. This takes in the Big Six, as I mentioned above, but it does not include the last member of what we in CAMRA now call the Big Seven, Greenall Whitley, and there's the rub. Currently Greenall's own approximately 1,700 pubs; that would apear to mean that they could muscle in and take over somebody the size of Young's or Fuller's with impunity because that would still keep them about 150 pubs short of the magic number. And what about the next tier of regional breweries? Take Greene King as an example; they closed the brewery of their subsidiary, Rayment's, in 1987 and are scheduled to stop brewing anything but lager at Biggleswade this year. They could take over several breweries with up to 1,200 pubs between them before they hit the limit.

Think about it; seven or eight breweries the size of either of London's independents could be swept up. How many of those breweries would survive? Of course, we would be told that the beers "will taste just the same" when they come from Bury St. Edmunds. We all know how true that is don't we.

Just think how many independent breweries have been taken over and/or closed down over the past few years - not by the Big Six but by other independents, ones whom we regard as the good guys. Boddington's are a very good example of this; they took over (calling it a merger) Higson's in Liverpool in 1985. They didn't close Higson's down but they did close the Oldham Brewery in 1988 owing to over capacity. When they bought Oldham in 1982 they promised to keep it open for at least five years. They kept that promise but precious little more.

And don't go to Lancaster hoping for a pint of Yates & Jackson's. They were listed in the 1985 Good Beer Guide but if you look in the 1986 edition they have simply vanished - no "taken over by *** who promise to keep the brewery open for ??? years." They were taken over and closed forthwith by Thwaites of Blackburn.

Please don't think, however, that I am having a go at the independent breweries - I know it probably looks like that but I am aware that all of these breweries are concerned about their own future and one way they see of protecting themselves is to grow to a size where they become too expensive a proposition for

takeover. This point was made quite explicitly by David Thompson, the Managing Director of Wolverhampton and Dudley to the assembled members at the 1988 CAMRA Annual General Meeting in Birmingham. He basically described it in terms of "take over or be taken over."

It is slightly ironic though that when Matthew Brown took over Theakston's they then become a target which was large enough for Scottish & Newcastle to take an interest in. (a 100% interest as it turned out). How much more ironic it would have been if Courage's (or rather Elder's) bid for S&N had not been blocked by the MMC setting this whole debate in motion. Incidentally, it has been strongly rumoured that Paul Theakston was quite happy to see Matthew Brown take over by S&N as he felt that the Theakston name (and presumably beers - and brewery?) would have a safer future under S&N. This is because the nationally known name is of more interest to a nationally rather than regionally based brewer, I understand.

Of course, it doesn't matter how big you are in the British brewing industry, there will always be somebody bigger somewhere - either in the worldwide brewing industry (Anheuser-Busch or Heineken for example) or in industry or finance generally. The latest brewery closure to take place, that of Tolly Cobbold in Ipswich, happened under the auspices of Brent Walker Leisure who transferred brewing to their other wholly owned subsidiary, Cameron's of Hartlepool. Of course they have said that there will be no change in the character of the beer; and of course nobody believes them. This is the same Brent Walker Leisure who bought some hundred and odd Watneys pubs a couple of years ago and who have now sold the vast majority of these on to Belhaven - or rather their holding company, Control Securities. And whose real ales are these Belhaven pubs selling? Those which are selling real beer at all are taking their products from the Allied Breweries range in all cases that we have come

What is the answer to all of this? I am afraid that I don't know; I am not a financial expert but I don't think that you have to be one to see that a problem exists. I am also aware that it is not confined to the brewing industry; it seems to be a major topic of the financial spot on the 6 o'clock news and the financial pages and covers just about any manufacturing industry. I do think, though, that somebody should look into the brewing industry as a whole and that there should be a total moratorium on all brewery takeovers and mergers (unless it can be shown that a brewery is in genuine danger of imminent bankruptcy unless some drastic measures are taken).

By the way, here's another thought. Are we all wasting our time in worrying about the British brewing industry anyway? Will it simply get swallowed up and all control disappear overseas when that other magic number, 1992, comes along?

Andy Pirson

THE FIRST NATIONAL CIDER AND PERRY EXHIBITION

When you wander around London, you will be lucky to find a pint of real cider. And even more lucky to find a pint of perry! In the last Cider Guide, issued by CAMRA, there were only 82 pubs listed for London and over a quarter of these were Bulmers only outlets. Bulmers is one of the three big producers who dominate the cider scene, much as Watneys, Whitbread et al dominate the beer market. But Britain has a wealth of small, independent cider and perry makers to equal the likes of Adnams and Taylors in quality and taste.

Many of these are produced on farms but their numbers are declining fast. Each week brings tale of one that has given up. They are under more threat than our breweries.

To enable you to taste some of these rarities before they disappear, CAMRA is staging a Cider and

Perry Exhibition. It will be held on the 18/19th May 1990 (Friday lunch and evening, Saturday lunch and evening) at the Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, WC1. In total, over 40 different types of cider and perry will be on display.

To add to the enjoyment there will be live music in the evenings and Saturday lunch time and hot and cold food all sessions. Furthermore, to ensure that parents are not discriminated against, an area where families can go will be set aside.

If you miss this exhibition the liklihood is you will have missed tasting some ciders and perries for ever. Is it worth the chance?

Former licensee June Cogswell is switching from selling pints to selling papers after retiring from the Surprise pub in south London.

Mrs Cogswell ran the Young's house in Southville, off Wandsworth Road, Lambeth, with her husband Bill, who died last year. She is moving to greener pastures in Hellingly, East Sussex, where she will run the village stores with her daughter Samantha and son-

from South London News 220/7/89

in-law Justin Brennan.



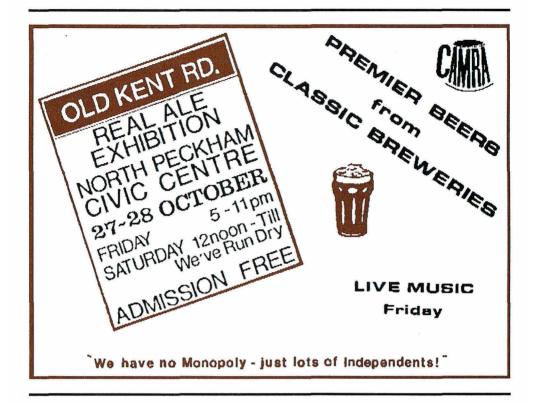
NEWS FROM FULLERS HAND PUMPS! HAND PUMPS!

HAVE ARRIVED AT:-

THE VIADUCT 221 Uxbridge Road Hanwell, W7

SUPPORT OUR LATEST CONVERTS TO REAL ALE AND VISIT THEM SOON





GRAND MET IN BID FOR ELDERS

Lisa Buckingham

Grand Metropolitan, the aggressive brewery group, is to participate in the £2.8 billion takeover offer for rival Elders IXL in order to cement its lucrative distribution contracts for Foster's lager.

The company said yesterday it will put up around £24 million towards the bid which has been launched by Harlin a private company controlled by Elders' chief executive, John Elliott.

Shareholders in Elders recently approved the takeover plan which will reinforce Mr Elliott's personal control over the brewing, agribusiness and finance company which is Australia's biggest company in terms of sales.

The company owns Courage in Britain and was recently defeated in a takeover attempt for Scottish & Newcastle. Analysts did not predict

wider co-operatioon between Elders and Grand Met as a result of the latest takeover investment.

The controversial acquisition, which is not designed to give Mr Elliott and his bidding partners outright control, was devised so a 17 per cent parcel of shares - formerly owned by Petitio, a joint venture of AFP Investment and food giant Goodman Fielder Wattie - could be acquired.

An A\$3-a-share bid has been launched - the price paid for the Petitio stake - but Mr Elliott and a majority of his directors are urging shareholders not to accept, pointing out that the asset value of the group is between 36 cents and 79 cents a share higher than that.

Grand Metropolitan has contracts to distribute Elders' Foster's lager in Britain and America and wants a small stake in the group "to demonstrate the group's commitment to the development of Foster's as an international lager brand".

from the Guardian 12.8.89

POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY BREWERIES SOAR

Political controbutions by breweries during 1987, election year, more than doubled from around £92,000 the previous year to nearly a quarter of a million pounds. With one exception the donations were to the Conservative Party. Top of the list is Allied Lyons with total donations of £102,100, although this time most of the funds were given directly to the Conservative Party rather than to British United Industrialists, who are thought to pass on most of their income to that party.

There are six brewery companies who were not on last year's list including Whitbread who become the second largest contributor. Four brewers have dropped off the list: Morland, Hall & Woodhouse, Charles Wells and Ruddles. The full list is shown below:

CHARITY NEWS

Following another hugely successful sponsored walk by customers and friends of The Nightingale in Nightingale Lane, SW12, which raised £16,000, this small YOUNGS house has boosted its charity work to £97,630.

For the last ten years, landlords and the brewery have supported the event and this year was no exception, John Young donating his usual 36 gallons of bitter. Landlord Jeremy Marley, his wife Diane and staff played host to the weary finishers in the newly opened garden at the rear of the pub. Because of the hot sun the area was covered by a canopy.

The organisers are very keen to support local charitable organisations with the proceeds and there has been an endless list of people helped over the years. Once again congratulations from all at London Drinker on another fantastic achievement.

PS Samantha Marley is the latest addition to the pub's staff. Congratulations Jeremy and Diane!

Also on the subject of charity, we are pleased to announce that the regular bicycle ride to Brighton by the Windmill Wheelers will take place on Sunday 22nd October starting from the WINDMILL, Windmill Road, Hampton Hill at about 9.30 am. This year there is to be

Brewer	Amount £
Allied Lyons (31.3.88)	97,100 (2,1000
Allied Lyons (to B.U.I.)	5,000 (65,000)
Whitbread (29.2.88)	76,500
Scottish	
& Newcastle (30.4.87)	30,000 (5,000)
Vaux (30.9.87)	10,000 (8,000)
Boddington (31.12.87)	5,000 (5,000)
Wolverhampton	
& Dudley (30.9.87)	4,000 (2,000)
Eldridge Pope (30.9.87)	2,500
Thwaites (31.3.88)	2,000
Hardys & Hansons (30.9.87)	2,000 (900)
Timothy Taylor (30.9.87)	1,500 (1,000)
Fuller (31.3.88)	1,450 (1,210)
Everards (30.9.87)	1,000
Heavitree (31.10.87)	800
McMullen (30.9.87)	600
Shepherd Neame (30.6.87)	500 (150)

Key: Dates next to name are the last day of the Financial Year reported. Amounts in brackets are the previous year's donation.

Source: Labour Research, December 1988 Raincoat

a second group of cyclists from Birds Eye Walls headquarters in Walton-on-Thames which will meet up with the main group at Esher. We are pleased to report that some extra sponsorship is expected from the Management at Birds Eye Walls for the event which ties in nicely with their launch of a new range of packaged meals for the health conscious under the banner of "Healthy Options".

C.C./A.P.

POLL LARKS

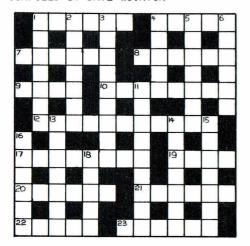
It's not what you ask, it's the way that you ask it.

One opinion poll commissioned by Haig Whisky revealed that 84% of pubgoers wanted more choice of beer in pubs, while one carried out for the Brewers Society showed that 64% of drinkers were satisfied by the choice of beer on offer. And both were carried out by the same organisation, MORI.

From CAMRA Hertfordshire Newsletter Aug/Sep 1989

LONDON DRINKER CROSSWORD

COMPILED BY DAVE QUINTON



Name	 	 		 	 •
Address	 	 		 	
	 	 	· · · · · ·	 	
	 	 		 	 •

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

The winner of the prize will be announced in the December 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



£10 PRIZE TO BE WON

ACROSS

140	The series of makes the series to be seen	101
	He asks a grizzly to eat a horse.	[6]
4.	Wrote about fortress.	[5]
7.	She comes after two articles appear	
	outside.	[6]
8.	Average sort of messenger.	[6]
9.	Man of the soil, I hear.	[4]
10.	Beaten quietly in 3-D.	[8]
12.	Atmosphere in northern countries? It	's
	flat.	[11]
17.	Foolishly passionate to return, thou	gh
	beaten about.	[8]
19.	Some of them I meet in silence.	[4]
20.	Ale run may be fantastic.	(6)
21.	A kind of interest in underclothes.	[6]
22.	Avoid car city.	(5)
23.	Cold like David?	[6]

DOWN

	Street.	[7]
3.	Hermits the first home makers?	[9]
4.	Subject of the meeting.	[5]
5.	Coming badly third we are twisted.	[7]
6.	It can cure in extremely dyslexic	
	conditions.	[6]
11.	Was queen and made direct line.	[5,4]
13.	Made certain king is followed about	. [7]
14.	Geordie, me and little sister toget	her.
	it's fate.	[7]
15.	Short, I hear but sweet.	[7]
16.	Make a great deal of a jump.	(6)
18.	Business I left out of attack.	[5]

2. The most dismal sight in King George

Winner of the prize for the August crossword:

1. Get a bird to drink extra.

R. Prince, Basement Flat, 149 Clapham Road, London SW9 OHP

Other correct entries were received from:
Geoff B. Ted Bridgeman. Peter Brown.
CAMRA Dengie 100. Mr. Mrs & Miss Casey.
A.P. Comaish, Ian Fairweather, Elaine Glover.
Eileen Graves. Alison Henley. Terry Jenkins.
Miss Max Lukehurst, Sam Marley (age 1 wk).
Steve Mott. H. Munday. Ron Newman.
"Odd John (Colchester). Steve Piggott.
Ava Point. W. Priestley. D.R. Pryce. I. R-Y.
Fatima Watney, Martin Weedon, R.P. Welsford.
Yak.

There was also 1 incorrect entry.

First question: What are the best Free Houses in

North London

Answer: Those run by

J. D. Wetherspoon Organisation

Second question: Where are they?

Answer:-

HARRINGAY
OLD SUFFOLK PUNCH
10-12 Grand Parade N4

HARRINGAY

THE MORTIMER ARMS 405 Green Lanes N4

STROUD GREEN
WHITE LION OF
MORTIMER

125/127 Stroud Green Road N4

WEST GREEN
THE GOAT
414-6 West Green Road N15

STOKE NEWINGTON

THE TANNERS HALL 145 High Street N16

TOTTENHAM
THE BOAR
413 Lordship Lane N17

BRUCE GROVE THE ELBOW ROOM 503-505 High Road N17

TOTTENHAM

THE MOON UNDER WATER

423 Lordship Lane N17 RIVER LEA

THE NARROW BOAT Reedham Close N17

ARCHWAY
THE DOG

17/19 Archway Road N19

HOLLOWAY
J J MOONS
37 Landseer Road N19

KINGSBURY

JJ MOON'S

553 Kingsbury Road NW9

WALTHAMSTOW
THE DRUM

557/9 Lea Bridge Road E10

WALTHAMSTOW THE COLLEGE ARMS 807 Forest Road E17

BARNET
THE MOON UNDER

WATER 148 High Street, Barnet

ENFIELD THE MOON UNDER WATER

115/7 Chase Side Enfield

Final (Vital) question: What do they provide?

The final answer:

Traditional atmosphere (no music) Fine victorian decor Splendid Real Ales



767 High Road Finchley London N12 8LB



SW19 NEWS

The GROVE, Morden Road (opposite South Wimbledon Tube) reopened recently after considerable refurbishment.

The pub is now one room forming a horseshoe around the bar. The decor is various carefully chosen shades of blue with soft lighting and well upholstered seating

Beers are Tetley's Bitter, Young's Bitter and Ind Coope Burton and the pub is open all permitted hours. Lunch is available Monday to Friday 11.30-4.00 consisting of a choice of home cooked hot dinners and salads. Food is also available at weekends and Bar-B-Q's may be arranged for Friday and Saturday nights.

The pub now has proper facilities for music with a traditional 6/7 piece Irish band on

Sunday lunch and a similarly sized band on Sunday evening playing a mix of music (60's).

We welcome new managers James and peggy Duffy to the area and wish them every success. The WAY INN, the bar of the Wayfairer Hotel 249-263 The Broadway (opp. Polka Theatre) was recently found to be serving Thwaites Bitter from an unmarked pump. In very good nick as well, but at £1.30p a pint it should be! It is expected a new outlet will soon open at Merton Abbey Mills (opp. Savacentre). Watch this space

Meanwhile down the road in Morden Town Centre a new pub, the Abbot, in Abbotsbury Road has opened. Reported to be selling Young's, Tetley and Burton at premium prices - report to follow.

BRANCH CONTACTS

BEXLEY DES WARD Erith 457156 (H) Orpington 38321 x29
BROMLEY DAVE FOORD 0689 54798 (H)
CROYDON & SUTTON TERRY HEWITT 660 5931 (H)
EAST LONDON & CITY HUGH SMITH 519 1743 (E)
ENFIELD & BARNET LAURENCE FRYER 203 0710 (H)
KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD ALLAN MARSHALL 942 9115 (H) 227 3376 (W)
NORTH LONDON GARY WHITE 801 9513 (H) 405 7686 x2168 (W)
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 MORTON 499 8931 (W) 874 7661 (H)
WEST LONDON ROBERT McGOWAN691 8019 (H) 242 0262 x2348 (W)
WEST MIDDLESEX TED BRADLEY 573 8144 (H) 997 8880 x2153 (W)

LONDON DRINKER is published by the London Branches of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale Limited. Editors: Martin Smith, 64 Brailsford Road, SW2. Chris Cobbold. Tel: 674 0556. Andy Pirson, 22 Fulwell Road, Teddington, Middx. TW11 0RA. 01-977 1633

SUBSCRIPTION: (£6.00 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 7 pm).

Deadline for the November edition, 2nd Oct. Material for Dec. edition to arrive by 1st Nov. Please be sure to send diary material to Andy Pirson.

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BRANCH DIARY

If your branch is not mentioned, please ring the Branch Contact. Dates for October of which we have been notified are given below. Branches please send information to Andy Pirson, Branch Contacts page 9.

CROYDON & SUTTON: Wed 4 (8.00) Cheam Crawl. Start BELL (dep. 8.45), Ewell Road then CLARET WINE BAR; PRINCE OF WALES and RED LION - Thu 12 (8.00) Social. DOG & BULL, Surrey Street, Croydon - Tue 17 (8.00) Branch Meeting. ROBIN HOOD, 52 West Street, Sutton - Thu 2 Nov (8.00) East Croydon Crawl. Start LESLIE ARMS (dep. 8.45), 68 Lower Addiscombe Road then BUILDERS ARMS; HORSE & GROOM and PORTER & SORTER.

EAST LONDON & CITY: Tue 3 (8.00) Branch Meeting. THE DRUM, E10. All CAMRA members welcome - Mon 9 (8.00) Stepney Social. QUEENS HEAD, E14 then FISH & RING (9.30), E1 - Tue 17 (8.00) Open Committee Meeting. WHITE HORSE, E1. All CAMRA members welcome. Advance warning: Wed 15 to Sat 18 Nov. PIG'S EAR REAL ALE FESTIVAL. West Ham Town Hall, Stratford Broadway, E15. Opening times: 5-11 pm (Wed), 11 am - 11 pm (Thu-Sat). Admission: £2 after 5 pm (CAMRA members £1; FREE before 5 pm and all day Saturday.

ENFIELD & BARNET: Tue 3 (9.00) Social, WINDSOR CASTLE, The Walks, Church Lane, N2 - Sun 8 (12.00) Lunchtime Social. OLD WHEATSHEAF, 3 Windmill Hill, Enfield - Wed 11 (8.30) Branch Meeting. GREEN DRAGON, 889 Green Lanes, N21 - Tue 17 (9.00) Social. KING & TINKER, Whitewebbs Lane, Enfield - Thu 26 (9.00) Two Pub Social. OLDE MONKEN HOLT, 193 High Street, Barnet then ALBION (10.00), 74 Union Street - Tue 31 (9.00) Social. DOG & DUCK, 74 Hoppers Road, N21.

KINGSTON & LEATHERHEAD: Sun 1 (12.00) Social. RUNNING HORSE, then DUKES HEAD (1.30), both Leatherhead - Thu 12 (8.30) Business Meeting. CLAREMONT, Esher - Thu 26 (8.00) Pub Crawl of KINGSTON. Start GREY HORSE, then LAMB.

RICHMOND & HOUNSLOW: Thu 10 (8.30) Committee Meeting. O'RIORDAN'S TAVERN, 3 High Street, Brentford - Mon 23 (8.30) Branch Meeting. OLD ANCHOR, 71 Richmond Road Twickenham - Tue 31 Two Pub Social. WHITE SWAN, 26 Old Palace Lane, Richmond then PRINCES HEAD, 28 The Green.

SOUTH EAST LONDON: Mon 14 (8.00) Open Committee/Branch Meeting. BEEHIVE, 122 Meeting House Lane, SE15 - Fri/Sat 27/28 THE SECOND PECKHAM REAL ALE FESTIVAL. North Peckham Community Centre, Old Kent Road, SE15 (Near Gas Works). Fri open 5.00 pm to 11.00 pm; Sat open from 12.00 noon until we run out.

SOUTH WEST ESSEX: Mon 2 (8.00) Darts Match V Herts/Essex Borders. WHITE HART, Moreton (near Ongar). Still provisional; please check with Branch Contact - Tue 10 (8.30) Branch Meeting & Joint Social with North London Branch. ROSE & CROWN, 16 Ilford Hill (A118), Ilford - Wed 18 (8.30) Social. BEAR INN, Noak Hill Road, Romford (Renew our acquaintance with Alec Caliensu) - Mon 23 (10.00 am at Brewery) Brewery Trip to McMullens, Hertford. Details of pick-ups/bookings (if any left) from Wendy Benson (Romford 23897) - Thu 2 Nov (8.30) Social. VICTORIA, Ongar Road, Brentwood.

SOUTH WEST LONDON: Thu 5 (8.00) Meet at the PLOUGH, 518 Wandsworth Rod, SW8 for a short Pub Crawl - Fri 13 (8.30) Social/Crawl of South Wimbledon. Start GROVE TAVERN (by S. Wimbledon Tube) then PRINCESS ROYAL (8.15); TRAFALGAR (9.00); PRINCE OF WALES (9.45) - Wed 18 (7.30) Open Committee meeting followed by Social at 8.30. ROSE & CROWN, Polygon, SW4 - Mon 6 Nov (8.30) Social. DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, 39 Balham High Road, SW12.

WEST MIDDLESEX: Tue 10 (8.30) Conversion Social. VIADUCT, 221 Uxbridge Road, Hanwell, W7 - Wed 18 (8.30) Branch Meeting. RED LION & PINEAPPLE, 281 High Street, Acton, W3 - Tue 24 (8.00) Out of Area Crawl of Maida Vale. Start WARWICK CASTLE (near Warwick Ave Tube) then TRUSCOTT ARMS (8.45); WARRINGTON (9.30); PRINCE ALFRED (10.15), all W9 - Thu 2 Nov (8.30) London Drinker Pickup. KENT HOTEL, 2 Scotch Common, Hanwell, W13.

5 YEARS AGO

Extracts from London Drinker for October 1984

PRESSING TIME FOR A RECORD BREAKER

The Bedford Hotel, in Balham, South London, was the venue for a record-breaking attempt on the world one-handed press-ups title.

Local lad Paul Lynch shattered the one-handed title with 2,754 press ups, and officials from the Guinness Book of Records were at the pub to witness the two-and-a-half hour feat.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Seen on a pub wall recently, "If it wasn't for the brewers only 95% of the population would be drinking water".

HALVES IN TOLWORTH

Regular readers of our updates to REAL BEER IN LONDON will have noted that earlier this year the number of real ale outlets in Tolworth in SW London doubled, with the addition of the Toby Jug (Charrington) to the longer established Red Lion (Courage). Now the number have been halved back to one since the Red Lion has become Sullivan's, a wine/cocktail bar. Now all the beer you can get is either Best Bitter or Hofmeister lager, both keg and both at £1.10, according to the uniformed security guard. They also do some imported bottled beers at £1.20 a throw. This change is in line with Courage policy on pub 'modernisation', which is in line with say, the Host Group conversions but much less publicised and seemingy with little or no role real ale, in contrast to Host.

1989 Comment:

Something familiar about those prices wouldn't you think. As a comparison how about this letter to the editors:

Dear Sirs.

Even Youngs have gone round the bend.

I popped into the Horse and Groom in Hampstead on Thursday 9th August and found that the Ordinary Bitter which has been 77p a pint for a long time in all the Youngs pubs I know is now 84p and the Special Bitter is 88p I know that Hampstead is the Socialist Republic but it

THE TILTED GLASS

(A FREE HOUSE)

TALLY-HO CORNER, 359 BALLARDS LANE, FINCHLEY, LONDON N12 8LJ Telephone: 01-445 2556

A VARIETY OF REAL ALES

PUB GRUB—

MORNINGS & EVENINGS

NO KEG BEERS IN THIS HOUSE

BODDINGTONS BITTER YOUNGS SPECIAL RUDDLES BEST WEBSTERS YORKSHIRE ADNAMS BITTER

BUSES 26, 125, 236

Nearest Underground-WOODSIDE PARK

never entered my head that it would be so expensive. In addition, they do not have thin or straight gasses.

I found that Nag's Head which is now owned by McMullens has been refurbished and is architecturally very nice, but there was only one beer on sale - the most expensive Country Bitter at 83p a pint. There was plenty of food there but when I asked the dollybird for a couple of bangers she was much above such a request. This was despite the fact that I was the only customer and she was the only barmaid.

J H Yindrich, London W8

Editors Comment:

Let us hasten to reassure you that youngs have not gone round as you suggest. On several occasions since your foray up the Hill we have visited Youngs pubs and still found the Ordinary Bitter at around 77 to 78p a pint in saloon bars.

Views expressed in this publication are those of their individual authors, and are not necessarily endorsed by the Editorial team or the Campaign for Real Ale.

EAST END NEWS

THE NAME CHANGE GAME

The Bull in Kingsland High Street E8 is now called the Kingsland while nearby the Crown & Castle is closed. Also in E8 the pub called Hustlers these past years has now reverted to its former name of the Victoria. The Warburton Arms in Mare Street is also closed but it seems it may re-open renamed the London Fields. Also in E8 and after renovations have taken place the Mr Pepys in Mare Street is now the Samuel Pepys. Name changes also abound in E9 where the Two Blackboys in Well Street is now called the Claddagh, will someone of irish descent please let me know what that is. Meanwhile at 163 Gossett Street E2, not to be outdone, the Westminster Arms, RJ's, Jazzy Dee's, call it what you will is now Flamingos.

CLOSED

The Bell, 6 Addle Hill and the Ludgate Cellars, 1 Apothecary Street, both EC4 are closed as is the Morgans Arms in E3.

BELHAVEN UPDATE

The Telegraph, 51 Church Street E15 is now called The Lock Stock 'N' Barrel. Websters Yorkshire Bitter has been withdrawn and the pub sells only keg beer following its sale to the Belhaven Brewery. Whilst we are on about Belhaven pubs, two in E3 have been surveyed and have been found to be selling keg beers only. The Albert and the Rose of Denmark both in Roman Road are the pubs concerned, whether they went keg (they both sold real ale three years back) since being sold to Brent Walker prior to the sale to Belhaven is not clear. What was odd was that the Rose of Denmark sold all Courage beers except for the odd bottle of Carlsberg whereas the Albert sold keg Tetley, XXXX lager and bottled beers from Whitbread with the odd bottle of Bishops Finger from Shepherd Neame! A pattern seems to be forming nationwide of previously all keg pubs being sold to Belhaven. CAMRA colleagues in Bradford confirm this but had also heard that licensees wanting real ale can have it. Latest new sightings of Belhaven pubs is that of the Acorn at the corner of Queensbridge Road and Whiston Road E2 which formerly belonged to Trumans and the Dagmar Arms (was Zanzibar and Watneys) in E9 which has proper Belhaven signs.

RE-OPENINGS

The White Swan, 21 Alie Street E1 which has

been closed these past four years has now reopened. This Grade II Listed Building had a fire sometime back following its closure. A former Taylor Walker pub, it became a free house but is now selling Shepherd NEame beers. Handpumps for Best Bitter and Master Brew (106p) adorn the bar.

The Bombay Grab in Bow Road E3 has reopened once again but there are no handpumps on the bar.

NEW PUB

Taylor Walker opened a former Dockmaster's House, Customs, and British Waterways premises as the Barley Mow in mid-July. Situated in Narrow Street directly on the Thames in Limehouse Basin it sells Tetley, Youngs Special (125p) and Taylor Walker Best Bitter which was not on sale on my visit. The Taylor Walker Brewery was known as the Barley Mow Brewery and situated not far from the site of the pub in Church Road. Founded in 1730 as Salmon and Hare and later became Haer and Hartford, Taylor purchased Hare's interest in 1796 and Walker became a partner in 1816 when the name was changed to Taylor Walker. Ind Coope took them over in 1960 and naturally enough when breweries are taken over, brewing ceased. I'll make a prediction for the coming year by saying that the Ind Coope range of Taylor Walker Benskins and Friary Meux will disappear and be replaced with the inoffensive Tetley. Information on the Taylor Walker Brewery supplied by the Brewery History Society via the East London & City Beer Guide.

TITBITS

The Horseshoe and Magpie in Topham Street EC1 while still being open and possibly still keg now has a sign indicating that it is for sale. The pub known as Bullers (formerly the Morpeth Castle and Manhattan) in Cadogan Terrace E9 has been closed for some time but there are signs (dirty great bin loads of rubbish outside) that work is in progress on the inside Whether it will remain a pub is debatable as the pub fronts onto Victoria Park and backs onto the motorway. Looks more likely that it will become yuppie homes. The London Apprentice in EC1 has signs indicating that it has been sold. The Prince of Wales in Barnet Grove, E2 on the other hand has had the for sale signs removed.

Keith Emmerson

PECKHAM REAL ALE EXHIBITION

Following another very successful beer festival at Greenwich, the S.E. London Branch of CAMRA will be holding the second Peckham Real Ale Exhibition in October. Last year a number of Drinker readers complained tha they were not aware of the event until after it had taken place. The event was advertised on a very restricted basis in order to just attract the local community to what was very much an experimental "toe in the water" event. However the Branch now feels that the experiment was sufficiently successful to be repeated on a larger scale with more widespread advertising.

This exhibition, which will be on Friday 27th and Saturday 28th October 1989, will not be as big as Greenwich Beer Festival but what it may lack in quantity it will more than make up for in quality! It may not be correct to describe it as a Winter Ale Festival but nevertheless most of the beers on sale will be in the premier bitter class. Looking down the list of probable runners and ignoring the two milds (so the

staff can stay sober to serve you), the average OG works out at 1051!

This rare opportunity to sample a range of stronger bitters will be from 5.00 pm to 11.00 pm on Friday and from 12 noon until the Exhibition runs dry at approx. 7.00 pm on the Saturday. Admission will be free at all times There will be a limited amount of live entertainment on the Friday but none on Saturday since this will be an occasion for the serious and dedicated sampler of some of Britain's most prestigious beers.

The venue for this important entry in your diary is the North Peckham Civic Centre on the Old Kent Road at its junction with Peckham Park Road. South Bermondsey and Queens Road (Peckham) B.R. Stations are about ¾ mile away and the 21, 53, 78, 141, 177, N77 and N85 buses all stop at the door (ask for Canal Bridge stop).

WETHERED BITTER • WETHERED SPA • FLOWERS ORIGINAL

KINGS HEAD

59 ESSEX ROAD · LONDON N1 01-226 1825

HOT AND COLD FOOD AVAILABLE ● CARVERY ROASTS

OPEN ALL LICENSED HOURS · HAPPY HOUR 5.30 - 6.30pm

ENFIELD & BARNET NEWS

Firstly our apologies to our correspondent, Laurence Fryer for spelling his name Lawrence in the August edition. That sort of thing can easily happen if you sign yourself with just initials.

Carrying on from that we have news of four pubs in the Borough of Barnet. The BAT & GOLDFISH run by Inn Leisure has reopened and it is business as usual. Meanwhile the RAT & PARROT (Vaux) has a new manager reported to be a new broom and there are hopes of new beers appearing there soon. DRUMMONDS (another Charrington fizz cafe/bar), formerly the Belgrave in High Road, N12 has closed for a refit while the BALD FACE STAG (Taylor Walker) in High Road, N2 has reopened after a long overdue one.

In Hendon, NW4 Courage have reopened the CHEQUERS. It now has only two bars and the sound system has been toned down for the lounge. A price increase of 6 pence a pint on reopening was followed by a further 6 pence increase just 21 days later! This must be a record, even for Courage! The home cooked food is reported to be very popular though.

Also in Hendon the live mustic at the LONDON, MIDLAND & SCOTTISH has been stopped by the brewery, Taylor Walker although the

Hendon Times reports that the Psychobilly's were not a problem locally.

Again in Hendon the SWISS HOUSE (Inn Leisure) on Watford Way now sells Marston's Pedigree and occasionally even does the Burton Bitter - a great rarity outside Marston's tied houses.

Another closure for refit is CHIMES (formerly the Bell - fizz Whitbread) in Hertford Road, Enfield while the COOKS FERRY INN (Whitbread - Beefeater) on the stretch of the A406, North Circular Road known as Angel road has closed for road widening. Another pub to have reopened following refurbishment is the JOLLY FARMERS (Taylor Walker) in Church Street, N9.

T.R.A.M. NEWS

T.R.A.M. 8 is now available covering the route from West Drayton to Paddington via Greenford (Guess where!) You can get a copy by sending 50 pence plus a s.a.e. to T.R.A.M. Days, 111 Torrington Park, London N12 9PN. Enfield and Barnet Branch would like to thank those of you who have written in with orders as all proceeds go to their campaigning funds. For further details of T.R.A.M. Days and a list of the other seven available see page 10 of the August London Drinker.

WILTING FLOWERS UPROOTED

Poor old Whitbread. As if they didn't have enough problems, what with doubling their profits and not having to sell off their breweries now that Lord Young (RIP) has decided that backhanders to Tory funds are more important than consumer interests.

Now they've gone and upset the gay drinking community. Witters has agreed to pull down posters in two London boroughs - the People's Republics of Camden and Islington - that feature in slogan NOT ALL FLOWERS ARE PANSIES.

The complaint came, predictably, from CHE the Campaign for Homosexual Equality, and from Kay Stokes, a licensee who runs three pubs, including the gay hostelry, the Edward IV, in Islington.

She attacked the brewery's bigotry and said

"either the posters come down or Flowers goes out of my pubs." With both beady eyes firmly on Mrs Stokes' cash till, top Twits from Chiswell Street immediately agreed to uproot the pansies - but only in the two London boroughs. Seems that gay chaps will go on being insulted by Flowers in other parts of the country.

Good to see that CAMRA weighed in against the offensive brewing moguls. HQ's Steve Cox said the poster not only offended homosexuals "but it also does not appeal to other consumers, such as women." Specially those called Pansy.

*Sources close to Whitbread whisper that the brewery will replace Flowers in all known gay pubs with West Country Pale Ale, known universally as "Boy's Bitter."

NEW BEER FROM KING & BARNES

On Saturday 2nd September a small contingent from London Drinker together with representatives of many CAMRA branches were made cordially welcome at King & Barnes brewery in Horsham, West Sussex for the launch of a new Best Bitter called BROADWOOD BITTER.

This is a traditional cask conditioned (as you would expect) mid strength bitter with an original gravity of 1040 (4.0% alcohol by volume) which slots neatly between Sussex Bitter (1034) and their premium bitter, Festive (1050). Our immediate reaction was that it was a very pleasant beer, fairly full bodied but not too sweet. Head brewer, Andrew Hepworth has followed the same brewing techniques used for the other bitters to develop Broadwood. "As a result", he stated, "Broadwood has the same well balanced marriage of the flavours of malt, hops and yeast. It is fuller than Sussex without going over the top on strength."

The new beer has been available in King & Barnes' 65 tied houses since 2nd September and according to free Trade Manager, Peter Blackshaw, it will be making its appearance in free houses "as quickly as our Cellar Services Team can fit the Handpumps".



Brewery Chairman Jim King said, "It's always difficult to choose a credible new name, so we held a competition. There was a tremendous response to the opportunity of naming a new beer. We particularly liked BROADWOOD not only for its happy association with our local Morris Side, the Broadwood Men - but because it has a good, traditional solid ring to it". Three entrants chose the name and these were each presented with a firkin of the beer for their efforts.

HERE'S ENTERPRISE...

Just down the road from the site of the Rose Theatre (with full supporting cast of lamenting actors), on the south side of London's Southwark Bridge stands the Ben Truman pub. Oh, no it doesn't. These quaint late 20th century premises, having disppeared under a flurry of sign-writers, emerged yesterday as the Shakespeare Tavern. Very authentic. They're probably, even now, working ona reinforced concrete inglenook and Bard's bar.

from the Guardian 2/8/89

BACK NUMBERS

To date 117 editions of London Drinker have been issued, back numbers of the following are available:

1979: April, May, September, December.

1980: Feb, March (1 copy only), April, Sept, Nov.

1981: April (1 copy only), June, July, Aug, Oct.

1982: Feb (1 copy only), May, July, Sept.

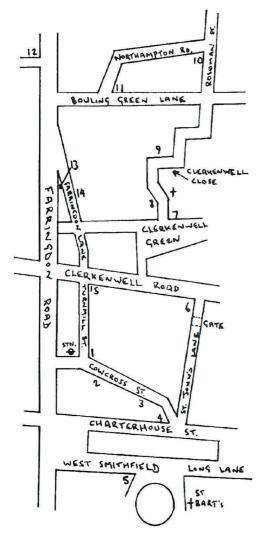
1983: Mar (1 copy only), June - Dec inc.

1984: March - Dec incl. 1985 to 1989: All issues.

If you need any of the above for your collection, they are available at 50 pence each, post free from:

Stan Tompkins, 122 Manor Way, Uxbridge, Middlesex.

Historicrawl: Clerkenwell, Part 2



For those of you who found the first part of this Crawl slightly confusing and were too polite to say so, I must apologise. As no typewriter was available and it was necessary to do the whole thing in a hurry in manuscript form during a bout of illness which left me rather shaky in all senses of the word (NO, not DT's) there were several mis-spellings and omissions in a piece not up to the standard preferred. So much for excuses.

I refer you to the map - hopefully better than the last botched-up effort. We started at Farringdon Station and visited, in order, the Castle (1), the Three Compasses (2), the Blue Posts (3), the Hope (4) the Rutland, alias Bishop's Finger (5), the Coach & Horses (6), the Crown (7) on Clerkenwell Green, and the Three Kings (8). We begin this section on the Green, which has been no such thing for three or more centuries. This area was very fashionable in the 17th Century, when Cromwell occupied a house nearby. The imposing building on the West side was formerly the Clerkenwell Sessions House, built in 1779 and extended due to increased custom in 1860. It ceased to be a courthouse in 1919, and after a period as offices, then of disuse, it was acquired by a Masonic Foundation, and restored in 1979. During the last century, Clerkenwell was known as "the headquarters of republicanism revolution" - by then it was a very poor area. Appropriately - it may be argued - on the North side just facing the former Sessions House is the Marx Memorial Library (since 1933) in a building dating from 1737 where Twentieth Century Press published many Socialist publications, and in 1902 Lenin published Iskra. (We encounter him again later.) Passing the Crown (7) we enter Clerkenwell Close, a winding lane and once part of St Mary's Nunnery, an order of Augustinian canonesses, founded around 1140 and dissolved in 1539. The Church was retained for parish use, demolished and replaced by the present Church of St. James, built between 1788 and 1792. It contains memorials to the Smithfield Martyrs - Protestants of the 1550s - and of the victims of the "Fenian Explosion" of 1867. More of these later. As mentioned last time, the Three Kings (8), opposite the Church, was formerly the hostelry of the Nunnery. Continuing up the close, we now encounter the Horseshoe (9), Courage Best and Directors, listed as an alehouse in 1747 so presumably older. To all appearances from its small facade a tiny lock-up, it is extremely large inside, and features in the current Good Beer Guide. Legend has it that it was once connected by a tunnel to the nearby prison for the use of the then public hangman, one Thomas Cratwell, who was himself

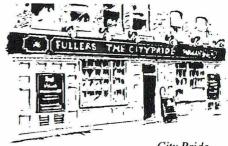
eventually hanged for stealing. Following the map - on pain of getting lost - at the junction with Bowling Green Lane and Corporation Row the large edifice on the right, now the ILEA Kingsway Princeton College, is the former Hugh Myddelton School. It stands on the site of several former prisons, the last of which (the House of Detention) has previously been mentioned in these pages, though in this context further detail is appropriate. In 1867 a bomb was planted against a wall in Corporation Row, on a spot between the gates marked in the Victorial Style, "Special Girls" and "Girls and Infants". The intention was to release a number of Fenians (fore-runners of the IRA), but it went off in the wrong place, killing and maining a number of uninvolved prisoners, and the leader of the plotters, Michael Barrett, was hanged the following year outside Newgate Prison, gaining the dubious distinction of being the last person in this country to be executed in public. A plaque inside the wall between the two gates commemorates the event. Prison cells still exist below the school building, and were used as air raid shelters in the last war. Returning to the crossroads, we turn right into Rosoman Street, to the Thomas Wethered (10), which boasts the widest choice of beers on this Crawl. These consist of Wethered S.P.A. and Bitter, McMullen Country, Marston Pedigree and Flowers Original, Happy Hours are between 5 and 7 pm, Monday to Friday. Passing the other side of this pub down Northampton Road; at the bottom end on the left the Surprise (11) sells Tetley Bitter and Ind Coope Burton Ale. Continue to Farringdon Road, cross over and a few yards to your right is the Eagle (12), Banks & Taylors, where Lenin stayed and partly planned the Russian Revolution. This pub is G.B.G. recommended. Back across the main road and southwards, we



The Horseshoe

encounter on the other side the Betsey (13), Shepherd Neame, a triangular building flanked on its left by Farringdon Lane (NOT

Road) which we now follow to the City Pride (14), Fullers, G.B.G. A few doors further down on the same (left) side we now encounter the Clerk's Well, from which the area derives its name. Now forming part of the basement and ground level of a modern building, it is one of many springs which abounded in the area, and is said to be the source of miraculous cures. The Clerken Well - to use its ancient title - was first recorded in 1174 by Fitzwilliam in his biography of St. Thomas Becket, himself a Londoner, assassinated in Canterbury Cathedral in 1170. The springs fed the River Fleet which now flows in a culvert under Farringdon Lane and its extension, Turnmill Street. In 1861 it burst through and washed down a large portion of the retaining wall of the Metropolitan Railway, then under construction. For our last port of call we cross Clerkenwell Road to Turnmills (15), Taylor Walker, a modern, comfortable pub in a basement which once housed the motive power units for London's horse buses.



City Pride

The name refers to a watermill which stood on the site - one of many along the banks of the then visible River Fleet. A short walk along Turnmill Street brings us back to Farringdon Station.

On a final, practical note, I mentioned a couple of issues back that I am rapidy running out of inspiration for Historicrawls. They often take a year or more to prepare - even though frequently the finished item is done in a rush. For instance, the final touches to this piece are being put together on a train en route to meet the Editorial Team. Only two Historicrawls are currently in the pipeline, so please pass on any suggestions via the Editors.

Thanks - Merton

BEER BRIEFING

LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 47

The pub and real ale scene in London is constantly changing. The aim of this column is to keep "London Drinker" readers up to date with events as they happen and record confirmed changes to pubs and beers as they are reported. This month we record two further new free houses in North London created from converted commercial premises. A list of Belhaven pubs has now been received from the brewery. 96 pubs within Greater London are believed to have been acquired but 5 of these, although displaying Belhaven signs do not appear on the list. Those not already recorded are listed below. The compilers would be interested to receive information on real ale availability in Belhaven pubs.

The numbers in brackets after each entry are intended to make it easy to update your London beer guides. They refer to page numbers in the East London & City Beer Guide, 2nd edition (E prefix); the North London Beer Guide, 2nd edition (N prefix); the South East London Pub Guide, 3rd edition (SE prefix), Real Beer in South West London (SW prefix); Real Beer in West London (W prefix); the Essex Beer Guide, 7th edition (X prefix) or previous updates (U prefix).

If you would like to report changes to pubs or beers please write to: Beer Guides Updates, 2 Sandtoft Road, London SE7 7LR.

NEW PUBS & PUBS CONVERTED TO REAL ALE NORTH

N7, WIG & GOWN, 99 Holloway Road. Adnams: Bitter. Tetley: Bitter. Wadworth: 6X. New Free House in former shop premises operated by Hill Taverns. Food, Jukebox, pool. Open all licensed hours.

N8, TOLL GATE, 26-30 Turnpike Lane.
Greene King: Abbot Ale. Marston: Pedigree. Younger: Scotch Bitter (87p). Plus guest beers: currently Boddington: Bitter & Thwaites: Bitter (89p). Latest Wetherspoon Free House in former car sales premises. Large plush comfortable wood panelled bar with "library end". Food. Open all licensed hours. Recommended

SOUTH EAST

SE9, ROYAL ELTHAM, Kingsley Wood Drive.
Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter.
John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (SE77)
SE13, STATION, 14 Staplehurst Road.
Courage: Best Bitter, Directors Bitter.
(SE105)
RICCID HILL CLASS'S CAFE RAP 182 Main

BIGGIN HILL, GLASS'S CAFE BAR,182 Main Road. Free House/cafe bar. No real ale. Omitted in error from SE Guide.

BIGGIN HILL, MANOR, Main Road (nr Salt Box Hill junction). Free House. No real ale. Omitted in error from SE Guide.

BIGGIN HILL, SPINNING WHEEL, Grays Road (junction with Buckhurst Road). Free House/restaurant. No real ale. Omitted in

error from SE Guide.

ERITH, BOUNDARY, 2 North End Road.

Courage: Best Bitter. (SE254)

ERITH, PHEASANT, 27 Belmont Road. Courage:
Rest Bitter. (SE255)

SOUTH WEST

KINGSTON, KINGSTON LODGE HOTEL, 94 Kingston Hill. Courage: Best Bitter. (SW66, U30)

KINGSTON, YELLOW HEAVEN SOUP KITCHEN, Richmond Road. Younger: IPA. Free House, ex wine bar, restaurant upstairs.

PUBS CLOSED OR CEASED SELLING REAL ALE NORTH

ENFIELD, BOUNDARY HOUSE. Whitbread, H removed. (N180)

SOUTH EAST

SE6, GREEN MAN. Watney, renamed BERNI INN, no other obvious name, H removed. (SE62) SE11, FRENCH HORN. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker, H removed. (SE93) SE11, GEORGE. Watney, H unused. (SE93) SE12, NORTHBROOK. Watney, reopened after refurbishment, H removed. (SE98) SE14, NEW CROSS INN. Courage. H unused. (SE112)

BEXLEYHEATH, CROOK LOG CENTRE. Free House, H unused. (SE211)

ERITH, BREWERS ARMS. Truman, H removed. (SE254)

ERITH, CROSS KEYS. Truman, H removed. (SE255)

ERITH, PRINCE OF WALES. Watney, H unused. (SE255)

SOUTH WEST

KINGSTON, DOLPHIN. Courage, demolished for road scheme. (SW65, U32)

OTHER CHANGES TO PUBS & BEER RANGES EAST

E2, ACORN. Now Belhaven. ex Truman.* (E69)

Continued on p 23





WHERE TO FIND

SUSSEX IN LONDON

THE ALBERT ARMS 82 High Street, Esher. THE APPROACH TAVERN 47 Approach Road, London E2 **BOATERS** Lower Ham Road, Kingston THE BRICKLAYERS ARMS 63 Charlotte Road, London E2 THE BRITISH OAK Robin Hood Lane, Poplar, London **BURTES FREE HOUSE** 237 Wandsworth Road, London SW8 THE CARTOON 177/181 London Road, W Croydon THE CLARET WINE BAR 33 The Broadway, Cheam THE CLARET WINE BAR 5 Bingham Corner Lower Addiscombe Road, Croydon THE CONOUEROR 2 Austin Street, London E2 THE HOLE IN THE WALL Mepham Street, Waterloo Station THE HOP EXCHANGE 149 Maple Road, Penge, London THE JOLLIFFE ARMS London Road, North Merstham

THE LION 182 Pawsons Road, Croydon THE LITTERN 118 Oldfield Lane South, Greenford THE ORLEANS Orchard Road, Shirley THE RAILWAY TAVERN Ewell Road, Surbiton, Surrey THE TWO BADGERS High Elm Golf Course, Farnborough, Kent THE TRAFALGAR High Path, Merton SW19 THE TWO CHAIRMEN 39 Dartmouth Street, London SW THE VICTORIA 56 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW THE WELLINGTON TAVERN 81/83 Waterloo Road, London SE1 THE WESTMINSTER ARMS 9 Storeys Gate, London SE1 WOODIES FREEHOUSE Thetford Road, New Malden YE OLDE BRIDGE HOUSE 215 Tower Bridge Road, London SE1

King & Barnes Fine sussex ales

SEEING THROUGH THE FROTH

The following article is taken from the MUNICIPAL JOURNAL dated 4th August 1989 and is written by David Roberts who is Chief Trading Standards Officer at Shropshire County Council.

The brewers are in the news again. The recent Monopolies and Mergers Committee (MMC) report calls for the break-up of the 'vertical' monopolies created by the brewers. The Committee decided that a monopoly exists in favour of those brewers who own tied houses and also in favour of those who have tying agreements with free houses and clubs, in return for loans at favourable interest rates. In other words the brewers had no incentive to keep prices competitive. The amounts of money involved are remarkable. Beer sales represent 2% of gross national product.

The MMC report has received the backing of Lord Young, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. Strange, is it not, that the present structure of the brewing industry was supported only a few years ago by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food! Poor old MAFF, no-one's friend, they really are coming in for some stick these days.

Already the brewers are bitter about the report and are mounting a campaign to prevent the MMC recommendations being put into effect. Judging from past performances it will not be a mild affair.

Selling off pubs to linked companies is one idea being floated. However, even if the brewers have friends in high places in the UK - and one reads in the press of the MMC plans being watered down in recent talks between DTI ministers and the brewers - it seems that Sir Leon Brittan in his role as Commissioner for Competition, will bring EEC pressure to bear to bring about change.

Trading standards officers have more than a passing interest in beers, wines and spirits and those who sell them - brewers, publicans, restaurateurs et al. After all, one of their historical jobs was as beer measurers and tasters and some still give that aspect of their job - both in on-duty hours and leisure time - no little priority. From historical times brewers, then small local tradesmen far removed from

today's giants, were subject to laws concerning short measure and adulteration. In St Lawrence's Church at Ludlow in Shropshire there is a wooden carving of a lady beer seller on her way go hell, because she sold short measure beer. Trading standards officers and their authorities, thwarted for years in getting weights and measures law implemented and food laws enacted, may have the sure and certain knowledge that if justice is not done in this world, it will be in the next!

Since 1979 there has been law on the statute book requiring that when beer is measured the froth should be excluded. The only trouble is that law needs an order to bring it into force and successive ministers of consumer protection have refused to bring in such an order. Why? Some say it is because the Government does not wish to upset a traditional supporter. The brewers say that to implement it will cost too much and will put up the price of beer and that customers want a head on their beer. Given that many establishments use beer measuring meters and which give correct measure and a head at the same time, that is a weak argument.

The alternative to beer meters, line glass measures (where the measure is indicated by a line below the brim, instead of brim measures which give correct measure at the brim and so do not allow a head on the beer if correct measure is given) could be introduced over a period, so that reason, or excuse, is also less than convincing; even more so, given the rapid and substantial rises in the price of beer which brewers have imposed from their monopolies haven in recent years.

Short measure is surely bad public relations, but they refuse to bring in correct measure by consent. Indeed some have removed the accurate beer meters to return to more profitable ways. Surveys show average deficiencies to be in the region of 5% to 10% - money for old rope! Brewers have not been too happy either to reveal to the public the quality of their beer by disclosing alcohol levels. Under pressure, they have given some specific gravity readings on dispensing heads, but they are meaningless to the average drinker.

Percentage alcohol contents are now to be given and that should enable drinkers to get

some idea of value for money, as well as taste, when they buy beer. It should enable drinkers to watch how much they drink before they drive - so long as they have their pocket calculators with them!

Another cause for complaint is the cost of the reduced alcohol beers which have become so popular. Another abuse of a monopoly situation The high profit margins for soft drinks - up to 800% in some cases - offends many. It's cheaper to get intoxicated!

What remains a mystery to consumers is what their beer is made of. Strange, is it not, that neither domestic law nor European Community law has yet required a list of ingredients to be shown. We do know that most beer contains ingredients that serve only to facilitate the perpetration of fraud such as frothing agents to get the head on the beer - as if the use of nozzles on dispensers enabling publicans to create a 'head' were not enough. Colours too - what would we do without caramel! 'A pint of assorted chemicals please'.

Some point to the power of the brewers in persuading governments not to require such disclosure, but, if the rise of CAMRA - and its suggestions on what goes into beers are to be believed - and the return to real ale is anything to go by, there is a deal to hide.

Given modern production methods and other so-called technological advances, it is surprising (or is it?) that so many advertisements for beer refer to traditional ways. However, beer is not the only cause celebre. Cider sometimes is traded as a traditional product when it contains modern synthetic additives. 'Traditional? -Oh, we mean made by traditional methods not with traditional additives'. Well why don't they say so? Even so, some would query the 'traditional' methods used!

Wine is a mystery to many people. Perhaps that is why there are so many connoisseurs!

Europe has more legislation on wine than on any other product. The French have appellation controlle and regularly have wine frauds. The

Continued on page 22

A SOUTHERN STRONGHOLD

E.S.B. (1050°) Strong Full Flavoured Beer with a Proud Tradition

BITTER (1035°) Fine Lancashire Style Pale Bitter

MILD (1034°) Dark, Succulent, Sweet and Beautiful!

> Born 1880 - Still Brewing STRONG!

MITCHELLS -- NATURALLY!



AVAILABLE NOW FROM
MITCHELLS OF LANCASTER
BREWED, BY THE FAMILY, RUN BY THE
FAMILY AND ENJOYED BY
THE FAMILY
TEL: 0524 66580

ASK FOR MAX TAYLOR

Germans have super control systems and still got Diethylene Glycol in their wine, albeit via Austria. It is said they sell more Leibfraumilch than they produce. The Italians found wood alcohol in some of their wine. We had the Hirondelle scandal. Added sugar and fruit sugars are used to sweeten wines but you wouldn't know!

Wine, like beer, doesn't have to have its ingredients listed even though numerous additives are used - for example, sulphur dioxide, which causes rashes and worse in some people, is added as a preservative. Altogether the wine trade identifies no less than 61 additives in use in wine making. More additives than grapes?

There has been law for some time requiring wine to be sold in prescribed quantities in bottles. The measure of wine by the carafe is also controlled but, despite a Code of Practice which, again, successive ministers have threatened (or is that too strong a word) to make law if it is not obeyed, a great deal of wine is sold by the glass and the quantity is not stated as required by the code.

Spirits too are a cause of concern. There can be few trading standards authorities who have not found cases of short measure spirits - especially when the kind barman quickly tips the mixer in with the spirit in the mistaken belief that a trading standards officer cannot prove short measure.

Few, too, who have not had branded, quality products, substituted by cheaper brands often containing less alcohol.

Whisky, brandy, gin - all are subject to some form of 'passing off'. Oh yes, and you don't know what ingredients are used in those products either.

My religious education included the miracle at Cana when Our Lord turned water into wine at a wedding. The Bible story tells how it was a regular practice to give good wine at the early part of the celebrations, but to move on to the poor stuff later. Some years ago in Shropshire we had the case of the Harveys Bristol Cream that was in fact a cheap Amontillado at a wedding. 'The oldest frauds in the newest ways' to misquote Shakespeare.

Clearly these omissions from the general law applying to food and drink have not come about by accident. I well recall the time when the first Weights and Measures Bill, which contained controls on the sale of tobacco, was being introduced in Parliament in 1961. On visiting a tobacco products factory I was told by a director that there was no way in which the trade would accept those controls. The Bill was withdrawn and reappeared in the next session, in almost the same form as the previous Bill, but without the onerous tobacco provisions. Coincidence - or the power to influence?

It will be interesting to see if the commissions referred to are remedied in the next year or so. If they are, it may be because of the power of Europe.

Whatever, the trade will not easily be moved to serve the customer rather than themselves. Oh to be a fly on the wall in the corridor of power!

JOHN GILBERT NEWS

John Gilbert, of the Wyndham Arms, Escourt Road, Salisbury produced another winner when his HOP BACK SUMMER LIGHTNING was voted Best Beer in the new brewery section at Leeds. John fully deserves this award and a very popular win it proved to be. His other beers GFB, HBS and STOUT are also available at the pub and at selected outlets. John tells me he is having to increase production to keep up

with demand and sends his grateful thanks to his loyal London friends for supporting his business when he was getting it off the ground and since he has become more successful. He would also like me to thank all CAMRA members who voted his beer into the finals. As people know, a warm welcome is always assured at John's in Salisbury.

C.C.

BEER BRIEFING LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 47 Continued

- E2, BRITANNIA, 12 Chilton Street. Now Belhaven, ex Truman via Brent Walker.* (E71)
- E2, DOVER CASTLE. Now Belhaven, ex Truman via Brent Walker. (E71)
- E2, HORNS. Contrary to previous report, still named BROWNS. (E71, U39, U46)
- E5, SHAMPS. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker. (E96)
- E8, BLACK BULL. Now Belhaven, ex Truman via Brent Walker. Currently closed. (E105)
- E8, ROYAL OAK. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker.* (E111)
- E8, UNCLE SAMS. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker. Formerly RICHMONDS.
- E8, YOUNG PRINCE. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker. (E111)
- E9, DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE. Now Belhaven, ex Truman via Brent Walker. (E114)
- E9, DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE. Now Belhaven, ex Truman. (E114)
- E9, LORD NELSON. Now Belhaven, ex Watney.
- E12, STAR. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker.* (E127)
- E14, SABBARTON ARMS. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker. (E143)
- E15, TELEGRAPH. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (E150)
- E16. ROYAL OAK, 83 Woodman Street. Now Belhaven, ex Truman via Brent Walker. (E155)
- E16, SHAKESPEARES HEAD. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker.* (E155) NORTH
- N1, BARING ARMS. Now Belhaven, ex Truman.
- N1. GREEN MAN, 53 Mildmay Street. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (N45)
- N1, MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, 54 Balls Pond Road. Now Belhaven, ex Truman via Brent Walker. (N46)
- N1, MARQUIS OF SALISBURY, 64 Freeling Street. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker.* (N38)
- N1, OXFORD ARMS. Now Belhaven, ex Truman via Brent Walker. (N46)
- N1, TALBOT. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker. (N46)
- N1, WHITE CONDUIT. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (N44)
- N7. CITY OF ROME. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker.* (N64)
- N7. ROYAL VICTORY. Renamed MOYNIHAN ARMS. Now a Free House (ex Charrington). Still no real ale. (N69)
- N16, ATLAS. Now Belhaven, ex Truman via Brent Walker. (N94)

- N16, EBOR ARMS. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (N92)
- N16, HORSE & GROOM. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker. (N94)
- N16, NEW COACH & HORSES. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (N95)
- ENFIELD, ENFIELD STORES. Truman: Best Bitter. + Ruddle: Best Bitter. Formerly HOP POLES. (N190, U36)
- ENFIELD, WONDER. + McMullen: Country Bitter. (N189)

NORTH WEST

- NW5, ROSE & CROWN. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (N145)
- NW7. SWISS HOUSE. Wadworth: 6X.
- + Marston: Burton Bitter. A rare brew for London. (U32)

SOUTH EAST

- SE1. GOOSEBERRIES. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (SE25)
- SE1, MARQUIS OF WELLINGTON. Now Belhaven, ex Watney.* (SE30)
- SE1, OLD FATHER THAMES. + Ruddle: Best Bitter. Closed all weekends. (SE34) SE1, RISING SUN. Now Belhaven, ex Watney.
- (SE36)
- SE1, STUDIO 6. Bass. + Flowers: Original Bitter. (U40)
- SE5, ANCHOR & HOPE. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker. (SE54)
- SE8. REMY'S. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker. Currently closed. (SE72) SE11. JOLLY COCKNEY. - beers listed.
- + Whitbread: Strongs Country Bitter. Castle Eden Ale. (SE94)
- SE15, CLARKSON ARMS. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (SE117)
- SE16, PRINCE OF WALES, Scott Lidgett Crescent. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (SE132) SE16, TROPICS. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker. (SE134)
- SE17. NEWINGTON ARMS. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (SE139)
- SE17, PRINCE REGENT. Now Belhaven, ex Truman. (SE139)
- SE17, SURREY GARDENS HOTEL. Now Belhaven, ex Truman. (SE140)
- SE24, COMMERCIAL. + Greene King: IPA. Unusual brew for Charrington pub. (SE179) BEXLEYHEATH, BRICKLAYERS ARMS, 58 Maypole
- Road $\underline{\text{West}}$. Truman beers. + Ruddle: Best Bitter. Note correct address. (SE211)
- BEXLEYHEATH, LORD HILL TAVERN. Renamed COACH HOUSE. + Ruddle: Best Bitter.
- County. Refurbished, delete guide comments. (SE212)
- ERITH, DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND. Webster: Yorkshire Bitter. + Truman (Usher): Best Bitter. (SE255)
- ERITH, DUCHESS OF KENT. Bass. (SE255)

Continued on p 24

IDLE MOMENTS

Well here I am again sat in front of my word processor wondering what horrors I can inflict on you lot this month. On perusing my stock of non rhyming limericks I find that I have just one left. As I reported last month Roger Jacobson had sent in a couple more - I printed one of them then and here is the other one:

A west country beer drinking youth turned red and did foam at the mouth. The cause of this rage was the discovery that Courage had shut down the brewery at Plymouth.

That particular cupboard is now bare so if you want to see any more, some of you had better get writing.

From time to time I meet people who mention this column and the enjoyment it gives them. The other day I was visiting a certain brewery in Horsham for the launch of a new beer and a chap asked if I was the chap who invents those number puzzles. When I said I was he replied, "You sod." Anyway it's that sodding time again so here we go (with last month's answers first as usual):

- 1. 13 Semitones in an Octave
- 2. 12 Strings on a Twelve String Guitar
- 168 Spots on a Set of Dominoes (Double Six)
- 4. 1 Extra Day in a Leap Year
- 5. 21 Key of the Door
- 3 Valves on a Trumpet
- 2400 Pennsylvania Avenue is the White House
- 8. 15 Players in a Rugy Union Team

9. 273 (Minus) is Absolute Zero (Celsius)

10. 9 Holes on a Bar Billiards Table

- And here are this month's to keep you amused:

 1. 7 A of M (by WS)
- 2. 3 S on a B
- 16 S and NBK
- 4 168 H in a W
- 5 2 S to ES
- 6 11 P in the EWCWT (in 1966)
- 7 9 L of a C
- 8 19 IS in C
- 9 1815 B of W
- 10 5 R on the OF

Now, for you devotees of brewery anagrams here firstly are last month's answers:

- 1. SEW ROLF
- **FLOWERS**
- 2. THOSE PINS
- SHIPSTONE DAVENPORTS
- PAVED SNORT
 MEL RAPS
- PALMERS
- 5. JOE, THAT'S YULE JOSHUA

TETLEY

And this month's ones to try:

- 1. TURN MA
- 2. ON THE PISS
- 3. REG PLIED DOPE
- 4. I FARTED ONE
- 5. FOE FELL IN

As regular readers will know, at this juncture we usually get the mirror writing but I'm afraid that nobody has sent anything in this month so you'll have to go without your regular fare of vomit, tomato and mammoths.

That's all folks!

Andy Pirson

BEER BRIEFING - LONDON BEER GUIDES UPDATE 47 Continued

ERITH, HARROW. - Ruddle: County. + Ruddle: Best Bitter. + Truman (Usher): Best Bitter. (SE255)

WELLING, GUY, EARL OF WARWICK. - Courage: Directors Bitter. + Courage: Best Bitter. + John Smith: Yorkshire Bitter. (SE286) WELLING, OLD NAGS HEAD. - Brakspear: Special Bitter. + Greene King: Abbot Ale. (SE287)

SOUTH WEST

SW18, BRUSH. Now Belhaven, ex Watney via Brent Walker.* (SW51)

KINGSTON, BULL & BUSH. Now Belhaven, ex Truman.* Formerly GROVE TAVERN. (SW66, U32)

WEST

W2, HERON. Now part of Nicholsons Chain.

- Fuller: London Pride. + Ind Coope: Burton Ale. + Young: Special. (W59)

W3, CROWN. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (W64) W10, EARL DERBY. Now Belhaven, ex Truman. (W86)

W12, GREYHOUND. Now Belhaven, ex Watney. (W91)

TWICKENHAM, CHERRY TREE. - Friary Meux: Best Bitter. - Taylor Walker: Best Bitter. + Tetley: Bitter. + Young: Bitter. (W150) YIEWSLEY, BRICKMAKERS ARMS. Now Belhaven. ex Watney.* (W161)

* Indicates pubs previously selling real ale. Current position unknown - information welcome.

FULLERS AGAIN!

Fullers have taken the prestigeous awards at the Great British Beer Festival held in Leeds in August. Fullers have had a string of winners in the past including London Pride & ESB as overall champions. This time it was the turn of the little known Chiswick Bitter to win the Standard Bitter award and then it went on to beat the likes of Old Peculiar and Taylors Landlord to clinch the title of Supreme Champion Beer of Britain.

What is most surprising about this win is that Fuller's landlords don't seem to want to stock this Champion Beer. The list of pubs selling the beer must be very short. How about producing a list and giving the beer a much needed boost.

LATE NEWS

We have just heard that the VIADUCT, 221 Uxbridge Road, Hanwell, W7 is the latest Fullers pub to convert to real ale. For many years people have been expressing surprise that this excellent pub sold only fizz. Well it doesn't any more! This brings the ever dwindling of Fullers fizz only houses down to just three.

Party Barrels of Beer

for

HALLOWEEN, GUY FAWKES
CHRISTMAS Etc.

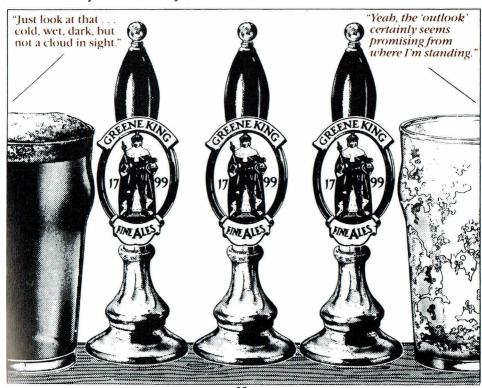
Delivered to your Door

Alan Greenwood's BEER AGENCY

17 Brumfield Road West Ewell, Surrey

For a List - Phone Now !!

01 397 4763



PRAGUE PUB CRAWL

Having just returned from a week in this beautiful and historic city, I must say how struck I was by the enthusiastic beer drinkers who throng the bars there.

I started out with Michael Jackson's list gleaned from his excellent 'World Book of Beer' and played it by ear from there. My first visit was a guided tour round the brewery at U Fleku (1) organised by Cedok (Czechoslovak Tourist Agency). So popular was this tour, I found I was the only person interested, so I had a good English speaking guide to myself. We were shown around this large 'in house' brewery which produced a black, sweetish beer just for consumption on the premises. I was shown a professional video (in English) by the young head brewer which outlined the history of this large pub. Then we had a couple of litres straight from the barrel in the cellar, then upstairs for a goulash and a couple more litres. As my guide said, the beer upstairs was alright, but the beer in the cellar had 'real fire in it'. (The pub was vast with lots of drinking areas and a restaurant). Before we parted my guide was good enough to mark my tourist map with all Jackson's recommendations. He showed me U Medvidku (2) at 7, Na Perstyne before he left.

I entered and was sitting for some time before the waiter informed me that I was sitting in the café side and that I would have to go next door if I wanted 'pivo' (beer). Next door was one large room heaving with shoppers and I found a seat and was wondering how to order a beer but I needn't have worried. The system is perfectly simple (a) Sit down. (b) Waiter puts draught beer in front of you and a piece of paper with a single stroke on it. (c) Drink (in this case, Kmasniove Beer). (d) Finish. (e) Another beer is put in front of you and another mark goes on your paper. (f) Carry on until you want to leave then put money on slip. (g) Pay bill. I fund this pub very relaxing and this became one of my favourites.

Onwards to V Zlaleho Tygra (The Tom Cat) (3) which is long and narrow and is often too crowded to get a seat especially in the evenings. The Beer is superb Pilsener Urquell which is dispensed at great speed for the throngs. Beer enthusiasts agreed that this is one of the best 6

in Prague. Once you have a seat here, it is very difficult to drag yourself away. The same ticket system in here again. Round the corner towards the Historic Charles Bridge is U Malvaze (4). Black Branik Beer in this youngster's bar which I found sweet and warm. The bar staff were also drunk or smashed which didn't endear me to the place. Maybe you'll be luckier.

U Kocoura (5) has the best reputation for beer in the city. Pilsner Urquell, again is dispensed with alacrity in this homely small bar and the food is good. A couple I met in here gave me what they said was a stronger version which appeared flat and slightly sweeter, but their English wasn't up to explaining the name of this beer. They just said it was a speciality of the house It was here that I first showed my list of pubs to visit, and this provoked a lot of argument and many locals told me to cross off some because the beer was warm and service slow, here, I heard for the first time: "There are only six pubs in Prague selling good beer". The locals were also incensed that Budweiser beers were being withdrawn from the capital so the brewery could concentrate on the valuable export trade. My Czech friends immediately blamed the Russians, a common reaction, but when I told them the beer was being exported to the West, they then blamed the government. The next day (Sunday) I was taken on an afternoon pub crawl by 3 Czechs and a Pole in search of Budweiser beers but we failed to find any. They seem to have been replaced by beer from the Prazdroj Brewery. On next to U Dvou Saroct (6) P. Urquell which

On next to U Dvou Saroct (6) P. Urquell which opens on at about 2.30 pm on Sundays. Virtually nothing opens on a Sunday morning, a fact I found surprising in a Communist country. I was also told that most of the restaurants are closed at the height of summer so the owners can take a holiday. Not a very capitalist idea as there are more tourists than inhabitants during June/July/August. But as I was told, it is impossible for owners to 'jet off' to the sun in winter due to travel restrictions.

I had many bad reports about U Svateho Tomase (7). I found it very pleasant and the Black Beer served from Branik Brewery was in excellent condition as opposed to (4). I sat

in the courty and and chatted to a pair of Finnish Students whose English was excellent. This is well worth a visit, being surrounded by good pubs.

U Shnellu (8) was next and here I had to wait for a seat, a not uncommon occurrence for evening pub crawlers. When one became available the Pilsner Urquell proved superb. This was also being quaffed in vast quantities by the appreciative clientele. 2 waiters were kept busy all the time, just selling beer. I had been told that U Glaubieu (12) was closed and boarded up, awaiting renovation, so I headed back to my hotel on the tube.

The underground system is cheap and safe and is much preferable to Taxis, which, I would take issue with Michael Jackson, are not cheap especially for foreigners. The trams and buses are preferable and for 35Kc's (£2.50) one can purchase a Tourist Card for the week and go anywhere on the city's public transport. The lack of advertising on Underground stations is strange to start off with, as are the intercom announcements, but it is fast and efficient (unlike LT).

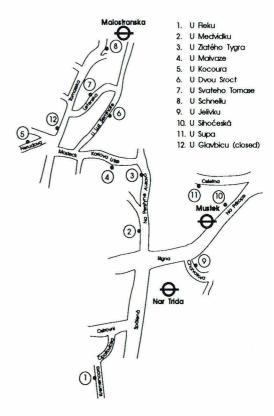
I tended to stick to these pubs in the evenings and visited the tourist pubs at lunch times: U Jeliuku (9) is unusual in the fact, there is an area to stand and drink which is cheaper than sitting. As beer is only 50p a pint (approx), this does not appear to be a serious consideration. In fact the most expensive beer and meal I had was £2, so for value for money, Prague takes a lot of beating! The beer in U Jeliuku is Prazdroj which I found a bit malty for my taste.

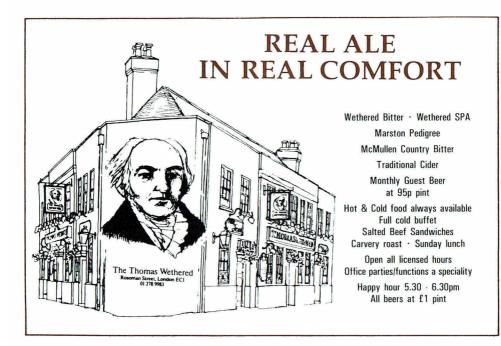
Then to Sihoceska Restaurace (10) on a pedestrianised part of Na Prikope. The bar is surprisingly cool and well kept like the Pilsener Urquell served. The usual Czech fare of Pork & Dumplings is on offer here at very reasonable rates. Outside, in 80°F temperatures, it is possible to have the best possible ice cream cornets for 10p a throw.

The last pub on the crawl, U Supa (11), had been mentioned as one of the best six by my friends but it has been done out in, I think, quite hideous white walls and dark wood style. The Branik Pale Ale was good enough, but the visit was ruined for me, by one of the waiters asking me to change 'hard currency' into Kc's. These Black Market money men are everywhere and can be quite a menace. Initially I thought their rates were favourable, but then realised that on the Czech Visa issued, a Westerner has to exchange a certain amount of currency during their stay in the country, and of course these 'marketeers' give no receipt, and many a foreigner has got into trouble at the border exits because of this. After the first couple of occasions, I exchanged for the normal rate, and still found difficulty spending my money. For a holiday with a difference, in a picturesque,

historic city with great beer enthusiasts and value for money, excellent beers, give 'Praha' a try before it is swamped with like minded tourists.

Chris Cobbold





DEAR DIPSY



Dear Dipsy

We all mourn the death of Harry Corbett. On the radio, it said that the puppets are now in the hands of his son. Shouldn't they have said that his son's hands are now in the puppets?

Yak

P.S. If you look in your archives for the Drinker of September 1987, you will see that both Sooty and Sweep correctly completed July 1987's crossword.

Dear Yak

If that is the extent of your reaction to this national tragedy then I think that the younger Mr Corbett should reserve his right to "soo" (geddit?)

Dipsy

BARLEY MOW COMMEMORATIVE COMPETITION

London drinker has teamed up with Taylor Walker to celebrate the opening of the Barley Mow by running this simple to enter competition

The first ten correct entries will each receive a gift pack containing a bottle of Barley Mow Commemorative Ale, a 1045 o.g. export ale. Only 500 bottles have been produced in this limited edition, making the prize very collectable indeed.

The first letter is supplied to each answer, along with a clue. Just fill in the blanks and return the form to the address below by October 20. Winners will be announced in the December issue.

Cereal used for malting

	Corour asca for maring
A	Taylor Walker's parent company
R	Ale, as in CAMRA
L	The pub's plusher room
L E	Beer sent abroad
Y	Wandworth brew often sold in Taylor Walker pubs
M	Barley is turned into this
0	Dutch lager
w	Allied's Welsh brewery
Address	
	·×
I am over 18 years of	age
anio.o. 10 jours or	
Signed	

CHAMPIONS ALL

At the recent Great British Beer Festival held in Leeds the results of the Beer of the Year Competition were as follows:

MILD & LIGHT BITTERS

- 1. Taylor Gold Best 1033
- 2. Courage Bitter Ale 1030
- 3. Bateman Mild 1033

STANDARD BITTERS

- 1. Fuller Chiswick 1035.5
- 2. Butcome Bitter 1039
- 3. Golden Hill Exmoor Ale 1039

BEST BITTERS

- 1. Taylor Landlord 1042
- 2. Batham Bitter 1043
- 3. Marston Pedigree 1043

SPECIAL BITTERS

1. Bateman XXXB 1048

- 2. Moorhouse Pendle Witches Brew 1050
- 3. Youngs Special 1046

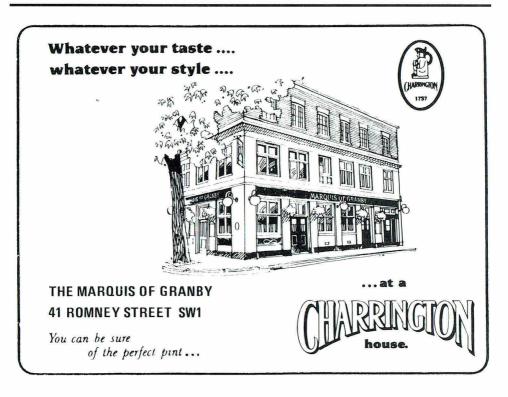
STRONG ALES

- 1. Theakston Old Peculier 1057
- 2. Bateman Victory Ale 1056
- 3. Fuller ESB 1055.75

NEW BREWERIES

- 1. Hop Back Summer Lightning 1050
- 2. Whitby's Own Force Nine 1055
- 3. Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby Mild 1058

In the overall competition the results were: Supreme Champion: Fuller Chiswick Bitter Runner Up: Timothy Taylor Landlord High commended: Theakston Old Peculier



BEER GUIDES

EAST LONDON & CITY: Hugh Smith, 31B Carnarvon Road, Stratford, London E15 4JW. £1.50 (post free)

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

KENT: New edition. F.A. Green, 41 Clive Road, Rochester, Kent ME1 3RZ, £1.95 payable to 'CAMRA in Kent', plus A5 s.a.e. with 40p in stamps affixed.

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SW1

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W1 Polytechnic of Central London S.U. Bar, 104 Bolsolver Street W3 LT District Line Social Club, Park Place

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BRIGHTON, NOBLES BAR, New Road

BRIGHTON, HAND IN HAND, Upper St James Street. BRIGHTON, QUEENS HEAD,

Opposite Station.
COLCHESTER, ODD ONE OUT, 28
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ELLAND (Yorks), BARGE & BARREL.

HITCHIN (Herts), NEW FOUND OUT INN, Stevenage Road. LEWES, BREWERS ARMS, High

LEWES, BREWERS ARMS, High Street.

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J & W Nicholson is a group of high quality London Inns which specialise in selling a range of English Country Ales. The pubs have an authentic London pub atmosphere and also sell a selection of traditional food.

Our recommendation for the Month of October is:

The Crown & Two Chairmen
31 Dean Street
Soho
London W1
01-437 8192

Recently refurbished, the Crown & Two Chairmen dominates the corner of Dean Street and Bateman Street in Soho's film land.

On the first floor, a newly created bar offers good food with a range of beers in an up to date atmosphere. The ground floor has been sensitively refurbished to its former glory.

Open 12 - 11 Monday to Saturday 12-3 & 7-10.30 Sunday

Also open for breakfast 8am-11am Monday - Friday

Ales: Adnams, Arkells, Boddingtons, Draught Burton Ale, Tetley Bitter, Marston Pedigree. Cask conditioned Addlestone Cider.